

October 19th, 2023

LWVUS Advocacy presents

Redistricting 2030: Laying the Groundwork Now



Agenda

- Housekeeping
- Background: PPFM and LWVUS
- State Presenters:
 - LWV Wisconsin
 - LWV Washington State
 - LWV Kentucky
- Q&A



Presenters



Khadija Ali Amghaiab, she/her
LWVUS
Legislative and Policy Coordinator



Debra Cronmiller, she/her
LWV Wisconsin,
Executive Director



Allison McCaffree, she/her
LWV Washington State
Redistricting & Census Issue Chair



Becky Jones, she/her
LWV Kentucky
1st Vice President



Joan Schwarz, she/her
LWV Wisconsin,
*Impartial Justice and Nonpartisan Redistricting
State Committee Chair*

Housekeeping

- This webinar will be recorded to keep accurate notes to share with attendees and others after the call.
- If you are not speaking, please mute yourself to minimize sound issues.
- Make sure you identify yourself (name, League, State & pronouns) when asking questions
- **Staff will be monitoring the chat box.** If you have any questions or thoughts throughout the call, please feel free to drop them in the chat box.

Community Norms



Bring your full self and limit distractions



What is learned here, leaves here



No one knows everything, together we know a lot



Don't yuck my yum



Oops, ouch, and educate



Assume best intentions

POLL!

PPFM & LWVUS Redistricting

“Support redistricting processes and enforceable standards that promote fair and effective representation at all levels of government with maximum opportunity for public participation.”

LWVUS Impact on Issues, 2022-24 pg. 11

PPFM & LWVUS Redistricting

- *Rucho v. League of Women Voters of North Carolina* (consolidated w/ *Common Cause v. Rucho*)
- Redistricting position
- Launch of People Powered Fair Maps
- National Partners Work
- Impact Report



**PEOPLE
POWERED** 
FAIR MAPS™
Day of Action

Presented by Debra Cronmiller (LWVWI Executive Director) and Joan Schwarz (Impartial Justice and Nonpartisan Redistricting Committee)

Fair Maps for Wisconsin



LWVWI.ORG



@LWVWI.ORG



@LWVWI



@LWV_WI



@LWV_WI

Sharing a Mission

The mission of the Wisconsin Fair Maps Coalition and the LWVWI Impartial Justice and Nonpartisan Redistricting Committee is to ensure **representative government for all**, by advocating for and enacting (in law and practice) an **independent and nonpartisan redistricting** process, building a truly **fair and accountable judiciary**, and securing the rights of the populace to **fair and equal access to voting**, by educating and engaging the people of Wisconsin.

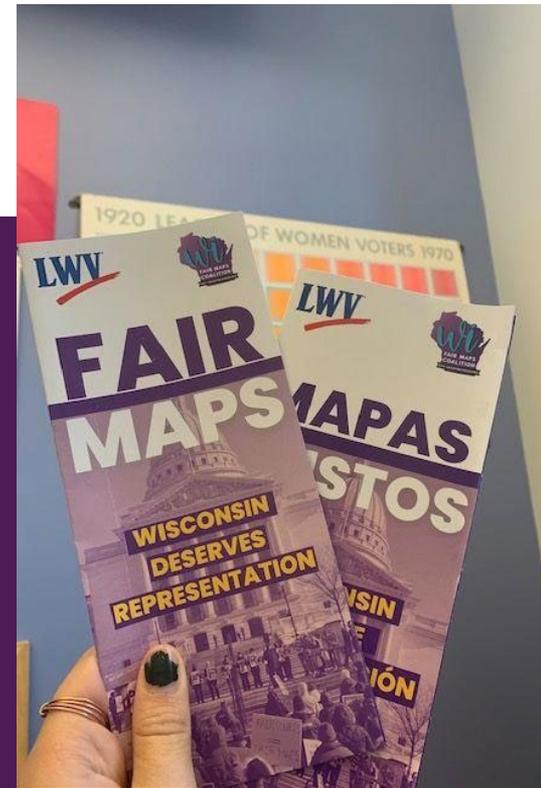
What's the WI Fair Maps Coalition?



