STATE OF ARIZONA

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

PUBLIC SESSION

Phoenix, Arizona
August 25, 2001
3:00 p.m.

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50349
THE STATE OF ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING

COMMISSION convened in Public Session on August 25, 2001, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., at the Phoenix Union High School District Board Room, 4502 North Central, Phoenix, Arizona, 85012, in the presence of:

APPEARANCES:

VICE CHAIRMAN ANDI MINKOFF
COMMISSIONER JAMES R. HUNTWORK
COMMISSIONER JOSHUA M. HALL
ADOLFO ECHEVESTE, Executive Director
LISA T. HAUSER, Commission Counsel
DR. FLORENCE ADAMS, NDC, Consultant
AMY REZZONICO, Press Information Officer
CINDY LE, Commission Staff
PAUL CULLOR, Outreach Staff
ALMA VILLARREAL, Outreach Staff
ALICIA NIETO JACOBS, Spanish Interpreter
LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Court Reporter

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Phoenix, Arizona
SPEAKERS FROM CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

SUPERVISOR MARY ROSE WILCOX

PAUL ECKSTEIN

FRANK COSTANZO

DOROTHY SCHULTZ

REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD MIRANDA

RANDALL J. BLECHA (By written submission read into the record.)

RESOLUTION FROM ISAAC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 (By written submission read into the record.)

EVELYN SHAPIRO

GLENN HOLMGREN

JOHN MILLS

LYNN ANDERSON

KAY REMEIN

ALLEN GRASS

DONNA M. ITO

DR. RUTH ANN MARSTON

REPRESENTATIVE BILL BROTHERTON

PETER MORAGA

BERT TOLLEFSON

SUSAN BITTER SMITH

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SPEAKERS FROM CALL TO THE PUBLIC (CONT'D):

PAT BUCKMASTER
SUSAN SHELTON
ROBERT FLECKENSTEIN
KEN WATERS
BOB HARAN
BRIAN MILLER
SUSAN SCHWEIGER-NITCHALS
BEN CUTHBERTSON
HARRIETT MITTEN GRANTHEN
BILL BROTHERTON
O'DELL ARBON (By written statement submitted.)
COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Thank you.

On behalf of the Independent Redistricting Commission, I want to thank you.

This is the first session of the second round of public hearings by the Redistricting Commission.

I would like to call on Alicia Nieto Jacobs.

Alicia?

THE INTERPRETER: I'm here.

COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Would you ask if anyone needs your services, please.

(Whereupon, the Spanish interpreter asked the audience if anyone desired the services of an interpreter. No one requested interpreter services.)

COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: I do want to thank you. I am Andi Minkoff, Vice Chair of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

There are several people I want to
introduce to you.

Those of you standing, if you want to sit, there are some seats, two, three, five up here, three up here. If you'd rather sit, you can also sit along here. We're not shy. Come close.

I want to introduce the other people here on behalf of the Redistricting Commission.

Joshua Hall. Joshua is from St. Johns. He was appointed by Senator Jack Brown. He was awarded the prize for putting the most miles on his car on behalf of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

To my right is James Huntwork. Jim was appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Jim Weiers.

To his right is Dr. Florence Adams. Dr. Adams is with NDC Corporation, our consultants, who do almost everything we tell them to do. Sometimes they tell us they can't, and that's very frustrating. They have been absolutely wonderful. She's here to provide us technical expertise and back-up, and so on.

Next to Florence is Lisa Hauser. Lisa is one of two attorneys that works on behalf of the Redistricting Commission. The other attorney is down in Tucson, Jose Jesus Rivera. He's at the hearing going on

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at the same time in Tucson with the other two Commissioners, Chairman Steve Lynn and Commissioner Daniel Elder.

I also want to introduce to you several other people assisting us. In the red dress is Lisa Nance. She copies down everything any of us say today so we have an accurate verbatim record of the meeting so we can go back and review any of the testimony we want to look at.

Also, Adolfo Echeveste who welcomed you all. He's our Executive Director.

Also with us is Alma Villarreal, one of our outreach workers.

We have with us Amy Rezzonico in back. Amy is our press secretary.

Cindy Le was checking everyone in. Paul Cullor, he has his back to me. They are all outstanding staff members of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

When you came in, you were all handed a citizen kit which includes draft maps. Draft maps are why we're all here today. Draft maps are also over there on the wall.

