

**Lunch + Legislation #15: What's Up With....
Redistricting (and how animal advocates can
use it)**



Mon. Jan. 3, 12:00pm, via Facebook Live



**Attorneys
for Animals**

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF ANIMAL ADVOCACY

BACKGROUND

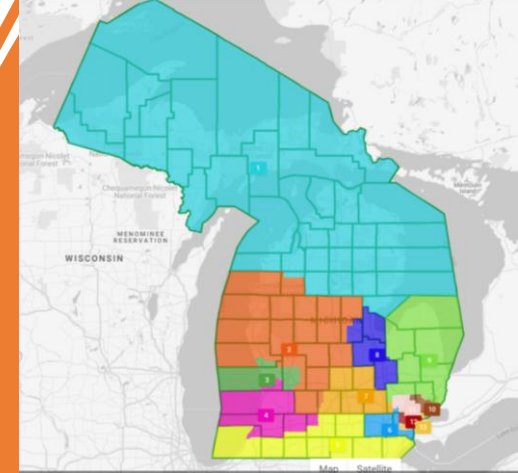
* Every 10 years after each US census, Congressional and state legislative district boundaries are re-drawn to reflect the changing population

* In Michigan, the State Legislature was responsible for creating the new districts. Results? Maps drawn to favor the party in power in the legislature, i.e. **gerrymandering**

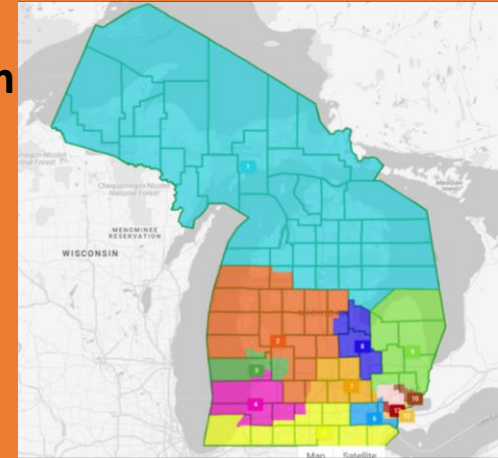
* 2018: Michigan Proposal 2, **Independent Redistricting Commission** Initiative approved by voters 61-39% (official site: https://www.michigan.gov/micrc/0,10083,7-418-107190_109075---,00.html)

* Dec. 28, 2021: Commission releases maps re-drawing district lines for Congress, State Senate, State House

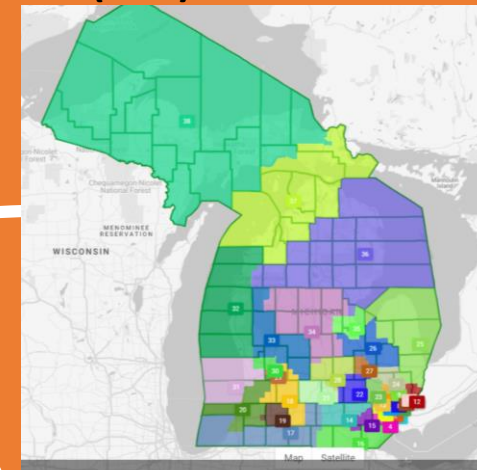
* Districts more compact. based on citizen input. *non-political*



Top: Congressional Districts (13, down from 14)



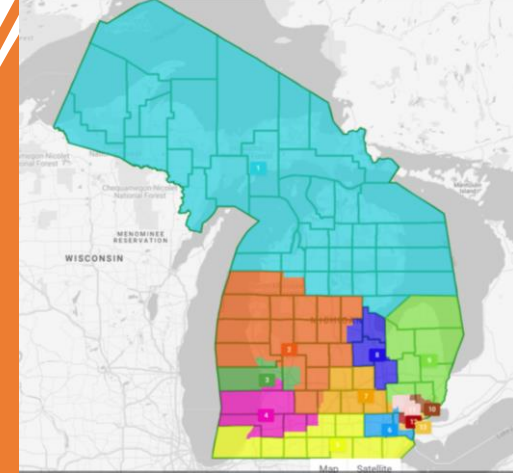
Middle: State Senate Districts (38)