- Statewide Focus
- Activist Organizers
- Strategic Planning
- Communications Hub

Statewide Focus

- 20+ organizations in partnership to end gerrymandering
- Regional Organizers help keep the large team focused
- Unique messaging plans for each area of the state
- Shared Materials - Yard Signs, Brochures, Toolkits



Social Media



Activist Organizers

- Producing LTEs and Op Eds throughout the state
- 56 of 72 Counties Passed Referendums or Resolutions
- Local programming (webinars and meetings) with partners to build awareness
- Centering kitchen table policy issues - What we are not getting



Strategic Planning

- Mission and Vision
- Theory of Change
- Regular planning sessions both virtual and in person
- Phases of the Movement



Communications Hub

Website: fairmapswi.com

Weekly Update



FMC Update will be sent on 1st & 3rd Saturdays

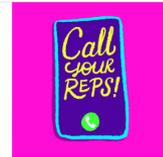
Wisconsin Fair Maps

Champions' Update

09.23.2023

Please send items for the Update by Thursday afternoon before 1st & 3rd Saturdays.

[Responding to Recent Wisconsin Assembly Floor Session on Redistricting in Wisconsin](#)

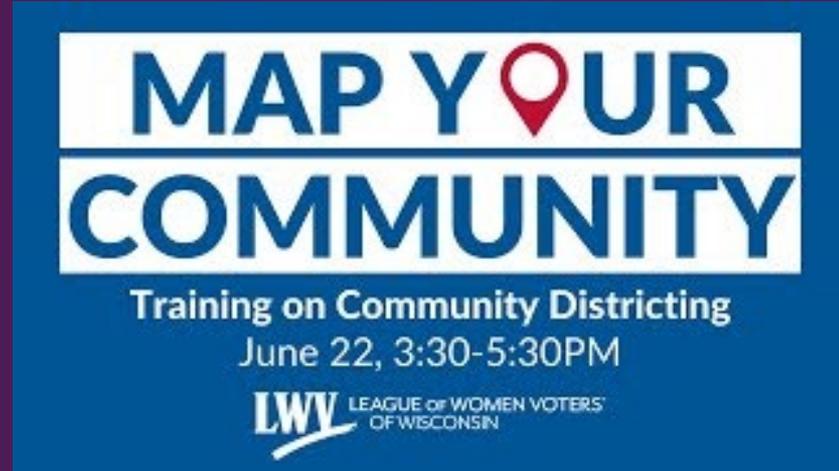


Here are immediate actions you can take to make your voice heard:

1. **Continue to Contact Your State Legislators:** Encourage them to support a bipartisan approach to **fair maps**, one that ensures fairness and transparency. **Reject the Assembly's timeline**—we need to take more time to pass real reform and not rush this important process. For the last 12 years, Vos and the GOP have rejected every attempt to even consider non-partisan redistricting reform, not even a public hearing.
2. **Demand Public Hearings: Let us in!** We need a voice at the table in

Laying the Groundwork

- LWVWI has been planning and laying the groundwork for redistricting advocacy for 2030.
 - Legislative Fix
 - Forums and Webinars
 - Redistricting Toolkits



Impartial Justice & Nonpartisan Redistricting Committee

- Added Impartial Justice work to the ongoing PPFM work since any immediate action resulting in fair maps would occur in the Courts
- Focusing on educating the public.
- Working on our short-term goals (2024 election)
 - Nonpartisan redistricting litigation
 - Appellate review of redistricting lawsuits at the Wisconsin Supreme Court
 - Continue pressure to enact nonpartisan redistricting legislation
 - Messaging





Long-Term Goals

- 2030 census and redistricting
- Constitutional amendment for initiative and ballot referenda
- Independent redistricting commission

10/19/2023

WASHINGTON STATES' REDISTRICTING REFORM CAMPAIGN

STEP UP! TO REDISTRICTING

Creating a movement for a People First Redistricting Commission



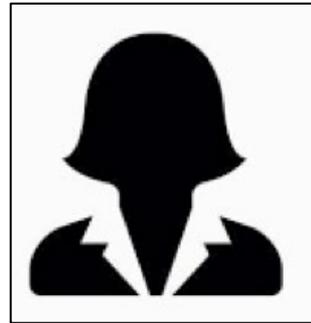
Alison McCaffree, Redistricting Issue Chair LWVWA

253-720-6813. amccaffree@lwvwa.org

Washington State Redistricting Commission

Created in 1983 by a State Constitutional Amendment

Voting Members:



