

## African American Coalition of Indianapolis Statement on Redistricting and Fair Representation

The African American Coalition of Indianapolis (AACI) is closely monitoring national and Indiana conversations around potential mid-decade redistricting and its implications for Black Hoosiers.

While redistricting is traditionally conducted every ten years following the U.S. Census, an increasing number of states are redrawing political maps mid-decade. Indiana political leaders are being heavily lobbied to create a mid-decade redistricting plan. Although legally permissible, these efforts raise serious concerns about fairness, transparency, and equitable representation. Across the country, redistricting decisions have had profound effects on the political influence of Black voters and other communities of color.

In Indiana, the 7th and 1st Congressional Districts include many of the state's Black and Latino residents. Any changes to these boundaries could alter the balance of representation and diminish the collective voice of diverse urban communities. Fair representation is essential to ensuring that public policy reflects the needs of all Hoosiers, especially in areas such as healthcare, infrastructure, and economic opportunity.

AACI believes redistricting must be guided by principles of equity, accountability, and community participation. We encourage all AACI member organizations, their members, and all residents to stay engaged by attending public hearings, reviewing proposed maps, and holding decision-makers accountable for maintaining transparency throughout the process.

Indiana's democracy works best when every vote counts equally, and every community is fairly represented. The African American Coalition of Indianapolis stands ready to advocate for a redistricting process that protects and uplifts the voices of all Hoosiers. These principles will guide our communication with public officials, our allies, and supporters.