

RFC Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Name	Email	Organization	Comments
09/10/2019 07:15 PM	Mr. Christopher Lee	chris.lee@ncleg.gov	ncga	Testing request for comment
09/10/2019 07:38 PM	s.l. smith		the order of justice for ALL	2 ring circus has arrived at nclg on Jones. We, who you WORK for, are watching and listening. Trying to make a joke out of court ruling, huh. lottery is an insult to every nc voter. how much more of OUR money will be wasted by you, David Lewis and Phil Berger. USE YOUR POWER WISELY...CAUSE WHEN ITS GONE... U B GONE. Also who is managing this website. NOT DOING THEIR JOB.
09/10/2019 07:59 PM	Joshua Tucker	jdtucke@gmail.com		Please end Gerrymandering. Draw the maps fairly and accurately to represent all North Carolinians.
09/10/2019 08:57 PM	Mrs. Pat Bullard	tarheelia103@yahoo.com		The only way to have non-partisan gerrymandering is for a non-partisan commission to do the maps. Such a non-partisan commission must also be written into the law so that partisan leaders do not get a chance to muck things up. This would be fair to all, no matter which party has control of the legislature. Non-partisan districts should never be so spread out and must be fair to all citizens, no matter their color or political persuasion. Voter suppression must also be curtailed.
09/10/2019 09:58 PM	Incumbency Data Tyler Richards			Given the fact that many legislators where elected in 2018, can you please ensure previous maps are not used. I believe outdated maps where drawn by Dr J. Chen. Also, given that our state has a quickly changing population perhaps a judge should pick the maps?
09/10/2019 10:21 PM	Mr. John Paladin	PaladinEsq@AOL.com		Draw districts with relatively straight lines, using streets, highways and freeways as boundaries. No strange shape districts should be allowed. Preference should be given to the most simple geometric shapes as district boundaries. Race, age, religion and political party should not be allowed as considerations in drawing districts.
09/10/2019 11:08 PM	--None-- Marci Curtis	marci.m.curtis@gmail.com		I am a Raleigh resident who was at the afternoon proceedings on Monday. The Chen maps are biased because they protect the incumbents. They were also not drawn in a transparent manner. It is absolutely infuriating to watch politicians continue to use partisan tricks to stay in power. Every vote in this state should count equally.
09/11/2019 02:20 PM	Martin Ericson	MARTIN-ERICSON@CAROLINA.RR.COM	Citizen	It would seem that the best solution would be to take the best map for each county or county grouping based on the criteria of compactness, contiguity, minimizing municipality and VTD splits, taking into account incumbency. Using maps based on a statewide score on these criteria may not reveal the best (or even very good) maps for a particular county or county group.

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09/11/2019 03:32 PM	Ben Halfhill			<p>Having seen House Republicans exploit the anniversary of 9/11 today for political gain, I now know nothing is beneath the state GOP. The state Republican Party speaks of ideals and principles, but, in practice, has no qualms about subverting the things that make this country and democracy great. I know that asking House Republicans to put principle over party is a wasted effort. Instead, I pray that the courts take over the drawing of our legislative districts so that they can be redrawn to reflect the actual will of the people. Maybe then the anti-American, anti-democratic crop of current Republican legislators can be swept out of office in favor of members who appreciate the precious political system our Founders envisioned.</p> <p>Ben Halfhill Belmont, NC</p>
09/11/2019 05:30 PM	Clark Hunsinger	hunsingr@nc.rr.com		<p>I believe the House approach to use Dr Chen's Set 1 is better than the Senate using Set 2. Set 2 has unnecessary modifications to accommodate old incumbents who may no longer be in office. However, I have not heard any explanation of why using a random selection of one of the best five maps is better than using the best map that optimizes the agreed-to criteria. Also, why are you not asking the Court to allow you to have Dr Chen do a run with the agreed-to criteria and the current incumbent data.</p>
09/11/2019 06:17 PM	A Davis			<p>Please hire a non partisan agency that will use scientific data to redraw maps.</p>
09/11/2019 07:36 PM	Cheryl LoPresti	Cheritalo@me.com		<p>We need fair and non partisan redistricting maps.</p>
09/11/2019 07:49 PM	Aylett Colston	aylettcolston@gmail.com		<p>Dear Representatives,</p> <p>In Common Cause v. Lewis, the NC Superior Court ordered that the NCGA conduct "the entire remedial process in full public view" and for "all map drawing to occur at public hearings."</p> <p>I am a member of the public and a resident of North Carolina. I attended the House and Senate redistricting committee meetings Monday, September 9, 2019.</p> <p>At the beginning of each of the House and Senate committee meetings, the Committee Chair announced a plan to use maps that were done by an expert witness in preparing to give evidence at trial in Common Cause v. Lewis as the "base maps" upon which to base the remedial maps. The expert witness's name is Dr. Chen.</p> <p>I did not see Dr. Chen drawing these maps at the public meeting Monday, nor</p>

