



# Redistricting Briefing for New Mexico Media

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# Who are we?



## Policy Research

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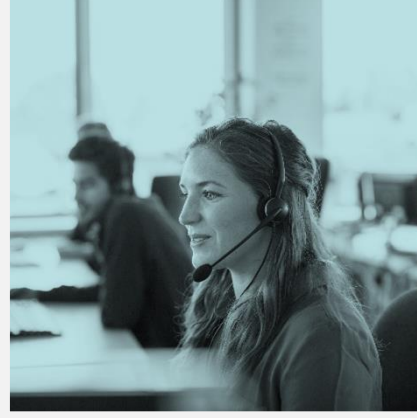
NCSL provides trusted, nonpartisan policy research and analysis



## Connections

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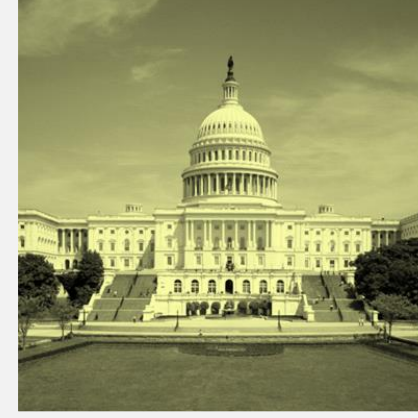
NCSL links legislators and staff with each other and with experts



## Training

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NCSL delivers training tailored specifically for legislators and staff



## State Voice in D.C.

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NCSL represents and advocates on behalf of states on Capitol Hill



## Meetings

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NCSL meetings facilitate information exchange and policy discussions

# When Covering Redistricting, Think About...

## WHO draws the lines?

- What is the commission's power?
- Who has the final say?
- Who is helping the commission or legislature draw the lines?

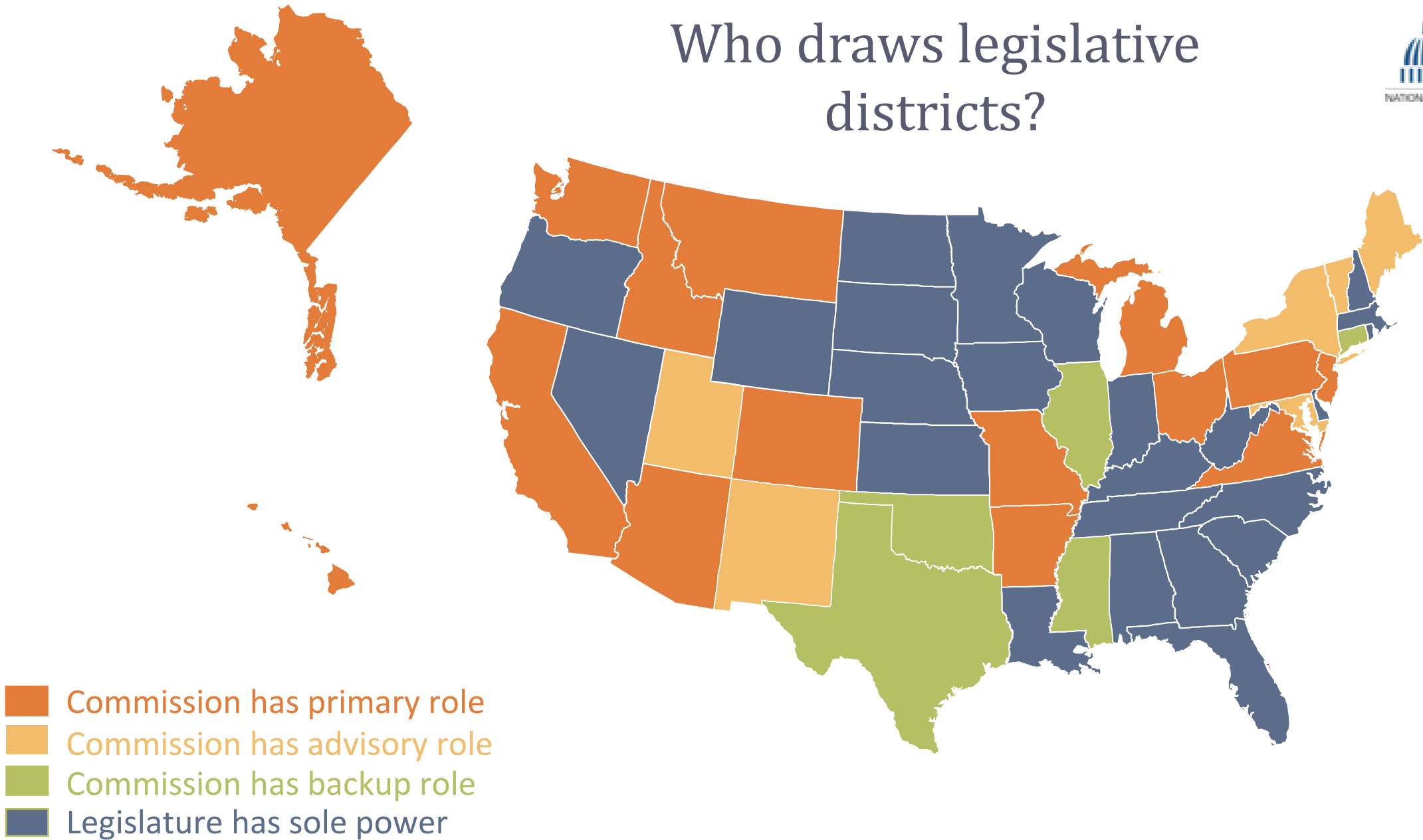
## HOW are the lines drawn?

