## Make Every Voice Count With

## REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

Independent redistricting commissions give communities the ability to be at the decision-making table and be heard. In 2020, every American should be counted in the Census. In 2021, each state will use those new census numbers to redraw the voting districts for congressional lines, state legislative lines, and local election districts. In most states, politicians and parties draw the lines. In states that have adopted redistricting commissions, the line drawing process is more likely to hear all community voices, be open and transparent, and allow all votes to count.


When
Politicians and Parties Draw Maps


- In states where politicians are in charge, $36 \%$ of maps are struck down as illegal or drawn by courts due to a failure to approve districts.
- District maps are often drawn in secret by incumbents and the party in power.
"That's all we're asking for: an end to the antidemocratic and un-American
practice of gerrymandering congressional districts."
- President Ronald Reagan


## When

## Independent Commissions Draw Maps



- In states with politically balanced independent commissions, 89\% of maps are upheld by courts or not challenged in the first place.
- District maps are drawn in public, with real opportunities for public input, and inclusive of all voices.

What states have redistricting reforms?

In 2018, 5 more states passed redistricting reforms: Colorado, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Utah.

Over 1 in 5 Americans now live in states with an independent citizen commission (AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, MI, MT, WA).


## What was California's Experience with its Citizens Redistricting Commission?



Super-charged community participation: In 2011, over 30,000 people gave input to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. The commission held over 100 meetings and hearings across the state.

Voting rights enhanced: CA's maps include:

- 6 additional majority-Latino Assembly districts, for a total of 14
- The first majority-Asian American Assembly district in CA history
- 1 additional majority-Latino district in congress, and 1 additional in state Senate.
(Source: 2011 Public Policy Institute of CA Study)
Politician protections ended: Because CA commissioners did not explicitly look at incumbent addresses, both Democratic (35\%) and Republican (33\%) incumbents found themselves placed into a district with a fellow partisan. (Source: 2011 PPIC Study)

Competition. The CA commission-drawn congressional plan is "one of the most competitive in the country." (Source: 2018 PPIC Study). In 6 years, 12 congressional seats have changed party hands.

> Citizen redistricting commissions could be the answer to gerrymandering. If they're allowed to be. 99
> THE LOS ANGELES TIMES 2019 EDITORIAL

## How did California's Citizens Redistricting Commission work in 2011?

30,000+ Applicants
Commissioners chosen for skills, impartiality, appreciation for diversity, and reflection of diversity

100 Meetings and hearings

