

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB241

Bill as
Introduced

SB 241 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2891

11/08

SENATE BILL **241**

AN ACT apportioning executive council districts.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Morse, Dist 22;
Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Daniels, Dist
11; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 5

COMMITTEE: Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes new councilor districts based on the latest federal decennial census.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT apportioning executive council districts.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Councilor Districts. RSA 662:2 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

2 662:2 Councilor Districts. The state is divided into 5 districts for the choosing of councilors,
3 each of which may elect one councilor. The districts shall be constituted as follows:

4 I. Councilor district number 1 is constituted of the counties of Coos and Grafton, the
5 unincorporated place of Hale's Location, the towns of Albany, Alton, Andover, Bartlett, Brookfield,
6 Center Harbor, Chatham, Conway, Cornish, Croydon, Danbury, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Gilford,
7 Grantham, Hart's Location, Hill, Jackson, Madison, Meredith, Middleton, Milton, Moultonborough,
8 New Durham, New Hampton, New London, Newport, Ossipee, Plainfield, Sanbornton, Sandwich,
9 Springfield, Sunapee, Tamworth, Tilton, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wilmot, and Wolfeboro, and the
10 cities of Claremont and Laconia.

11 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the towns of Acworth, Alstead, Barnstead,
12 Belmont, Boscawen, Bradford, Canterbury, Charlestown, Chesterfield, Dublin, Durham,
13 Farmington, Gilmanton, Gilsun, Goshen, Hancock, Harrisville, Henniker, Hinsdale, Hopkinton,
14 Langdon, Lempster, Madbury, Marlborough, Marlow, Nelson, Newbury, Northfield, Rollinsford,
15 Roxbury, Salisbury, Stoddard, Strafford, Sullivan, Surry, Sutton, Unity, Walpole, Warner,
16 Washington, Webster, Westmoreland, and Winchester, and the cities of Concord, Dover, Franklin,
17 Keene, Rochester, and Somersworth.

18 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns of Atkinson, Brentwood, Chester,
19 Danville, Derry, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampstead, Hampton,
20 Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket, Newton,
21 North Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Raymond, Rye, Salem, Sandown, Seabrook, South Hampton,
22 Stratham, and Windham, and the city of Portsmouth.

23 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns of Allenstown, Auburn,
24 Barrington, Bedford, Bow, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee,
25 Londonderry, Loudon, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, and Pittsfield, and the city of
26 Manchester.

27 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the towns of Amherst, Antrim, Bennington,
28 Brookline, Deering, Dunbarton, Fitzwilliam, Francestown, Greenfield, Greenville, Hillsborough,
29 Hollis, Hudson, Jaffrey, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, New
30 Boston, New Ipswich, Peterborough, Richmond, Rindge, Sharon, Swanzey, Temple, Troy, Weare,
31 Wilton, and Windsor, and the city of Nashua.

SB 241 - AS INTRODUCED

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1 2 Application. The changes in councilor districts established by this act shall not affect
2 constituencies or terms of office of councilors presently in office. The councilor districts established
3 by this act shall be in effect for the purpose of electing councilors at the 2022 state general election.
4 If there shall be a vacancy in a councilor district for any reason prior to the 2022 state general
5 election, the vacancy shall be filled by and from the same councilor district that existed for the 2020
6 state general election.

7 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

SB 241 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/24/2022 1188s

2022 SESSION

22-2891

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SENATE BILL **241**

AN ACT apportioning executive council districts.

SPONSORS: Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Morse, Dist 22; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Daniels, Dist 11; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 5

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3 each of which may elect one councilor. The districts shall be constituted as follows:

4 I. Councilor district number 1 is constituted of the towns, cities, and unincorporated places
5 of Albany, Alexandria, Alton, Atkinson and Gilmanton Academy Gt, Bartlett, Bean's Grant, Bean's
6 Purchase, Belmont, Berlin, Bridgewater, Bristol, Brookfield, Cambridge, Center Harbor, Chandler's
7 Purchase, Chatham, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Conway, Crawford's Purchase, Cutt's Grant,
8 Dalton, Danbury, Dix's Grant, Dixville, Dover, Dummer, Durham, Eaton, Effingham, Errol, Erving's
9 Location, Farmington, Franklin, Freedom, Gilford, Gilmanton, Gorham, Green's Grant, Hadley's
10 Purchase, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Hebron, Hill, Jackson, Jefferson, Kilkenny, Laconia,
11 Lancaster, Livermore, Low and Burbank's Grant, Madbury, Madison, Martin's Location, Meredith,
12 Middleton, Milan, Millsfield, Milton, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, Northfield,
13 Northumberland, Odell, Ossipee, Pinkham's Grant, Pittsburg, Randolph, Rochester, Rollinsford,
14 Sanbornton, Sandwich, Sargent's Purchase, Second College Grant, Shelburne, Somersworth, Stark,
15 Stewartstown, Stratford, Success, Tamworth, Thompson & Meserve's Purchase, Tilton, Tuftonboro,
16 Wakefield, Waterville Valley, Wentworth's Location, Whitefield, and Wolfeboro.

17 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the towns and cities of Acworth, Alstead,
18 Andover, Ashland, Bath, Benton, Bethlehem, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Campton, Canaan,
19 Canterbury, Carroll, Charlestown, Chesterfield, Claremont, Concord, Cornish, Croydon, Dorchester,
20 Dublin, Easton, Ellsworth, Enfield, Franconia, Gilsum, Grafton, Grantham, Groton, Hancock,
21 Hanover, Harrisville, Haverhill, Henniker, Hinsdale, Holderness, Hopkinton, Keene, Landaff,
22 Langdon, Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman, Lyme, Marlborough, Marlow, Monroe, Nelson,
23 New London, Newbury, Newport, Orange, Orford, Peterborough, Piermont, Plainfield, Plymouth,
24 Roxbury, Rumney, Salisbury, Sharon, Springfield, Sugar Hill, Sullivan, Sunapee, Surry, Sutton,
25 Thornton, Unity, Walpole, Warner, Warren, Webster, Wentworth, Westmoreland, Wilmot,
26 Winchester, and Woodstock.

27 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns and cities of Atkinson,
28 Brentwood, Chester, Danville, Derry, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland,
29 Hampstead, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington,
30 Newmarket, Newton, North Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Raymond, Rye, Salem,
31 Sandown, Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham, and Windham.

SB 241 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

- Page 2 -

1 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns and cities of Allenstown, Auburn,
2 Barnstead, Barrington, Bedford, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee,
3 Londonderry, Loudon, Manchester, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, and Strafford.

4 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the towns and cities of Amherst, Antrim,
5 Bennington, Brookline, Deering, Dunbarton, Fitzwilliam, Frankestown, Goshen, Greenfield,
6 Greenville, Hillsborough, Hollis, Hudson, Jaffrey, Lempster, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason,
7 Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, Nashua, New Boston, New Ipswich, Richmond, Rindge, Stoddard,
8 Swanzey, Temple, Troy, Washington, Weare, Wilton, and Windsor.

9 2 Application. The changes in councilor districts established by this act shall not affect
10 constituencies or terms of office of councilors presently in office. The councilor districts established
11 by this act shall be in effect for the purpose of electing councilors at the 2022 state general election.
12 If there shall be a vacancy in a councilor district for any reason prior to the 2022 state general
13 election, the vacancy shall be filled by and from the same councilor district that existed for the 2020
14 state general election.

15 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

16

CHAPTER 46
SB 241 - FINAL VERSION

03/24/2022 1188s

2022 SESSION

22-2891
11/08

SENATE BILL

241

AN ACT

apportioning executive council districts.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Morse, Dist 22; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Daniels, Dist 11; Rep. W. MacDonald, Rock. 5

COMMITTEE:

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ANALYSIS

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CHAPTER 46
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT apportioning executive council districts.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 46:1 Councilor Districts. RSA 662:2 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

2 662:2 Councilor Districts. The state is divided into 5 districts for the choosing of councilors, each of
3 which may elect one councilor. The districts shall be constituted as follows:

4 I. Councilor district number 1 is constituted of the towns, cities, and unincorporated places of
5 Albany, Alexandria, Alton, Atkinson and Gilmanton Academy Grant, Bartlett, Bean's Grant, Bean's
6 Purchase, Belmont, Berlin, Bridgewater, Bristol, Brookfield, Cambridge, Center Harbor, Chandler's
7 Purchase, Chatham, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Conway, Crawford's Purchase, Cutt's Grant,
8 Dalton, Danbury, Dix's Grant, Dixville, Dover, Dummer, Durham, Eaton, Effingham, Errol, Erving's
9 Location, Farmington, Franklin, Freedom, Gilford, Gilmanton, Gorham, Green's Grant, Hadley's Purchase,
10 Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Hebron, Hill, Jackson, Jefferson, Kilkenny, Laconia, Lancaster,
11 Livermore, Low and Burbank's Grant, Madbury, Madison, Martin's Location, Meredith, Middleton, Milan,
12 Millsfield, Milton, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, Northfield, Northumberland, Odell,
13 Ossipee, Pinkham's Grant, Pittsburg, Randolph, Rochester, Rollinsford, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Sargent's
14 Purchase, Second College Grant, Shelburne, Somersworth, Stark, Stewartstown, Stratford, Success,
15 Tamworth, Thompson & Meserve's Purchase, Tilton, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Waterville Valley,
16 Wentworth's Location, Whitefield, and Wolfeboro.

17 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the towns and cities of Acworth, Alstead, Andover,
18 Ashland, Bath, Benton, Bethlehem, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Campton, Canaan, Canterbury, Carroll,
19 Charlestown, Chesterfield, Claremont, Concord, Cornish, Croydon, Dorchester, Dublin, Easton, Ellsworth,
20 Enfield, Franconia, Gilsum, Grafton, Grantham, Groton, Hancock, Hanover, Harrisville, Haverhill,
21 Henniker, Hinsdale, Holderness, Hopkinton, Keene, Landaff, Langdon, Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon,
22 Littleton, Lyman, Lyme, Marlborough, Marlow, Monroe, Nelson, New London, Newbury, Newport, Orange,
23 Orford, Peterborough, Piermont, Plainfield, Plymouth, Roxbury, Rumney, Salisbury, Sharon, Springfield,
24 Sugar Hill, Sullivan, Sunapee, Surry, Sutton, Thornton, Unity, Walpole, Warner, Warren, Webster,
25 Wentworth, Westmoreland, Wilmot, Winchester, and Woodstock.

26 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns and cities of Atkinson, Brentwood,
27 Chester, Danville, Derry, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampstead, Hampton,
28 Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket, Newton, North
29 Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Raymond, Rye, Salem, Sandown, Seabrook, South Hampton,
30 Stratham, and Windham.

CHAPTER 46
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- Page 2 -

1 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns and cities of Allenstown, Auburn,
2 Barnstead, Barrington, Bedford, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee,
3 Londonderry, Loudon, Manchester, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, and Strafford.

4 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the towns and cities of Amherst, Antrim,
5 Bennington, Brookline, Deering, Dunbarton, Fitzwilliam, Francestown, Goshen, Greenfield, Greenville,
6 Hillsborough, Hollis, Hudson, Jaffrey, Lempster, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason, Merrimack, Milford,
7 Mont Vernon, Nashua, New Boston, New Ipswich, Richmond, Rindge, Stoddard, Swanzey, Temple, Troy,
8 Washington, Weare, Wilton, and Windsor.

9 46:2 Application. The changes in councilor districts established by this act shall not affect
10 constituencies or terms of office of councilors presently in office. The councilor districts established by
11 this act shall be in effect for the purpose of electing councilors at the 2022 state general election. If there
12 shall be a vacancy in a councilor district for any reason prior to the 2022 state general election, the
13 vacancy shall be filled by and from the same councilor district that existed for the 2020 state general
14 election.

 46:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: May 06, 2022
Effective Date: May 06, 2022

Amendments

Sen. Soucy, Dist 18
Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21
February 4, 2022
2022-0512s
05/10

Amendment to SB 241

1 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

2

3 1 Councilor Districts. RSA 662:2 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

4 662:2 Councilor Districts. The state is divided into 5 districts for the choosing of councilors,
5 each of which may elect one councilor. The districts shall be constituted as follows:

6 I. Councilor district number 1 is constituted of the counties of Belknap, Carroll, Coos,
7 Grafton, and Sullivan.

8 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the county of Strafford, the towns of
9 Allenstown, Andover, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Canterbury, Chichester, Danbury, Deerfield,
10 Dunbarton, Epsom, Henniker, Hill, Hopkinton, Loudon, Newbury, New London, Northfield,
11 Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, Salisbury, Sutton, Warner, Webster, and Wilmot and
12 the cities of Concord and Franklin.

13 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns of Atkinson, Brentwood, Candia,
14 Chester, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampstead, Hampton,
15 Hampton Falls, Hudson, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket,
16 Newton, North Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Raymond, Rye, Salem, Sandown, Seabrook, South
17 Hampton, Stratham, and Windham, and the city of Portsmouth.

18 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns of Auburn, Bedford, Derry,
19 Goffstown, Hooksett, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, and the city of Manchester.

20 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the county of Cheshire, the towns of
21 Amherst, Antrim, Bennington, Brookline, Deering, Frankestown, Greenfield, Greenville, Hancock,
22 Hillsborough, Hollis, Lyndeborough, Mason, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Boston, New Ipswich,
23 Peterborough, Sharon, Temple, Weare, Wilton, and Windsor, and the city of Nashua.

Floor Amendment to SB 241

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

2

3 1 Councilor Districts. RSA 662:2 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

4 662:2 Councilor Districts. The state is divided into 5 districts for the choosing of councilors,
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8 Purchase, Belmont, Berlin, Bridgewater, Bristol, Brookfield, Cambridge, Center Harbor, Chandler's
9 Purchase, Chatham, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Conway, Crawford's Purchase, Cutt's Grant,
10 Dalton, Danbury, Dix's Grant, Dixville, Dover, Dummer, Durham, Eaton, Effingham, Errol, Erving's
11 Location, Farmington, Franklin, Freedom, Gilford, Gilmanton, Gorham, Green's Grant, Hadley's
12 Purchase, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Hebron, Hill, Jackson, Jefferson, Kilkenny, Laconia,
13 Lancaster, Livermore, Low and Burbank's Grant, Madbury, Madison, Martin's Location, Meredith,
14 Middleton, Milan, Millsfield, Milton, Moultonborough, New Durham, New Hampton, Northfield,
15 Northumberland, Odell, Ossipee, Pinkham's Grant, Pittsburg, Randolph, Rochester, Rollinsford,
16 Sanbornton, Sandwich, Sargent's Purchase, Second College Grant, Shelburne, Somersworth, Stark,
17 Stewartstown, Stratford, Success, Tamworth, Thompson & Meserve's Purchase, Tilton, Tuftonboro,
18 Wakefield, Waterville Valley, Wentworth's Location, Whitefield, and Wolfeboro.

19 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the towns and cities of Acworth, Alstead,
20 Andover, Ashland, Bath, Benton, Bethlehem, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Campton, Canaan,
21 Canterbury, Carroll, Charlestown, Chesterfield, Claremont, Concord, Cornish, Croydon, Dorchester,
22 Dublin, Easton, Ellsworth, Enfield, Franconia, Gilsun, Grafton, Grantham, Groton, Hancock,
23 Hanover, Harrisville, Haverhill, Henniker, Hinsdale, Holderness, Hopkinton, Keene, Landaff,
24 Langdon, Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman, Lyme, Marlborough, Marlow, Monroe, Nelson,
25 New London, Newbury, Newport, Orange, Orford, Peterborough, Piermont, Plainfield, Plymouth,
26 Roxbury, Rumney, Salisbury, Sharon, Springfield, Sugar Hill, Sullivan, Sunapee, Surry, Sutton,
27 Thornton, Unity, Walpole, Warner, Warren, Webster, Wentworth, Westmoreland, Wilmot,
28 Winchester, and Woodstock.

29 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns and cities of Atkinson,
30 Brentwood, Chester, Danville, Derry, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland,
31 Hampstead, Hampton, Hampton Falls, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington,

Floor Amendment to SB 241

- Page 2 -

1 Newmarket, Newton, North Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Portsmouth, Raymond, Rye, Salem,
2 Sandown, Seabrook, South Hampton, Stratham, and Windham.

3 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns and cities of Allenstown, Auburn,
4 Barnstead, Barrington, Bedford, Candia, Chichester, Deerfield, Epsom, Goffstown, Hooksett, Lee,
5 Londonderry, Loudon, Manchester, Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, and Strafford.

6 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the towns and cities of Amherst, Antrim,
7 Bennington, Brookline, Deering, Dunbarton, Fitzwilliam, Frankestown, Goshen, Greenfield,
8 Greenville, Hillsborough, Hollis, Hudson, Jaffrey, Lempster, Litchfield, Lyndeborough, Mason,
9 Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, Nashua, New Boston, New Ipswich, Richmond, Rindge, Stoddard,
10 Swanzey, Temple, Troy, Washington, Weare, Wilton, and Windsor.

11 2 Application. The changes in councilor districts established by this act shall not affect
12 constituencies or terms of office of councilors presently in office. The councilor districts established
13 by this act shall be in effect for the purpose of electing councilors at the 2022 state general election.
14 If there shall be a vacancy in a councilor district for any reason prior to the 2022 state general
15 election, the vacancy shall be filled by and from the same councilor district that existed for the 2020
16 state general election.

17 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Sen. Soucy, Dist 18
Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21
March 22, 2022
2022-1189s
05/04

Floor Amendment to SB 241

1 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

2

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6 I. Councilor district number 1 is constituted of the counties of Belknap, Carroll, Coos,
7 Grafton, and Sullivan.

8 II. Councilor district number 2 is constituted of the county of Strafford, the towns of
9 Allenstown, Andover, Boscawen, Bow, Bradford, Canterbury, Chichester, Danbury, Deerfield,
10 Dunbarton, Epsom, Henniker, Hill, Hopkinton, Loudon, Newbury, New London, Northfield,
11 Northwood, Nottingham, Pembroke, Pittsfield, Salisbury, Sutton, Warner, Webster, and Wilmot and
12 the cities of Concord and Franklin.

13 III. Councilor district number 3 is constituted of the towns of Atkinson, Brentwood, Candia,
14 Chester, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Greenland, Hampstead, Hampton,
15 Hampton Falls, Hudson, Kensington, Kingston, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket,
16 Newton, North Hampton, Pelham, Plaistow, Raymond, Rye, Salem, Sandown, Seabrook, South
17 Hampton, Stratham, and Windham, and the city of Portsmouth.

18 IV. Councilor district number 4 is constituted of the towns of Auburn, Bedford, Derry,
19 Goffstown, Hooksett, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, and the city of Manchester.

20 V. Councilor district number 5 is constituted of the county of Cheshire, the towns of
21 Amherst, Antrim, Bennington, Brookline, Deering, Frankestown, Greenfield, Greenville, Hancock,
22 Hillsborough, Hollis, Lyndeborough, Mason, Milford, Mont Vernon, New Boston, New Ipswich,
23 Peterborough, Sharon, Temple, Weare, Wilton, and Windsor, and the city of Nashua.

Committee Minutes

AMENDED
SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
Election Law and Municipal Affairs

Sen James Gray, Chair
Sen Regina Birdsell, Vice Chair
Sen Ruth Ward, Member
Sen Donna Soucy, Member
Sen Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Member

Date: December 20, 2021

HEARINGS

Monday	01/10/2022	
(Day)	(Date)	
Election Law and Municipal Affairs	State House Reps Hall	1:00 p.m.
(Name of Committee)	(Place)	(Time)
1:00 p.m.	SB 240	apportioning state senate districts. Amendment #0013s to SB 240 will be introduced and can be accessed via the General Court Web Site
1:00 p.m.	SB 241	apportioning executive council districts.
1:00 p.m.	SB 253	apportioning state senate districts. Amendment #0009s to SB 253 will be introduced and can be accessed via the General Court Web Site
1:00 p.m.	SB 254	apportioning executive council districts. Amendment #0010s to SB 254 will be introduced and can be accessed via the General Court Web Site

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors:

SB 240

Sen. Gray
Sen. Ward
Rep. W. MacDonald

Sen. Bradley
Sen. Carson

Sen. Avard
Sen. Birdsell

Sen. Morse
Sen. Daniels

SB 241

Sen. Gray
Sen. Carson
Rep. W. MacDonald

Sen. Bradley
Sen. Ward

Sen. Avard
Sen. Birdsell

Sen. Morse
Sen. Daniels

SB 253

Sen. Soucy
Sen. Watters
Sen. Kahn

Sen. Cavanaugh
Sen. Perkins Kwoka
Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Sherman
Sen. Prentiss
Rep. Cote

Sen. Rosenwald
Sen. Whitley
Rep. Wilhelm

SB 254

Sen. Soucy
Sen. Watters
Sen. Kahn

Sen. Cavanaugh
Sen. Perkins Kwoka
Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Sherman
Sen. Prentiss
Rep. Cote

Sen. Rosenwald
Sen. Whitley
Rep. Wilhelm

Tricia Melillo 271-3077

James P. Gray
Chairman

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee
Tricia Melillo 271-3077

SB 241, apportioning executive council districts.

Hearing Date: January 10, 2022

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gray, Ward, Soucy and Perkins Kwoka

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Birdsell

Bill Analysis: This bill establishes new councilor districts based on the latest federal decennial census.

Sponsors:

Sen. Gray	Sen. Bradley	Sen. Avard
Sen. Morse	Sen. Carson	Sen. Ward
Sen. Birdsell	Sen. Daniels	Rep. W. MacDonald

Who supports the bill:

Who opposes the bill:

Summary of testimony presented in opposition:

Senator Gray opened the hearings and explained the rules and procedures for testifying.

Senator James Gray introduced SB 240, SB 241, and Amendment 0013s.

- SB 240 deals with the senate districts and has an amendment #0013s which deals with the changes to the districts.
- It divides the 24 districts into substantially equal parts.
- He used one of the software programs to redo Manchester and Nashua so he could get an accurate number.
- The deviation in population ended up being 7.5% which is within the 10% that is allowable.
- The districts are contiguous and meet the population and other requirements.
- When they looked at SB 241, the population deviation for the districts was only 2.7%.
- Although there are people that believe these districts were gerrymandered when they were created, there is no statutory reason to change them.

Senator Donna Soucy introduced SB 253, SB 254, Amendment 0009s, and Amendment 0010s.

- They worked to create these maps to accomplish two goals.
- First, to meet the constitutional and statutory requirements for redistricting.
- The other reason was to respond to the many ideas that were shared as they traveled around the state for the County hearings.
- This proposal (amendment #0009s) keeps as many communities of interest as possible while reconfiguring districts that were gerrymandered in the last cycle.
- The result is a competitive map that better represents communities across the state compared to the current map.
- She is confident that this map is not only fair but reflects communities of interest while balancing population shifts over the last decade.
- The map makes changes to 16 senate districts and keeps 8 the same.
- Under the proposal, districts 5, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20, and 22 remain exactly the same.

- The population deviation for this plan is 8.56 % which is still within the acceptable range.
- The proposal significantly reduces districts that cross county lines, which is something they heard consistently as they traveled throughout the state.
- Fourteen districts are completely within one County as compared to the current ten.
- Only three districts that are in two Counties compared to the existing five.
- The proposal reduces the number of districts within each County.
- Belknap goes from three to two, Cheshire and Grafton go from four to three, Merrimack from six to five, Rockingham from eight to seven, Strafford from five to four.
- Amendment #0010s is the proposal for the executive council districts.
- One of the most consistent testimony they heard at every County hearing was that Executive Council District 2 was gerrymandered and not a good example of the redistricting process.
- For that reason, she used the districts from 2002 and then made adjustments based on communities of interest, Counties, and population deviation.
- It better reflects the partisan balance that exists in the state and the result is 5 competitive executive council districts.
- For this map the overall population deviation is 6.32% which is well within the range.
- District 1 remains the largest district that encompasses the northern part of the state.
- It now encompasses five Counties, Coos, Carroll, Grafton, Belknap and Sullivan, rather than the current district which is in seven different Counties.
- District 1 is similar to the existing district but make some changes to stay within County lines.
- District 2, which is gerrymandered, becomes a much more compact district and is no longer stretched across the state.
- It now encompasses, Merrimack, Strafford and Northwest Rockingham County, making it more competitive for both parties.
- District 3 remains similar to the existing district but swaps some towns in western Rockingham County in order to balance population.
- District 4 becomes much more compact, the only town in the proposed district that does not share a border with Manchester is Derry.
- District 5 returns to a similar district that it was prior to the last cycle.
- Under this proposal District 5 would encompass the entirety of Cheshire County and the majority of Hillsborough County, including Nashua.
- The process of redrawing our legislative districts is one of the most important tasks that elected officials can do.
- The plan that they decide on will shape politics for the next ten years.