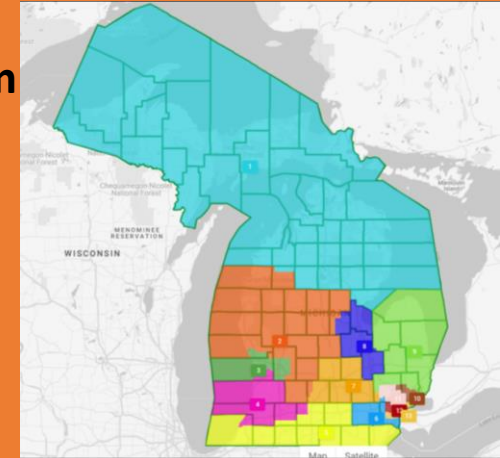
Bottom: State House Districts (110)

IMPORTANT CAVEATS

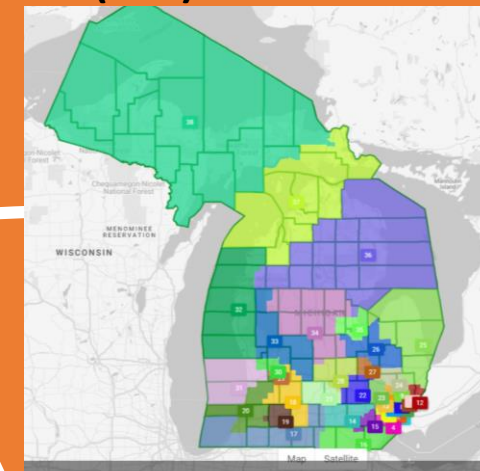
- * These may not be the final maps as lawsuits have been threatened from both the right and left
- * Pundits divide new districts as Strong R, Leaning R, Toss-up, Strong D, Leaning D, Toss-upbut....
- * Nov. 2022 elections for all Congressional, MI Senate and MI Houseso....
- * *We don't know who will end up representing any of the districts*
- * The example is for demonstration purposes only; we just don't know who will end up representing a district
- * This analysis is a work-in-progress and will be updated



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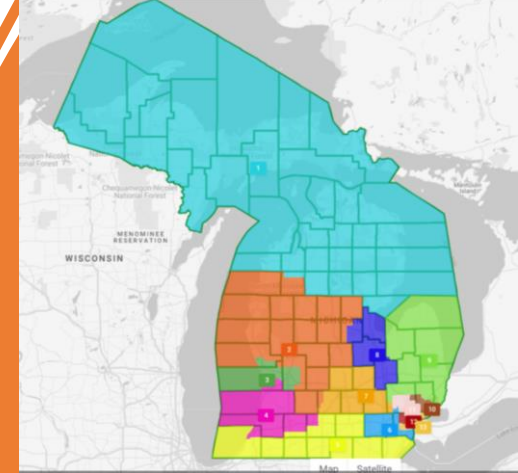
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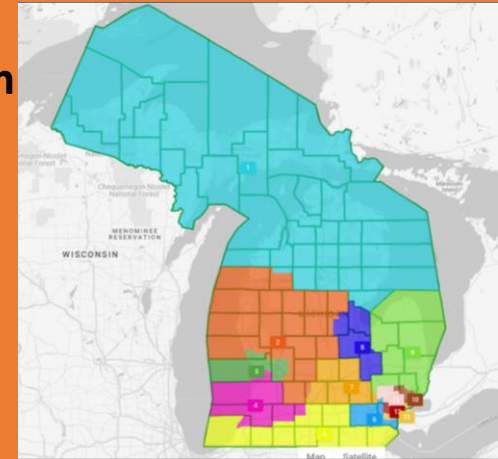
Bottom: State House Districts (110)

