



Elaine M. Howle, California State Auditor

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**CALIFORNIA STATE AUDITOR KICKS OFF SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 2020 CITIZENS
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION WITH AN INTERESTED PARTIES PUBLIC TOWN HALL**

*Participants offer input on strategies to reach millions of diverse California voters about
opportunity to serve on 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission*

Sacramento, Calif. (March 1, 2019) - For just the second time in state history, the California State Auditor's Office kicked off the selection process to form the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission with a public Town Hall to obtain input on outreach. The California State Auditor, Elaine M. Howle, hosted more than 79 representatives from a diverse array of organizations, stakeholders, and interested parties throughout the state to discuss the outreach process of forming the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission.

"Ten years ago, Californians had the opportunity to use their power to make real change on our state's first Citizens Redistricting Commission," said Howle. "And now, once again, Californians will have the opportunity to apply to serve on our second Commission. We have such talented and diverse people in our state and we're striving for a deep and broad pool of applicants. The interested parties and stakeholders who participated in today's Town Hall will be vital to the overall success of our efforts to engage the largest possible audience so that we can secure applicants who are reflective of all Californians."

California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly and State Board of Equalization districts every ten years to reflect new population data provided by the federal census. In 2008, California voters gave this power to the people in the form of a commission made up of 14 members including five Democrats, five Republicans and four who are either Decline-to-State or with another party.

Now, it is time to begin the process of selecting the 14 commissioners to make up the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission. The process, initiated by the California State Auditor's Office, includes an extensive outreach effort that encourages eligible citizens to apply to be a member of the commission during the initial application period. The initial application period is open from June 10 to August 9, 2019.

Citizens Redistricting Commission

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Elaine M. Howle, California State Auditor

A supplemental application and non-partisan selection process occurs in the months following the initial application period, and the final commission must be selected by August 15, 2020.

“The work of the 2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission safeguards the integrity of California’s elections by giving the power to the people and guaranteeing that voters have a voice in selecting their representatives,” said Howle. “If you believe politics are better when all sides work together and if you have a passion for civic engagement, this is the opportunity of the decade.”

About the Citizens Redistricting Commission

Every 10 years, after the federal census, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly and State Board of Equalization districts to reflect the new population data. In 2008, California voters passed the Voters First Act authorizing the creation of an independent Commission comprised of 14 members, including five Democrats, five Republicans and four who are either Decline-to-State or registered with another party. The Commission is responsible for drawing the lines of each district. The open application period for new Commission members begins June 10, 2019 and will run through August 9, 2019.

The California State Auditor's Office is a state entity that is independent of the executive branch and legislative control. The purpose of the California State Auditor’s Office is to improve California government by assuring the performance, accountability, and transparency that its citizens deserve. For more information on the State Auditor’s Office, please visit www.Auditor.ca.gov.

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