Legislation is needed to establish an independent redistricting commission in lieu of the current system in which the S.C. General Assembly takes sole responsibility for drawing voting district lines for the S.C. House, Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Independent commission with public participation (public hearings)
- Clear criteria for the selection of district boundaries
  - Population equality
  - Racial & linguistic minority representation
  - Geographically contiguous & compact to the greatest extent possible
  - Geographic integrity – respecting cities, towns, counties, neighborhoods to the extent possible
  - Eliminating incumbent and partisan protection as criteria for redistricting

Every 10 years our legislative district boundaries are redrawn, with far-reaching effects on our political process. The next redistricting process occurs in 2021, but we must start working on the process NOW to ensure that the redistricting process puts voters first and not politicians.

What do we mean by nonpartisan redistricting? We don’t seek an advantage for one party or the other, but a fair deal for voters. With our current system, S.C. Senate and House members pick winners and losers by the way that they draw the lines for voting districts for the U.S. Congressional House of Representatives as well as the S.C. General Assembly House and Senate districts. Voters should pick their representatives; representatives should not pick their voters.

Stopping the Gerrymander cannot happen without citizen voices and legislative support!