

FAIR ELECTIONS UPDATE

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**FAIR ELECTIONS UPDATE:**  
**Nonpartisan Redistricting Reform**

Presented by the LWVNC Fair Elections League Action Team



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## STATE AND NATIONAL UPDATES

**The Board of Directors of LWVNC has agreed to support [HB200](#) & [SB209](#),** a pair of identical companion bills that would mandate nonpartisan redistricting in North Carolina, effective 2021. LWVNC's Fair Elections Action Team will provide leadership in education and advocacy about this bill. [Read more.](#)

**If [HB200](#) & [SB209](#) are not signed into law during in this legislative session,** the LWVNC Fair Elections League Action Team will explore and evaluate possible alternatives to those two companion bills that might, perhaps, more adequately serve our diverse populations.

### LWVUS ADOPTS NEW POSITION ON REDISTRICTING

**There is a new version of the LWVUS position on redistricting,** adopted at Convention 2016 and available [online here.](#)

## SAVE THE DATE

### SPECIAL DURHAM EVENT ON REDISTRICTING REFORM

**Wednesday, April 5, 2017 from 7-9 PM at University Club in Durham**

The League will be hosting an event focused on the need for nonpartisan redistricting reform. Featured speaker will be J. Walker Smith of [Kantar Futures](#), who will talk about the path toward finding common ground (from a marketing perspective). Republican and Democrat co-sponsors of [HB200](#) will be invited to educate attendees about this bill. Watch for updates as this event unfolds and make plans to join us. RSVP will be required due to limited seating.

## RECENT EVENTS

## **LWV PIEDMONT TRIAD'S REDISTRICTING EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS**

**"Restoring Democracy in NC: The Case for Nonpartisan Redistricting Reform"** was held in Greensboro on January 26, 2017. Participants were Tom Ross, former president of the UNC System and current president of the Volcker Alliance, and former NC Supreme Court Chief Justices Rhoda Billings (R) and Henry Frye (D). You can [watch the complete video](#) of the event online.

## **CITIZEN'S LOBBY DAY ON MARCH 1ST**

League members joined Common Cause NC and other groups at the NCGA for Citizen's Lobby Day, meeting with legislators in support of nonpartisan redistricting reform and participating in a rally on the Bicentennial Mall, attended by several hundred people. Watch LWVNC board member [Janet Hoy's remarks to the rally crowd](#).

## **NATIONAL EXPERTS GATHER AT DUKE SANFORD SCHOOL**

**Redistricting experts gathered at the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy** on March 2 & 3, 2017 for the symposium, "Redistricting Reform: Mapping Our Agenda." Organizers included Common Cause NC and the Campaign Legal Fund. Speakers and audience members came from all over the country, including League leaders from different chapters. Experts outlined reasons behind the success of nonpartisan redistricting reform in other states and discussed data-driven legal arguments for current and future court cases. The take-home message from this event was an obvious one: we need to work quickly to find simple language for communicating this complicated but urgent topic to both legislators and voters alike. [Access the complete program](#), including descriptions of the speakers and links to the complete video. Then bring your messaging skills to the Fair Elections League Action Team!

## **TAKE ACTION**

In order to be debated, HB200 must get out of the House Rules, Calendar and Operations committee first. Here's how you can help:

- [Contact your legislators](#) and let them know you want this bill to be passed.
- Encourage all constituents of leaders on the [House Rules, Calendar and Operations Committee](#) to write or call, asking their representatives to support the bill and report it out of committee.

- Read about the [five steps you can take to help end gerrymandering](#).
- Be involved with your local League chapter if you aren't already - [JOIN](#).
- Stay tuned for more action updates from this [Fair Elections LAT](#).

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