

To the Honorable members of the House and Senate redistricting committee,

Please consider looking at the map again and rethinking them.

Although meeting the population requirement, these proposed maps are not fair and honest to the citizens of Illinois. It is vital that communities of interest and geographical areas well as "like" communities such as rural communities, urban communities should be in one District as much as possible.

It is not fair to spread a District from Cook County out into Will, Kankakee, Grundy, and other areas in a manner in which the majority of the vote is within the Cook County limits making it nearly impossible to get a representative elected for the District from anywhere else. The best representative for the people are those who live within the community or near a community - the proposed maps are extended to such extremes that there is no representation for "like" communities.

It is not fair to the residents of Cook County who deserve to have a representative that represents their needs and interests. When a District is extended out the elected representative CANNOT give each of them a voice - and many areas of Cook County NEED a representative that is able to focus on their needs and not be distracted by the needs of a District that is not compact.

As quoted by Senator Aquino to CBS -

“Redistricting is about making sure all voices are heard, and that’s exactly what this map accomplishes,” state Sen. Omar Aquino, a Chicago Democrat, said in a statement accompanying the release Friday evening. Aquino is chair of the Senate’s redistricting committee. “This is a fair map that reflects the great diversity of our state and ensures every person receives equal representation in the General Assembly.” Well while the map might draw all people from diverse communities together it certainly does not give ANY person equal representation.

Re-draw the maps so that they respect not only a population requirement but also keep it compact to communities can have a representative that is connected to their community and understands their needs.

Respectfully,

Judy Ogalla  
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