



**We believe Oregon voters should choose their politicians—politicians should not get to choose their voters.**





The **People Not Politicians Campaign** is proposing a series of statewide ballot initiatives 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 Current Oregon Redistricting System

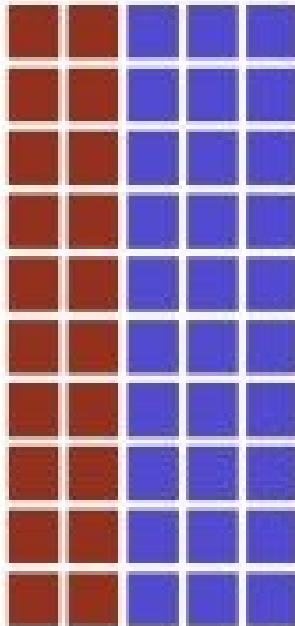
Oregon uses the **Legislative Redistricting Model** to draw district lines, which uses a very similar process to how bills are passed through the legislature.



# Gerrymandering, explained

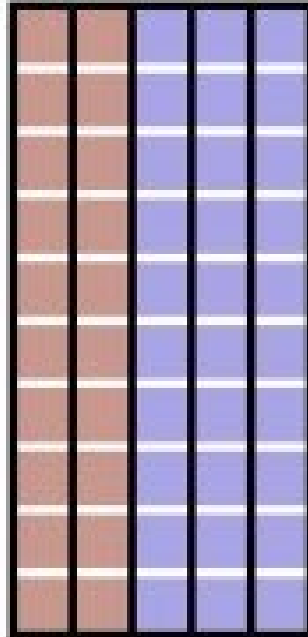
Three different ways to divide 50 people into five districts

