

# PROCLAMATION



## Office of the Mayor

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the Wisconsin Legislature is directed to redistrict state legislative districts “according to the number of inhabitants” at its next session following the decennial federal census. The Legislature also reapportions congressional districts at the same interval pursuant to federal law; and,

**WHEREAS**, because state and federal legislative redistricting is controlled by the majority party at the time of the redistricting, legislative and congressional plans in Wisconsin have been subject to partisan influence that puts the desires of politicians ahead of the electoral prerogative of the people. Redistricting to achieve partisan gains is inappropriate; and,

**WHEREAS**, the state and congressional districts belong to the citizens of Wisconsin and not to any legislator, interest group or political party, and the redistricting process should not be a tool to protect and bolster those in power, but should be designed with the best interest of Wisconsin’s democracy and its citizens; and,

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin’s historical practice of redistricting by the majority party in each legislative chamber is an outdated practice that stifles political competition, discourages compromise, ensures continued control by the party in power, and lacks the transparency necessary to reinforce citizens’ faith in the democratic process; and,

**WHEREAS**, the voters of the three counties in which the City of Appleton resides have all passed resolutions or referenda in support of nonpartisan redistricting; and,

**WHEREAS**, there is a critical need to restore trust, compromise, and fair competition in Wisconsin politics.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD**, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 9, 2020 as

## ***NONPARTISAN REDISTRICTING DAY***

in Appleton and encourage all voters of the City of Appleton to learn more about the harmful effects of partisan gerrymandering on our democracy and to urge our state legislators to pass legislation that creates a fair, nonpartisan procedure for the preparation of legislative and congressional redistricting plans before the start of the next redistricting process following the 2020 Census.



Signed and sealed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.

  
**JACOB A. WOODFORD**  
MAYOR OF APPLETON