

“WE DRAW THE LINES” COMMUNITY-MAPPING DRIVE

HOW YOU CAN ADVOCATE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY OF INTEREST DURING REMAPPING



INTRODUCTIONS



WHAT IS REDISTRICTING?

Every ten years, the government gathers population information through the census. Using the census, the state governments draw new electoral districts. This process is called **redistricting**. District lines decide which communities vote for which representatives in local, state, and federal elections.

WHAT IS THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS IN ILLINOIS

STEP 1

LEGISLATORS OR LOCAL OFFICIALS DRAW THE MAPS. FOR STATE DISTRICTS, SENATE & HOUSE MUST APPROVE BY SIMPLE MAJORITY.

STEP 2

THE STATE MAPS ARE SENT TO THE GOVERNOR FOR APPROVAL.

STEP 3 (A)

GOVERNOR SIGNS THE MAP PLAN INTO LAW AND THEY BECOME THE BOUNDARIES FOR THE NEXT DECADE.

STEP 3 (B)

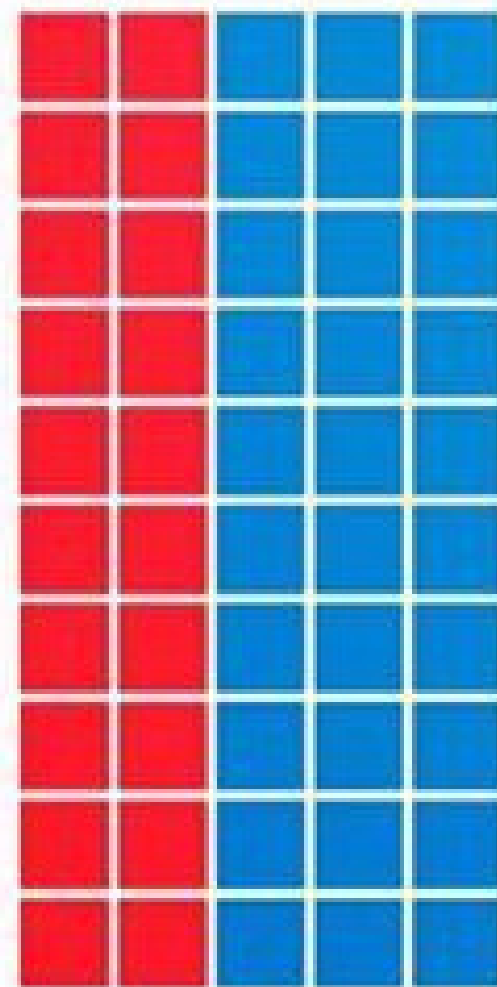
IF MAPS ARE VETOED OR NOT APPROVED, A COMMISSION IS NAMED. COMMISSION IS AN EIGHT-MEMBER LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION, SPLIT EVENLY BETWEEN THE TWO MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES. IF IT FAILS, NAMES OF 1 GOP & 1 DEM ARE PUT IN A HAT AND 1 NAME IS SELECTED RANDOMLY. THIS HAS HAPPENED 4 TIMES IN RECENT HISTORY AND 3 OUT OF THE 4 TIMES, A NAME WAS PULLED AT RANDOM.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO DRAW MAPS IN ILLINOIS?

