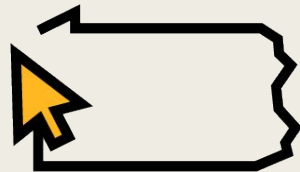


Redistricting State Legislative Boundaries

Drawing the lines for the next decade

Presented by



Draw the Lines

This afternoon's agenda

- First... just how gerrymandered are PA's state maps?
- What is Draw the Lines?
- What is the LRC? A brief review of legislative redistricting
- The 5th LRC member
- Actions you can take
- Update from Fair Districts PA / LWV

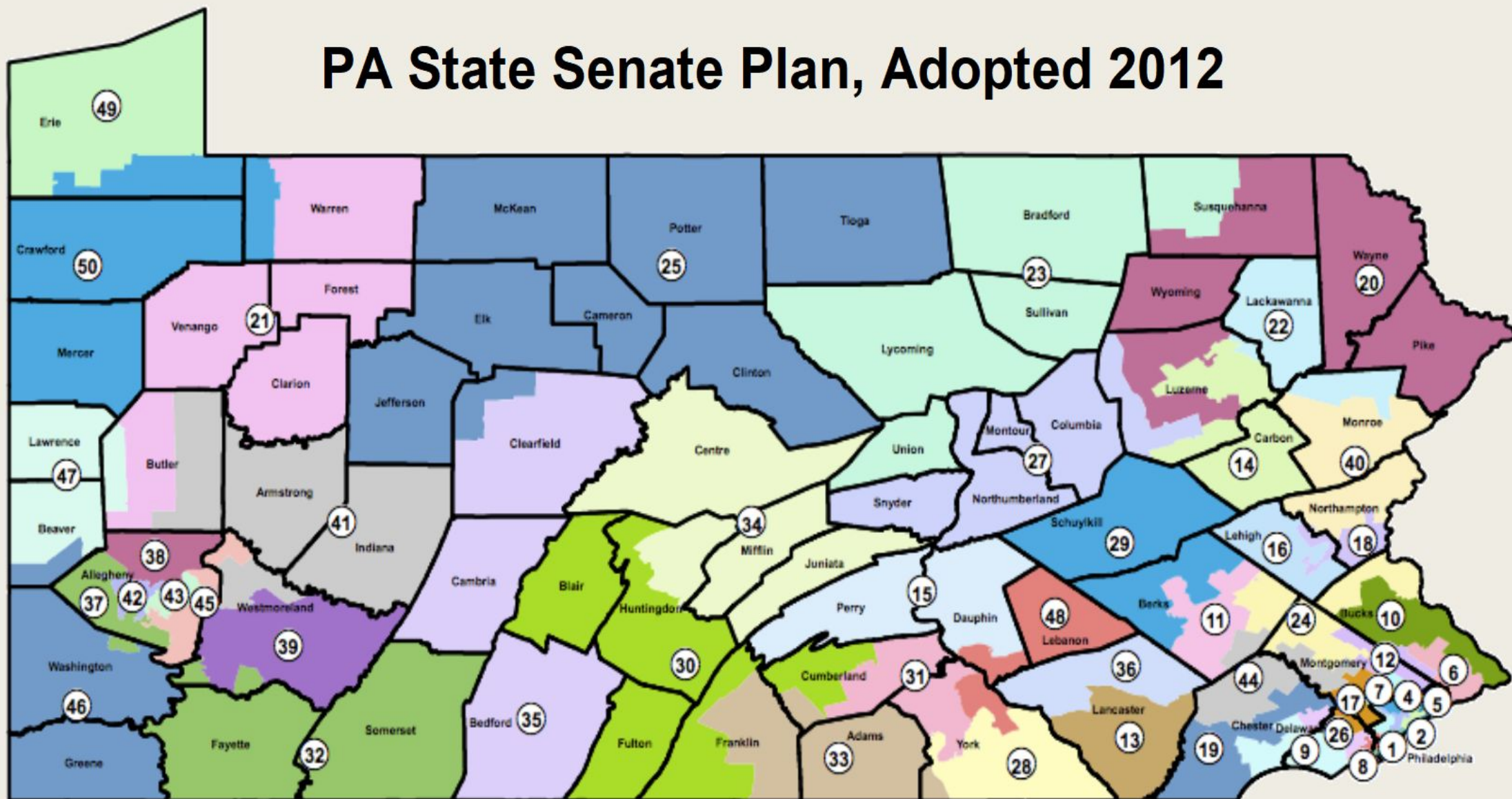


Sign the petition for fair and open state redistricting

- ***drawthelinespa.org/petition***
- Will our lawmakers commit to a process that is people-powered and transparent?
- Shapes the next decade of PA politics