- What are the criteria?
- What are the processes for drawing maps?
- Which data are used?
- What is the public's role?

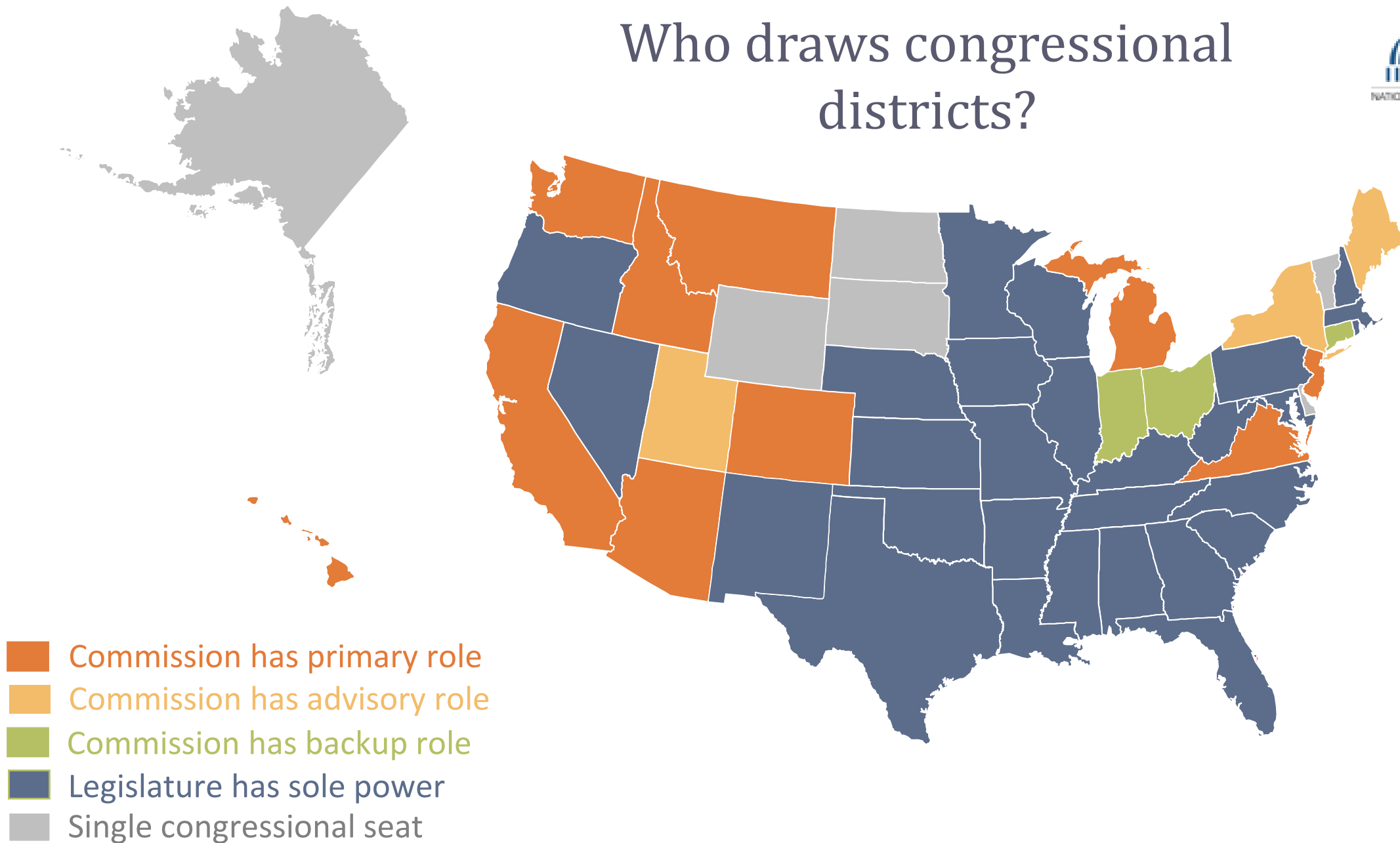
## WHAT are the implications?

