

Contact:

Brit Bender, Executive Director Tennessee Democratic Party 319 Plus Park Blvd. Nashville, TN 37217 Office: (615) 327-9779 comms@tndp.org

## "Where are the maps?" -- TNDP Demands to See Newly Drawn Maps As More Legislators Release Gerrymandered Districts

As many Tennessee counties have released newly drawn county commission maps, the Tennessee Democratic Party is asking Tennessee legislators "Where are the maps?" Democratic legislators have been seeking public input on new maps for months; however, Republican legislators have been meeting behind closed doors to draw maps that represent their own interests.

"It is imperative for the residents of our state to see the maps drawn by the Republicans in the State House and Senate in a timely manner. I have zero confidence in their ability to be fair and to draw maps that will allow residents to choose their representatives instead of representatives choosing their voters. It is clear, we have seen population gains in areas that should make our maps more competitive. We also vehemently believe that Tennessee's 5th Congressional District should remain intact. Tennesseans should be given the opportunity to review and challenge any unfair map." - Hendrell Remus, Chair of Tennessee Democratic Party.

The fear of both the TNDP and voters in Tennessee is that these new districts will be drawn in a way that divides communities by racial and political lines in order to protect the Republican Supermajority. Redistricting affects more than where a person votes; it impacts funding and legislation and can dilute the voice of a community of people.

The TNDP is calling upon legislators to make the process transparent and to show what they've drawn. Additionally, the TNDP is pushing actions next week encouraging voters to become as involved in the redistricting process as they can be. Starting Monday evening, December 13 at 6pm CT, the TNDP will partner with the National Democratic Redistricting Committee to host a webinar about what redistricting is and why it matters; details can be found <u>here</u>.

## **About TNDP**

The Tennessee Democratic Party works to elect Democratic candidates who believe that all Tennesseans deserve a better future no matter who you are, what you look like, where you live, who you love, or how you pray.