

## Independent Maps



Independent Maps:

- A diverse, non-partisan coalition of Illinois civic, community and business leaders
- Transparent, non-profit 501(c)(4) organization
- Sole purpose: Change the process that determines how Illinois legislative district maps are drawn

Independent Maps:  
**Background**



- Illinois ranks last among all 50 states in financial health
  - Pension debt is well over \$100 billion and growing
  - 77% of Illinois voters believe corruption in Illinois state government is widespread
  - **In November 2014:**
    - ☛ **Close to 60% (82 of 137) of state legislative races were uncontested**
    - ☛ **Only one incumbent legislator was defeated despite the dire condition of the state**
- WHY?** Because of the current process legislative maps are drawn by politicians in secret to protect incumbents and maximize the advantage of the party drawing the map
- RESULT?**
- 1) Politicians are picking their voters; voters are not picking their politicians
  - 2) Legislators are often more accountable to party leaders than to their constituents
  - 3) Voter cynicism and non-participation is rampant


Independent Maps:  
**Mission**



- Draft an amendment to the Illinois State Constitution. Its purpose: establish a non-partisan, independent commission with authority to draw the maps for Illinois legislative districts in a transparent and fair manner
- Gather more than 290,000 valid petition signatures in support of our amendment
- Defend court challenges from entrenched interests that will challenge the amendment's constitutionality
- Conduct a voter education campaign to ensure passage of the Independent Map Amendment in November 2016

**Independent Maps:  
Board of Directors**


<p><b>PETER BENSINGER</b> CEO, Bensinger, DuPont &amp; Associates</p> <p><b>REVEREND DR. BYRON BRAZIER</b> Senior Pastor, Apostolic Church of God</p> <p><b>LESTER CROWN</b> Chairman, Henry Crown &amp; Company</p> <p><b>WILLIAM M. DALEY</b> Managing Partner and Head of US Operations, Argentiere Capital</p> <p><b>JIM EDGAR</b> Former Governor of Illinois</p> <p><b>DAVID ERICKSON</b> Vice President, Illinois Farm Bureau</p> <p><b>DENNIS FITZSIMONS</b> Chair, Independent Maps Chair, Robert R. McCormick Foundation</p>	<p><b>RUTH GREENWOOD</b> Staff Attorney, Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law</p> <p><b>DEBORAH HARRINGTON</b> Former President, Woods Fund of Chicago</p> <p><b>CHRISTIE HEFNER</b> Director, Center for American Progress Fund</p> <p><b>CHERYLE JACKSON</b> Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Development, AAR CORP and Former President, Urban League</p> <p><b>MARY KUBASAK</b> President, League of Women Voters of Illinois</p> <p><b>CHARLES ASHBY LEWIS</b> Chairman, Lewis-Sebring Family Foundation, and Former Vice Chairman Investment Banking, Merrill Lynch</p>	<p><b>ROSEANNE MARQUEZ</b> Illinois State President, AARP</p> <p><b>BRAD McMILLAN</b> Executive Director, Institute for Principled Leadership in Public Service, Bradley University</p> <p><b>STEVEN N. MILLER</b> Partner, Origin Ventures</p> <p><b>SYLVIA PUENTE</b> Executive Director, Latino Policy Forum</p> <p><b>JESSE H. RUIZ</b> Partner, Orin Riddle R. Reath, Attorneys</p> <p><b>MANUEL "MANNY" SANCHEZ</b> Managing Partner, Sanchez, Daniels &amp; Hoffman, LLP</p> <p><b>SAMUEL SCOTT</b> Former Chairman, President and CEO, Corn Products International</p>	<p><b>GORDON SEGAL</b> Founder and Former CEO, Crate &amp; Barrel</p> <p><b>SHEILA SIMON</b> Former Lieutenant Governor, State of Illinois</p> <p><b>HARRISON I. STEANS</b> Chairman of Executive Committee, Financial Investments Corporation</p> <p><b>TYRONNE STOUDEMIRE</b> VP, Global Diversity and Inclusion, Hyatt Hotels Corporation</p> <p><b>DON THOMPSON</b> Retired CEO, McDonald's Corporation</p> <p><b>CORINNE WOOD</b> Former Lt. Governor of Illinois</p>
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**Guiding Principles: Voting Rights**


