

To: Alameda County Board of Supervisors
From: LWVs of Alameda County

The League of Women Voters supports a redistricting process that promotes fair and effective representation with a maximum opportunity for public input and scrutiny.

The League of Women Voters of California was a co-sponsor for both AB 849 and AB 1276, the new laws affecting city and county redistricting. We worked with our partners to ensure that cities and counties would have an explicit set of rules to follow to ensure a fair and transparent process throughout the state. Now – in this first redistricting cycle with the new rules – we will be watching and advocating to ensure compliance with the rules.

The League of Women Voters of the United States is promoting fair redistricting in all 50 states through its People Powered Fair Maps campaign. For those of us in California, this campaign is focusing on local redistricting – cities, counties, school districts, special districts.

We strongly urge that you hire an outside consultant to coordinate the County's redistricting process. We acknowledge that the County staff is both skilled and experienced, but suggest that hiring an outside consultant who is doing multiple redistrictings will bring expertise, experience, and ideas from other cities and counties, as well as help ensure compliance with the new requirements, including a focus on the federal Voting Rights Act.

We are all ready to start this important work. We urge that you start the process now. The public education work should begin immediately so that when you ask for public input, people know what redistricting is and why they should be engaged.