



August 27, 2021

Senate Committee on Redistricting  
Statehouse, Rm. 318-E  
300 SW 10th St.  
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Senator Dinah Sykes,

The League of Women Voters of Kansas thanks you for conducting the statewide redistricting Listening Tour during the week of August 9-13. We hope that you will build upon your commitment to a transparent process and the interest generated in the redistricting process by promptly adopting the guidelines and technical rules that will apply to this round of redistricting.

Three actions are important at this point to make the new districts fair for all Kansans

1. Guidelines for new district should be adopted no later than October 1. Guidelines should not facilitate “incumbent protection.” The practice of including voter registration/vote results and members’ “home seat” information in the redistricting database should not be continued.
2. The technical committee rules, which also should be adopted by October 1, should allow for individuals to submit community of interest maps for inclusion in the redistricting database as overlays. The goal being to provide easy access to community of interest information for the mapmakers drawing the districts. In addition, the rules should accommodate submission of proposed district maps in formats easily accessible by the public.
3. The League is heartened that the Committees will continue to accept input from the public after the completion of the initial round of hearings. We urge the Committees to ensure that new information is provided directly to

legislators and made available to the public. In addition, the League requests a more streamlined and widely publicized process for submission of maps and related material. Such improvements will contribute to transparency and public participation in creating fair districts for Kansans.

We appreciate your attention to our requests and thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Martha Pint and Jacqueline Lightcap, Co-Presidents