1. Maps must comply with all federal civil rights and voting rights laws
2. Legislative districts shall not dilute or diminish the ability of a racial or language minority community to elect candidates of its choice, including when voting in concert with other persons
3. The redistricting plan shall not either intentionally or unduly discriminate against or intentionally or unduly favor any political party, political group or particular person
4. To the extent practical, districts shall respect the geographic integrity of communities sharing common social and economic interests

## Why do this? Illinois Redistricting History

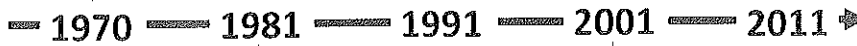


The current map-drawing process was codified in the Illinois State Constitution. The tie breaker process established and designed to ensure bi-partisan compromise has failed. Allowing one party, selected by random lot, complete control over drawing Illinois' legislative districts has resulted in highly partisan maps with virtually no substantive input from citizens.

Illinois Republicans won the tie breaker, drew the maps to their advantage and reclaimed the State Senate.

Democrats controlled the House, Senate and Governorship so no tie breaker was necessary, and maps were drawn and passed with no votes from Republican legislators.

Because of the nature of the process, **both** parties have taken advantage of map making to enhance their position at the expense of true representative democracy.



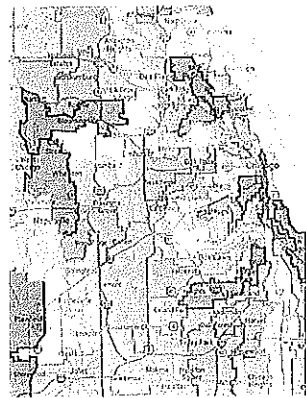
No compromise was reached and Democrats, by winning the tie breaker, controlled the process. A brilliant young legislator, Michael Madigan was credited with skillfully drawing the maps to favor Democrats. In 1983 he was rewarded by being elected Speaker.

Compromise was again impossible. Democrats won the tie breaker and manipulated the maps and demographic patterns and further secured their majorities.

## Gerrymandered Districts



Illinois State  
Legislative  
Districts  
Chicago Region



## The Tricks of Partisan Map Making



The party drawing the map often....

- Places the other party's incumbents in one district to force colleagues to compete against each other
- Draws the other party's incumbents homes out of their existing districts forcing them to familiarize themselves with new districts and, if they win, relocate their family
- Groups populations together based on their partisan voting history, rather than common ethnicity, geographic boundaries or economic conditions
- Creates as many safe districts as possible, depriving voters of a choice at the ballot box

## Solution



- Change the current map making process via Constitutional Amendment
- Create a diverse, non-partisan, independent commission with authority to draw state legislative district maps in a fair and transparent manner.

### Four stage campaign:

- Draft amendment (March - April 2015)
- Solicit petition signatures (May 2015 - May 2016)
- Withstand court and petition challenges (June - August 2015)
  - Petition signature challenges at State Board of Elections
  - Constitutionality challenges in Illinois courts
- Convince 2.75 million Illinois voters to approve the Independent Maps Amendment (September 2016 - November 2016).