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka

- She supports amendment 0009s which is a proposal redistricting the senate districts.
- She is grateful to have heard all the testimony from Counties throughout the state.
- This map is the best representation of the feedback they received from public testimony, and it adheres to the basic principle of what independent redistricting truly looks like.
- It only makes changes where necessary and leaves 8 senate districts as they are today.
- They strived to maintain communities of interest, reduce the districts that crossed County lines, and reduced the number of districts per County.
- She also supports amendment 0010s which is the proposal for the executive council seats.
- This map also maintains as many community of interests as possible and it reconfigures the gerrymandered districts.
- It represents a true partisan balance.
- These maps allow the voters to choose their elected officials and not the other way around.
- Our districts should reflect our democracy and that here in New Hampshire we continue to have fair and balanced elections.

- Every two years New Hampshire comes together for the election process. They knock on doors, make phone calls, and have conversations.
- Without that process, the partisan divide will creep into our culture and take away what is most precious about NH.

Senator Kevin Cavanaugh

- District 16 has always been a very competitive district.
- The makeup of the district is evenly divided between democrats and republicans.
- If you look at the numbers it is actually 6% more republican, yet he has won the last two elections.
- Having a competitive district makes him a better Senator.
- In competitive districts you have to speak to your constituents about what concerns them and what is going on.
- So much has come out of District 16, from school championships to going to the Little League World Series.
- In Manchester there are 12 Wards, and you cannot carve 1 Ward out of it without hurting communities of interest.
- Wards 1,2,and 3 share Little League, Wards 1 and 2 share schools and a PTA.
- Since 24 senate districts came into existence Wards 1 and 2 have been together.
- He does not believe isolating 1 Ward out of Manchester 12 Wards is good for the residents of New Hampshire.
- He commented that Senator Gray told him this was done last minute, and they had to get something done. He does not believe that serves the city of Manchester.
- He believes they should relook at this and look at the plan that Senator Soucy presented.
- They need to keep District 16 competitive, and he is willing to fight for it and many others would fight for it also.
- Senator Gray commented that the other option because Manchester has almost the ideal population, is to have two senate districts which would make the three existing Senators have to have a primary. He asked which option would he choose and if he split it wouldn't that violate the communities of interest.
 - Senator Cavanaugh replied that the existing district, including Wards 1, 2, and 12 have many communities of interest. He believes that keeping the existing map for District 16 makes great relationships for the citizens of Manchester.

Olivia Zink – Open Democracy Action

- Her daughter will be voting in these maps, and she encouraged them to try and explain these maps to the fourth graders who will be voting in the next ten years.
- She is opposed to both senate district plans.
- She wanted to see one plan that is good for the voters of NH.
- She would like to see the criteria made public so they can see how these plans were prioritized.
- She wishes to see maps that do not protect incumbents.
- The majority's proposed amendment has sprawling districts that are not compact.
- It increases the number of republican safe districts to sixteen.
- This would be a veto proof majority that the republicans are drawing themselves.
- They are not competitive and ignore communities of interest like regional high schools.
- This proposal splits 35 different high schools.
- They are packed districts in which voters from the minority in each would not feel like their vote matters.
- It puts college towns like Lebanon and Hanover with Plymouth in District 5.
- It does have a higher deviation.

- The plan splits Manchester into three districts when the population could easily be split into two.
- There are only three slightly competitive districts and zero very competitive districts.
- Senate District 7 puts Franklin with Orange and down to Hillsborough when those three towns have nothing in common.
- Senate District 9 now goes from Bedford to the Vermont Border touching Hinsdale.
- The minority proposal does do a better job keeping some of the communities of interest together, but it splits 28 high school SAUs.
- It also splits Manchester into three when it could be two.
- It creates more competitive districts but only has a compactness score of 50% in the software DRA.
- Senate District 7 combines Franklin with Pittsfield and Allenstown and makes it more lean republican.
- Franklin had a district with lakes region towns and shared fire, homeless services, and the Lakes Region Planning Commission.
- This proposal puts Franklin with towns they have no common interests with.
- Voters should be able to choose a nonpartisan plan and over seventy communities voted for nonpartisan districts.
- If fifty percent of the voters vote they should get twelve Senators and not fifteen or sixteen.

Liz Tentarelli – League of Women Voters of NH

- The League has been committed to fair maps, competitive districts and avoiding gerrymandering.
- The executive council map as proposed by the Republicans this time around is just as gerrymandered as it was in 2011.
- Citizens around the state have been complaining for ten years about Executive Council District 2 that was obviously packed with democrats in order to favor republican wins in the other four districts.
- The Governor acknowledged that Executive Council District 2 is funky and stated that he hopes the legislature fixes it.
- These maps will have to be done by June in order for the filing deadline to proceed as planned.
- If this committee passes a gerrymandered Executive Council District 2 map, the Governor may veto it and delay the filing deadline.
- It may cause the Supreme Court to get involved.
- Governor Sununu has also stated that he will not sign a map that does not pass the smell test of gerrymandering and Executive Council District 2 does not pass that test.
- Just last week the Governor stated that NH is a very independent state and there should not be a Congressional District that is all democrats or all republicans.
- She asked the committee to reject SB 241 and consider SB 254 which is more compact and competitive for executive council districts.

David Andrews – Map-a-Thon Project

- The purpose of the Map-a-Thon project was to try and create a fair and transparent process for drawing maps.
- They asked people around the state what communities of interest were most important to them.
- They ranked them by importance. SAUs, emergency services, water and sewer systems and public health facilities were at the top.
- Constitutional criteria was considered as well, and they created maps that represented most of criteria.

- Once that was done, they got feedback, made some changes, and produced final maps that they distributed to the Legislators.
- They tried their best to keep districts compact
- He hopes that they can go forward like the Map-a-Thon project did
- He is disappointed that they have a democrat and republican proposal.
- There should be one proposal.
- Gerrymandering means there is no bipartisanship in the statehouse.
- He asked that the committee look at the criteria the Map-a-Thon project used.
- Senator Gray asked if they could address the few districts that they made errors on.
 - Mr. Andrews replied that he can go through and make those changes.
- Senator Gray stated that without those changes their map gives a distorted view.

Brian Biel - Map-a-Thon Project

- He managed the Map-a-Thon Project.
- There was a time when redistricting maps could be created without the public knowing how or why.
- That is no longer the case because of data analysis and mapping specialists the public now knows how and why maps are designed the way they are.
- Their understanding of how mapping should be done is rooted in redistricting best practices and communities of interest whenever possible.
- SB 241 carries the same baggage as its 2010 predecessor.
- Executive Council District 2 has been drawn intentionally packing Democratic leaning towns.
- The Map-a-Thon Project showed this committee back in September that this district could be drawn more competitive, more compactly, with lower deviations and considering communities of interest.
- The minorities SB 254 amendment is a vastly superior map to SB 241.
- It has compact districts, respects 7 of 10 county lines and does a better job observing communities of interest.
- It has a somewhat high deviation of 6.32% but Open Democracy supports this amendment.
- He quoted Governor Sununu in an NHPR interview stating that the maps should be fair and balanced and that the current Executive Council District 2 is like a snake lying across the middle of our state.
- SB 241 does not meet any of the Governors criteria, it is not fair or balanced.
- The smart and competitive choice that is in the best interest of the voters is the Map-a-Thon maps or the minority maps.

Ellen Farnum

- Her republican parents raised her to believe in the power of the vote.
- She has doubts today that our elections are fair.
- She is disappointed in SB 240 and SB 241.
- According to the Senate election data from 2020, the NH Senate races have the potential to be competitive.
- In 2020, 49.8% of the vote went to democrats and 50.2% went to republicans.
- If the breakdown holds true through the 2022 election you would expect the republicans to capture slightly over 50% of the 24 seats.
- SB 240 is gerrymandered to give republicans safer districts.
- District 5 is packed with college towns creating a democratic stronghold making the surrounding districts more conservative.
- This plan would leave republicans with 15 safe districts and the democrats with 9.
- The SB 240 map is clearly drawn with partisan gain.

- SB 241 is the same, it takes a bad map drawn in 2010 and makes it worse.
- These maps will increase the divisions between people in the state.
- Voters want the members of their Senate to work together to solve problems.
- She encourages both parties to work together on a better map or use the Map-a-Thon maps.

Linda Bundy

- The resources she used for analysis of the proposed maps are DRA 2020 and the analysis from Map-a-Thon.
- The Senate district map of 2011 was gerrymandered and the 2021 map proposed in SB 240 has increased the gerrymander.
- More districts are safer for the majority and the predicted outcome of an election would be 15 Republican seats and 9 Democratic seats.
- This map packs Democrats into 8 districts and only 3 districts are competitive.
- She opposes this map because of the low degree of competitiveness, lack of compactness and little consideration of communities of interest.
- She was surprised to see the same executive council district map from 2011 in SB 241.
- She opposes this because of the elongated District 2 into which democrats have been packed.
- She is neutral on the minority map in SD 253 because it favors incumbents and does not significantly factor in communities of interest.
- She supports the minority's executive council map in SB 254 because the districts are relatively compact and 7 of the 10 Counties are intact.
- She expected that the committee would propose maps that had been drawn cooperatively by members of both parties.
- If they had been the resulting maps would have been more competitive.

Kate Coon – Peterborough

- Peterborough passed a warrant article for fair and nonpartisan redistricting.
- It urged the general court to carry out this process fairly and include communities of interest.
- More than 70 towns passed the same resolution.
- According to fair maps the ¼ principle means you should come to the process with a clean slate not using old maps and this is not what was done.
- She believes that the committee should have made public what criteria they used to draw the maps.
- They should give their rationale for how the districts are proposed.
- She asked that the committee work together to come up with fair map.

Plair Ousler

- He opposes the two senate district bills.
- He believes they need a bipartisan bill that represents all of Cheshire Counties 76 thousand residents.

Mary Beth Reagan

- Merrimack also passed a warrant article calling for competitive districts.
- SB 240 increases Republican districts to 16 and packs democrats in other districts.
- This will cause a lower voter turnout.
- On behalf of all 26,000 residents of Merrimack, Executive Council District 2 is gerrymandered, and they oppose SB 241 and support SB 254.

Michael Strand

- He believes our democracy is imperiled.
- Senate District 9 has flipped three times since 2016.
- In spite of the fact that it was gerrymandered it is still competitive.
- Now, they want to take out Peterborough.
- The executive council districts, except for gerrymandered District 2, have alternated between both parties and seem fair.
- Senator Soucy has tried commendably to fix District 2.
- He urges against the splitting Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties in District 4.
- Derry and Bedford have little in common, nor are they adjacent.
- Adding Hudson and Derry renders this district uncompetitive, and unwinnable for the Democrats.
- He supports adding Keene to SD 5 per Senator Soucy's amendment.
- There is much more in common between Keene and the rest of District 5 than Keene and Concord.
- He suggests that perhaps Nashua is the district that could be removed from District 5.
- He asked that they not split up school districts in the quest to untie the right in New Hampshire.

Todd Davis

- He lives in Ward 6 of Nashua and he has never seen a republican running for a House seat let alone winning one.
- That makes him feel like Ward 6 is gerrymandered and they will have all democrats whether he votes or not.
- He is an independent and votes for whomever the best candidate is regardless of party affiliation.
- The toxicity of gerrymandering is present in New Hampshire and it sickens him.
- Gerrymandered maps SB 240 and SB 241 are allowing politicians to pick their constituents.
- Honest competition makes the citizens feel like their votes are worth casting.
- When citizens lose the sense of fairness, extremism thrives.

Senator Becky Whitley

- She is in support of SB 253 and SB 254 and opposed to SB 240 and SB 241.
- She believes that the events of January 6, 2021 have many thinking of the future of our democracy.
- There needs to be action take to restore faith in our democracy.
- Redistricting is an important part of this process.
- The maps have been created in a way for the majority party to maintain control.
- Under the plans proposed, Republicans would have won 13 senate seats and the majority, in 2018, despite only winning 46% of the statewide senate vote.
- Under this plan, Republicans would have won 15 senate seats, despite only winning 50.2% of the statewide senate vote.
- This sounds like gerrymandering to her.
- The backbone of our state are the independent voter and if the maps are gerrymandered to favor one political party, those voters are ignored.

Bruce Berk

- Common sense says that making districts noncompetitive flies in the face of democracy's best intentions.
- Common sense says that people want to choose their representative and not have them chosen for them.
- Common sense says that citizens do not want to feel that their vote was wasted.
- Common sense says that they are hardworking citizen legislators, not king makers.
- Common sense says that it is not common sense for parties to fear the outcome of competitive districts.
- He questioned how can we still have gerrymandered maps after all the time and energy spent on this process.
- The goal of this committee should be nonpartisan maps.

Matt Mooshian

- The maps proposed by SB 240 and SB 241 are less competitive.
- The proposed senate map will redraw his current district 5 to include the college town of Plymouth with Hanover.
- This groups two college towns together and creates a super district that is safe for one party over the other
- Competitive districts make it possible for all voices to be heard and elected officials to be responsive to their constituents.
- These maps are on everyone's minds and they are troubled.

Cairnie Pokorney

- Granite Staters deserve new maps that serve the people not the power building of a political party.
- He encouraged them to look at the nonpartisan analysis of these maps.
- NH communities do not agree with these maps as they diminish competitive districts and locks in Republican power for the next decade.
- At County meetings all over the state many showed up and asked them not to draw gerrymandered maps.
- After having conversations with people all across the state, it is clear, everyone is tired of the gerrymandering.
- He believes that they were elected for a reason and it was not to pass maps like this.
- Those who decide to pass these gerrymandered maps will be held accountable.
- He respects the job they have and the responsibility that they are entrusted with.
- They swore an oath, and these maps are in direct contrast to that oath.

Victoria Bram

- She believes the long view of her voting future is scary.
- The majority party is wasting their sacred duty to the voters of New Hampshire.
- The majority maps are dishonorable and that dishonor will affect all of us.
- If these maps are passed, they will be remembered as scrooges who were too greedy to do their duty to the voters and the citizens of New Hampshire.
- She asked them to change the course that they are on and go back to the drawing board.
- History has its eyes on them

Owen Emberley

- He questions if a partisan bill can ever be effective in redistricting.

- It does not make sense that one party should be able to determine where people vote.
- He asked that a nonpartisan group of senators come together to create the maps.
- This is a very important job and he believes the work that the Map-a-Thon Project has done is good.
- They are legislators and probably not experts in redistricting.
- Granite Staters are watching and care about these issues.
- What they are doing affects how people vote for the next ten years.

Reverend Gail Kinney

- The matter of redistricting should be fair and balanced and is of serious concern to members of the clergy across the state.
- They are looking at this from a moral lens.
- She asked the committee to consider removing the party glasses from both sides.
- Look at the maps with a fair play lens and a moral lens which would have them not gerrymander.
- A map with a moral lens would have fixed gerrymandered Executive Council District 2.
- Senate District 5 looks like it was drawn from an amoral lens with all of the college towns together.
- These three college towns do not represent communities of interest but have been rolled into one.
- One community of interest is where people get their news from and these towns do not even share that.
- The only reason to put draw the District 5 map this way was to gerrymander.
- These gerrymandered districts suppress the vote of the minority party in the district.
- She encouraged them to go back to the drawing board.

Judith Ackerson

- She believes the Map-a-Thon Project did a great job presenting criteria and fair maps.
- She is distressed that it takes an outside source to get the job done fair and balanced.
- Franklin is now with Orange down to Hillsborough and other communities within that district do not have anything in common with Franklin.
- Gerrymandering should not be an issue
- She asked that they revisit the process and use the expertise of other sources that have proven themselves fair and balanced.

Ian Burke

- He worked with the Map a Thon team.
- The State Constitution states that government officials should be accountable to the people of the state.
- It also puts a great deal of trust in the legislators to perform their duties for the good of the people and not for personal or partisan gain.
- The Constitution gives legislators few restrictions when proposing districts.
- They need to be contiguous and within a certain population deviation.
- There are obvious incentives for legislators to propose districts that favor themselves or their party.
- When this happens, it erodes public trust.
- The state senate and executive council districts from 2010 made little sense and were Gerrymandered.
- Similarly, he does not understand the priorities of the majority maps that have been proposed.

- He would like to know what logic was applied to draw these maps.
- The people of NH deserve to understand the principles underlying this legislation.
- He is in opposition to the districts proposed in the amendment to SB 240 and hopes that the committee will put forth a replacement bill.

Peter Gardina

- He represents a group called 603 Forward that encourages young people to get involved in politics.
- He heard a Republican lawmaker say they would have to rig the system in order to win in a particular district.
- The majority wants the candidates to pick the voter instead of the other way around.
- It is the right of every citizen to have their voice heard.
- He quoted President Lincoln "a government for the people, by the people, and for the people."
- This does not mean, of the millionaire, of a political party, of an individual.
- Everyone deserves to have their say and every vote should carry the same weight.
- He suggested a non-partisan redistricting commission of citizens or a bi-partisan committee with equal members of each party.
- Redistricting affects the daily lives of citizens by determining what financial resources are allocated for schools, hospitals, roads and more.

Lucas Meyer

- There is a decade of political power at stake.
- At none of the County public hearings did anyone want Executive Council District 2 to stay the same.
- Everyone, even the Governor thinks the districts need to be fixed.
- He believes that the senate districts do not consider any of the comments from those testifying at the County hearings.
- He asked that the committee have another hearing at night so that working people may have a chance to speak in person.

Patrick Eggleston

- Gerrymandering should be outlawed in all fifty states.
- A gerrymandered plan never reflects the will of the voters.
- It is anti-democracy and he wants fair elections and no gerrymandering.
- The best way to draw new voting maps is to have a committee made up of 50% of each party, and one math person who can test for gerrymandered plans.
- The legislators should draw the maps and keep testing them until they have fair maps.
- Gerrymandering is a form of dictatorship by those presently in power.
- It is possible that many voters will have their vote predetermined by gerrymandering.

David Andrews

- The Democrat proposal for executive council districts it is clear they were trying to keep County lines and fairly competitive districts.
- The Democrat proposal for the senate districts takes the existing districts and tries to make them more competitive while also keeping incumbents safe.
- The senate proposal from the majority takes the current districts and makes them safer.
- It packs more democrats into the eight major democratic districts in order to make the republican districts safe.

- UC Berkley came out with a study that involved two volunteers playing monopoly, one they made a rich player, the other they made the poor player.
- At the end they asked the rich player how they won, and they never said it was because they were given more money.
- Even though it was a rigged game, the player thought they won because they played better.
- If these maps go forward and candidates in gerrymandered districts win, it will not be because they were the best candidate, it will be because the game is rigged

Senator Jay Kahn

- The new Senate districts proposed in SB 240 are very bad for Cheshire County.
- If someone was drawing districts of common interest, their criteria would be compact districts in which towns that share services would be linked.
- The proposal in SB 240 is partisan mapping aligning towns by political sentiment.
- Cheshire County's 23 towns are distributed over four different Senate districts.
- The most towns remain in Senate District 10 and to reduce democrat votes in other districts adds the towns of Hancock, Peterborough and Dublin.
- It slices a narrow band across the state snaking to Bedford and Nashua.
- This makes Republican Districts even stronger.
- In SB 240, the proposed Senate District 9 adds Winchester and Hinsdale which are more aligned with Keene and Swanzey than with Bedford.
- This district would be 73 miles wide and take 97 minutes to travel.
- Rindge which is more closely aligned with Peterborough is split off into a district represented by a Nashua Republican in District 12.
- Stoddard and Marlow are part of Senate District 8 which now adds Charlestown and Dunbarton, crossing 4 Counties, over 60 miles, taking 90 minutes to travel.
- The definition of gerrymandering is " the practice of setting boundaries of electoral districts to favor specific political interests within legislative bodies, often resulting in districts with convoluted, winding boundaries rather than compact areas."
- He hopes that the two political parties will come together and create one Senate map, the way a non-partisan commission might have.
- That map should embrace the principle of compact areas defined by County boundaries, and common interests.

Mark McLaughlin

- It is a complicated process to create the district maps.
- He tried to make competitive districts that make it fair to everyone.
- There are too many factors to make it perfect.
- He would like them to explain to the public why the gerrymandered districts were drawn the way they were.
- The voters need to feel connected with their elected officials.
- He hopes the committee will oppose SB 240 and SB 241 and support SB 253 and SB 254

Senator Perkins Kwoka asked if the number of those who opposed and those who supported would be in the record. Senator Gray replied that it would.

Senator Perkins Kwoka asked if the Chair would consider having an evening session. Senator Gray answered that they could consider that in their next meeting but there is nothing planned at the moment.

TJM

Date Hearing Report completed: January 21, 2022

Speakers

SPEAKING

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: 1/10/22

SB 240, SB 241, SB 253 and SB 254

Time: 1:00 p.m.

PLEASE SIGN HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO ANY OF THE
BILLS OR AMENDMENTS

Name	Representing
1. SEN. KAVIN CAVANAUGH	DISTRICT 16
2. Ellen Farnum	self
3. Linda Bundy	self
4. Kate Coan	self
5. PLAIRE DURSLEZ	Keene Dems
6. Liz Tentarelli	League of Women Voters NH
7. Mary Beth Raven	Self + Town of Merrimack
8. OLIVIA ZINK	OPENDEMOCRACY ACTION
9. Michael Strand	self
10. TOD DAVIS	Self
11. David Andrews	self
12. BRUCE BEZK	Self
13. Matt Mooshian	self
14. Cairnie Pokorney	Self
15.	

~~BRUCE BEZK~~

SPEAKING

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: 1/10/22

SB 240, SB 241, SB 253 and SB 254

Time: 1:00 p.m.

PLEASE SIGN HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO ANY OF THE
BILLS OR AMENDMENTS

Name	Representing
1. Victoria Bram	myself
2. Senator Beeny Whitley (later)	District 15
3. Senator Jay Kahn (later)	District 10
4. Owen Emberley	myself
5. Rev. Dr. Gail Kinney	self
6. Judith Anderson	self
7. Ian Burke	self
8. Peter Gredy	self / 603 Folway
9. Lucas S. Meyer	self
10. Patrick M Eggleston	self
11.	
12.	
13.	
14.	
15.	

SPEAKING

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: 1/10/22 SB 240, SB 241, SB 253 and SB 254 Time: 1:00 p.m.

PLEASE SIGN HERE IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO ANY OF THE
BILLS OR AMENDMENTS

Name	Representing
1. <i>Murk McLaughlin</i>	<i>North Hampton</i>
2.	
3.	
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15.	