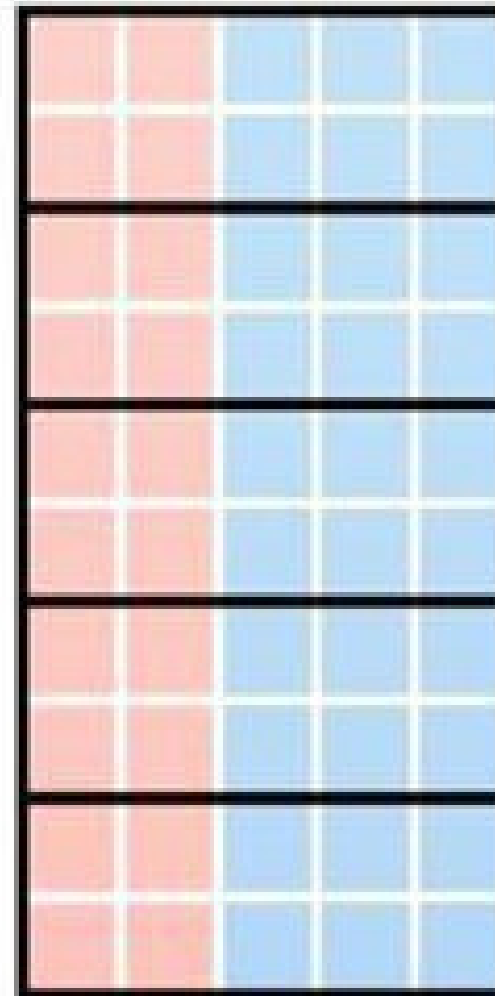
- **MUST FOLLOW REQUIREMENTS IN THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT AND THE ILLINOIS VOTING RIGHTS ACT**
- **SUBSTANTIALLY EQUAL IN POPULATION**
- **DISTRICTS MUST BE COMPACT**
- **CONTIGUOUS**

