

# A Resolution to Prohibit Gerrymandering in Establishment of Congressional Districts

1 **WHEREAS,** Politicians have taken advantage of the redistricting process by using sophisticated  
2 mapping technology to pack and crack communities in order to provide easy paths  
3 to victory for the majority party; and  
4 **WHEREAS,** Giving legislators the power to draw their own districts and congressional maps  
5 creates an unavoidable conflict of interest; and  
6 **WHEREAS,** When voters of different parties are segregated into separated districts, politicians  
7 no longer have to listen to citizens with differing political views, it creates an echo  
8 chamber which breeds political extremism; and now, therefore, be it  
9 **RESOLVED,** By two-thirds of the Congress here assembled, that the following article is proposed  
10 as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all  
11 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of  
12 three-fourths of the several states within seven years from the date of its  
13 submission by the Congress:

## ARTICLE --

14  
15 SECTION 1: In establishing districts for the election of Representatives in  
16 Congress, a State shall ensure that no plan for the apportionment  
17 of Representatives among individual districts, or any individual  
18 district established under such plan, is drawn with the intent to  
19 favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent; and districts  
20 shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging  
21 the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to  
22 participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to  
23 elect Representatives of their choice; and districts shall consist of  
24 contiguous territory (including any territory that would be  
25 contiguous except for the fact that it is bounded by a body of water  
26 or territory outside of the State).

27 SECTION 2: Unless compliance with the standards under this section conflicts  
28 with the standards set forth under section 1, districts for the  
29 election of Representatives in Congress shall be as nearly equal in  
30 population as is practicable; districts shall be compact; and districts  
31 shall, where feasible, utilize existing political and geographical  
32 boundaries.

33 SECTION 3: The order in which the standards under sections 1 and 2 are set  
34 forth shall not be read to establish any priority of one standard  
35 over any other standard within the same section."

*Introduced by Rep. Alexandra B. Sencer, The Collegiate School (NY)  
for the Harvard Debate Council Summer Workshops.*