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January 24 Roundtable Update

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NEW YORK REDISTRICTING ROUNDTABLE UPDATE

Redistricting Commission Fails to Meet, Moving Process To The Legislature

Earlier today, Redistricting Commission Chair David Imamura, on behalf of the Democratic Commission members, released a statement informing New Yorkers that the Republican commission members have failed to agree to hold a meeting to discuss a second set of maps to send the legislature.

Later in the afternoon, The Republican members of the Commission released their own statement. The Republican members refuted and disagreed with the Democratic statement.

The redistricting process will now go to the legislature for plan enactments. Since the Legislature rejected the Commission's sets of competing maps and no second set of maps will be sent to the Legislature, new plans can be drafted by the Assembly and Senate.

Chapter 633 of the Laws of 2021 requires the Commission to submit to the Legislature completed and draft maps it failed to consider for a vote, enabling the Legislature to consider the work of the Commission.

While the State Constitution sets a deadline of February 28th for the Commission to send its second set of maps to the Legislature, petitioning for the 2022 Spring Primary is tentatively set to get underway on March 1, making a late February submission, now unlikely, problematic.

Copies of the Democratic and Republican statements are attached.

Senate Leader Stewart-Cousins Discusses Redistricting

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins talks about the redistricting process, fair districts, and her desire to stay with a Spring primary in an interview with the Albany Times Union's Casey Seiler. The video can be viewed here (starting at 25:40): <https://bit.ly/32hUJ14>

Speaker Appoints Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski to serve on LATFOR

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie has appointed Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski to serve as co-chair of the Legislative Advisory Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, known as LATFOR. Zebrowski succeeds former Assemblyman Robert Rodriguez who resigned to become New York's Secretary of State.