

Proposed 2019 PSAB resolution regarding congressional and legislative redistricting.

BE IT RESOLVED, that PSAB supports legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting has at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that favor one political party over others; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partnership will help: ensure a fair, transparent, and accurate legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions; prohibit political districts from being drawn in favor of or discriminate against a political party or candidate; require the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries; require public input; and fully comply with the constitutional requirement that " no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township, or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary", and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial legislative and congressional redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a nonpartisan fashion is required to insure these reforms,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission.

The resolution was presented and passed by the Bucks County Boroughs Association at the meeting on March 26th.

I have submitted it to the Resolutions and Policy Committee of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs for consideration/adoption.

Rad Sturck
Pres. B.C.B.A.