Dear Redistricting Committee,

I am writing regarding the redistricting of Oregon, specifically Lane County. I do not believe the current proposed maps are fair to all. I am dissatisfied with Eugene being combined with rural areas. I live near the University of Oregon and am writing to testify my neighborhood has an incredibly different lifestyle, public concerns and issues than rural areas such as Coburg and Mohawk who are linked with us in Plan C. Rural areas should not be combined with our city. We are not communities of common interest.

The University District has a strong emphasis on students (housing, stadiums, restaurants, retail stores) has great public transit, many entertainment opportunities and an urban downtown feel. We struggle with homelessness, high crime rate and public safety.

Rural areas such as Mohawk often have properties with acreage, own and care for livestock and lead quieter, more private lives. They struggle with wildlife predators, limited services/conveniences and unique dangers such as wildfires and flooding.

To compare the two is a stark difference. We are not communities of interest and thus should not be combined in the same district. It makes much more sense for Eugene and the City of Springfield to be paired together. We share the same fire department (Eugene Springfield Fire), we both have large city-type shopping malls, many residents commute between the two cities for employment, and both communities have a more urban feel in comparison to our rural neighbors. Eugene and Springfield could easily be heard as one voice on local issues that matter to the citizens of both. It also makes sense for areas like Coburg, Harrisburg, Lebanon and Mohawk to be united under one district.

In closing, combining Eugene with rural farmland such as Coburg and Mohawk is not a good solution and is detrimental to all. Please consider these discrepancies when voting. Thank you!

Best,
Tracie Jenkins
Eugene, OR