

A local activist group is seeking to prevent newly-drawn boundaries for Arkansas' four congressional districts from going into effect. The group Arkansans for a Unified Natural State says it is beginning the process of collecting signatures to overturn the new map, through a process known as a veto referendum or "popular veto." The group's Kwami Abdul-Bey says they have 90 days to collect 54-thousand signatures from at least 15 Arkansas counties to overturn the legislation.

News01

0:26

"...population of voters."

Abdul-Bey says he also expects legal challenges to the new congressional district map, which was approved by the legislature last week. Gov. Asa Hutchinson has not said whether he will sign the map into law, veto it or let it become law without his signature.

Activists are seeking to overturn Arkansas' newly-drawn congressional district map through a procedure known as a popular veto. The group Arkansans for a Unified Natural State says it will attempt to collect 54-thousand signatures from at least 15 counties in the state to overturn the new district map, which was approved by lawmakers last week. Kwami Abdul-Bey is a spokesperson for the group, and says he believes Republicans in the legislature drew the map to diminish the voting power of minority communities.

News02

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"...next ten years."

The map has drawn criticism for splitting Pulaski County into three separate districts, splitting minority communities into Republican-leaning districts that extend far outside central Arkansas. Local officials, including Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr. and North Little Rock Mayor Terry Hartwick have criticized the redrawn map. Gov. Asa Hutchinson can either sign the legislation into law, veto it, or let it become law without his signature.