

## Letters to the editor: April 28, 2010

### Just speak out

Editor, Daily News:

Florida voters, frustrated by gerrymandered political districts, signed 1.7 million petitions to put Amendments 5 and 6 on the November ballot.

These amendments would make it much harder to manipulate redistricting to serve special interests and would ensure compact, contiguous districts that would respect city and county boundaries. But now all of these voices are being ignored. State legislative leaders are intent on gutting the provisions of Amendments 5 and 6.

The League of Women Voters of Collier County needs you to join us in speaking out in opposition to Senate Joint Resolution 2288 and House Joint Resolution 7231. These bills, if passed, would “clarify” the proposed Fair Districts constitutional amendments. The legislation says, “District boundaries and plans shall be drawn in a manner that respects communities of common interests.”

This provision would in effect allow the Legislature to justify gerrymandering. It also requires the Legislature to give “priority to the standards” contained in the Legislature’s amendment over the standards in the Fair Districts amendments.

Join the League of Women Voters of Collier County and say no to SJR 2288 and HJR 7231. Say no to gerrymandering; say no to political trickery.

Go to [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org) for your representatives’ contact information.

— Lydia Galton  
President, League of Women Voters of Collier County