AN OPPORTUNITY

- * With all the uncertainty, what's the point of discussing this now?
 - * It's a "reset" on the legislative process *and* a good opportunity to become more knowledgeable about your elected officials so you can be a better advocate for animals
 - * **GOAL:** when you contact your elected officials, they (or their staff) should:
 - a. know your name
 - b. associate you with animal issues
-

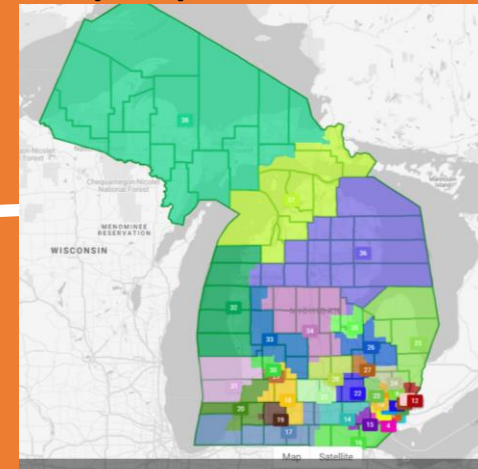


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WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

* Familiarize yourself with the maps, with the process and what the analysts are saying:

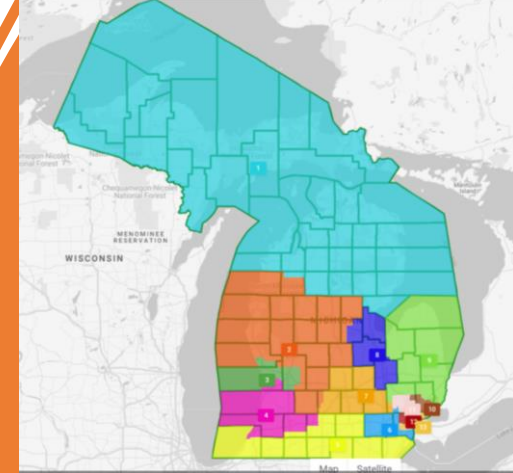
<https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/congressional-map-adopted-michigan-panel-gives-democrats-7-6-edge>
<https://www.9and10news.com/2021/12/29/michigan-redistricting-commission-selects-final-maps-for-state/#&gid=1&pid=1>
<https://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2021/12/28/michigan-redistricting-commission-finalizes-congressional-map/9029285002/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/29/us/politics/michigan-congressional-maps.html>
<https://www.mlive.com/public-interest/2021/12/michigans-new-us-house-maps-set-up-battlegrounds-contests-between-incumbents.html>

* For a deep dive, Princeton's Gerrymandering Project:
<https://gerrymander.princeton.edu/redistricting-report-card/?planId=recMi1jMpBPGdsYUq>

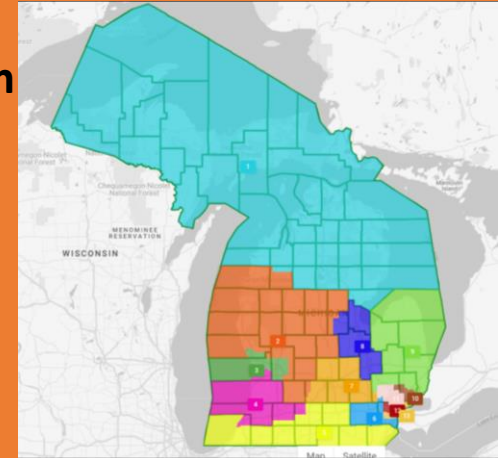
* Will you be in the same district? How to find out?