Name	Title	Representing	Position
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Carson Senator Sharon	An Elected Official	Myself	Support
Daniels Senator Gary	An Elected Official	Myself	Support
Bradley Senator Jeb	An Elected Official	SD3	Support
Birdsell Senator	An Elected Official	SD 19	Support
Ward Senator Ruth	An Elected Official	SD 8	Support
Gray James	An Elected Official	SD 6	Support
Avard Senator Kevin	An Elected Official	SD 12	Support
Littlefield Richard	An Elected Official	Myself	Support
Colby Rose	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support
Prentiss Suzanne	An Elected Official	Myself	Support
Lynch Chrisinda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Aisenberg Shana	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Leisman Donald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davis Tod	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wahl BJ	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Switzer Bob	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Grondin-Jose Betty	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lamphier Regan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Armstrong Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Reed Barbara D.	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Husarik Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pexton Olivia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
BERGER GERALDINE	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Corkery Catherine	A Lobbyist	NH Sierra Club	Oppose
Watkins Margaret	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Allen Carolyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Poinier Liza	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dachowski Lawrence	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Huberman Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
lafontaine michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rand Steven	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schapira Carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zink Olivia	A Lobbyist	Open Democracy Ac	Oppose
MacAuslan J.	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Podlipny Ann	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Austin Suzanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gilmore Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Phillips Charles	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Phillips Betsey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bryant Marlise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bryant Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Moore Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maclean Natalie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maclean Chris	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Connors Margaret	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Cote Lois	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LaFontaine Millie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dargie Paul	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Mueller Pam	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bryce Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kelly Fran	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lincoln Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LaRose Denise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Longman Petra	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Torpey Jeanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
DiTommaso Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Naylor Claire	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hemingway Carolyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Raspiller Cindy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Falk Cheri	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lieberman Sheryl	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brown Howard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Falk Stephen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dallabetta Christine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lindpaintner Lyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Platt Elizabeth-Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bacon Nelson Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Spielman kathy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
QUISUMBING-KING C	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Willing Maura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McDonough Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McDonough Thomas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Robbins Annie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bayne-Kim Lyssa	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Blaise Robyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Carrier Gerard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mitchell Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Westlake Jane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davis Johnna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Allison Suzanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ferber Claudia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McLeod Martha	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Garland Ann	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Vincent Laura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Varney Michele	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Chase Valerie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Vuolo Stephanie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Chase Thomas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kornhauser Naomi	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bushueff Catherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Strickland Janet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Couture Matthew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Willis Kate	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Logan Kevin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cotton Bev	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hirai Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rollins Carolyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Woods Beverly	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Nixon Sherrill	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Smith Sara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zollo Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Saum Judith	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Townsend Chuck	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Campbell Karolyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
James Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Caudill-Slosberg Margar	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Raby John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Covert Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lockhart Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
bory lee	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hamilton Melanie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brown Zaide	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
E Low Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hough Richard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Scheib Lisa	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Osborne Stephanie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hirai Cori	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Field Bryan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Diamond Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Spring Cynthia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Meyer Abigail	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Thorn Andrea	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Williams Sheryl	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tilli-Pauling Marianne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
King Marcia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tilli-Pauling Nigel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Andu Louis	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ludt Jeanne	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Borne Steven	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Schroeder David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Moccia Lianne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Perry Cynthia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
DAMBROSIO ANTHON	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McDonough Monica	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Terp Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mersfelder Catherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Poole Catherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Anastasia Patricia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McCue Dara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Munson Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Reynolds Deidre	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Vaughan Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Burdett Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cronin Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dickler Jeffrey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sheridan Mary Kate	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dickler Deni	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lammi Allison	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Willis Bonnie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ewing Louise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Clark Martha	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jaffe Melissa	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Salamin Stephen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
NOON LINDA	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
NOON JOHN	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davis Gregory	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Allen Daniel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Allen Laurene	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wolff Jackir	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bonsu-Anane Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Moulton Candace	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hatch Sally	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Beauchemin Kathleen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Field Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Venecek Dan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Matthews Charles	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lewis Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Spike Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Friedman Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fraysse Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mitchell Robert	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Engel Craig	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Whitman Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Smith Jeffrey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Carter Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Perencevich Ruth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Waterman Raymond	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Waterman Patricia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Longabaugh Aldebran	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Colon Michelle	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
mcrae lynn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kennedy Eleanor	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pynn Kathleen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Veilleux Donna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Larson Ruth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lilley Thomas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lilley Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Potvin Shana	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Goodwin Douglas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
O'Neill Nan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jones Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weiner Stephanie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McTigue Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rollins Cynthia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bettmann Ellen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Heuer Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
racusin sharon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Nolte Matthew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Campion Polly	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bundy Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jernstedt Margaret	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Slosberg Richard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Burr Emily	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ropp Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cannon Page	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brentrup Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Racusin Robert	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rhodes Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
EVANS MICHAEL	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Goodell Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Takantjas Edith	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McKay William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Caulfield Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ufford Letitia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pitcock Mark	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weingeist Carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Saum Douglas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Miles Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Principe JoAnne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Paciulan Pauline	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dijkman Dulkes Ellen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cuff JoEllen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gould Matthew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stover Matthew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Orkin Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Desmarais Doreen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cross John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sullivan Renee	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Primiano Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sheffer Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Principe Daniel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Thompson Julia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kornhauser Eve	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Emberley Owen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Boyle Gerald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
sereen amelia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
GLENN CYNTHIA	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kiley-LeMay Marcia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weston Joyce	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Kerr Jeffrey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Frederick Marilyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Aranzabal Luis	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Frederick Anthony	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Laurenitis Arlene	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Phillips Margery	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lewandowski Jean	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
MacMartin Jr. J. Alexan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lightfoot Jean	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lamb Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Robertshaw Kristan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Thomas William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Farnum William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Meyers Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Farnum Ellen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Warner Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zaenglein Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zaenglein Eric	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LiPetri Joseph	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hackmann Kent	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Heller David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fenner-Lukaitis Elizabe	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Lessard Roger	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fessenden Kathryn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Neville Betsey	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Smith Victoria	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Learner Marilyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Perez Maria	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Learner Larr	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Riscio Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pugh Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Martin Patricia A	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Morgan Meredith	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pugh Stephen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Buck Don	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Richards@gmail.com Ma	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cadwallader Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lambert Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Danchik Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wheeler John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Drysdale Robert	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Peterson Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Boughter Madeline	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Callaway Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Goodwin James	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lucas Janet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Von Karls Claire	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Prowse Joyce	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Edelstein Williams Eve	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pillsbury Jane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Scobie Joanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mcneil Sara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Nardino Marie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schmidlein Allison	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Affeldt Rosemary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Adams Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Miller Peter	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McCormick Kristen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Reardon Donna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
DiCicco Harriet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Nelson Beth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jamback Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pompeo Tara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stetser Jackie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Marsolini Diane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Secord Willaim	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Nguyen Kari	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Charboneau Valerie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
North Jeanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Danser Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Longabaugh MaryBee	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Frappier Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Feder Marsha	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sherlock Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Taylor Louise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Crouse Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ewell Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
West Christie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
SHERIDAN NANCY	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tankle Reva	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Feole Danielle	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dodge Corinne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wadsworth Sean	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Magruder Joe	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weaver Sonia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hegfield Laura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
rogers deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brown Ronald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ayers Déborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Briggs Eleanor	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bundesen Kristin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rogers Christopher	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
St Jean Pamela	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Heck Joyce	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Scarborough Valerie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kohalmi Pete	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dontonville Roger	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Cronin Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schonwald Virginia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Morrison Mariquita	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cavanaugh Marilyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Drucker Vicky	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Leavitt Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dolkart Vivian	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rich Martha Jane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Billingham Carla	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
fantl ted	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cross Robin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cutshall Catherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Vivado Mauricio	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Baker Marian	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Aborn Doug	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Boraz Shari	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dombrowski Roxanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tanner Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kelman David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Morrisette Valenda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Carey Constance	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Balch Eliza	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stetser John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dutton Eric	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Olson Scott	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McCormick Donald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
CAREY KEVIN	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Yardley Janet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Byrne Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Perry Bob	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mortensen Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Alphen James H	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weber Jill	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Primiano Dana	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Evelyn Douglas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Smith Liam	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Aborn Jason	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Evelyn Martha	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Johnson Peggy (Margare	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Donahue Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Radzelovage William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Secord Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brennan Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maldonado Ursula	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brennan Arthur	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maldonado Luis	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Coffey Gail	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Callahan Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Weber Frank	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dattner-Levy Amy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Merlone Lynn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kusch Scott Daniel	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Parks Sharon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schult Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
THOMPSON LAURA	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Robbins Ada	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Glassman Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Campbell Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Black Austin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dabrowski Sally	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Robinson Ellis	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Byrne Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hambleton Roberta	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
King Walter	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ellermann Maureen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Crowell Donald	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jaconsky-Hamersma Ed	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brown Miles	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Levy Peter	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fitts Jennifer	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Downey Clare	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zulaski Eric	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Richman Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
/emus Joanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Osman Fredda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Perry Carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Osman David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Coon Kate	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Narrol Jordan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hatcher Phil	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Joly Cathy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sayess Polina	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hugger Kirsten	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stroup Katherine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gregg Robin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Mackie-Ciancio Margare	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lasky Balmeet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Simmon Janet	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Concannon Heather	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Verschueren James	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Roosevelt Marcia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Marietta Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Drukker Dow	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pfender George and Cyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Heath Ruth M	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davidson Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kelley Julie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Manseau Joline	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Serrell James	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lenahan Carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dolkart Kenneth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Damon Claudia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hoffmann Lauren	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davidson Geri	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kilby Isla	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Reynolds Deb	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Whittington Christiane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cecchetti Lynda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Greenwood Nancy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tufts-Moore Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wicklein Haley	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fogarty Sean	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
DeFuria Claudia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Griesinger Andrew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LaValley Laura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Walsh Lynne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Zweighaft Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Terwilliger Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Straiton Marie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Palmer Grace	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Satterfield Peter	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Day Karen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Thorne Sarah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cochrane Eleanor	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cochrane Douglas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brickett Jane	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cross MacDonald Erika	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hakken-Phillips Mary	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Stehno Joseph	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Blaine Marcia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ehlers Eileen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kingston Bill	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hill Bonnie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Heath Mary	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Raven Mary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Smith Wendy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Montgomery William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Montgomery Margaret	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sumner Deborah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Berman Fran	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pitt Martha	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kaplan Carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Swan Kristin	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose
Esterly Gayle	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kaplan Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Berk Bruce	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cherrington Brett	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Beaupre Sylvia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sullivan MaryAnn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Seidner Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ackerson Judith	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Farkas Catharine	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ackerson Kenneth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Donovan Julie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Geary Fiona	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Harris Thomas	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Travelyn Jean	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Yacopucci William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davidson Suellen	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
olson alix	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jones Andrew	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Devore Gary	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Holcombe susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Davidson Stuart	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Holt David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LaCasse Chloe	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gill Abigail	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kidder Steven	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hayes Francis	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Butler Ed	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ari Leslie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kaufman Judith	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Spencer Louise	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Towsley Karl	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cicerchi Renee	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Findley Sally	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Tackeff John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Raff Alan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
DeBold Joanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Russell Joseph	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Marsh Amanda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
GRIER CYBELE	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Fagin Valerie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Talcott Erin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Beaulieu Rebecca	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Simon Eric	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Dewhirst Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Cahill-Yeaton Miriam	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
LaBrie Jessica	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Lamb Margaret	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gallagher Virginia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Horrigan NH State Rep.	An Elected Official	Strafford 6	Oppose
Latham Brandon	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Selig Loren	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Rauter Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wagner Dr. Jeanna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Onacki Donna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Howard Sherrill	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Scenna Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Timchak -Ruth G	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Vail Suzanne	An Elected Official	Hillsborough Count	Oppose
Peltier Timothy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
knaack frank	A Lobbyist	ACLU of New Ham	Oppose
Currier Dorothy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Grossman Kathy	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Frank Martin	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Brox Maggie	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Lasky Bette	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Sonneborn Suzanne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Nastasi Sue	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Gable Abraham	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
COHEN C. ALEXANDE	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Goff Jessica	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Querfurth Carl	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McCagg Tory	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maddocks William	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Maynard Richard	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schwotzer Pamela	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Istel Claudia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Keegan John	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Jones-Ball Rebecca	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McKenna Marcia	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Minihan Jeremiah	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Chase Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Toms MD Bil	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stevens Elizabeth	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
HOSTAGE JAN	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Freeman Barbara	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Bates David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wells Ken	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Wells Lee	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Moulton Caroline	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Ratzki Mario	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose

Monsein Marilyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
McCrave Mary Lou	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Olmsted Linda	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Currier Paul	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Benson Jacquelyn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Schmidl Joseph	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Johnson Heide	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Stephenson Phillip	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Johnson Annika	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Karrick David	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Claffin Kyri	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Thurston Jim	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Reeves Rene	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Klein Daphne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Batchelder Heidi	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Broshek Mary Anne	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Kindeke Grace	A Lobbyist	American Friends S	Oppose
Turnbull Shauna	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
cole carol	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
cole malcolm	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Shea Fionn	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Carty Laura	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Hughes Corry	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Willoughby Susan	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Pingree Kayla	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose
Strand Michael	A Member of the Public	Myself	Neutral

Testimony

Tricia Melillo

From: Jessie Ahlgren <jessiebahlgren@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 9:24 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: Draw fair maps

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee,

It is your responsibility to ensure you draw Executive Council and state Senate maps that are not gerrymandered, fair to all New Hampshire voters, and to do so with a transparency, publicly accessible process.

The map passed by the House is going to weaken New Hampshire's national political standing. One of the key reasons NH is relevant on the national political stage is that you cannot predict how the people of NH will vote. The redistricting map passed by the house is taking that relivance away and will hurt our standing nationally especially regarding the first in the nation primary.

The redistricted maps as drawn now are not good or fair. Do what is right for our state and our people.

Thank you,
Jessie Ahlgren
Sanbornton, NH

Tricia Melillo

From: Gerry Carrier <gerrycarrier@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 8, 2022 11:46 AM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB240 and SB241

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

After reviewing the proposal to change the maps as represented in SB240 and 241, I am opposed to the changes as proposed. The current maps were created under a Republican Party control 10 years ago but since that did not work in their favor, the redistricting committee has gone to an extreme to guarantee a win for the Republican Party instead of the will of the people in our State. While the committee may feel like they won a seat by their clever actions, this will not be for long as the people will rise and elect delegates who actually represent the local citizens of New Hampshire and not bow to a National Party overtaking our local wishes.

As a life long Republican, I do not recognize the current path by my party which has demonstrated that lying, partisan belief in conspiracies and big money rule their decisions. Tampering with voting maps will result in more National influence in our State and not benefit the populous of New Hampshire.

I encourage all of the Senators to stop these bills and reconvene a committee of members who have the future independence of New Hampshire's citizens in mind when adjusting the maps for years to come.

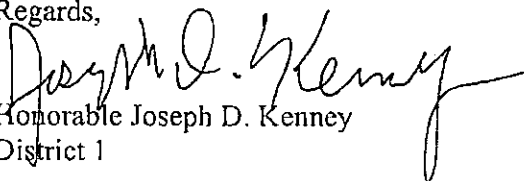
Gerry Carrier

Senator James Gray
State House
Room 302
107 North Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

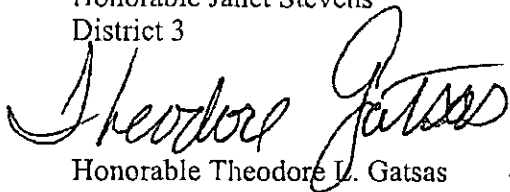
Dear Senator Gray,

We the undersigned members of the New Hampshire Executive Council submit the attached plan for consideration for proposed districts. The attached proposal has been reviewed and agreed to by the undersigned members of the Executive Council.

Regards,


Honorable Joseph D. Kenney
District 1

Honorable Janet Stevens
District 3


Honorable Theodore L. Gatsas
District 4

Honorable David K. Wheeler
District 5


Honorable David K. Wheeler
District 5

Proposed changes to Executive Council Districts

- Council District 1

Delete:

Hanover, Lebanon, Plainfield, Grantham, Cornish, Claremont, and Newport.

Add:

Newbury, Sutton, Salisbury, Franklin, Northfield, Belmont, Farmington, and Rochester.

- Council District 2

Delete:

Newbury, Sutton, Salisbury, Franklin, Northfield, Belmont, Farmington, Rochester, and Winchester.

Add:

Hanover, Lebanon, Plainfield, Grantham, Cornish, Claremont, Newport, Peterborough, Sharon, Bow, Barrington, and Lee.

- Council District 3

Delete:

Chester, and Raymond.

Add:

Nottingham

- Council District 4

Delete:

Bow, Nottingham, Barrington, and Lee.

Add:

Chester, and Raymond.

- Council District 5

Delete:

Peterborough, and Sharon.

Add:

Winchester

Tricia Melillo

From: Maureen McCarthy Diamond <maureeninoregon@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 8, 2022 5:44 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Monday, Jan 10, NH Senate and Election Law Committee hearings

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

I am writing to OPPOSE SB 240 & SB 241, and SUPPORT SB 253 & 254.

SB 240 and 241 create districts that break up school districts and other communities of interest. SB 253 and 254 do a much better job of maintaining communities that have common relationships and common interests.

Thank you.

Maureen Diamond, 665 Page Hill Rd, Tamworth, NH

Tricia Melillo

From: Owen Emberley <oemberley@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 1:27 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB 240 and 241 Opposition

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hello Tricia,

Below, in quotations, is my testimony. I am also available to come give my testimony in person. However, when I signed up online, I was only given the option for remote testimony. I do not know if you are accepting in person testimony at the moment, but I am happy to deliver this testimony in person, if able.

"My name is Owen Emberley. I am from Concord, NH, and I am representing myself. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

The proposed redistricting in SB 240 and 241 will be detrimental to our state. Both propositions greatly decrease the number of competitive races and create strong party-leaning districts. The ability to run and govern without any real competition is not only anti-democratic, but it also makes our representatives less accountable to us, the people.

These bills will also create more partisan politics and future legislative gridlock. We need to create a competitive, balanced system that will allow fair elections and promote a government that is representative of the people. New Hampshire is a purple state, and fair elections will create a balanced State Senate and Executive Council that will lead to more fruitful debate, compromise and just governance.

State Senators and Executive Councilors work for us, the people. We voters should be able to select our representatives, not the other way around. It is fundamentally unethical for our elected officials to drastically re-orient voting districts to serve their own purposes.

With great humility, I ask our State Senators to create fair voting maps that will promote competitive elections and allow the will of the people to be heard."

Thank you,

Owen Emberley

Tricia Melillo

From: Arlene Laurenitis <aajjmac@tds.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 2:23 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Re Senate Hearing on 1/10/22

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ms. Melillo,

We are OPPOSED to SB 240 and SB 241.

We believe that Senate Districts and Executive Councilor Districts should be comprised of towns and cities that are contiguous to each other. That way representatives can address common concerns of the residents of adjacent towns.

We SUPPORT SB 253 and SB 254, which set more reasonable districts comprised of contiguous towns and cities.

Please pass these comments on to the Senators.

Thank you,

Arlene Laurenitis
J. Alexander MacMartin, Jr.
Wilton, NH

Tricia Melillo

From: dkd1905@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 4:17 PM
To: James.Gray@leg.state.nh.us <James.Gray@leg.state.nh.us>;
Regina.Birdsell@leg.state.nh.us <Regina.Birdsell@leg.state.nh.us>;
Ruth.Ward@leg.state.nh.us <Ruth.Ward@leg.state.nh.us>; tricia.melillo@leg.state.nh.us
<tricia.melillo@leg.state.nh.us>; Donna.Soucy@leg.state.nh.us
<Donna.Soucy@leg.state.nh.us>; Rebecca.PerkinsKwoka@leg.state.nh.us
<Rebecca.PerkinsKwoka@leg.state.nh.us>
Subject: Opposition to SB241
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

SB241 is no improvement over the current gerrymandered Executive Council Districts. I ask you to vote NO on SB241.

An Executive Council District (District #2) running from Hinsdale in the Southwest corner of NH bordering Vermont to the Seacoast is sprawling and fails to consider the appropriate representation of the people of NH. There can be only one rationale for District #2--political gerrymandering.

The people and towns of NH clearly communicated to you in Town Meetings and testimony, "We want fair non-partisan redistricting." SB241 fails the people of our State.

A NO on SB241 is the right vote for NH.

Respectfully,

Deneen Dickler
97 Old Jaffrey Rd
Rindge, NH

Tricia Melillo

From: William Secord <wrsecord@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 4:51 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: Proposed Executive Council map

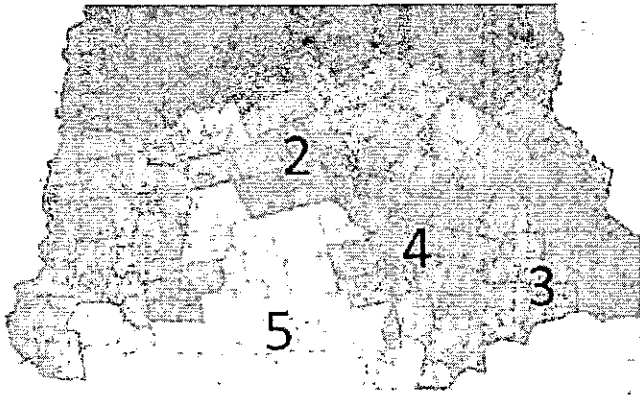
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Chairman Gray and members of the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee:

I am shocked that the New Hampshire Senate would even consider keeping the presently gerrymandered Executive Council District Two in existence. The present District Two is an almost exact duplicate of the original gerrymandered Massachusetts voting district that first coined the term in 1812:



Above is the original 1811 gerrymandered district in Massachusetts. Below is the 2011 gerrymandered district in New Hampshire. Can you tell the difference?



Get real!

Yours,
Bill Secord
West Lebanon

Sent from Mail for Windows

Dear Chairman Gray, and Senators Birdsell, Ward, Soucy, and Perkins Kwoka,

Please accept this written testimony in opposition to Senate Bills 240 and 241.

In the case of both bills, no clear statement has been given as to the criteria used in determining districts for Executive Council or for the Senate.

Districts are not compact; 35 high school SAUs have been split; has there been any effort to respect "communities of interest"? For both Executive Council and Senate maps, it seems the only determination made was to create the least competition possible.

Districts are either packed with more Republicans, or with more Democrats – so that no candidate need fear real competition from the opposing party.

In the 2020 presidential election, New Hampshire voted 49.8% Democrat and 50.2% Republican. Our population is almost evenly divided, and so we should expect lively competition between candidates, and lively debate of the principles we choose for our governance.

But with 15 Senate districts now favoring Republicans and 9 favoring Democrats, voters of both parties may become apathetic, assuming their vote will have little impact. The changes made, from the 2011 maps to the 2021 Senate maps, all involve making each district less competitive, giving greater dominance to one party. Districts 8 and 9 are visibly "snaky." This is even more the case with 4 Republican-packed Executive Council districts to the 1 snake-like Democrat-packed district. On NHPR, Governor Sununu admitted that the 2011 Executive Council map, with its snake-like District 2, is clearly, visibly gerrymandered. He promised to veto any map that was so clearly unbalanced. And yet the 2021 Executive Council map has made no changes!

Instead of 49.8% to 50.2%, reflecting our population, New Hampshire will have governing districts of 15 to 9, and 4 to 1.

This "safety" for candidates means debate has no real importance. Ideas do not get scrutinized, candidates do not get vetted, and voters realize their votes have less impact. Less voter engagement, no competition between Democrat and Republican candidates, less competition of ideas – this is a formula for a decline in democratic values. And once a candidate has been elected, there is less reason to listen to constituent concerns.

The only true competition that can be expected--when districts have a clearly dominant party--is the competition in the primaries between mainstream and extreme candidates. We can expect greater polarization, more leaders elected from either the extreme right or extreme left. We will have less and less possibility of collaboration or compromise.

SB 240 and SB 241 would not be good for New Hampshire, and I urge you to vote them down, or amend them to make our Senate and Executive Council districts competitive.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Richman
16 Cowell Drive
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-2758 susan7richman@gmail.com

January 9, 2022

To: Chairperson Gray and Distinguished Members of the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee

Re: Testimony Regarding Redistricting Bills SB 241 & SB 254 for NH Executive Council

I am a resident in Carroll County, NH. I'm glad to see the SB 254 map as a much better alternative to that in SB 241. Although it doesn't appear to be ideal in terms of the objectives of fair districting for the Executive Council, it goes a long way in fixing the gerrymandering that is evident in the SB241 map, in particular the cross-state sprawl of District #2. I just can't see how that map could be considered a good-faith effort at non-partisan districting and how Council decisions could provide equitable protection, opportunity and growth, especially for District #2 with such a disparate array of towns.

Any political party that abuses their majority position in government by pushing for such gerrymandering of districts is a party that is increasingly less representative of the people they serve and is generally less willing to compromise and work towards the most equitable laws and solutions to the challenges faced by residents. Such party might believe in the benefit of their increased power in the short-term, but this will inevitably result in under-representation and unfair conditions for many, greater polarization between the political parties, and will become an increasingly serious detriment to the future of New Hampshire.

Please don't contribute to a decline of democracy in this state. SB 254 clearly provides for better districting and should be implemented, not SB 241.

Respectfully,
Thomas Lilley
Albany, NH

NH Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee
LOB
33 N. Main St.
Concord, NH 03301

January 10, 2022

RE: SB 240 and 241

Dear Committee,

Yesterday a member of the House Election Law Committee replied to a supporter of Ranked Choice Voting with this:

“Thank you so much for getting in touch with us. It seems to me you probably wouldn’t vote for *Colleague* and I in the first place.”

Granted I don’t have the full conversation and I inserted “colleague” for the other district Rep as this is about the general attitude, not this individual.

The attitude is “I am here to support those who vote for me, not everyone in my district.”

Gerrymandering makes a bad situation worse.

I challenge you to look at the SB 240 and 241 maps and then look in a mirror and ask yourself is this the best NH can do? Do these favor one party over another and leave un-declared voters out in the NH cold? Please do this – staring at your own face and ask yourself who are you serving.

SB 240 and SB 241 reek of gerrymandering.

The US Congressional districts reek of gerrymandering

The NH House Districts do not hold up the NH Constitution and give communities with a partisan leaning more dedicated representatives.

If you don’t help Governor Sununu he will be forever tainted with the stench of gerrymandering.

When Article 10 of the NH Bill of Rights says “not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family or class of men” this is telling you not to allow gerrymandering in NH.

Best Regards,

Steven
Steven Borne
431 Wallis Rd
Rye, NH 03870

Testimony in Favor of SB 253 & SB 254, & against SB 240 & SB 241

Senate Special Committee on Redistricting; January 10, 2022

Rep. Timothy Horrigan (Strafford 6)

I was unable to attend the January 10, 2022 hearing, but I still wish to submit the following written testimony.

In 2012, the Executive Council districts were blatantly gerrymandered. My community, Durham was placed in District 2, which has been variously nicknamed “The Van Ostern Belt”, “The Volinsky Belt”, and now “The Warrington Belt.”

All three of the councilors who have represented District 2 have been outstanding, which is one reason why their names have inspired nicknames. Two of them ran for Governor, and Colin Van Ostern also came within one vote of defeating the almost unbeatable and now-recently retired Secretary of State Bill Gardner. Even though the existing District 2 produces great Executive Councilors, it is still a bad joke. It is a narrow band of towns and cities running across the entire width of the state from Hinsdale to Dover, passing through five of the state's ten counties, and including six of the state's thirteen cities. The only thing those towns and cities have in common is a propensity to vote Democratic.

I urge the committee to adopt the map proposed by Senator Soucy, in SB 254, which produces more compact and more coherent districts, and which respects the boundaries of seven of the state's ten counties.

