## Fair Districts for New Mexico (FDNM) Creating an Independent Redistricting Commission FDNM is supported by nearly 50 New Mexico and national organizations\*

In July 2019 the League of Women Voters of New Mexico (LWVNM) received funding from the Thornburg Foundation to create Fair Districts for New Mexico (FDNM). FDNM is now nearly fifty organizations who have joined together to support fair, transparent and trusted redistricting in New Mexico.

FDNM and its partner organizations worked to pass the **Redistricting Act** in the 2021 legislative session which created the advisory Citizens Redistricting Committee (CRC). The seven-member CRC was charged with developing three recommended district maps for the three New Mexico Congressional seats, the New Mexico House and Senate, as well as the Public Education Commission. FDNM played a major role in promoting public input at the CRC meetings and on the online public input site.

The public input process was a huge success, but there were a few key deficiencies in the process. First, due to the appointment process, the CRC membership did not represent the geographic and racial diversity of New Mexico. Second, the maps proposed by the CRC were only advisory, and as such, some of the final maps were developed behind closed doors.

That made it clear to FDNM that it was time for a constitutional amendment to create a redistricting commission, independent of the Legislature. In the 2022 session FDNM worked with Representatives Natalie Figueroa to introduce House Joint Resolution 9 (HJR9) to put the question of creation of an independent redistricting commission on the ballot. HJR9 passed one committee, but in the short thirty-day session it did not go further. Similarly, in the 2023 and 2024 sessions the joint resolution passed one committee. During the process we refined and shortened the language based upon the input we received from legislators and others.

A similar joint resolution will be introduced in the 2025 Legislature by committed legislators. Fair Districts for New Mexico will be working with our partner organizations to pass that joint resolution.

## **Fair Districts for New Mexico partners:**

Adelante Progressive Caucus; American Association of University Women (AAUW), New Mexico; American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of New Mexico; Braver Angels North-Central New Mexico Alliance; The Brennan Center for Justice; Campaign Legal Center; Central New Mexico Democrats; Common Cause New Mexico; Democratic Party of New Mexico Rural Caucus; Environmental Justice Caucus - Democratic Party of New Mexico; Election Reformers Network; Fair Albuquerque Redistricting; Fair Vote NM; Green Party of Albuquerque Metro Area; Green Party of New Mexico; Humanists Society of NM; Indivisible Albuquerque; Indivisible Las Cruces; Indivisible Rio Grande; Indivisible Sandoval County; Indivisible Santa Fe; Indivisible SOS Santa Fe; International District Healthy Communities Coalition (IDHCC); League of Women Voters of New Mexico; League of Women Voter U.S.; Lutheran Advocacy Ministries -New Mexico: NM Voters First: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Doña Ana County and Santa Fe Branch 6109-B: Native American Democratic Caucus of New Mexico: New Mexico America Votes; New Mexico Black Voters Collaborative; New Mexico Chamber of Commerce; New Mexico Conference of Churches; New Mexico Democratic Black Caucus; New Mexico Ethics Watch; New Mexico First; New Mexico Foundation for Open Government (NMFOG); New Mexico Open Elections; Princeton Gerrymandering Project; Progressive Democrats of America (PDA), Central New Mexico; Reboot Our Democracy; Republican National Hispanic Assembly of New Mexico; Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce; Vecinos United; Veterans and Military Families Caucus - DPNM; Westside Business Association



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