

California's Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Lessons to Share with Other States and Communities

League of Women Voters of California

July 2012



Citizens Redistricting Commissioners:

- Stanley Forbes
- Connie Galambos Malloy

LWV California:

- Chris Carson
- Helen Hutchison
- Trudy Schafer



CRC History

- Established by an initiative passed by the voters in November 2008 to draw state legislative districts
- Responsibility for drawing congressional districts added November 2010
- Adopted maps August 15, 2011

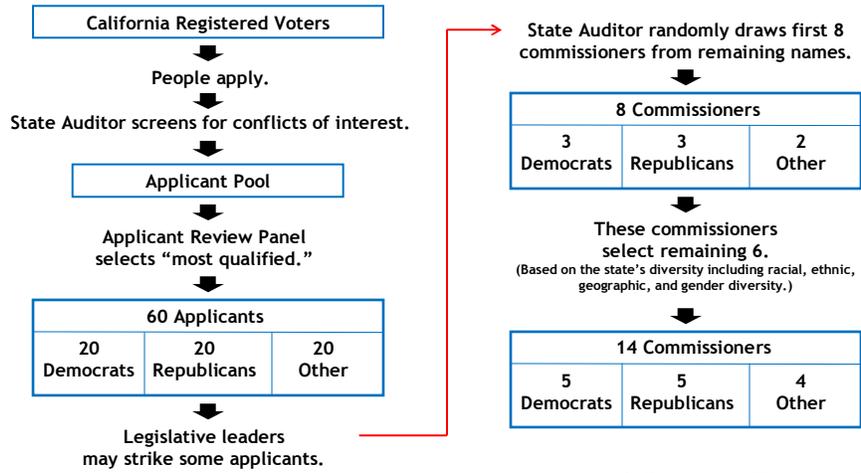


Elements of Redistricting Reform

- an independent redistricting commission that reflects the diversity of our state
- an open process for public input and scrutiny
- sound criteria for the drawing of maps



Selection of Citizens Redistricting Commission



Adapted from State Legislative Analyst Report
July 2008

Yes on Prop11
Time to Hold Politicians Accountable

Criteria for Drawing the Lines

1. Equal population (as appropriate for the type of district)
2. Compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act
3. Geographic contiguity
4. Respect for geographic integrity of neighborhoods, city and county boundaries, and communities of interest



Criteria for drawing the lines -- cont'd

5. Geographic compactness, to the extent practicable
6. Nesting, to the extent practicable
7. No consideration of the place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate in the creation of a map
8. Favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate or political party is prohibited



“an open and transparent process enabling full public consideration of and comment on the drawing of district lines”



Commissioner Stan Forbes

- Commission autonomy and accountability
- Resources



Commissioner Connie Galambos Malloy

- Public outreach
- Mapmaking



- Summing it up: the three measures of success
- Challenges: in court and by referendum
- Questions



Resources

- WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov
 - Official Web site of the Citizens Redistricting Commission
- ReDrawCA.org
 - Easy tool for finding new districts and drawing your own



Resources, cont'd

- cavotes.org
- LWVC Education Fund Web site with in-depth information and links
- ca.lwv.org/lwvc/action/redistrict/index.html
- LWVC info about the campaign to establish the CRC



Resources, cont'd

- RedistrictingCA.org
- The LWVC was part of an alliance of 12 organizations funded by The James Irvine Foundation to ensure the 2011 redistricting was fair and inclusive. Web site with excellent resources.