Non-voting Chair

Senate

Democrat



Republican



House

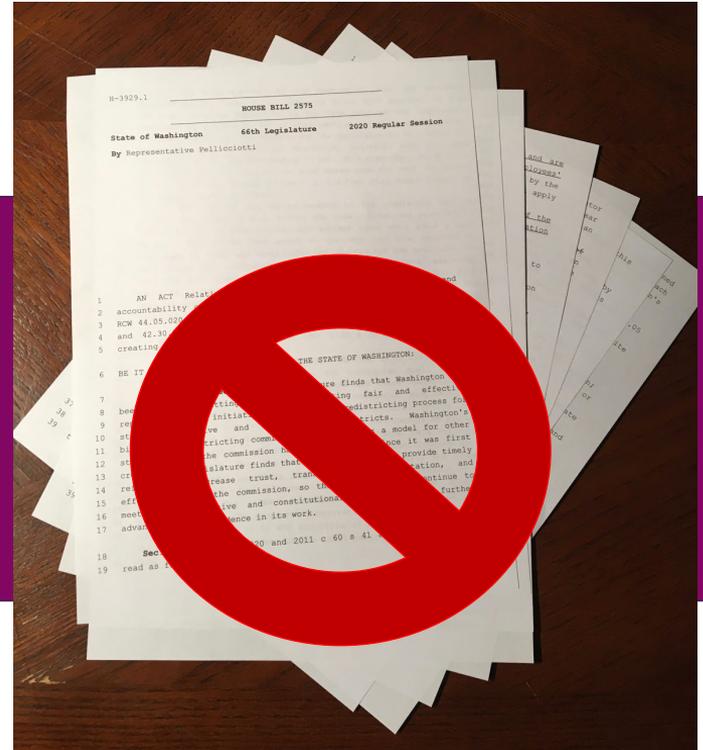


- No elected officials or party officers in prior two-year period
- No registered lobbyists within the past year

2019 HB-2575

Modernize Redistricting

- Make commission even better
- Maximize public input
- Increase trust in the maps
- Engage non-English speakers



Training sessions to prepare people to testify to the Redistricting Commission.



**SPEAK UP
SCHOOL**

Modules

MAIN:

*Local Org Led
Modules*

MODULE 2



**WELCOME
& KEYNOTE**

MODULE 4



TESTIMONY

MODULE 5



TESTIFYING

MODULE 6



**PRACTICE &
COACHING**

OPTIONAL:

*Expert Led
Modules*

MODULE 1



**REDISTRICTING
101**

MODULE 3



**CONTENT:
DATA LENSES**

MODULE 7



DRA 2020

**ONLINE
MAPPING TOOL**

2021 Redistricting Commission

People First Report Card

- F** VRA Compliance
- D +** Transparency
- C** Prioritize Communities of Interest
- D** Don't favor incumbents or party affiliations
- C -** Timely staffing & communications
- B +** Outreach & Access

We deserve better.

BETTER

**Independent
People First
Commission**

**Legislature
Decides**

**Bi-partisan
Commission**

- Complacency
- Entrenched Parties

- Communities of Interest last
- Low Accountability

Don't Get MAD, Get ORGANIZED!

