

Grant Pilkington

From: Susan Susan <susan.susan08@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 5:55 PM
To: Sen. Archambault, Stephen R.; Rep. Phillips, Robert D.; Rep. Kazarian, Katherine S.; Rep. Newberry, Brian C.; Rep. Corvese, Arthur J.; Rep. Place, David J.; Rep. Diaz, Grace; Sen. de la Cruz, Jessica; Sen. Felag, Jr., Walter S.; Sen. Quezada, Ana B; Sen. Rogers, Gordon E.; Sen. Sosnowski, V. Susan; Grant Pilkington
Subject: Protesting Gerrymandering of Sen. Ruggiero's District

Dear Sen. Archambault and Members of the Commission,

I regret not being able to attend tonight's hearing. Here is what I would testify:

For every reason I can think of, it's wrong to carve out a district in order to preserve a seat for Senator Ruggiero:

- It shows fear and weakness on his part, that he doubts he can hold his seat.
- It makes a sham of this committee and its hearings.
- It subverts what is supposed to be a democratic process.
- It creates unjustified, unwarranted disruption, strictly for the sake of disruption.
- Longterm, it weakens party loyalty if--as in this case--the incumbent being protected is out of step with the values and ethical standards of his/her/their voters.

I ask you to allow Sen. Ruggiero to stand on his own two feet, before his voters, without props or artifice.

In my home state, gerrymandering has created districts of every shape conceivable--one, in particular, is 85 miles long and 10 miles wide. As a result, the state is constantly in court and hundreds of millions of dollars and untold hours are wasted. I don't understand why RI would want this for itself.

The beauty of democracy is that each one of you can make a difference. It does take guts and I know it has risks. But I hope you'll do your jobs, not someone else's bidding.

Sincerely,

Susan Council
Providence 02903