* It's not too late to start contacting your *current* US representative, state Senator and state Representative with issues of concern

* Good resources: HSLF Legislative Scorecard (federal)
<https://hslf.org/current-scorecard/se-mi>, AFA's Legislative Tracker™

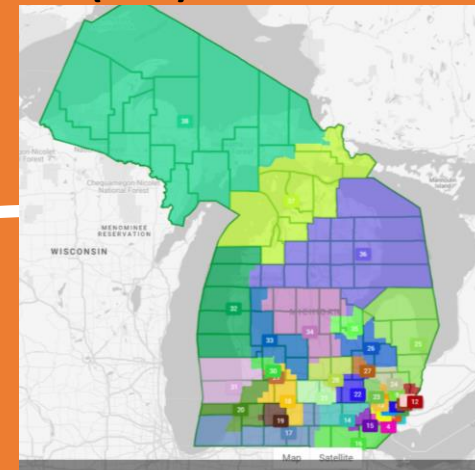


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Bottom: State House Districts (110)



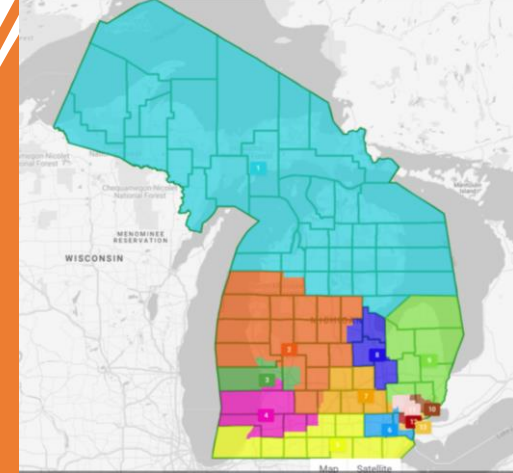
WHAT YOU CAN DO UP TO THE ELECTION

* Find out who's running, what their position is on animal welfare (NOTE: you may have to call the campaign and ask)

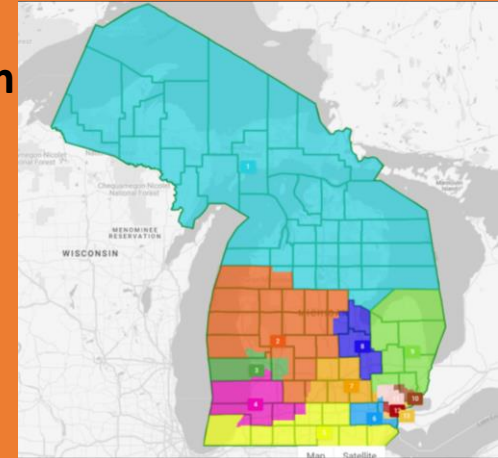
* Remember, all 13 seats in Congress, 38 in the Michigan Senate and 110 in the House will be on the ballot this year