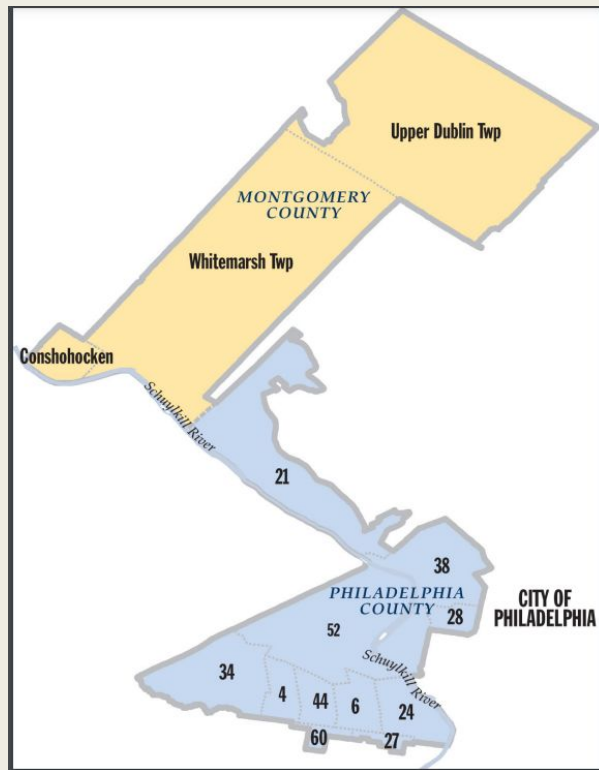


PA State Senate Plan, Adopted 2012

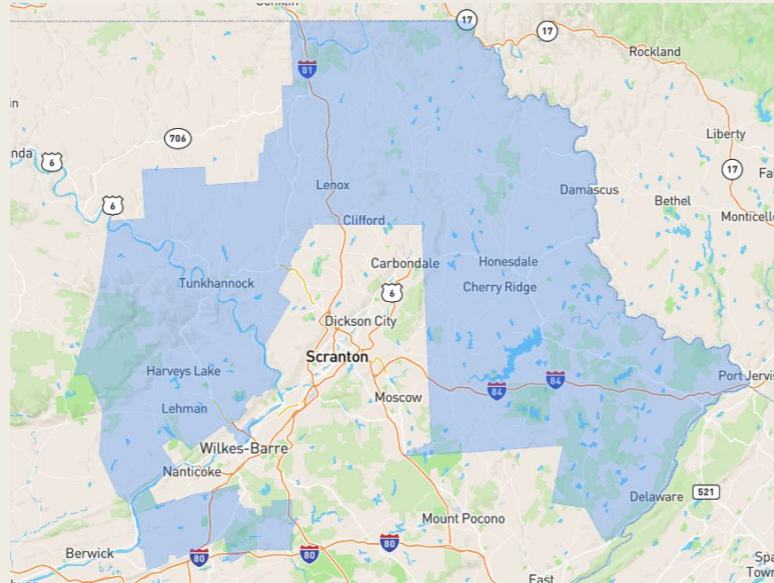


A few current State Senate districts

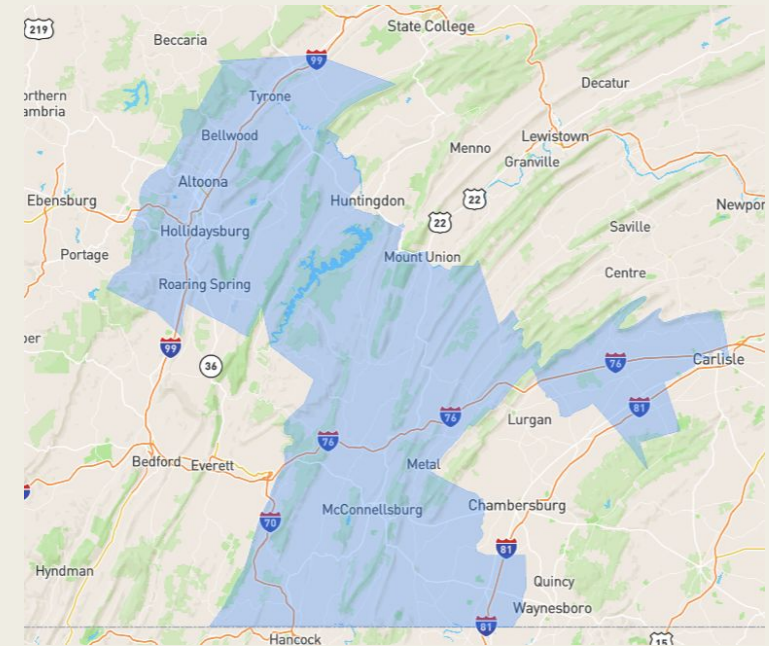