50  
people



**60% blue,  
40% red**

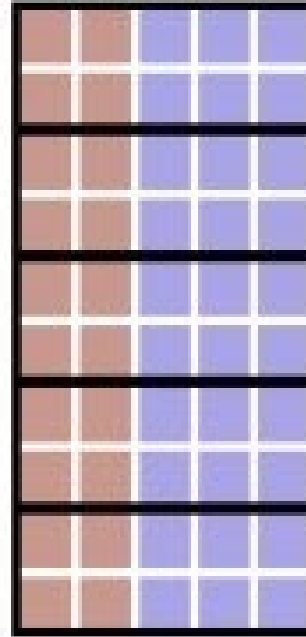
1. Perfect  
representation



**3 blue districts,  
2 red districts**

**BLUE WINS**

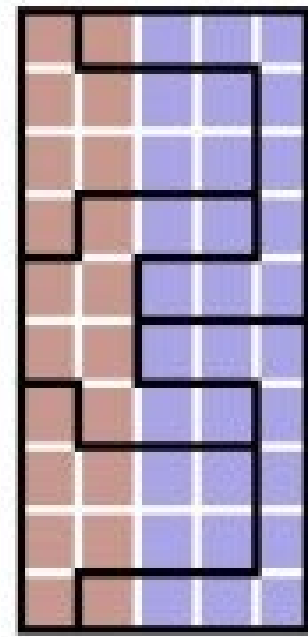
2. Compact,  
but unfair



**5 blue districts,  
0 red districts**

**BLUE WINS**

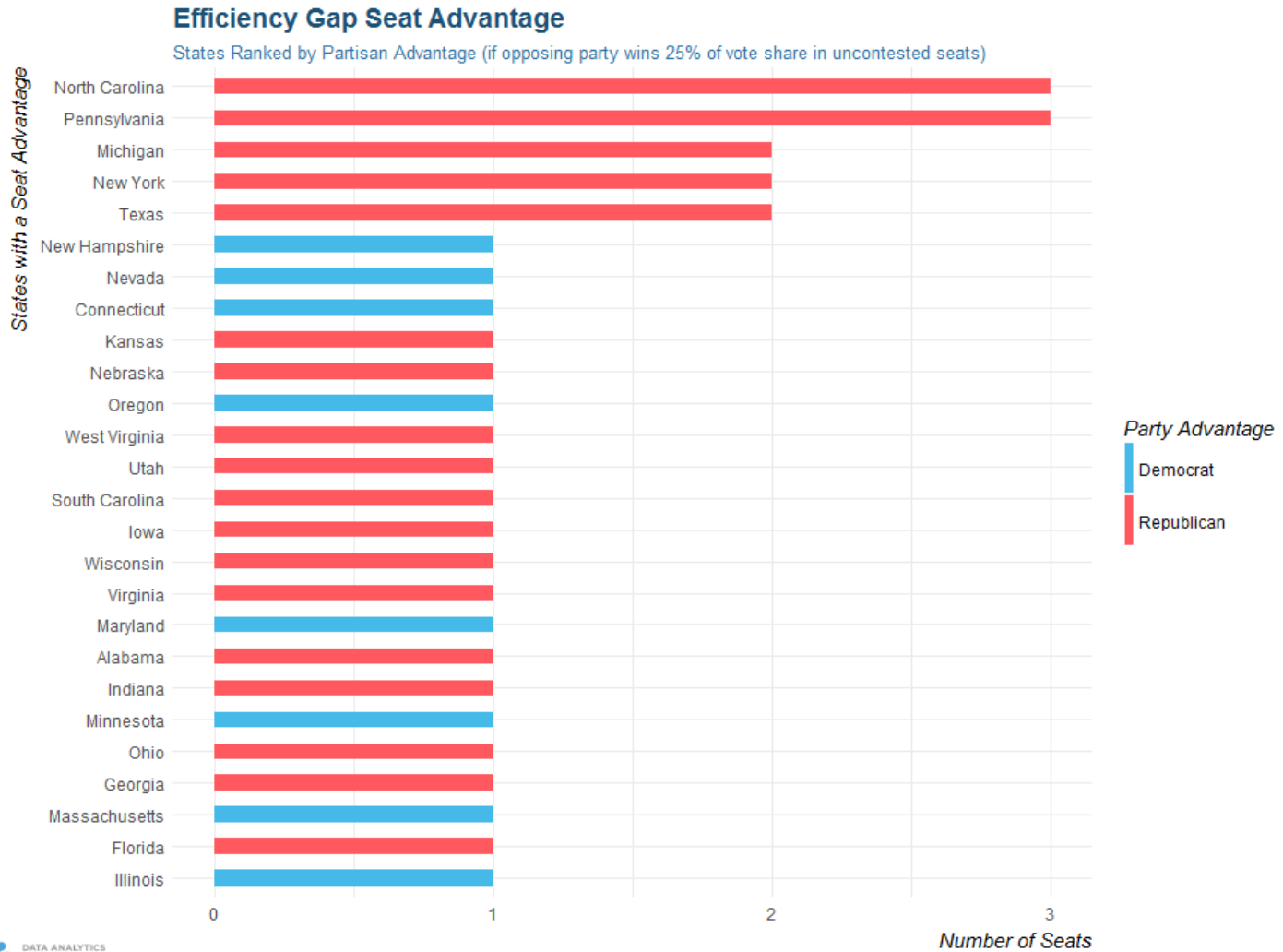
3. Neither compact  
nor fair