As for the Senate Districts in SB 240, the Republican plan is slanted towards protecting incumbents, which is explicitly forbidden under federal voting-rights law, but I am sure it would still pass muster with both the Governor and “the feds.” The only district out of 24 which lacks an incumbent just happens to accommodate the personal plans of a Senator who is planning to move. That Senator has openly acknowledged those plans in a recent interview in the *Union Leader*. The legality and ethics of drawing such a district for such a purpose are highly questionable. Happily, there are a number of well-known individuals, from both parties, who might also be interested in running again who already reside in the proposed district, including at least two former State Senators. So, we can look forward to an entertaining campaign in that district.

The plan outlined in SB 240 is not terrible, aside from the problems I just mentioned. But Senator Soucy's SB 253 is much fairer, produces much more coherent districts, and makes fewer changes. Please vote for her plan.

Rep. Timothy Horrigan (Strafford 6)
email: timothy.horrigan@leg.state.nh.us
phone: (603) 868-3342

Tricia Melillo

From: Patti Anastasia <patti.anastasia@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 5:45 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Cc: Sharon Carson
Subject: testimony for SB240, SB241, SB253. SB254

Dear Committee members,

I have registered my stance on the following bills. Here is my written testimony on these bills. Thank you for your consideration.

SB 240 - apportioning state districts

I oppose this bill because the committee is continuing the trend of limiting the number of competitive districts and increasing the number of districts that either lean or are solidly Republican.

SB 241 - apportioning executive council districts

I oppose this bill because this map has not changed from the 2010 map. The 2010 map is widely cited as a gerrymandered map. Governor Sununu has cited this map as gerrymandered. This map ignores communities of interest and county borders. The rural voters in the western and mid section of District 2 have little in common with the needs of voters in the seacoast communities.

SB 253 - apportioning state senate districts

I am neutral on this bill. This map is more competitive than the map presented in SB 240, however, it does protect some incumbents and has some sprawling districts. This is counter to the goals of fair redistricting.

SB 254 - apportioning executive council districts

I support this bill because it creates competitive districts and it takes into account communities of interest and county borders.

Regards,
Patricia Anastasia
50 Holstein Avenue
Londonderry, NH 03053

Hello,

My name is Mary Beth Raven. I am a 32-year resident of New Hampshire. I have lived in Londonderry and, for the past 30 years, in Merrimack. I am here today not only for myself, but also to speak for the residents of the town of Merrimack. Merrimack had a warrant article on their town ballot this spring, asking for competitive redistricting. The measure passed 3 to 1.

The voters in the town of Merrimack passed this warrant article because they want competitive districts. Competitive districts mean that elected officials must be responsive to their constituents in order to get re-elected.

- In SB 240, The Senate map proposed by the Majority party, increases margin for Republicans in 16 districts, making the districts less competitive & locking in incumbents. This is not what the citizens of Merrimack voted for when they passed the competitive redistricting warrant article.
- SB 240 Packs college towns, including Lebanon/Hanover with Plymouth into one Senate district, leaving adjacent districts more conservative. This packing makes the votes of Republicans in this district matter less, and will suppress turnout. Packing of districts means both minority and majority voters will matter less, lowering turnout. This is not what the citizens of Merrimack voted for when they passed the competitive redistricting warrant article.
- Therefore, I, on behalf of all 26 thousand residents in the town of Merrimack, ask you to OPPOSE SB 240.

SB 241 is the executive council district map proposed by the Majority party. It is identical to the gerrymandered 2010 map which includes the packed "District 2" that goes from the Vermont border to the seacoast. Even Gov Sununu has cited district 2 as gerrymandered. This district Packs Democratic-leaning towns into it, leaving adjacent districts more Republican. making the districts less competitive & locking in incumbents. This is not what the citizens of Merrimack voted for when they passed the competitive redistricting warrant article.

- While the town of Merrimack is not in this district, ALL towns in NH suffer from Gerrymandered executive council districts
- Therefore, on behalf of all 26 thousand residents in the town of Merrimack, I ask you to OPPOSE SB 241. And I ask you to support **SB 254** – which is Competitive, and takes some communities of interest and county lines into account

Can we come together and find a bipartisan solution – together, I hope you can create an amendment that results in more competitive districts which will ensure that each of our votes continues to matter.

Tricia Melillo

From: Mary Murray <marymurray803@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 6:17 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB 240 and SB 241

Dear Senate Election Law Committee members:

I am deeply troubled by the Republican redistricting efforts proposed in SB 240 and SB 241. The citizens of New Hampshire deserve better than having their voices silenced by this blatant attempt to favor one party over the other. We live in a democracy and it is the people who choose their representation and how financial resources are allocated, not politicians. I am urging you to embrace the principles of democracy and reject this attempt to rig our elections and support SB 253 and SB 254 over these misguided attempts at gerrymandering.

Mary Ann Murray
38 River Ledge Drive
Goffstown, NH 03045

Tricia Melillo

From: Karen Primiano <klprim@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 6:52 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: REDISTRICTING

Senate Election Law Committee,

PLEASE ensure that you draw Executive Council and state Senate maps that are NOT gerrymandered, fair to all NH voters, and to do so with a transparent publicly accessible process.

Thank you,

Karen Primiano
37 Antrim Road
Hancock NH

I recently heard over 80% of Americans feel our democracy is at risk. This is a staggering, depressing statistic. Democrats and Republicans feel this way for very different reasons, but we all want to believe our votes count and that elections are fair. Until recently we have assumed we will always live in a democracy. To think that is at risk, is astonishing. We should do nothing in New Hampshire that perpetuates that fear. We should do everything we can to restore faith in democracy.

Gerrymandering is number one on the list of things one should not do if one wants to restore faith in democracy. It depresses people and suppresses voters. We don't want politicians picking us, rather than us voting for them.

The voting maps created by Republicans are gerrymandered. The map for Executive Council member's districts is the same, widely known to be a gerrymandered, unfair map we have had since 2010. It creates sprawling districts that encompass towns that have little in common with each other and it packs democratic leaning towns into district 2, making it likely all other four districts will elect a Republican representative. Even Governor Sununu has cited this as a gerrymandered map. Why did the committee then use this map? Are you endorsing gerrymandering? This map should be rejected and a fair map should be created.

The map for the NH Senate is equally unfair. Districts are sprawling rather than compact and this is because they are designed to increase the margin for Republicans in 16 districts, making the districts less competitive and locking in incumbents. They therefore, ignore communities of interest like regional high schools. The districts are packed, meaning voters will know their votes count less and voter turnout will be suppressed. Refer back to my opening statements to refresh your memory on how dangerous this is for democracy. Therefore, I am very disappointed in these maps. I feel they are designed to satisfy politician's desires to be elected, rather than to meet the needs of New Hampshire citizens. It is my hope the GOP will listen to the people's voices and that the GOP maps will be amended to represent a fairer arrangement of our voting districts.

Karen Campbell

Tricia Melillo

From: Mike & Janet Ward <jwardnh@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 6:59 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: re: Please reject SB 240 and Sb 241

To Members of the NH Senate Election and Municipal Affairs Committee:

Please allow me to explain why I oppose SB 240 and SB 241 and why you should oppose them.

My father was a thoughtful Republican who believed in our capitalist economy in which a free market and lively competition insured that business would work hard to produce products and services that would be purchased by consumers.

Having examined the Republican Senate and Executive Council redistricting maps (SB 240 and SB 241), one must ask: Do Republicans no longer believe in fair and lively competition? You know and I know, and even casual reviewers of these maps can see that these maps have been blatantly gerrymandered. Indeed, a Republican legislator publicly remarked that the maps have been deliberately drawn so that now there are districts where it is virtually certain that a Democrat will win and others where a Republican is virtually a sure winner. So, this legislator proclaimed, the maps are "fair."

These maps would be "fair" if the only persons who mattered were the politicians, but in our democracy it is the voters who are supposed to matter. These maps make a mockery of our democratic system because voters' votes are practically meaningless in gerrymandered districts. Of course, there is the argument that both parties have been guilty of gerrymandering. That is true. But the "everybody does it" argument does not make gerrymandering right, and the more the general public learns of this on-going travesty, the more politicians will be held to account.

Indeed, if this blatant 2022 gerrymandering is allowed to stand, then the argument will be made that Republican politicians created their gerrymandered maps because their policies and programs would not attract enough votes from citizens to allow them to win fairly in competitive districts. Thus, gerrymandering is required to tip the scales in their favor.

If maps were drawn fairly, taking into account the proper work of legislators which is the effective representation of his/her constituents, then districts would be drawn so that constituents' critical interests and needs would be the primary consideration. Thus, for example, citizens who share a high school SAU would be grouped in the same district. In the Republican redistricting map, 35 high school SAUs are split up because political considerations have trumped the needs of the voters. Even accounting for legal redistricting requirements, would it be possible to do better? OPEN DEMOCRACY ACTION has offered a redistricting mapping alternative which split only 15 high school SAUs.

Please, consider the political liability of approving blatantly gerrymandered maps for both the Senate and Executive Council, examine with care the maps offered by OPEN DEMOCRACY ACTION, and protect our democracy and your own political fortunes by offering us voters fair and honest bipartisan redistricting maps.

Thank you!

Janet Ward
Contoocook, NH
603/746-4991

Dear Senator Gray and Members of the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee,

I thank you for your willingness to serve as a public servant on behalf of New Hampshire residents. The service comes with a weighty responsibility to not only represent the voters in your districts but also to strengthen our American form of government – to strengthen democracy.

Foundational to democracy is each American's responsibility to be informed, to vote, to reach out and communicate with her legislators. The essence of our system is one person/one vote – knowing that our votes count. This is why it is so important to understand the reasoning behind the redistricting maps that have been presented by your committee and the house committee. These maps will have an impact on the future of our state for the next 10 years.

So, in looking at the maps, I am disappointed and concerned and worried about the future of our form of democracy.

First, the process failed in terms of a bipartisanship solution. That it failed and we ended up with Republican and Democratic maps speaks to both the increase of partisanship and the inability to compromise for the betterment of the whole state. It exacerbates our current national climate that is divisive and has a black and white thinking of "I'm right and you're wrong." Certainly this type of polarized thinking is not what we want our young New Hampshire citizens to adopt.

We want to have a healthy competition in our state elections. It results in candidates who have done the hard thinking about the challenges we face, are willing to articulate their views and who can balance individual and district needs with what serves the state best. Not all issues can be categorized along party lines. I have many views that might be termed Republican philosophically and others that could be defined as Democratic or Independent. Maps drawn by politicians (and not an independent panel of citizens) to protect a particular party or a particular incumbent do not foster true dialogue and exploration of viewpoints.

Second, the maps have been released with no supporting criteria offered to the public as to why the districts were drawn in a particular manner. Beyond the legal rules and court rulings that have to be taken into account, there are valuable guidelines that include: population deviation, compactness, and communities of interest. What guided you? Do you not want to educate us? Do you not want to persuade us? Without more information from the committee, I am left making my own judgments about partisanship, protecting incumbents, “cracking and packing”.

For example, the proposed Republican Senate map for District 9. Really? Just visually – this snake of a district – is suspect. You do know that it is 72 miles from its most western town to its most eastern one. You do know our road system means it will take over 2 ½ hours to drive from one end to another. And yet, even before we discuss the fact that it breaks up 9 different SAUs and combines communities that do not have common interests, you want to burden one senator with having to represent this district? How can she or he do that effectively?

And let’s look at the Republican version of the Executive Council map. It is the same map as its 2010 version. It seems to have the same fondness for serpentine districts – or what has been referred to as a Dragon. Governor Sununu is on public record for citing District 2 as a gerrymandered district. He is quoted as saying at a press conference *“That’s got to be fixed. It’s a weird one. It’s like a snake lying across the middle of the state. Very bizarre.”*

It is my fervent hope that these maps are opposed and that the committee is sent back to the drawing board. I know that if you were all my students, this assignment would not get a passing grade. I know that you can do better.

Sincerely,

Harriet DiCicco
Hancock
January 9, 2022

Testimony — SB 241 — Executive Council Map

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

I was surprised to see that the 2020 map proposed in SB 241 is the same as the 2010 map, with District 2 snaking across the state in a clearly gerrymandered shape. One of the important tenets of fair redistricting is that the districts should be compact. District 2 is NOT compact.

Even Governor Sununu, when I asked a question of him on NHPR's Exchange program last March, gave this response about District 2: "Everyone could point to Executive Council district two. And I agree. That's got to be fixed. It's a weird one. It's like a snake lying across the middle of the state. Very bizarre."

I hope you will not submit this peculiar map to the Senate for a vote, especially knowing what the Governor has said about it. You might even be risking a veto if it passes. The map proposed by SB 254 does a better job of producing compact districts and would be a better map to present to the Senate.

The map proposed in SB 241 is unacceptable!

Sincerely,

Anne Huberman

50 Timberpond Drive, #1103

Peterborough, NH 03458

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

Our State Constitution establishes that government officials ought to be accountable to the people of the state; that “the magistrates and officers of government” are the people’s “substitutes and agents.”

The State Constitution also places a great deal of trust in the legislators of the General Court to perform their duties in the service of the people and for the general good, rather than for personal or partisan gain. Currently, it is the legislature’s responsibility to define the districts that its members will represent in future elections, following a census. The constitution gives legislators few restrictions when proposing districts, only requiring the districts to be contiguous and not subdivide towns, city wards, or unincorporated places and that districts not vary widely in size with regard to population. There are obvious incentives for legislators to propose districts that favor themselves or their party during this process; when this happens, the public trust in the government is threatened. Thus, the General Court has a heavy responsibility to uphold the public trust during this process. Unfortunately, I do not think they always have. The state Senate and Executive Council districts drawn following the 2010 Census make little sense from a perspective of promoting effective regional representation – they split councils, school districts, cities, and watersheds – and the planning process underlying their design is unclear to me.

Similarly, I do not understand the priorities underlying the districts proposed in this session by the majority. What logic and principles of good government resulted in a situation where towns that share fire departments will have separate representatives in the state Senate? Why was this arrangement of districts proposed when others can be drawn that more closely adhere to the Constitutional requirement that the Senatorial Districts be, “as nearly equal as may be in population.”?

The people of New Hampshire deserve to understand the principles underlying legislation I am in opposition to the districts proposed in the amendment to SB 240, and hope that the Senate will put forward a replacement bill that is responsive to the State Constitution, both with regard to the mandates in Part 2 Article 25 (district contiguity, population equivalence, no subdivision of towns and wards) and the responsibility of accountability to the public trust emphasized in Part 1 Article 8.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ian H. Burke
Keene, NH
January 10, 2022

This bill would overturn decades of established practice and eliminates a chance at competitive elections.

Instead of adhering to the will of the people, New Hampshire Republicans have decided to join the bandwagon with their partisan colleagues across the country to attempt a power grab by taking competitive districts off the map."

The proposal is aimed at consolidating Democrats within its boundaries so that other nearby districts now held by Republicans become even more friendly to the GOP. The bill sets up districts by political party sentiment

Gerrymandering Rewards Fanaticism

Officials get the inspiration to appeal to political extremes. This results in the scoring of higher points against their opponents instead of working together to overcome issues

Votes Don't Count

Gerrymandering manipulates district boundaries and nullifies votes.

Divides Communities

Carving up communities weakens votes and crumbles democracy. Also, gerrymandering cheats delegated groups, making their votes useless. Also, it divides groups, As a result, they reduce their block votes to a little minority per district.

Cheats Democracy

Gerrymandering offers the illusion of democracy but doesn't support it. Up till now, the process still affects voting districts.

Determines the Number of Safe Seats

Voters decide on the winning party, but not the person representing them. For the seats, the primary political battle lies in the nomination instead of the election in other cases. gerrymandering could lead to low voters' turn-out and also contradicts a the notion of a democracy.

Disgraces Democracy and Politics

Democracy and politics are usually disgraced as a result of gerrymandering. Any system that permits party holders to trick democracy is not sound. That is because it disenfranchises voters of their rights.

In gerrymandering, politicians are the ones choosing voters instead of voters to select them. One of the fundamental rights of citizens is the ability to choose who they want to vote for. But gerrymandering restricts such rights, making it unfair. It gives politicians the power to pull their districts, thereby creating a conflict of interest. As a result, democracy will turn on its head.

Changes in Political Power

Gerrymandering shifts political power from the visible stage of voting to the hidden stage of manipulation.

Legislators are creating electoral districts to benefit their parties. Even political parties suffer as a result of gerrymandering. It tarnishes the reputation of parties, including the democratic process. Voters are sometimes discouraged from supporting political parties.

Many groups are fighting against it to help people get their voices. And, they're using electoral means since gerrymandering has to do with voting rights.

Indeed, most groups are opposing the idea of ending it since they see nothing bad or wrong in it. They are misguided and lost.

Tricia Melillo

From: Phil Hatcher <phil.hatcher@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 9:32 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: written testimony for Senate ELMA public hearing on Jan 10

Dear Chairman Gray and the other members of the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee,

This is written testimony for the public hearing on Monday January 10, 2022 for SB 240, SB 241, SB 253 and SB 254.

I am grateful that you are accepting my testimony via email, but I am disappointed that you are not holding the public hearing in an online format that would allow me to testify to you directly, in real time. Given that the Covid pandemic is running rampant in New Hampshire right now, requiring people to come to Concord to testify seems very unwise.

I am grateful that proposed maps were released in advance of the public hearing, but I am disappointed that you did not include with the maps a description of the criteria used to build those maps. In fact, it is distressing that there was apparently no discussion in advance by the committee in public about the criteria to be used by the committee. I believe that people should understand why their electoral district boundaries were drawn the way they were, particularly if they do not agree with those boundaries. To me this is what transparency is all about. We may not agree with you, but we should understand what you were thinking when you drew a particular boundary.

This leaves the public to glean your criteria from press reports, or to simply infer the criteria from the district maps themselves. For instance, Sen. Gray was quoted in the New Hampshire Union Leader as saying his top priority was to satisfy the constitutional population deviation requirements while "rejecting changes for changes' sake." In addition, Sen. Gray is also quoted as saying, "I'm also pleased we were able to keep all the incumbents in their districts and not have to pit anyone against one another."

While it is heartening that the committee made the "one-person, one-vote" population deviation requirement a top priority, it is disheartening that the committee apparently put protecting incumbents as a goal, while ignoring other possible considerations, such as compactness, respecting county boundaries, attempting to ensure competitive elections, etc.

The idea of rejecting changes for changes' sake is also suspect if a 2010 map is terrible. Executive Council District 2 is, of course, a prime example. Sen. Ward called this district an abomination during the debate on SB 80 in the committee's executive session on February 1, 2021. And Gov. Sununu in a March 9, 2021 NHPR interview had this to say: "Everyone could point to Executive Council district two. And I agree. That's got to be fixed. It's a weird one. It's like a snake lying across the middle of the state. Very bizarre."

But not only does the committee majority fail to call for fixing the EC District 2 snake, it introduces a snake into the Senate map, by proposing a district that runs from Hinsdale to Bedford. And, what is the need for this new snake? The majority needs to answer this question. True transparency would demand an answer.

But, without answers to questions like that, the public must surmise what the real agenda was when the maps were being drawn. With the majority proposals it seems clear that the goal was to maximize the majority party's political advantage. Democrats are packed into a small number of districts to improve the Republican candidates' chances in other districts.

This is perfectly legal, as the US Supreme Court has stated that redistricting is a political process. So, if this was the major criteria used, after the constitutional requirements were met, then the map designed should clearly state it. It is legal, so

why be shy?

Is it because you know that the New Hampshire public, according to many polls taken across many years, does not think that partisanship is an appropriate criteria? Because the public knows that having competitive elections, in which candidates have to compete based upon their ideas, is what is best for New Hampshire. And they also know that minority rule, which can more easily occur when districts are drawn for partisan advantage, is bad for democracy.

The public also believes that maps should be fair. Admittedly, fairness may be tough to define in this context. Is a competitive district fair? Or is there more (or less) to fairness? Let me submit to you that a practical way for the public to believe that electoral maps are fair would be if those maps had been approved with bipartisan votes.

So, I urge you to delay your committee votes on the proposed maps until you have had a work session in which you discuss the criteria to be used for the maps, and hopefully reach a consensus on those criteria. I also urge you to forge consensus maps, based upon the criteria you have discussed, which can be approved with bipartisan votes.

By doing so, you would make an important contribution to restoring trust in our battered democracy.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide you with my input on the difficult task of redistricting.

Phil Hatcher
Dover

Tricia Melillo

From: Ruth Heath <ruthmheath@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 10:38 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Opposition to SB241

I am writing to record my opposition to SB240. I do not believe this redistricting of the Executive Council (which does not change the current plan) is fair. District #2 is currently ridiculously gerrymandered and there was no attempt to change this and make it or the other districts more competitive.

Please vote against this that does not improve on the competitiveness of our Executive Council districts. Democracy depends on the public believing their vote counts. Redistricting that favors one party over another is wrong. The People deserve better. We need a redistricting process that is non-partisan. Voting against this will help us achieve this outcome.

Thank you,

Ruth Heath
Canterbury NH 03224

Tricia Melillo

From: bruce berk <bruce.berk.nh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 9:12 AM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Oppose SB 241

Good afternoon Senators,

First, thank you for the time and energy you devote to the state.

Already you have heard and will continue to hear statistics that detail the weaknesses in the current bill. Instead of repeating facts you already know, allow me to spend a few moments on a more holistic view - exploring common sense in achieving redistricting goals

Common sense says:

- That making districts non-competitive flies in the face of democracy's best intentions.
- That people want to be able to choose their representatives and not have them chosen for them.
- That no voting citizen wants to feel their vote is wasted.
- That you are hard working, committed, but citizen representatives of the people and not king makers.
- That what is **not** common sense is that parties should fear the outcome of competitive local elections.

Consider putting politics aside, act in the name of common sense redistricting, and encompass more moderate SB bills 253 and 254 for senate and executive council seats.

Thank you,

Bruce Berk
Pittsfield

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



Testimony on SB 241 and SB 254 - Executive Council

From Brian Beihl, Deputy Director, Open Democracy Action

Good Afternoon, Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

My name is Brian Beihl, and I'm deputy director of Open Democracy Action, a pro-voter, nonpartisan nonprofit based in Concord. As part of my duties, manage the Map-a-Thon Citizen Mapping project for the Map-a-Thon Coalition. I reside in Alton Bay, am a constituent of Senator Gray, and a former constituent of Sen. Ward when I lived in Antrim for 36 years.

First, I'd like to say a word about the Map-a-Thon Technical & Mapping Team. There was a time when redistricting maps could be created, and the public would know nothing about how or why it was created. No more. Due to the talents of our engineers, data analysts, and GIS mapping specialists, we know how and why maps are designed the way they are. So when we determine whether a map is competitive and fair for both parties, we know what we're talking about. And when we draw our own maps, we also tell you exactly how and why we draw our maps, and share the analysis with the public. And our understanding about how mapping should be done is rooted in redistricting best practices and communities of interest whenever possible. You have before you a report comparing the majority, minority and Map-a-Thon proposals.

Because the majority's SB 241 is identical to its 2010 predecessor, it carries the same baggage, too. As you know, four of the districts have been reasonably competitive, and the fifth, District 2, has been intentionally packed with Democratic leaning towns. As the Map-a-Thon showed the committee in September, this map could have been drawn far more competitively, more compactly, with lower deviations, and considering communities of interest – all of which are in the voters' best interests. SB 241 chooses to ignore these possibilities and redistricting best practices, and Open Democracy Action opposes this map.

While it is not as well-designed as the Map-a-Thon, the minority's SB 254 amendment #2022-0010s is a vastly superior map to SB 241. It has compact districts, respects 7 of 10 county lines, and as a result, does a better job of observing communities of interest. Its deviation is somewhat high at 6.32%, but Open Democracy Action supports this amendment.

I'd like to now turn to Governor Sununu's March 9, 2021 comments on New Hampshire Public Radio's The Exchange about the redistricting and specifically the Executive Council map.

NHPR's Question: "We received a lot of questions about redistricting. Here's one from Anne: Will you insist that the legislature's redistricting committee uses a fair and transparent process for drawing the maps and also says, will you reject their work if it turns out to be gerrymandered and or has not allowed for sufficient public comment?"

Sununu: "The answer is yes and yes. It has to be transparent. In our entire state, I think there are a couple of districts you could point out that are really funky. Everyone could point to Executive Council district two. And I agree. That's got to be fixed. It's a weird one. It's like a snake lying across the middle of the state. Very bizarre. But I think for the most part -- the House and the Senate districts -- I can't think of any that are really out of whack. We'll look at the population. The House has their process and they put this committee together and it has to be done in a bipartisan way and be transparent. I always say with redistricting, it's got to pass the smell test. You've got to be able to look at the map and say, OK, at first blush, this makes general sense. We're not, like, twisting around here and there. Whatever we do, it has to be fair, it has to be balanced."

