

Weekly Current Events:    Posted: 9.20.21

[Rankin, "Virginia's Governor Race: Key Takeaways from 1<sup>st</sup> Debate," \*Richmond Times-Dispatch\*, 9.16.21.](#)

1. Which candidates debated recently and what office are they both running for?
2. What were the leading topics in the debate?
3. What topic did you care about the most?
4. How did the Republican candidate answer the question about election fraud?
5. How did each candidate respond to the question about the removal of the Gen. Robert E. Lee statue?
6. How do you think the candidates answers or positions might impact the election? Why?

[Lieb, "New Redistricting Commissions Splinter along Partisan Lines," \*Associated Press\*, 9.18.21.](#)

1. What is re-districting? What is gerrymandering?
2. What governing authorities traditionally draw updated congressional district lines?
3. What are the commissions discussed in the article and what was the intent of these? What's happening?
4. Name a state examined in the article and what happened there relevant to the redistricting process?
5. What are the different ways states have set up these commissions?
6. What do you think is the solution to this problem? Why?

[Kapos, "Lawyers, Race, and Money: the Illinois Messy Weed Experiment," \*Politico.Com\*, 9.18.21.](#)

1. What method have most states used to legalize recreational cannabis/marijuana, and how did Illinois do it?
2. What unique goal did Illinois try to achieve in issuing marijuana dispensary licenses?
3. What does the law allow the state to do regarding past marijuana offenders?
4. What are cannabis entrepreneurs and sellers not happy about?
5. What did Charlie Batchell say about how new laws are handled?
6. How do "Laboratories of Democracy" factor into this story?
7. What are some of the complications with how licenses are being handed out?
8. What might some winners of licenses do to get money more quickly?
9. What is your overall take on the Illinois legalization process?