

Voters Win with Fair Maps

Written by Jeff Smith, State Senator District 31

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/mccabe-talks-people1-s5.jpg>



Sen. Smith writes about why it's important for Wisconsin to have a non-partisan redistricting process.

MADISON - Politicians have made it awfully hard to be trusted. I've heard it myself; citizens assume that politicians are corrupt and are "all the same." From Congress to the state legislature, the will of the people seems to be ignored, and those elected to office haven't seemed to change their ways.

Voters are cynical of the political system, and the redistricting process does little to restore their confidence. It's hard to reassure citizens when they believe every legislator's goal is to create a district that gives them a political advantage. Wisconsinites overwhelmingly agree that legislators shouldn't be the ones drawing their own districts. It's easy to understand how corruption can take hold of a system, in which the people who benefit are allowed to make their own rules. That's like saying that only quarterbacks should write the rules over how the defense can play.

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