

**Wednesday, September 8th from 5:30-8:30**

**NALLELY DE LA CUESTA CD 3 TESTIMONY:**

Co-Chairs Taylor, Salinas, and Boshart-Davis, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the redistricting committees,

My name is Nallely De La Cuesta and my pronouns are she/her/hers. I live in Northeast Portland, Oregon House District 43, Oregon Senate District 22, and Congressional District 3.

I have lived in the Portland Metro area for several years. I love living in NE Portland and hanging out at Alberta Park and Peninsula Park, which are gathering places for birthday parties, basketball games, and cultural celebrations. To get groceries, I shop at the Fred Meyer on N. Interstate or the Safeway on NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. I love all the food carts in my neighborhood, and you can get the best pupusas at a pupuseria near me. I'm pleased to see that the parks and grocery stores that I mentioned are within House Proposal C's HD 43.

This September, I am starting my work with Americorps in the College Possible Program, a non-profit that works on higher education access. I will be working to help seniors apply to universities and go through that process. Most of the students I work with will come from communities that have not had access to college in the past, and many of my students are low income, BIPOC, or first gen students. In addition to my job as an Americorp Volunteer, I also serve as a hostess at a downtown Portland restaurant.

To get to my jobs, I take Trimet. Getting downtown on the 8 line for my hostess job is easy, but my Americorp job takes three buses. In fact, whenever I get on public transit, it's always really full. I would love to have the 8 run more often. It takes 45 min to get to the Hollywood district by bus, when it only takes 15 minutes by car! As someone reliant on public transit, public transportation is important in my life and in the lives of my neighbors and community.

Since I work in downtown Portland I think the Senate Proposal C - SD 22 makes a lot of sense. There are 6 bridges in my area that cross the river and they all serve as vital connectors for those of us who find ourselves working, and living on both sides of the river and crossing it multiple times a day.

Thank you for your time.