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To: Interested Parties
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Subject: We're Launching Redistricting Action to Meet the Moment

When Donald Trump picked up the phone and commanded that Governor Abbott gerrymander Texas to the maximum degree this summer, he not only launched a national gerrymandering crisis, but he also fueled a growing opposition movement among the American people. We have harnessed this energy to effectively fight back against this power grab and grow our already expansive grassroots network. Building on our past successes, we are launching *Redistricting Action*, an expanded organizing platform to support the work ahead as we look to 2030 and beyond.

As the gerrymandering crisis dragged on in other states like Missouri, North Carolina, Kansas and Indiana, and the popularity of the Trump administration and the Republican congressional majority continued to plummet, opposition to this manufactured crisis grew.

The recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to greenlight Texas's mid-decade gerrymander for use in 2026 has cemented the fact that no one else is going to save us from this crisis threatening our democracy – the people must take direct action. Republican states will only be emboldened to act even more aggressively next year. In January, as many as eight states could begin considering mid-decade redistricting, either as Republicans pursue egregious gerrymanders or as blue states move to counter them. That list includes: Kansas, Nebraska, Florida, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Virginia, Illinois, and Maryland. We do not yet know where things will land in the fight for a level playing field heading into 2026, but it's clear that, thus far, because of the work of NDRC and Affiliates, it's not going as Donald Trump planned.

The Response to Trump's Gerrymandering Crisis is Bottom-Up

While Donald Trump has taken a top-down approach, going to extreme lengths to pressure state Republicans to gerrymander, including using tactics like bribery and extortion, the response this year has come from the people. Since this summer, redistricting has become one of the most powerful outlets for people looking to express their frustration with a second Trump

administration and to take tangible action to defend democracy. We've seen this dynamic unfold in red and blue states.

Polling shows that voters nationwide <u>support efforts</u> to counter the Trump Administration's mid-decade gerrymandering. This year's election results reflected that sentiment. In California, voters passed Proposition 50 by nearly 30 points. After the Virginia legislature moved to keep all options on the table to respond to Republican gerrymandering, Virginians went to the polls and elected Democrats to secure trifecta control of state government. Meanwhile, public hearings are underway in Maryland, and Illinois is maintaining its options to redraw its congressional map. If more Democratic states move forward, they would be doing so in response to the crisis manufactured by Republicans – and their actions would aim to protect the voting power of the American people.

Meanwhile, in red states, there is also overwhelming public opposition. In Texas, thousands of citizens protested and attended public hearings across the state to demonstrate their opposition. In Missouri, grassroots organizers collected 300,000 signatures from people opposed to the new gerrymander. In Indiana, Republicans have faced overwhelming opposition from their own constituents.

Since Trump launched this redistricting crisis in July, grassroots enthusiasm for this fight has grown dramatically from the same time period last year: people signing up to receive more information increased 133%, petition submissions increased 249% and fundraising for the National Redistricting Action Fund increased by 222%, driven by a 170% increase in donors.

Redistricting Action

To harness this momentum, we are transitioning *All On The Line*, a campaign of the National Redistricting Action Fund, the 501(c)4 affiliate of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, into *Redistricting Action*, an expanded organizing platform. *Redistricting Action* will build on our past successes and work to empower grassroots activists even more with high-quality training, step-by-step information on how to make their voices heard in public hearings and with elected officials, and ways to connect with neighbors who share their commitment to fighting gerrymandering. The launch of *Redistricting Action* reflects the new reality that redistricting is no longer a once-every-decade process—it's now continuous. It is an ongoing struggle for representative democracy that demands vigilance, sustained organizing, and grassroots activists to stay engaged in the fight.

Since the National Redistricting Action Fund was founded in early 2017, our long-term vision has remained consistent: the United States needs national redistricting standards that require all states to follow the same rules, ensuring fair maps and a political system that reflects the will of the people. This includes federal legislation such as *the Redistricting Reform Act*, a bill introduced in Congress earlier this year that would ban partisan gerrymandering, ban mid-decade redistricting, and create independent commissions in all 50 states. But in the absence of national standards, we have seen how redistricting has been weaponized by power-hungry politicians who are more interested in insulating themselves from accountability than in serving all of their constituents

Voters need tools to defend their representation right now. That is what *Redistricting Action* is built to provide – a modern platform for grassroots activists who want clear information, better tools, and direct ways to engage in the redistricting process when it matters most.

Conclusion

We know that President Trump will continue to push for even more egregious mid-decade gerrymanders that benefit his party, whenever and wherever possible in the years to come, including in election years. For the foreseeable future, there will be no off years in redistricting — as red states continue to enact egregious gerrymanders, blue states must be prepared to level the playing field. This will be the case until we achieve national redistricting reform, which would require all states to follow the same set of rules to ensure fair maps.

Redistricting Action reflects the new reality that redistricting is no longer a quiet technical process. As awareness of redistricting grows, it's becoming a more participatory process in which people advocate for their right to equal representation and for the needs of their communities as maps are drawn. It is a process that demands citizens remain vigilant, engaged, and vocal. As we close out 2025 and head into what promises to be an active 2026, Redistricting Action positions our activists and us to meet this challenge with the urgency and ambition it requires.