I want to call your attention the fact the maps have been renumbered. The maps as you may have
seen them in the Arizona Republic have had a kind of confusing numbering sequence.

As we were involved in a very long six-day meeting that went over two weeks, we made multiple changes, redrafts, and so on, and the numbers got changed. So the draft we initially approved had a very confusing set of designations for the 30 Legislative Districts.

The Congressional Districts were A through H and still are. The Legislative Districts were a little confusing.

We asked NDC to renumber them. They have renumbered them. You have the renumbered districts in your kits. You also have a translation in case you look at one of the older versions that correlates to the old numbered system with the new numbering system for you. I want to apologize for any confusion that might cause. We felt we really needed consistent numbers.

Now, I want to tell you very briefly what we'll do today, what the agenda is. First of all, what mostly we'll do today, very briefly, a little later this afternoon, is listen.

If you want to speak to us, we encourage you to please do so. Fill out one of the yellow speaker slips, if you have not already done so. We do have a

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number of them up here already. Once you fill out one of the speaker slips, raise your hand, hold up the slip, and one of the staff will see you, pick it up. They'll make sure we get it, so we can call on you during the public comment portion of the meeting.

We're going to begin with a Power Point presentation that is going to explain a little bit of how we got here. Following the Power Point presentation, the main portion of the program will be the time for public comment. And then following the public comment, if you have any questions that are maybe not something you want to deal with in the public comment portion, we'll try to stay as long as we can to answer any questions you have. That's basically what we're going to do.

At this point I'd like to turn it over to Commissioner Hall, and he'll take us through the Power Point presentation.

MR. ECHEVESTE: Any forms in case you get the urge to speak?

COMMISSIONER HALL: Before we proceed, there are a few more chairs available, I see, in the front for those of you folks that would like to sit. There are a couple up here I see.

Ladies and gentlemen, we're grateful to be

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with you here today. It's clear the purpose of this 
public hearing is not for you to hear from us but for us 
to hear from you. And so, while the accommodations may 
not be the most convenient, if you want to crane your 
head to the left, you'll see we have a little Power 
Point presentation for a brief overview prior to 
soliciting brief comment from you.

This is the first session of the second 
round of public hearings. We're here to welcome input 
on the draft maps, input on the draft Congressional and 
draft Legislative Districts.

The maps have to be in compliance with the 
guidelines of Proposition 106. Those requirements are 
as follows.

One moment.

Rules A through F are listed as follows, 
and many of you, I'm sure, have seen these. Districts 
shall comply with the United States Constitution and 
United States Voting Rights Act.

Congressional Districts shall have equal 
population to the extent practicable and State 
Legislative Districts shall have equal population to the 
extent practicable.

Districts shall be geographically compact 
and contiguous to the extent practicable.
District boundaries shall respect communities of interest to the extent practicable.

To the extent practicable, district lines shall use visible geographic features.

Finally, districts shall be competitive to the extent it is not to the detriment of any of the other goals.

Proposition 106 required that we use a grid. We decided to use townships to create the grid. We created the grid only considering equal population.

That was the subject through the first round of public hearings. We knew then once the grid was established we'd have to comply with other mandates established, other mandates of Proposition 106.

These are a review of samples of both the Congressional and Legislative grid. And pursuant to Proposition 106, this was our required starting point.

In our 24 public hearings that we held during the first round, we then went to hear what the citizens throughout the State of Arizona had to say with respect to communities of interest and with respect to what they had to say with respect to following the rules and principles of Proposition 106. They were that we respect communities of interest, we respect the integrity of cities, towns, counties, and local

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governments.

It was clear that these should be the basic principles guiding our approach. In rating those highest, we entitled those Arizona Units of Representation, or AURs.

Please.

The three major communities of interest identified were Native American Tribal Reservations, Hispanic communities of interest, and rural, urban communities. It was very clear those were the three major communities of interest.

Because the Commission followed the mandates of 106 and the principles expressed by the citizens, districts were developed and draft plans very different than the districts that were part of the grid.

The draft plans have many fewer city and town splits, following the principles indicated to us by the citizens.

Please.

You'll notice the original Congressional Districts now have 16 split cities and towns. The draft Congressional Districts only split less than half, six cities and towns.

