

Hello all,

My name is John Meissinger and I live Congressional District 1, currently represented by Suzanne Bonamici (D) I live in Oregon HD 26 and Oregon SD 13.

I've long been a proponent of an independent, nonpartisan group to draw the district lines. I was a supporter of the failed ballot measure "People Not Politicians". I firmly believe that politicians should not choose their voters. The voters choose their politicians. This is how a Democracy works.

I've seen what happens when politicians get power hungry during redistricting, you have too. Look at states such as Maryland and Ohio. These states were specifically drawn to try and disenfranchise voters of the minority party in their respective state. I do not want Oregon looking like that....

It's my hope that when Oregon goes to draw their lines, they look at population, geography, and areas of similar interest.

A few of my problems with the current OR1 boundaries are as follows:

My home town of Sherwood is split between the 1st and the 5th. This has led to confusion amongst residents.

This district stretches from the Beaverton/ Hillsboro area all the way to the northern coast. It also includes parts of Portland. The metro area has very little in common with the northern coast or actually the coast in general. The district seems to be drawn to disenfranchise Republican voters. This district currently has all of the heavily Democratic parts of Washington County and Multnomah County, but also includes the more Republican counties of Columbia, Clatsop, and Yamhill. It's almost like the voters of the more Republican counties don't matter because the more Democratic counties heavily outnumber the Republican ones.

Thank you allowing me the time to share my thoughts on the redistricting process in Oregon!

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