

April 9, 2021

To: Co-Chairs: Taylor and Salinas; Vice-Chairs: Knopp and Boshart-David; and members of the redistricting committees

From: Rolla Cleaver
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For the record, my name is Rolla Cleaver and I live in South Beach on the south edge of Newport, Oregon in Lincoln County House District 10, Senate District 5. I have lived here with my wife Kathy for nearly 20 years after moving from Las Vegas. We were attracted by the small town lifestyle and the spectacular natural beauty.

The community in and around Newport has distinct characteristics. Most citizens are here for the work opportunities that are provided by the fishing industry, logging, tourism, retirees and more recently the development of a top marine research facility. The health and competition between these industries provide much of the political and planning conflicts that arise. These can be difficult issues for elected officials to navigate.

As one moves away from the coast, the areas of community interest change quickly. Tourism, fishing and scientific research aren't the same level of priority to many. This has created challenges for elected representatives. I became involved in the environmental community and politics in Lincoln County shortly after moving to Oregon, and noticed that in our particular region the community of interests varied dramatically from the south to the north part of our senate district. How redistricting is designed has a significant effect on how our community is represented in our legislature. The health of our environment, the fishing industry, logging, tourism and construction industry are often in conflict. These are vital issues regarding the future of the Central Coast and being represented appropriately will have a critical impact on our future.

I want to be clear, **the census is very valuable**, as well as the work that was done to ensure that we have one person one vote in Oregon. But, until we get the census data, we don't believe the committee can wait to start the process of drawing maps. Oregon has access to additional and credible data like the Population Research Center, the American Community Survey, school districts, and housing developments that can be used to draw preliminary maps. After we receive the census data, I would ask the committee to re-draw their maps and re-engage the community. I look forward to working with this committee to help insure redistricting reflects the best interests of the variety of groups our legislature attempts to serve. This process is critical to the future of Oregon.

Thank you for your time and if I can be of any help in the future please give me that opportunity.

Sincerely,

Rolla Cleaver