



# California Redistricting Basics

[WeDrawTheLinesCA.org](http://WeDrawTheLinesCA.org)



# Reminder—No Public Input Will Be Taken Today

## **Per California Government Code Section 8253(3)--**

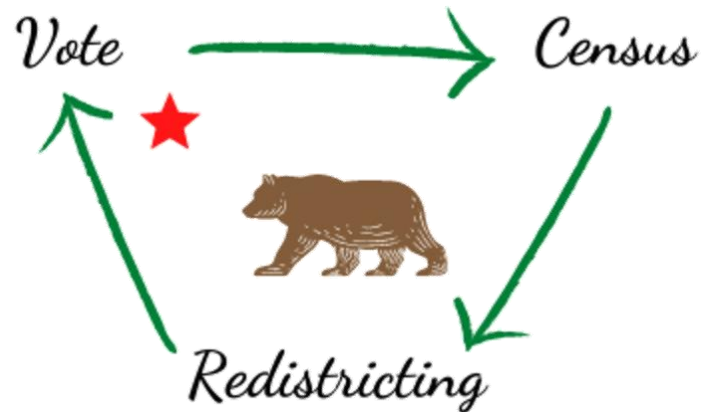
Commission members and staff may not communicate with or receive communications about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public hearing. Therefore, the Commission will not be taking any public input during these educational presentations.

To provide public input, please visit the Commission's website at: [WeDrawTheLinesCA.org](http://WeDrawTheLinesCA.org).



# What is Redistricting?

Drawing new boundaries that determine which voters are represented by each electoral district.



# Your Voice

- ▶ **Why is your voice important?**
- ▶ **Why should you be involved?**
- ▶ **Your role in the process**

**Redistricting has been used at times to exclude communities from political power. By fully participating in and monitoring the upcoming redistricting process, more communities may have a better opportunity to elect candidates of their choice and voice their needs and interests.**



*Your Voice  
Your Choice*

# Why We Redraw District Maps

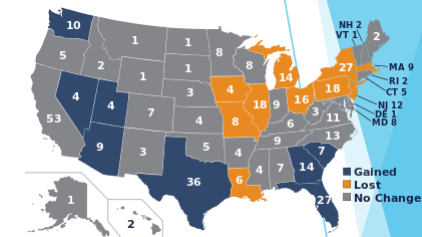


- ▶ **Communities change.**
- ▶ **People are born, die, and move.**
- ▶ **Communities grow and shrink.**
- ▶ **Areas where there were once roughly the same number of people become unequal.**



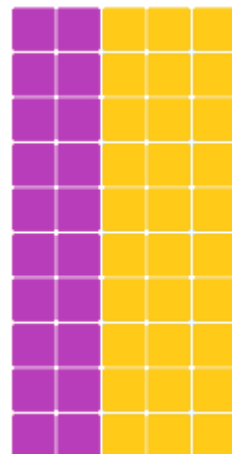
# Redistricting Elements

- ▶ **Census**—Every ten years the entire U.S. population is counted, and that data is used to draw new maps to account for population shifts across the states and districts.
- ▶ **Reapportionment** –The U.S. reallocation of House seats among the states, done after each national census to ensure seats are held by the states in proportion to the size of their population.
- ▶ **Fair Representation**—Historically, legislators have drawn maps that allowed them to choose their voters rather than enabling voters to choose their representatives. This former system undermined the concept of fair representation, which is to give people the power to choose their representatives.

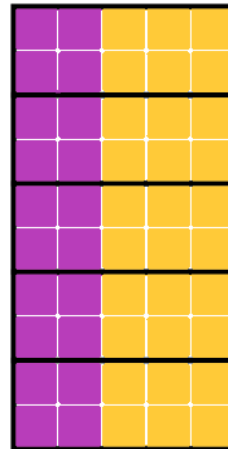


# Why Independent Redistricting Matters

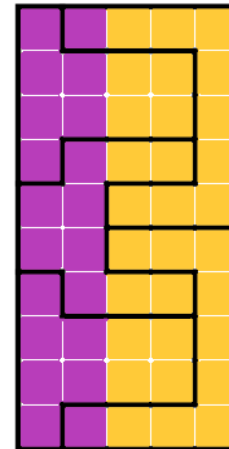
- ▶ In 2012, Pennsylvania Democrats received 51% of the votes for congress but won only 5 of its 18 seats (27%).
- ▶ In 2016, Maryland Republicans received 37% of the votes for congress but won only 1 of its 8 congressional seats (12.5%).
- ▶ In California's five election cycles from 2002 to 2010, only one California congressional seat changed parties, and only two incumbents lost in all 253 races.