- Are communities/counties/cities split between multiple districts?
- Are incumbents paired against one another?
- What is the political impact?

# Who draws legislative districts?



# Who draws congressional districts?



# Who's helping the commission/legislature draw the lines?

- With data work...
  - Racially polarized voting analysis
  - Putting together datasets
- With legal work...
  - Complying with state and federal law
  - Defending maps in court
- With software...
  - Technical and other software support
  - Public input tools



## BID OPPORTUNITIES

Redistricting Consultant

Now accepting sealed bids for redistricting consultant services.

# What are New Mexico's criteria?

For the commission; codified criteria that also apply to the legislature are \*starred. Legislature could add more.

## Required

- \*One person, one vote
- \*Complying with the VRA
- \*Compactness
- \*Contiguity
- Preserve communities of interest

## Permitted

- Consider political and geographic boundaries
- Preserve the cores of prior districts

## Prohibited

- Splitting precincts
- Diluting minority voting strength
- \*Race being the predominant factor in a district's construction
- Consideration of partisan data (except for VRA compliance)
- Considering incumbent addresses, except to avoid pairing incumbents



# What are the processes for drawing maps?



## Votes Needed to Pass Maps

Simple- or supermajority?



## Commission + Legislature

How does the relationship work in NM?



## Multiple Stakeholders

Governor, Legislature, Commissioners,  
Community Orgs, Industry, Etc.



# Which kinds of data are used in redistricting?

Unlike the legislature, the commission can't look at election data

1

Redistricting data from the  
Census Bureau  
AKA the "P.L. 94-171"

2

Other data files  
  
Political data for VRA  
compliance, data on  
communities of interest

3

Estimates/Projections?  
  
To prepare while awaiting  
redistricting data and to  
understand future trends



# What is the public's role?

There are many ways to give input

## Draw a Map

Draw your community of interest (or a whole map) and submit it for consideration

## Speak at a Meeting

At a public hearing, tell your story and what your priorities are

## Submit Written Comments

Submit written testimony through online portals or email

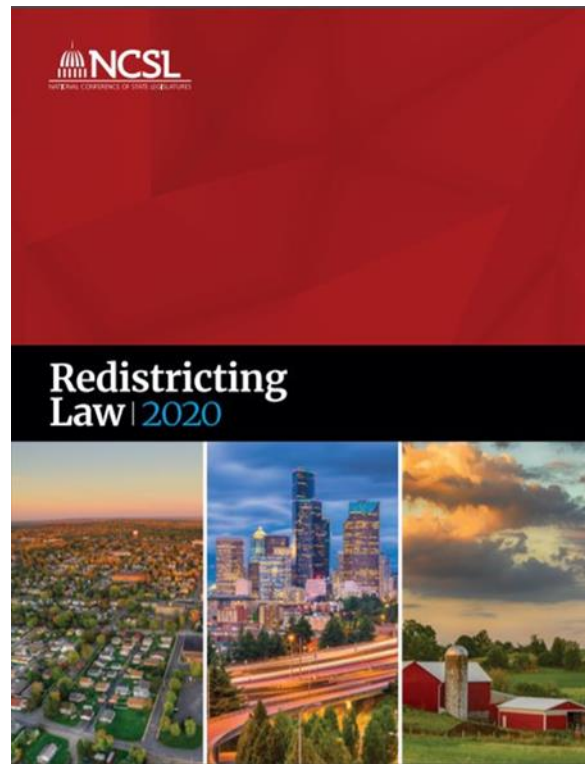
# How to analyze a map?

- Split cities/towns/counties
- Split communities of interest
- Number of incumbents paired, by party
- Political outcomes of maps
  - Sampling and outlier analyses
  - Statistical tests
- Dr. Duchin is an expert in all of these!

# Questions to Ask When Reporting a Story

- How are members of the legislative committee or commission selected?
- Will census delays cause New Mexico to miss deadlines? See NCSL's [census delays and redistricting](#).
- Are New Mexico's criteria considered in priority order or "holistically"?
- Does New Mexico have areas where the commission and/or legislature will be required to draw minority opportunity districts under the Voting Rights Act?
- How much communication and cooperation do you expect between the commission and the legislature?
- What is New Mexico's history with litigation?
- New Mexico has a portal for map submissions online. How will that system be managed?
- What is the political landscape? See NCSL's [partisan composition](#).
- How are communities of interest reconciled against other criteria?
- In New Mexico, the legislature's majorities aren't big enough to override a possible veto. How likely is it the governor would veto new maps passed by the legislature?

# Questions?



Reach out anytime!

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