

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: The League of Women Voters of Greater Los Angeles strongly supports an independent redistricting commission for Los Angeles. The League of Women Voters has a long history in support of independent redistricting. For example, in 2016, the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) co-sponsored California Senate Bill 1108, which authorized all California counties and general law cities to establish independent citizen commissions to redraw district lines. The LWVC did not stop there. In 2018, the League supported SB1018, which clarified the original intent of SB1108 on several matters. First, commissions may be used for an initial redistricting and not simply a redistricting. Second, hybrid commissions, where both the local government and commission share authority in adopting final maps, must meet the same standards of independence and transparency required of independent commissions. Third, in 2019 and 2020, LWVC co-sponsored the Fair Maps Act (AB 849 and AB 1276). This law brings fair redistricting criteria to California's cities and counties. The League of Women Voters has long supported INDEPENDENT redistricting commissions. We applaud the efforts of the Los Angeles City Council to place a measure on the City Charter to implement an Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) on the 2023 ballot. The League of Women Voters believes that public participation is an essential part of the independent redistricting process. We strongly support:

- * A ban on off-the-record communications. The Los Angeles City Independent Redistricting Commission must be held to the same standard as the State of California in order to prevent circumvention through proxies of their elected officials or their staff
- * Remote public comments. All members of the public should be able to make comments at all future meetings. Everyone should have the ability to have their voice heard, including those with disabilities, are immunocompromised, have limited transportation options or are unable to miss work.
- * Adequate notice for the public to attend the meetings. Five day's notice is seriously insufficient. The State of California gives fourteen day's notice. Los Angeles should do the same. The League of Women Voters applauds the Council's work on this issue. We hope you will consider our suggestions.