

September 13, 2021

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

For the record, my name is Christine Clark, my pronouns are she, her, hers and I live in Bend, Deschutes County, in House district 53. I've lived in Central Oregon for the past 28 years.

First of all, I would like to thank you for all your time and hard work in creating new district maps. I realize how difficult it must be to draw fair maps while taking all the complexities of individual communities into consideration. Generally speaking, I support the maps the committee has created. House Plans A and C split Bend up logically. It is a clear improvement on how it was split for the last ten years. Bend is way too big and has become too diverse to be in one district. House Plan A utilizes Highway 20 as a logical boundary line. Highway 20 connects Bend east to west and goes through downtown. This is the road I use to go shopping or to the bank. House Plan C utilizes Highway 97 which connects Bend north to south, which is the other main thoroughfare used for shopping and recreation. However, Plan B uses neither of these main thoroughfares to split up Bend and I'm worried that the need for sustainable, affordable and dependable city and county transportation would not be apparent to whomever were to be elected to those seats.

Moreover, the redistricting maps need to acknowledge the fact that tourism is the main industry in the region and most people depend on it to make a living. Neighboring communities such as Sisters, Black Butte Ranch, Eagle Crest, and Bend all have many common ties through shared recreation and tourism industries. In order to have the best interest of the population, it would be important for these communities to be in the same district.

Finally, I was a resident of Powell Butte, in Crook County for 15 years and I know that Bend, Redmond and Prineville are very different communities with different priorities. Redmond has become a bedroom community for Bend as housing prices have skyrocketed in the last ten years. I believe that House Plan A separates these communities the most logically.

Once again, I want to thank you for your time and commitment to ensure that the new district lines reflect Oregon's diverse population and priorities. I hope you will consider what I have shared about my community when finalizing the maps.

Sincerely,

Christine Clark