

Wisconsin Veterans for Fair Maps

As veterans of our country and citizens of Wisconsin, we write today about the urgent need to bring fairness into the redistricting process. Moderates, conservatives, and progressives all believe that gerrymandering is a foundational problem, and one that greatly undermines the very thing we set out to defend, our democracy and republic. When executed in a partisan fashion, gerrymandering undermines the integrity of elections.

We fought and risked our lives to defend this country and the democratic system that makes it great. We believe that a well-functioning democracy makes our nation stronger. Our community is best served by a system where all people can speak and be heard, and where no one is left behind.

The democratic process is how our country solves the problems we face peaceably. The U.S. is now considered a "flawed democracy" by the Democracy Index. If our founding fathers saw the dysfunction occurring now, they would be ashamed. Disenfranchising voters through self-interested gerrymandering, and undermining faith in democracy serves only to cut off our brothers and sisters from the community, and that tradition of working through solutions together.

Unfortunately, there are some who feel differently. There are some who would cut out our fellow Wisconsinites for their own power. And there are some who have sadly been misled by those leaders to think that our neighbors are the enemy when, now more than ever, we need to band together and include every member of our community to move forward as one. A broken democracy hurts both our nation and society. We need leaders who will draw up new maps that don't carry the baggage of unfair lines that have been drawn in the past to split people up and silence their voices.

The Wisconsin Legislature has failed us, and tried to cram unfair maps that greatly skew towards one party and strip away our ability to elect the representatives of our choosing. We now call on our courts to perform their nonpartisan duty and give us fairer maps that represent the state and give voice to all who live here with us.

This is a critical moment in American Democracy and our states' history. As veterans, we fought to save this country from threats abroad. Now we're standing up again to fight to defend our democracy from threats within. We need fair maps that reflect the will of the voters, not the will of career politicians.

Sincerely,

Wisconsin's Concerned Veterans

Zachary Dvorak	Racine	Air Force
Don Pustz	Madison	Army
Thomas Ackerman	Monroe	Army
Alan Green	Plain	Navy
Mark Holbrook	Wisconsin Rapids	Army
George Penn	MADISON	Navy
George Penn	MADISON	Navy
David E Dresser	Wonewoc	Air Force
Andy Jaw	Fitchburg	Air Force
Gary L Mills	Watertown	Army