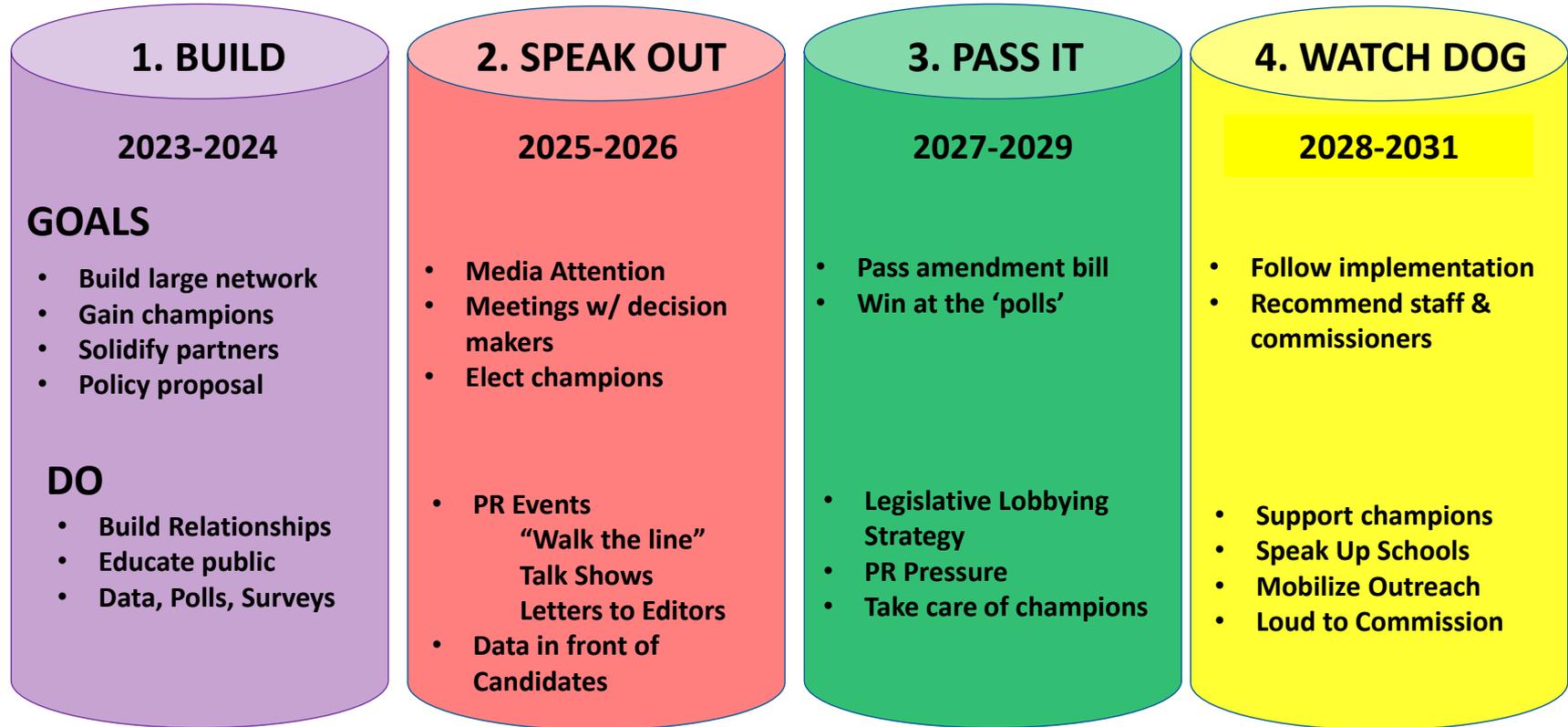
- Statewide Task Force
- Local Area Action Teams
- Friend Raising
- Fundraising
- Statewide Research Poll



Reform Categories

1. **Structure:** People First Commission
2. **Support:** Permanent staff, earlier support
3. **Accountability:** Define criteria and rank them
4. **Transparency:** Timely negotiations in public
5. **Input:** Clear outreach and processes for community input
6. **Access:** Translation & Interpretation for all

Redistricting Reform Campaign Phases







Behind the lines: Redistricting and Gerrymandering in Kentucky

Becky Jones, LWVKY 1st Vice President



Oct. 19, 2023

League of Women Voters of Kentucky

Kentucky Data

- **6** U.S. Congressional seats
- **38** Kentucky Senate seats
- **100** Kentucky House seats
- **Many** judicial, city, county, and school board seats across *120 counties*

Educate Voters: What's Fair?

- ✓ Best Process: An independent commission
 - *Not possible in Kentucky without a Constitutional Amendment*
- ✓ Best Practice: Legislature commits to transparency
 - *Hold public hearings. Get stakeholder input.*
- ✓ Best Policy: Engage the Public
 - *Submit maps to highlight community needs*

History of LWVKY Campaign

- **December 2017** - League Report on Redistricting released
- **2020 and 2021** - Supported bills to create a Redistricting Advisory Commission
- **Dec 2020*** - League maps released (2010 Census)
- **2021** – Supported House Joint Resolution for open, transparent redistricting with public input
- **December 2021** - New League maps released (2020 Census)

Between 2020 and 2022 League Members:

- Gave > 120 presentations
- Reached > 3,000 people
- Testified at the Capitol
- Gave multiple media interviews



Press Conference releasing
LWVKY maps

LWVKY MAPS FOLLOWED THE RULES!

1. One person, one vote.
1. Provide districts of opportunity.
1. Respect county lines.
1. Maintain compact districts.
1. Consider county seats.
1. Ignore incumbency.

