Becoming a Redistricting Reform Champion
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TALENTS
• People Person
• Talkative
• Good Listener
• Avid Reader
• Deep Thinker
• Persuasive

SKILLS
• Public Speaking
• Writing
• Researching
• Computing
• Marketing/Creative
• Math/Map Making
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TIME
- Don’t overcommit
- Family first
- 20 Min / Week
- 1 Hour / Day

INTERESTS
- Do what you love
- Love what you do
- Engagement
- Experiment – see what you enjoy doing
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PUBLIC SPEAKING
• Training/materials provided
• Group sizes from 8 – 1,000s.

WRITING
• Letters to the Editor
• Draft notes to Representatives
• Send pre-drafted notes

MARKETING
• Organizing events
• Reaching out to the media
• Developing short videos
• Developing marketing materials

OUTREACH
MEMBER DEVELOPMENT
LEADERSHIP
ORGANIZING
A. Our representative democracy depends on protecting the principle of “one person, one vote.” Leaving redistricting to the often-partisan Texas Legislature has resulted in unfairly drawn districts under both major political parties.

B. 72% of the candidates who ran for state legislative offices in the 2016 general election either faced no competition or were running in such heavily gerrymandered districts that they were virtually guaranteed victory (and won by more than a 45 percent margin). This means that voters could not hold these elected officials accountable in the general election.

C. Voters in many communities have no political voice because they have been split into different districts. We need reform to keep our communities together so everyone has representation.

D. An independent citizens redistricting commission will make the redistricting process open so it cannot be controlled by the party in power. This reform will set limits on partisan involvement by giving us an equal number of Democrats and Republicans on the commission, and will ensure full participation of independent voters—whose voices are completely shut out of the current process. In addition, membership will reflect the diversity of the unit of government, including representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups. This reform requires support from Democrats, Republicans, and independents for approval of new redistricting plans.

Sign a FairMapsTexas Petition
E. The independent Citizens Redistricting Commission will draw districts based on strict, nonpartisan rules designed to ensure fair representation. The reform takes redistricting out of the partisan battles of the Legislature and guarantees redistricting will be debated in the open with public meetings, and all minutes will be posted publicly on the Internet. Every aspect of this process will be open to scrutiny by the public and the press.

G. Any proposal for an independent citizens redistricting commission should include provisions to assure the protection of the voting rights of minority citizens, pursuant to the requirements of the United States Constitution and the Voting Rights Act.

H. In the current process, politicians are choosing their voters instead of voters having a real choice. This reform will put the voters back in charge.

We hereby call on our local, elected officials to pass a resolution in support of the creation of an independent redistricting commission for our state legislative and congressional districts. We also call on our state legislators to pass legislation that would create an independent redistricting commission for our state legislative and congressional districts.

Sign a FairMapsTexas Petition
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WRITE A POSTCARD

I am distressed by the extreme partisanship in the Texas redistricting process limiting the ability of citizens to exercise their right of representation.

Texas is before the Supreme Court for racial gerrymandering. We can let the High Court decide and put us back on pre-clearance, or we can fix the problem once and for all! We need an Independent Redistricting Commission.

Please stand with the citizens of Texas!
QUESTIONS?  COMMENTS?
THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!
LET’S GET CITIZENS TO COLOR IN THE MAP OF TEXAS!