50 PRECINCTS  
60% GOLD  
40% PURPLE



5 DISTRICTS  
5 GOLD (100%)  
0 PURPLE (0%)  
GOLD WINS



5 DISTRICTS  
3 PURPLE (60%)  
2 GOLD (40%)  
PURPLE WINS

# Different Redistricting Efforts



**State**—Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and Board of Equalization.



**Counties**—58 counties with their own process.



**Cities**—482 cities with their own process.



**School Districts**—977 school districts with their own process.



**Other Redistricting Efforts**—water districts, community college districts, etc.



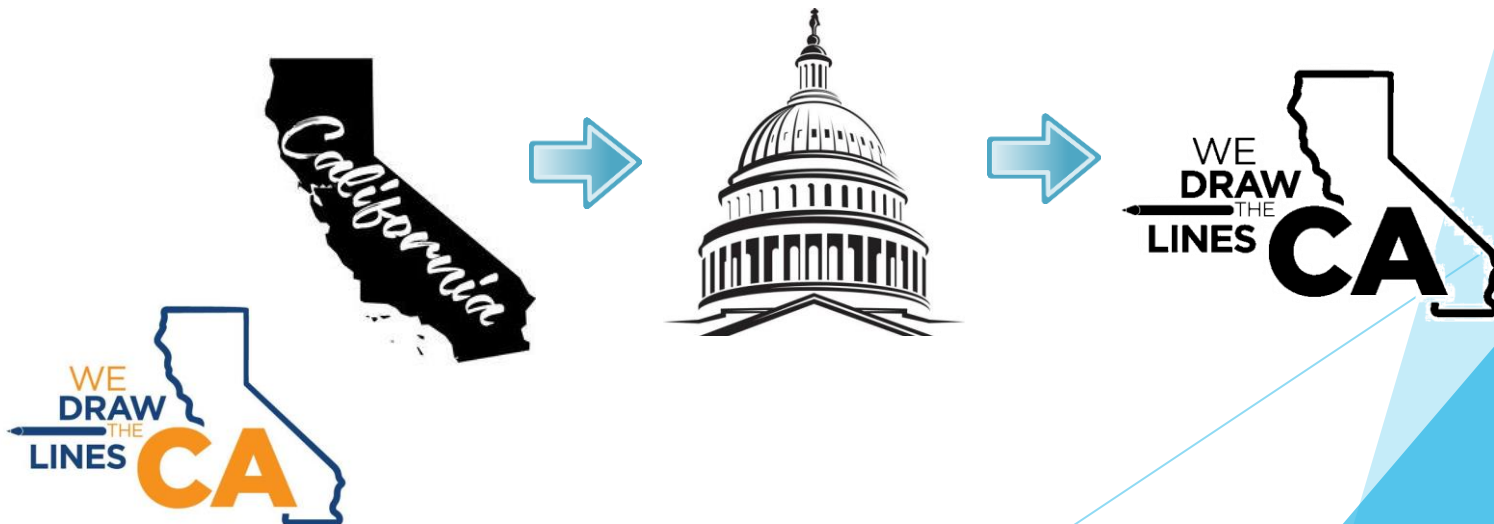
# History

- ▶ **Prior to 2010**—Legislators Drew Lines or the Court did if the Legislature failed to carry out this duty properly
- ▶ **Proposition 11 (2008)**—the Voters FIRST Act/We Draw the Lines for State Senate, State Assembly, and Board of Equalization
- ▶ **Proposition 20 (2010)**—Added Congressional Districts
- ▶ **2010 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **2020 Redistricting Commission**
- ▶ **Other States with Independent Commissions**—Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Montana and Washington use independent commissions to draw the lines.