KY Legislators Used Their Own Rules

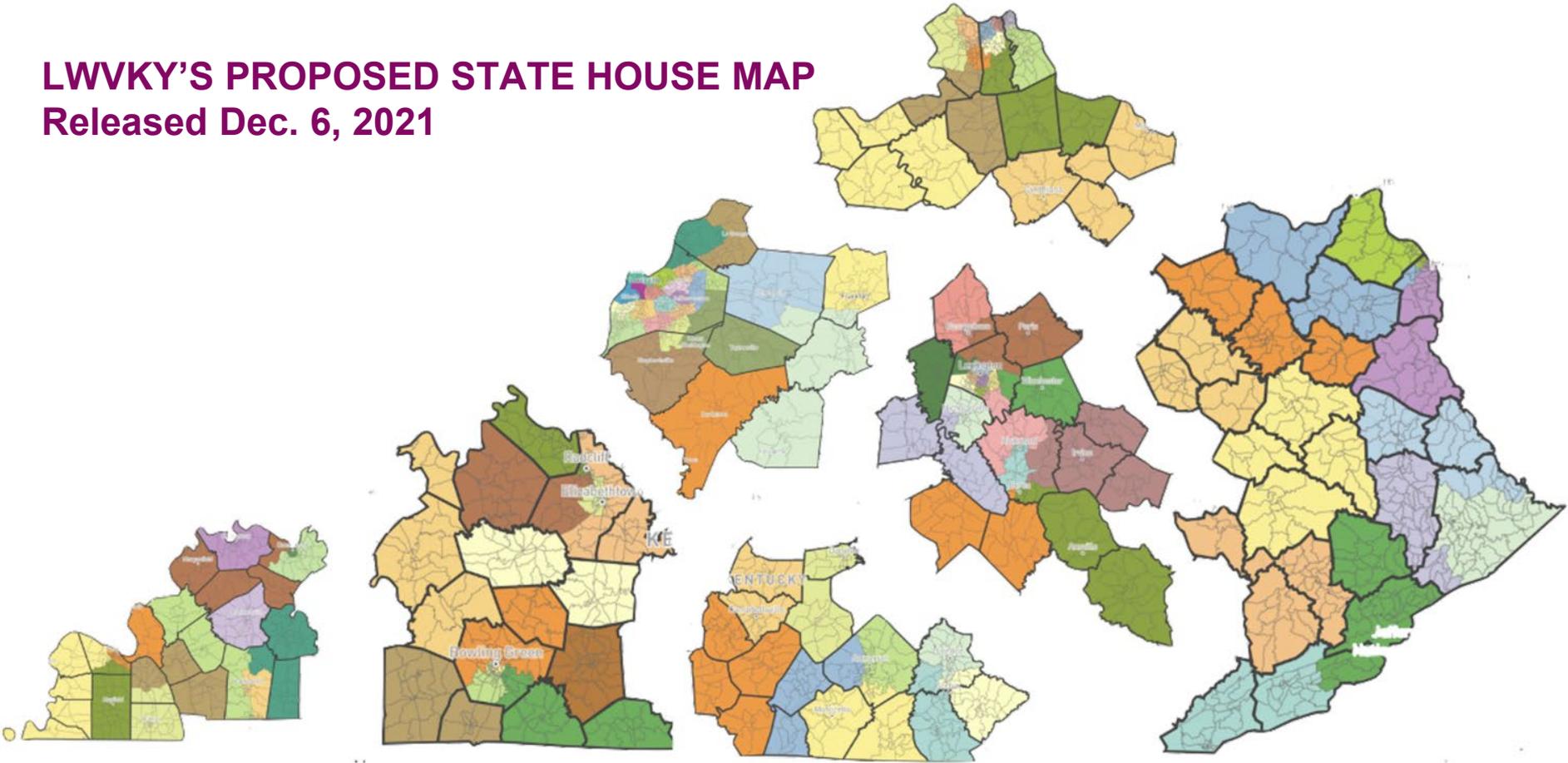
- ❌ Drew their maps “behind closed doors”.
- ❌ Held NO public hearings on their maps.
- ❌ Took NO comments from voters.
- ❌ Adopted their maps in 5 days, from release to final vote.
- ❌ Overrode the Governor’s veto.

