

JOHN A. LAWRENCE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
13TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

HARRISBURG OFFICE:
P.O. BOX 202013
HARRISBURG, PA 17120
(717) 260-6117

JENNERVILLE OFFICE:
1 COMMERCE BLVD., SUITE 200
WEST GROVE, PA 19390
(610) 869-1602

Honorable Garth Everett
Chairman, House State Government Committee
401 Irvis Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

October 10, 2019

Dear Garth –

I trust all is well.

As you are aware, Legislative Reapportionment is a topic of significant interest. In my view, a wholesale change in the process of drawing legislative districts is one of the most important and lasting reforms we could undertake as a General Assembly.

While there are many views on how such reform could be accomplished, I believe a Citizens Commission approach, which removes political officials and elected legislators from the process, is the best path forward. Removing elected officials from the process of drawing legislative districts removes a clear conflict of interest, and I believe it would go a long way to increasing the public's confidence both specifically in reapportionment, and in broadly in state government as a whole.

I appreciate the thoughtful review that the State Government Committee has given to this topic during this legislative session, and I am optimistic that reform-minded legislation will come to the House floor for a vote. I am strongly supportive of moving forward with a Citizens Commission approach for legislative reapportionment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Kind Regards –

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Lawrence", with a long, sweeping underline.

John Lawrence