The existing Legislative Districts currently split 39 cities and towns. And the draft
Legislative maps only split about a third of that, exactly a third of that, 13 cities and towns. Some cities cross county boundaries, so do many tribal reservations, so do many tribal towns. Everywhere effort was made that could be made to unite cities, counties, and existing counties and towns. Our draft Congressional District has six county splits. Most of those efforts combine Native American Reservations. The existing reservation districts have 13 county splits and the draft reservation districts have currently nine split counties.

The state's major communities are respected in the draft plan. Tribal Reservations in many cases are unified with other tribal reservations to allow an increased voice from the Native American community.

Hispanic communities of interest are kept together, to the extent possible. Rural and urban communities are also distinguished, to the extent possible.

Most AURs, Arizona Units of Representation, are respected by the draft plan.

Proposition 106 in its initial phase did not allow the Commission to consider competitiveness of districts in the initial phase under Proposition 106;
however, competitive districts should be favored where there is no substantial detriment to other goals.

We are in the process, via consultants, and counsel, and the Commission of analyzing competitiveness data in an effort and in addition to hearings as we proceed to insure, to the best extent possible, where other goals are not violated, that we are attempting to make the districts throughout the state more competitive.

Please.

Here are the following, the draft plan for the Arizona eight Congressional Districts. I'm sure many of you have already seen these and you have them in front of you.

Please.

While the colors aren't the most easily distinguishable. On this screen, this gives you an overview and maybe what is in your hand is a better view of the eight Congressional Districts.

If you zoom in to Phoenix, you can see then in increased detail those districts Congressionally that lie within this. If you --

Back up one more, Paul.

If you look at Districts D and G, for example, presently both of those districts are
majority-minority districts as they are drafted.

Please.

In the Tucson area, this is generally how the division of two southern Congressional Districts divide the city, the metropolitan area of Tucson.

In addition to the Congressional, we've designed the following draft plan for Arizona, 30 Legislative Districts, which has been the subject of considerable discussion.

Please.

This is an overall view of the state. And I think it's important to realize in both of the cases, both these maps, that these maps are a work in progress. That's why we are here this evening, to help have you help us with our work.

If you zoom into the draft Legislative Districts in the Phoenix area, this is kind of an overview in general of the detail there.

In Tucson, the metropolitan area there, it is an overview in general of the districts in that area.

We welcome your input, as Ms. Minkoff indicated, in this, indicated in this area.

We also encourage you to fill out a citizen input form. We also have it on the website.

You can not only educate yourself, but you can provide

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feedback to the Commission. It's at
www.azredistricting.org.

That really is a general and brief
overview of what we're about this evening.

And at this point, I'd like to turn the
microphone back over to Mrs. Minkoff.

COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: Thank you, Josh.

This is the point in the evening where we
really need to hear from you.

Before we open it up to public comment, I
want to make a few brief comments to explain this
portion of the program.

First of all, let me remind you again, if
you want to speak, fill out a yellow speaker slip. Hold
it up and one of the staff members will pick it up and
bring it up here. We'll probably remind you three, four
times before we end. We really want to be sure
everybody that wants to speak is given an opportunity to
speak.

We have a wonderful, wonderful turnout
today. We hope a lot of you will come out and tell us
what you think.

We hope, in consideration of others,
you'll please keep your comments as brief as possible.
We're not putting time limits on you. We want you to
say what you have to say. But we want you to consider
the last speaker on the program deserves the same
audience as the first speaker. We want you to
understand, we'll stay until midnight, if we need to.
We want you to stay until the end as well.

Also keep in mind the guidelines of
Proposition 106 when you make suggestions to us. They
may seem like wonderful ideas. If they do not meet the
guidelines of 106, we will be powerless to consider
them.

We've had a number of things presented to
us, people really put a lot of time into them. There
was one plan somebody developed, he developed
Congressional Districts for the entire state. He
obviously put a lot of effort into it. He explained he
kept the population as equal as possible. The largest
was 635,000 people. That seemed to work for him. The
smallest was 615,000. There is a high, high probability
a plan with that much population deviation would not
withstand scrutiny.

So, unfortunately, a lot of things this
person suggested would not be able to be implemented
because of legal considerations.

Please keep the Proposition 106 guidelines
mentioned in the Power Point in mind when you make
suggestions to us.

Also, as Commissioner Hall mentioned, competitiveness, we've not yet mentioned competitiveness. We're going to consider competitiveness. We've been getting an avalanche of e-mails, input on the website, newspaper articles, saying people are really, really concerned about this. We imagine you are as well. Tell us what you think. If you believe that the districts should be more competitive, tell us how you believe we should go about accomplishing that goal.

