

All Oregonians have a right to expect our vote to matter in choosing our representatives. Each Oregon community has the right to choose representatives who are accountable and reflective of the people who live in their district.

I have been a Democrat for almost 40 years. I live in the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional district. Redistricting is a major tool used by party politicians to manipulate and take away voting rights. Looking at the redistricting proposals it is evident that this is a power play by the Democratic party. This is just not equitable for all Oregonians. Gerrymandering across this country has got to stop. Let Oregon lead the way. Stop this process and support redistricting reform. Specifically, I urge you to support an independent commission to draw district lines through a process that uses objective criteria. Legislators and political parties should not be allowed to draw their own district lines. I believe that, in so doing, politics becomes more divided, special interests get more influence, and my vote matters less. An independent commission will give legitimacy to the process and ensure all voters are represented fairly. I urge you to support redistricting reform. Please be leaders and not power grabbers.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Veysey