# Commissioner Selection

- ▶ **Commissioner Applications (Over 20,000 applicants)**
- ▶ **Supplemental Applications (2,000)**
- ▶ **Interview/Screening Process (120 applicants)**
- ▶ **Applicant Pool sent to Legislature (60 applicants)**
- ▶ **Legislative Strikes (12 strikes each party)**
- ▶ **Lottery System: First 8**
- ▶ **Final 6 Selection**



# Who we are

## ► 2020 Commissioners: 14 Members

• <b>Isra Ahmad</b> , San Jose, No Party Preference	• <b>Sara Sadhwani</b> , La Cañada Flintridge, Democrat
• <b>Linda Akutagawa</b> , Huntington Beach, No Party Preference	• <b>Patricia S. Sinay</b> , Encinitas, Democrat
• <b>Jane Andersen</b> , Berkeley, Republican	• <b>Derric Taylor</b> , Los Angeles, Republican
• <b>Alicia Fernández</b> , Clarksburg, Republican	• <b>Pedro Toledo</b> , Petaluma, No Party Preference
• <b>Neal Fornaciari</b> , Tracy, Republican	• <b>Trena Turner</b> , Stockton, Democrat
• <b>J. Ray Kennedy</b> , Morongo Valley, Democrat	• <b>Angela Vázquez</b> , Los Angeles, Democrat
• <b>Antonio Le Mons</b> , Studio City, No Party Preference	• <b>Russell Yee</b> , Oakland, Republican



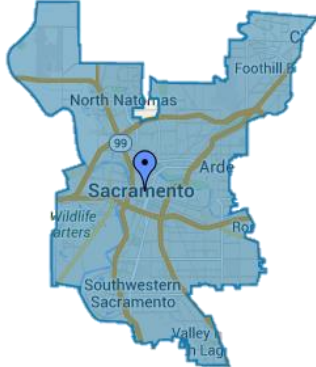
# Commissioner Duties

- ▶ **Community Outreach/Public Input Meetings**
- ▶ **Drawing Maps**--Draft and final maps for Congress (~53), Senate (40), Assembly (80), and Board of Equalization (4)

## EXAMPLE: SACRAMENTO

### CONGRESS

(700,000 people)



### SENATE

(931,000 people)



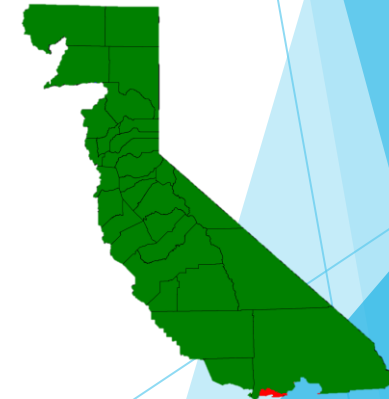
### ASSEMBLY

(466,000 people)



### BOE

(9 million people)



# Outreach Zones



ZONE	COUNTIES	COMMISSIONERS
A	Del Norte, Humboldt County, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma, Trinity	Commissioner Toledo Commissioner Taylor
B	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Yee
C	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano	Commissioner Yee Commissioner Toledo
D	El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba	Commissioner Fernandez Commissioner LeMons
E	Monterey, San Benito, San Luis, Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Ventura	Commissioner Fornaciari Commissioner Kennedy
F	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare	Commissioner Turner Commissioner Vazquez
G	Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, Inyo, Mariposa, Mono, Tuolumne	Commissioner Andersen Commissioner Akutagawa
H	Los Angeles	Commissioner Taylor Commissioner Ahmad
I	Riverside, San Bernardino	Commissioner Kennedy Commissioner LeMons
J	Orange	Commissioner Akutagawa Commissioner Sadhwani
K	Imperial, San Diego	Commissioner Sinay Commissioner Ahmad

# 6 Line Drawing Criteria by order

The Commission must follow these criteria when drawing district maps in this order:

**1**

## Equal Population

Districts must be of equal population to comply with the US Constitution.

**2**

## Voting Rights Act

Districts must comply with the Voting Rights Act to ensure that minorities have an equal opportunity to elect representatives of their choice.

**3**

## Contiguity

Districts must be drawn contiguously so that all parts of the district are connected to each other.

**4**

## Communities of Interest

Districts must minimize the division of cities, counties, neighborhoods, and communities of interest to the extent possible

**5**

## Geographically Compact

Districts should be geographically compact such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant populations.

