



*from the*

## **OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS**

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Oregon Supreme Court says Legislature, not Secretary of State, has say over redistricting**

*Legislature should now commit to avoid gerrymandering by establishing independent redistricting commission like Washington and California*

**Salem, Ore.** – Today the Oregon Supreme Court [ruled](#) that the power of redistricting should remain with the Oregon Legislature.

Republicans are calling for the Legislature to finally follow Washington and California by establishing its own independent redistricting commission to avoid gerrymandering.

- Oregon is ranked as a high risk because its election maps can be rigged for partisan gain according to [reporting](#) from Axios on a RepresentUs study, a non-partisan advocacy group focused on election reform. Oregon is the only state on the west coast that is not at a minimal, or the lowest, risk rating, and the only west coast state that does not have an independent redistricting commission.
- 83 percent of Democrats, 67 percent of Independents, and 60 percent of Republicans support independent redistricting, according to data shared by Norman Turrill, Chair of the People Not Politicians, during a [recent committee hearing](#).

“Oregon needs to commit to a nonpartisan and transparent redistricting process,” said House Republican Leader Christine Drazan (R-Canby.) “Shockingly, we are the only state on the west coast that does not currently have an independent redistricting commission. In fact, we’re behind 26 other states in the country that have or are moving to an independent system this year. Oregonians deserve better, and they overwhelmingly support independent redistricting.”

“We need to take advantage of the current situation to modernize Oregon’s redistricting laws by establishing this independent commission,” added Representative Shelly Boshart Davis (R-Albany,) Vice-Chair of the House Special Committee on Redistricting. “It is unacceptable to tell our voters that their current system is ranked as a high risk for gerrymandering. Let’s align ourselves with our neighbors by having a nonpartisan commission draw new district lines.”

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