

Dear Co-chairs, Vice chair, and members of the redistricting committees:

My name is Tia Hatton and I live in NE Bend Oregon in Deschutes County in the current Congressional District 2, HD 53, and SD 27. I was born and raised here, and my family has been here since the 1960's.

I would like to begin by saying thank you for the work of this committee and for working to create fair representation for the folks of Oregon. Thank you for the virtual hearings and opportunity to submit both oral and written testimony.

Bend has grown immensely over the past decade. The lifestyle here is defined by the outdoors: clean, clear water, healthy forests, abundant recreation including skiing, hiking, swimming, cycling and more. Since COVID, and before, we are becoming a Zoom community with many remote workers.

There are a few things I would suggest to make sure the final maps for Bend are reflective of my community. First, due to the immense growth we've seen in Bend, it makes sense that our population will be represented by two house districts. Both House Plan A and House Plan C are decent attempts. In my mind, what makes Map C slightly better is it divides Bend in a more east/west manner.

Having grown up here, there's distinct communities on the east and west sides of town, which could be defined by east of hwy 97/ hwy 20 or 3rd street in town, all of which are major transportation routes. There seems to be a slightly higher socioeconomic class on the westside than the eastside overall. The west side attracts more tourists, high end housing near our trails, and the east side is a bit more industrial, and occupied by more locals. I also use Empire every day to connect to the parkway, or to 27th street. The east side of Bend has the hospital, our Costco, and my church on 27th. I shop at the grocery stores near my home off hwy 97 or 27th street. House Plan A also splits up the two colleges in town, Central Oregon Community College and OSU-Cascades which doesn't make sense since so many students attend both or finish their associate then attend osu cascades. Also, according to the census racial data, a higher population of hispanic latino live on the east side of Bend, and this can be considered a community of interest that should be kept together.

I do not think it makes sense to keep HD 54 as similar as it is in its current state such as House Plan B proposed. Bend has grown enough that we deserve two house districts that represent us. The northern boundary in House Plan B for HD 54 cuts off the northern and eastern Bend. We all work in Bend, in HD 54, very close to either side of Hwy 97. I do not feel a tie to Redmond more so than I feel a tie to other Bendites.

I am thrilled to see the proposed Congressional Map A. It's not perfect, but it makes a lot of sense for the growing community of Bend to be linked to more urban areas such as Hood River and outskirts of Portland - such as Sandy and the outskirts of Gresham. In particular, as I've stated Bend is a popular destination for tourists, and offers robust recreational opportunities. I see Hood River as having these similar industries. Sandy and Hood River have roads that lead to Mt. Hood, just like Bend is the gateway to Mt. Bachelor. I do support moving the southern boundary to include the similar community of sunriver. I also think we share an environmental and sustainability ethic the Warm Springs tribe holds close to their hearts. On that note, I am concerned that the warm springs tribe hasn't been consulted enough in this process - please prioritize their testimony.

Congressional Plan B does not take into account Bend massive growth in Oregon over the past decade. How could this look so similar to how it does currently?

Having lived in Wallowa County for a year, I can note that the natural resource economy out there in Eastern Oregon differs from that inside Bend. Bend is an urban town. I love Eastern Oregon - but the people in Bend overall, have different values, ethics, and economies than those in Eastern Oregon and its congressional district plan B does not respect that. I would note that I agree with David Paulson on Eastern Oregon's thoughts on Bend (wanting to move the borders to Idaho.)

Once again, thanks so much for your work on this important issue. These maps are a great start. Please keep in mind what I have shared about my community when finalizing maps.

Thank you,

Tia M. Hatton