

Co-Chairs Taylor, and Salinas, Vice-Chairs, Knopp and Boshart-Davis; and members of the redistricting committees. For the record my name is Lois Yoshishige, my pronouns are she/her and I live in Lane County, House District 4. I live in Eugene and have for the past 41 years. I was employed at the University of Oregon for 34 years.

First off, thank you for the hard work of this committee. I know there are a lot of complexities to drawing new district lines. Generally speaking, I support the maps the committee has put out in House and Senate Plans C. These maps make sense to me based on how they keep communities of interest together, take into account major transportation links, and respect important existing political and natural boundaries in my area.”

In particular, I want to share some of the detailed ways that this map reflect my lived reality.

Delta Hwy and I-5 are the most important transportation routes in my area. When my family goes shopping we go to Gateway Mall or when we need medical care we go to River Bend hospital, in the town of Springfield just 5 miles away. Right now that is all contained in the same district. I will also note the importance of the University of Oregon, the biggest employer in my area, and the Hult Center for Performing Arts, which hosts the Oregon Bach Festival, one of the world’s leading music festivals. Located on the Hult Center’s east plaza is the Japanese American Memorial Garden. I am proud to say, as a member of the Japanese-American Association of Lane County, that I was part of the group who helped create the memorial garden, which is an acknowledgement of the Japanese-American internment during World War II that impacted thousands of Oregonians, including families in Lane County. I am grateful that the Lane County Asian community also hosts the Oregon Asian Celebration, held in previous years at the Lane County Fairgrounds but in July 2021 successfully at Alton Baker Park.

Thanks so much for your service and your work on this important issue.