

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN INDEPENDENT  
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION FOR THE STATE OF INDIANA**

WHEREAS, the geographic boundary lines of voting districts, both federal and state, within Indiana are by law periodically redrawn by the Indiana State legislature to balance the voting population numbers within voting districts;

WHEREAS, voting district geographic boundary lines drawn by the majority political party in power at the time are often drawn primarily to favor that political party while discounting the integrity of the boundaries of cities and neighborhoods, resulting in a phenomenon called "gerrymandering";

WHEREAS, partisan gerrymandering of voting districts undermines competitive, democratically robust, and non-discriminatory elections;

WHEREAS, the provisions expressed in the Voting Rights Act and the concept that voters should choose their legislators rather than legislators choosing their voters should be guiding principles in the processes of the drawing of voting district lines; and

WHEREAS, the process of redistricting in Indiana should be conducted in a public process with an opportunity for input from cities and other political subdivisions as well as the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, that we urge the legislators of the State of Indiana to establish by law an independent redistricting commission, the make-up of which would include an equal number of representatives of the major political parties in the state as well as a number of private citizens appointed in a non-partisan manner, said Commission to report redistricting recommendations to the state legislature for action based upon the below listed principles and such other guiding principles as deemed practicable and appropriate in the interest of furthering competitive, democratically robust, non-discriminatory elections in the State of Indiana:

- Voting districts should be compact and contiguous;
- Cities and other political subdivisions should not be divided among more than one (1) district, except as necessary and reasonable;
- The drawing of districts should comply with the Voting Rights Act and should minimize any negative effect that a proposed plan might have on language minority and racial minority groups; and
- Neither past election results, the residence of an incumbent, nor partisan gerrymandering should be considered in preparing proposed voting district maps for Indiana.

PASSED BY the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana, on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017, and on said day signed by the President of the Common Council and attested by the City Clerk.

ATTEST:

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Missy Mosby  
President of the Common Council

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Laura Windhorst, City Clerk  
City of Evansville, Indiana