

Norwich Meeting of Connecticut Redistricting Commission  
City Hall, 7:00 P.M. 3rd. Floor

### A REDISTRICTING SUGGESTION

In 1974, when I lived in New Jersey, I was a member of Common Cause, and chairman of our Redistricting Taskforce Committee. It took me six years to create a "Balanced Neutral Process" of districting. In 1986 in Indiana, a group of citizens wanted to elect the members of the South Bend School Board. The state Board of Education sought someone to assist and, I volunteered. I prepared several kits with all the data necessary and explained how to proceed. The State Board attorney narrowed the maps submitted down to three plans and finally the state board selected the one they felt most qualified.

In 1991, I got lucky. A districting lawsuit was filed in Terre Haute, Indiana, and, I served as witness for the Plaintiff. My attorney spent an hour and forty-five minutes questioning me. When the defense attorney asked his first question I could not believe my ears. He knew nothing about redistricting. I spent twenty minutes explaining the process of districting. He attacked me and demanded I agree with him, which I refused to do, and finally the court said we had enough. The decision was for the Plaintiff.

Two weeks later I received a phone call from a Terre Haute city employee asking me if I would be interested in districting the city. My plaintiff attorney released me so that I could district the city. I did it and all parties concerned were very pleased.

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In 1998 I moved to New London, Connecticut.

In 2001 I involved myself in the districting process of Connecticut's three districting bodies.

I found the process that was being used by the last Districting Commission to be costly in both money and time. It is my opinion that the Census Bureau which has hundreds of computers could, upon the census completion of each and every state, the Census Bureau, could quickly generate districting maps of each and every voting district in the United States. I believe this would save all of our states hundreds of thousand dollars and hours.

In 2001 the Districting Commission, using a data service company and a law firm costing Two hundred thirty thousand, three hundred twenty dollars and 99 cents, and, eighty thousand dollars, respectively. In addition, all of our elected Senators and Representatives spent many, many, many hours moving districting lines.

I think that our Governor would appreciate saving the sum of \$310,320.99, or more, to help meet our budget in this time of economic difficulties.

In conclusion, I will ask my two United State Senators, my Congressional Representative, my State Senator and my State Representative to reject all Districting plans set down before them by our current Districting Commission.

I hold political gerrymandering as despicable. We the people must step in and rid the curse of gerrymandering.

If my elected representatives accept gerrymandered districts they shall lose my vote.

I shall vote for candidates, who will in the future, eliminate gerrymandering and I ask

“WE THE PEOPLE” to do likewise.

Norman S. Primus  
136 Gardner Avenue  
New London, CT