The maps that you see, the draft maps are primarily the result of public comment during round one of the public hearings. We have citizen input forms people filled out, remarks people left on the website. So they really reflect input from the people of Arizona. Changes made to the draft reflect the input of people of Arizona. We consider your comments very, very seriously.

Do we need to do new lines? Be as specific as you can. If you only have a general idea, that's okay. All of that will help us. Did we reflect one or more communities of interest you may be concerned about? If so, fine. And if not, please tell us where we missed responding to that community of interest.

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If you like the districts, be sure you
tell us that, too, because I guarantee you, we're going
to hear from a lot of people that want us to change the
districts. We're going to listen to them. If you like
the way they are, tell us that, too, or we'll think
everybody wants us to change them. Whether you want to
change them or keep them the way they are, please, let
us know what you think.

The other thing, when you step up to the
podium, please clearly state your name. And if your
name is not Smith, Jones, or something easy, please
spell it for Lisa so she can get it accurately in the
recording of the meeting.

We're also going to have, since it's
baseball season, an on-deck circle. That's the chair
Adolfo has here.

Commissioner Huntwork will call out the
next speaker and also the person to follow the speaker.
We'd ask that person to come up to the chair so we don't
lose a lot of time moving back and forth. That way we
think we'll be able to get the most public comment in
the shortest period of time.

Adolfo, want to put the microphone back?

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Ladies and
gentlemen, I have the job of reading off all the names.

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I want to apologize one time for mispronouncing them. I want to read the names in the order we received the yellow sheets. Many of you have titles. I'm not going to read the titles or offices you hold. I'll read your names. You can introduce yourself.

The first speaker is Mary Rose Wilcox.
The on-deck speaker is Paul Eckstein.

SUPERVISOR WILCOX: My name is Mary Rose Wilcox. I'm here representing the Minority Coalition for Fair Redistricting, a group composed of members of NALEO, National Association of Latino Elected Officials; MALDF; WCVI; VULAC; and also many individuals from State Senators and Representatives to local groups.

We believe firmly that we should participate in this process and have tried very hard to follow all the steps upon the request of yourselves in submitting comments about final drafts of the Congressional and Legislative maps.

We thank the Commission for considering our input.

On the Congressional maps, the Minority Coalition for Fair Redistricting supports the Congressional and Legislative maps, as drawn, particularly the two majority-minority districts, which have several commonalities. It is our understanding
that Congressman Ed Pastor will be requesting that the Biltmore area currently within District D be interchanged with South Glendale, as it has been acknowledged in our submissions that these areas have more similarities.

In regard to the Legislative, upon reviewing the final Legislative map drafts, we applaud the Members of the Commission for creating nine majority-minority districts, based on the communities of interest data and testimony we submitted.

In Maricopa County, we are pleased that communities of interest have been grouped together, with one exception. We believe El Mirage and Old Surprise should be tied in with District M, by including them along the Agua Fria River. Otherwise, the dilution will cause voters in El Mirage and Old Surprise to have no voice.

Our coalition doesn't believe this modification sets precedent as the Commission has present odd-shaped districts already. Keeping our communities together is more important under federal law than the shape of the map. Some similarities among our communities include: Proposition 203 results, PHLOTE, Primary Home Language Other Than English, voter registration by 2000 precincts, parcel values for single

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families, public assistance usage, food stamp recipients, general cash assistance recipients, total minority population, and Department of Justice minority population breakdown.

In conjunction with the Chicano Consortium for Public Issues in Tucson, we are supportive of the Southern Arizona Districts with the exception of District W.

As the Commission has also stated dissatisfaction with this district, we have requested that as you change it, the border towns from Douglas to Nogales be included together. We also believe when making modifications to Southern Arizona, Pinal County and the southern portions of Gila County would be more cohesive together and share communities of interest that could justify one district.

We thoroughly appreciate the opportunity to comment and we will continue working with you in moving these maps forward.

Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker is Paul Eckstein and on deck is Frank Costanzo.

MR. ECKSTEIN: Thank you very much.

Paul Eckstein, E C K S T E I N.

I'm appearing for the Democratic Party.

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Before I talk about the lines, I think it useful to relate my comments to some legal principles involved here.

