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October 19, 2021

NH House Special Committee on Redistricting
NH Senate Committee on Redistricting

To all members,

I attended last night's public hearing for Hillsborough County, held in the auditorium of Goffstown High School.

I have reviewed the literature provided by the House committee regarding population changes, as well as the information from the Map A Thon citizen mapping project, both of which I picked up at the meeting last night.

The task before you is not an easy one, and I encourage you to take the time necessary, rather than rushing to meet an arbitrary deadline.

I also strongly encourage all of the members to sit with the data and proposed maps provided by the Map A Thon. It is easily accessible information, and easy to follow and understand which data was used and how, in order to come up with the proposed maps.

In addition, these maps were created by volunteers and citizens of NH, without partisan intent or agenda, and strictly to benefit NH and its citizens. Fair electoral maps will have the added benefit of increasing participation in our democracy.

Last night, one of the speakers from the Map A Thon project offered their assistance and an invitation to share their work with the committees. I strongly believe this is an action that should be taken, an invitation that should be accepted.

On a separate note, I am asking the committees to communicate information about these meetings, most especially dates and times, in a broader public fashion, that will reach the general public. It appeared to me that most of the attendees and speakers last night had received the meeting notification through an organization they were affiliated with. How can we publicize and improve communication about these meetings so that the average person and general public are aware and can attend?

Thank you for your attention and your work on this committee.

Regards,

Barbara Schult