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PRESS RELEASE

2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission Releases “Recollections, Recommendations, & Resources”

SACRAMENTO, CA — Today, the 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) released “Recollections, Recommendations, & Resources”, an extensive report prepared by the Commission’s Lessons Learned Subcommittee that the full Commission finalized and endorsed at its meeting earlier this week.

The 250-page report, consisting of the main body (Vol. 1), staff reports (Vol. 2), and resource materials (Vol. 3), is downloadable from <https://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/recollections-recommendations-resources-report-and-materials/>, along with the Commission's extensive Final Maps Report from December 2021 and other materials.

Every 10 years, after the federal government publishes updated census information, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization districts so that the state’s population is evenly allocated among the new districts. The 14-member Citizens Redistricting Commission was created via citizen initiative in 2008 with a mandate to draw new districts for State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization; a mandate to draw new districts for California’s seats in the U.S. House of Representatives was added via another citizen initiative in 2010. The state’s first citizen redistricting commissioners served 2010-2020 and concluded their term three years ago when the first eight members of the 2020 Commission were selected via random draw; those first eight then selected the remaining six commissioners to ensure that the full Commission broadly reflected the diversity of the state.

The 2020 Commission embraced, from its early days, the idea of seeking to leave behind a body of feedback and recommendations to assist its successors, as well as external stakeholders, in understanding the many challenges the CRC experienced, how it addressed them, and how future CRCs might save valuable time by avoiding as many of

these challenges as possible and by learning from its hindsight to better address those challenges that prove unavoidable,

The Lessons-Learned Subcommittee was one of the early creations of the Commission, and it has compiled lessons since its establishment in the fall of 2020. The subcommittee organized a preliminary lessons-learned discussion before the Commission received Census data so that memories of the Commission's early weeks and months would be as clear as possible; after the completion of the new maps, there was an extended discussion in March 2022 that yielded nearly 1,400 inputs that the subcommittee then synthesized in preparing its draft report.

"We are pleased to announce the launch of this important report and hope that it will prove useful to our successors as well as to the many external stakeholders who have a role in preparing for the 2030 redistricting cycle," said Ray Kennedy, the Commission's current rotating chair and one of the members of the Lessons Learned Subcommittee.

The report's co-author, Commissioner Russell Yee, said "The full, unqualified success of the 2020 Commission made it a particular pleasure to write this report. While our primary audience is the 2030 Commission, we hope this document can also inspire applicants to the 2030 Commission, as well as local and state independent redistricting efforts nationwide."

For more information about the Commission, please visit www.WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov.

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