



TESTIMONY FOR THE CONNECTICUT REAPPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
September 13, 2021

The League of Women Voters of the East Shore urges the Connecticut Reapportionment Committee to take into consideration a number of criteria for redistricting the state. The League of Women Voters has been a champion for fair maps for many years. We believe that it is important that the process for drawing maps be open and transparent to all citizens.

The criteria for fair redistricting that the League supports are:

- Equal size measured by population
- No racial discrimination, intentional or inadvertent
- Contiguity to ensure all parts of a district share boundaries
- Compactness of district shape
- Communities of Interest to ensure common policy concerns
- Competitiveness
- Respect existing political boundaries and maintaining past districts
- Partisan fairness

The League of Women Voters of the East Shore supports changing the make-up of the reapportionment committee to an independent redistricting commission. This allows the voters to select their redistricting representatives rather than the representatives choosing their voters.

The League thanks the Reapportionment Committee for their willingness to hear from the citizens of Connecticut at these public hearings. We hope that you will employ the criteria outlined above to your decisions this year and look to creating an independent redistricting commission for the process in 10 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our comments.

Respectfully submitted by the League of Women Voters of the East Shore Board of Directors.