* Pay attention to the primary in August as well as the general election

* Look for endorsements from major animal welfare organizations

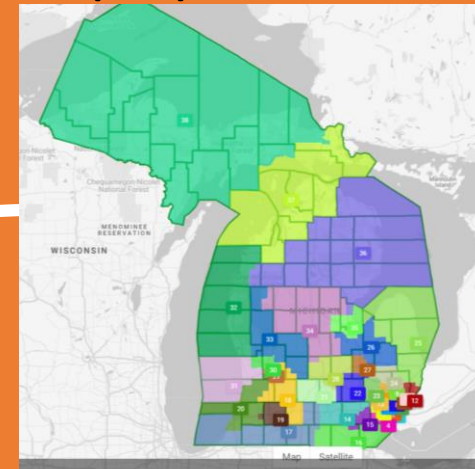


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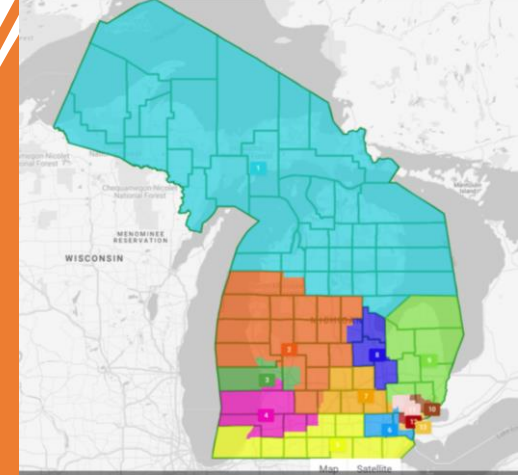
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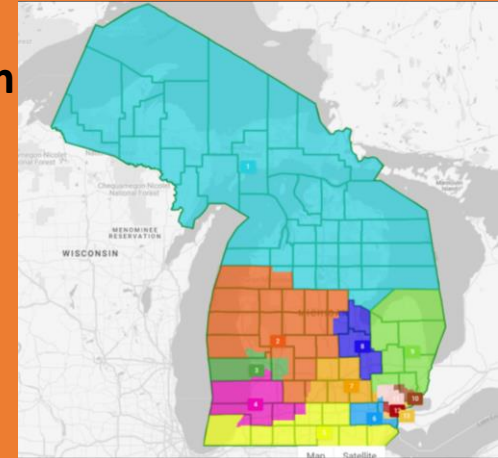


NOV. 2022 AND BEYOND

- * Get to know your new (or newly re-elected) representatives and their staffs
- * Contact when you want their vote (or sponsorship)
- * Thank them (or ask them to do better next time)
- * (What *not* to do: “I won’t vote for you *if* you ABC, or unless you XYZ)

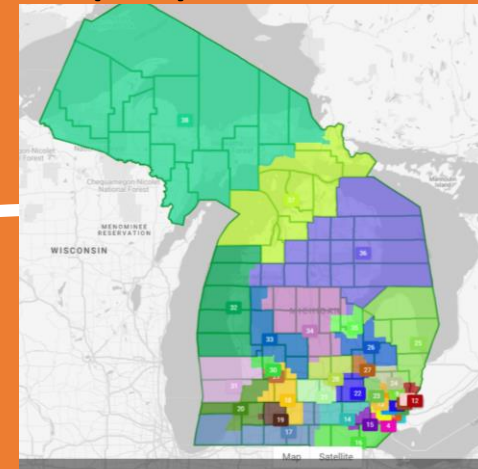


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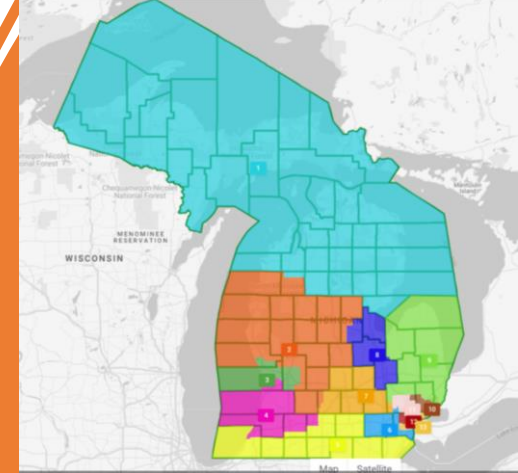
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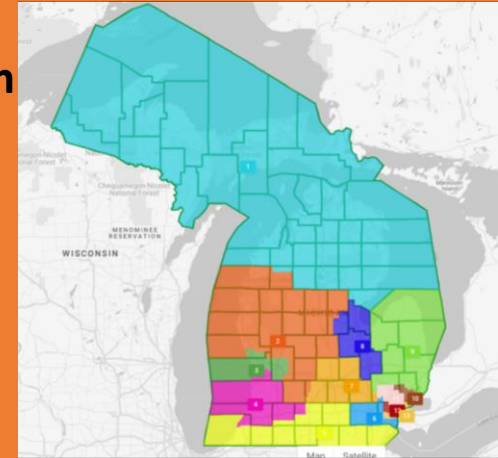


AN EXAMPLE

* Remember the caveats! The map may change, current officials may decide not to run, or move to another district and, obviously, we don't know who will actually win the election