You started off talking about the Voting Rights Act, and certainly that takes precedence over state law. But the Voting Rights Act is not a guarantee of a particular result. It is a guarantee of fair process under the Voting Rights Act. You don't look at a particular number. You look at the totality of circumstances. Once it passes the jingles test, it has been satisfied. It's not that easy to satisfy.

I'll be happy to go into it with respect to the people that were here. I don't think I need to today.

A minority has less opportunity to participate than the standard. That's key. The minority has less opportunity to participate.

Arizona is under Section Five, as you well know, which prohibits retrogression. The key points on retrogression which you need to take into account, number one, are maximization of minority districts are not required under the retrogression principle. Under the Abrents vs. Johnson case (phonetic), newly created districts do not necessarily have to be majority minority. The Democratic Party supports

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majority-minority districts, lest there be any question. Section Five does not require it. It does not require it under Section. It's only the opportunity, that's the key, only the opportunity to elect their candidate.

Section Two talks about dilution. The failure to maximize is not necessarily dilution. And because the totality of circumstances must be considered, there is no definitive numerical rule determining when dilution has occurred.

The second point under dilution, packing can, as your consultant pointed out at the very beginning of these proceedings, impermissibly sacrifice the voting power of minorities in nonmajority-minority districts by diluting their vote.

This is a representation of what your consultant did at the very outset. And we believe that the way the Congressional Districts are configured at this point results in some packing, just exactly what your consultant said is prohibited under the Voting Rights Act and under the due process clause of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution.

Minorities can often influence districts without being a majority in that district.

I'm going to, when I talk about Congressional Districts, as you've labeled them B and D,
point out how you can still have a minority-majority in D and have a minority influence district in B and still at the same time meet the competitiveness requirement under Proposition 106.

Let's talk a moment about proportionality and then I'll go to the maps.

There is no specific test or requirement for proportionality. You only look at the totality of the circumstances.

Section Two does not require political units to maintain a percentage of minority controlled districts proportional to the overall minority in the state. That's absolutely key. Shaw vs. Hunt and Miller vs. Hunt established that.

Most important, I hope you'll read again, very important, the Symington case which involved the Arizona maps in 1992 which made it absolutely clear that less than a 50 percent majority of a minority can be acceptable. In that case, the court found there was no evidence, and I don't think there's been any presented here, I doubt any exists, that whites vote as a majority block to defeat minority candidates with consistency. In that case, they specifically found a 44.7 percent Hispanic minority voting age was sufficient to create a majority-minority district.

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District 2, which is Congressman Pastor's district, was the district involved. If you look at the opinion, you'll see what the court said. It said 44.7 percent was sufficient. Now they were looking ahead. In fact, Congressman Pastor has been elected five times from that district, I think demonstrating that with a 44.7 percent voting age plurality, but certainly not more than 50 percent, you have a majority-minority district.

I think everyone knows that Proposition 106 was passed in large part to create competitive districts. You can go back and look on your own website and see the comments that are made. They are enlightening. They say every single comment in support of Proposition 106 talked about the lack of competitive districts, at that time, today, and why Proposition 106 was important.

I have put in front of you two graphic demonstrations of the lack of consideration of competitiveness. And you acknowledge that you haven't taken competitiveness into account at this point. But this demonstrates it graphically. And in a moment I'll turn to what I think can be done to increase competitiveness. I have smaller versions of this which I'll make part of the record.

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Looking at the competitiveness index for Congressional Districts, you will see, as currently drafted, you have one district, proposed District H, which is under five percent deviation in the party percentages. You have another district, District C, that is under 10 percent, 7.49 percent. But no other district has even under a 15 percent spread between Democrat and Republican. Indeed, two minority-majority districts, the largest spread between Democrats and Republicans, D, is 26.12 percent, and E, 20.8 percent.

In considering majority-minority districts and voting strength of minorities in those districts, I think as a practical matter and legal matter, you have to take into account what happens in the primary. Because where you have this kind of spread in D and G in the primary, for all practical purposes, whoever wins the primary wins the election. If the minority has a significant percentage of Democratic primary vote, the minority is likely not just to have influence, but very likely to win.

