

Co-Chairs Taylor, Salinas, and Boshart-Davis, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Bonnie New. I live in Hood River, which is located in HD52, SD 26, and CD2.

I support both House Maps A and C. They both address my biggest concern with current district lines: that Hood River and The Dalles are in different districts. These communities should reside in the same legislative district because of the many connections between the two.

People who live in Hood River and The Dalles commonly travel between the two towns for work, or to visit family, or to access services, restaurants, or stores.

The two towns are covered together by The Next Door, our main non-profit family services provider, by One Community Health, our area's FQHC, and by the Mid-Columbia Housing Authority.

In addition, the two towns are covered together in the 7th Judicial District, and by the Gorge Commission. It's never made sense to isolate The Dalles from the rest of the Gorge.

On Map C, I like that Sandy is no longer connected to the rest of HD52. One thing that I prefer about House Map A, however, is that the *entire* city of Sandy is preserved in HD39, rather than putting it in HD52. Although Sandy is close to Mt. Hood, I think most people in Hood River think of Sandy as more of a suburb of Portland, especially as the Portland Metropolitan Area continues to expand.

Despite this, I *do* agree with Senate Maps A and C proposing a Senate District that goes from Hood River all the way to Southeastern Clackamas County. Senate districts are naturally larger, and if we're going to connect Hood River County to another part of the state, it is culturally and geographically more sensible to connect it with the Portland area.

House and Senate Maps B don't make sense at all. How could you possibly justify isolating Hood River from the rest of the Gorge and Mt. Hood? I think most people in Hood River would agree with me that the area we call home includes both the mountain and the Gorge. They are the basis of our tourism and agricultural economies, as well as being where we recreate. House and Senate Maps B instead pair Hood River with parts of our state that I consider more frontier than rural. Hood River and The Dalles share almost no cultural, geographic, or service commonalities with this area.

House Map B also splits the Warm Springs Reservation into two districts, diluting a historically and currently marginalized community's voice. If we're going to create a justifiable Senate District that goes south from Hood River, it *must* include Bend. Bend actually holds some cultural similarities to Hood River, unlike the rest of this proposed district.

I support Congressional Map A. It encompasses much of the district proposed in House Map B but does *not* arbitrarily isolate Hood River. It instead pairs the entire Gorge with the eastern half of the Portland Metropolitan Area. The Gorge and eastern half of the Portland Metropolitan Area are connected via I-84 and the Mt. Hood National Forest. The city of Bend has more similarities to areas like Portland and Hood River than it does with the rest of eastern Oregon.

Please keep our rural communities, which do not feel represented by the rest of eastern Oregon, in mind as you work on the maps.

Sincerely,
Bonnie New

Bonnie New
Hood River, OR