

Saturday, March 20th 9am-11am - CD 1

Co-Chairs Taylor, and Salinas, Vice-Chairs, Knopp, and Boshart-Davis, and members of the redistricting committee.

For the record my name is Anna Young, and I live in Congressional District 1 in Clatskanie, OR in Columbia County and work with Seniors and people with disabilities in my role as a Home Care provider. In 2001, My husband and I moved to the Clatskanie area from Hillsboro, Oregon with our two children and bought our first home. My husband was raised in rural areas in Idaho and the last part of my high school years I was raised near Coburg that is outside of Eugene, Oregon.

And the things I like most about Columbia County is the fresh air, clean water and the amazing view of the Columbia river. In the spring the trees come alive, the flowers blossom and we see amazing waterfalls along highway 30 from east to west.

Thank you for hearing public testimony about redistricting. I am grateful that Oregon uses this deliberative process, that you seek input from the public. I am new to political efforts but when I heard about this opportunity, I wanted to share some thoughts about how I feel about our community.

I enjoy Volunteering my time with a variety of groups of folks in my area. I currently am a member of the American Legion and work with supporting the veterans. And I am a Deacon for the Clatskanie Presbyterian church. We sponsor several programs, such as the backpack program for our children school supplies and snacks and Meals on Wheels.

When disaster hit with the covid virus our community pulled together and helped others with the resources they had to offer. Many church group members and other groups within our county made up masks for the essential workers that continued to work throughout the year. During the fires people from all over helped organize and donate many items in St. Helens for the folks that lost their homes throughout the surrounding areas. Some residents let strangers come stay at their homes until they could find resources to help those displaced families. Many people also opened up their pastures for others to bring in their horses and livestock so they would not die from the fires.

So as a Columbia County resident who lives right on the Columbia River in House District 31 we should honor the connectivity with river and coastal communities. Our region depends on the water and other natural resources for our way of life. Those of us in Clatskanie feel connected to the folks down river and around the corner on the Pacific coast. As this legislative committee deliberates on our part of Oregon, I hope you'll consider water ways - the Columbia, but also the Willamette River - as well as the Pacific Ocean. I also want to say that not all rural communities and rural Oregonians are the same and no one group speaks for us as we are a very diverse population as well.

Please continue working hard to engage Oregonians who are often overlooked when it comes to political participation and representation - like low-income and working Oregonians. While you wait for population data, let's not wait to involve and educate the public about this process. We understand that there is already reliable data from the PSU Population Center down in Portland. I believe the Department of Human Services which works with Oregon care providers - uses their information. Thank you for the work this committee will do to draw fair district lines both for the state and federal lines over the next couple of months. I look forward to continuing to watch and

participate in your work.

Anna Young
Clatskanie, Oregon