



Chairman Mark A. Nordenberg
2021 PA Legislative Reapportionment Commission
P.O. Box 203079
Harrisburg, PA 17120
January 11, 2022

Dear Chairman Nordenberg:

On behalf of Lemoyne Borough Council, I would like to express our opposition to the proposed 2021 redistricting of the 103rd Legislative District, as it relates to our residents and community. Our primary concerns revolve around the fact that the needs of small, suburban communities such as Lemoyne vs. the needs of a Third-Class City like Harrisburg, are vastly different, for a variety of reasons.

First, there is the issue of governance. Lemoyne is governed by an elected, non-compensated Borough Council, whereas the city of Harrisburg is governed primarily by the Mayor and secondarily by their City Council, all of which are paid positions. In addition, the fact that Harrisburg is the state Capital adds greater levels of differentiation that directly impact Lemoyne. For example:

- Compensation levels for leadership
- Traffic congestion and control
- Public parking and the private control of same
- Governmental building considerations as related to the tax base
- Infrastructure issues, including public utilities & services
- Law enforcement considerations

Our communities face major differences and requirements in these areas. How can one State Representative advocate for and meet the needs of these vastly different communities?

Secondly, the proposed re-districting plan lumps the urban Harrisburg School District with the suburban West Shore School District and the independent Camp Hill School District. Further, it splits the West Shore School District into two separate districts. Please don't misconstrue this to mean that the students in these districts are not all deserving of equal educational opportunities. Quite the contrary. That is exactly the point: they are! How can one Representative advocate for districts that have vastly different needs for its students, faculties & programs? Further, splitting a school district between two different legislative districts, as is proposed for the West Shore School District, significantly diminishes the ability of the school board to govern, to budget and to effect change via different legislative representatives.

For these reasons, we **do not** support the current re-districting proposal for the 103rd Legislative District and are opposed to the detrimental impact this will have on our community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gale E. Gallo".

Gale E Gallo, President
Lemoyne Borough Council