

Co-Chairs Taylor and Salinas, Vice-Chairs Knopp and Boshart-Davis, and members of the redistricting committees,

I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you about redistricting. For the record my name is Jeffrey Corso, my pronouns are he/him/his and I have lived in Washington County for about seven years. I'm here because of the importance of redistricting and its impact on my students and my neighbors for the next 10 years.

I wish to commend this committee's efforts as I generally support the maps this body has released, particularly map A. These maps seem practical in keeping communities together while using existing boundaries and focusing on areas of growing population.

While the majority of released maps are beneficial, I want to address a few key areas of consideration. I am a proud public educator, living and teaching in Beaverton. Over the past few years, my class sizes have varied from 25 students to 45 students. Historical trends show class sizes in the metro region at all time highs. Now I know that Education is a different committee but redistricting plays a great role in public education. As district's received ESSER Funds, having an ally in Congress, closely associated and knowledgeable of school and student needs and concerns would be instrumental in improving the lives and livelihoods of our youth. Our children are struggling with mental health crises, insurmountable housing emergencies, and extraordinary food insecurity. Redistricting focuses attention on the areas most in need, those with growing populations, and that's what most of the released maps, notably plan A, do. And yet more can be done. I worry that our historically underserved populations are being left out in the cold. I want to ensure my bipoc students and their families are more fairly represented. I want to see the continued growth of bipoc leadership in our elected representatives and all of that starts with this committee.

Washington County, Beaverton, and my students appreciate you and your work in supporting redistricting and responding to their growing needs.

Thank you very much for your time and effort.