

Redistricting Testimony - Congressional District 1 09.09.2021 5:30PM

Chair Taylor, Co-Chairs Boshart-Davis and Salinas, members of the Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

My name is Melissa Laird and I live in HD33, SD17, and Congressional District 1.

I have been a resident of Washington County for over 35 years. We purchased a home in the Oak Hills area in 1983 and still live there. I am retired after 23+ years at Intel. I shop mainly in the Cedar Mills and Tanasbourne areas and I regularly attend meetings at the Rock Creek County Club. My Mother lives in the Bethany area and we get together every day. My daughter and granddaughter participate in programs at the Catlin Gable School Adult Community Programs and the Tualatin Park and Recreation District. I used to enjoy going into Portland to eat, see a show or go to a concert but not anymore. The riots, violence in the street, vandalism, and rampant homelessness has made the city dirty and dangerous.

In looking at the Legislative Maps, **House and Senate Maps B are the best**. Map B SD17, which includes HD33 and HD34, keeps my communities of interest together: Oak Hills, Bethany, Cedar Mill, Rockcreek and Tanasbourne. Map B HD33 minimizes the portion of Multnomah/Portland included, which has little in common with the HD33 Washington County communities.

In contrast, House Map A puts my home in HD34. HD34 does include Oak Hills, Bethany but cuts Cedar Mills in half. Senate Map A SD17 continues to include HD33 & 34 but with HD33 completely in the Multnomah/Portland area, SD17 is divided between Multnomah and Washington. The lawlessness in Portland will continue due in part to the lack of support for law enforcement and will likely consume the attention of the SD17 Senator to the detriment of my communities.

House Map C expands HD33 more into Multnomah. HD33 is moved to SD15, which includes HD31, a rural part of Washington County that has little in common with the urban communities in HD33.

In looking at the Congressional Maps, I fully **support Congressional District Map B**. CD Map B best honors county boundaries and keeps Washington County in one Congressional District. Washington County deserves the full attention of a Congressional Delegate to ensure its diverse population is heard and major issues like affordable housing and access to health care get the appropriate focus. Multnomah should also have its own Congressional District whose Delegate can focus attention to help fix Portland, which has become a national disgrace.

Thank you for your consideration of my input,

Melissa Laird
Beaverton