

OREGON LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING HEARING

September 9, 2021, 1 p.m.

Co-Chairs Senator Kathleen Taylor, Representative Andrea Salinas; Vice-Chairs Senator Tim Knopp and Representative Boshart-Davis; and members of the Redistricting Committee:

For the record, my name is Linda Burgin, and I live in Marion County and in Senate District 10. I have lived in South Salem for the past 42 years. For 29 years, I worked as a Research Analyst at DHS, the Employment Department, and the Oregon Department of Education. My husband and I raised three children who all attended Liberty, Judson, and Sprague, and became a doctor, an engineer, and an Air Force colonel. My husband was affiliated with the military for his whole career, and finished 33 years of service by serving as Adjutant General and head of the Oregon Military Department his last seven years.

I want to thank you for the hard work of this Committee. I produced demographic reports when I worked at the Employment Department and the Department of Education, and I know there are a lot of nuances and factors to consider before drawing new district lines. Let me first say that I support the maps the Committee has put out. Most of these maps make sense to me based on how they keep communities of interest together, take into account major transportation links, and respect important existing political and natural boundaries in my area.

Regarding the proposed plans, I support Plans A and C for the State House and State Senate because they consider extending where we currently are and have been these last ten years with our expansion and growth.

As you know, this area is home to many State workers, who serve the people of Oregon through their work in State agencies and at the Capitol. In addition, many of our neighbors work in education, health care, and in the service industry at the many great cafes and restaurants in downtown Salem—which we frequently enjoy.

I am personally concerned that the Plan B proposal pulls the Brush College School area and Northwest Salem into a massive rural legislative district. In looking at the maps, this feels like a political move, which does not reflect the local community connectedness of West Salem and House District 20 on the whole.

As for the Congressional maps, I like Plan A because I believe that it adequately represents our communities of interest, uses existing geographic boundaries, and is connected by transportation links. Also, we would be included in the proposed Congressional District 6.

Thanks again for your service and your work on redistricting. These maps are a great start. Please keep in mind what I have shared about my community when finalizing the maps.

I am happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Burgin

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