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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** Commonwealth Bill

Red | CW 13

Referred to Committee: House 1

Sponsors: Ryan Snackleford, Matt Moore, Carson Hayes, Noan Steely	Action on the Bill	
School: Corbin HS	House	Senate
	□ Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Corbin	Defeated	Defeated

AN ACT relating to establishing a nonpartisan commission to redraw district lines

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: The purpose of this act is to halt most gerrymandering: the malpractice of drawing electoral districts in a distorted way for partisan gain. The power to redraw district lines will move from the control of the state legislature to the supervision of a nonpartisan commission, whose sole purpose will be to create fair and balanced voting districts. This agency shall be titled the Redistricting Independent Commission of Kentucky (R.I.C.K.).

Section 2: This reform would have district maps drawn by a nonpartisan body of civil servants according to criteria set by statute. A new body will be drawn for each redistricting cycle. These civil servants must be considered well qualified for their jobs plus have no current political ties, and all administrative positions for R.I.C.K. will be approved by the Kentucky Supreme Court. Funding for this agency will draw from the Kentucky Department of Revenue, accounting for about 0.08% of its annual budget.

Section 3: The criteria for redrawing future district lines will be based off the balancing of the following specifications in order of importance: Contiguity Consistency with natural and political boundaries Compactness (low perimeter to area ratio or similar measure) Competitiveness Those drawing out new district maps are prohibited from considering the following: voter registration levels, voting histories, an incumbent's place of residence, or any other type of partisan data. All redistricting plans and research made by R.I.C.K. shall be made public in order to ensure transparency.

Section 4: The legislature must then vote to adopt the maps without amendment, with R.I.C.K. redrawing the maps if the legislature votes the first ones down. If the new districts are turned down more than 5 times in a given redistricting cycle, approval for these maps will move to the jurisdiction of the Kentucky Supreme Court to prevent gridlock.

Section 5: If members of the state legislature file a case that declares an administrative member of R.I.C.K. is unable to faithfully conduct their duties, they shall stand trial before the Kentucky Supreme Court. If the Court finds them incapable of carrying out their position, they shall be removed, replaced, and properly prosecuted if applicable.

Section 6: If passed, this proposal for R.I.C.K will go into effect on January 1, 2018.