



SB 80 aims to ensure robust community participation and transparency in future redistricting efforts in Louisiana by codifying many of the best practices this Legislature adopted in recent redistricting cycles.

The bill ensures that there are basic standards for public participation and transparency in the redistricting process at every level of government by setting requirements at the local- and parish-level that build off the lessons learned from our own redistricting process at the state-level.

With respect to the statewide redistricting process, the intent of the bill is primarily to preserve the statewide redistricting process used in this most recent redistricting cycle. In limited ways, the bill seeks to streamline and further bolster that process in the spirit of community engagement and transparency. Ultimately, the core intent is to set in stone standards already used.

SB 80 will make our tried-and-tested protocols and other common sense best practices for redistricting requirements of law, rather than informal habits that future legislatures and local leaders could easily ignore. I respectfully ask for your support on its passage.

For more info
on SB 80



Community Participation

- ✓ At the state level, **the bill makes the redistricting roadshow a requirement by law and sets parameters to ensure that the hearings reach communities in each corner of the state.** The bill also encourages participation from rural residents and people with disabilities who may not be able to attend hearings in person by providing for at least one hearing where testimony by electronic means is permitted.
- ✓ At the parish- and local-level, SB 80 also **requires for public meetings and opportunities for public comment** in map-drawing processes.

Transparency

- ✓ A **standardized and up-to-date public redistricting website** ensures that community members who wish to submit maps have the information they need to understand and factor criteria the legislative body uses to draw and assess districts. It also allows community members the files they need to analyze maps before offering testimony and feedback to their elected officials throughout the redistricting process.
- ✓ Specifically, **the bill codifies posting materials that the Legislature routinely posted throughout the redistricting process** already – including video links, guidance, data, and written testimony – and defines the materials that community members need to assess maps and weigh in on the process. The bill cuts out the bureaucracy and time needed for community members to acquire these public materials by separate records requests.