

Dear Senate Interim Committee on Redistricting,

I have studied the proposed plans listed on the OLIS website, and ask that you consider the following points.

Plans A and B are obviously miles apart, and it looks like one or both of these sets of plans are an attempt to consolidate political power. Of the two plans, Plan A looks especially suspect, as large swaths of rural areas are merged into urban areas.

As a political independent who cares more about the state of Oregon as a whole than my own small district—or either of the political parties for that matter—I demand to see redistricting maps that not only conform to the Oregon Constitution and Oregon law, but will give us confidence that neither political party is favored. Any proposed redistricting should ensure the fair representation of citizens who have a vested interest in their local communities, values, cultures, and land they manage.

If the Democrats and Republicans cannot come up with a single set of redistricting plans that is supported by both parties and the general public, redistricting should be off the table completely until that can be achieved. Without overwhelming bipartisan support, we can be certain that gerrymandering is in play, and I am absolutely against any such proposals.

Regards,

Erling Nielsen
9667 NW Ash St.
Portland, OR 97229