

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

**Location:** Prescott

**Date:** June 21, 2001

**In Attendance:**

**Commissioners:**

Joshua M. Hall

**Commission Attorneys:**

Lisa T. Hauser

**NDC Staff:**

Florence Adams

A total of 8 speakers addressed the Commission. One common theme expressed by the speakers was the importance of keeping Yavapai County in legislative and congressional districts separate from Maricopa County.

Two Republican Party speakers argued that Yavapai County constitutes a community of interest, that it should be kept whole, and that it was a “poster child” for meeting the requirements of Proposition 106. Two Democratic Party speakers emphasized the language in Proposition 106 concerning the creation of competitive districts, argued that the current predominance of Republicans in Yavapai County resulted in the effective disenfranchisement of Democrats, and endorsed a map, which was presented to the Commission, that would promote party competitiveness by cutting off the northern portion of Yavapai County and by replacing it with a Democratic portion of Gila County. They argued that Yavapai and Gila Counties constituted a community of interest based on mining, ranching, and retirement communities.

The Yavapai County Recorder urged the Commission to complete its work in a timely fashion so that the Voter Registration Departments across the state could begin the difficult and time-consuming process of completing precinct maps.

Detailed questions were posed to the Commission concerning: (1) how Arizona could free itself from the preclearance requirements of the Voting Rights Act; (2) whether the six requirements of Proposition 106 are rank-ordered in terms of importance; (3) why the state legislature was authorized to review and comment on the Commission’s draft maps; (4) how the Commission intended to deal with the desire of the Hopis to remain in congressional and legislative districts separate from the Navajo Nation; and (5) what were the allowable population deviations from one congressional or legislative district to another.

AURs: Yavapai County outline  
Democrats’ map

**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.