DO THE RULES MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

LET'S COMPARE LEAGUE AND LEGISLATIVE MAPS

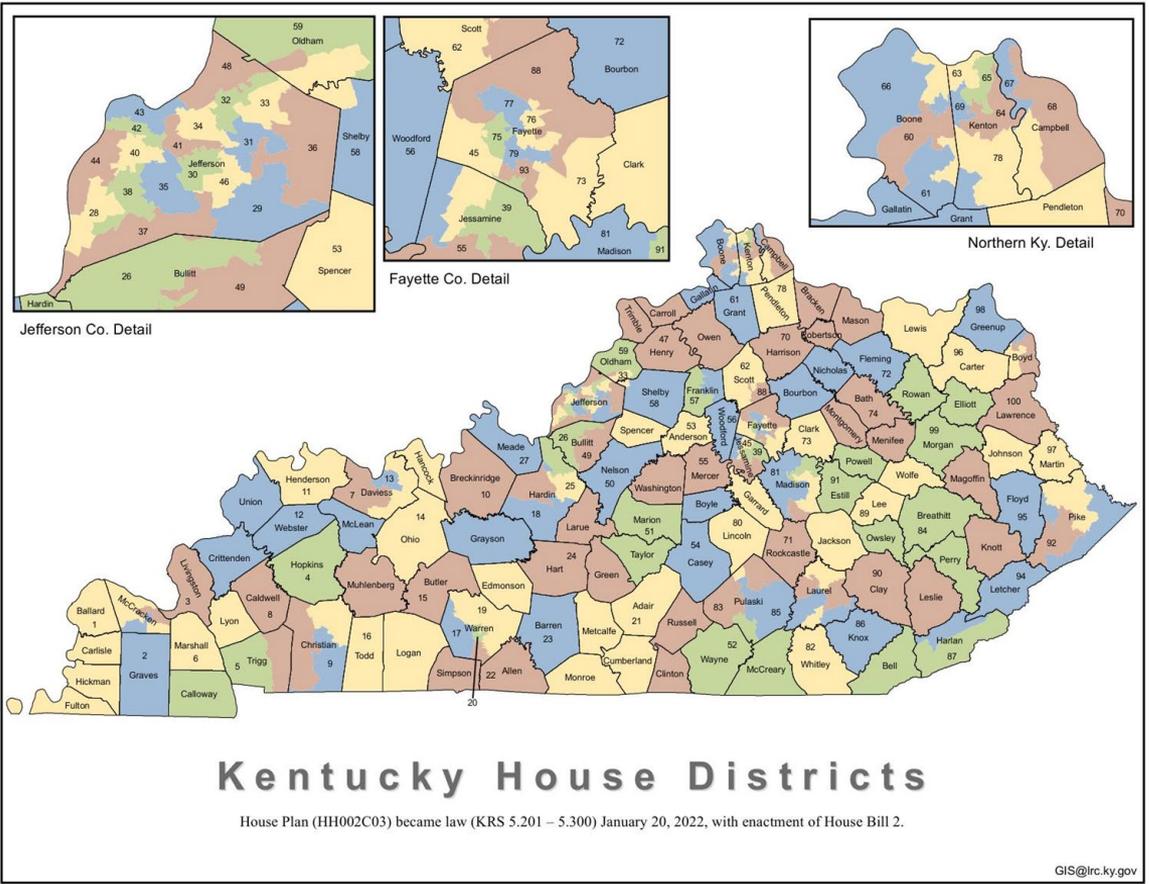
LWVKY'S PROPOSED STATE HOUSE MAP