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				<p>were the attending public provided with copies of his maps.</p> <p>I understand that as part of the trial process, the Legislative Defendants had access to partisan data and other information associated with the maps generated by Dr. Chen as part of his expert testimony. None of this data was provided to the public at the meetings I attended.</p> <p>At the redistricting committee meeting Monday, the redistricting committee members discussed choosing a subset of Dr. Chen's maps based on ordering them by their compactness rating, and then taking a certain top percentage based on the highest compactness rating. They did not give a complete reason for prioritizing "compactness" of the entire district map ahead of any other criteria.</p> <p>The committees did not provide the public with copies of the maps that were rated "most compact" by Dr. Chen, or other maps for comparison.</p> <p>As a member of the public who attended these meetings, it appeared that the entire remedial process was NOT in full public view.</p> <p>I object to using maps that were not drawn at public hearings and request that the NC House redistricting committee start from scratch in the court-ordered redrawing of specified county clusters.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Aylett Colston</p>
09/11/2019 09:34 AM	Pam Bloom	bloompame@gmail.com		<p>I want fair, non-partisan maps. Don't include the incumbents. Make the maps first. Don't use chance or the lottery system. There are fair ways to do this. I currently read information that indicates Republicans are still trying to shift odds in their direction. So unethical. I am a registered Unaffiliated.</p>
09/11/2019 09:58 AM	Clark Hunsinger	hunsinger@nc.rr.com		<p>The best way to do Redistricting would be to form an Independent Redistricting Commission with equal representation of Republicans, Democrats, and Independent (unaffiliated) members, including nonpartisan academic redistricting experts, like Jowei Chen, Associate Professor, University of Michigan.</p> <p>If that is not done, then the Legislative Redistricting Committees should:</p> <p>1) immediately ask the Court to approve Dr Jowei Chen, who has proven his unbiased, academic credentials as a redistricting mapmaker, as the NC Redistricting Mapmaker. This step would go a long way in showing that the Republicans in the legislator are serious about creating fair district maps.</p>

