Jamie Smith <jamie0335@att.net> Mon, Apr 5, 8:07 AM (7 days ago) to RedistrictingCommittee@hds.ilga.gov

I am a strong proponent of 'Fair Maps' legislation and believe 2021 redistricting can go a long way to set an example for effective strategies.

Under the circumstances, with the delayed census data, there are several steps the legislature can take:

Create a template for a bipartisan/non-partisan map commission, including participant qualifications.

Recruit members for the commission from the general public.

Select members for the commission in such a way that the entire state is represented and there is a balance of political and non-political interests.

Pass legislation that temporarily extends the date for completion of the map until September 1. Mandate the use of the census data provided by federal government in August for the maps. Provide funding for expedited ballot printing where needed so that counties can begin early voting and mail-in voting in a timely fashion.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute my ideas,

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