



- f. So what? Why does this matter? What will happen if nothing changes? How will this impact you or your community?
- g. What do you want the Commissioners or committee to do, consider, or change? What is your ask? (Say it clearly as your conclusion, then say thank-you.)

### **Step 2. Look at some maps. THIS IS OPTIONAL!**

On your own after this workshop, take a look at some maps. This is not essential, but may be of interest. Start with the FDPA site, and then if you want to dig deeper, move on to the following two.

[FDPA website District Maps](#): PA 2018 and 2011 Congressional maps, current PA House and Senate maps, as well as Detailed Maps by county and metropolitan area that show municipalities, and for some counties, school districts.

[Dave's Redistricting App](#): PA Congressional, House and Senate maps, with statistical information and demographic data.

[Azavea PA House & Senate maps linked to Turzai partisan data](#): PA House and Senate maps linked to 2016 election results and to secret data used in the 2011 redistricting process.

Not sure of your own district numbers? [Check here.](#)

### **Step 3. Think through some questions (Not all! Ignore those that you can't answer).**

- What seems odd about your districts?
- Where are county/municipal boundaries?
- Where are the geographic boundaries?
- What about school districts?
- Does your county have more districts than it should?
- Who are the legislators? Do they seem to represent the entire district?
- Where are their offices? Are they hard to get to?
- Do people in your community know who their legislators are?
- Do the legislators seem to listen to voters in their district?
- Are the things you care about addressed?
- Could the districts be drawn differently?
- What would work better for communities you care about?

### **Step 4. Draft your testimony.**

Based on your answers above, write a first draft.

- Establish **credentials** (who you are)

- Identify the **critical point** (why you care)
- Tell a **story**
- Provide **evidence** & list **consequences**
- Specify an **“ASK”**

It will be short! Remember, two minutes of testimony equals about 300 words. Be concise and make sure the points that are most important to you don't get lost.

#### **Step 5. Reach out for advice (Optional!)**

Reach out to [Outreach@fairdistrictspa.com](mailto:Outreach@fairdistrictspa.com) for advice or a critique.

Visit FDPA Office Hours on Zoom, Monday evenings from 7 to 8 PM during the month of July, for help looking at maps or thinking through what to say.

FDPA Office Hours, Mondays, 0-8:00 PM Eastern Time, July 12 to 26

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 829 5357 8886

Passcode: 053246

One tap mobile

[+13017158592](tel:+13017158592),82953578886# US (Washington DC)

[+13126266799](tel:+13126266799),82953578886# US (Chicago)

#### **Step 6. Watch for alerts**

Watch for FDPA email alerts for information about hearing locations and times.

You can also watch for updates on [www.fairdistrictspa.com](http://www.fairdistrictspa.com) and subscribe for Legislative Reapportionment Commission alerts [here](#).

#### **Step 7. Submit written testimony**

In addition to your spoken testimony, plan to submit what you say as written testimony. This can be simply the transcript of what you said. Or, if you had to cut some information to keep your spoken testimony short, feel free to submit longer written testimony. You can include maps, data, whatever you think might be helpful in making your case.

#### **Step 8. Encourage others to do the same**

#### **Want even more info?**

For more detailed ideas for testimony, as well as translations in other languages, check

[Getting Involved: Prepare Your Testimony](#)

Factsheet on preparing your testimony, courtesy of Common Cause, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and State Voices.