

# IMPACT REPORT

YOUR SUPPORT. YOUR IMPACT.

JUNE 2022



## REDISTRICTING EDITION

### TESTIFIED

On **November 9**, the ACLU of Ohio submitted opposition testimony to the congressional districts proposed in Senate Bill 258, as they artificially inflated partisan control of Ohio's congressional delegation to one political party at the expense of the other.

### SIGNED

On **November 20**, Governor DeWine signed Senate Bill 258 into law, which established new congressional districts for Ohio, giving Republicans an unconstitutional partisan advantage.

### TESTIFIED

The Ohio Redistricting Commission convened in **August 2021** to begin work on the new legislative districts. Our Deputy Policy Director Collin Marozzi testified in support of #FairMaps.

### FILED

On **November 30**, the ACLU of Ohio filed a lawsuit in the Ohio Supreme Court challenging the gerrymandered map that awarded Republicans 67-80% of Ohio's congressional seats, although the party receives only 55% of Ohioans' votes.

### VIOLATED

On **September 16**, the Ohio Redistricting Commission, in voting 5-2 along strictly party lines, violated Ohio's Constitution and adopted a gerrymandered map, designed to entrench a Republican veto-proof supermajority in both chambers of the General Assembly.

### STRUCK DOWN

On **January 14**, the Ohio Supreme Court struck down the congressional map as an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander. Ohio lawmakers couldn't complete the task, so the redrawing duty fell to the Ohio Redistricting Commission, which enacted a second unconstitutional map on March 2.

### FILED

On **September 23**, the ACLU of Ohio filed a lawsuit in the Ohio Supreme Court, challenging the map, which would give an extreme and unfair advantage to the Republican Party.

### STRUCK DOWN

On **January 12**, after months of briefings — and oral arguments in December — the Ohio Supreme Court struck down the legislative map as an unconstitutional partisan gerrymander and ordered the Commission to go back to the drawing board.

### FILED (AGAIN)

On **March 22**, the ACLU of Ohio filed a new lawsuit challenging Ohio's congressional map, requesting that the constitutional deficiencies of the map be remedied in time for the 2024 election cycle. **The fight continues!**

### INTERVENED

On **May 28**, after five successive maps and five successful challenges by the ACLU of Ohio resulting in the rejections of all five maps, a federal court intervened in the legislative redistricting process and ordered the Secretary of State to implement a map for the 2022 election cycle that had been \*already rejected\* by the Ohio Supreme Court. Our fight for fair General Assembly District Maps continues for 2024 and beyond. The second primary (for statehouse races only) will be held on August 2.



## THE MARATHON CONTINUES

After nearly nine full months of the ACLU of Ohio challenging and re-challenging gerrymandered maps, the legislative and congressional redistricting process — for the 2022 election cycle — has come to a dramatic end. This has been an arduous and frustrating journey, but the fight is not yet over. **We are still actively litigating before the Ohio Supreme Court to ensure that we have fair, constitutional plans in place for 2024 and beyond, for both the state legislative and U.S. Congressional maps.**

- Are the maps now perfect? **No.**
- Was the Ohio redistricting process flawed? **Of course.**
- Are the maps significantly improved as a result of our lawsuits, tenacity, and persistence? **Absolutely, unequivocally, emphatically yes.** Ohio is much better off today, than when this effort began last summer, in large part because of our strategic and methodical challenges to the gerrymandered maps.

### OHIO LEGISLATIVE MAPS

**Partisan breakdown before we sued:**



D: 35.6%  
R: 64.4%

**Partisan breakdown after we sued:**



D: 45.5%  
R: 54.5%

\* The Ohio Supreme Court has noted that the Ohio Constitution requires symmetry in the partisan distribution of seats in the 50-52% band.

\* Percentages based on a combination of the partisan make-up of the 99-member Ohio House of Representatives and the 33-member Ohio State Senate.

### U.S. CONGRESSIONAL MAP

**Partisan breakdown before we sued:**



D: 2 seats  
R: 13 seats

**Partisan breakdown after we sued:**



D: 2 seats  
R: 11 seats  
Toss-up: 2 seats

\* The original map unfairly locked down two districts which are presently competitive.

Despite our multiple court victories, the momentum on our side, and the passion, dedication, and determination from Ohio voters to finally achieve the fair maps they demanded, the process was flawed and the outcome soiled. It is incredibly disappointing to see honor, civility, and decorum abandoned in favor of short-sighted, self-serving political gamesmanship.

The Republicans on the Ohio Redistricting Commission abandoned their constitutional responsibility and reverted to an ugly and familiar display of hyperpartisanship. The majority commissioners chose secrecy over transparency, ignored constitutionally mandated deadlines, and showed utter disdain for the expectations of the Ohio electorate and for the law every step of the way.

**We the people deserved so much better. Together, we will work through our collective anger to slay the gerrymonster once and for all. The stakes for the future of our great state could not be higher.**

It takes hard work to be a champion of democracy, a preserver of rights and liberties, and a visionary for a more perfect Ohio, and we are ready for the battles ahead.



## BIRTHED IN THE CRIES OF THE PEOPLE

We are engaging our organizing base, allies, donors, members and staff in deep and meaningful conversations about what the hopes, dreams and needs of the moment are, and how we can best respond to them.

We are on a journey to listen to the deepest hopes and fears of 10,000 Ohioans, between May and August 2022, in order to surface the **highest level priorities for our focus in 2023.** Speak Up, Ohio, We're Listening.

[ACLUOhio.org/SpeakUp](https://acluohio.org/SpeakUp)

**SPEAK UP, OHIO, WE'RE LISTENING**

- Want to impact change for generations to come?
- Include the ACLU of Ohio in your estate plan and commit to your fighting for freedom and defending democracy with a strong legacy. Please email [give@acluohio.org](mailto:give@acluohio.org) and our Development Department will follow up with more information.



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