WHEN REDISTRICTING GOES WRONG: GERRYMANDERING

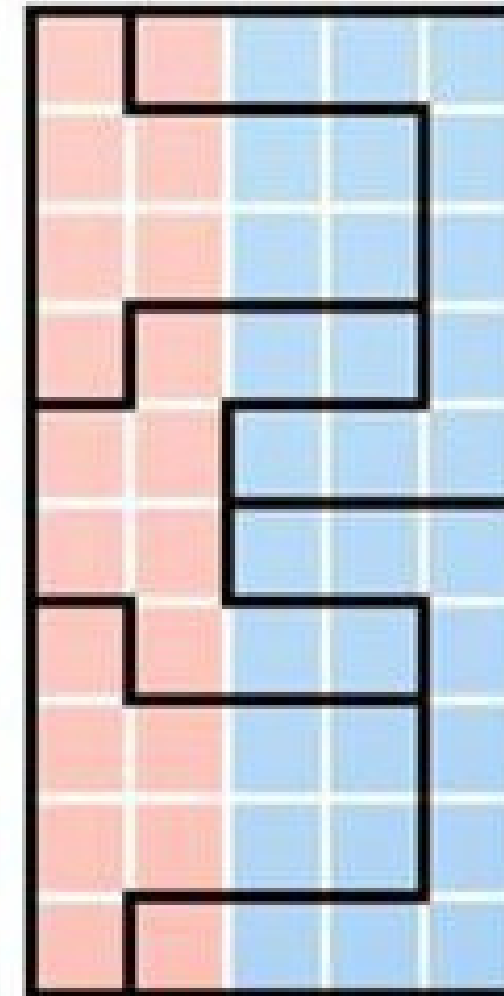
HOW TO STEAL AN ELECTION



50 PRECINCTS
60% BLUE
40% RED



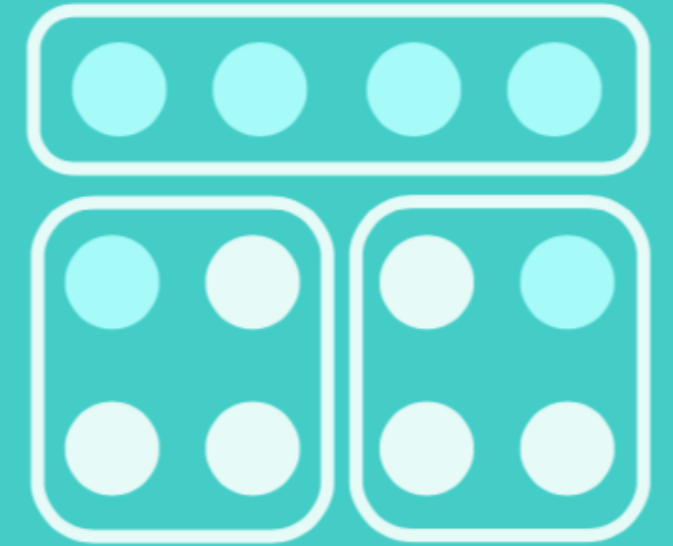
5 DISTRICTS
5 BLUE
0 RED
BLUE WINS



5 DISTRICTS
3 RED
2 BLUE
RED WINS

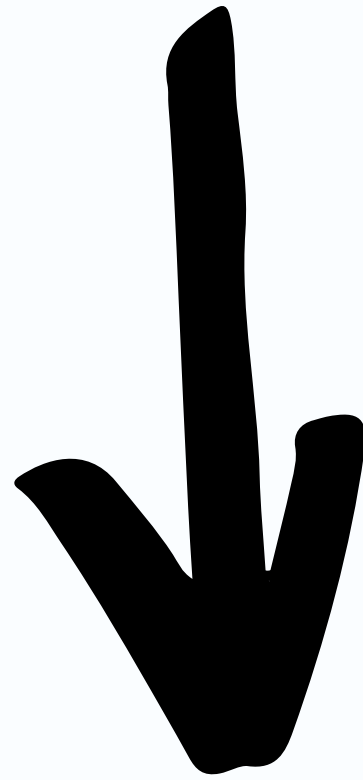
WHAT IS GERRYMANDERING?

Gerrymandering is the practice of drawing district lines in a way that favors a political party. Gerrymandering allows politicians to choose voters, instead of voters choosing politicians. Minority groups have disproportionately suffered from the manipulation of district lines.



**GERRYMANDERING IS VOTER SUPPRESSION AND
HAS STIFLED ELECTORAL COMPETITION.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO STOP GERRYMANDERING?



**DRAW YOUR COMMUNITY OF INTEREST AND MAKE
YOUR VOICES HEARD!**

A COMMUNITY OF INTEREST IS A POPULATION THAT SHARES CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, DEMOGRAPHIC OR ECONOMIC INTERESTS. COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST DO NOT NECESSARILY SHARE THE SAME POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS OR SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN CANDIDATES OR POLITICAL PARTIES.

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY HAVE A SHARED HISTORY OF BEING FROM THE SAME COUNTRY OF ORIGIN?

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY DEPEND ON SOYBEAN AND CORN FIELDS AS ITS MAIN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY?

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY HAVE AN ART OR THEATER DISTRICT THAT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT TO ITS IDENTITY?

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY HAVE A SHARED LANGUAGE OR CULTURAL TRADITIONS?

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY HAVE COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD NATURAL BOUNDARIES THAT SHOULD BE RESPECTED?

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

Communities of Interest (COI) help combat gerrymandering. If a community can identify itself on a map and show shared interests, it is less likely to be split up in the map drawing process. This makes it easier for communities to elect officials that represent them. A COI map is an easy way to show your community on a map to mapmakers.

WHEN IT COMES TO MAP DRAWING, THERE ARE THREE WAYS FOR CONSIDERING COIs:

- 1. MAP DRAWERS IGNORE COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST**
- 2. MAP DRAWERS DEFINE COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST**
- 3. COMMUNITIES DEFINE COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST, AND MAP DRAWERS LISTEN AND RESPECT THAT INPUT.**



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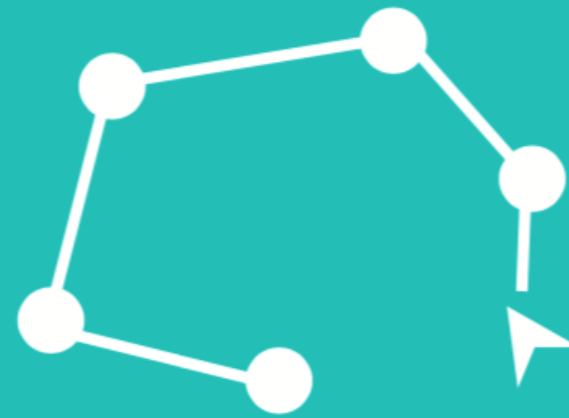
HOW IT WORKS?

