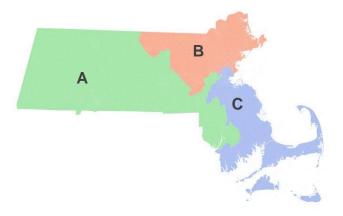


# MASSACHUSETTS REDISTRICTING & THE FAIR VOTING ALTERNATIVE

September 2012

#### Massachusetts' Fair Voting Plan



Super-District (w/current Cong. Dist. #s)	# of Seats	Pop. Per Seat	% to Win*	Partisanship (D% / R%)	Partisan Projection: 3R, 6D
A (CDs - 1,2,4)	3	727,514	25%	59 / 41	1R, 2D
B (CDs - 3,5,6)	3	727,515	25%	58 / 42	1R, 2D
C (CDs - 7,8,9)	3	727,514	25%	61 / 39	1R, 2D

\* plus 1 vote

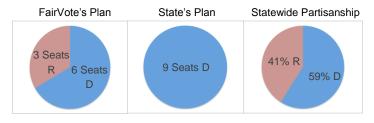
#### **How Does Fair Voting Work?**

Fair voting describes American forms of proportional representation that uphold electoral traditions and are based on voting for candidates. They ensure meaningfully contested elections and provide voters with more accurate representation.

Instead of nine individual congressional districts, our fair voting plan combines these districts into three larger "super-districts" with three representatives each. Any candidate who is the first choice of more than a quarter of voters in a 3-seat district will win a seat.

## Comparing a Fair Voting Plan to Massachusetts's Redistricting Plan

#### More Accurate Political Representation\*



\* Partisan percentages and projections are based on an interpretation of the 2008 presidential election similar to the Partisan Voting Index. They do not account for other candidate-based factors like incumbency.

#### Meaningful Elections and Representation

	FairVote Plan	State's Plan
District Competition	100% (3/3)	0% (0/9)
Shared Representation*	100% (3/3)	0% (0/9)

<sup>\*</sup> Shared representation indicates districts represented by both Democrats and Republicans – which enables more accurate congressional representation for most voters.

## **Benefits of a Fair Voting Plan**

**Shared representation of different views:** Supporters of both major parties elect candidates everywhere, with accurate balance of that district's left, right, and center.

More voter choice: Better chance for third parties, independents and major party innovators, as there is a lower threshold for candidates to win a seat.

More competition: With voters having a range of choices, candidates must compete to win voter support.

Better representation of racial minorities: Lower threshold for racial minority candidates to earn seats, even when not geographically concentrated. More voters of all races are in a position to elect candidates.

More women: More women likely to run and win. Single-member districts often stifle potential candidacies.