

For immediate release

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AND NORTHERN KY FORUM TO DISCUSS STATE REDISTRICTING AT NOVEMBER 2 WEBINAR

LOUISVILLE, KY-On Tuesday, November 2 the League of Women Voters of Northern Kentucky and the Northern Kentucky Forum will host a **Fair Maps Forum/Webinar**. This event, from 6:30-8:00 p.m., is free and open to the public with registration required at lwvky.org.

This webinar is one of a statewide series produced by the League of Women Voters of Kentucky to share draft maps of potential legislative districts and seek public input on how the maps could be drawn better. As Kentucky state legislators begin to redraw district boundary lines, the League is encouraging citizens to share their ideas for more representative maps of voting districts. Regardless of ethnicity, zip code or interest, citizens need to be fairly represented in Frankfort and Washington.

LWVKY speakers, Karen Brown and Susan Perkins Weston, will share draft maps using 2020 Census data to show how boundaries can be drawn more fairly and will ask for comments and suggestions.

LWVKY points out that, in the past, gerrymandering has been used to redraw district boundaries to benefit incumbents in their bid for re-election, or to unfairly enhance political preferences. New district lines need to be drawn to give each of our votes equal weight, each of our voices equal stature, and each of our communities equal access to the decision-making processes that make important decisions for us including funding for our schools, hospitals, and other essential services.

"I hope people from all political persuasions in Northern Kentucky can join us for this important dialogue," said Mark Neikirk, executive director of the Scripps Howard Center for Civic

Engagement at Northern Kentucky University, a Northern Kentucky Forum partner. "The league has invested resources in understanding how redistricting maps can be made – and is anxious to hear from you. So this will be educational and engaging. It will also be nonpartisan."

"Since this redrawing of boundaries every ten years is so important to the way citizens are represented, it is imperative that the system be fair and open," said LWVKY President Fran Wagner. "Regardless of any particular political party or interest group, the entire state benefits when redistricting is done fairly."

The remaining events will be livestreamed, with registration, and videotaped for later viewing, both at https://livestreamed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/.

The remaining events have been scheduled as follows.

- Tuesday, November 2: **Northern Kentucky** 6:30-8:00 p.m. EDT– VIRTUAL
- Wednesday, November 3: Morehead 4:30-6:00 p.m. EDT VIRTUAL

These events can be viewed or will be available soon at lwvky.org.

- September 16, 2021: **EKU/Richmond**
- Tuesday, September 21, Hopkinsville
- Tuesday, September 29, **Bowling Green**
- Thursday, October 14: Frankfort
- Monday, October 18: Louisville
- Thursday, October 21: Lexington
- Tuesday, October 26: Pikeville

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The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. As a nonpartisan body, the League takes action on issues but does not support or oppose candidates or parties. The League supports diversity, equity and inclusion in membership and programming.

The Northern Kentucky Forum is a collaboration of Northern Kentucky University's Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement and the three public library districts of Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties. The Forum is committed to nonpartisan, civil dialogue on issues and policies impacting Northern Kentucky.