

As a Democrat, I urge the Oregon Legislature to please, **please** seek better balance in representing Oregonians' interests as you seek a new redistricting plan. Oregon is already suffering from one-party rule (doesn't matter whether the dictates come from the left or the right). On top of that, the public employee unions are calling all the shots within the Democratic Party, so Oregon's political health is in deep trouble.

Though I'm a Eugene Democrat, I urge those who will be the "deciders" to forego the usual gerrymandering and set as your priority "what is best for all Oregonians" rather than what is best for us Democrats. Looking at the series of disasters from state government agencies (take your pick) to Portland's political "leadership"...it should be evident to anyone with a pulse that supermajority decision-making only serves special interests at the expense of government competence and fairness to all Oregonians.

So here's the bottom line of my request -- dump the current redistricting plan drawn up by the Democratic "side" (which favors -- gasp -- electing even more Democrats), and make the hard decision to do what is right for the state -- establish a more balanced redistricting plan that better reflects the values of all Oregonians (even us moderates who work and raise families in middle-class neighborhoods), rather than just the values of all those Portland-area social engineers currently in the legislature.

Respectfully,

Dave Fenner  
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