Released Dec. 6, 2021



KY LEGISLATURE'S STATE HOUSE MAP Adopted Jan. 20, 2022

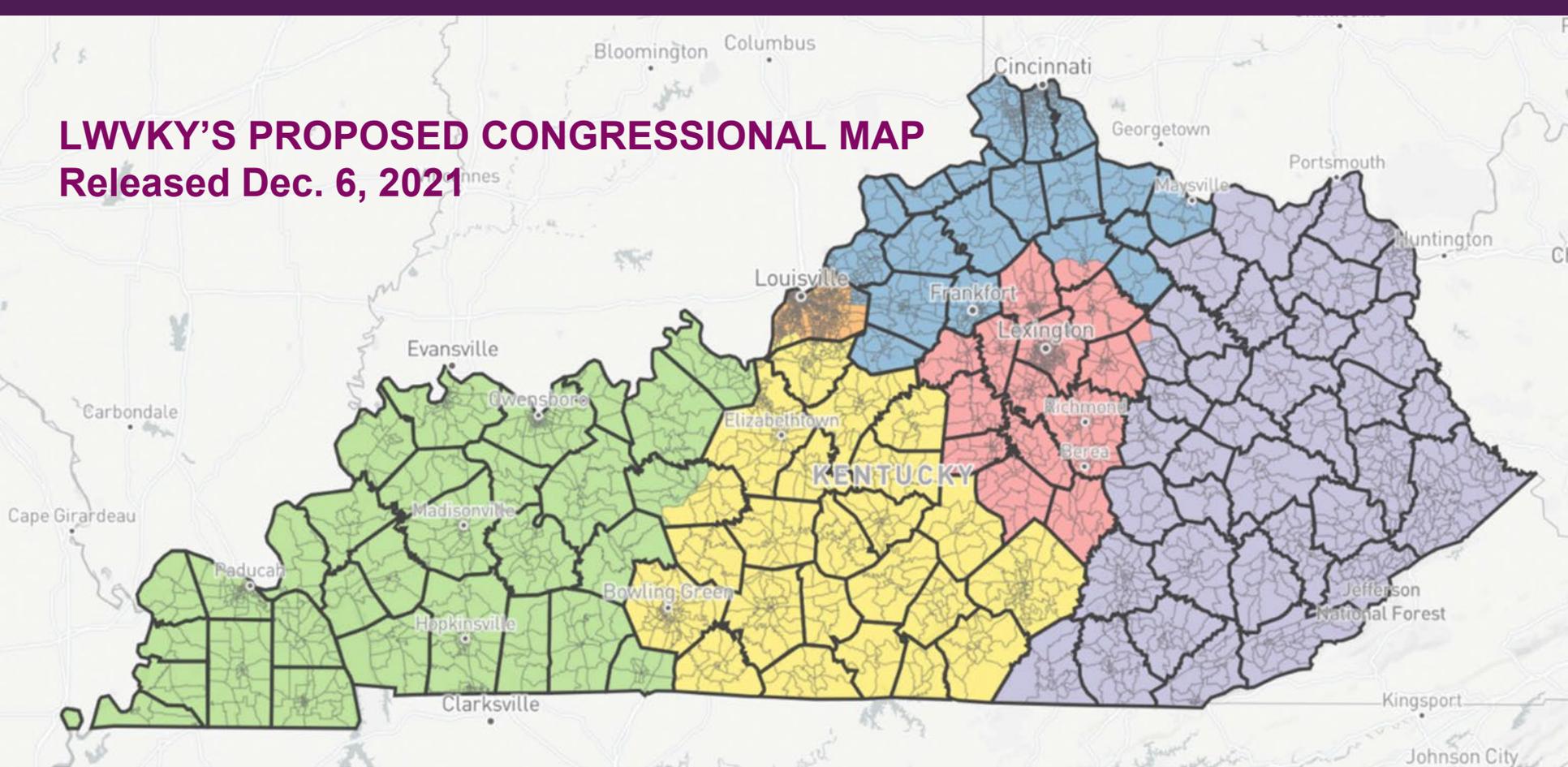
Maps drawn by:
Republican super-majorities
in the House and Senate



