

For the record, my name is Rolla Cleaver and I live in South Beach on the south edge of Newport, Oregon in Lincoln County House District 10, Senate District 5. I have lived here with my wife Kathy for nearly 20 years after moving from Las Vegas. We were attracted by the small town lifestyle and the spectacular natural beauty.

The community in and around Newport has distinct characteristics. Most citizens are here for the work opportunities that are provided by the fishing industry, logging, tourism, retirees and more recently the development of a top marine research facility. The health and competition between these industries provide much of the political and planning conflicts that arise. These can be difficult issues for elected officials to navigate.

As one moves away from the coast, the areas of community interest change quickly. Tourism, fishing and scientific research aren't the same level of priority to many. This has created challenges for elected representatives. I became involved in the environmental community and politics in Lincoln County shortly after moving to Oregon, and noticed that in our particular region the community of interests varied dramatically from the south to the north part of our senate district. How redistricting is designed has a significant effect on how our community is represented in our legislature. The health of our environment, the fishing industry, logging, tourism and construction industry are often in conflict. These are vital issues regarding the future of the Central Coast and being represented appropriately will have a critical impact on our future.

My primary concern is the current design of Senate District 5. The Central Coast has many unique and major issues facing our future. Watersheds to preserve a dwindling water supply, the impacts of climate change and a healthy environment for tourists to enjoy are critical for the Central Coast. These are often at odds with the interests of the southern part of the district. Designing this district in a way that benefits the community interests for both regions would benefit all. For these reason, I support Congressional Plan A. This proposal keeps my neighboring communities of Waldport, Yachats, and Toledo together. It also keeps Newport connected to Corvallis which is an important route along Hwy 20, and the closest major hospital in our region.

Regarding legislative maps, I would prefer Plan C which keeps all of Lincoln County in the same house district, and includes the north coast in our senate district. I feel that gives my community the best chance at electing a leader who shares our values.

Give the coastal communities the voice they deserve. They represent critical pieces of Oregon's future moving forward.

Thank you for reading my testimony. I hope you'll consider what I've shared with you about my community when you are finalizing our new maps.

Rolla Cleaver
South Beach, OR