**6**

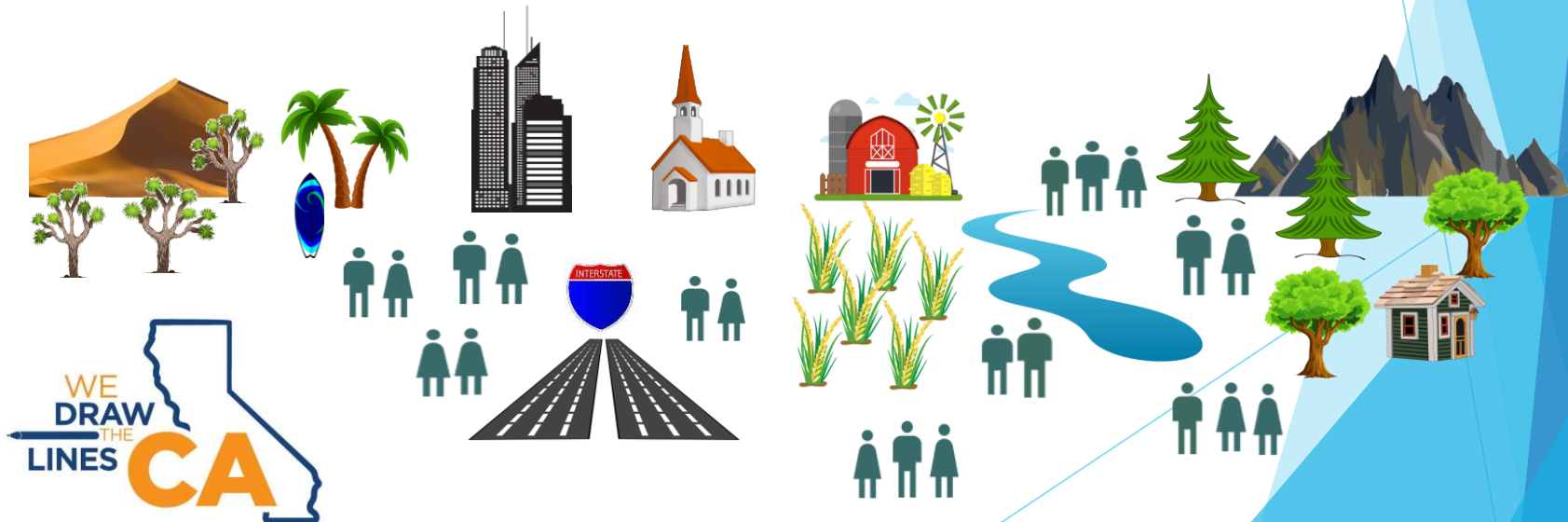
## Nesting Districts

Where practicable each Senate District should be comprised of two complete and adjacent Assembly Districts and Board of Equalization districts shall be composed of 10 complete and adjacent State Senate Districts.



# Communities of Interest (COI)

- ▶ **Communities of Interest (COI)**--A community of interest is a concentrated population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Examples include areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media. People can belong to multiple communities of interest.
- ▶ **Defining Your Communities**
  - Geographic
  - Boundaries
  - Landmarks



# Participating in the Process

- ▶ **Familiarize Yourself with the Criteria**
- ▶ **Organize Your Community**
- ▶ **Clarify Your Goals**
- ▶ **Provide Public Input at Meetings and/or submit your comments to the Commission**
- ▶ **Advocate for Your Community**

