



**RICHMOND COUNTY
WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

From: [Conservative Party of Richmond County](#)
To: [Submissions](#)
Subject: Testimony from Chairman David Mario Curcio
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Attachments: [NYIRC Testimony Curcio 2023.pdf](#)

Commissioners,

I write to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Conservative Party of Richmond County, with a membership in excess of four thousand enrolled voters. In 2021, the Conservative Party was proud to play a significant role in the defeat of Ballot Proposition 1, which would have diminished the influence of your commission while increasing the potential for political gerrymandering of districts, along with Ballot Propositions 3 and 4, which would have substantially increased the potential for voter fraud. The citizens of New York State deserve a fair and honest election process, and not one imposed by either politicians or the courts. As such, the work of your commission is a greatly appreciated contribution to good government.

In constructing maps for Staten Island, I would respectfully remind the Commissioners that the Borough of Staten Island is unique in many ways from the rest of the City of New York. This is especially true with respect to transportation, as the only borough without a direct connection to the subway and the only borough where a toll is required for vehicular entry. In further contrast with the other boroughs, Staten Island has a much greater percentage of home-owners and a much lower population density. We also remain the only borough without a municipal hospital. These are characteristics that merit serious consideration in the design of legislative districts.

In 2021, the Conservative Party of Richmond County endorsed the municipal independence of Staten Island from the City of New York, the first and only political party organization in Staten Island to do so. This decision was based largely on the substantial disproportion in the ratio of revenues contributed to services provided. As such, the importance of maintaining the compactness of neighborhoods in the design of legislative districts cannot be understated. Your anticipated attention to these considerations is most appreciated as you continue your work towards producing final maps for adoption.

Respectfully,

David Mario Curcio
Chairman, Conservative Party of Richmond County

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