



Illinois General Assembly

April 12, 2021

Representative Elizabeth Hernandez
Chair, House Redistricting Committee
109 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Senator Omar Aquino
Chair, Senate Redistricting Committee
627 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Chairs Hernandez and Aquino:

Comments from Members of the Democratic party during hearings on the 2021 redistricting process lead us to believe that the majority fully plans to enact new maps for both the Legislature and U.S. House of Representatives through a process that includes Governor Pritzker signing legislation by June 30, 2021.

To date, not a single House or Senate hearing has included testimony from the Governor or anyone representing his office.

We request the Governor, or a high-level member of his office, testify at our only scheduled joint House-Senate hearing for Monday, April 19, 2021, 5:00 p.m. in East St. Louis.

In March of 2018, then-candidate JB Pritzker said that without a constitutionally-implemented independent commission, "I would urge Democrats and Republicans to agree to an independent commission to handle creating a new legislative map".

On January 30, 2020, Governor Pritzker stated "we should have compact, contiguous districts as best we can." Additionally, the Governor added "I am going to veto any unfair map that gets presented to me."

On January 5, 2021, the spokesperson for the Governor reiterated the position by saying the Governor "has been clear he will veto a partisan map".

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Given the Governor's numerous stated positions in favor of fair mapping, as well as a commission process for redistricting, it is vital that both the people of Illinois and our Committees hear directly from the Governor in a public hearing as to his views and plans for redistricting.

We ask that you immediately invite and confirm the Governor's presence at the April 19 hearing so plans can be made accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Barickman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Senator Jason Barickman
Spokesman, Senate Redistricting Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Butler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T".

Representative Tim Butler
Spokesman, House Redistricting Committee

CC: Governor JB Pritzker
House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch
Senate President Don Harmon
House Minority Leader Jim Durkin
Senate Minority Leader Dan McConchie