



# Supreme Court Redistricting Decision: What Nonprofits Need to Know

*Understanding the Potential Community Impact of Callais v. Landry*

## WHAT HAPPENED

In April 2026, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a decision in *Callais v. Landry*, a case involving Louisiana's congressional district map and the Voting Rights Act (VRA). The decision follows the Court's 2013 ruling in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which weakened parts of the Voting Rights Act by removing a requirement that some states get federal approval before changing voting laws.

The case centered on whether Louisiana could use a congressional map that included two majority-Black districts after a federal court previously found that the state's earlier map likely diluted Black voting power in violation of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

The Supreme Court struck down the revised map, issuing a 6-3 ruling that voting rights advocates and legal experts say may narrow how Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act is applied in future redistricting cases.

The ruling is expected to influence the way courts evaluate district maps nationwide, and is expected to have impacts on upcoming elections.

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Congressional and legislative district maps shape how communities are represented in government. These maps can influence whether voters have a meaningful opportunity to elect representatives who reflect their communities and priorities.

For decades, Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act has served as an important legal tool for challenging district maps that unfairly dilute the voting strength of communities of color. Advocates and legal analysts warn that this decision could make future challenges more difficult, particularly in states where communities have historically faced barriers to equal political representation.

The long-term effects of the ruling will depend on how lower courts, states, and future cases interpret and apply the decision.

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## WHO COULD BE AFFECTED

The impact of this ruling will be felt differently across states and communities, but those most likely to be affected include:

- **Communities of Color**  
*Black voters and other historically underrepresented communities could lose representation in Congress, and eventually state and local elections as current districts are gerrymandered for partisan advantage.*
- **Community-Based Nonprofits**  
*Organizations working in civic engagement, voter education, and community outreach may see increased demand for trusted, nonpartisan information about voting systems and district changes.*
- **Local Voters**  
*Changes in district maps can create confusion about representation, voting processes, and community political boundaries.*
- **States Facing Future Redistricting Challenges**  
*Legal experts anticipate that additional lawsuits and disputes involving district maps may emerge. More redistricting will likely take place in 2027 and beyond as legislators have more time to redraw districts following the Callais ruling.*



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## WHAT THIS COULD MEAN FOR NONPROFITS: FAQ

### **Will this decision affect voters in our community?**

Possibly. The impact will vary by state, but some communities could experience changes to district maps or representation over time.

### **Why might voters have more questions after this ruling?**

Changes to district boundaries, ongoing legal challenges, and conflicting media stories can create confusion about representation, elections, and the overall voting process.

### **Could this increase demand for voter information?**

Yes. Community members may look to trusted local organizations for clear information about voting, district information, and more.

### **Are more legal or policy changes expected?**

Yes. Legal experts expect additional court cases and policy discussions related to redistricting in the coming years. As these unfold, nonprofits have a unique opportunity to guide potential voters through the process.

### **What should nonprofits do now?**

Stay informed, continue nonpartisan voter engagement efforts, and be prepared to share accurate information from trusted resources.

### **Most importantly: does this change nonprofits' ability to conduct voter engagement?**

No. Nonprofits can continue their nonpartisan voter registration, education, and outreach efforts as permitted by law.

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## WHAT NONPROFITS CAN DO

Nonprofits have an important role to play in supporting informed and inclusive civic participation, especially during periods of legal and policy change.

- **Continue Nonpartisan Voter Engagement**  
*Maintain voter registration, education, and turnout efforts that help communities participate fully in elections regardless of political affiliation.*
- **Share Accurate Information**  
*Provide clear, factual updates from trusted and official sources about district changes, election procedures, and voting deadlines.*
- **Build Community Trust**  
*Use culturally responsive outreach and trusted messengers to help reduce confusion and strengthen confidence in the democratic process.*
- **Educate Communities About Representation**  
*Help community members understand how district maps affect representation and why local, state, and federal elections matter.*
- **Monitor Ongoing Changes**  
*Stay informed about court decisions, redistricting developments within your own state, and changes in election administration that could affect the communities you serve.*
- **Strengthen Partnerships**  
*Collaborate with civic organizations, legal experts, election officials, local businesses, and community leaders to coordinate accurate and accessible voter education.*



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## QUESTIONS NONPROFITS SHOULD BE ASKING

### QUESTIONS

### WHY IT MATTERS

**Have district boundaries changed in our community?**

*Voters may not know who represents them or where they vote.*

**Are we prepared to share accurate election information?**

*Confusion and misinformation can increase after major legal changes.*

**Do we have trusted messengers in impacted communities?**

*Community trust is essential for effective civic engagement.*

**Are we coordinating with local election officials and partners?**

*Partnerships improve consistency and credibility of voter education efforts.*

## REMINDER

While the legal landscape may continue to evolve, nonprofits remain essential trusted messengers in helping communities access accurate information, understand their rights, and participate fully in civic life. Ensuring that communities can engage in the democratic process remains critical to healthy, representative democracy.