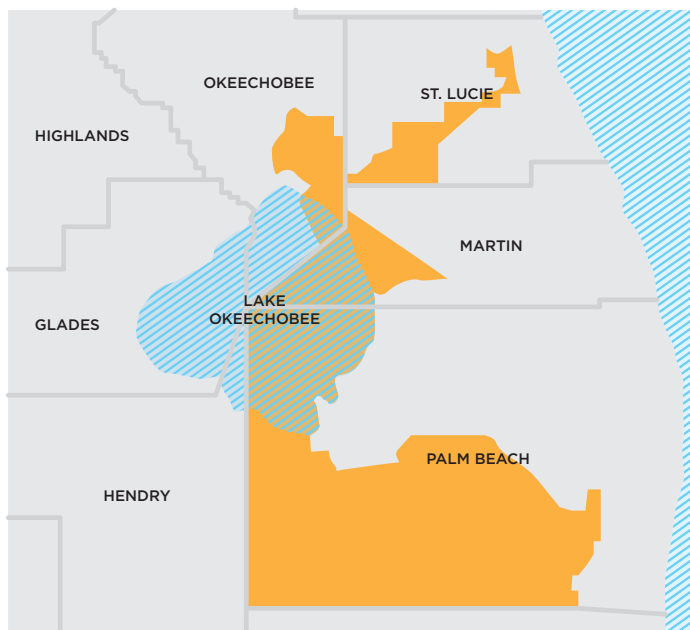


WHAT IS WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?



Take a look at Florida's House District 78. What you see is a voting district that has been drawn by legislators to achieve a political result that benefits them. This is unfair and un-American. District 78 is just one of dozens of Florida districts that have been designed by the politicians to favor a political party or incumbent. It divides communities and connects areas that have little in common.

Redistricting is intended to ensure that every person's vote counts equally. But in Florida, this is not how things work. Legislators now choose their voters rather than the voters choosing their representatives. **That is not democracy.**

- › Every ten years, Florida's elected representatives are allowed to re-draw their district lines — and they use this opportunity to protect themselves.
- › The Florida Constitution now contains no guidelines or standards to stop this political conflict of interest.
- › This scenario leaves politicians free to rig districts, which makes real competition in elections rare. Just look at the three last elections, when only three incumbent Florida legislators were defeated.
- › **FairDistricts Amendments 5 & 6** will create rules to stop politicians from drawing districts to favor themselves or to eliminate their political opponents.
- › Florida's major newspaper editorial boards are unanimously in favor of **FairDistricts Amendments 5 & 6**.
- › Voting **YES** for **FairDistricts Amendments 5 & 6** on the November 2 ballot will allow Florida voters to select their representatives rather than the other way around.

FLORIDIANS CALL FOR FAIR REPRESENTATION

The current system for drawing legislative and congressional districts is broken.

— *St. Petersburg Times*

The redistricting process needs to be overhauled....It is critical to remove selfish political motives from the process.

— *Tampa Tribune*

There is nothing state lawmakers guard more jealously than their power to rig legislative and congressional districts to serve their own interests and their party's desire for control.

— *The Gainesville Sun*

The present rules of redistricting serve the interests of politicians more than voters....the intent of the amendments is sound: to give voters more power and powerful politicians less.

— *Tallahassee Democrat*

Gerrymandering by either party is an affront to democracy and to the expectation that all men and women are equal under the law.

— *Sarasota Herald Tribune*

Opponents of the amendments should just be honest about it and admit they don't want to change a system that helps them hold on to power.

— *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*

This bi-partisan campaign deserves broad bi-partisan support.

— *Palm Beach Post*

Florida's voters now have the monumental opportunity to end the patently unfair practice of gerrymandering.

— *Bradenton Herald*

This is a campaign to restore some integrity to the now-corrupt system of drawing legislative and congressional districts....Unless the process is changed, voters won't get the choices they deserve.

— *Orlando Sentinel*

Many legislators are outraged at proposals that would strip them of the ability to rig districts to benefit parties or individuals....but fairer districts can only be good for Florida. Here's hoping that voters see through the distractions, and vote to protect their interests.

— *Daytona News Journal*

End the political gerrymandering that harms democracy.

— *Florida Today*

Fortunately a group called FairDistrictsFlorida is seeking a constitutional ban on gerrymandering.... Lines shouldn't be drawn to help a party, incumbent or anyone else.

— *Florida Times Union*

Amendments 5 and 6 will give control of elections back to Florida's voters, where it belongs.

— *The Miami Herald*

AMENDMENT 5

STANDARDS FOR LEGISLATURE TO FOLLOW IN LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING

Legislative districts or districting plans may not be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party. Districts shall not be drawn to deny racial or language minorities the equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect representatives of their choice. Districts must be contiguous. Unless otherwise required, districts must be compact, as equal in population as feasible, and where feasible must make use of existing city, county and geographical boundaries.

AMENDMENT 6

STANDARDS FOR LEGISLATURE TO FOLLOW IN CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

Congressional districts or districting plans may not be drawn to favor or disfavor an incumbent or political party. Districts shall not be drawn to deny racial or language minorities the equal opportunity to participate in the political process and elect representatives of their choice. Districts must be contiguous. Unless otherwise required, districts must be compact, as equal in population as feasible, and where feasible must make use of existing city, county and geographical boundaries.

FairDistrictsFlorida.org is a non-partisan organization dedicated to advancing the reform of Florida's redistricting procedures by attaining citizen support and securing the adoption of **FairDistricts Amendments 5 and 6** on Florida's 2010 general election ballot on November 2.