

Hawaii Good Governance / Compactness Plan Description

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This redistricting plan prioritizes compactness while achieving perfect population equality and minimizing municipality splits. Like the 2010 map, District 1 includes Honolulu while District 2 occupies Northern Oahu and all other islands. However, this plan intentionally breaks from precedent by not following the Ko'olau ridge South through Waimanalo Beach. Instead, District 1 has taken the Southeastern coast of the island, including the cities of Kaneohe and Kailua. This new boundary splits from the Ko'olau ridge, following a natural barrier between Heeia, Ahuimanu, and Kahaluu municipal lines. To replace population lost on the Eastern coast, District 2 moves South to take Mililani and Waipio. The new boundary follows proposed state house and senate lines through Waimano Falls. District 2 also takes in the Southwestern portion of the island, including Kapolei, Kalaeloa, Ko Olina, and most of Ewa Villages. This amended boundary follows municipal lines and local streets, except where it cuts into Ewa Villages to reach perfect population equality. Neither district is subject to VRA concerns.

These adjustments create more compact Districts. This plan eliminates a long strip of District 2 travelling down the Eastern coast and creates a more uniform Northern bound of District 1. Accordingly, this plan beats the 2010 Districts on all measures of compactness. For example, District 1's Reock (improves from 0.35 to 0.57) and Schwartzberg (improves from 1.45 to 1.29) scores improve drastically.

Further, it achieves these results without disrespecting political boundaries. In total, one municipal population (Ewa Village) is split, necessary to achieve perfect population equality. However, more census tracts (7) and block groups (9) have population splits in this plan. Principally, these splits have been made to ensure congressional districts align with state legislative districts, roads, and municipal lines.

This plan complies with state redistricting principles: districts have not been drawn to unduly advantage a person or political party; districts are contiguous except for multi-island districts; district lines generally follow permanent features; districts generally coincide with census tracts; state legislative districts are generally wholly included in districts; areas are not submerged in larger districts with substantially different socioeconomic interests. Of course, this map has been developed with *proposed* state legislative districts because they have not yet been finalized.

Nonetheless, in pursuit of compactness trade-offs were made. First, this map splits slightly more census tracts and groups than the previous map. Second, by not following the Ko'olau ridge, this plan does not have a border that is as permanent as the previous District. Finally, this map does not perfectly align with proposed state legislative Districts.