



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Equality Indiana Responds to Governor Braun's Secret Gerrymandering Meeting: "A Nixon-Style Ambush on Democracy"

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Equality Indiana condemns the reports that Republican Indiana Governor Mike Braun held a closed-door meeting with Vice President JD Vance and Republican leaders in the Indiana General Assembly to discuss redrawing and re-gerrymandering Indiana's congressional districts.

The reported meeting — which excluded the public and members of the press — raises deep concerns about transparency, fairness, and respect for Indiana's voters.

"Equality Indiana is *not* shocked by these revelations," said G. David Caudill, Executive Director of Equality Indiana. "We've seen this movie before — a Nixon-style dirty tricks playbook imported straight from Washington, designed to undermine democracy in Indiana. Hoosiers deserve fair maps, fair representation, and a fair shot at having their voices heard. Instead, President Trump, Vice President Vance, Governor Braun, and their allies are trying to lock in their power at the expense of *_We the People_*. This is a cynical and dangerous power grab that risks permanent harm to our democracy."

Equality Indiana notes that both the current district maps and the process used to draw them have already marginalized underrepresented communities — including LGBTQIA+ Hoosiers. Political boundaries that fracture or dilute these communities' voting power silence their voices on critical issues such as civil rights protections, healthcare access, and education policy. Creating even more extreme gerrymandered maps will only compound this harm, further isolating LGBTQIA+ residents from the fair representation they deserve.

For decades, Hoosiers have prided themselves on values of fairness, integrity, and respect for every voter — values that transcend party lines. Manipulating district boundaries in secret violates the very principles Indiana stands for and sends the message that partisan games matter more than the public good.

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“True Hoosier values aren’t about rigging the system,” Caudill added. “They’re about respecting the people who make Indiana strong — our voters. We reject these backroom deals and any attempt to redraw Indiana’s congressional districts and demand that elected officials focus on actions that put *all* voters — including LGBTQIA+ Hoosiers — first instead of partisan stunts that will damage our democracy.”

Equality Indiana urges all Indiana residents, civic leaders, and elected officials — regardless of party — to speak out against any gerrymandering scheme that undermines free and fair elections.

Equality Indiana is a nonpartisan, statewide advocacy group working to secure full nondiscrimination protections and equality for all LGBTQIA+ Hoosiers. We educate, empower, and mobilize pro-LGBTQIA+ individuals and allies to build a stronger, more inclusive Indiana where everyone can live with dignity, safety, and respect.

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