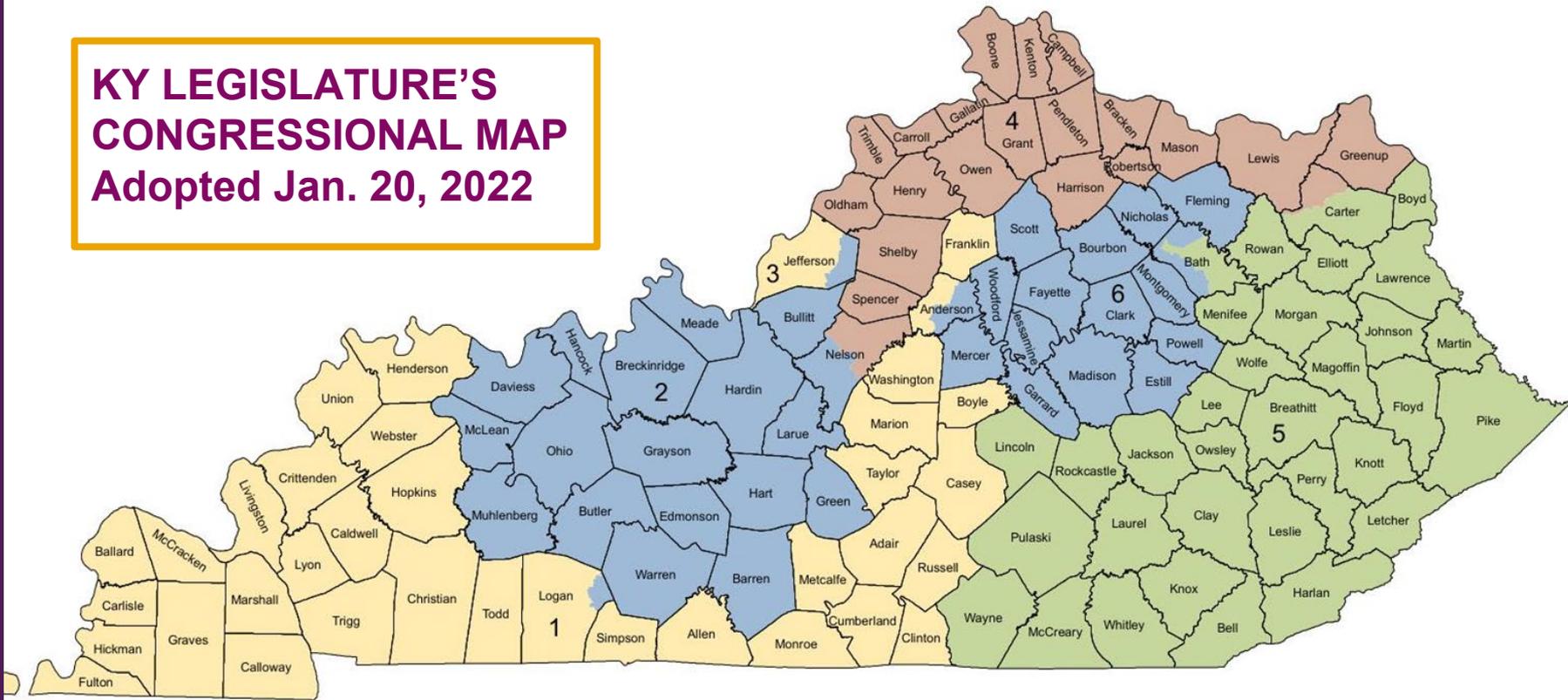
**GERRYMANDERING
IN KENTUCKY IS A
BI-PARTISAN SPORT.**

LWVKY'S PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL MAP

Released Dec. 6, 2021



KY LEGISLATURE'S CONGRESSIONAL MAP Adopted Jan. 20, 2022



MAPS LITIGATION

KY Democratic Party and voters filed suit hours before legislators overrode the Governor's veto of the House and Congressional maps.
(Graham v. Adams)

State Senate map passed without the Governor's signature.

Circuit Court Judge found partisan gerrymandering, but ruled...

Kentucky's constitution
“does not explicitly forbid the consideration of partisan interests in apportioning representation.”

- Franklin County Circuit Judge Thomas Wingate, Nov. 17, 2022

MAPS LITIGATION

Plaintiff appealed.

KY Supreme Court heard oral arguments on the case Sept. 19, 2023.

The Supreme Court has not announced when it will release its decision.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



FEBRUARY 2023
AN UPDATE

RESTORING VOTING RIGHTS

to Kentuckians with
Felony Convictions



A sorry statistic . . .

Kentucky is
1 of 3 states nationwide
(Kentucky, Iowa, Virginia)
that permanently revokes a
person's right to vote if they
have a felony conviction

BEST PRACTICE: Legislative Transparency

- LWVKY has undertaken a multi-decade review of bills passed under Democrat control, split-party control, and Republican super-majority control of the legislature.
 - *COMING THIS FALL FROM LWVKY . . .*
**. . . a comprehensive report on
Transparency and Citizen Participation in
Kentucky's Legislative Process**

KENTUCKY LEAGUE REMAINS COMMITTED TO OUR CORE VALUES

- Registering voters/Promoting VOTE411
- Educating voters through candidate debates and forums (State Officers elected in 2023)
- Studying (2023-24) the possibility of Open Primaries in KY

KENTUCKY LEAGUE REMAINS COMMITTED TO OUR CORE VALUES

- Collaborating with voting rights advocates to GOTV
- Remaining ready to respond to Supreme Court ruling*
- Supporting the John Lewis VRAA and For the People Act

POLL!

Conclusion

- LWVUS, state, and local Leagues are partners for fair redistricting
- People are the most important part of redistricting!
- It's never too soon to be prepared for next redistricting cycle
- Leagues achieved many wins in 2020 redistricting

Questions?

