

Legislative Report  
March 2019  
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1. Legislation. SUCCESS!! Ending gerrymandering. The General Assembly has passed the first crucial step by approving legislation reforming the way Virginia draws its legislative district maps. This took place as a result of terrific bipartisan support within the Assembly. First let's review some first events before their vote. A federal court (Eastern District) had previously given final approval to redraw the election maps to be used in the upcoming General Assembly primaries. These maps were drawn by an OUTSIDE court appointed expert. Some in our Assembly did not agree with the maps. As a result, our House and Senate developed two separate bills calling for a constitutional amendment that would create a "hybrid commission" of eight legislators and eight citizens to re-draw other maps. After frequent and much bipartisan discussion, they agreed to recommend an amendment to the Virginia Constitution. This action was intended to reform the current unfavorable map process which allowed the political parties when in power to draw the maps solely for their benefit. This action will then require another vote by the General Assembly in their next session (Jan-Feb 2020) and if approved it will be submitted to the Virginia voters in the November elections also in 2020. So we still have a long way to go for implementation of this plan. It is so important as it will give our voters more control in selecting their representatives. Remember then your support will be required to convince our legislators to vote for the above actions again and to insure you vote in support of the plan in November 2020. ITS A MUST!!

2. NEW SCAMS. It works like this. A telephone call to you saying that your social security number is being used for illegal purposes and legal action will be taken against you. To make it official the caller will ask you to check your caller ID as it will show the official number of the Social Security Office (800-772-1213) The scammers can do this as a result of their electronic technology. If you don't have caller id they will give you the number and tell you to call it later. At that point they will ask you for your social security number so they can record it on their files and then they will notify the police on your behalf. Unfortunately, many people give them their number and then they can use it to file fraudulent tax returns and to open credit card accounts and use it in other ways for their benefit. Never give out that card number!! What you should do immediately is to contact the Social Security fraud hot line (800-269-0271) and report this matter to them.