

# News from Senator George M. Borrello

## 57th Senate District

*Representing Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and portions of Livingston County*

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Contact: Lisa Hill (518) 496-2882

### **SENATOR BORRELLO URGES CONSTITUENTS TO JOIN IN ENSURING FAIR REDISTRICTING EFFORT**

#### *2014 Reform Gave Citizens Greater Role in Shaping Government, Balance of State for the Next 10 Years*

**ALBANY** – With hearings to solicit public input on the redrawing of state legislative and congressional districts set to take place in the coming weeks, Senator George Borrello is urging constituents of the 57<sup>th</sup> Senate District and all New Yorkers to make their voices heard to help ensure fair representation for the region.

“Every person in New York State will be impacted by the redistricting process, which is why participation is crucial. The electoral maps that result will be the foundation of our representation for the next decade,” said Senator Borrello.

“New Yorkers have a historic opportunity to influence this process. In 2014, voters spoke up and said they no longer wanted the ‘three men in a room’ behind-closed-doors process. They voted to put redistricting in their own hands with the promise of the Independent Redistricting Commission,” said Senator Borrello. “Now is the time to realize that vision by participating.

Once a decade, New York State is required to draw new district lines that reflect population and demographic changes reported in the most recent Census. Unlike in previous years when a select group of politicians drew those lines without public input, more than 2 million New Yorkers voted in a 2014 referendum to give that responsibility to a new “Independent Redistricting Commission.” The Commission has planned virtual hearings this summer and fall to collect input from citizens and devise the best possible redistricting plan.

“Citizen participation will help ensure that no region of the state, special interest or political party gains an unfair advantage in the redistricting process,” said Senator Borrello.

As part of its charge to revise district lines for the State Senate, Assembly and Congress, the Independent Redistricting Commission must consider impacts on existing neighborhoods and communities, based on information it gathers from its virtual hearings and written testimony.

“Anyone who cares about the future of their community and the ability to have a voice in the electoral process should stand up and make their voice heard as these lines are redrawn. I urge my constituents and all New Yorkers to learn more, and join with friends, neighbors, community groups and others to speak up for the issues that matter most to our communities.”

The Independent Redistricting Commission will accept submissions through its website, [www.nyirc.gov](http://www.nyirc.gov), and any group or individual is entitled to submit opinions or testimony.

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## **New York Independent Redistricting Commission Hearing Dates**

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Nassau & Suffolk Counties

Location: virtual

Thurs., July 22, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Queens County

Location: virtual

Mon., July 26, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Bronx & New York Counties

Location: virtual

Thurs., July 29, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Kings & Richmond Counties

Location: virtual

Mon., August 2, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Mid-Hudson Valley & Capital Region

Location: virtual

Thurs., August 5, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

North Country & Mohawk Valley

Location: virtual

Mon., August 9, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Southern Tier & Central NY

Location: virtual

Thurs., August 12, 2021 @ 2 p.m.

Finger Lakes & Western New York

Location: virtual