

1154-00-1996 **Emille Lawrence*** (edlawrence@usfca.edu). *Partisan Gerrymandering and the Efficiency Gap*. Preliminary report.

The United States Census Bureau will conduct its next census in 2020. But why is this decennial count so important? Aside from allocating funds for municipalities to receive certain social services, the census is used for the apportionment of Representatives in the House. Recent cases of partisan gerrymandering (redrawing district lines for ulterior political motives) have made it all the way to the Supreme Court and the efficiency gap formula, a formula which quantifies the amount of “wasted votes” by a party, played a pivotal in these cases. We will discuss the efficiency gap formula as it was originally defined by E. McGhee, as well as some competing new alternatives. (Received September 17, 2019)