



THE
**CHICAGO
BAR
ASSOCIATION**



**ILLINOIS STATE
BAR ASSOCIATION**

December 15, 2021

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Elizabeth Hernandez
The Honorable Omar Aquino
Illinois General Assembly
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Representative Elizabeth Hernandez and Senator Omar Aquino:

On behalf of The Chicago Bar Association and the Illinois State Bar Association, we are writing to share the following joint statements from our Associations as you and your Redistricting Committees work to redistrict judicial subcircuits.

The CBA and ISBA believe the quality of the administration of justice in our courts is determined by the qualifications, experiences, and integrity of our judges. Therefore, enacting a map that reflects the broad racial and geographic diversity of Cook County and promotes diversity of judicial candidates, is critical to the administration of justice in Illinois.

The CBA and ISBA believe that enacting a map that will encourage citizens to participate in judicial subcircuit voting is crucial to the administration of justice in Illinois. Therefore, subcircuit boundaries need to be easily understood by voters. To educate voters, resources like the judicial evaluations done by both the CBA and ISBA are available to help our electorate make informed decisions in judicial races.

The CBA and ISBA believe that enacting a map that reflects an awareness of the allocation of attorneys living in the subcircuit is important to the administration of justice in Illinois. In some of the original subcircuits there were areas where no lawyers resided. This caused candidates to move there to run for judge. This defeats the whole purpose of having representation from the actual subcircuit population.

The CBA and ISBA urge the General Assembly to consider these statements as you evaluate redistricting the Cook County Subcircuit Districts pursuant to Public Act 101-0477.

Sincerely,

E. Lynn Grayson

E. Lynn Grayson
President
The Chicago Bar Association

Anna Krolikowska

Anna Krolikowska
President
Illinois State Bar Association