7th District - Philly & Montco



20th District - NE PA

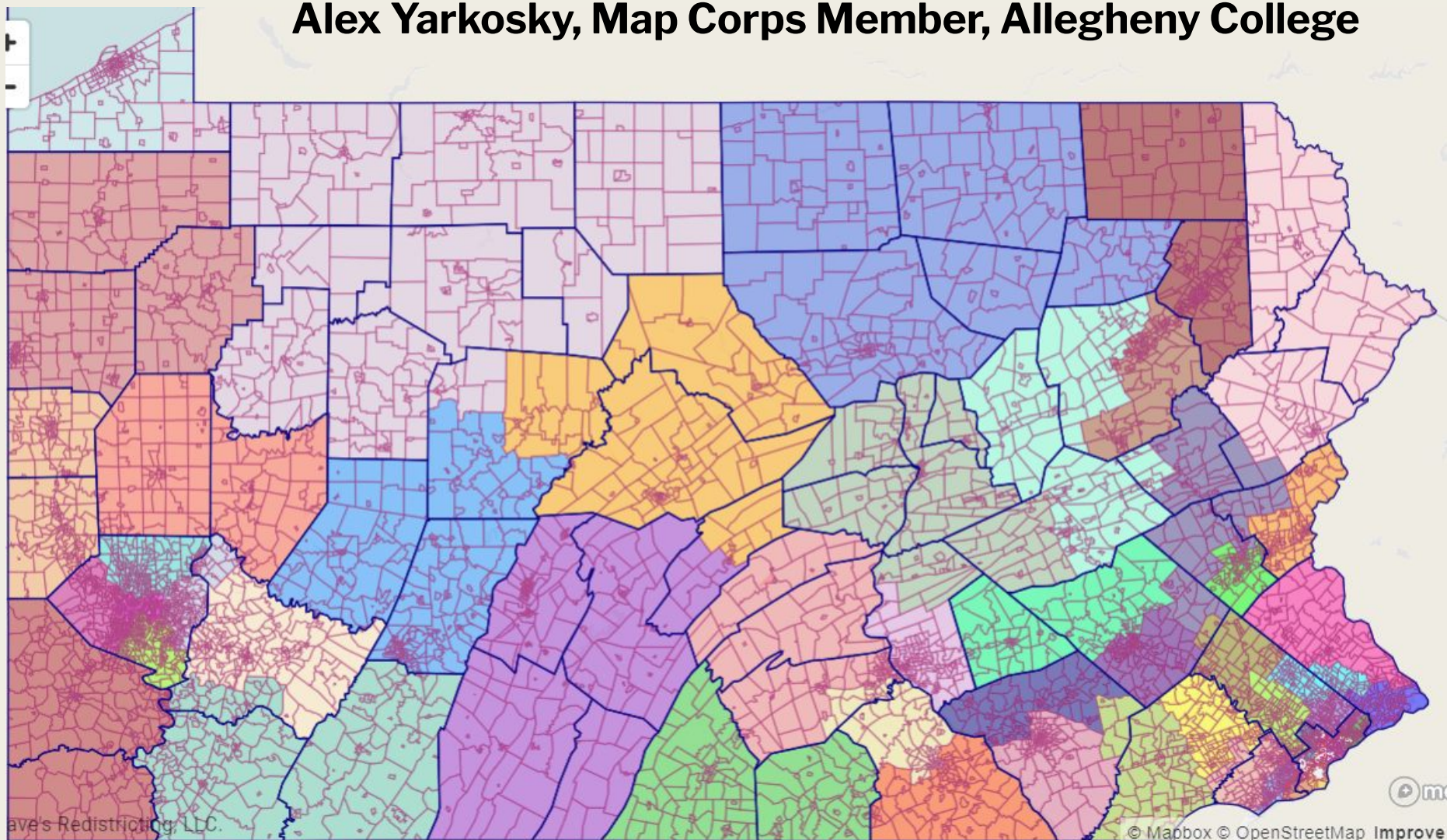


30th District - Central PA



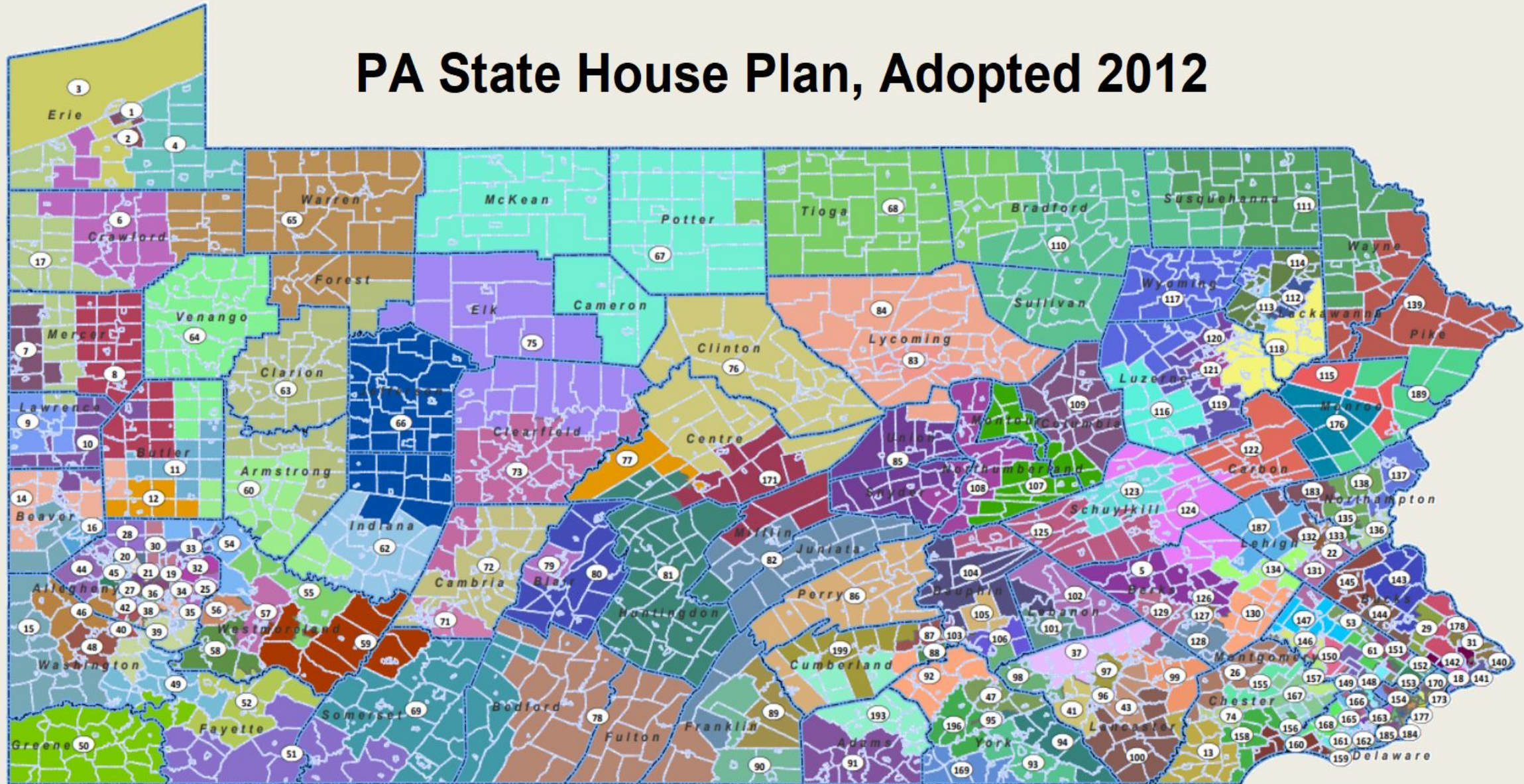
Compared to a citizen mapper

