

April 4, 2024

Dear Committee Administrator Amanda Rudolph,

I am writing in support of Minnesota HF 4593, which will be presented to the State and Local Government Finance and Policy Committee on Thursday, April 4th. This proposal gives the people of Minnesota the option to vote on the 2024 general election ballot to amend the state constitution to establish an Independent Redistricting Committee (IRC).

This would transfer the authority of the redistricting process from self-interested politicians to the people of Minnesota. An IRC would establish a fair and impartial method for redrawing districts. HF 4593 should guarantee unbiased map drawing, free from the influence or interference of politicians aiming to manipulate districts for their benefit. They should operate transparently through an open process and be guided by established rules to ensure fairness and transparency.

The overarching goal is to create a system that better mirrors the varied needs and perspectives of Minnesotans in communities across the state.

This bill could end gerrymandering here and now.

A fair redistricting process is transparent and accountable, representative of our communities, ends gerrymandering, and values the people's voices. I ask that as our representatives consider the proposal, they include their constituents in the process, maintaining a transparent, open, and accessible process. Public hearings, open comment periods, and other avenues that empower citizens to contribute to the decision-making process are vital to the legislative process.

I wholeheartedly support including the question on the 2024 general election ballot to amend the state constitution to establish an Independent Redistricting Committee.

Let's end gerrymandering in our wonderful state once and for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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