

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10089

To prohibit States from dividing documented communities of interest into multiple congressional districts, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 13, 2026

Mr. GALLAGHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit States from dividing documented communities of interest into multiple congressional districts, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Representation Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST PRESERVED IN REDIS-**
6 **TRICTING.**

7 (a) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

8 (1) IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITIES OF IN-
9 TEREST.—Prior to any congressional redistricting
10 conducted by a State, the entity responsible for de-

1 veloping congressional redistricting plans in the
2 State shall—

3 (A) identify and document communities of
4 interest within such State, which may be pro-
5 vided in accordance with State law;

6 (B) accept and publish each proposed com-
7 munity of interest submitted by a resident of
8 such State; and

9 (C) consider adding each such proposed
10 community of interest to the communities of in-
11 terest documented under subparagraph (A).

12 (2) PROHIBITION ON DIVISION OF COMMU-
13 NITIES OF INTEREST.—A congressional redistricting
14 conducted by a State may not divide a community
15 of interest documented under paragraph (1)(A) into
16 multiple congressional districts unless such division
17 is necessary—

18 (A) to ensure that congressional districts
19 in such State have substantially equal popu-
20 lations as required by law;

21 (B) to comply with the requirements of the
22 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et
23 seq.); or

24 (C) to preserve another community of in-
25 terest in a single congressional district.

1 (3) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.—Not later
2 than the date a congressional redistricting plan in a
3 State is finalized, the entity responsible for devel-
4 oping congressional redistricting plans in the State
5 shall make publically available—

6 (A) a written justification for any instance
7 where a community of interest documented
8 under paragraph (1)(A) is divided into multiple
9 congressional districts;

10 (B) a description of the process used to
11 consider adding proposed communities of inter-
12 est under paragraph (1)(C); and

13 (C) in the case that a community of inter-
14 est documented under paragraph (1)(A) is di-
15 vided into multiple congressional districts under
16 paragraph (2)(C), an explanation as to—

17 (i) why the division was required to
18 preserve the other community of interest in
19 a single congressional district; and

20 (ii) why the preserved community of
21 interest was prioritized over the divided
22 community of interest.

23 (b) CAUSES OF ACTION.—

24 (1) DIVIDED COMMUNITY OF INTEREST.—An
25 individual who resides in a community of interest

1 documented under subsection (a)(1)(A) that has
 2 been divided into multiple congressional districts in
 3 a State may bring a claim against the State in any
 4 district court of the United States for enforcement
 5 of the prohibition in subsection (a)(2).

6 (2) FAILURE TO ADD PROPOSED COMMUNITY
 7 OF INTEREST.—An individual who resides in a pro-
 8 posed community of interest submitted under sub-
 9 section (a)(1)(B) that has not been documented
 10 under subsection (a)(1)(A) in a State may bring a
 11 claim in any district court of the United States
 12 against the entity responsible for developing congres-
 13 sional redistricting plans in the State for—

14 (A) a declaratory judgment that such enti-
 15 ty failed to consider such proposed community
 16 of interest as required in subsection (a)(1)(C);

17 (B) an order requiring such entity to con-
 18 sider such proposed community of interest as
 19 required in subsection (a)(1)(C); and

20 (C) if the proposed community of interest
 21 is not documented under subsection (a)(1)(A)
 22 following such consideration, an order requiring
 23 publication by such entity of a justification for
 24 the decision not to document such proposed
 25 community of interest.

1 (c) ASSISTANCE TO STATES.—The Election Assist-
2 ance Commission shall develop and make available to
3 States standards and tools for mapping communities of
4 interest.

5 (d) COMMUNITY OF INTEREST DEFINED.—In this
6 section, a “community of interest” means a geographically
7 connected population with shared cultural, historical, eco-
8 nomic, or social characteristics, including language, edu-
9 cation patterns, religious affiliation, or civic identity.

○