We believe Oregon voters should choose their representatives.

Representatives should not choose their voters.

www.PeopleNotPoliticiansOregon.com
The **People Not Politicians Campaign** is proposing a statewide ballot initiative for Oregon’s November 2020 General Election.

We need to **act now** to make sure the process for drawing new district boundaries is fair and transparent.
The Importance of the U.S. Census

- Required by the U.S. Constitution every ten years.
- Collects population data
- Used to distribute federal funds, grants, and support states, counties, and communities
- Over $675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs are based on population data
The Current Oregon Redistricting System

Oregon uses the Legislative Redistricting Model to draw district lines, which uses a very similar process to how bills are passed through the legislature.
How We Redistrict in Oregon: Deadlines given in the Oregon Constitution

*April 1*
US Census Data becomes available

*July 1*
Deadline for Legislature to enact redistricting plan

If Legislature enacts plan

**August 1**
Deadline to petition Supreme Court to review legislative plan

If no petition is filed, plan takes effect on September 1

**September 1**
Deadline for Supreme Court to dismiss petition if plan meets legal requirements

If petition is dismissed, plan takes effect September 1

**September 15**
Supreme Court directs Secretary of State to correct plan

**November 1**
Secretary of State returns corrected plan to Supreme Court

**November 15**
Supreme Court must completely review and make necessary corrections

Plan enacted November 15

If Legislature fails to enact plan

**August 15**
Secretary of state must prepare and file plan with Supreme Court

If no petition is filed, plan takes effect on September 15

**September 15**
Deadline to petition Supreme Court to review secretary of State’s plan

If a petition is filed

**October 15**
Deadline for Supreme Court to dismiss petition if plan meets legal requirements

If petition is dismissed, plan takes effect October 15

**November 1**
Supreme Court directs secretary of State to correct plan

**December 1**
Secretary of State must file corrected plan with Supreme Court

**December 15**
Supreme Court must review and make necessary corrections

Plan enacted December 15
The Commission Model

There are many different forms depending on the state, but their creators share the common goal of reducing the potential for partisan, bipartisan, incumbent-protection, or other types of gerrymandering.

- 5 states use an advisory commission
- 7 states use an independent commission as a backup
- 2 states use an independent commission
- 2 states use a politician commission
- 9 States use a political appointee commission
Challenges of the Current Process

- Currently, the Oregon Constitution gives the Legislature authority to draw district lines. This means that Legislators hold the power to choose their voters, rather than voters choosing their legislators.

- Majority party legislators to draw lines to their advantage and to the disadvantage of minority party and third-party candidates.

- Leadership of the majority party uses the redistricting process to reward or punish rank and file members of both parties.

- Despite recent advances, Oregon communities of color are underrepresented by elected representatives that share their lived experiences.

- Major parties are incentivized to work together to protect incumbents over the interests of third parties, minority communities, and outside candidates.
Why do we need redistricting reform? Why now?

• As we approach the next redistricting cycle in 2021, it’s more important than ever before that states take steps to ensure a fair and transparent redistricting process.

• Major population growth will likely lead to the addition of a sixth congressional district after the 2020 U.S Census, resulting in significant shifts in district boundaries in addition to the constitutionally required decennial redistricting following the census.

• The U.S. Supreme Court recently left the fight for redistricting reform to the states, so we can’t rely on federal courts to protect Oregonians from partisan gerrymandering.
The Applicant Review Panel

Will be created by: Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings, shall select from a pool of Oregon Administrative Law Judges to sit on the applicant review panel in order to screen applicants for the commission with these requirements:

- The 1 who has been registered for at least two years with the largest political party in this state
- The 1 who has been registered for at least two years with the 2nd largest political party in this state
- The 1 who has not been registered within the last two years with either of the two parties above
Conflicts of interest from the applicant pool will be removed if they are or were related to an immediate family member who was in the last 4 years:

- Appointed or elected to, or ran as a candidate for, a federal or statewide office.
- An officer, employee or paid consultant of a political party or of a campaign committee.
- An elected or appointed member of a political party central committee.
- A registered federal, state or local lobbyist.
- A paid employee of the Legislature, Congress, or executive branch.
The Selection of Commissioners

The applicant review panel will narrow down the applicants into three pools:

A. 50 applicants who are registered with the largest political party
B. 50 applicants who are registered with the second largest political party
C. 50 applicants who are not registered with either of the two largest political parties

In public the Secretary will then randomly draw 6 names to serve as commissioners as follows:

A. 2 from the largest political party
B. 2 from the second largest political party
C. And 2 who are not registered with either parties
The Selection of Last Commissioners

Then the first 6 commissioners that were selected will review the remaining applicants for balance and skills, and by a supermajority, vote for the 6 remaining commissioners as follows:

- 2 from the largest political party
- 2 from the second largest political party
- And 2 who are not registered with either of the two largest parties

The commission will then select a Chair and Vice Chair and start the process of gathering public input and redrawing district lines.
How It Works

- Amends constitution
- Oregonians apply to serve on commission
- Applicant review panel nominates finalists
- 12 Oregonians are chosen
- 10 Public hearings held
- Maps drawn and adopted by majority
Commission’s Required Criteria

- Comply with the U.S. Constitution and Voting Rights Act
- Achieve population equality per member elected
- Be geographically contiguous

To the extent practicable, redistricting maps shall:

- Achieves both partisan fairness and competitiveness;
- Preserve geographic integrity
- Establish district boundaries that follow permanent and easily recognizable geographic features;
GOALS OF REFORM
Increase transparency and public participation

- Create an open and transparent process encouraging full public participation, allowing the public to attend meetings, provide input and comments on the mapping process.

- All work and data will be public record.

- Multi-partisan and majority vote of commissioners required for maps to be adopted

- Prevent partisan legislators, special interest lobbyists, party leaders and political strategists and staff from influencing the process.
Create positive impact for all Oregonians

- Balanced leadership, focused on equal representation by their elected officials.

- Greater opportunity for under-represented communities like low-income Oregonians, persons of color, rural Oregonians and seniors to elect a representative of their choice.

- Better geographic, economic, social, community and political diversity of elected officials

- Elect legislators who are more representative of their districts, with incentive to work effectively to enact policy that Oregonians want.
CAMPAIGN EFFORTS
Campaign Ins & Outs

• Constitutional Amendment: Will require 149,360 valid signatures by July 2, 2020 to qualify for November 3, 2020 ballot

• In 2018, California and Colorado adopted similar versions to the Oregon proposal. Eleven other states have implemented Independent Redistrict Commissions.

• Continually developing and growing coalition of good government groups, influential individuals, current and former legislators and elected leaders, the business community, rural Oregonians, representatives from multiple Parties, and more, who support this effort.
GET INVOLVED
What’s Next?

✓ Donate to the Coalition
✓ Share the Coalition information with others
✓ Sign up on our website to volunteer
✓ Invite someone from the coalition to speak to your groups

Questions?
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