## Independent Maps Campaign Will Be Successful



- Strong, statewide public support for an independent redistricting process
- Benefit of roadmap from Judge Mikva's 2014 decision
- Builds on 2010 and 2014 efforts
- Huge advantage of existing volunteer networks
- Large, diverse, bi-partisan board of directors
- Experienced campaign team
- Earlier start to both fund raising and petition drive
- Very strong statewide editorial support

## Independent Map Supporters

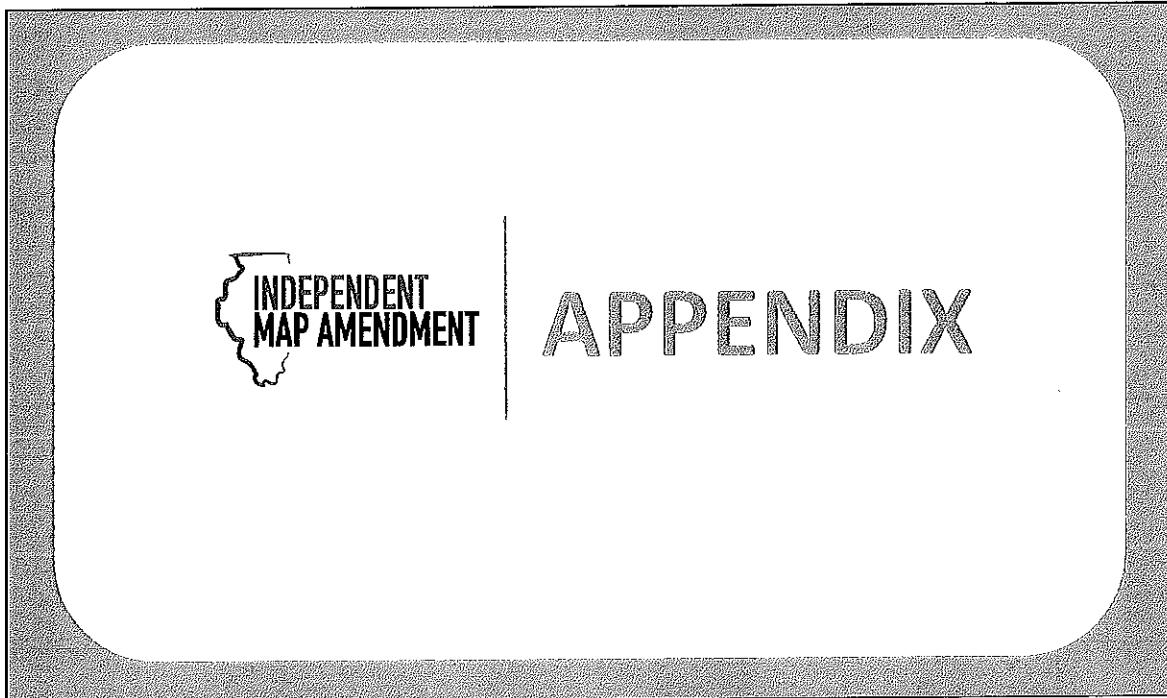


## Thank You



- Frustrated by stagnation in Springfield?
- Feel that Illinois state government is broken?
- Support the Independent Map Amendment to create more competition, more candidates and make elected officials more responsive and accountable.





## Independent Committee Selection Process



- There will be 11 commissioners
- Illinois Auditor General will select a three-person Applicant Review Panel from a pool of qualified, registered voter applicants
- Any registered voter interested in serving on the Commission can submit an application to the Auditor General
- Applicant Review Panel will select from a pool of applicants a diverse, non-conflicted pool of 100 potential Commissioners with relevant skills
- Names and qualifications of the 100 potential Commissioners will be made available to the public
- The four leaders of the Illinois House and Senate (2Ds/2Rs) will each be allowed to remove up to 5 of the potential Commissioners from the list
- The Applicant Review Panel will select 7 Commissioners from the remaining pool
- No more than 2 (2Ds/2Rs) of the 7 can be affiliated with the same political party
- The four legislative leaders select the final four Commissioners from the remaining pool, making selections based on the appointee's contribution to the demographic and geographic diversity of the state



## The Small Print



All contributions are reported to the Illinois State Board of Elections. A copy of our report filed with the Board of Elections is (or will be) available on the Board's official website ([www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov)) or for purchase from the Illinois State Board of Elections, Springfield, Illinois.

*Paid for by Support Independent Maps*

