

Public Engagement in the Redistricting Process

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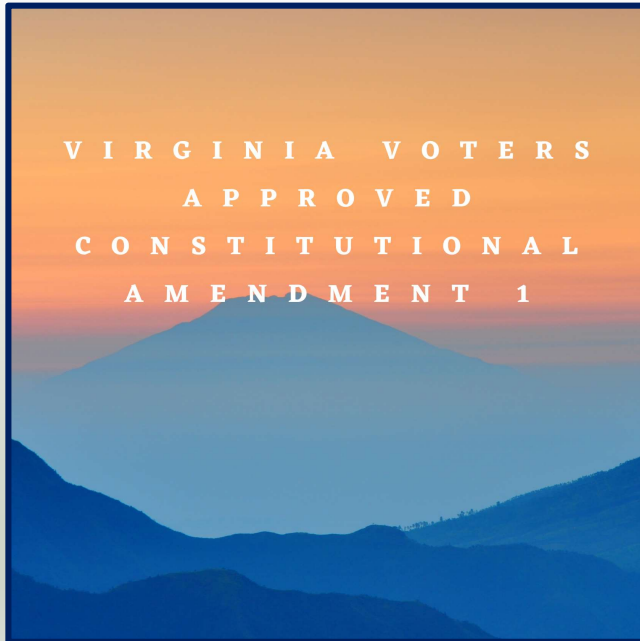
**For 400 years,
Virginia's maps have
been drawn behind
closed doors by a small
group of politicians.**



Virginia is bringing map-drawing into the sunlight



VIRGINIA VOTERS
APPROVED
CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENT 1





Virginia has a bipartisan, citizen-led Redistricting Commission



**The Amendment language is now part of the Constitution of Virginia.
Citizen participation and transparency are now required during redistricting.**

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Code of Virginia
Administrative Code
• Constitution of Virginia
Charters
Authorities
Compacts
Uncodified Acts

Constitution of Virginia
Table of Contents > Article II. Franchise and Officers > Section 6-A. Virginia Redistricting Commission

← Section → Print PDF email Read Full Constitution

Article II. Franchise and Officers
Section 6-A. Virginia Redistricting Commission

(a) In the year 2020 and every ten years thereafter, the Virginia Redistricting Commission (shall be convened for the purpose of establishing districts for the United States House of Representatives for the Senate and the House of Delegates of the General Assembly pursuant to Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution.

(b) The Commission shall consist of sixteen commissioners who shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

Go to



“At least three public hearings in different parts of the Commonwealth”



<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/constitution/article2/section6-a/>

“All records and documents of the Commission ... shall be considered public information.”

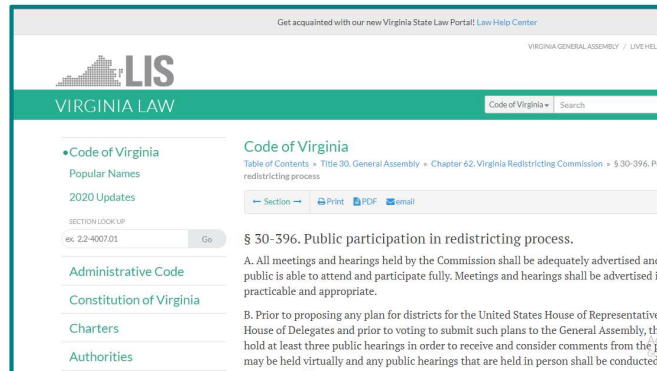


<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/constitution/article2/section6-a/>



**Public engagement
and transparency are
also addressed in the
Code of Virginia.**

**In 2020 the General
Assembly passed
SB 717 & HB 1255, which
amended the Code of
Virginia.**



<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

All meetings and hearings ... shall be

- “adequately advertised”
- “planned to ensure the public is able to attend and participate fully”
- “advertised in multiple languages as practicable and appropriate”



§ 30-396 <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF VIRGINIA

Before drawing or voting on maps, the Commission shall:

- “hold at least three public hearings in order to receive and consider comments from the public”
- “public hearings may be held virtually”
- “any public hearings that are held in person shall be conducted in different parts of the Commonwealth.”

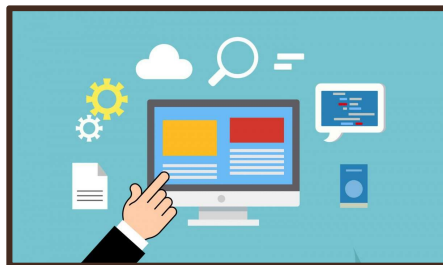


§ 30-396

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

The Commission shall :

- “establish and maintain a website”
- receive comments and proposals by citizens



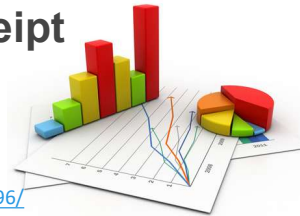
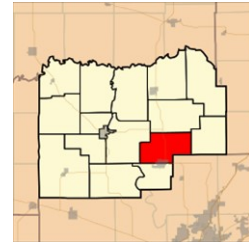
§ 30-396

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF VIRGINIA

“All data used by the Commission shall be available to the public on its website.”

- census data
- precinct maps
- election results
- shapefiles
- within three days of receipt



§ 30-396

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF VIRGINIA

“Public participation in the (Virginia Supreme) Court's redistricting deliberations shall be permitted.”

- “briefings”
- “written submissions”
- “hearings in open court”
- “any other means”



§ 30-399

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title30/chapter62/section30-396/>

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF VIRGINIA

The door has opened.

Virginians can & should use this unique opportunity to participate in the redistricting process.



<https://lww-va.org/redistricting/>

