



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
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Legislature Intentionally Delayed Congressional Map To Get Two More Years of Unfair Districts

Tallahassee, FL -- In response to today's ruling by Tallahassee Circuit Court Judge Terry Lewis, League of Women Voters of Florida First Vice-President Pamela Goodman issued the following statement:

"Today, Judge Lewis ruled that he cannot assess the Legislature's congressional reapportionment plan without a full trial. This simply delays the determination that the congressional districts do not comply with the FairDistricts provisions of the Florida Constitution.

This is exactly the scenario that the League of Women Voters of Florida and other organizations and individuals warned against last summer when scores of citizens urged the Legislature to accelerate the map drawing process. There was no legal restraint that would have prohibited the Legislature from drawing the congressional map last summer or fall, allowing time for a full judicial review. As the League said all along, delaying congressional redistricting represented an intentional ploy by the Legislature to buy two more years under unfairly gerrymandered maps.

The League of Women Voters of Florida has been fighting for fair redistricting standards for over 70 years. We do not intend to stop now. This decision is only justice delayed, not justice denied. We will continue to fight for districts that are drawn fairly and without partisan or incumbency favoritism until the battle is won."

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