

After the 2020 census is complete, boundaries defining the political districts in Arkansas will be redrawn. Today (Wednesday), the Arkansas Public Policy Panel released a report aimed at making sure those new boundaries are drawn fairly. Kymara (kim-our-uh) Seals, the organization's policy director, says the state's current system puts the all of the power in the hands of the governor, the secretary of state, and the attorney general.

NEWS20 0:17 “...better the process”

A ballot measure which would allow voters to decide on the independent commission is being held up by legal challenges. Gerrymandering, or the unfair drawing of political districts, has been exploited by both parties across the country.

Boundaries defining the political districts in the state for the next ten years will be redrawn once the 2020 census is complete. Gerrymandering, or the unfair drawing of those districts, has been challenged across the country. The Arkansas Public Policy Panel released a report yesterday (Wednesday) aimed at educating voters in the state about redistricting. Bill Kopsky (COP-ski), the organization's executive director, says the state's current boundaries don't fairly represent the African American and Latinx communities.

NEWS20 0:18 “...from one another.”

Arkansas is among the few states that gives all of the power for redrawing boundaries to the governor, the secretary of state, and the attorney general. The public policy panel has put forth a ballot measure proposing that redistricting be done by a non-partisan commission.