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Democracy Roundup for September 8 - Redistricting Hearing Tomorrow!

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To: democracy-and-human-rights-announce@firstuucolumbus.org

There is a lot going on with democracy in Ohio this month and things are moving quickly. I want to highlight two opportunities in particular. The Ohio Redistricting Commission just announced two hearings **tomorrow**. We are also planning for the Statehouse Stomp against the anti-protest bills on Wednesday, September 22.

Ohio Redistricting Commission Hearings - September 9, 10 AM and 2 PM

From our friends at Fair Districts Ohio:

Thursday, September 9, 10am & 2pm, Ohio Statehouse

Earlier today, the Ohio Redistricting Commission (finally) announced that they are holding two hearings tomorrow, Thursday, September 9. The first hearing is at 10:00 am and the second is at 2:00 pm. Both hearings are at the Ohio Statehouse.

When: **Thursday, September 9 at 10:00 am** followed by another hearing at **2:00 pm**

Where: **The Ohio Statehouse, in the Ohio Senate Building, Room 126 -- the Senate Finance Hearing Room**

Agenda: The Ohio Redistricting Commission will meet to hear testimony on state redistricting plans pursuant to Article XI of the Ohio Constitution and Commission rules.

Let's surprise the commissioners by once again showing up in force! Even if we are not yet able to comment on the maps they have proposed (because we haven't seen them yet) we can certainly comment on the lack of transparency that has been evident in the process so far. Some may also choose to comment on maps that have been submitted, including the maps drawn by the Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus.

If you would like to testify on these or any other topics, please submit a witness information form to

testimony@redistricting.ohio.gov.

Click here for a fillable witness form.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_z1bcMFpc0BzpKGB3oH1ZQ_G7GfEhGfj/edit?fbclid=IwAR162zpisHrVnW6RK2v8OidZCKKMe9ZN1Vt434zcknFnRjxD04DgiyNWM3w

Even if you do not plan to testify, your presence at the hearings is important! Please attend if you can to show support for fair maps and a fair redistricting process.

BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR FAIR DISTRICTS BUTTONS, MASKS, BRING SIGNS. ETC

STATEHOUSE STOMP - September 22, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM; Rally 1:00-2:00 PM

Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio and our partners in the Our Voices Together coalition are holding a Statehouse Legislative Visit Day called **Statehouse Stomp** on September 22 when we will visit legislators to tell them to stop the anti-First Amendment, anti-protest bills of HB 109, HB 22, and SB 41. There are trainings for legislative visits tonight and on September 15 at 7 PM.

We are just 18 days away from Statehouse Stomp when we stomp out anti-protest bills in Ohio by educating our legislators. It's time to get ready for this big day. Below are some announcements and invitations. Please read carefully, and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions. We want you to be as prepared as possible.

Rally Information

If you are planning to attend the rally, we recommend arriving by 12:30 pm so you can find a parking spot and make your way over to the statehouse steps. We are going to have musicians, drumming, amazing speakers and all sorts of fun from 1-2 pm on September 22nd. Bring your mask and bring your friends. Let's pile onto the steps and stomp our feet to the beat of protest.

Legislative Visit Information

Fundamentals of Legislative Visits and Making the Ask

September 8 & 15 at 7pm.

We ask that everyone participating in Statehouse Stomp legislative visits attend one Fundamentals of Legislative Visits workshops. We'll be offering them the next two Wednesdays. You'll learn what to expect in a visit, what to say, who should talk when, what to leave behind and how to make the ask at the end of your visit. Choose one of the two dates below or attend both.

September 8 @ 7pm - [Click here](#) to register.

September 15 @ 7:00 pm - [Click here](#) to register.

You may get a phone call.

We have a list of folks who will be getting a phone call to ask who your State House and Senate Representatives. You can easily look it up, if you don't know, at <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/district-maps>.

Are you willing to volunteer?

We will have some short volunteer roles in Columbus the day of Statehouse Stomp. Can you help carry some things to the rally? Pass out flyers? Help with the sign making supplies? Stuff folders? Please sign up to be a volunteer at <https://forms.gle/EAiLdKDp3cBYwXqf9>. We'll work your volunteering around your visits.

Invite Your Friends!

Share the sign-up form at <http://bit.ly/statehousestomp>

Share our Facebook event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1005249666954120>

Schedule for September 22

Note there may be some changes from when you signed up. If you are participating in legislative visits, please plan to arrive by 9:30 am for the training (a few more tips and a refresh from the workshops). You will get your schedule and other information for the day when you

arrive. *Reminder: We will do our best to group you with people in your district or a nearby district, but we can't guarantee it.*

9:00 am - Arrive at the Galbreath Pavilion at the Ohio Theatre (elevator accessible) and get checked in.

9:00 am - 9:30 am - Light Breakfast (bagels)

9:30 am - 10:00 am - Training - Successful Legislative Visit Tips

10:00 am - 1:00 pm Legislative visits

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm LUNCH - grab a box lunch between visits

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Rally on the Statehouse steps

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Legislator Visits

Virtual Schedule

If you signed up for the virtual option, we will notify you of connection details and times when we have the schedule from the legislator(s). We expect to broadcast the rally 1-2 pm through our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StopOHantiprotestbills> . Pictures will be posted there as well.

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