Alex Yarkosky, Map Corps Member, Allegheny College



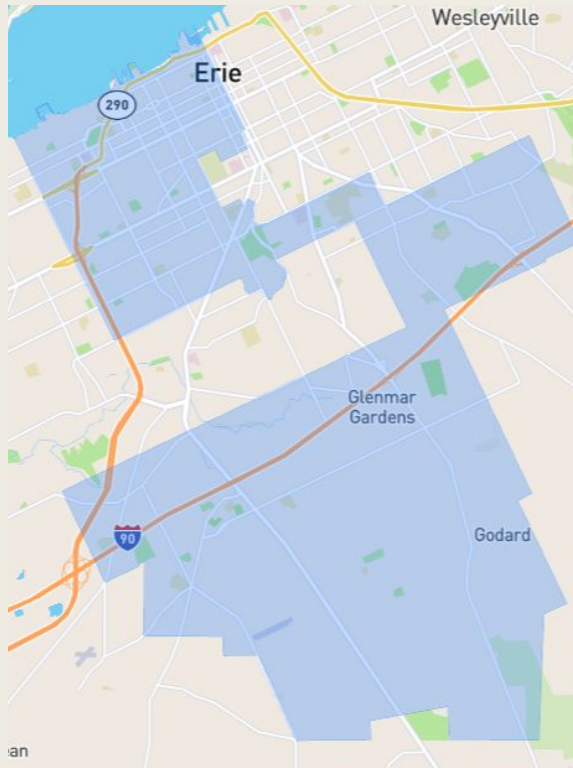
<https://davesredistricting.org/maps#viewmap::a4217c1c-1f16-4810-9bc5-d4280f6109e5>

