



The League of Women Voters of California urges you to

DECLINE TO SIGN

Petitions are being circulated by groups challenging newly adopted state Senate and congressional district maps

The purpose of the petitions circulated by a group that calls itself Fairness and Accountability in Redistricting (“FAIR”) is to force referenda next year on the state Senate and congressional maps drawn by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, the independent body which draws legislative districts for Congress, the state Senate, state Assembly and Board of Equalization.

This nonpartisan commission drew the new districts using U.S. census data and input from communities across California. They applied ranked criteria from the California constitution to assure population equality, respect for the federal Voting Rights Act, geographic contiguity, and respect for cities, counties and communities of interest, making the districts compact and nested when it was possible. The districts were not drawn to favor or disfavor political parties, candidates or elected officials. Consideration of relationships with political parties, incumbents, and candidates or the addresses of incumbents or candidates was strictly forbidden.

The League of Women Voters supports a state redistricting process and standards that promote fair and effective representation in the state legislature and in the House of Representatives with maximum opportunity for public scrutiny. We support an independent commission as the preferred redistricting body. We believe the Citizens Redistricting Commission’s maps and processes meet these standards and the criteria in the state Constitution and should be upheld.

We urge you to join with the League and “Decline to Sign” the petitions that are currently circulating.

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