

I am a homeowner in Columbia County and I have lived here much of my life. We are different from Portland, our pace is slower, our people friendlier, our way of life, in general, is much different than Portland.

I am against the changing of boundaries for we moved here to get away from Portland. I don't want to see my county become like Portland. We have worked hard all our lives and this was our reward to live in a quiet sleepy community where everyone knows you and says hello in passing. I might add that we waive with ALL FIVE FINGERS here, not just the one.

The redistricting will bring big city aspect, which will bring crime, stress on resources like police, fire, higher taxes, and angst to our citizens who feel pride in our county. There is no real upside to changing the boundaries for the people of Columbia County. We are already seeing the uptick in crime due to the bussing of the mentally ill and drug dependent people that Portland has dumped into this community. While that might be a good thing for Portland by ridding themselves of the burden it is NOT good for our county. Portland needs to have a backbone and solve its own problems not dumping them in other counties which is what the redistricting will do, dump their problems on us.

We are a close-knit community that struggles to maintain our independence and our simple way of life. We do not take these things for granted and neither should you. Don't take these things from us in the name of "Progress" or to make our community something it is not

for votes. If you do, we will remember at the ballot box. Our attempts to recall of the governor should be proof that we dont forget.

I am asking that you do not redraw the lines for possible political gain.

Respectfully,

Lorene Nowling,

Proud Columbia County Resident