



We are here on behalf of The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Virginia. We are a statewide organization of Unitarian Universalists working for change. Unitarian Universalist Principles guide us in creating a more just world by being an active voice in the public arena.

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism guide our advocacy by supporting bills that ensure the inherent worth and dignity of every person are upheld and that there is justice, equity, and compassion with a goal for peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Ensuring Virginians have true representation in the legislative branch of the government that is free from corruption is a priority for a free and democratic society.

We agree with the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy regarding their stand on Redistricting:

“The 2011 legislative session resulted in the formation of strange new districts. Legislators from the minority party were “redistricted” out of office. Districts were carved up to create majorities likely to keep the same party in power. Other districts were given warped boundaries that split communities.

Partisan redistricting contributes to polarization in both Congress and the Virginia General Assembly. This division decreases cooperation across the aisles and can result in a deadlock over federal and Commonwealth budgets. Fixing the redistricting process cannot completely solve this issue, but a fair, non-partisan approach to drawing districts can make a significant change.

Urged by the Virginia Redistricting Reform Coalition, legislation to reform the redistricting process has been introduced to the General Assembly every year since 2005. Each year, these bills and proposed constitutional amendments have passed the Senate. We need continued support and pressure to move legislation completely through the legislature.”

The UULMVA stands in support of bill SB 824, that it is a start we hope that representatives would pass legislation that ensures the voice of Virginians is part of the process.

The UULMVA also supports HB1375:

**HB 1375 Voter identification; expiration date not considered.**

**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

**Elections; voter identification; expiration date not considered.** Provides that the expiration date on a form of identification offered for voting identification purposes shall not be considered when determining the validity of that form of identification.