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**Fair Districts for New Mexico – Creating an Independent Redistricting Commission**

In July 2019 the League of Women Voters of New Mexico (LWVNM) received funding from the Thornburg Foundation to conduct the Fair Districts for New Mexico (FDNM) campaign. FDNM now has 35 organizations (see list below) that have joined together to support fair, transparent and trusted redistricting in New Mexico.

FDNM partner organizations worked to pass the **Redistricting Act** in the 2021 legislative session. That legislation created the Citizen Redistricting Committee (CRC). The seven-member CRC was charged with developing three recommended district maps for the three New Mexico Congressional seats, the New Mexico House and Senate, as well as the Public Education Commission. FDNM played a major role in promoting public input at CRC meetings and on the online public input site.

The CRC sent their recommended district maps to the Legislature. The Legislature met in special in December and while the New Mexico House paid attention to the CRC recommended maps, the New Mexico Senate chose to ignore the CRC recommendations and draw their maps behind closed doors.

That made it clear to FDNM that it was time for a constitutional amendment to create an independent redistricting commission independent of the Legislature. In the 2022 session FDNM worked with Representatives Natalie Figueroa and Daymon Ely to introduce House Joint Resolution 9 (HJR9) that would put the question of creation of an independent redistricting commission on ballot on the next general election. HJR9 passed one committee, but in the short thirty day session it did not go further.

The sponsors of HJR9 have agreed to work with other legislators to introduce a similar House Joint Resolution (HJR) in the longer 60 day 2023 Legislative session. Fair Districts for New Mexico will be working with our member organizations to pass that HJR.

**Fair Districts for New Mexico partners:**Adelante Progressive Caucus; American Association of University Women (AAUW), New Mexico; American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Mexico; The Brennan Center for Justice; Central New Mexico Democrats; Democratic Party of New Mexico Rural Caucus; Common Cause New Mexico; Election Reformers Network; Green Party of Albuquerque Metro Area; Green Party of New Mexico; Indivisible Albuquerque; Indivisible Las Cruces; Indivisible Rio Grande; Indivisible Sandoval County; Indivisible Santa Fe; Indivisible SOS Santa Fe; International District Healthy Communities Coalition (IDHCC); League of Women Voters of New Mexico; League of Women Voter U.S.; Lutheran Advocacy Ministries - New Mexico; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Doña Ana County; Native American Democratic Caucus of New Mexico; New Mexico Black Voters Collaborative; New Mexico Chamber of Commerce; New Mexico Democratic Black Caucus; New Mexico Ethics Watch; New Mexico First; New Mexico Foundation for Open Government (NMFOG); New Mexico Open Elections; Princeton Gerrymandering Project; Progressive Democrats of America (PDA), Central New Mexico; RepresentUs New Mexico; Republican National Hispanic Assembly of New Mexico; Retake Our Democracy; Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce; Save Our Western Way of Life; Vecinos United