

Thanks for the opportunity to testify today. Unfortunately I was unable to stay on the line long enough to find out if I would be called due to business obligations.

First of all, thank you to the committee for all the hard work on this thorny issue.

I'm not a politician, I'm a voting citizen; and a business, community and church leader from Bend.

I can't speak to any geography outside of Central Oregon, but I can speak to Central Oregon.

As I understand it, a constitutional republic is intended to reflect the desires, preferences and will of the people by being organized such that representatives are selected from the area they are to advocate for.

As I understand the statute, district lines are to be drawn, not to advance the political agenda of any party over the other, but to provide a dedicated voice for the people in a district that is representative of their desires.

On these two points, the "A" maps fail - at least for Central Oregon.

Despite the testimony of one of the gentlemen this afternoon, Bend and Portland are not alike. Bend and Central Oregon have much more affinity to the rural Eastern Oregon region than to the Portland/Vancouver metro area. I'm sure the Portland does not consider itself a suburb of Bend. The issues faced by each community are dramatically different.

Please revisit the proposals in light of ORS 188.010 1(c), 1(d) and 2.

Thank you again for your service.

Best Regards,

Michael Sipe
541.390.8610

1001 SW Disk Drive, Suite 1010
Bend, OR. 97702

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