

Redistricting Talking Points

Good afternoon. My name is George Tyson, Resident of East Pennsboro Township and President of the Board of Commissioners, as well as a 52 year resident of Cumberland County. I come before you to share concerns that I have with the as presented Redistricting Maps, particularly the State House of Representatives.

East Pennsboro, Wormleysburg, Lemoyne, and Camp Hill as proposed will become a part of District 103 which comprises a large area of the city of Harrisburg. I have always believed Central PA of which we are a part of in EP as well as the city of Harrisburg is a wonderful place to live and raise your family. East Pennsboro and our Neighbors however represent a significantly different region than that the Capital City of Pennsylvania and should have representation accordingly.

It has been several weeks since the proposed maps have been presented and there has been no outreach from the representation in the 103rd district to answer questions or demonstrate how the merging of these 4 communities would be mutually beneficial. This causes great concern. If this is an example of how such representation may take place, should the next representative follow suit, it puts an exclamation point on our dissatisfaction.

- Prior to the Pandemic Cumberland County was identified as the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth.

- Article II, Section 16 of the Pennsylvania Constitution clearly requires that “unless Absolutely Necessary” no county, municipality, or ward is to be divided in the forming of districts. Natural boundaries are also a key factor. They are to be contiguous and compact.
- It would be very helpful for the LRC to identify the Criteria and list of details/items that have been identified as being “Absolutely Necessary” with the creation of this proposed map
- E-Commerce has greatly impacted the growth of Cumberland County and the Pandemic has and will continue to accelerate this growth.
- 67% of the US Population can be reached within 10 driving hours from Cumberland County which will assure such continued growth in Cumberland County
- In fact, with a population of 258,000 and an average House District with 64000 residents, Cumberland County can fit 4 House Districts solely within its counties borders
- I have concerns about Transportation Funding, Recreation and Environmental Funding, Community Development Block Grant Program Funding and allocations, Legislative Set-Aside appropriations and prioritization of such funding amongst the communities, and Redevelopment Funding.

In summary, this is simply a bad idea and when this information is shared with fellow residents who are very busy working to pay their taxes and raise their families, most are not aware that such a

proposal is even on the table, they take a step back in astonishment and disbelief. None have been in favor of this redistricting proposal.

Thank you!