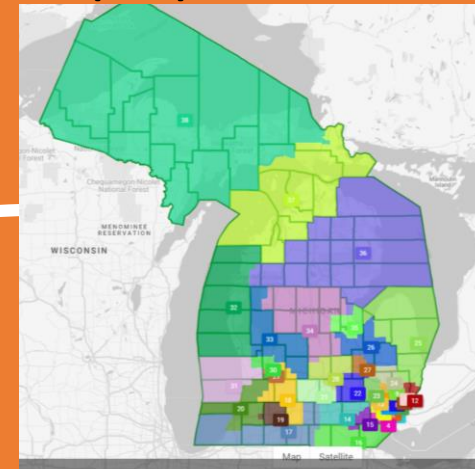


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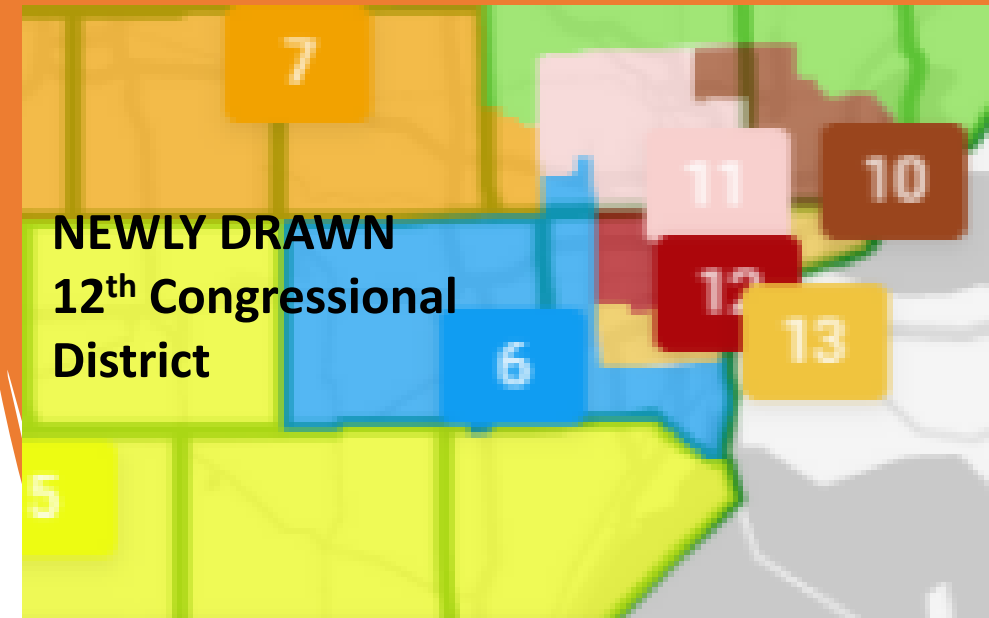
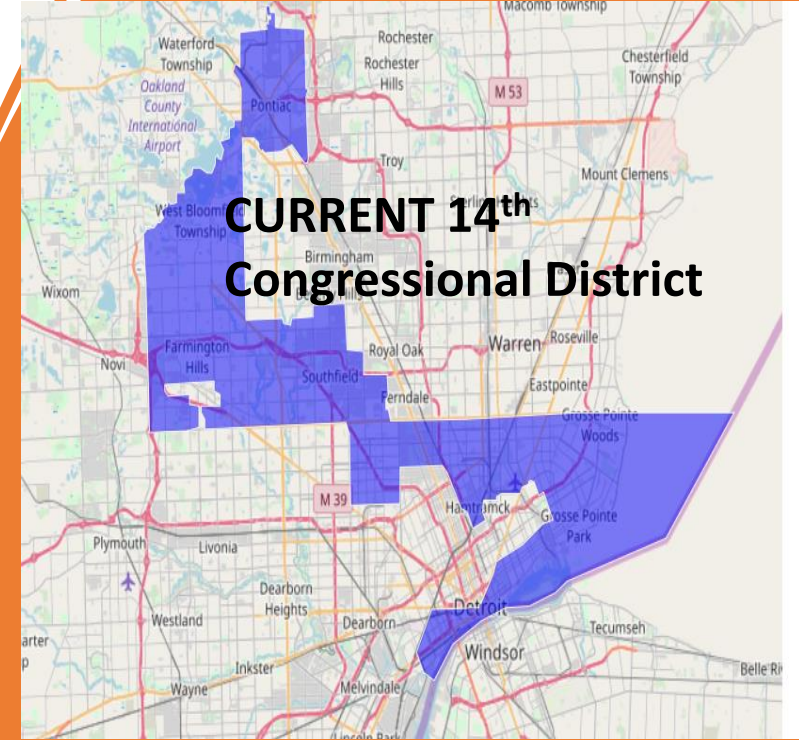
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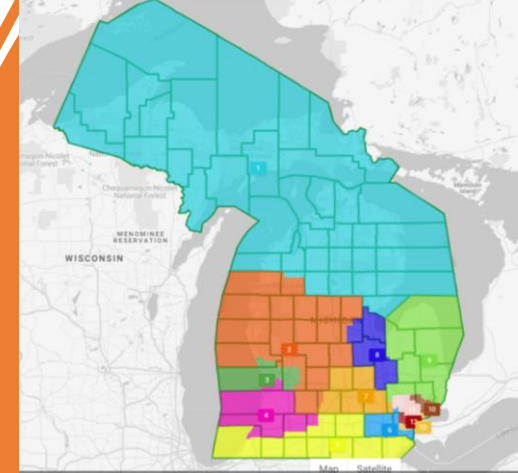
US Rep. Brenda Lawrence