Senators, SB 241 does not meet any of the Governor's criteria. It is not fair or balanced, and has to be fixed. I would add that the NH Senate map was really out of whack in the last redistricting cycle and SB 240 is far worse now. The smart, competitive choice that's in the best interests of the voters is the Map-a-Thon's map. But in lieu of that, we would urge you to move forward with the minority's SB 254 amendment, which would serve ALL the voters of New Hampshire.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Beihl, Deputy Director
Open Democracy Action
4 Park St, Suite 301
Concord, NH 03301

Tricia Melillo

From: Mary-Ann Sullivan <msullivan.nh1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 9:23 AM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Oppose SB240 and SB241

Clearly, those who wrote and voted for the **proposed redistricting maps (SB240 and SB241)** in New Hampshire have no understanding of the nature of voters or the history of voting in the Granite State. NH has a long history of independent voters, even those who declare themselves as Democrats or Republicans. We vote for the most qualified candidates. Who are these legislators? Do they even care about fairness and the voices of the people?

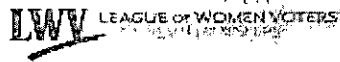
Respectfully submitted,
Mary-Ann Sullivan
Born, raised and live in NH!

--

No one can make you feel inferior without your permission.
—Eleanor Roosevelt

MAP-A-THON

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



Analysis of Proposed Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs NH Senate and Executive Council Maps

January 6, 2022



What is this document?

- The majority and minority in the New Hampshire Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee have proposed 2020-2030 redistricting maps the NH Senate and NH Executive Council.
- There are four bills pending:
 - SB 240 Republican Senate map proposal
 - SB 241 Republican Executive Council map proposal
 - SB 253 Democratic Senate map proposal
 - SB 254 Democratic Executive Council map proposal.
- The Map-a-Thon Citizen Mapping Project's Mapping and Technical Team has analyzed these proposals, comparing their partisan lean, communities of interest, compactness, and other best practices.



Map-a-Thon Glossary

Community of Interest (COI) Communities of interest can take many forms, but generally refer to groups of people united by shared interests. In the context of redistricting, communities of interest are those communities that share policy concerns, such as similar economic interests, a shared school system, or common resources. Our maps use boundaries of shared high school districts, shared water systems, and shared police and fire protection -- in addition to the boundaries of towns and city wards-- to inform the redistricting process. More information about communities of interest can be found by visiting NYU's Brennan Center

Compactness Compactness helps us measure the cohesiveness of a district. When drawing districts to represent a region, it is best practice to strive for a compact district, since non-compact districts are less likely to share communities of interests (2010's Executive Council & some 2020 NH Senate districts), and the wider area makes it harder for representatives to understand and serve the needs of constituents. Compactness is also used as a check against gerrymandering (see below), since gerrymandered districts tend to not be compact. The compactness scores reported in our analysis come from the DRA compactness calculation described here:

Contiguity Contiguity describes how municipalities in a voting district are geographically connected to each other. Contiguous districts are a requirement for all legislative districts in New Hampshire. This definition is sometimes stretched -- quite literally -- with the towns of Meredith and Gilford only connected in the middle of Lake Winnepesaukee, the towns of Strafford and New Durham connected in an inaccessible point in the woods, and the 2010 flatorial district, Grafton 9, for which the elected rep has to travel out of the district to get to constituents on the other side of the district.

Dave's Redistricting Application (DRA) Dave's Redistricting Application, hosted at <https://davesredistricting.org> is a free online tool for creating, viewing, sharing, and analyzing redistricting maps. The mission of Dave's Redistricting is to, "empower civic organizations and citizen activists to advocate for fair congressional and legislative districts and increased transparency in the redistricting process." Map-a-Thon's maps and most supporting data are located there for public inspection.

Deviation Deviation refers to the degree to which districts have equal population. Ideally, every representative or other elected official in proportional representation will represent the same number of people, but a small amount of flexibility --deviation-- is permissible to account for unequal population distributions and compliance with other laws, such as the 1965 Voting Rights Act or the New Hampshire Constitution's mandate to keep town boundaries intact, and NH Supreme Court Rulings

Gerrymandering Gerrymandering is the practice of drawing district boundaries for partisan advantage. This leads to uncompetitive general elections and districts oriented toward party agendas rather than local interests. Gerrymandered districts often connect regions with little in common, leading to the splitting of cities, counties, and other communities of interest. The leading example of this in New Hampshire is 2010's Executive Council 2 and certain NH Senate districts

Splitting Because our maps are drawn with the goal of avoiding gerrymandering while keeping communities of interest intact, many parts of our analysis examine the number of communities of interest divided, or "splits," contained within a district. The ideal map minimizes the number of districts which cross other administrative boundaries to hold communities of interest intact. Our analyses examine the number of geographical splits necessary. For example, a state senator representing the towns of Dublin and Peterborough would split county lines while keeping a school district intact. Another way of examining splitting is to weight splits by population, the approach taken in the DRA county-splitting metric.

Partisan Lean Number of seats using past election data that are likely to be either Democrat seats, Republican seats, or Competitive seats.



Takeaways on the NH Senate Proposals

- The 2010 NH Senate map was already gerrymandered for partisan advantage. Statewide vote totals in the 2020 election were 50-50 GOP and Democrat, but the seat split was 14 GOP vs 10 Democrat.
- The majority's 2020 map further gerrymanders to districts safer for the majority party, with a predicted 15 GOP vs 9 Democrat split.
- The minority's 2020 map is significantly more competitive (13 GOP vs 11 Democrat), and its districts, while competitive, give a slight advantage to the majority.
- The majority's 2020 map has some sprawling districts, one with towns lined up end-to-end from Hinsdale, in the extreme southwest corner of the state, to Bedford, in central NH.
- The minority's map has more compact districts, but also protects incumbent districts.
- Neither map prioritizes communities of interest.



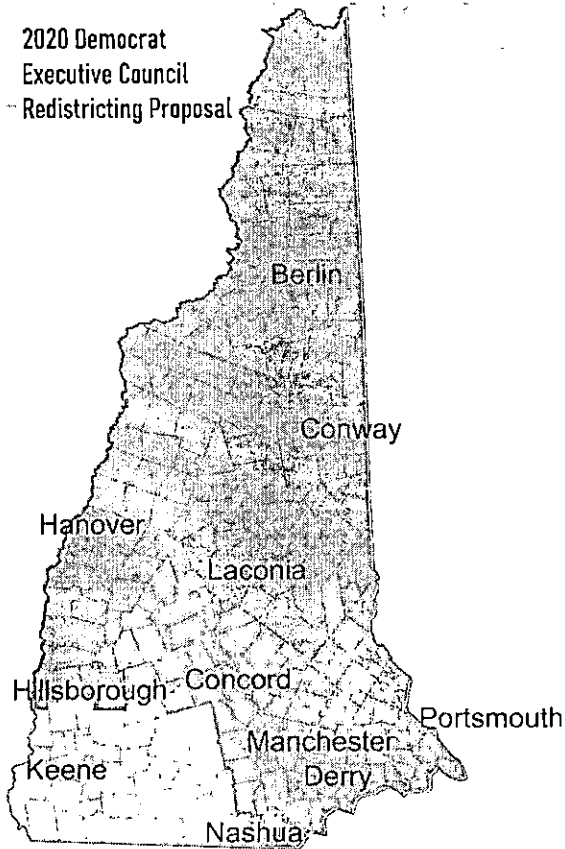
Takeaways on the Executive Council Proposals

- NH has five Executive Council districts. The 2010 NH Executive Council map was widely cited as gerrymandered, packing Democratic-leaning towns into the “dragon shaped” District #2, leaving the other districts more Republican and less competitive.
- The majority’s 2020 proposed map is identical to the gerrymandered 2010 map. It has one uncompetitive district and four districts that, while gerrymandered, are still somewhat competitive.
- The minority’s 2020 map has a slight 3-2 lean to the majority, but overall is a more competitive map.
- The majority’s 2020 map has one sprawling/not compact District #2, stretching from the Vermont border to the NH Seacoast.
- The minority’s map has an excellent compactness score, and does good job of retaining counties.

Map-a-Thon

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps

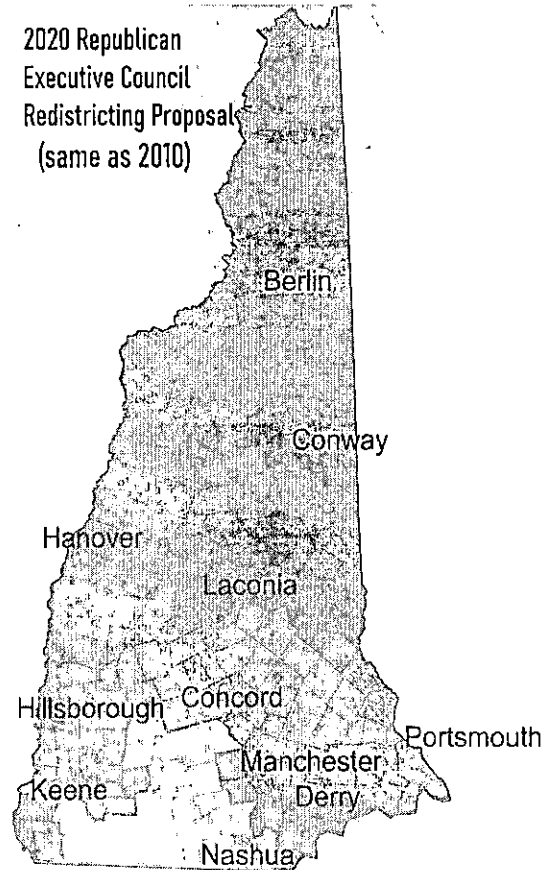
2020 Democrat
Executive Council
Redistricting Proposal



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Democrat Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

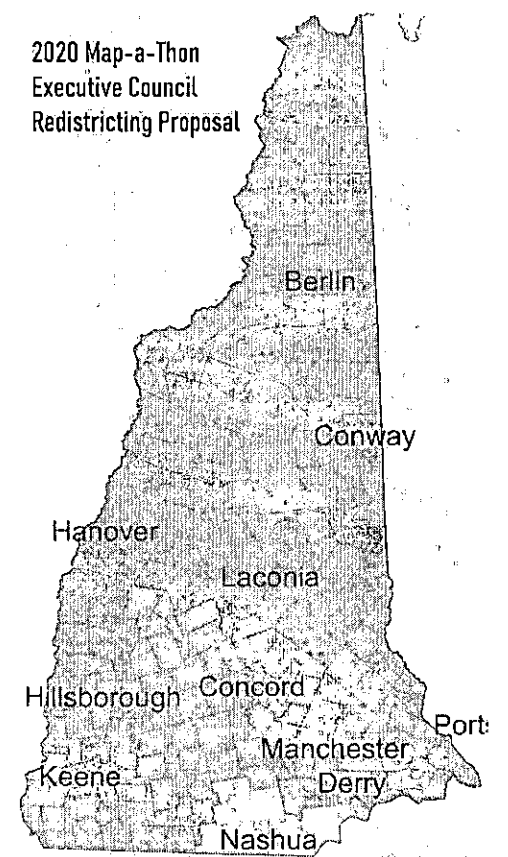
2020 Republican
Executive Council
Redistricting Proposal
(same as 2010)



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Republican Proposal

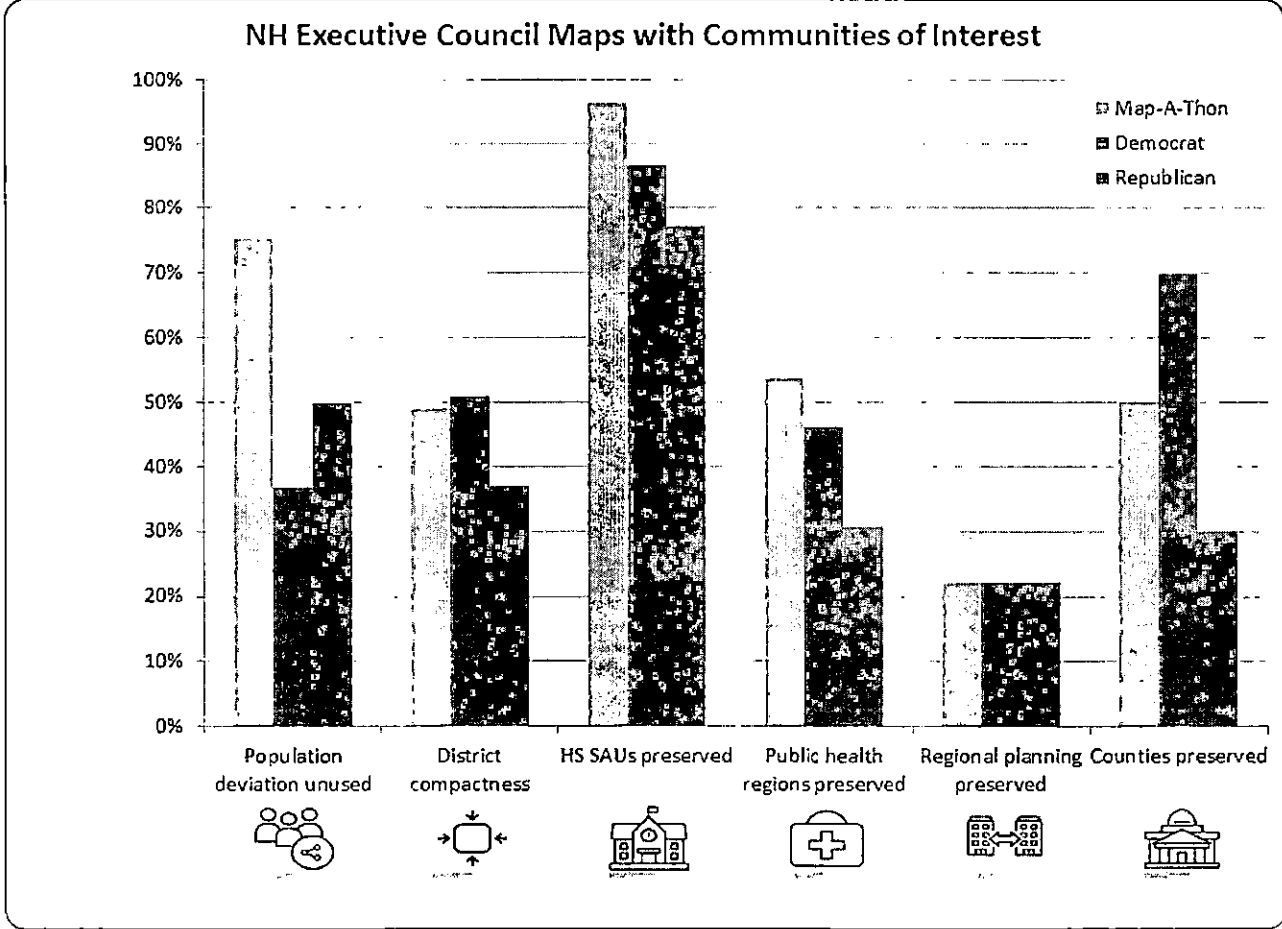
[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

2020 Map-a-Thon
Executive Council
Redistricting Proposal



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Map-a-Thon Proposal

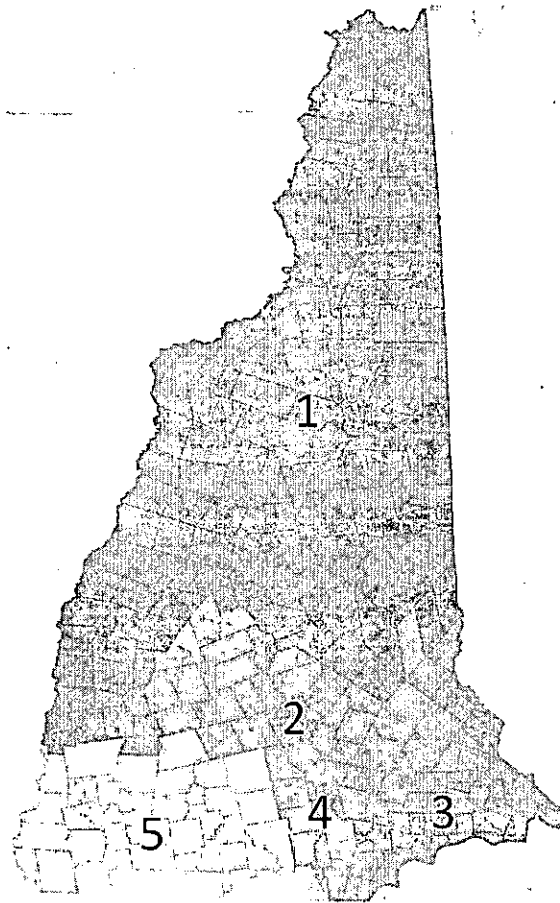
[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)





District	2020 Exec Council Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	47.7%	52.3%		Competitive
2	51.4%	48.6%		Competitive
3	47.0%	53.0%		Competitive
4	45.0%	55.0%		Competitive
5	52.4%	47.6%		Competitive
Total Vote Share	48.7%	51.3%		
Seats Won	2	3		

The Democrats' proposal for the Executive Council districts has five relatively competitive districts, with District 1 as a very competitive district. This map overall has a slight lean towards Republicans but is overall very competitive. The map appears to have been constructed to keep counties together and does an excellent job at this by keeping 7 of the 10 counties together. In doing this it does a competent job of keeping High School SAUs together, but it was clear that this was not the initial intent of this map. The compactness of these districts is very good with a score of 51 from DRA.



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Democrat Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

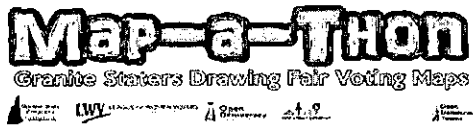
<<<Democrat Proposal<<<

Pros:

- 7 of 10 Counties preserved.
- 51 Compactness score (DRA)
- Manchester, Nashua, and Concord in their own districts.
- All districts are somewhat competitive.

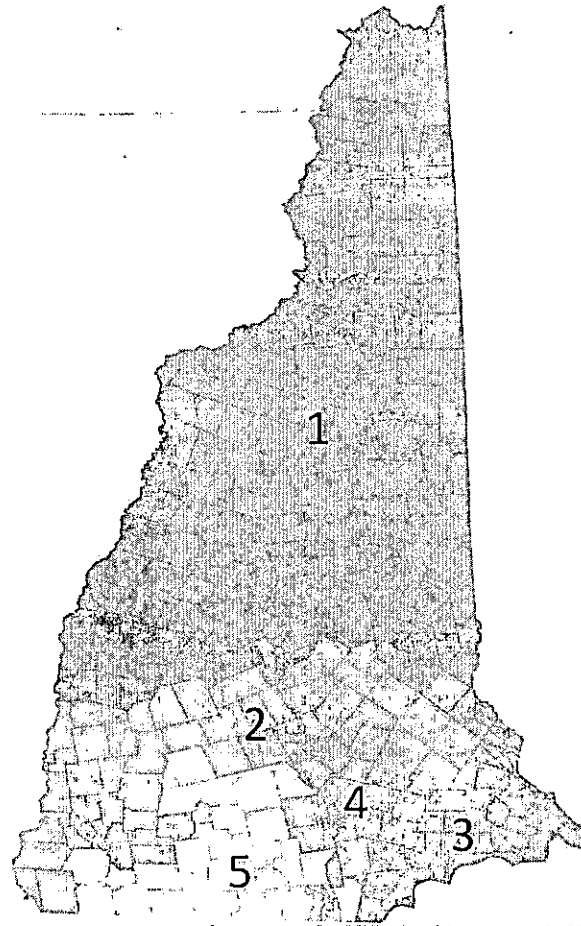
Cons:

- Somewhat high deviation (6.32%)
- 11 split High School SAU's



District	2020 Exec Council Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	48.3%	51.7%		Competitive
2	54.5%	45.5%		Competitive
3	47.3%	52.7%		Competitive
4	44.2%	55.8%		Leans Republican
5	49.5%	50.5%		Competitive
Total Vote Share	48.7%	51.3%		
Seats Won	1	4		

The Republican proposal for the Executive Council is identical to the 2010 map. This is the same map the Governor Sununu said in a March 9, 2021 interview, "That's got to be fixed." It is a perfect example of gerrymandering with District 2 being "packed" with Democrats from Keene to Dover. This map splits 7 counties, 19 High School SAUs and has a compactness score of only 37.



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Republican Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

<<<Republican Proposal<<<

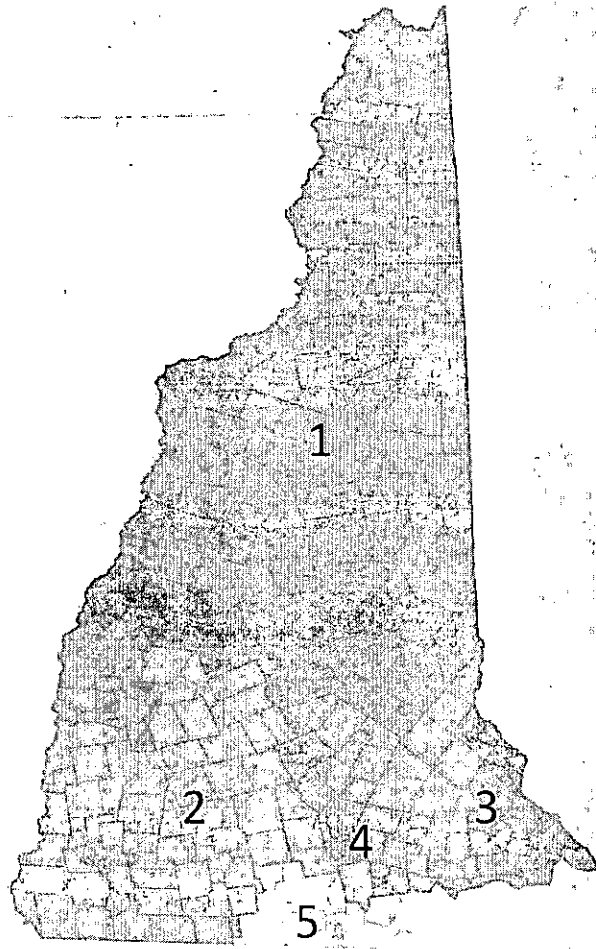
Pros:
 Manchester, Nashua, & Concord in their own districts
 4 somewhat competitive districts
 Deviation is neither particularly high nor particularly low (5.02%)

Cons:
 19 split High School SAUs
 7 split Counties
 37 Compactness score (DRA)
 Gerrymanders Democratic-leaning towns into one district



District	2020 Exec Council Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	47.3%	52.7%		Competitive
2	50.6%	49.4%		Competitive
3	53.1%	46.9%		Competitive
4	43.8%	56.2%		Leans Republican
5	48.0%	52.0%		Competitive
Total Vote Share	48.7%	51.3%		
Seats Won	2	3		

The Map-a-Thon map was drawn trying to have a competitive map but also factor in Communities of Interest such as High School SAUs, Shared Emergency Services, and Public Health Regions. This map has a much lower deviation than the other proposed maps with only 2.47%. It also does a better job at keeping those COIs together with only three split High School SAUs.



