

Redistricting Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony with regards to the population growth and subsequent need for the political redistricting of Oregon.

I have a concern about our legislature being the ones to draw the new boundaries for redistricting our state. I feel as though this job should be given to an outside agency who has no vested interest in the outcome. I would suggest that a nonpartisan, independent commission be assigned the task of redistricting in order to ensure transparency, fair lines, and non-Gerry mandered districts. By assigning a commission, this would create a higher level of public confidence that there was no political motivation involved in drawing those new boundaries. I urge you to choose this method of redistricting over having the legislature or the Secretary of State complete this task. Many rural Oregonians are already fed up with their voices being unheard. Don't add insult to injury by redistricting becoming another political move. Rural areas deserve equal consideration as the metro areas.

Sincerely,

Gayle A Davis
Redmond, OR