



## **On or Before November 5th, Vote NO on Issue 1**

Among the many items and races on Ohioans' ballots this election season is Issue 1, a proposed constitutional amendment that would drastically change the process by which congressional and state legislative district maps are drawn. Issue 1 seeks to create a redistricting commission comprised of 15 appointed members, some randomly and none of whom would be allowed to have any experience in drawing political district maps.

During its September meeting, **OOGA's Board of Trustees voted to OPPOSE Issue 1**. Here are just some of the problems with the proposed amendment:

1. The individuals selected to serve on the commission would be free from oversight. Individuals who have served in elected or appointed service positions – including law enforcement, first responders and even retired military members, and their immediate family are not eligible to serve on the commission.
2. The commission would be guaranteed a minimum of \$7 million in taxpayer dollars each cycle and would have access to unlimited funds to cover legal fees and other expenses.
3. The public has no recourse to remove a commission member for any reason, even if, say, a commission member is charged with a felony. Only the commission has the authority to police itself.
4. Issue 1 also prioritizes political party proportionality over maintaining “communities of interests.” That is, it eliminates the requirement for districts to be compact, meaning districts would likely stretch over long distances and many local communities would be sliced and diced.
5. Issue 1 ignores the bipartisan protections passed by 70% of the voters in 2015 and 2018 and would actually provide less anti-gerrymandering protections.
6. Who Backs Issue 1? From January through June of 2024, the group Citizens Not Politicians raised over \$23 million. Of this, 85% came from out of state and out of country interests inserting themselves into how Ohio draws district maps.

**For these reasons, the OOGA Board of Trustees urges a "No" vote on Issue 1. Election Day is November 5th and early voting in Ohio is underway.**

For more information about Issue 1 and other campaign news, please check out [OOGA's 2024 Election Guide](#). You may also access the ["No on Issue 1" website](#).

**Rob Brundrett**

President, Ohio Oil & Gas Association