PA State House Plan, Adopted 2012



A few current State House districts

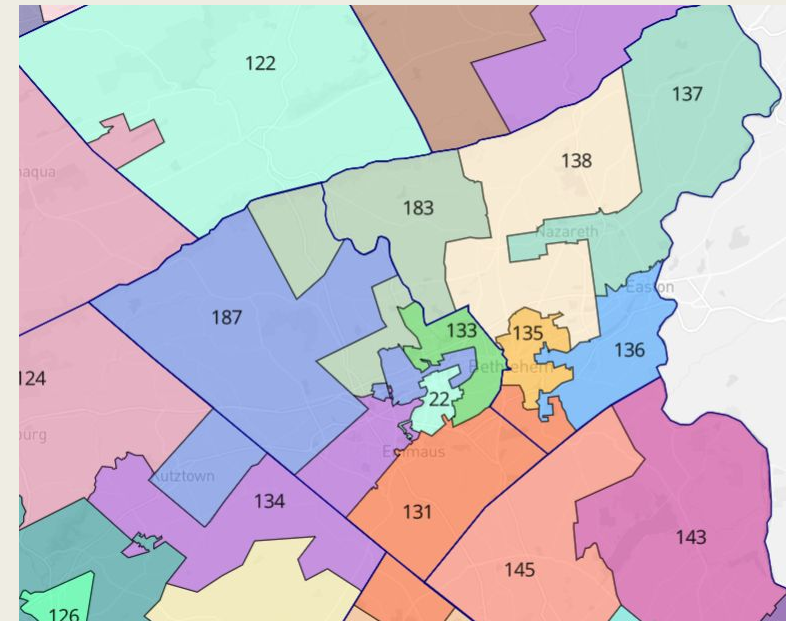
2nd District - Erie



10th District - Western PA



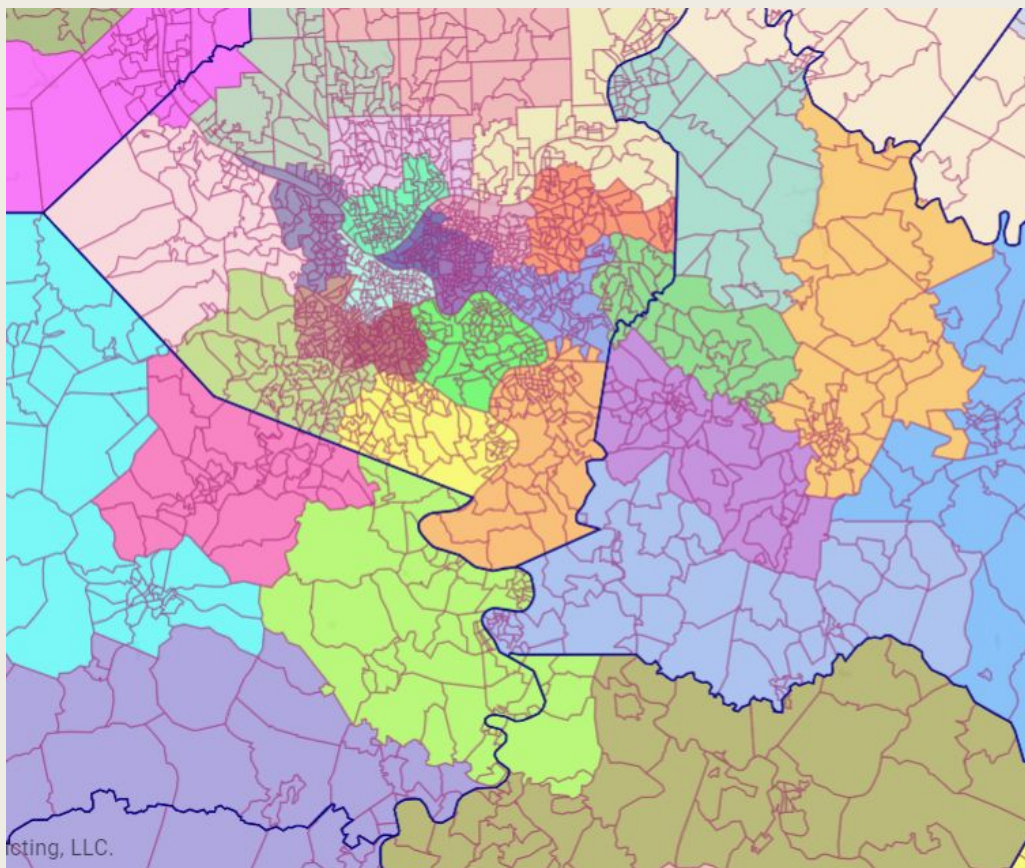
Lehigh Valley



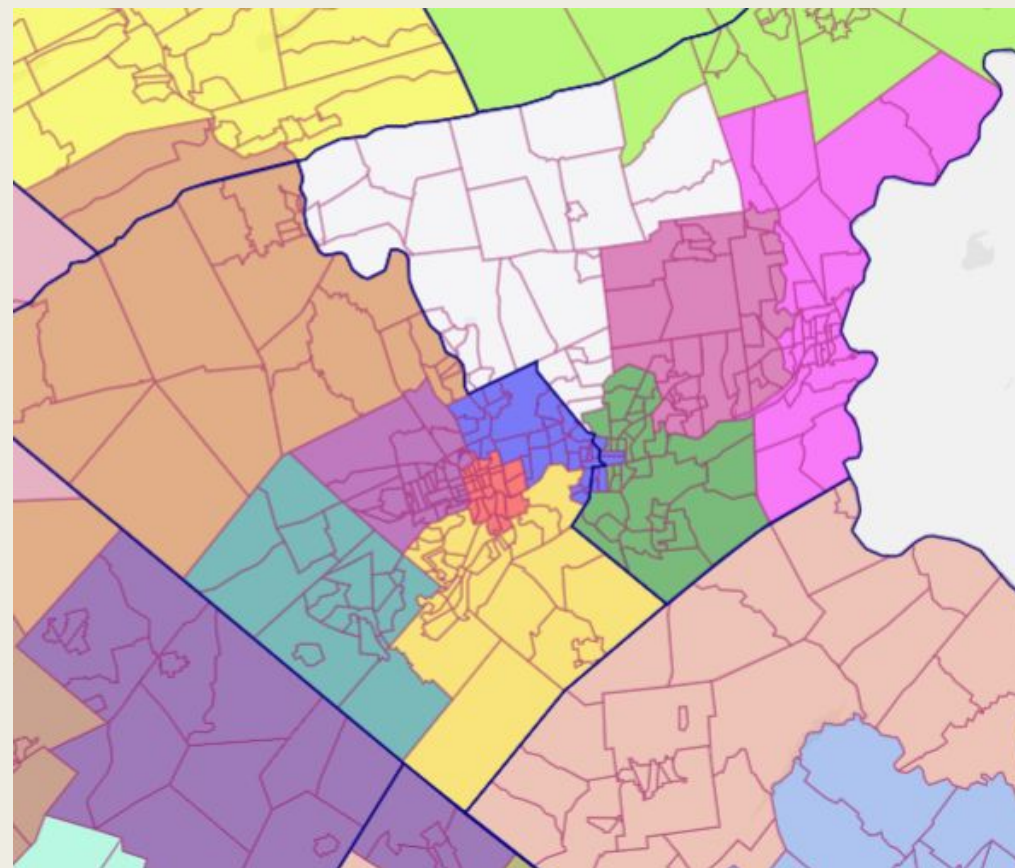
Compared to a citizen mapper

Maia Model (SE PA) House map

Western PA



Lehigh Valley



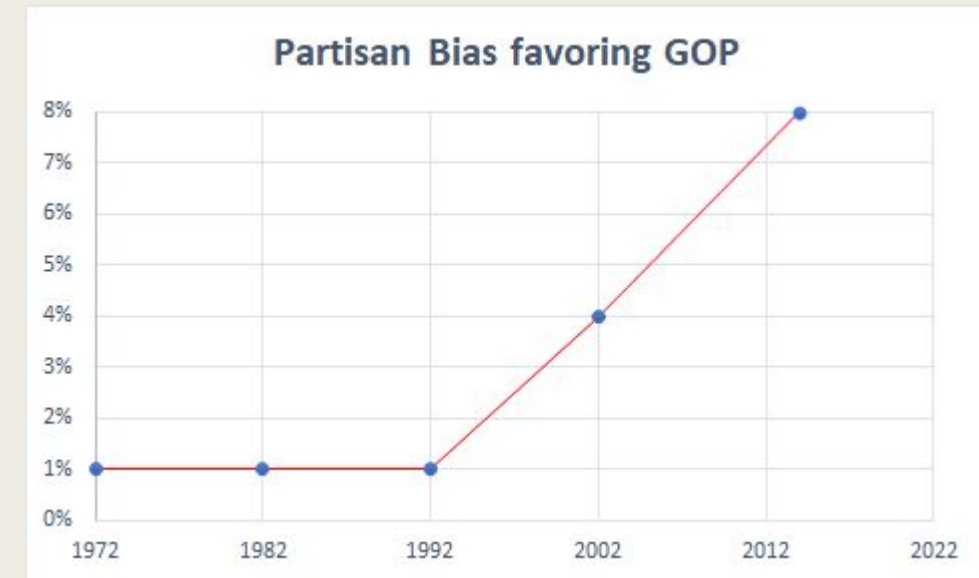