Answer Questions



Answer questions built based on legal definitions of COIs.

Draw a Community Map



Use landmarks, zoom, and navigation to draw your map.

Visualize & Share



See all the community maps submitted and share your map to use for public testimony.

Tell us about yourself.

[Why do we need your information?](#)

Your Name *

Street *

City *

State *

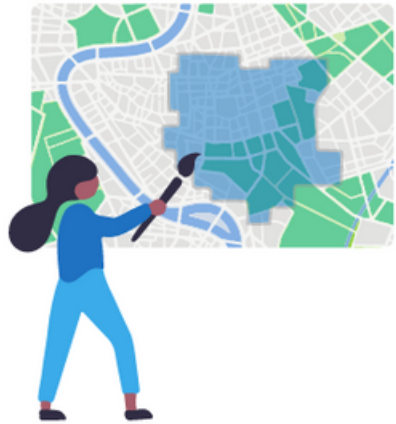
Zipcode *



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Step 2



Tell us about what unites your community.

Next, you will answer questions about your community before mapping it. We want to know what brings your community together.

What is a Community of Interest?

A Community of Interest is a **geographic area** that shares **cultural, historical, or economic** interests. Communities of Interest encourage the drawing of fairer voting districts.

Communities of Interest can include...

- 1 Your neighborhood, or an area you live in.
- 2 The people you would like to be represented with by public servants.
- 3 A group that is brought together by a common interest.

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Step 2

Community of Interest Questions

To submit your community entry, you must provide a response to **at least one** of the questions below. Please respond to all the questions that apply.

Click on each category to see helpful questions.

Economic or Environmental Interests ▼

ex. My community is located near a river. Fishing is the main industry. We experience seasonal unemployment. Water pollution of the river is a common concern of ours.

Community Activities and Services ▼



Step 2



Name your community.

Give your community of interest a name. This does not have to be the official name of your community.

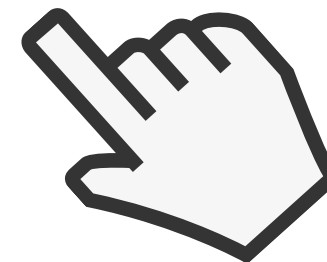
Examples: Cherry Farmers Community, St. Peters Church Community, Riverside Fishing Community

