

Grant Pilkington

From: Sam Wallace <samwallaceis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2021 6:00 PM
To: Grant Pilkington
Subject: Fwd: Join NJ, PA, and CT in ending prison gerrymandering

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From: Sam Wallace <samwallaceis@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 15, 2021 at 5:55 PM
Subject: Join NJ, PA, and CT in ending prison gerrymandering
To: <gpikington@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-archambault@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-phillips@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-kazarian@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-newberry@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-corvese@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-place@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-delacruz@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-felag@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-quezada@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-rogers@rilegislature.gov>, <sen-sosnowski@rilegislature.gov>

Hello Reapportionment Committee,

My name is Sam Wallace and I live at 20 Wood St in Providence, where I proudly work at DelSesto Middle School, connecting with over 800 wonderful young Rhode Islanders. I would like this committee to step up for these young people and end prison gerrymandering.

This takes power out of the hands of Providence and into incarecal cities. It feeds into the school to prison pipeline by awarding additional voting power to cities that incarcerate folks and removes voting power from the homes where those who are incarcerated will return. Someone who is incarcerated deserves to have their home recognized and to be counted as a part of the population, to which they will return.

This overtly racist practices even incentivizes more incarceration, as a city can incarcerate more people and count them towards their population, despite the incarcerated being from other cities.

Why in 2021 are we legitimizing this practice? I need this committee to stand up for our children and families and award fair and just voting population counts. Thank you for your time and consideration of my words in absence of my in-person presence at the meeting.

Best,
Sam