**2 blue districts,  
3 red districts**

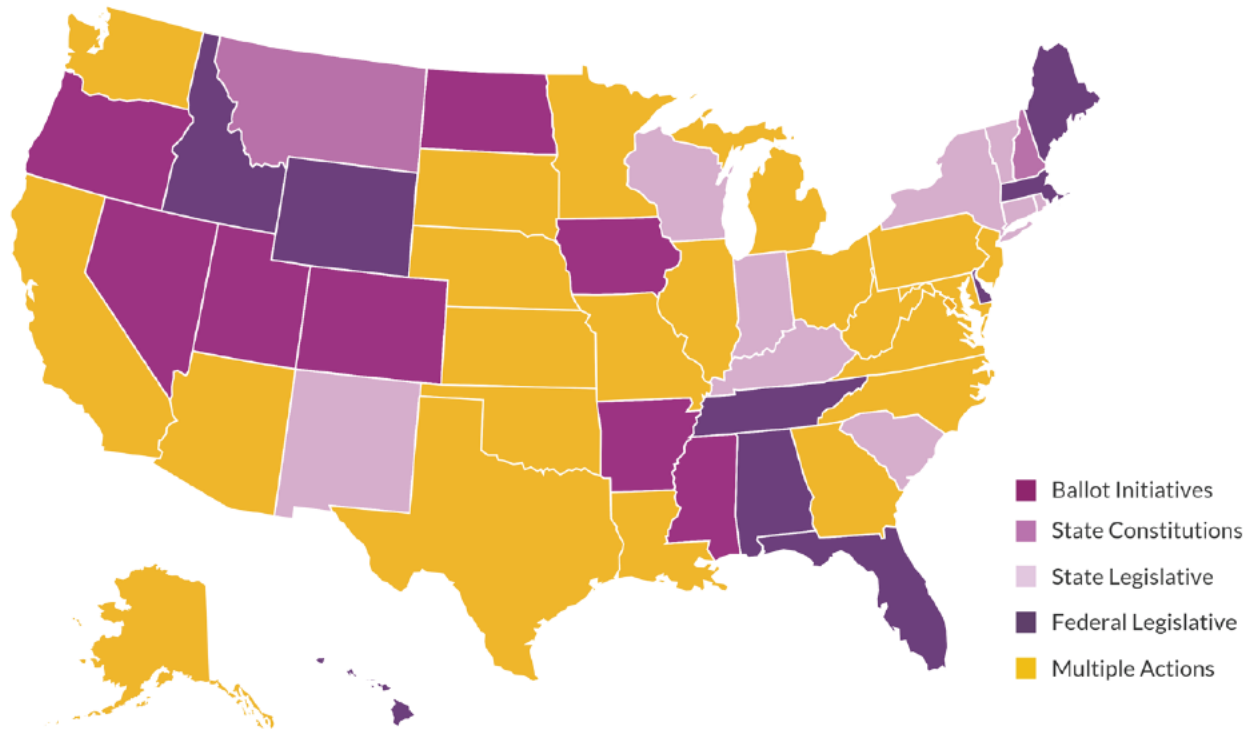
**RED WINS**

# The Efficiency Gap



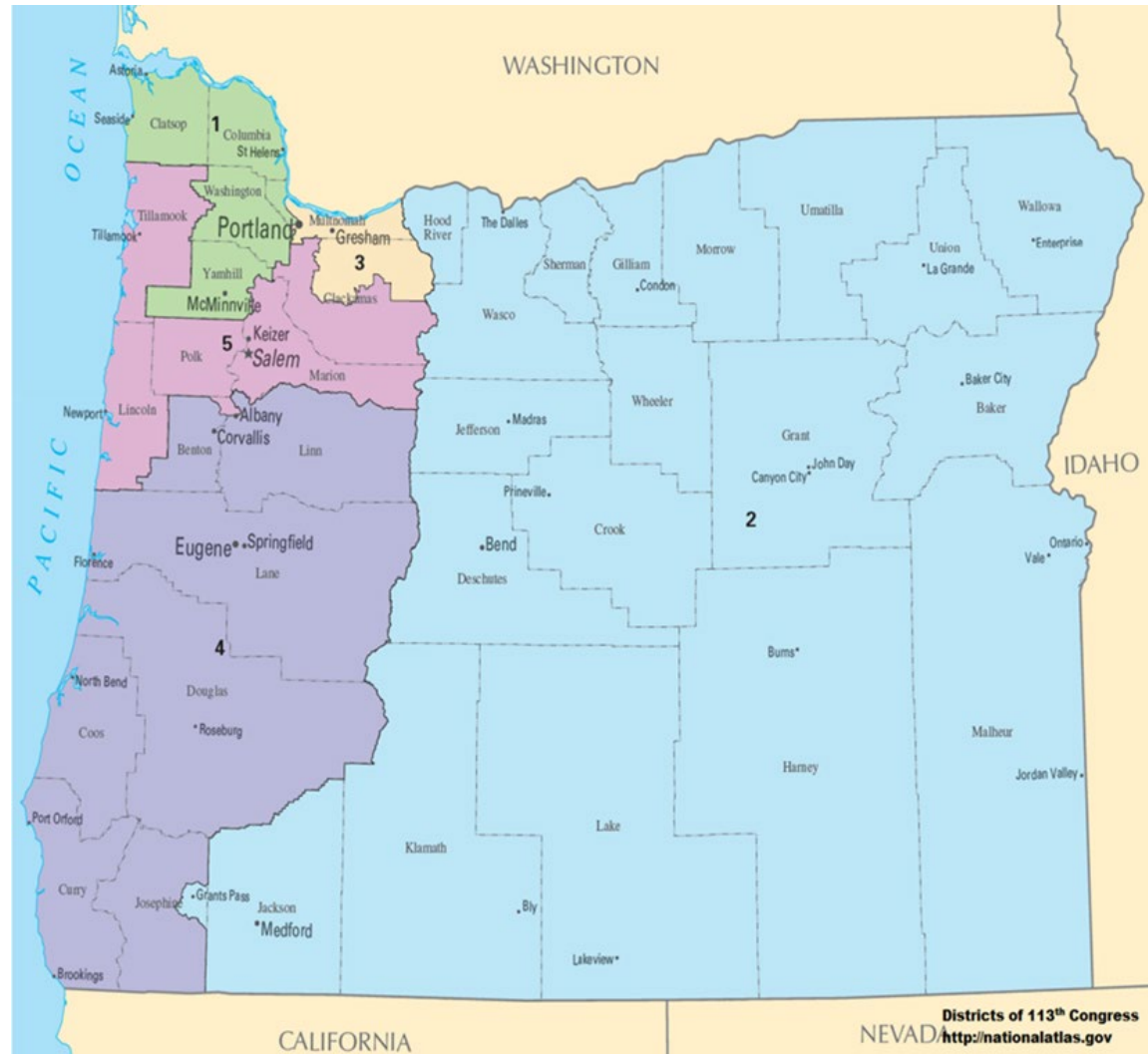
# Reform Efforts Across the Nation

People Powered Fair Maps™ is a national redistricting program of the League of Women Voters focused on creating fair political maps nationwide. The program includes actions in all 50 states + D.C.



