NYPIRG REACTS TO INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION PROPOSED ASSEMBLY BOUNDARIES

(Albany, N.Y.) Last week the so-called Independent Redistricting Commission released its first draft of the New York State Assembly district lines for the 2024 elections. While it is just the first step in the court-ordered changes to the Assembly districts, data shows that the Commission was far more likely to follow the principle of “one person, one vote.” As seen below, the Commission plan’s proposed districts contain populations which are much more similar in size than the current ones.

Numbers alone don’t tell the entire story, but it does mean that the Commission’s mapmakers were far less likely to use population differences to “game” the system. Our democracy hinges on the principle of “one person, one vote.” Whatever comes of this latest redistricting process, that principle must be the heart of any final plan.

Data in the table above was obtained from the New York State Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment at https://latfor.state.ny.us/maps/2022assembly/2022_assembly_population_report.pdf, with the excel version obtained from https://davesredistricting.org/maps#viewmap::1933abca-db19-40f9-808d-17dd90642cdc. The Commission data was obtained at https://www.nyirc.gov/assembly-plan.