

## Redistricting 2011

### Reading and Resource List

#### Redistricting Basics:

- [Basic Redistricting terms and definitions](#): a website that has a well organized glossary dealing with redistricting terms. (Browse the rest of the website for more information and interactive tools)
- [Redistricting 101](#): Free to download, the powerpoint explains the basics of redistricting and how citizens can get involved.
- [Statement on Essential Principles on Redistricting](#) agreed to by attendees of the Pocantico Redistricting Conference.

#### Reading Resources:

- [Re-Drawing Michigan](#), a special report by The Center for Michigan, shows how redistricting pre-determines many election results and often leaves voters without competitive choice at the polls.
- The **Brennan Center's** newly updated *A Citizen's Guide to Redistricting*, [available for free download here](#), provides an excellent refresher course for beginners as well as experts, and includes helpful state-specific information on all things redistricting.
- The **National Conference of State Legislators** has made many materials available online. Visit [their dedicated redistricting web page](#) to see what legislators and other key stakeholders are saying and reading as they prepare for the redistricting process.
- **NAACP Legal Defense Fund's** comprehensive guide, [The Impact of Redistricting in Your Community](#), provides easy-to-understand information about the importance of public input in the redistricting process, with a special emphasis on why the involvement of the minority community is so critical. Published in conjunction with the Asian American Justice Center and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.
- [Redrawing the Lines](#), NAACP LDF's redistricting website, is another good resource on the importance of redistricting to minority communities and protections of the Voting Rights Act.

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#### **Tools to Use:**

- [Draw the Line Michigan](#), website of The Michigan Redistricting Collaborative, provides resources for learning about redistricting, upcoming educational events, and ways to get involved.
- [Sample Redistricting Transparency Legislation](#), available from the Campaign Legal Center, provides useful guidance and sample language for Leagues interested in advocating for more open redistricting processes in their states.
- **U.S. Census Bureau Reapportionment Data** will be available for all states in early 2011. Visit the [Census Bureau redistricting page](#) to learn more about the data that will be used to draw legislative districts in your state.
- [Public Mapping Project](#), a site sponsored by George Mason University and other key stakeholders, provides a range of resources including up-to-date summaries of the redistricting landscape in key states as well as information about the District Builder software, now available in prototype form to nonprofits and the media.
- [Redistricting the Nation](#) is a Mapping website that allows everyone to make their own districts. Programs such as this have been used in Iowa and other states to make the redistricting process less partisan.
- “[Gerrymandering](#),” a movie that is garnering a great deal of attention among activists, lawmakers, and citizens, is now being screened in theaters nationwide. Visit the movie website for a [schedule of past and upcoming screenings](#). If you are interested in organizing a special public screening, contact [LWVMI](#) or [the filmmakers](#).
- [How to Draw Redistricting Plans that will Stand up in Court](#), a comprehensive “how-to” planning tool developed by Peter S. Wattson, Minnesota Senate Staff Counsel, will help legislators and advocates alike as they begin to navigate the complexities of Census data in the coming weeks.
- **Michigan Law on Redistricting Plans:**  
[Congressional redistricting:](#) MCL 3.61-3.64  
[State Senate and House redistricting:](#) MCL 4.261-4.265  
[County Commission redistricting:](#) MCL 46.401-46.408; [Charter Counties:](#) MCL 45.505