



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JEFF MURSAU
36TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Question of the Week: Non-Partisan Redistricting

Under the current Wisconsin Constitution, the legislature is ordered to redistrict legislative and congressional districts according to their new population numbers following a federal census, and at the same time, most municipalities also must divide their territory up into wards based on the new numbers. With limited exceptions, municipality-designated wards are required to consist of one or more whole, neighboring census blocks (the smallest geographic units for which census results are available).

Traditionally, the legislature has used these municipal wards to construct legislative and congressional districts, although the legislature may adjust the boundaries of a municipal ward and use the revised ward boundaries instead. Legislative and congressional redistricting done with this procedure are used to elect members of the legislature and members of Congress in the second year after a census. As the legislature is the body in control of drawing legislative district lines, it can lead to situations where the districts are drawn to favor one political party over another.

Legislation has been introduced this session that would create a new redistricting procedure that would be used after each federal census, putting the responsibility of redistricting in the hands of the non-partisan Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB). The bill, at its core, would require maps drawn by the LRB to satisfy the following criteria:

1. The plan must be based on population requirements and cannot take into consideration other things such as political party, race, color or language
2. Districts must satisfy equal population standards set out in the Wisconsin Constitution
3. District boundaries must coincide with municipal ward boundaries as much as possible, with wards divided among as few Assembly Districts as possible
4. Districts must be composed of neighboring territory and be as compact as possible
5. In preparing the plan, LRB must be strictly non-partisan, with no district drawn for the purpose of favoring a political party or legislator
6. There must be between 54 and 100 Assembly Districts, each Senate District must contain only whole Assembly Districts, and each Congressional District must contain only whole Senate Districts

I'd like to hear your thoughts on this legislation. Please take a moment to fill out my question of the week.

[Click here for my Question of the Week](#)

Question of the Week: October 18, 2019

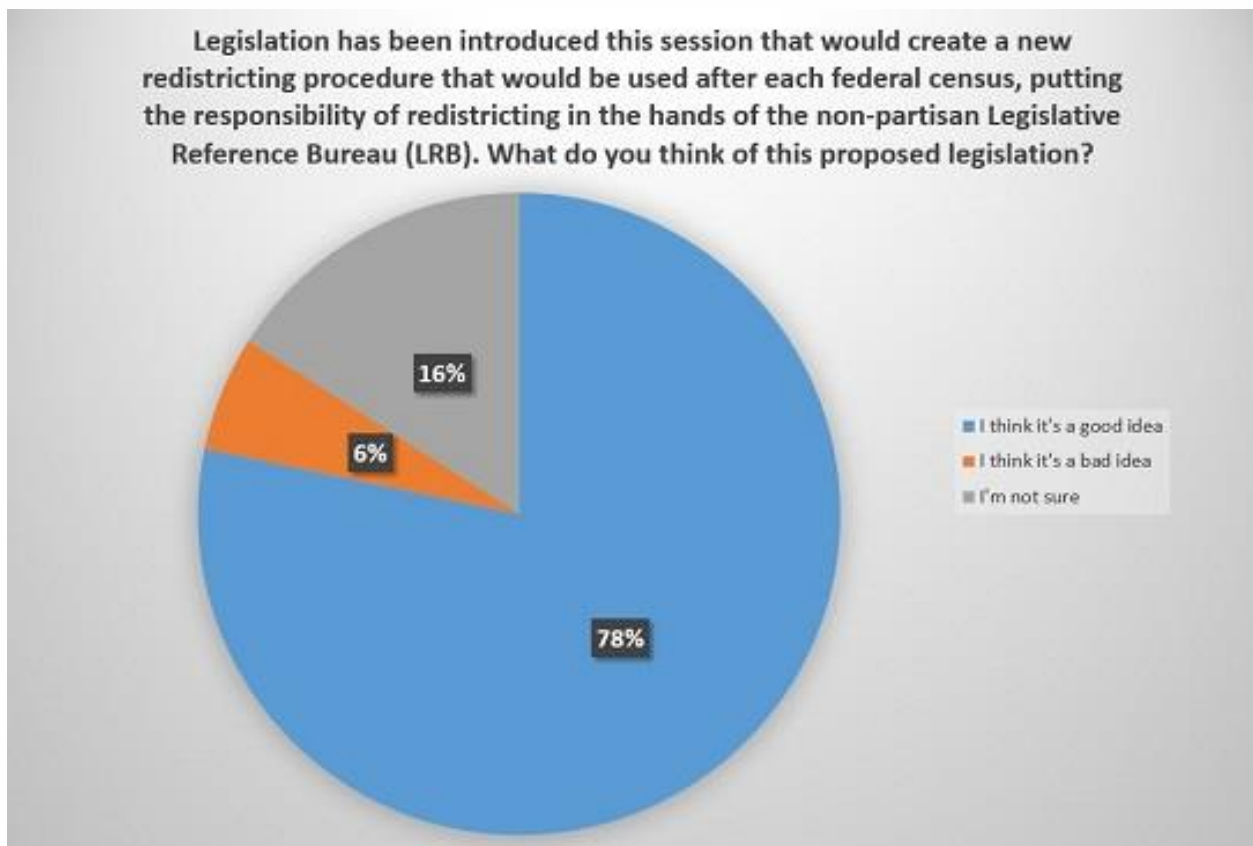
Non-Partisan Redistricting

Legislation has been introduced this session that would create a new redistricting procedure that would be used after each federal census, putting the responsibility of redistricting in the hands of the non-partisan Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB). *What do you think of this proposed legislation?

- I think it's a good idea
- I'm not sure
- I think it's a bad idea

Last Week's Results: Non-Partisan Redistricting

These results represent responses to last week's question from constituents of the 36th Assembly District that I received as of this morning. After reading the comments and responses from last week's question and looking over the bill, I've decided to add myself as a co-sponsor. If you would like to see a list of current co-sponsors or read over the bill, it can be found on the [legislative website](#).



Results published week of October 25, 2019.