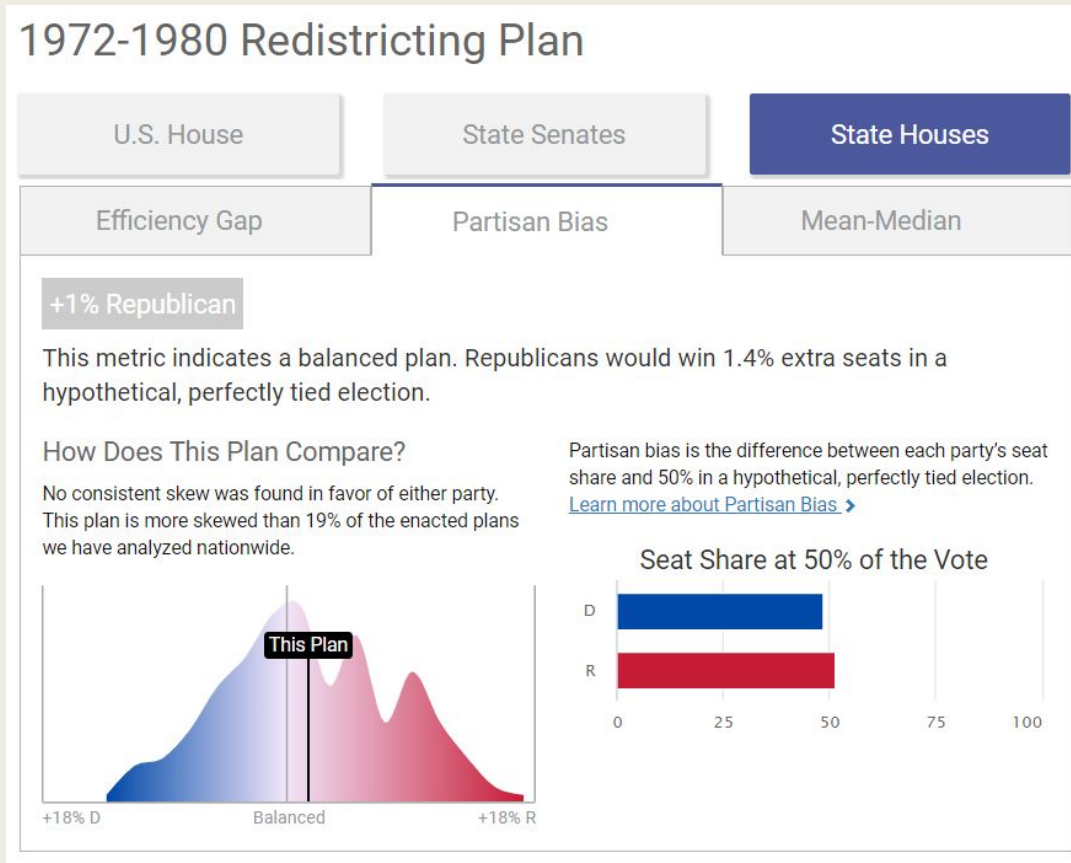
We can do better

	LRC State Senate Plan	Yarkosky's State Senate Plan
Compactness	27%	41%
County Splits	49	38
Competitive elections	17	18
Population deviation	8%	5%
Majority-Minority	5	4

	LRC State House Plan	Model's State House Plan
Compactness	27%	40%
County Splits	214	187
Competitive elections	58	54
Population deviation	8%	9%
Majority-Minority	23	21