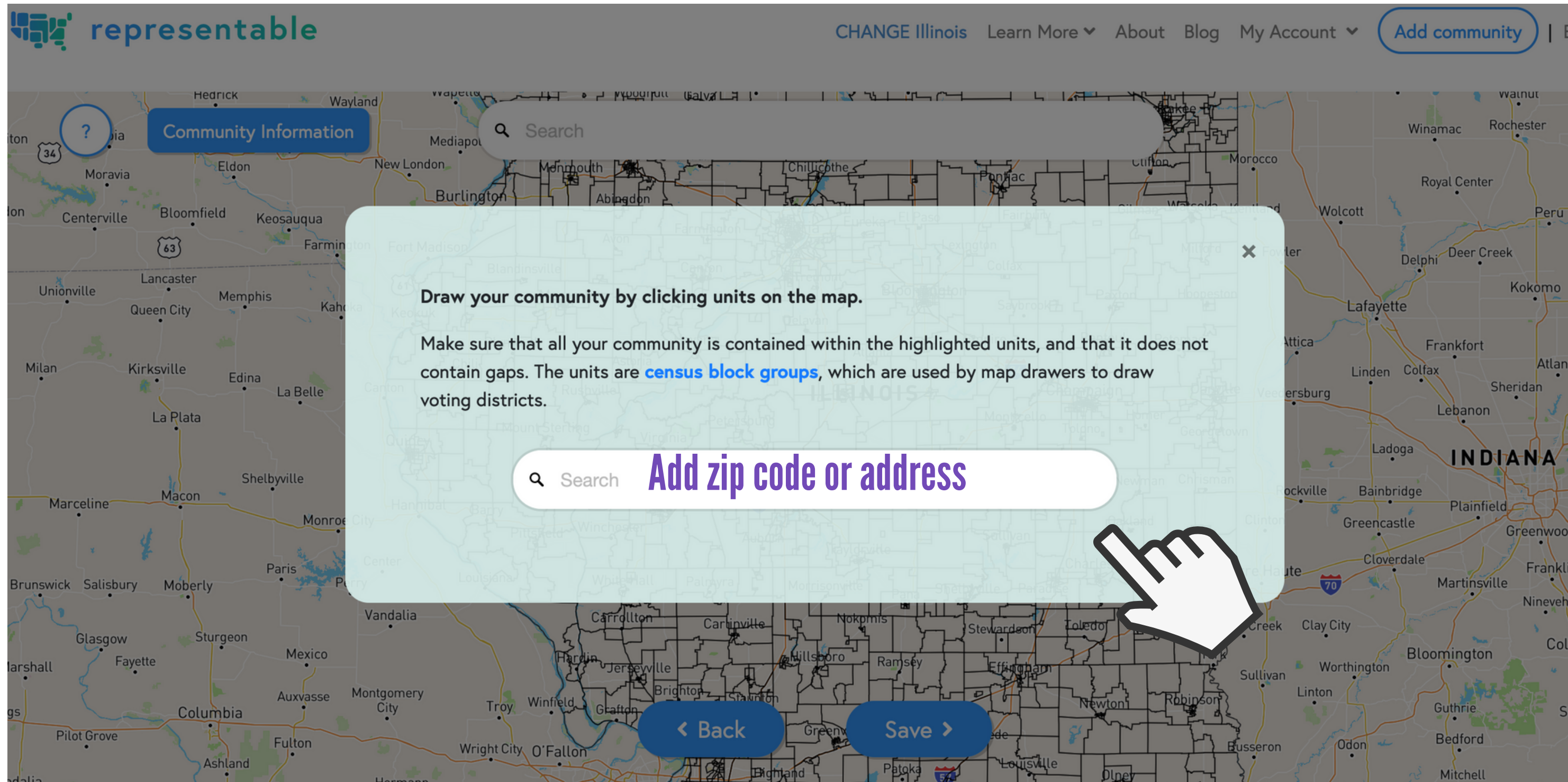
**Community
Name:**

ex. University of Texas Students

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Community Information

Search

Draw your community by clicking units on the map.

Make sure that all your community is contained within the highlighted units, and that it does not contain gaps. The units are **census block groups**, which are used by map drawers to draw voting districts.

Search **Add zip code or address**

INDIANA

← Back Save →

Step 4

Privacy and Terms of Use

We gather your identifying information to verify that you are a real person. We will not publicly share anyone's individual personal information, such as name, address, or email. Your privacy is our highest priority.

☐ Click here to indicate that you have read and agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). *

Submitted communities are final.

In order to edit a saved community you will need to create a new community and delete the old one.



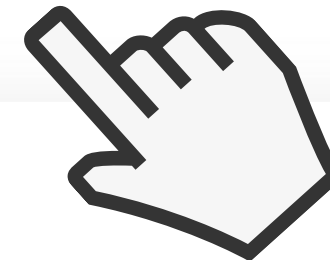
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SUBMIT




