

**Summary of Public Meeting  
of the  
State of Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission**

**Location: Hon Dah**

**Date: June 18, 2001**

**In attendance:**

**Commissioners: Joshua M. Hall,**

**Commission Attorney: Jose Rivera**

**NDC Staff: Alan Heslop, Marion Porch**

19 persons participated (12 via statements; 7 with questions). A representative of the White Mountain Apache Tribe noted that the Grid cuts his Reservation into two. Noting that "all of Arizona's Indian communities want to ensure a strong Indian voice and representation," he urged the creation of districts "to include, as exclusively as possible, as many Indian nations in this and surrounding areas." He advocated a district that would include the Navajo Nation, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Gila Indian Reservation. He read a resolution that spoke of a statewide redistricting that would "represent the character and needs of Arizona's rural areas, and in particular, the needs of the Indian tribes in eastern and northern Arizona."

Another speaker also urged that "the voice of rural and northeast Arizona not be diluted." Yet another speaker noted that Apache County is a member of the Eastern Arizona Association, a community of interest in need of economic development. He noted that the rural population of Arizona is sufficient for two rural congressional districts, one to the west, the other to the east, in which Indian Tribes could also be kept intact. A spokesman of the Governmental Alliance of Rural Arizona also urged redistricting to recognize the difference between the major metropolitan areas and rural Arizona.

The major themes of those who spoke were the importance of giving appropriate representation to Native Americans and Arizona's rural areas. Several speakers emphasized the effective coexistence and good working relations between rural communities and Indian Tribes.

AURs: Two rural congressional districts  
A congressional district including all Indian Nations  
A district including the Navajo Nation, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Gila Indian Reservation.

**NOTE:** These summaries and excerpts were developed for the Independent Redistricting Commission by its consultant, National Demographics Corporation, and have not been reviewed by the Commission prior to posting. They are not official statements of the Commission and represent only the consultant's best effort to identify major themes and highlights of each public hearing. The excerpts were chosen by the consultant in an effort to identify common themes and especially noteworthy statements.

These materials are placed here for citizen review and with the hope that they will encourage comments. Comments can be made on the form provided.