

Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Avondale, AZ: June 26, 2001

“The area I’m concerned about that has a common interest with the rest of District 15 is that, and it concerns Luke Air Force Base and a lot of other things that go with this, is the area from Camelback Road to Thomas Road, between 91st Avenue and the Agua Fria River. This area has much more in common than any other area that has been excluded.”-Priscilla A. Gibson, Pg 31 Ln 4-10

“We have a split north of Thomas and 47th Avenue, part of Isaac School District is not part of District 22. As you can see, when you dilute a school district, you dilute its representation and influence.” -Richard Miranda, Pg 33 Ln 2-5

“...the City of Tolleson is concerned very much and would appreciate it if you keep the City of Tolleson in District Two of the Congressional Districts.” – Miranda, Pg 35 Ln 23 and Pg 36 Ln 1

“We are very similar to the communities of Central and South Phoenix and Tolleson in that we share human services, such as the justice court and the primary care center, not to mention the county social services funds.” -Marie Lopez Rogers, Pg 37 Ln 25 and Pg 38 Ln 1-4

“I feel we will not be represented in the best interest of Avondale if we are included with districts such as Sun City or Ahwatukee.”-Rogers, Pg 39 Ln 2-4

“One of the common interests is Luke Air Force base. In that area, there are a lot of military retirees. They’ve been in that area.”-Mike Gleason, Pg 41 Ln 9-11

“We work with Tolleson, Avondale, with Cashion, West Phoenix, and South Phoenix. And working continuously with these areas, I find that there are many similarities, such as a high unemployment rate, a large percentage of AFDC recipients, low voter turnout, high minority population, large high school dropouts.”-Jose Cortez, Pg 42 Ln 4-9

“...I live in west Phoenix, grew up on the west side, and consider myself very much a person very much from Cashion, Phoenix, Tolleson, have very similar demographic information and statistics about the people that live in these pockets.” -Francisca Montoya, Pg 46 Ln 5-10

“What I’m asking is if you could consider the boundary so that it would include the cities of Gila Bend, Goodyear, Buckeye, Tolleson, Avondale, Surprise and exclude the communities of Sun City out of District 15 or put it in their own district.”-Bill Arnold, Pg 51 Ln 20-24

“I feel the same way about Isaac School District. It should be contained in the same district. I don’t see any way of splitting different districts. Parents can’t talk to

legislators in different places and have to – it’s just not feasible.”-Rosie Lopez, Pg 62 Ln 24-25 and Pg 63 Ln 1-3

“Sitting on the Avondale City Council I see how hard it is when the city is split into several districts. When we don’t have representation we need because it’s out in the Sun Cities. It’s not where we need it.”-Betty Lynch, Pg 70 Ln 3-7

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.