



October 18, 2017

To the Members of the Community Affairs and Education Committee:

On behalf of Enterprise Republicans, I would like to encourage the committee to support the resolution for redistricting reform. We believe elections that accurately represent the voices of the Hoosier constituents are critical to preserving our democracy and strengthening our communities.

Redistricting reform is good government and good policy. We should draw districts that keep communities of similar interests together so their representatives can fight for things that will help them.

We feel strongly that districts should be drawn with more of a focus on these communities than whether the incumbent legislator is likely to face competition or have to run an aggressive campaign. Elected officials are supposed to represent their constituents, and their constituents represent more than lines on a map.

It is GOOD for legislators to be held accountable by those constituents. It is GOOD for legislators to have to run strong campaigns. This will lead to better constituent services and legislators who are extremely active in and responsive to their communities. In a time when people are more disengaged from politics than ever before, we need to make sure they understand that their voices do matter, and we need them to come to the table.

Finally, we believe as Republicans that competition is a good thing. It brings better ideas, pushes us to work hard and leads to better results. We should not create competitive districts for the sake of competition, but districts shouldn't be drawn in a way that avoids it either. If we focus on these communities of interest, we will naturally have more competitive districts and that will lead to better candidates, legislators and ultimately better public policy.

Simply put, while a lot of the chatter about redistricting reform seems to be coming from the other side of the aisle, we believe passing redistricting reform is the right thing to do because it will create a healthier, more vibrant, more competitive democracy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Megan Robertson  
Executive Director  
Enterprise Republicans