

Good Afternoon committee members -

My name is Traci Brumbles. I'm a resident of Deer Island, a business owner in Rainier, and chair of the Columbia County Republicans in Columbia County. I would like to address the issue of moving the redistricting lines.

Columbia County is a rural area with a diverse community. The members of our community come from all walks of life. Many are lifelong residents, some have moved to Columbia County to escape the hectic life of the city, some have been drawn to the beauty of living in a river community.

One of my reasons for my testimony is to urge you not to add more of Multnomah and Washington counties to our district. Our values and way of life are much more rural based here. We are not a place of continuous riots. We are not a place where division is a focus of our community members. We are a place that backs our police departments. We are a place of pride in the way we come together when adversity hits. We are farmers, artists, loggers, gravel truck drivers, mom and pop shop owners, and mill workers. Yes, we do have some folks that travel into the metro area to work. Why you ask? Because they want to call Columbia County home. They want to come home to the easy pace of a rural community.

I'd like to share another reason to oppose any more of Multnomah and Washington counties being pushed into our district is our elections. We in Columbia County are considered a "Red County." Meaning that this last November elections the Republicans in Columbia County won. Our whole Republican down ballot was won by large numbers. Once you added in the small bit of Multnomah and Washington counties the results changed. That says to me Columbia county should be kept intact without further division of the metro area. We ARE different than metro. Our community members share many values and ideals.

I ask that you consider not expanding our district more into Washington and Multnomah counties. Redistricting is a tool that is used to make sure our district is represented properly by elected officials. In turn those elected officials represent the voices of the constituents. Currently the way the lines are drawn, it is barely the case. Fairness in representation is all anyone can really ask.

Thanks - Traci Brumbles
Rainier Liquor Store
Agency #1052
Deer Island - resident
Chair - Columbia County Republicans