2020 NH Executive Council Map - Map-a-Thon Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

<<<Map-a-Thon Proposal<<<

Pros:

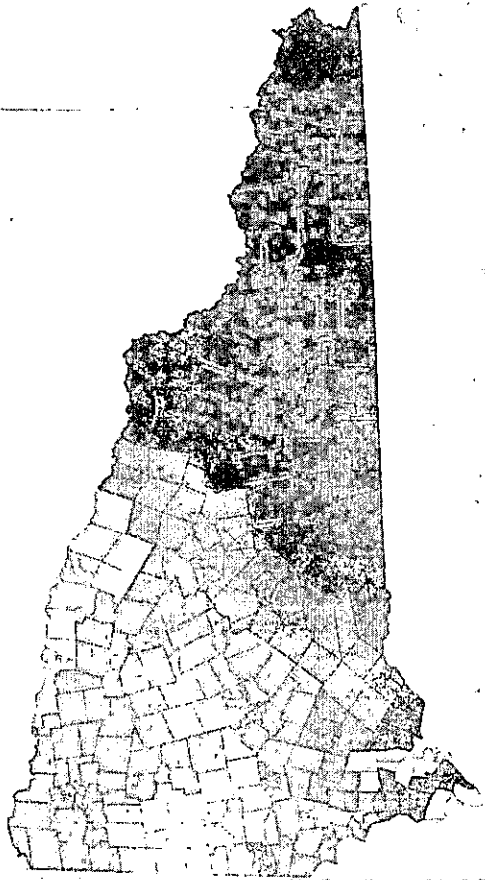
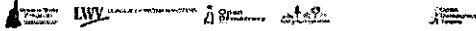
- Low pop.deviation (2.47%)
- 4 somewhat competitive districts
- 1 very competitive districts
- 3 split High School SAUs
- Manchester, Nashua, & Concord in own districts
- 49 Compactness score (DRA)

Cons:

- 5 split Counties
- Some odd-shaped districts - but follow SAU lines

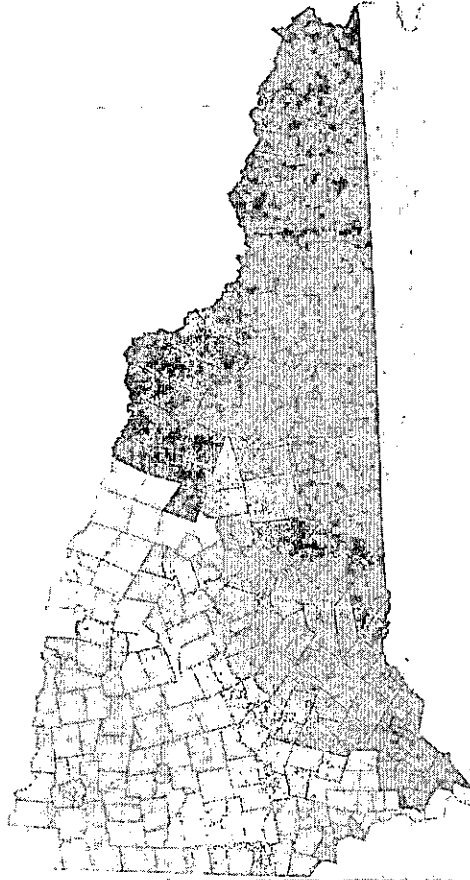
Map-a-Thon

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



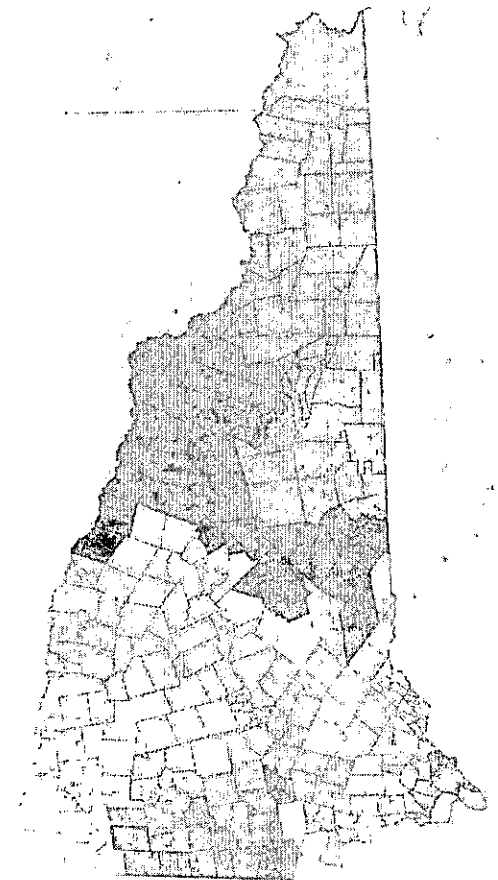
2020 NH Senate Map - Democrat Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)



2020 NH Senate Map - Republican Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

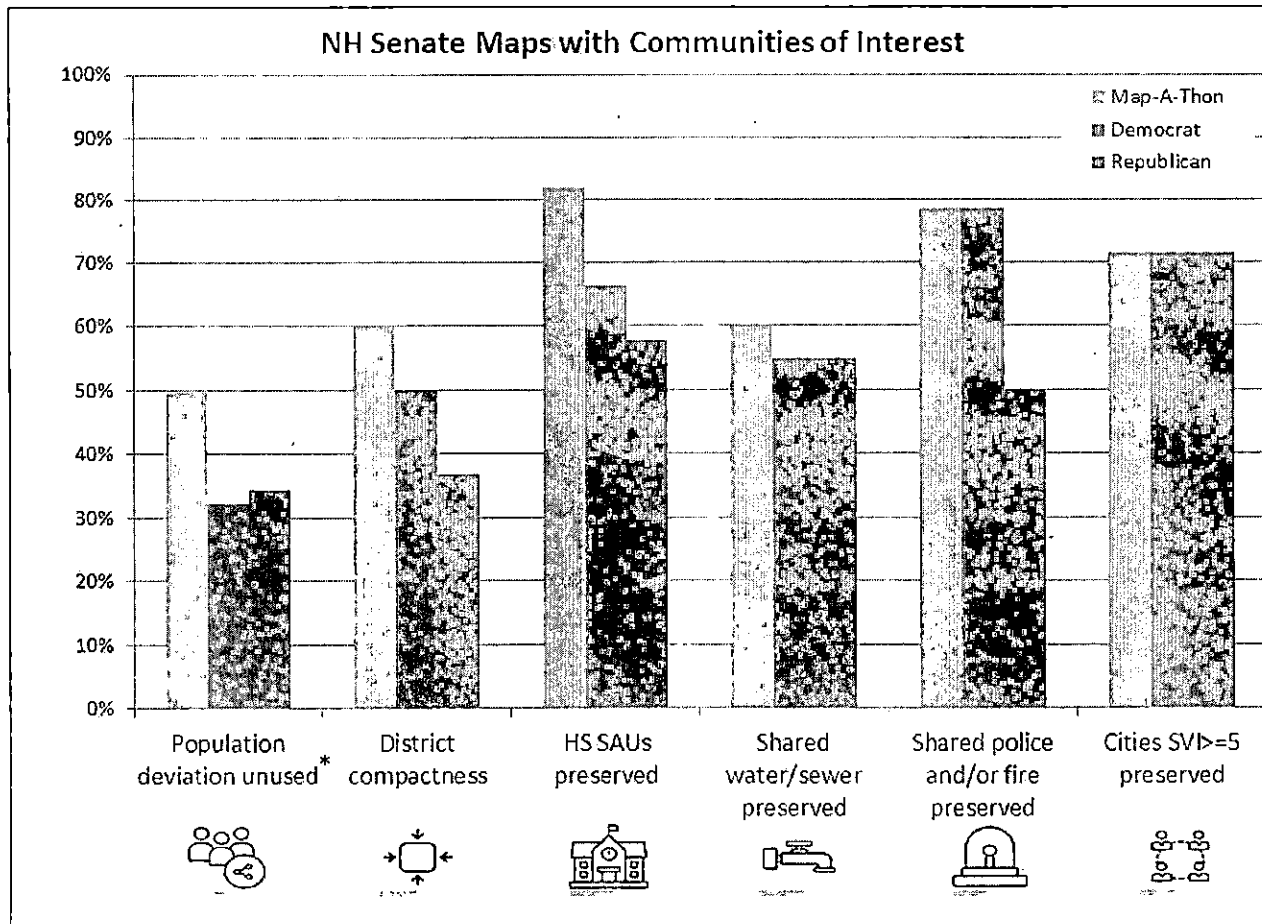


2020 NH Senate Map - Map-a-Thon Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

Map-a-Thon

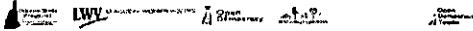
Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



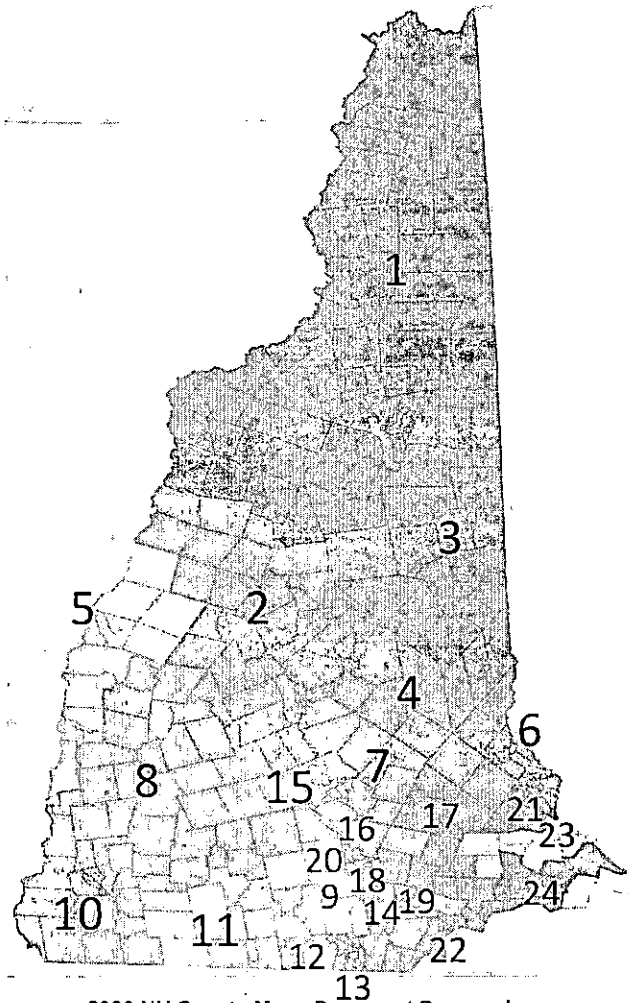
*Deviations do not include Nashua districts since the Nashua wards have not been officially redrawn yet

Map-a-Thon

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



District	2020 NH Senate Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	42.5%	57.5%		Leans Republican
2	45.9%	54.1%		Competitive
3	38.4%	61.6%		Leans Republican
4	39.9%	60.1%		Leans Republican
5	66.5%	33.5%		Leans Democrat
6	49.8%	50.2%		Competitive
7	41.0%	59.0%		Leans Republican
8	44.4%	55.6%		Leans Republican
9	46.1%	53.9%		Competitive
10	61.1%	38.9%		Leans Democrat
11	48.1%	51.9%		Competitive
12	53.6%	46.4%		Competitive
13	58.6%	41.4%		Leans Democrat
14	41.1%	58.9%		Leans Republican
15	64.0%	36.0%		Leans Democrat
16	51.8%	48.2%		Competitive
17	38.7%	61.3%		Leans Republican
18	55.4%	44.6%		Leans Democrat
19	42.5%	57.5%		Leans Republican
20	56.4%	43.6%		Leans Democrat
21	66.5%	33.5%		Leans Democrat
22	35.2%	64.8%		Leans Republican
23	60.3%	39.7%		Leans Democrat
24	54.0%	46.0%		Competitive
Total Vote Share	49.8%	50.2%		
Seats Won	11	13		



2020 NH Senate Map - Democrat Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

<<<Democrat Proposal<<<

Pros:

- Under 10% deviation
- 7 competitive districts
- 3 very competitive districts
- 50 Compactness score (DRA)

Cons:

- Somewhat high deviation (6.78%)*
- Manchester split into 3 districts
- 28 split High School SAUs

*Deviations do not include Nashua districts because the Nashua wards have not been officially redrawn yet

The Democrats' proposal for the NH Senate is an improvement on the current map but still prioritizes incumbents over Communities of Interest. It keeps Manchester split into 3 districts when it could have 2 districts just on its own. It does however do a better job than the Republican plan in having competitive districts, compact districts, and doesn't split as many High School SAUs.

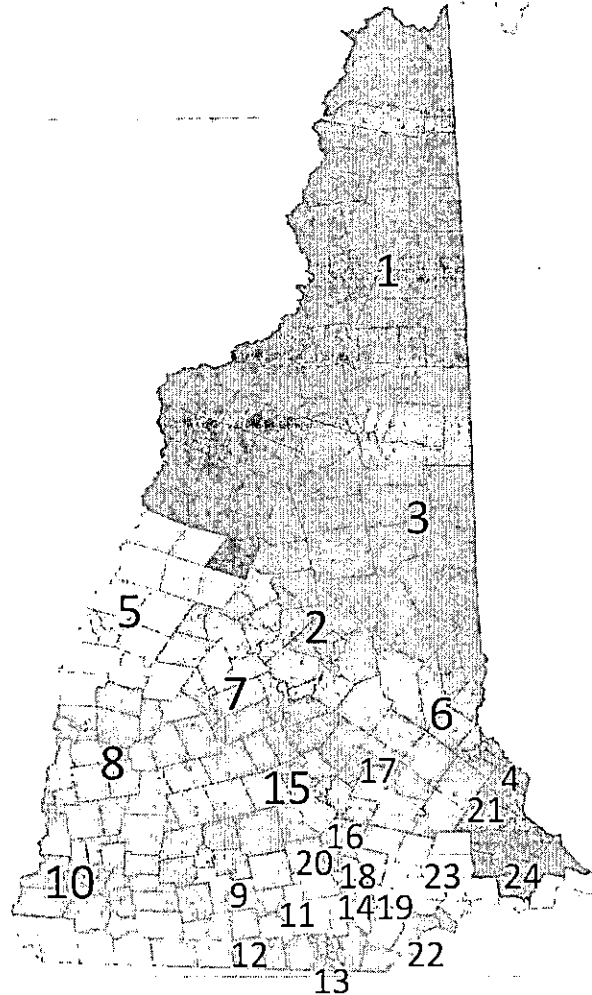
Map-a-Thon

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



District	2020 NH Senate Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	41.7%	58.3%		Leans Republican
2	43.7%	56.3%		Leans Republican
3	38.2%	61.8%		Leans Republican
4	61.4%	38.6%		Leans Democrat
5	67.7%	32.3%		Leans Democrat
6	42.7%	57.3%		Leans Republican
7	43.9%	56.1%		Leans Republican
8	41.6%	58.4%		Leans Republican
9	46.8%	53.2%		Competitive
10	64.2%	35.8%		Leans Democrat
11	49.8%	50.2%		Competitive
12	48.8%	51.2%		Competitive
13	58.6%	41.4%		Leans Democrat
14	41.1%	58.9%		Leans Republican
15	62.7%	37.3%		Leans Democrat
16	47.7%	52.3%		Competitive
17	40.7%	59.3%		Leans Republican
18	55.4%	44.6%		Leans Democrat
19	42.5%	57.5%		Leans Republican
20	58.9%	41.1%		Leans Democrat
21	67.0%	33.0%		Leans Democrat
22	35.2%	64.8%		Leans Republican
23	41.2%	58.8%		Leans Republican
24	57.1%	42.9%		Leans Democrat
Total Vote Share	49.8%	50.2%		
Seats Won	9	15		

The 2010 Executive Council map generally garners most of the attention in being a gerrymandered map in NH, but the 2010 NH Senate map wasn't much better. This 2020 proposed map makes the map worse. It packs Democrats into 8 districts (4, 5, 10, 13, 15, 20, 21, and 24) while cracking them in the remaining 16. This leads to a very lopsided map. With a nearly 50/50 vote in 2020, this map would have yielded a 15/9 majority for Republicans.



2020 NH Senate Map - Republican Proposal

[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

<<<Republican Proposal<<<

Pros:

Under 10% deviation

Cons:

Somewhat high deviation (6.56%)*

Manchester split into 3 districts

35 split High School SAUs

Only 3 competitive districts and ZERO

very competitive districts

37 Compactness score (DRA)

*Deviations do not include Nashua districts because its wards have not been officially redrawn.

This map keeps most of the incumbent Senators in their districts and only makes small adjustments to make them safer. It does not take any Communities of interest into account. A perfect example is District 9 which stretches over halfway across the state from Hinsdale to Bedford, crossing 9 different High School SAUs. In total, the map splits 35 High School SAUs, and needlessly splits Coos County.

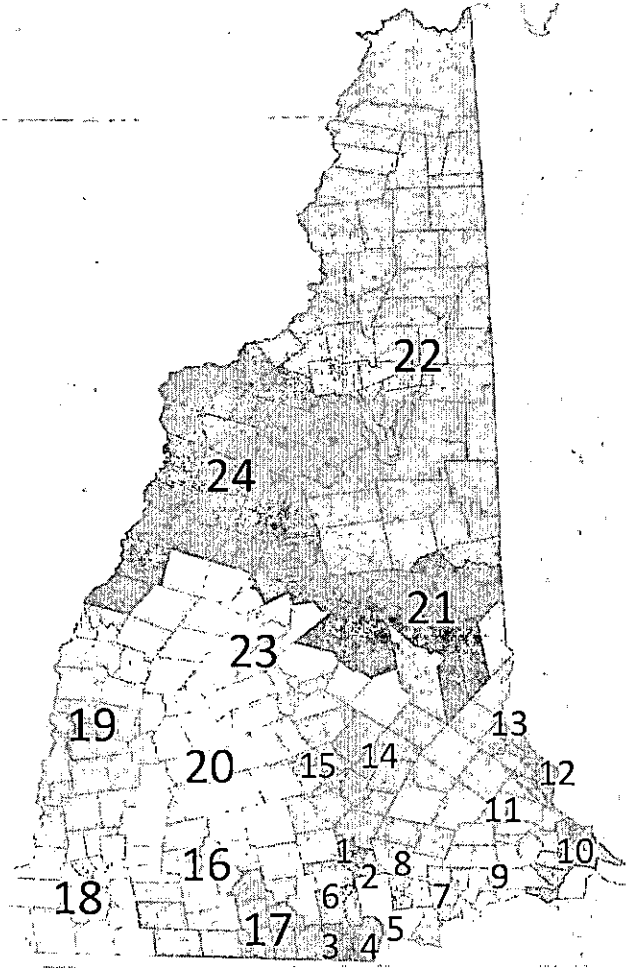
Map-a-Thon

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



District	2020 NH Senate Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	59.2%	40.8%		Leans Democrat
2	57.9%	42.1%		Leans Democrat
3	55.9%	44.1%		Leans Democrat
4	49.7%	50.3%		Competitive
5	40.0%	60.0%		Leans Republican
6	46.3%	53.7%		Competitive
7	35.4%	64.6%		Leans Republican
8	41.8%	58.2%		Leans Republican
9	50.9%	49.1%		Competitive
10	58.5%	41.5%		Leans Democrat
11	55.8%	44.2%		Leans Democrat
12	61.4%	38.6%		Leans Democrat
13	42.6%	57.4%		Leans Republican
14	40.4%	59.6%		Leans Republican
15	60.4%	39.6%		Leans Democrat
16	53.5%	46.5%		Competitive
17	45.8%	54.2%		Competitive
18	60.5%	39.5%		Leans Democrat
19	55.8%	44.2%		Leans Democrat
20	47.6%	52.4%		Competitive
21	39.3%	60.7%		Leans Republican
22	42.9%	57.1%		Leans Republican
23	41.9%	58.1%		Leans Republican
24	56.1%	43.9%		Leans Democrat
Total Vote Share	49.8%	50.2%		
Seats Won	12	12		

The Map-a-Thon's Senate map tries to keep Communities of Interest together while also keeping the map competitive and having compact districts. It has the lowest deviation of any of the proposed maps, has the highest compactness score, and only splits 15 High Schools SAUs compared to 28 in the Democrat proposal and 35 in the Republican proposal.



NH Senate Map-a-Thon Proposal
[Link to map on DRA mapping software](#)

<<<Map-a-Thon Proposal>>>

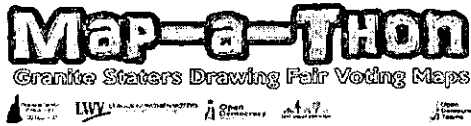
Pros:

- Low deviation (5.04%)*
- 60 Compactness score (DRA)
- 2 very competitive districts
- 4 competitive districts

Cons:

- 15 High School SAUs splits
- Oddly-shaped districts - but follow SAU boundaries

*Deviations do not include Nashua districts because the Nashua wards have not been officially redrawn yet



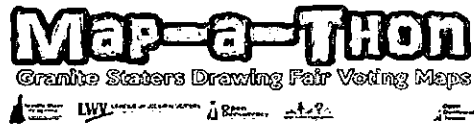
Partisan Lean for Proposed NH Senate Maps

Comparison of **predicted** district partisan lean using *2020 NH Senate elections results*, which yielded an extremely competitive state level two-party vote share of 49.8% Democrat and 50.2% Republican.

District seats are assigned 'Lean Dem', 'Lean Rep', or 'Competitive' depending on whether the predicted Democrat vote share is >55%, the predicted Republican vote share is >55%, or neither party is predicted >55% vote share, respectively (see previous slides for detailed assessment). Given the extremely competitive state level vote share, a representation map would be expected to either have a relatively even distribution of party lean among districts, or a relatively even distribution of party leaning and competitive districts.

Our prediction, tabulated below, indicates that the Democrat proposal deviates least, while the Republican proposal deviates most, from this 'ideal' voter representation.

2020 NH Senate Election		Partisan Lean of Proposed NH Senate Seats						
Dem (% of votes)	Rep (% of votes)	Map	Lean Dem (# seats)	Lean Dem (% seats)	Lean Rep (# seats)	Lean Rep (% seats)	Competitive (# seats)	Competitive (% seats)
49.8%	50.2%	Map-a-Thon	10	41.7%	8	33.3%	6	25.0%
		Democrat	8	33.3%	9	37.5%	7	29.2%
		Republican	9	37.5%	11	45.8%	4	16.7%



Frequently-asked Questions

- **Why can't a redistricting satisfy all of the legal and other requirements?** It's a balancing act, since the objectives are not fully compatible with each other; for example, creating districts that both respect town and ward lines, and contain an equal number of residents.
- **Why are competitive districts better than ones with a predicted partisan lean?** In a competitive district, candidates must appeal to voters of both (or all) political parties, including independents. In districts with a clear partisan lean, candidates need only appeal to voters of their own party, as determined in the party primary elections.



What actions should I take?

- The NH House Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee has a hearing on Monday, January 10, 1-4 pm at the NH State House. This is likely the only public hearing in the NH Senate for these bills.
- You may write or submit testimony to the committee using [this email link](#).
- We also suggest contacting and/or sending your testimony to your own NH Senator: http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/senate/members/senate_roster.aspx
- Contact your House representatives <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/> who may see these bills if approved by the full Senate

MAP-a-THON

Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps



About the Map-a-Thon:

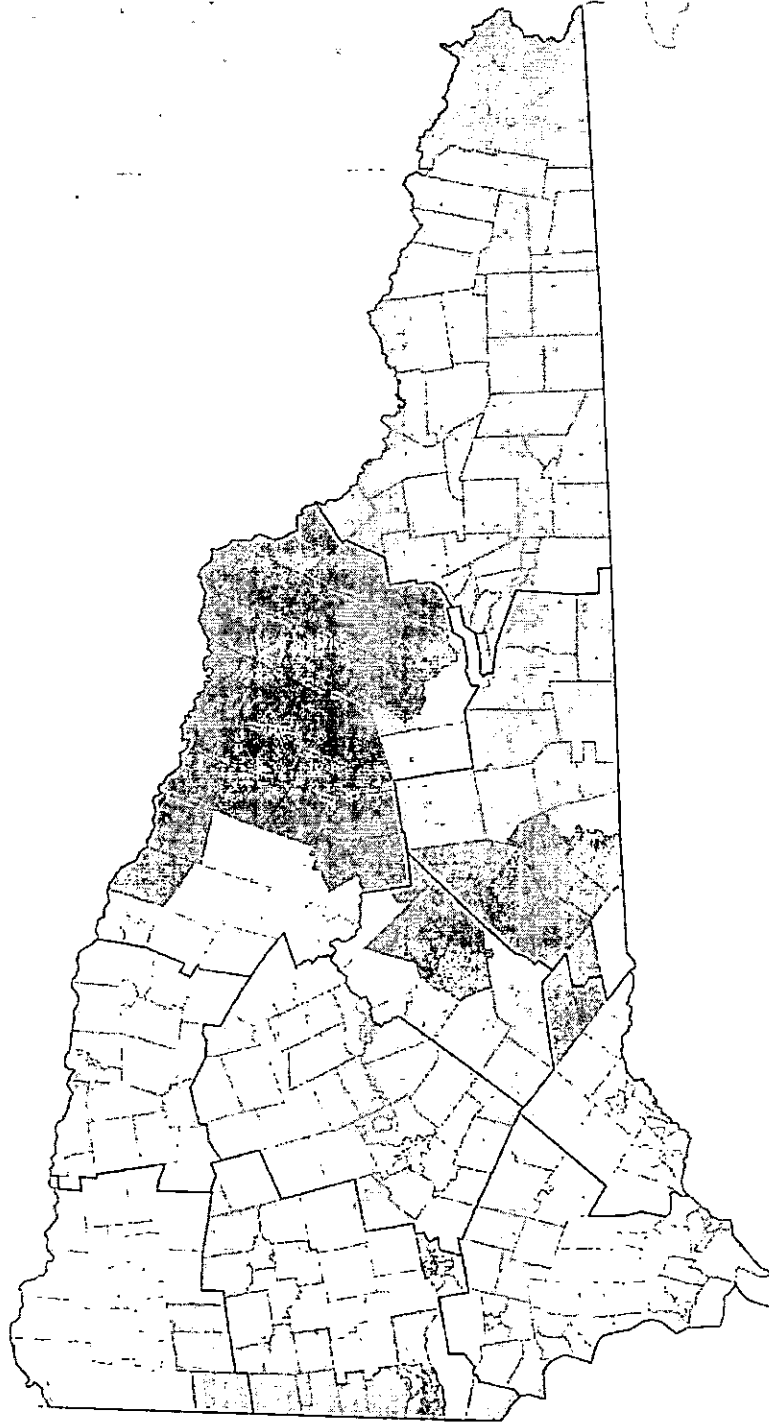
[https://www.opendemocracynh.org/nh map a thon](https://www.opendemocracynh.org/nh_map_a_thon)

See this Report [on the Web via Google Slides](#)

Download our previously-released analysis on NH House and Congressional maps:

<https://www.opendemocracyaction.org/maps>

New Map-A-Thon Map with updated Nashua and
Manchester Wards



Link - <https://davesredistricting.org/join/1dfd9b32-523c-4c5f-8554-715c00e9623f>

