



What is redistricting?

March 3, 2021

Reapportionment vs Redistricting

- Reapportionment:
 - ▣ The allocation of the 435 House seats among the states
 - ▣ Census state total populations will be released by April 30th

- Redistricting:
 - ▣ The redrawing of election district lines within a state, county or other jurisdiction
 - ▣ Census population data for redistricting will be released “by September 30th”

Many levels of California government redistrict

- The House of Representatives (but not the Senate)
- State Legislatures (including the State Senate)
- All 58 County Supervisors
- 180 City Councils
- About 300 School Districts
- A few dozen Water and other Special Districts

Why does redistricting matter?

“Our representatives in local, state, and federal government set the rules by which we live. In ways large and small, they affect the taxes we pay, the food we eat, the air we breathe, the ways in which we make each other safer and more secure. Periodically, we hold elections to make sure that these representatives continue to listen to us. . . . The way that voters are grouped into districts therefore has an enormous influence on who our representatives are, and what policies they fight for.”

Erika Wood & Justin Levitt, Brennan Center for Justice,
[A Citizen's Guide to Redistricting](#), 2010 Edition

Guest Speaker: Kathay Feng

Kathay Feng is Common Cause's National Redistricting Director.

Kathay is the architect of California's Citizens Redistricting Commission and now leads Common Cause's national push for similar redistricting reforms in other states.

Before joining Common Cause in 2005, she headed the Voting Rights and Anti-Discrimination Unit at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. She helped the center secure key voting rights, anti-hate crime, language rights and consumer rights laws while also working on high profile hate crimes cases, civil liberties advocacy, and election monitoring and polling.

She serves, or has served, on numerous boards including the California Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Voter Participation and Outreach, the LA County Human Relations Commission, and the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council. She is a graduate of Cornell University, and holds a law degree from UCLA School of Law.