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				<p>2) conduct a public meeting to establish the priorities and limits of the "redistricting criteria". Of course, as the Court has directed, there should be no partisan criteria and no political data used in the mapmaking process. If "Incumbency" is an agreed-to criteria, it surely must be "current incumbency" and, therefore, a new computer run is required using the current incumbency data. The Senate started with maps that had prior year incumbency modifications made which distorted the starting point map.</p> <p>3) this agreed-to, prioritized list of criteria should be given to Dr Chen to provide a base map that most closely matches the agreed-to criteria.</p> <p>4) this base, non-partisan map should then be presented in a public meeting as the committee makes any changes where those changes must achieve a bipartisan consensus.</p> <p>5) the Court should then be able to quickly approve the result.</p>
09/11/2019 11:26 AM	Dr Jean Parks	jparks@grandcreative.com		It is critical that we have fair maps. By fair, I mean maps that allow voters to choose their representatives, rather than representatives tailoring their districts to ensure re-election. For example, if one party has the majority of votes in the state, that party should also have the majority of representatives in the legislature! Ultimately, we need a non-partisan commission drawing the maps.
09/11/2019 11:31 AM	Mrs. Kimberly Willardson	kawilla699@gmail.com		Redrawing legislative districts is serious business for American democracy. I strongly urge the House Committee members to refer to the guidelines the Voting Rights Act provided to make the new maps fair and representative of North Carolina's citizens. I've attached a link to just one excerpt: http://www.publicmapping.org/what-is-redistricting/redistricting-criteria-the-voting-rights-act
09/11/2019 12:18 PM	Patricia Rieser	prieser@me.com		<p>Recommend Nathaniel Persily as an independent referee, not Art Pope (partisan) or Gerry Cohen (not his area of expertise).</p> <p>Engage in a truly bipartisan process.</p> <p>Dr. Chen's maps were not drawn in a public process and not for this purpose, so there are issues in using them as a base.</p> <p>Establish a NC Citizens Redistricting Commission, SB 673.</p> <p>This morning's budget veto override vote in the House is shocking and shameful, even by the low standards we've come to expect from this body since 2011. Yet leadership is aghast when trust in processes such as this one is not forthcoming. After this morning's cynical display, I think a special master should be appointed.</p>
09/11/2019 12:34 PM	Noelle Prussman	Rutiesmom@hotmail.com		This is too important to leave to chance or by lottery! Please use careful consideration in a bipartisan fashion and draw fair congressional districts. The people of NC deserve fair representation!
09/12/2019	Dwight	dwright_jordan@hotmail.com	NA	Thanks for taking my comment-I have no faith that you will draw fair maps. If

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08:18 AM	Jordan			you did, the courts would not have ruled against you. Your current maps are just drawn unfairly. I recommend a bipartisan group be chosen to draw new maps! Thanks for listening!
09/12/2019 09:01 AM	Thomas Gray	tomgrayseagrove@gmail.com	Tom Gray Pottery, Inc.	Partisan gerrymandering, regardless of which party draws the maps, is unfair to the people of North Carolina. We deserve a fair system whereby we are legitimately represented. It takes courage to represent people vs. party lines. I encourage those responsible with redrawing the maps to represent us, the people of the Great State of North Carolina.
09/12/2019 09:42 AM	Sheila Denn	sheila.denn@gmail.com	League of Women Voters of Wake County	<p>1. The entire process needs to be transparent and open to public view. The House and Senate Redistricting Committees are now live-streaming their meetings, which is commendable, but are there plans for in-person public hearings around the state?</p> <p>2. Do we have assurances that legislators will actually be able to view public comments easily?</p> <p>3. Given that public comments are an important part of the process, and the process as a whole is supposed to be transparent, the public comments should also be viewable by the public.</p> <p>4. I am concerned about the plan to use the set of maps produced by Dr. Jowei Chen that includes incumbency data as base maps. These maps are based on data that is out of date, as there are incumbents included who are no longer legislators, and there are legislators who were elected in 2018 who are not included. The League's position is that *no* incumbency data should be used, except as a way to check *after draft maps have been drawn* to see if current legislators are double bunked.</p> <p>5. The House Redistricting Committee members received via email copies of Dr. Chen's maps that included overlays of political data from defendant's counsel in the case. Political data is specifically disallowed in the court ruling from being used to redraw the maps. The Chairs of the House Redistricting Committee have indicated that all Committee members and staff have deleted these emails, but I would like assurance that any data that might have been included in attachments to the emails has been removed and has not and will not be used as part of the map-drawing process.</p>
09/12/2019 09:58 AM	Dianna Wynn	lwvwakepresident@gmail.com	League of Women Voters of Wake County	The League of Women Voters has been working toward nonpartisan redistricting for many decades, and we have carefully followed the issue in North Carolina. Furthermore, the League has long advocated for transparency in government decision making. I understand that the current court-ordered redistricting process requires a transparent procedure with all redistricting decision-making occurring in public. As part of that process, the House has an online portal for public comment. The purpose of public comment is to provide a vehicle for voters to instruct their elected officials. Thus, for public comment to be a meaningful part of decision making, it must be both viewed and