- * Current District: 14
- * Potential New District: 12 (parts of Wayne and Oakland Counties, e.g. Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Westland, Livonia, Roseville and Southfield)
- * Has 100% rating on animal welfare, per HSLF Scorecard
- * Isn't well-recognized for her pro-animal stance
- * Opportunity if she's currently your US Representative, or will represent you (potentially) in the future

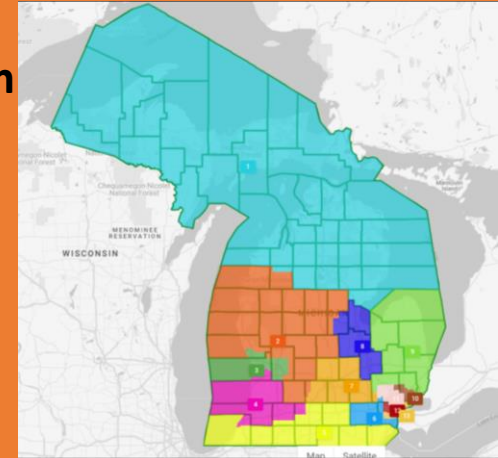


CALL TO ACTION

- * Learn about the process
- * Get to know current elected officials
- * Study candidates in upcoming elections
- * Get to know new elected officials

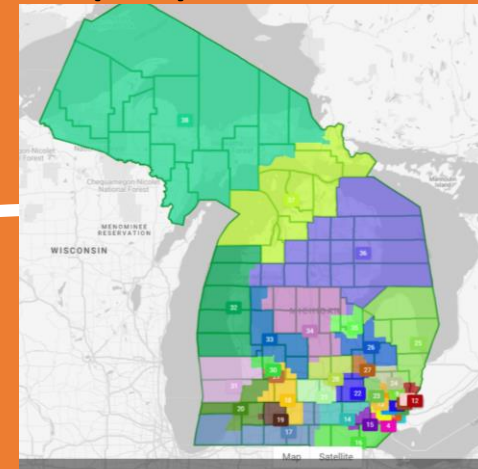


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Call to Action:

Thank You



Comments, questions, ideas for future episodes?

Info@attorneysforanimals.org

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***Next Lunch + Legislation:
Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, noon***