BREAKOUT GROUPS

ASK YOUR LAWMAKERS TO KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY OF INTEREST TOGETHER

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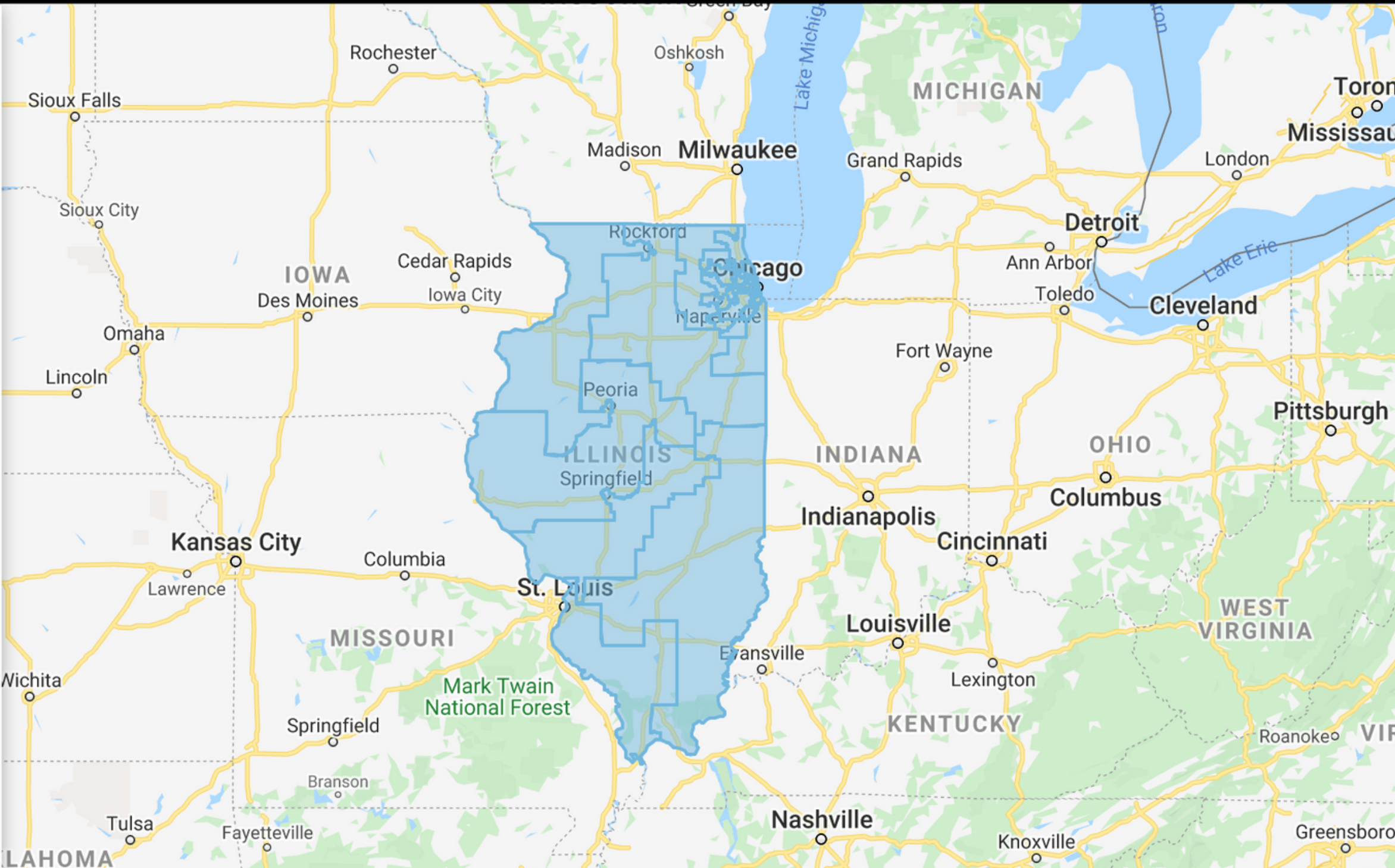
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SHOW:

- ☒ U.S. House Districts
- ☐ IL Senate Districts
- ☐ IL House Districts

Enter an address above, or choose a district on the map.



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GET INVOLVED



SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

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**BE INFORMED.
FOLLOW US.**



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**QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?**

THANK YOU!