

2. The legislative redistricting process must promote fair and effective representation of varied viewpoints at all levels of government and ensure public access to voting, elections and representatives.

The Apportionment Commission must become representative of the diverse population within the State. New Jersey must reestablish rules to ensure more minorities and women from differing communities are part of the discussion, as these are established and growing populations within NJ. There should be laws requiring diversity, inclusion and equality in choosing Commission members.

All Commission actions must have transparency and accountability; therefore, all meetings should be open to the public, not just at select times. This process must include public comment, public studies and input, and hearings with ample time for debate so that voters have an opportunity to be heard by the Apportionment Commission.

Residents need access to public transportation to directly reach local offices for representatives. This ensures viewpoints are heard, considered and debated from all community members, while reducing electing extreme representatives who only cater to a microcosm of residents or political interests.

There can no longer be Apportionment Commission members who sign any pledge of loyalty to one party or interest group. If so, that member must be removed and a new member appointed by a bi-partisan nomination process. The Commission must be responsible and accountable to the entire voting population of the local, state and federal representatives. More changes are needed to ensure fair redistricting, but these improvements will help reform the process to establish fair government.

Shama Haider, 136 Stonehurst Drive, Tenaflly

Years residing in Bergen County: I have lived in Tenaflly for 39 years.

Occupation: Retired

Education: Received Bachelor's degree from the University of the Punjab in Pakistan

Family: I have a two kids and three grandkids

Community Involvement:

- Former two term Councilwoman in Tenaflly
- Current Chair of the Tenaflly Municipal Democratic Committee
- Currently serve as the Mayor's Alternate to the Tenaflly Library Board
- Former Chair of the Home and School Association of Tenaflly
- Former President of the Tenaflly League of Women Voters
- Former Chair of the Tenaflly Planning Board
- Former Chair of the Tenaflly Environmental Commission
- Former Chair of the Tenaflly Business Development Committee
- Former Trustee of the Tenaflly Nature Center
- Was a gubernatorial appointee to the NJ Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the State of NJ