* Data from Dave's Redistricting App, davesredistricting.org

What does the data say? Maps are getting more biased each decade



Data: <https://planscore.org/pennsylvania/#!1972-plan-statehouse-pb>

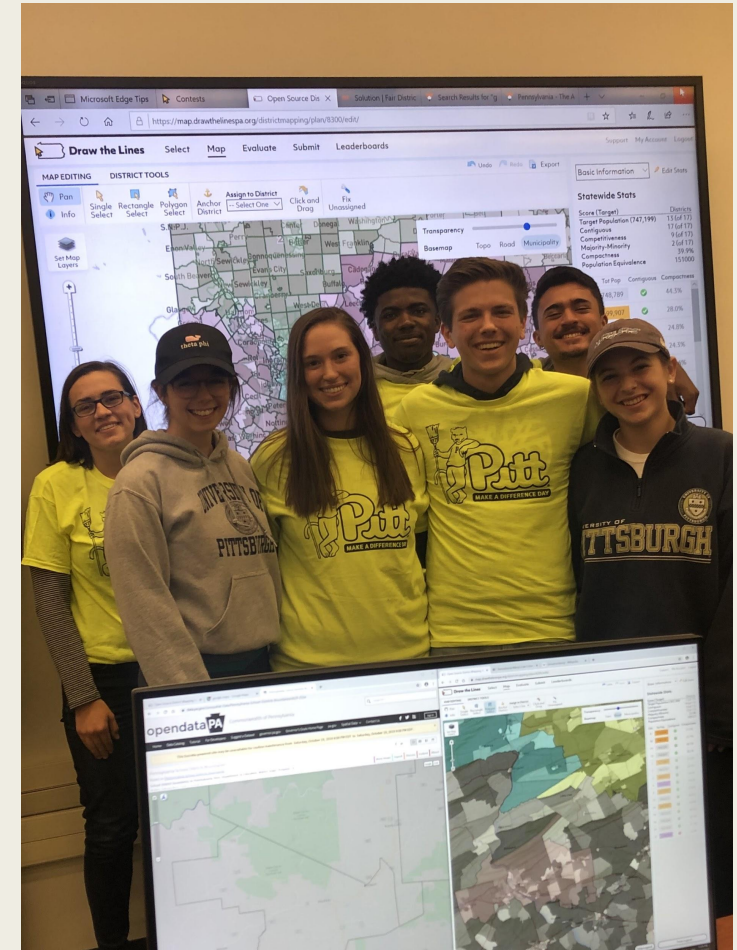
We feel the impacts, in both policy and tone



“Taking a position as inflammatory as refusing to certify a free and fair election would be much riskier for lawmakers in statehouses if they needed to appeal to electorates beyond their next sets of primary voters.” - Reid J. Epstein and Nick Corasaniti, *New York Times*, Jan. 19, 2021.

Draw the Lines PA

- Civic education – with a primary focus on students
- Statewide, nonpartisan, and nonprofit
- Funded entirely by PA foundations
- Our goal is improve the process by which these maps are drawn in 2021



Inspired by this woman



Photo courtesy of Amanda Holt, via *Philadelphia Inquirer*

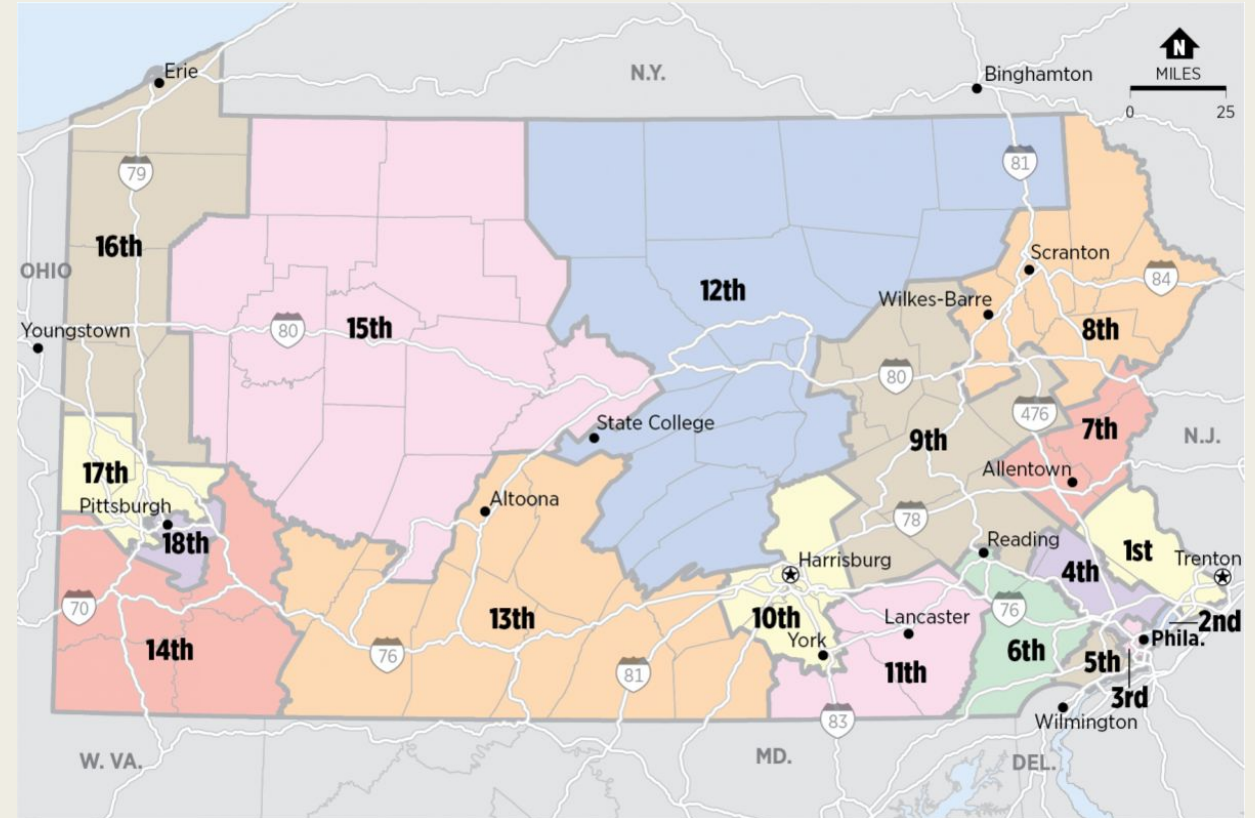
Taking action in 2021

- Mappers are the faces & voices of reform... the Citizen Map Corps
- Nominating the fifth, independent member to chair the LRC
- PA Voters Map Commission... *Here's what success looks like.*
- Provide LRC and General Assembly with good maps as testimony