Community of Interest Analysis

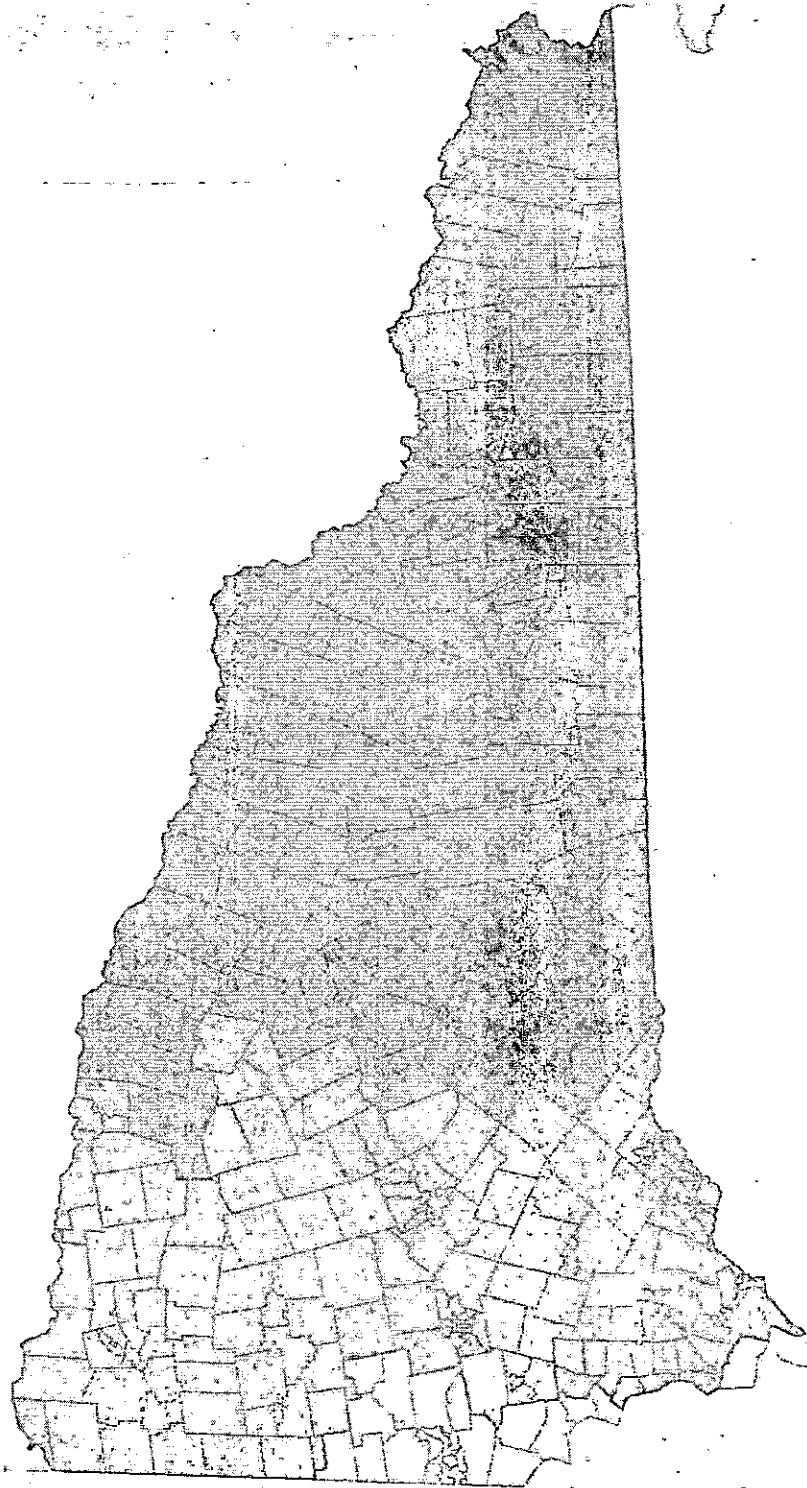
Included in chart			
Metric Description (percentages)	Result	Metric Description (counts)	Result
Population deviation unused	11.5%		
District compactness	60.0%		
HS SAUs preserved	77.1%	HS SAUs split	19
Shared water/sewer preserved	55.0%	Shared water/sewer service areas split	9
Shared police and/or fire preserved	78.6%	Shared police and/or fire split	3
Cities SVI>=5 preserved	71.4%	Cities SVI>=5 split	2

Additional Information			
Metric Description (percentages)	Result	Metric Description (counts)	Result
		District contiguity (true/false)	TRUE
Towns/wards preserved	100.0%	Towns/wards split	0
Cities preserved	99.2%	Cities split	2
Competitive districts (2020 election)	25.0%	Districts NOT competitive (2020 election)	18

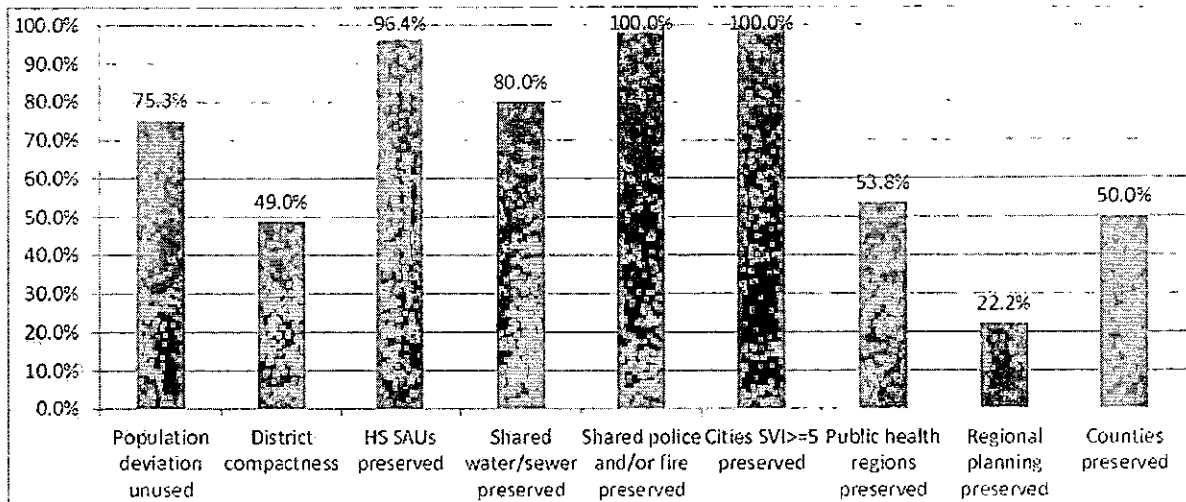
Partisan Analysis

District	2020 NH Senate Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	59.2%	40.8%		Leans Democrat
2	57.9%	42.1%		Leans Democrat
3	58.6%	41.4%		Leans Democrat
4	51.2%	48.8%		Competitive
5	42.5%	57.5%		Leans Republican
6	36.2%	63.8%		Leans Republican
7	41.5%	58.5%		Leans Republican
8	41.8%	58.2%		Leans Republican
9	49.9%	50.1%		Competitive
10	58.5%	41.5%		Leans Democrat
11	57.0%	43.0%		Leans Democrat
12	61.4%	38.6%		Leans Democrat
13	42.6%	57.4%		Leans Republican
14	38.1%	61.9%		Leans Republican
15	59.7%	40.3%		Leans Democrat
16	47.9%	52.1%		Competitive
17	49.2%	50.8%		Competitive
18	60.5%	39.5%		Leans Democrat
19	55.8%	44.2%		Leans Democrat
20	48.3%	51.7%		Competitive
21	39.3%	60.7%		Leans Republican
22	42.9%	57.1%		Leans Republican
23	46.3%	53.7%		Competitive
24	56.1%	43.9%		Leans Democrat
Total Vote Share	49.8%	50.2%		
Seats Won	11	13		

Map-A-Thon Map Executive Council Map



Link - <https://davesredistricting.org/join/4e92e90f-0c6a-4569-b876-e31678413237>



Included in chart			
Metric Description (percentages)	Result	Metric Description (counts)	Result
Population deviation unused	75.3%		
District compactness	49.0%		
HS SAUs preserved	96.4%	HS SAUs split	3
Shared water/sewer preserved	80.0%	Shared water/sewer service areas split	4
Shared police and/or fire preserved	100.0%	Shared police and/or fire split	0
Cities SVI>=5 preserved	100.0%	Cities SVI>=5 split	0
Public health regions preserved	53.8%	Public health regions split	6
Regional planning preserved	22.2%	Regional planning split	7
Counties preserved	50.0%	Counties split	5

District	2020 Exec Council Votes			Competitiveness
	Democrat	Republican	Other	
1	47.3%	52.7%		Competitive
2	50.6%	49.4%		Competitive
3	53.1%	46.9%		Competitive
4	43.8%	56.2%		Leans Republican
5	48.0%	52.0%		Competitive
Total Vote Share	48.7%	51.3%		
Seats Won	2	3		

Additional Information			
Metric Description (percentages)	Result	Metric Description (counts)	Result
	80.0%	District contiguity (true/false)	TRUE
Towns/wards preserved	100.0%	Towns/wards split	0
Cities preserved	100.0%	Cities split	0
Competitive districts (2020 election)	80.0%	Districts NOT competitive (2020 election)	1

Good day, Chairman Gray and members of the Election Law and Municipal Services Committee,

My name is Linda Bundy, and I'm from Antrim.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. I will briefly address each of the four bills. The resources I used for analysis of the proposed maps are DRA 2020, which is a free web app to create, view, analyze and share redistricting maps; and the Map-a-Thon Citizen Mapping Project, which is supported by a coalition of NH groups including Granite State Progress, the League of Women Voters of NH, Open Democracy, Open Democracy Teams, and the Kent Street Coalition.

The Senate district map from 2011 was gerrymandered as demonstrated by the results of the 2020 election. Although the vote was split 50/50 between Democrats and Republicans, the Senate seats were 14 Republican and 10 Democratic. The 2020 majority map proposed in SB 240 has increased the gerrymander. More districts are safer for the majority. The predicted Senate seat split based on this map for a 50/50 vote would be 15 Republican and 9 Democratic seats. This map packs Democrats are packed into 8 districts. Only 3 districts are competitive. Some districts are sprawling, most notably District 9 which stretches for 72 miles from Hinsdale in the southwest corner of the state to Bedford in central New Hampshire. Most of this district is just one town wide. My own District 8 was shifted to include Claremont and Dunbarton, making it lean more strongly Republican and therefore less competitive. Some northern districts needed adjustments due to population changes. However, some of these are questionable. Why was District 3 expanded northward to include a number of tiny towns in the White Mountains? These towns have much more in common with the rest of Coos County. Why was Plymouth packed into District 5 with Hanover, if not to make it a safely Democratic district? By splitting 35 SAU's, it seems that communities of interest weren't factors. Because of the low degree of competitiveness, lack of compactness, and little consideration of communities of interest, I oppose this map.

The Executive Council map proposed by the majority in SB 241 took me by surprise. I did not expect to see the same map from 2011, when it has received so much publicity for the infamous District 2 that crosses the state from Vermont to the Seacoast. Even Governor Sununu said, "It's a weird one. It's like a snake lying across the middle of the state." I oppose this map because of the elongated District 2 into which Democratic towns have been packed.

The minority Senate map proposed in SB 253 is more competitive than the majority map. With a 50/50 vote, this map would be predicted to result in a Senate with 13 Republicans and 11 Democrats, giving a slight advantage to the majority. This map is also more compact. However, it does favor incumbents by leaning toward one party or the other in 17 districts, and does not significantly factor in communities of interest. For these reasons, I am neutral on this map.

The Executive Council map proposed by the minority in SB 254 is an improvement over the map of 2011. The districts are relatively compact, and 7 of the 10 counties are intact. It leans slightly Republican, but overall is competitive. I support this map.

This redistricting process is the first one I have followed closely. My understanding is that in prior decades there was nothing that compares to the openness of the current one, and I thank you for this. I do believe that remote testimony via Zoom or a similar service should have been an available option, so that more voters could testify in real time.

One question that I've had about the maps is why are they always presented in majority versions and minority versions? I had expected that the committees would present maps that had been drawn cooperatively by members of both parties. In the United States Senate a bipartisan "gang of eight" has been able to work together to draft pieces of legislation. I think that if our redistricting committees had taken a similar approach, the resulting maps would have been more competitive, thereby making candidates more responsive to all of the voters in their districts.

Thank you very much for your work on this committee and for this time to speak.

Tricia Melillo

From: Kristin Swan <swan.kristin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 9:59 AM
To: Tricia Melillo; Senate Redistricting
Cc: Suzanne Prentiss; Joseph.D.Kenney@nh.gov
Subject: SB240 and SB241

To the New Hampshire State Senators,

As a ward moderator, I strive to ensure that all voters in my local community have fair, safe access to the polls, that their ballots are accurately counted, and that they are treated with respect and dignity while they exercise their right to vote. More than once in the past two years, I have been compelled to defend the integrity of our election officials in the face of perceived unfairness in the system.

The newly drawn state senate and executive council district maps make no secret of the intent to tilt future elections in favor of one party, deepening voters' mistrust in the electoral process. Such politically motivated redistricting inherently disenfranchises certain voters and advantages others.

Given the substantial number of independent voters in our state, voting in New Hampshire has long been especially meaningful. The uncertainty of our elections' outcomes motivates individuals to show up at the polls, knowing their votes will have an impact. But districts aimed at making election outcomes a foregone conclusion will change the nature of our democracy and diminish engagement in our state and local elections.

Voters recognize that gerrymandering, by either political party, while legal, is simply unethical and leads to unrepresentative government. And partisanship in the drawing of voting district maps is a problem we can fix.

In a time when public mistrust in the electoral system threatens the future of our democracy, as clearly demonstrated by the events at the US Capitol one year ago, I urge the state senate to reject the proposed, deeply partisan district maps. I urge you to vote no on SB240 and SB241.

With gratitude for your service,

Kristin Swan
21 Crafts Ave.
West Lebanon, NH 03784
tel. 203.464.3667
Pronouns: she, her, hers

Tricia Melillo

From: cybelegrier@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 12:00 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: My opposition to SB240 and SB241

Hi Tricia.

My name is Cybele Grier and I am from Rye, NH. I am opposed to the proposed redistricting maps as it moves the Democratic leaning cities on the seacoast of Portsmouth, Rochester, Durham, and Dover into CD2. It also moves the Republican leaning cities and towns near the Massachusetts border of Salem, Hudson, Windham, Atkinson, and Pelham into CD1. These changes turn CD1, which was formerly a tossup, into a district that leans Republican.

These proposed redistricting maps are clearly gerrymandered, which is harmful to our residents of NH. Some examples of this are:

- CD1 as drafted contains both Portsmouth and Keene, which are on opposite ends of the state.
- This map unnecessarily splits 7 out of 10 counties. The only counties not split are Sullivan, Cheshire, and Coos.
- According to Google Maps, it would take more than 7 hours to drive the most direct route between the 3 corners of the proposed CD 2 (Hinsdale to Pittsburg to Portsmouth- 7 hours 18 minutes). In about the same amount of time, someone in the proposed CD 2 could drive to Washington DC, Niagara Falls, or Nova Scotia.
 - For comparison, it takes about 2 hours to drive the length of existing CD 1 and 3 hours to drive to length of existing CD 2.

Gerrymandered districts like those in the proposed State Senate maps create “safe seats” which means a politician can be in office for a whole lifetime without being worried about losing their seat. Competition helps to ensure voters' voices are heard. Furthermore, competitive districts result in elected officials being responsive to their constituents. Uncompetitive districts worsen the partisan divide and make it harder for more reasonable candidates to get elected. And the last point I want to make is every voice should be heard, and every vote should carry the same weight. By drawing maps to favor one political party, politicians are rigging the process of representation and denying voters their fair say.

Fair Maps did some smart analysis to propose fair new districting maps. The Senate and House must consider these fair maps and reject the current proposed maps before the Senate today.

Kind Regards,
Cybele Grier
1311 Ocean Blvd
Rye, NH
603-312-5403

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Tricia Melillo

From: Cindy Reid <cindy_reid27@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 1:01 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Fw: Executive Council redistricting map

I agree with the Governor that this map (essentially the 2010 map) is a clear example of gerrymandering. Why was this map used again, when it was gerrymandered then, and even recognized by the Governor as such. Are you endorsing a gerrymandered map?

Thank you for your time. I hope you will reject this map out of hand.

Cindy (Lucinda) Reid

27 Lovers Lane
Chichester NH 03258

603-738-3484

Testimony regarding New Hampshire Redistricting: SB 240, SB 241, SB 253, and SB 254

January 9, 2022

To the New Hampshire Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I've lived and voted in Sunapee, New Hampshire, for more than 40 years and, ten years ago, watched gerrymandered maps favoring one party thrust upon voters. I now support non-partisan efforts for people-powered maps and redistricting that value good government, transparency, and redistricting best practices.

Additionally, election integrity, if it is to be more than a slogan, requires fair voting maps.

I oppose the Majority map for the Senate (SB 240), which takes the existing gerrymandered Senate map and only makes it worse. SB 240 fails to respect communities of interest and county lines and, instead, delivers too many sprawling districts that blatantly favor the Majority and incumbents. An analysis of the Majority's Senate map reveals the partisan skew: "With a nearly 50/50 vote in 2020, the map would have yielded a 15/9 majority for Republicans," according to N.H. Map-a-Thon (Granite Staters Drawing Fair Voting Maps). See the Map-a-Thon analysis.

I support the Minority's Senate map (SB 253) because it does a far better job providing competitive and compact districts.

The Majority proposal for the Executive Council (SB 241) keeps the so-called sprawling "Dragon District," from the Vermont border to the seacoast. While the map is somewhat competitive, the Minority's map (SB 254) better serves voters; it preserves county lines and allows more compact and competitive districts, fitting our "purple" state.

Granite Staters have overwhelmingly spoken out for fair maps that allow voters to choose their elected officeholders vs. politicians choosing their voters. The partisan divide in New Hampshire continues to grow along with political extremism. The Majority's voting maps will only fuel that division.

Granite Staters deserve better than partisan maps drawn in secret with no stated criteria. I urge a reset, a bipartisan Majority-Minority effort that thoughtfully considers the work of the N.H. Map-a-Thon. You can evaluate its Senate and Executive Council maps using clearly defined criteria.

While I cannot attend the January 10 hearing and hope remote testimony will return to the General Court so I and others can testify in person, I will view the hearing remotely.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,
Catherine Bushueff
22 Ridgewood Road, Sunapee, NH 03782

Tricia Melillo

From: daphne klein <dklein25@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 6:04 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB 240/241

My husband and I have lived in Springfield, NH for over 40 years. We love the fact that we get along so well with all of our neighbors, no matter where they are on the political spectrum. We never expected that New Hampshire would stoop to gerrymandering to benefit one political party over another.

By drawing maps to favor one political party, some voters will, in effect, be denied fair representation. If these bills pass, I fear they will deepen the political divide, when right now we need to listen to one another.

Thank you,
Daphne Klein

254 Four Corners Road
Springfield, NH 03284

Tricia Melillo

From: Alex <aabernhard@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 10, 2022 6:09 PM
To: Tricia Melillo
Subject: Testimony in Lieu of Appearance

I urge defeat of SB 240 and SB 241.

Both bills create safe districts. Safe districts result in legislators who listen only to their own party and are not inclined to consider appeals from the minority party. This damages our democracy.

Damages to our democracy ultimately hurt both Democrats and Republicans. Now it may be the Democrats; the next time it will be the Republicans.

Alex Bernhard
aabernhard@comcast.net
603.998.2788(c)
603.735.5071 (land line)
PO Box 198
East Andover NH 03231

Executive Council
Concord, NH

January 9, 2022

Re: Executive Council

Our democracy is in a perilous state. Republicans have liked to call us exceptional, precisely because we were a beacon and an advocate for promoting the will of the people all over the world. Sadly, this is no longer the case. I leave it to the many others who have already described to you the obvious way in which the Executive Council map will result in a greater number of sure wins for the Republican party and/or reduce the number of toss up districts with the net result of distorting the will of the people and preventing fair elections.

This kind of activity is the reason that people of both parties are losing faith in politics and elections and will lead to oligarchy, anarchy and violence. Is this what you want for your children? Please act in fairness before it is too late.

Sincerely,

Susan Orkin

Susan Orkin
PO Box 927
Grantham, NH 03753

January 8, 2022

Re: Redistricting Bills SB-240 & SB241

Chairperson Gray and Distinguished Committee Members,

Circumstances prevent me from testifying in person before your committee on Jan 10th, so I am emailing my statement for the record.

Others will speak in great detail about the gross gerrymandering clearly evident in the Senate and Executive Council district maps (SB-240 & especially SB-241). Redistricting should be a non-partisan and transparent process, resulting in fair and competitive maps. Yet nothing could be further from that goal than the maps presented by the committee's majority. I could raise numerous objections, but I will focus on just one – process integrity.

If I lived in Russia or China or Belarus or Hungary, I'd know the elections are rigged and that the popular vote is irrelevant. From the outside, residents of those countries would envy the citizens of NH, who directly can address their representatives and be heard. But the real question is whether those voices are listened to.

NH is widely acknowledged to be a very "purple" state, which these proposed maps certainly do not reflect. Do these hearings just serve to give a veneer of legitimacy and respectability to an already pre-determined outcome? Are they just political kabuki? Are you just solidifying power rather than reflecting and protecting democracy? Are we visiting once again the sins of our fathers on another generation?

Will you demonstrate political courage and implement maps that truly reflect NH? The cynic in me is not very hopeful. Prove me wrong!

Gregory Davis
28 Norwood Rd
Salem, NH 03079

Redistricting Testimony

My name is Michael Strand, from Bedford, and previously from Peterborough. I've always lived in Senate District 9. I manage an Accounting, Finance and Healthcare staffing firm in Bedford that we opened in 2014. We have supported both local businesses and hospitals both before and during the pandemic, and will continue to do so.

I took a couple hours off work today to be here because I have an 8-year-old daughter, and I believe our democracy is genuinely imperiled.

I promise to keep this short. Where do we even start with ya'll?

Probably proof. We prefer proof to politically motivated grandstanding, or redistricting right?

So here's some proof...

SD-09 has flipped 3 times since 2016,

2012—Republican, .6 % margin of victory Any Sanborn

2014—Republican, 7% margin of victory Any Sanborn

2016—Republican 7% margin of victory Andy Sanborn

2018—Democrat 4.8% margin of victory Jeanne Dietsch

2020—Republican 1.2% margin of victory Denise Ricciardi

Even in spite of the fact that this district was already badly gerrymandered when Bedford was added in the first place to cancel 50% of the democrat votes in the otherwise rural district, somehow, it still seems pretty fair.

And now you want to take Peterborough out of that district.

Peterborough as a lot more culturally, civically, and geographically in common with it's Monadnock and rural neighbors than my suburban/Manchester bordering Bedford does.

Onto the executive counsel.....

EC

District 1 has competitively alternated between Cryans and Kenney what, 2-3 times?

Average Margins of victory. 5%-3 %

District 2

2016, Andru Volinsky, Democrat, margin of victory 5%

Those margins have gotten larger, so why would you *add* Democratic towns to District 2, if competitive elections are the goal?

District 3

2018, Russell Prescott,, margin of victory 1%.

2020 Janet Stevens, margin of victory 5.4%

District 4

2016 Chris Pappas, Democrat 4%

2018, Ted Gatsas, Republican 1.5%, 1500 votes

2020 Ted Gatsas 2020 Republican, by 10%

District 5—

2016 Wheeler, Republican 9% margin of victory

2018, Deb Pignatelli, Democrat 4%

2020, Wheeler 1.6% margin of victory

Seems pretty fair to me, notwithstanding Senator Soucy's commendable efforts to fix otherwise gerrymandered District 2.

Seems like people actually vote for the candidates they want in this state, even if changes biannually.

-----Addendum-----

[I would however urge against the splitting of Hillsborough and Rockingham counties in District 4, as suggested by both the minority D amendment and Open Democracy/Map-a-thon. Both overwhelming public testimony, as well as the senators on this committees have confirmed, we should avoid splitting counties. Derry and Bedford have little in common, nor are they adjacent. Adding Hudson and Derry then render my district uncompetitive, and unwinnable for the Democrats and U's who live there.

Our individual votes won't count nearly as much as Ted Gatsas in-district residence and unlimited funding does.

I do support adding Keene to SD-5 per Senator Soucy's amendment, as there is little correlation between Concord and Keene, culturally, geographically, or politically, but much in common between Keene and the rest of D-5, from Peterborough to Milford.

Just because they both tend Democratic, does not guarantee verisimilitude in a manner conducive to district co-habitation.]

Perhaps Nashua is the district that could be removed from D-5, added instead to a revised D-3 or D-4. Salem and Nashua, perhaps, would offset politically, but have much in common geographically and culturally, as MA border towns.

The Republican party has claimed the prerogative is to combine politically minded towns, but you can't break up counties. You can't break up geographic and cultural continuity... proximity matters.

