

Dear Co Chairs Salinas and Taylor and Vice Chairs Knopp, Boshard-Davis and members of the redistricting committee,

I am writing to you as a new member of the North East Bend committee in Deschutes County. My family and I moved in August to be part of the Central Oregon culture that is so rich in tradition as well as acceptance of all differing types of lifestyles. As there has been tremendous growth in the area with people like myself moving here for a better work-life balance. Along with this tremendous growth comes changes. However, even with a larger population, it is extremely important to keep communities together. I would like to highlight the following key points for consideration in regards to drawing new boundaries for districts.

1. Redmond and Bend urban areas need to be kept together in a single Senate district. Many people commute from Redmond to Bend daily for work. Many children attend schools in Redmond who live in Bend and vice versa. It is important to keep these communities aligned.
2. With the influx of people into Bend the housing prices are sky rocketing so places like Desschutes River Woods are becoming more affordable and thus people living there are working in Bend and their children are attending schools in Bend. It would be equitable representation to incorporate DRW into Bend for those reasons.
3. Reunite Southern and Western Deschutes county into a rural senate seat. LaPine and Sunriver should be together again.
4. Keep as much of Bend as possible in a single house district.
5. Keep North East Bend in House District 53 as the residents there are aligned with Redmond residents.
6. Try and keep Bend and Redmond school districts together. These are communities of interest and should stay together.
7. Deschutes should remain in the 2nd Congressional district.
8. Gerrymandering is a real concern and it is imperative that everything done is transparent and community input is a large part of the decision making process. This is how trust is gained and maintained between constituents and government. This is a great opportunity to ensure all voices are heard and to draw boundaries that keep communities together so that they have a say in the process through real representation.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

Regards,
Ryan Sur

Sent from my iPhone