# Oregon Redistricting History

Before **2011**, the last time the Oregon Legislature passed a redistricting plan that became the final adopted plan was **1911**.



# Current Process Problems



- Majority party legislators 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.
- Partisan conflict in a split legislature and/or executive can lead to an inefficient process and a failure to create a map by the deadline



# Why do we need reform now?



## Because...

- Politicians have an inherent conflict of interest in this process
- The process should prevent from partisan, bipartisan, and incumbent-protecting gerrymandering opportunity
- Independence of a commission keeps redistricting from becoming a bargaining chip
- Voters cannot hold their representatives accountable if politicians are choosing who their voters are.

# What is an Independent Commission?



Two key questions to ask:

1. How are members are selected?
2. How is the decision made to adopt the plan?

**An Independent commission** is composed of individuals who are neither legislators nor other public officials and who are selected after a screening process conducted by an independent entity. Legislators may not serve on the commission.

# Our Reform



## **A Fair Process Benefits Everyone**

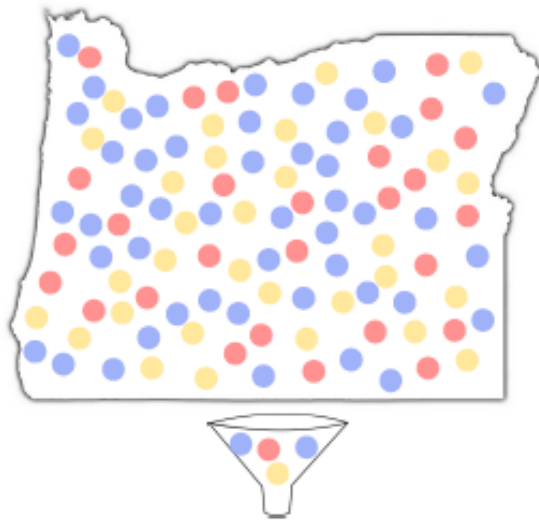
Oregon's 2021 redistricting should be fair,  
impartial, and transparent.

# Screening Commission Applicants

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 four years:

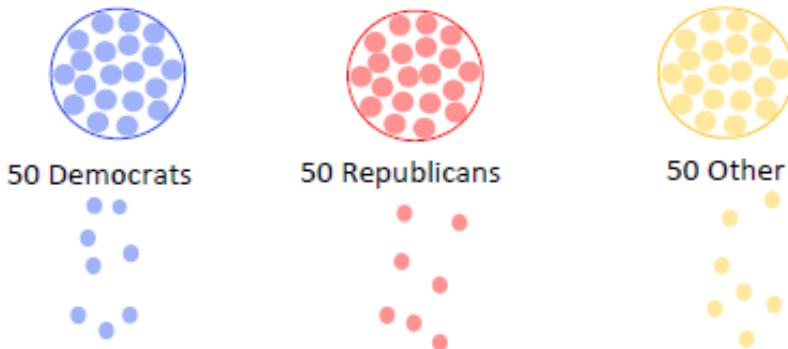
- Appointed or elected to, or ran as a candidate for, a federal or statewide office.
- An officer, employee or paid consultant of a political party or of a campaign committee
- An elected or appointed member of a political party central committee.
- A registered federal, state or local lobbyist.
- A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

# 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

**Review Panel nominates 150 finalists**



**12 Member Oregon Citizens Redistricting Commission**  
2 Dems, 2 Reps, 2 other selected randomly



2 Dems, 2 Reps, 2 other selected for balance and diversity



# 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:**

- Preserve geographic integrity
- Establish district boundaries that follow permanent and easily recognizable geographic features
- Achieve competitiveness



# 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.



# How Can Oregon Enact Redistricting Reform?

- You will need to download, print, and sign the petition or email [sign@peoplenotpoliticiansoregon.com](mailto:sign@peoplenotpoliticiansoregon.com) to get one mailed to your household.
- The signature sheet must be printed on 20 pound, 8 1/2 x 11", uncoated white paper – the type of paper you likely already have in your printer
- You are both the circulator and the signer!



# What's Next?

- ✓ Visit the People not Politicians website for more info:  
[www.PeopleNotPoliticiansOregon.com](http://www.PeopleNotPoliticiansOregon.com)
- ✓ Join your local League today
- ✓ Invite us to virtually speak to your groups or help us run a webinar in your area to outreach to voters
- ✓ Like, follow, and share the People Powered Fair Maps campaign and LWVOR on social media

Questions? [Candalynn@lwvor.org](mailto:Candalynn@lwvor.org)