We now live in the Portland city limits in Senate District 26 but have been represented in the state senate by a resident of Hood River. Even the candidates for the position in the last several elections have been residents of Hood River. It seemed obvious that those elected officials would not have much understanding of or focus on urban issues when a huge percentage of District 26 was rural.

We are pleased to see that this has been remedied in the proposals by the redistricting committee. That said, we would much prefer that redistricting be done by a balanced committee of citizens and experts instead of the legislature.

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