

12 September 2021

TO: Chair Taylor, Co-Chair Bosshart-Davis & Members of the Committee on Redistricting  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301

FROM: Laurie Kimmell  
Congressional District 2  
Sisters, OR 97759

SUBJECT: Redistricting Argument in Favor of Map B

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1..Please accept this as my testimony on redistricting. I am a retired Deputy Sherriff from Multnomah County. I understand boundaries, and the difference between rural and Metro areas. Map A violates ORS 188.010. HD 59 is a rural district under the existing map. Map A proposal for redistricting splits up rural communities and creates a new House District (53) which merges rural areas with metropolitan Bend which violates ORS 188.010 1(b) (ORS) which states "be of equal population as well as section 1(d) states "not divide communities of common interest." HD 59 is agricultural and there are cattle ranches. What commonalities does an agricultural area have with Bend? You have created a district where the rural vote is diluted with the metro population of Bend. Map A has created rural area vote vs a metro area. Map B does keeps rural areas together, like communities, and is equal population.

1. By comparing Maps A and B for CD2 to ORS 188.010. I involk the following questions?

a. ORS Don't Unnecessarily Divide Communities of Interest: Map A—How does the community of Portland have the same interests as those in Bend, Madras and Sisters. Does Madras, Culver, Warm Springs align with growing homelessness and crime? Portland is in no way similar to Bend which is much more rural and conservative. Map B—Appears to keep Bend and North Central Oregon a part of Eastern Oregon where they have much more in commonality (like communities) than Portland or Lake Oswego.

b. Map A—How would splitting (HD54) Bend into North and South Districts not constitute dividing this community and at a minimum not keep it contiguous? Bend/Redmond have a stronger commonality than Bend has with Prineville or Powell Butte (HD53) ? Map B—Seems to keeps Deschutes County and Bend whole as one community and reduces the "donut hole"

c. ORS 188.010-1(a) -Keep Each District Contiguous: Map A— How does splitting Warm Springs Nation, lumping part of Hood River, Sisters, Culver, Wasco County in half result in a contiguous district? Does population growth warrant this? Map A—How does separating the very similar communities in Bend from the Redmond community when they are contiguous? Map B—Seems to keep Bend and Redmond together since they are contiguous. It splits Jackson County only to equalize the population as required by Oregon state ORS181.010.line —Do Not Dilute the Voting Strength of any Language or Minority Group: Map A—How does breaking up the Confederates Tribes of Warm Springs not constitute dividing and thereby diluting the voting strength of the Confederated Tribes. Map B—Splits Marion and Clackamas counties to keep Warm Springs whole and keeps the Warm Springs, Umatilla, Burns, Wasco, and Klamath tribes whole.

d. ORS -Districts are to be Connected by Transportation Links: Map A—Where is the transportation link between Jefferson, Wasco, or Multnomah Counties to Deschutes County? Map B—recognizes there is not major transportation links (Interstate freeways, bus or light rail) from the Willamette Valley to Deschutes County.

ORS -No District Shall be Drawn to Favor any Political Party or Legislator: Map A—Doesn't the splitting of Bend into two North/South Districts violate geographic lines. Map A—How is splitting Portland 3 ways and spreading it into three urban districts not an example of gerrymandering to ensure a partisan majority in those districts? Map B—Seems to keep Portland and Bend in largely the same existing boundaries. For CD 2, it recognizes the natural boundary of the Cascade Mountains.. Map B in comparison appears to more closely follow ORS 188.010, keeps the natural boundary of the Cascade mountain range, and keeps Deschutes County whole as prescribed in ORS 188.010 therefore, I strenuously endorse redistricting Map B.

*Laurie Kimmell, Deputy (Ret.)  
multnomah County*