

AUGUST 25, 2021

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK IN SC: IMPORTANT REDISTRICTING JOB OPENING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS CONTINUE

ACLU JOB OPENING

The ACLU of South Carolina is hiring a full time, time limited, attorney to assist organizations throughout South Carolina in their work towards a redistricting process that is as fair and transparent as possible. We are told that the person in this position will be available to assist and advise all of this, and we very much appreciate this great contribution from the ACLU.

Please help circulate information about this important job opening. Full information is posted at https://www.aclusc.org/en/jobs/redistricting-attorney-7-month-term.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Initial Senate public hearings have been completed. We thank the Senate and its redistricting staff for well-organized, accessible, and productive hearings. Information available to us indicates that anyone planning to submit maps to the Senate should be prepared by mid-

September, probably by September 15, to ensure that their maps are part of the decision-making process. Senate members also have indicated that they expect to meet by mid-October to approve final maps, although no specific date has been set.

The House Redistricting website schedule at https://redistricting.schouse.gov now includes information on venues for all hearings. The first House hearings will be at Myrtle Beach on September 8. The final meeting will be in Columbia on October 4. Individual hearing agendas on-line at www.scstatehouse.gov state that written testimony should be submitted to redistricting@schouse.gov and a request to participate virtually in the October 4 hearing (still the only House hearing with virtual access in spite of the resurgence of COVID-19) should be sent to wirtualtestimony@schouse.gov.

A request for information on the stage of the proceedings at which maps could be submitted to the House committee from third parties received a response that we should watch the website for that information. It is not yet posted. However, given the overall time frame it is very likely that the House maps will have been drawn prior to completing public input, possibly prior to initiating public input. Whether the hearings will include availability of their maps for comment remains unknown.

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