

Testimony Regarding Redistricting of Oregon

From: Diane L. Pohl
P.O. Box 1022
Clatskanie, Oregon 97016
Phone: 503-728-3258
pohls@clatskanie.com

My name is Diane Pohl and I served the City of Clatskanie as Mayor from January, 2005 until December 31, 2016. During those twelve years, I was very active in various State and Federal issues, committees and activities that encompassed Columbia County, Clatsop County and Tillamook County. These included economic development, law enforcement, and other County, State and Federal issues. There has been a definite collaborative value in having the three counties in the same Congressional District. I also served on the Meth Task Force when it was active to address the destructive Meth issue that was occurring district-wide.

In reviewing the information on the proposed redistricting, I have some concern in the information I gleaned. There is one plan to cut Clatskanie off from Columbia County and putting it in with a district consisting of Clatsop, Tillamook and Lincoln County. By all intents and purposes, this will cut Clatskanie off from it's parent county, which is Columbia County. There are programs and protocols that are established between the three counties that have been very successful and teams of players who have the expertise of working together for the good of all. Columbia is our county and has been for many years. The redistricting makes no sense as far as the good of this community is concerned.

I would respectfully ask that Senate District Plan A be selected. Second would be Senate District Plan B. Senate Plan C is fraught with possible and probable problems for rural areas such as ours. We don't want to be cut off from our County.

I would respectfully ask that either Plan B or C be selected for the Legislative District for the same reasons. If Plan C is the choice, please reattach Clatskanie to Columbia County.

Acknowledging that the majority of the decisions made on redistricting will be political, I am writing to encourage the deliberations of what would be best for the future and benefit of the rural areas who would be ultimately be forced into more urban issues and would be at the bottom of the list of influence or an equal voice.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Diane Pohl