

Public Submission to the West Virginia Legislature Joint Committee on Redistricting

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ROBERT L. SHAFER, MAYOR

August 2, 2021

House Majority Leader Brent Boggs and fellow committee members:

First, I welcome you to the City of Summersville and thank you for allowing us to host one of your redistricting meetings. Unfortunately, I am unable to be with you this evening, as I'm attending the West Virginia Municipal League Annual Conference at Oglebay Park.

I respectfully submit to you that I have thoroughly reviewed the current districts and as we all know, without the final 2020 census numbers it's all but a guess what changes will need to be made. I, however, do want to speak to the importance and priority of citizens being fairly represented.

The change I would advocate for strongly would be that of single member districts, making it equal representation for all of our state's citizens regardless of location.

Our great state's Constitution Article 2, Section 4 – Equal Representation: Every citizen shall be entitled to equal representation in the government, and, in all apportionments of representation, equality of numbers of those entitled thereto, shall as far as practicable, be preserved.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to the outcome of your work product.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Shafer'.

Robert Shafer, Mayor
City of Summersville