Refreshing PA's redistricting processes

- The congressional and legislative processes differ
- For congressional districts, the map is approved like any other bill in the PA General Assembly, signed by the governor



Redistricting the PA General Assembly

- **PA House:** 203 seats
- **PA Senate:** 50 seats
- Both maps are drawn by a 5-member commission of elected and appointed officials - the **Legislative Reapportionment Commission (LRC)**



What is required for the maps?

- LRC created at state constitutional convention in 1968
- Districts shall be compact, contiguous, and equal in population
- “Unless absolutely necessary no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward shall be divided.”
- Process:
 - LRC produces draft plan
 - Public has 30 days to submit feedback
 - LRC has 30 days to produce final plan
 - Public has 30 days to file court challenge

Likely LRC timeline (estimated)

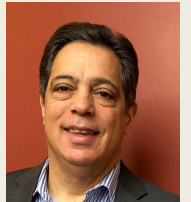
- **Feb. 24** - State Gov't Committee joint hearing
- **September 30th**: Census data available
- **Late-summer, early Fall (?)**: Caucus leaders/court appoint LRC chair
- **Late 2021 (?)**: LRC develops preliminary plan, space for public hearings
- **Early 2022 (?)**: After publication of prelim plan/feedback, LRC adopts final plan
- **Spring 2022 (?)**: Space for court challenges to plan

The LRC in 2021

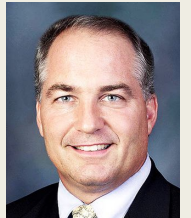
Democratic House Leader - Rep. Joanna McClinton
(Philadelphia)



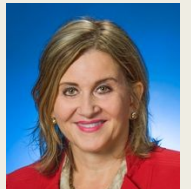
Democratic Senate Leader - Sen. Jay Costa (Allegheny County)



Republican House Leader - Rep. Kerry Benninghoff (Centre County)



Republican Senate Leader - Sen. Kim Ward (Westmoreland County)



The fifth member.... TBD



The fifth member

- The Constitution says: it shall be a PA citizen who doesn't hold elected office
- Serves as the LRC chair
- The Court has chosen the chair four times ('71, '81, '01, '11) - the LRC once ('91... kinda)
- In 2011, the LRC accepted public applications. 13 people applied. The eventual chair was chosen from outside this pool.



The fifth member should be...

- An independent, respected Pennsylvanian whose focus is adherence to the law, transparency, and fairness.
- Able to manage highly conflicting political motivations.
- Familiar with how to draw maps themselves, particularly balancing constitutional and statutory requirements.
- Steadfast in putting the interests of voters above elected officials and political parties.



Witness election program

- 1991 - Sen. Frank Pecora (R-Allegheny County)
 - They shifted his district east, so he rented an apartment in his new district to run again.
- 1991 - Rep. Fred Taylor (Fayette County) vs. Larry Roberts in the Democratic primary (R - Montgomery County)
 - Roberts moved to a series of undisclosed locations during the year so the party couldn't ID where he lived and draw him out of the district.
 - The kicker: he bought a house down the street from Taylor, in the same precinct. Why? So they couldn't draw him out of the district.

Revenge is a district best served cold

- 2001 - Rep. David Mayernik (D-Allegheny County)

"They terminated me. It sends a message: Don't step out of line."

- 2001 - Rep. John Lawless (R - Montgomery County)

"This is about cowards at work. If you vote your constituents, like I did, you get shafted. This is about paying the debts to the backroom boys."

- Alternatively, Rep. John Barley (R - Lancaster County), benefited from the "Barleymander"

So what can you do?

- **Now: Sign the petition, ASAP - *drawthelinespa.org/petition***
 - 1,001 D's
 - 1,001 R's
 - 1,001 I's
- Now: Try DTL's mapping software, enter the competition
- Soon: Apply to serve as the 5th member of the LRC
 - Our goal: applicants from every county in PA
- Later: Participate in the PA Voters Map Commission

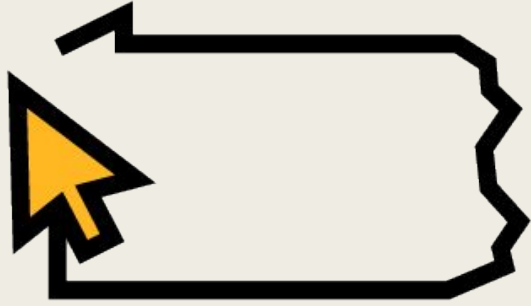


An conversation with former Gov. Schweiker and Citizen Map Corps members



A word from Fair Districts and the LWV





Draw the Lines



Sign the petition! -
drawthelinespa.org/petition