

March 11, 2021

Thank you both Senators and Representatives for undertaking this enormous redistricting process. If the 2020 Census count allows, gaining another U.S. House seat will open up all sorts of possibilities. It could be an interesting alignment.

However my concerns are more local. I'm a 4th generation Oregonian living outside of Mosier in Wasco County. Wasco County is presently divided, having 2 State Representative and Senate Districts serving the county, which strikes me as odd. Previously we were joined with Hood River and Sherman Counties, both adjoining Wasco County, which makes sense in that it is the Columbia River Gorge that unites us, along with shared agricultural interests of grain and fruit growing.

As for State Senate District 30 it seems quite a stretch to be tied all the way to Malheur County. I rarely make a sojourn to Grant County, one long day's drive. I'm sure that our esteemed Senator Lynn Findley likewise seldom ventures all the way to the far northwest corner of District 30. Geographically Wasco County has connections to the adjoining counties of Hood River, Sherman, Jefferson, Wheeler and Gilliam. They are all neighbors and share a common interest geographically.

Sincerely,

Phil Swaim
Mosier, Oregon