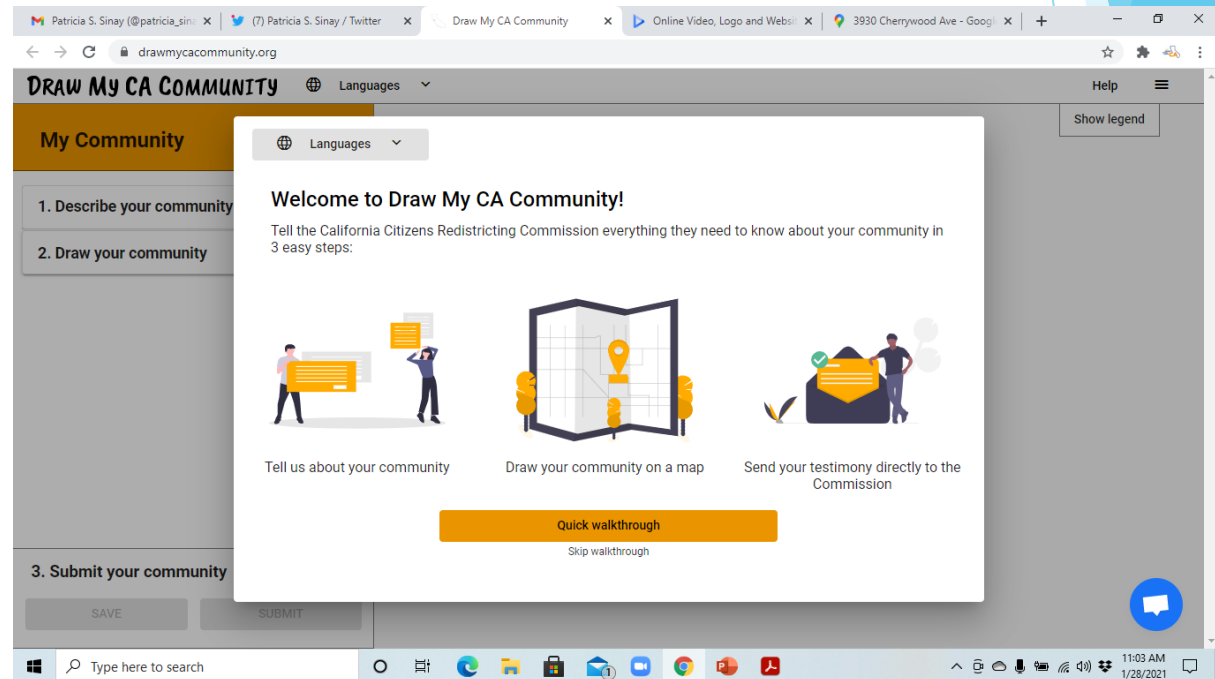
**Define Your Community or  
Someone Else Will**





# Draw My CA Community Tool / COI Tool

- ▶ **Communities of Interest (COI) Mapping Tool**
- ▶ **Submit Your COI Directly to the Commission by visiting:**  
[DrawMyCACommunity.org](https://DrawMyCACommunity.org)
- ▶ **Website is live now!**



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [drawmycacommunity.org](https://drawmycacommunity.org). The page features a navigation bar with "DRAW MY CA COMMUNITY" and a "Languages" dropdown. A central white box contains the following text:

**Welcome to Draw My CA Community!**  
Tell the California Citizens Redistricting Commission everything they need to know about your community in 3 easy steps:

- 1. Describe your community**  
Illustration: Two people talking at a table.
- 2. Draw your community**  
Illustration: A map with a location pin and a person.
- 3. Submit your community**  
Illustration: A person sending an envelope.

Below the steps is a "Quick walkthrough" button and a "Skip walkthrough" link. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 11:03 AM on 1/28/2021.



# CA Supreme Court Ruling

## Legislature of CA v Alex Padilla S262530 July 17, 2020

The California Supreme Court ruled on July 17, 2020 that the Commission should have until December 15, 2021 to submit its maps to the California Secretary of State due to the delay in release of census results. If census results are received after July 31, 2021, the Commission's deadline will be adjusted accordingly.



# Timeline

- ▶ **February-May:** Education Presentations
- ▶ **June-September:** Public Input Meetings (COI)
- ▶ **July 31:** Census Data Expected to the State
- ▶ **August 31:** Census Data Expected to the Commission
- ▶ **September-October:** Line Drawing Sessions (Pre maps)
- ▶ **October:** Draft Maps Released
- ▶ **November:** Public Input Meetings (COI)/Line Drawing Sessions
- ▶ **December:** Final Maps Released
- ▶ **December 15:** Final Maps to Secretary of State

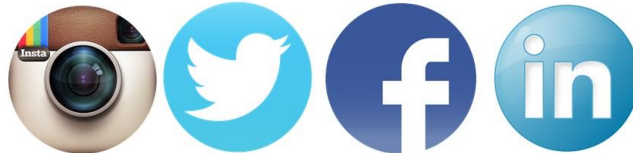


# Contact Us

To request an informational session, please contact the Commission.

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**721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**(916) 323-0323**  
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For more information about the Commission, please visit:  
**WeDrawTheLinesCA.org**



@WeDrawTheLinesCA

