

EXECUTIVE ORDER

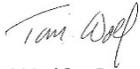
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Governor's Office

Title

Executive Order 2021-05, Pennsylvania Redistricting Advisory Council

Date

September 13, 2021

By Direction of:

Tom Wolf, Governor

WHEREAS, the success of our democracy demands fair, equitable elections, and transparency in the election process; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Redistricting Reform Commission established under Executive Order 2018-07 examined and offered recommendations for Pennsylvania's redistricting process; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's Congressional districts must be drawn to provide for representation of minority groups and must create districts that are compact, contiguous, and keep communities together, so that our elected officials reflect and represent the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, the Free and Equal Elections Clause of Pennsylvania's Constitution, Pa. Const. Art. I, §5, requires that these traditional neutral redistricting criteria not be subordinated to extraneous considerations such as gerrymandering for unfair partisan political advantage; and

WHEREAS, advances in metrics and analytic tools allow redistricting plans to be evaluated for adherence to neutral redistricting criteria and the extent to which a proposed map unequally advantages one political party over the other in the translation of statewide votes into the partisan division of electoral districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws of the Commonwealth do hereby establish the Pennsylvania Redistricting Advisory Council (hereafter referred to as the "Council") and order and direct as follows:

- 1. Purpose.** The purpose of the Council is to provide recommendations to assist the Governor in the evaluation of congressional redistricting plans.
- 2. Responsibilities.** The Council shall:
 - a.** Review and consider policies and practices implemented in other states that have reduced gerrymandering;

