

Chair Taylor, Vice Chair-Knopp, Co-Chairs Salinas, Boshart-Davis, and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Jaime Rodriguez. I am the president of AFT-Oregon, and a resident of Woodburn which is located in House District 22, Senate District 11, and Congressional District 5. I'm here before you all today to testify in support of Congressional Map A, House Map C, and Senate Map C.

I support House Map C because it keeps much of Oregon's current 22nd House District intact -- encompassing Woodburn down to Northeast Salem, an area that is heavily populated by Latinos and that shares many common interests outside of their heritage such as the small businesses owned by members of our own community, maintenance of I-5 and HWY 99 as major routes of transportation, and the preservation of popular places of community gathering in our district such the Woodburn Outlets, PCUN, Capaces Leadership Institute, the Oregon State Fairgrounds, and the Kroc Community Center. It also makes sense that this district does not cross the Willamette River because West Salem is located in Polk County and is made of communities who come from different socioeconomic backgrounds than those living in NE Salem and Woodburn. House Map B is an attempt to dilute this community's thriving and increasingly organized Latino community's ability to organize effectively behind candidates and causes who uplift their needs. There is no doubt about that.

Senate Map C keeps communities from Woodburn to SE Salem and Aumsville, who are all near the I-5 corridor and connected to Salem, together. They have more in common than they do to communities in Keizer, downtown Salem, or the more rural parts of Marion County, and all rely on similar commercial centers like the Willamette Town Center or Wal-Mart and Winco located along Lancaster Drive in East Salem. Both House and Senate Map B do not dilute these communities who share similar life experiences and priorities, but splits Woodburn up from the parts of Salem that it is deeply connected to. As far as House Districts and the population numbers they represent are concerned, it does not make sense to pair Woodburn with its northern neighbors as they are more frequently traveling to and from Salem.

As far as Congressional Maps go, I stand in support of Congressional Map A. I believe it does a great job at pairing some of the southwestern Portland Metro towns who have more suburban concerns than Portland proper and who have grown exponentially over the last decade with communities like Salem, Woodburn, McMinnville, and Dallas -- who are also largely suburban and growing in their own right. Centered in the mid-Willamette valley, this map also encompasses all of Oregon's wine country, which gives winemakers and the field workers who harvest their grapes an opportunity to be represented by someone who can balance the changing needs of these growing communities with their need to protect land that is used to create world-class wine that Oregon is famous for. All in all, I believe this map creates a 6th congressional district that is uniquely diverse in a myriad of ways. It gives us the opportunity to work together on issues that matter to all of us as Oregonians. Thank you for your time.

Jaime Rodriguez