

Thank you, members of the redistricting committees, for the work you have put into the redistricting maps. I have lived in Seaside in Clatsop County for several years, CD 1, SD 16, and HD 32.

The first thing that strikes most people when they have been in this region for any length of time is that the North Coast is identifiable as a community. People typically live in one town but regularly work, shop, get medical care, find other services, goods, or entertainment; or simply visit family and friends and enjoy activities and events in other North Coast towns.

We are a coastal community at the mouth of the Columbia River. That means the Port of Portland is central to our economy. Our fishing, timber, recreation, and tourism based economy connects us most directly to the Coastal Range and part of Washington County and the North Willamette Valley and across Columbia County to the metro area and Lower Columbia region.

In fact, two of our three major - and only - highways also lead directly to the metro area, Hwy 26 thru the Coastal Range into part of Washington County and the N. Willamette Valley, and Hwy 30, a major commercial route thru Columbia County to the metro area and Lower Columbia region.

Many North Coast residents are originally from Portland and many consider the metro area residents our neighbors; they own and operate businesses here, have homes on the North Coast, and participate in our activities and local governments. Many of our neighbors in Columbia County work at Nike or Intel in the Metro area. We are interconnected as a region.

It only makes sense for our region and for Oregon to have a district that will maintain our interconnectedness; our interconnectedness means a stable and growing economy with local and regional control over our resources, and a thriving, healthy community. For this reason I recommend Congressional Map A, House District Map A or C, and Senate District Map A.

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