

## **Build a 2030 Redistricting Checklist**

Wednesday, Aug. 7 | 10:45 AM-12:00 PM

KICC, 1, M109/110

### Types of Commissions:

- 1) Primary
  - a. Autonomous commissions have authority to prepare redistricting plans
    - i. In ten states, a redistricting commission has the power to independently establish both congressional and legislative maps: California, Colorado, Michigan, Arizona, Montana, Idaho, Hawaii, Washington, New Jersey, and Virginia.
    - ii. Commissions have the power to draw legislative maps in an additional five states: Pennsylvania, Missouri, Alaska, Ohio, and Arkansas.
- 2) Backup
  - a. Connecticut, Indiana, and Ohio
- 3) Advisory
  - a. Iowa, New Mexico, Utah, and New York (Governors set up their own advisory commissions in Maryland and Wisconsin)

### Compositions of Commissions:

- 1) Politician
- 2) Citizen
- 3) Mixed
- 4) Balanced Partisanship/Independents?

### Magnitude of Commission

- 1) California: 14
- 2) Michigan: 13
- 3) Virginia: 16
- 4) Arizona: 5
- 5) Washington: 4

### Requirements for public hearings and feedback on proposed maps

Thresholds of Support for Final Plan Adoption: Should it be a simple majority, a majority of each party/independent, unanimous?

### Involvement of the Legislature:

- 1) No involvement
- 2) Can make changes
- 3) Can only vote up or down

1. Fully Independent Citizen Commissions: California, Colorado, and Michigan

2. Independent Politically-Appointed Citizen Commissions: Arizona, Montana, Idaho, Hawaii, Washington, and New Jersey (also Pennsylvania and Missouri for legislative only) [There are other commissions states that do not really fit into this category, like Arkansas and Alaska]
3. Hybrid: Ohio and Virginia

Rules for the selection of commissioners:

- citizen commissioners are selected through a nonpartisan office
- lottery
- judges
- or some combination thereof

Criteria: Traditional Districting Principles, other criteria such as racial balance or partisan favoritism

Role of Courts: What happens if a commission fails? Who draws the map?

Costs: How should the commission be funded? When does the commission commence and when is its work completed?

Staffing: What kind of staff should the commission employ? Does each party get its own staff? Do staff stay in perpetuity? What kind of compensation should members and staff get?

Conclusions

- CLC: These commissions did not all look or function similarly, nor did they all achieve fair maps
- Wang and Zippy: “We conclude that a successful redistricting commission requires three critical components: (1) a citizen-led commission with final authority, (2) a balanced bipartisan process with multiple nonpartisan actors, and (3) the final authority of the judiciary to adjudicate between alternatives or draw their own lines.”

REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS IN THE 2021 REDISTRICTING CYCLE: CASE STUDIES AND LESSONS LEARNED FOR 2031 AND BEYOND

<https://campaignlegal.org/press-releases/new-clc-report-best-practices-redistricting-commissions-achieve-fair-representation>

- Truly independent and insulated from legislative and other political influence;
- Vested with the full authority of redistricting;
- Made up entirely of citizen commissioners who are broadly representative of the diversity of their state;
- Evenly split between the primary political party, secondary political party, and independents;

- Large enough to disperse responsibilities, encourage collaboration and compromise, and prevent one or two outlier commissioners from derailing the process;
- Made up of commissioners empowered to understand and make decisions regarding the complexities of redistricting;
- Assisted by trustworthy and knowledgeable staff and advisors, selected through a process designed to give commissions a broad base of options;
- Guided by clearly defined and ranked criteria protective of the rights of every voter;
- Making decisions and drawing maps with processes aimed toward building consensus as opposed to rewarding contention;
- Redistricting through a participatory, inclusive, and transparent process;
- Required to demonstrate how the final maps incorporate public input; and
- Ensuring the enactment of fair maps through a clear, specific fallback mechanism.