I don't know anybody who likes snakes or dragons.

At worst, please don't split school districts in this quest to unite the right in New Hampshire.

As a kid raised Republican, I was taught that we were the party of the free market, fair competition. The best person gets the job. I still believe those values with all my heart.

And I am now a Democrat.

And so I will close with 1 question— I would ask you senators, when did Republicans get so scared of competition?

Hope you all have a wonderful afternoon, and good luck (dubiously)

January 9, 2022

To the members of the Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee,

Dear distinguished committee members, my name is Deborah Bacon Nelson, and I am from the town of Hanover. Until I recently retired, I taught American Studies for almost three decades at Lebanon High School. Over the years, I taught my students to take the act of voting seriously and encouraged them to volunteer on campaigns so they would understand the importance of political engagement. They studied the foundations of representational government, and they learned to research positions and then to select candidates based on those positions. As a result of their work, they spent a part of their summer, and many fall weekends, canvassing, exploring issues with voters, conducting visibility, and volunteering in the offices of the candidates *they selected*.

The one subject that inevitably caused them tremendous dismay was gerrymandering, and we looked at many egregious examples and discussed the insidious reasons why committees choose to make it very difficult for members of one party to be successful when running for office. Students can become cynical very quickly, and gerrymandering often resulted in expressions of frustration and questions about being engaged if their votes did not count. I ask you today to consider the young people of this country as you decide on the maps before you.

From the earliest days of our Republic, leaders in the Executive branch, members of Congress, and State Legislatures have all seen the critical importance of educating future citizens. Witness the Land Ordinance of 1785, which underscores the key importance of providing public education to future citizens. The following points are taken from a paper published by the Center for Educational Policy:

- **Federal support for public schools is not a modern concept. Rather, it goes back more than two centuries to the time of George Washington and the nation's founding.** Two early federal Acts—the Land Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787—granted federal lands to new states and set aside a portion of those lands to be used to fund public schools.
- The nation's founders saw these land grants as a way to encourage public education and incorporate the principles of democracy throughout the vast

western territory. Many of the founders viewed education as a primary way to ensure citizens were prepared to exercise the freedom and responsibilities of a democratic society. By the end of the 18th century, there was a general consensus in favor of using public funds to support public schooling for the common good.

You might ask why I am including these historical references to funding, and it is because I believe that the very fundamental principle of educating future citizens to vote thoughtfully and patriotically, is challenged by gerrymandering. I suggest that you consider gerrymandering to be not only unpatriotic, but counter to the very ideals upon which this country was founded. When I look at the Majority's maps for both the Senate and the Executive Council, I cannot help but see egregious examples of gerrymandering. The new borders for my Senator, as an example, extend in a peculiar fashion from Hanover, on the western portion of the state, over to Plymouth. Aside from each town containing a college, we have virtually no interaction or connection. Clearly the intention is to pack Democrats into one District, but what does this mean to erstwhile Republican voters? The Majority's Executive Council map continues to consider that a snaking district, running from one side of the state to the other, is somehow legitimate. We know that this is not the case.

On behalf of idealistic students, who our Republic needs to have invested and involved in order to thrive, I implore you to vote against SB 240 and SB 241, and instead to vote in support of SB 253 and SB254. Such votes are consistent with the ideals of the Founding Fathers, with the importance of educating future citizens, for the legitimacy of elections, and for both Democrats and Republicans living in New Hampshire.

Sincerely,
Deborah H. Bacon Nelson

21 Forest Edge Drive
Hanover, NH 03755

Testimony Submitted to the
New Hampshire Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee
Jan. 7, 2022

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

Thank you for your committee work and for considering my testimony. My name is Leonard Witt and am a voter living in Sandwich, New Hampshire.

The most important message: we are a Democracy where the citizens pick the politicians and not the other way around. Please adhere to that principle and draw up fair maps that serve our Democracy and not individual politician. A rigged system best serves politicians with radical ideologies just when we need moderates to help center these United States of America.

I am troubled by the redistricting maps that the GOP majority is proposing for the NH Senate and for the Executive Council districts. We need fair mapping that insures each of us has a vote that counts, not one that is rigged by politicians. Therefore I ask that you reject the present majority proposed maps and make a bi-partisan effort to produce fair redistricting, where the voters, the citizens decide on their politicians and not politicians deciding who votes for them.

The Senate Redistricting: Sprawling, spread out districts favoring one party over another doesn't serve the common interests of those districts' residents. That's a shame because recently more and more everyday people have gotten involved in the political process and turned out to vote in massive numbers. Diminishing their vote is going to cause cynicism and cause voting turnout, the lynchpin of our democracy, to fall.

Also lumping college towns of Plymouth and Hanover together might look like an advantage for the GOP, but if so, it will be short lived. People like me who believe that every vote should count equally will remind these students over and over how you all diminished the power of their vote. Once they make a party decision between ages 18-22 it tends to stick. So over the long run the GOP is destined to suffer.

Executive Council: I am surprised that the GOP majority basically kept the same map as used in 2010, with a district that cuts across the center of the state like an ugly snake. Here is what Gov. Chris Sununu said about it in the past: *"That's got to be fixed. It's a weird one. It's like a snake lying across the middle of the state. Very bizarre."*

So why not fix that?

Thanks for making changes as requested.

Submitted by
Leonard Witt
Sandwich, NH

January 9, 2022

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

I believe that state government is key to providing citizens access to services and governing of citizens actions for the good of our communities. State government, to be successful, must fairly represent the views of the citizens of the state, not just majority party. Fair representation is dependent on fair, inclusive elections that aren't slanted toward the count of any one party because of gerrymandered district maps.

I am writing to provide my input on the following Senate Bills which provide for redistricting of Senate and Executive Council voting district maps. My positions are as stated below:

SB 240 - I am opposed to the proposed mapping of State Senate Districts as in my opinion it is heavily gerrymandered.

SB 241 - I am opposed to the proposed mapping of the State Executive Council Districts as it is identical to the 2010 Map which in my opinion is heavily gerrymandered.

SB 253 - I am neutral to the proposed mapping of the State Senate Districts but prefer it to the map that is being brought forward in SB 240. I believe it is getting closer to a map that allows voters a fair voice in our governance.

SB254 - I am in support of the proposed redistricting map for the State Executive Council as it is more Competitive, and in my opinion, it does a better job of representing communities and taking county lines into account.

I would encourage the committee to draw district voting maps that are not heavily favorable to one political party but instead are grouped around communities and recognized geographic lines such as counties and school districts.

I am very concerned about the direction our legislature is taking around voting access and redistricting. I believe Senate district (SB 240) and State Executive Council (SB 241) maps represent political actions that will subvert the vote of the people of New Hampshire and favor one political party.

I encourage you to lead with courage toward fair and equitable elections. We need leaders at this time and not followers of partisan politics. Our democracy is at stake. For any of you who are voting to advance your parties interests through unfair election practices, I would ask you to please stop and work to advance the vote of every citizen of New Hampshire, regardless of party. Coming together at the state level and showing New Hampshire is above party politics can go a long way to healing the divisions in our communities.

Thank you very much for your consideration of my position on voting rights and the importance of fair voting laws.

Respectfully,

Mary Lilley
Albany, NH

January 9, 2022

To: Chairperson Gray and Distinguished Members of the Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee

Re: Testimony Regarding Redistricting Bills SB 241 & SB 254 for NH Executive Council

I am a resident in Carroll County, NH. I'm glad to see the SB 254 map as a much better alternative to that in SB 241. Although it doesn't appear to be ideal in terms of the objectives of fair districting for the Executive Council, it goes a long way in fixing the gerrymandering that is evident in the SB241 map, in particular the cross-state sprawl of District #2. I just can't see how that map could be considered a good-faith effort at non-partisan districting and how Council decisions could provide equitable protection, opportunity and growth, especially for District #2 with such a disparate array of towns.

Any political party that abuses their majority position in government by pushing for such gerrymandering of districts is a party that is increasingly less representative of the people they serve and is generally less willing to compromise and work towards the most equitable laws and solutions to the challenges faced by residents. Such party might believe in the benefit of their increased power in the short-term, but this will inevitably result in under-representation and unfair conditions for many, greater polarization between the political parties, and will become an increasingly serious detriment to the future of New Hampshire.

Please don't contribute to a decline of democracy in this state. SB 254 clearly provides for better districting and should be implemented, not SB 241.

Respectfully,
Thomas Lilley
Albany, NH

Dear Senate Special Committee on Redistricting,

I want to thank the committee for the opportunity to speak about the proposed Senate and Executive Council maps. I sincerely hope that you will take my comments and the comments of other Granite Staters into consideration before you finalize your decisions.

My Republican parents raised me to believe in the power of the vote, and in the importance of civic participation. As I grew and my understanding of politics changed, my political alliances shifted more to the left. This led to ardent and at times heated debates around the dinner table! My family often disagreed about policy, but we were united in our belief that participation by voting was an essential civic responsibility and a fair and just way to determine the leadership of our town, our state and our country.

Today, I find myself doubting that our elections are fair. I am deeply disturbed and disheartened by the majority party's proposed Senate map, SB 240 and Executive map, SB 241. I am urging all my Republican and Democratic friends to speak out about these maps.

According to the Senate election data from 2020, the NH senate races have the potential to be competitive. In 2020 49.8 % of the vote went to Democrats, and 50.2% Republicans. If the breakdown of Republican and Democratic voters holds true through the 2022 election, you would expect the Republicans to capture slightly over 50 % of the 24 seats.

Instead, Senator Gray and the majority have taken the already gerrymandered and unfair map created in 2010 and made it worse. They have succeeded in splitting and packing districts in a way that will assure that Republicans gain more than their fair share of representation. For example, the majority map packs college towns, including Plymouth and Hanover into one district, creating a democratic stronghold in District 5 and making all the surrounding districts more conservative. Under this plan, the Republicans will more than likely capture 15 seats leaving the Democrats 9. This does not reflect the actual breakdown of voters in the state. In addition, this map ignores communities of interest; it is clearly drawn for the sole purpose of partisan gain.

The majority plan for the Executive Council SB 241 has the same problems. It takes a bad map drawn in 2010 (that even the Republican Governor recognized needed to be fixed,) and makes it worse.

If you support these clearly gerrymandered maps, you run the risk of losing all credibility with voters and increasing the divisions already existing between parties in this state.

Voters want competitive districts, and we know that competitive races bring out the best candidates and increase voter participation.

Voters want the members of their senate, Republican and Democratic, to work together to solve problems. Please solve this problem now! I ask that the majority party reconsider the maps currently proposed, or support the maps drawn by the minority party. A third alternative is to support the maps created by the independent nonpartisan group Map-a Thon

Thank you for this opportunity to speak,

Ellen Farnum, Tamworth NH

Tricia Melillo

From: D Hines <hinesmail187@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 17, 2022 8:30 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: Executive and State Senate Maps

I am writing to you to express my concern about the proposed mapping of voting districts. I've been hearing many news reports about efforts to favor one party over the other. I'm hearing that Republicans are trying to gerrymander maps across this country. This is very alarming to me. The drawing of the maps needs to be fair to all voters and both parties. We need to eliminate gerrymandering that will result in less competition and an advantage to one party in particular. In looking at the proposed bills, I am writing to you to oppose SB240 and SB241 because I feel that these are providing an unfair advantage. I do support SB 253 and SB 254 because they are more competitive and take into consideration the towns and counties. Let's be fair and competitive and not try to set an unfair advantage for the next decade.

Thanks for your consideration,
Diane Hines
Windsor, NH

Dear Tricia and Honorable Members of the Election Law Committee,

I have signed in in opposition to SB 240 & SB 241 and in favor of SB 253 & 254. I have been following the debate over the redistricting plan for NH Exec Council and Senate, made possible by the analysis Of the Map-a-Thon (Granite Staters drawing fair voting maps) . I refer you to their analysis here <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vQ5kSAJ6Hv LtMKCSSh-t-xz2gZvB3ssL i3D V2wvv9Ao2K3jx zmrBbG8ZEqQtA/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000&slide=id.g10106fac0a6 0 0>

A quick review of this work reveals that SB240 and SB241 (Submitted by the Republican majority) are intentionally favorable to Republicans (Gerrymandered). The Republican maps do not achieve any portion of the targeted goals of the Map-a-Thon folks, or myself. The Map-a-Thon analysis compares SB240 and 241 to SB 253 and 254 (Democratic proposal) and their own independent proposal. In my view, the analysis shows the Republican plans to be unnecessarily aggressive in securing Republican over-representation in a state that basically votes 50-50 along party lines. These Republican plans, if passed, will be an abuse of the power entrusted to them by NH voters. It will reduce our vaunted high participation in the democratic process, and lead to political apathy. Only a fair fight is a contest that is worthy of the citizens of NH.

Please encourage all Committee members to read and understand the Map-a-Thon analysis before voting. If partisan politics gets in the way of allowing one side to "win" over the other, I encourage the committee to adopt the proposals of the Map-a-thon, who offer plans that meet democratic goals as much as possible.

Sincerely,

Hon R.Steven Rand

A. M. Rand Company
71 Main Street, Plymouth NH 03264
Call 603-236-6587 e-mail rstevenrand@yahoo.com

Tricia Melillo

From: Irene <irbush@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 3:44 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: SB240 and SB241

Dear Sirs or Madam:

New Hampshire has had a 140 year tradition of having two competitive and fair Congressional Districts (CDs). These new maps are anything but that.

I am opposed to the proposed State Senate & Executive Council maps (SB240 and SB241) and the proposed new Congressional maps that are en route to your committee. As a Granite Stater who believes in our democracy, I urge you to amend these gerrymandered maps and commit to passing fair, competitive maps.

Every voters's voice must be heard and drawing maps that rig the process denies voters their fair say.

Voters should pick their politicians, not the other way around.

Yours truly,

Irene Bush

Irene Bush
irbush@comcast.net
603-433-9146 NH

Tricia Melillo

From: Eileen Kane <eak763@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 7, 2022 10:53 AM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo

Dear Honorable Senator,

As a New Hampshire resident and voter, I oppose the redistricting bills, HB50, HB52, SB240, and HB241, as introduced. I ask you to amend all of them using the non-partisan, community-created, and data-informed proposals from the NH Map-a-Thon.

The proposed maps are gerrymandered. By drawing maps with the sole objective to favor one party, these bills deny voters the right to elect and hold accountable their decision-makers. Without fair districts that accurately connect our communities, the government cannot provide the full resources for the general welfare or the demands of local schools, roads, safe drinking water, and many more community demands. To ensure public trust in our elections and government, I ask NH Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee to amend the voting districts with the NH Map-A-Thon proposals.

Redistricting needs to be fair to all New Hampshire voters.

Thank you,
Eileen Kane
47 Dudley Brook Rd.
Weare NH 03281

Tricia Melillo

From: William Secord <wrsecord@live.com>
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 12:20 PM
To: James Gray; Regina Birdsell; Ruth Ward; Donna Soucy; Rebecca Perkins Kwoka; Tricia Melillo
Subject: Redistricting maps

Dear Senators of the Election Law Committee,

The Election Law Committee has received considerable testimony on the lack of fairness and transparency regarding the recently approved redistricting maps. Please amend and hold additional public hearings on further amendments to the Congressional (hb52) and Executive Council (sb241) redistricting maps. Even though these maps may have been legally developed, the resultant product is an affront to New Hampshire voters.

These maps are obviously gerrymandered, and voters across the state have been calling for fair, competitive redistricting maps. Amendments to the Congressional and Executive Council redistricting maps are sorely needed if elections in New Hampshire are to be competitive and reflective of the choices of New Hampshire voters. The public must also be provided a public hearing to weigh in on any forthcoming amendments. Once a decade, politicians are given the opportunity to structure honest voting districts. Please don't fail in your moral obligation to act in the best interest of all citizens.

Bill Secord
West Lebanon

Bill Secord
Ten Fountain Way
West Lebanon
New Hampshire 03784-1239
603.298.9249
603.286.0331

January 9, 2022

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee:

I am writing you to express my opposition to SB 240 and SB 241. We need every vote to represent the voice of voters in our community. We need both parties to have an equal and fair chance of representing the voice of the voters. Gerrymandering is nothing short of voter suppression. There are proposed alternate voting maps for both the Senate and Executive Council (e.g. SB254) that are more representative of voters in a community and we encourage you to support them.

SB 240 and 241 make the Senate districts even less competitive than 2010, and the Executive Council map is identical to gerrymandered 2010 map which includes the packed "District 2". The Executive Council map, again, shows the infamous "Dragon" that leaves adjacent districts more Republican and ignores communities of interest like regional high schools and county borders. District 2 stretches from the Vermont/Massachusetts border to Maine and the ocean. Rural western towns have little in common with the needs of coastal communities. The resulting deviation now exceeds 5%, despite claims otherwise from Senator Gray & the committee. The shift in population while using the same boundaries is likely the reason here, and if bad enough, could invalidate the map.

The Senate map shows these are sprawling districts, not compact, and increases the margin for Republicans in 16 districts, making the districts less competitive & locking in incumbents. Additionally, it ignores communities of interest like regional high schools and county borders. Packing of districts means votes both minority and majority voters will matter less, lowering turnout. This packing makes the votes of Republicans in those districts matter less and will suppress turnout.

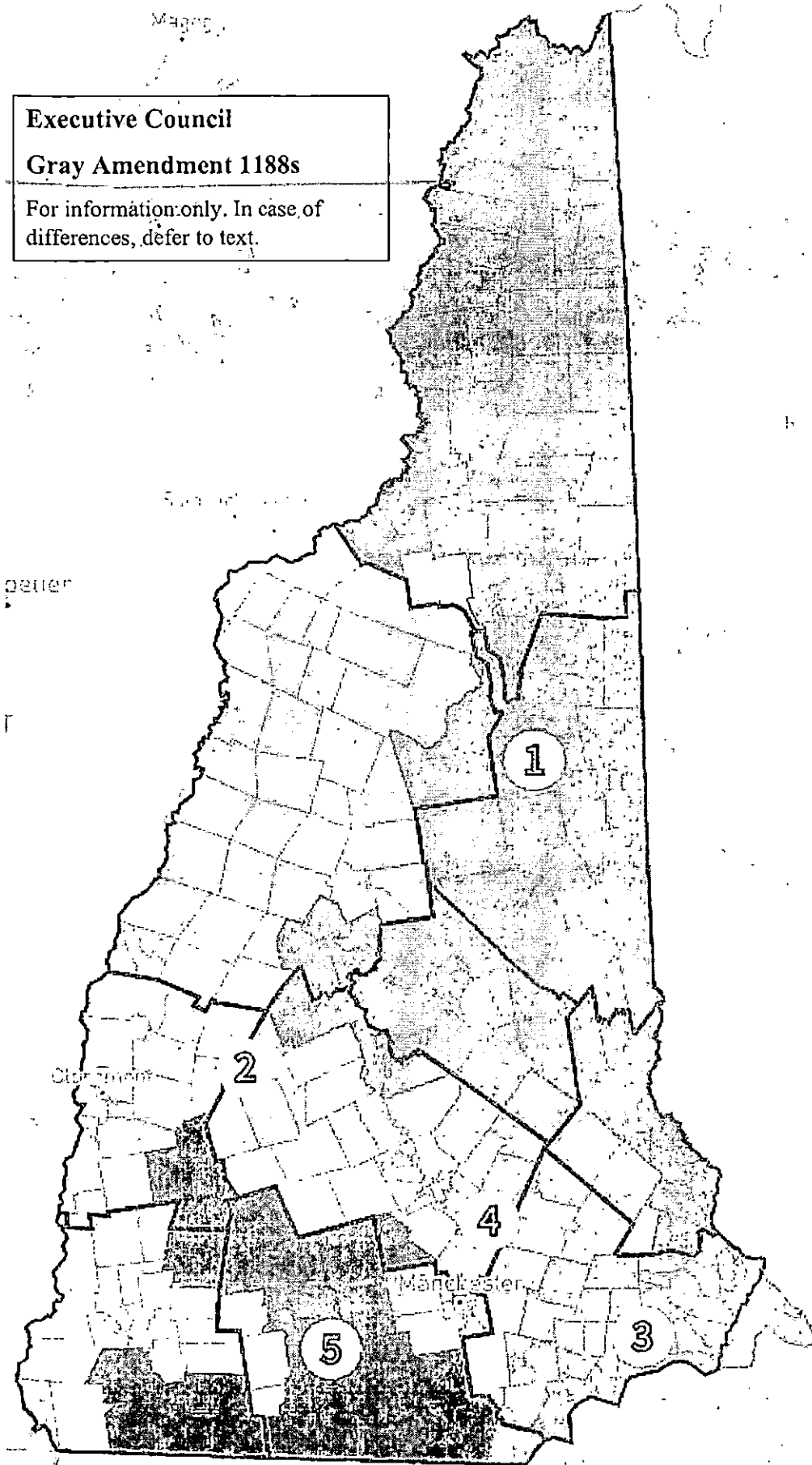
Fair voter representation is the foundation of our democracy; it is my hope that you will vote down SB 240 and 241.

Walter King & Cora Quisumbing-King
Dover NH

Executive Council

Gray Amendment 1188s

For information only. In case of differences, defer to text.



Voting Sheets

**Senate Election Law
& Municipal Affairs Committee
EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD
2022 Session**

Bill **SB 041**

Hearing date: 1/10/22

Executive Session date: 3/7/22

Motion of: IS Vote: 3-2

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Gray, Chair	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ward	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: _____ Vote: _____

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Gray, Chair	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ward	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: _____ Vote: _____

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Gray, Chair	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ward	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Soucy	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reported out by: Sen. Gray

Notes: _____

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SENATE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Monday, March 7, 2022

THE COMMITTEE ON Election Law and Municipal Affairs
to which was referred **SB 241**

AN ACT appportioning executive council districts.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill
BE REFERRED TO INTERIM STUDY

BY A VOTE OF: 3-2

Senator James Gray
For the Committee

Tricia Melillo 271-3077

Docket of SB241

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: apportioning executive council districts.*Official Docket of SB241.:*

Date	Body	Description
12/14/2021	S	To Be Introduced 01/05/2022 and Referred to Election Law and Municipal Affairs; SJ 1
12/20/2021	S	Hearing: 01/10/2022, Room Representatives Hall, SH, 01:00 pm; SC 50
3/7/2022	S	Committee Report: Referred to Interim Study, 03/17/2022; SC 11
3/17/2022	S	Special Order to Next Session, Without Objection, MA; 03/17/2022; SJ 5
3/17/2022	S	Committee Report: Referred to Interim Study, 03/24/2022; SC 12
3/24/2022	S	Refer to Interim Study, MF, VV; 03/24/2022; SJ 6
3/24/2022	S	Sen. Gray Moved Ought to Pass; 03/24/2022; SJ 6
3/24/2022	S	Sen. Gray Floor Amendment #2022-1188s , RC 12Y-10N, AA; 03/24/2022; SJ 6
3/24/2022	S	Sen. Soucy Floor Amendment #2022-1189s , RC 9Y-13N, AF; 03/24/2022; SJ 6
3/24/2022	S	Ought to Pass with Amendment 2022-1188s, MA, VV; OT3rdg; 03/24/2022; SJ 6
3/28/2022	H	Introduced 03/28/2022 and referred to Special Committee on Redistricting
4/6/2022	H	Public Hearing: 04/14/2022 10:30 am LOB 201-203
4/14/2022	H	Executive Session: 04/14/2022 10:30 am LOB 201-203
4/14/2022	H	Majority Committee Report: Ought to Pass (Vote 8-7; RC) HC 15 P. 19
4/14/2022	H	Minority Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2022-1543h RC
4/21/2022	H	Amendment #2022-1543h : AF RC 145-175 04/21/2022 HJ 10
4/21/2022	H	Ought to Pass: MA RC 174-146 04/21/2022 HJ 10
4/29/2022	H	Enrolled (in recess of) 04/21/2022
4/29/2022	S	Enrolled Adopted, VV, (In recess 04/28/2022); SJ 11
5/9/2022	S	Signed by the Governor on 05/06/2022; Chapter 0046; Effective 05/06/2022

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: SB 241 Senate Committee: ELMA

Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside

Final docket found on Bill Status

Bill Hearing Documents: (Legislative Aides)

- Bill version as it came to the committee
- All Calendar Notices
- Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)
- Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing
- Hearing Report

N/A Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office

Committee Action Documents: (Legislative Aides)

All amendments considered in committee (including those not adopted):

- amendment # 11883 - amendment # _____
- amendment # 05125 - amendment # _____
- Executive Session Sheet
- Committee Report

Floor Action Documents: (Clerk's Office)

All floor amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate):

- amendment # 11885 - amendment # _____
- amendment # 11895 - amendment # _____

Post Floor Action: (if applicable) (Clerk's Office)

Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proposed by the committee of conference):

Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)

Governor's Veto Message

All available versions of the bill: (Clerk's Office)

- as amended by the senate
- final version
- as amended by the house

Completed Committee Report File Delivered to the Senate Clerk's Office By:

S. Mendez
Committee Aide

6/1/22
Date

Senate Clerk's Office AK