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				<p>considered by our elected officials. Therefore, I have two concerns regarding the current process and the public comment portal:</p> <p>(1) It is not clear that all representatives have the ability to access and view the public's comments throughout the decision-making process. It is important that a comment is readily available for review soon after it is posted so that our elected officials may consider the public's feedback as part of this process.</p> <p>(2) It does not appear that the public is able to view all public comments as they are posted. Our understanding of the court's decision is that all decision making related to the current redistricting process must occur in public view. I assume that this committee considers public comment to be an important part of the process. Therefore, the public should be able to view any public comment as soon as it is submitted.</p> <p>I would appreciate an assurance that the voters of North Carolina, as well as legislators, are able to immediately view the public's comments. Finally, I urge committee members to review and carefully consider all comments submitted to the public comment portal in the course of this important process.</p> <p>Sincerely, Dianna Wynn, President League of Women Voters of Wake County</p>
09/12/2019 10:06 AM	Dianna Wynn	lwvwakepresident@gmail.com	League of Women Voters of Wake County	<p>The League of Women Voters of Wake County continues to monitor the current redistricting process and has the following concerns:</p> <p>(1) The process of redistricting is essentially assigning voters into different voting districts to select a common representative or senator that will represent the concerns of those in a given district. These are the people's maps. Therefore, the people of North Carolina should have a greater voice in the process. We are concerned that there appear to be no plans for public hearings to take place around the state. While an online portal has been made available on the committee's website, we don't believe that it has been sufficiently publicized. Furthermore, the process does not appear to require that committee members even review public comments as part of the decision-making process.</p> <p>(2) We are very concerned to hear that the defendant's attorney in the lawsuit that has prompted this current redistricting process emailed documents with partisan data to committee members and staff. I understand that those receiving the email have been instructed to delete it. However, we would like an assurance that the emails remained unopened, were deleted, and were not</p>

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				<p>forwarded to others. Furthermore, we also request an assurance that any files attached to these emails were not saved, were deleted, and were not printed.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.</p> <p>Sincerely, Dianna Wynn, President League of Women Voters of Wake County</p>
09/12/2019 10:26 AM	Susan Nguyen	semisweetz@yahoo.com		The public should be able to weigh in on the maps before the legislative vote.
09/12/2019 10:40 AM	Victoria Shea	victoria.shea32@yahoo.com		I am appalled (although no longer surprised) by these shenanigans. We need an independent commission with the power to draw maps with no possibility of legislative interference. Otherwise, the Republicans will continue to make maps that benefit themselves and their friends. In plain sight! I hope the Court sees through this charade and puts redistricting in the hands of a special master.
09/12/2019 10:42 AM	Mr. perry woods	PERRY@PERRYWOODS.COM	self	<p>1.) If consideration is given to incumbents, equal consideration must be given to announced candidates who have spent months building support, and raising money.</p> <p>2.) Every redistricting this decade has been used as an opportunity to deny women the opportunity to serve. Extra care should be taken to ensure that isn't the case this time.</p>
09/12/2019 11:07 AM	J S			Why haven't we - the public - been given an opportunity to weigh in? Why haven't we been notified before your top choices were chosen so we can view them? Why haven't we been given information on why those top choices were selected? ...What are you hiding???
09/12/2019 11:16 AM	Ms Dorothy Storey	dstorey0428@gmail.com		Redistricting should be able to represent all citizens of NC equally. It is beyond belief that with receiving less than half the votes in the last election that the GOP still managed to win 54% of the seats. Neither party should be able to manipulate our votes in this manner. "The committee should start with a plan in the middle of the partisan range of outcomes,".