Background:

The Drawing Democracy Coalition has developed Unity Maps for State Senate and State House districts in Massachusetts. The proposed maps align with the coalition’s goals to keep communities of interest whole and increase political power for BIPOC, immigrant and low-income communities. The unity maps were built based on around 100 community of interest maps and extensive conversations with community partners and legislative leaders from across Massachusetts.

Key definitions:

**Majority-minority districts**: Terminology from the Voting Rights Act that refers to districts with a majority of a racial or linguistic minority population. Drawing Democracy also refers to these as “Majority BIPOC districts”.

**BIPOC**: Black, Indigenous, People of Color

**Coalition districts**: Districts where the combined racial minorities make up 50% or more of the citizen voting age population and where the voters from these different racial groups vote together to elect the minority-preferred candidate.

**Influence districts**: Districts where a racial or ethnic minority group does not make up a majority of voters but does have enough members of the minority group to substantially influence an election or the decisions of an elected representative.

**Voting Age Population (VAP)**: The number of residents who are age 18 or older.

**Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP)**: The number of residents who are eligible to vote because they are age 18 or older and a citizen of the United States.

Overview:

The [proposed House map](#) increases the number of majority-minority districts based on total population from 20 to 29, including five districts that are majority-Latinx and six that are
majority-Black. 27 of these districts are majority-minority according to Voting Age Population (VAP) and 16 are majority-minority according to Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP).

The proposed Senate map increases the number of majority-minority districts based on total population from three to seven, including a majority-Black Senate District in Boston and a
majority-Latinx Senate District anchored in Lawrence. Seven of these districts are majority-minority according to VAP, and two are majority-minority according to CVAP.

State Senate Map

State Senate Map w/ Communities of Interest (outlined in black)

Changes to priority districts
State House – click here to view interactive map

- Maintaining strong majority-minority districts in Boston by:
  - Creating five majority-Black districts in:
    - Uphams Corner and Grove Hall, along with uniting Old Colony housing development (129)
    - Dorchester and Mattapan (130)
    - Roxbury (131)
    - Mattapan and Milton (136)
    - Hyde Park (138)
  - Creating strong majority-minority coalition districts in:
    - Dorchester, including substantial Cape Verdean and Vietnamese populations (128)
    - The South End and several public housing developments in South Boston (133)
    - Jamaica Plain and Mission Hill, including the Mission Park, Mildred C Haley, and Alice Taylor (139)
  - Maintaining a majority Latinx district in East Boston (125)

- Increasing opportunities for representation in the North Shore and MetroNorth by:
  - Creating a new incumbent-free majority-Latinx district in Chelsea (7) by separating Chelsea from Charlestown and combining Charlestown with the West End and Back Bay (126)
  - Creating a coalition district completely contained in Revere (14). Many North African/Middle Eastern residents may have been counted as white in the 2020 Census
  - Strengthening representation of AAPI voters in Malden (91) and making the Malden HDs more compact
  - Strengthening representation of BIPOC voters in Lynn (33, 34) by separating Lynn 3-3 and 3-4 from Marblehead and Swampscott (31)

- Increasing opportunities for representation in the South Shore by:
  - Uniting the AAPI community in North Quincy by adding Quincy 3-3 to 98 (Quincy 3-3 was in a district with Dorchester)
  - Uniting Randolph into one House District combined with Milton (104)
  - Creating two majority-minority districts completely contained within Brockton, including a majority-Black district (121) and a strong coalition district (122)

- Maintaining representation in Western Massachusetts by:
○ Adding Chicopee precincts 3B and 7B, where many Puerto Rican and Dominican families buy homes, to Holyoke (47)
○ Maintaining a strong majority-Latinx CVAP district in Springfield (52), a strong Latinx/Black coalition district (53), and a majority-Black and Latinx coalition district based on population (51)
○ Consolidating Pittsfield into one district (8)
● Consolidating the core of Worcester into two districts (155 and 158)
● Expanding opportunities for representation in the Merrimack Valley by:
  ○ Keeping Methuen 2-1 combined with Western Lawrence HD (149)
  ○ Maintaining a majority-minority resident district (152) and a majority-minority CVAP district in Lowell (152)
● Consolidating Gateway Cities on the South Coast by:
  ○ Decreasing the number of districts in New Bedford from 5 to 3 (15, 16, 18)
  ○ Creating a new majority-minority district in New Bedford (16)
  ○ Keeping two consolidated districts in Fall River (19, 20)

State Senate – click here to view interactive map
● Creating a new majority-Black CVAP district that runs through Upham’s Corner, Grove Hall, Dorchester Center, Mattapan, Hyde Park and Roslindale in Boston (8). This majority-Black district, anchored in Dorchester, will provide new opportunities for representation for Black voters and all BIPOC residents
● Preserving a majority-minority VAP coalition district that groups Chinatown, Roxbury, Jamaica Plain, and West Roxbury in Boston (7)
● Creating a new majority-minority VAP coalition district by uniting immigrant communities of East Boston, Revere, and Lynn, all of which are susceptible to displacement by the rising costs of housing and climate change (20)
● Creating a majority-Latinx district based on population by combining Lawrence with Methuen (31), instead of combining Lawrence with Andover. Many residents of Lawrence find affordable homeownership opportunities in Methuen
● Creating a new majority-minority VAP coalition district by grouping Chelsea, Everett, Charlestown and Cambridge (6)
● Creating a new majority-minority VAP coalition district by combining Brockton, Randolph, Avon, and Stoughton (13). BIPOC renters in Boston seeking affordable homeownership often buy houses in Brockton, Randolph, and Stoughton
● Strengthening a majority-minority CVAP coalition district with Springfield and Chicopee (3)