



COMMON SENSE FOR OREGON

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There is a problem in American politics and that problem is Gerrymandering or the practice of reshaping voting boundaries to best benefit a certain party. The Oregonian addressed this in an [editorial](#) and came down in favor of the need for an independent commission to draw up these voting boundaries in the most non partisan way possible. This is your chance as a concerned voter and citizen of Oregon to tell the Oregon Legislature that we need to use common sense in Oregon and create this commission. The only way for us to do this is to get Measure 50 on the ballot. There is a link below to the full text for Measure 50 as well as a link to the petition sheet for you to print off and sign. Please feel free to forward this along to your friends and tell other people you know about the importance of forming this independent commission. Once you have signed it please fold it up and drop it in the mail. We will gladly cover postage for such an important thing.

[Measure 50 Petition](#)

[Text of Independent Redistricting Commission Amendment](#)

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Summary:

Redistricting – or reapportionment – is the process of re-drawing the lines for legislative districts. Redistricting occurs every ten years in Oregon, and is supposed to allow legislative district boundaries to be redrawn in order to account for changes in a state's population.

Redistricting is supposed to be a non-partisan process, and is supposed to ensure that districts are drawn as fairly as

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Redistricting is supposed to be a non-partisan process, and is supposed to ensure that districts are drawn as fairly as possible.

In Oregon, legislative districts are currently drawn by legislators themselves, which creates an obvious conflict of interest. Instead of drawing legislative districts fairly, politicians draw districts to guarantee their re-election, and the election of their fellow party members. A process that is supposed to be fair and non-partisan is now controlled by self-interested partisan politicians who ignore the basic tenets of fairness in order to enhance their own political power.

The Independent Redistricting Commission Amendment eliminates the conflict of interest and self-dealing by politicians by creating a non-partisan commission of retired judges – appointed by the chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court – who are responsible for drawing the boundaries for Oregon’s legislative districts. By having judges – and not politicians – draw the lines, the Independent Redistricting Commission Amendment eliminates the conflict of interest that exists in the current system, and guarantees a fair process for all Oregonians.

It is time to eliminate the politicians’ conflict of interest. It is time to adopt the Independent Redistricting Commission Amendment.

Instructions:

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in your petition:

1. Only the person who actually prints the petition sheet can sign the petition sheet. In other words, you cannot print off multiple copies of this petition for your friends and family. Each person that signs one of these E-Petitions must physically press "PRINT" on the computer and sign the petition he/she printed;
2. Be sure to fill in all the information at the bottom of the page. However – **DO NOT FILL IN THE SPACE ENTITLED "SHEET NUMBER"; THAT IS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY;**
3. The petition is a "self mailer". That is, the postage is already pre-paid. All you have to do is sign the petition, fill out the information, fold the petition and mail it in. We have to pay for each piece that is mailed, so if you are feeling generous, feel free to attach a stamp to the outside of the petition as well;
4. The petition sheet will print so that you can fold the petition into thirds in order to mail the petition. After folding the petition, please use **A PIECE OF TAPE** to secure the petition – **PLEASE DO NOT USE STAPLES;**
5. Feel free to email this E-Newsletter to your own **EMAIL** lists and ask your friends and family to sign this petition and bring real change to Oregon!

Thank you again for all your support. Please keep an eye out in the very near future for additional E-Newsletters with additional petitions for you to support.

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2007 State Street
Salem, Oregon 97301
info@commonsensefororegon.org
503-480-0523

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