On the Legislative District front, we see as they are currently drawn, you have one district, I think this is your new numbers, new letters, T, under five percent. And you have then two -- three others, Yavapai 1, Southwest 1, and CC1, that are under 10
percent, I'm sorry, that are approximately 10 percent.
You have two at 9.1, one at 9.5, one at 11.96. You do
have several that are at the 14 or 15 percent deviation
between Democrats or Republicans. Those are obvious
candidates for consideration of reducing the party
spread to make the districts competitive.

A few comments about a few of the
districts.

At the Congressional level, as I said, I
do think that you can create a competitive district and
still comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and move
some of the voters from D to B and create at least a
more competitive, how competitive depends on how many
you move, at least a more competitive district. And I
think the -- moving people from Tempe and that southern
part of District B is the logical place to move some.
And another logical place is at the northern end of D.
But I think it can be done very easily. And it's
exactly, it's exactly what Proposition 106 requires that
you achieve, political competitiveness, if you do not
significantly, and I emphasize the word "significantly,"
that's in the Arizona Constitution, diminish the other
goals.

With respect to the Legislative,
Legislative map, I don't think I need to say anything

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about W. It's -- it's an abomination, and I know you
will take care of it. How it got that way is kind of
interesting. I think what you ought to do is isolate W
and see what it looks like. I think it resembles some
new form of Hopi Kachina in a new form.

I think District C is a candidate for --
where it is on this map, there's a candidate for making
closer, this is the Northern Arizona District, I think
there are some -- I know there are issues with the
Yavapai and Coconino County as you go up there.

There are, in Tucson, today, two
competitive districts. When you look at the map that
you have created, there are no competitive districts. I
think these are my old numbers, E, K, H, and J. You'll
be able to figure out, are the districts, I think it's
the old letters, that you need to move around. And what
you have in E is 44 percent Democrat. I'm rounding it
off, 55 percent Republican percent in K, 43 percent
Democrat, 56 percent Republican in H, 56 percent
Democrat, 39 percent in J, 62 percent and 37 percent
Republican. Those four districts can, they are next to
one another, are districts which you can achieve
competitiveness if you move the lines and still maintain
all the other goals.

And finally, with respect to western

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Maricopa County, I suggest that your districts L, I, H, N, and M are a perfect opportunity for achieving competitiveness. Some of those districts, a couple of them, L, for example, is fairly close at this point, 47 percent Democrat, 52 percent Republican. But the others have significant differences between the parties. And if you view those five districts as an opportunity to create competitiveness and perhaps draw the lines more horizontally than vertically, I think you will be able to achieve the goal of competitiveness.

Thank you very much.

I did want to say something with respect to Congressional District C. I think it is going to be problematic. I understand the push for a totally rural district. But again, when you look at the Symington case, one issue came up. There was the ability of someone to campaign in a district that large. A district that size was never presented to the court in 1992. I think this district is larger than the state of New York, and probably larger than half of the United States. If you are a state like Montana, Wyoming, one, two districts, I understand creating a district like that. But the political problem, for a candidate, you have, a candidate is going to have to be in three, maybe four media markets. And that was an issue that the
court, three courts took into account in the Symington case.

I think that the rational thing to do is to take Yavapai and Mohave Counties and put them, I think it's in District, District A, the district that is on the western side, and then you'll have to pick up population. It might be from Pinal. It might be some population from Maricopa County. But whatever you pick up, particularly if it's from Pinal, you will have a very, very significant rural majority. I think you can create that district with -- if there are 100,000, no more than 100,000 people from Maricopa or Pima Counties and the rest from Coconino, Navajo, Apache, Gila, and Graham and Greenlee Counties.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Mr. Eckstein, would you wait a moment?

In these hearings, unlike the first round like we had, the rules permit the Commission and lawyers and consultants to ask questions. Before you leave the stand, I'd like to ask if any of us would like to ask any questions.

MS. HAUSER: I would.

Mr. Eckstein, this is an unusual pleasure for me to ask any questions.
MR. ECKSTEIN: Do I get to ask any back?

MS. HAUSER: The competitiveness charts you displayed, what were the source of the numbers you used to come up with those percentages?

MR. ECKSTEIN: The only numbers we used here are voting registration percentages. I know they are somewhat different from the voting registration percentages you have. Obviously they were taken at different times. I don't know if ours were earlier or later. I can't tell you exactly when ours were taken.

When you do look at competitiveness,

Proposition 106 says look at the voting registration, but look at other indicia as well. I know you will do that.

There is a difference between your registration figures and ours. I think that is accounted for by the fact we took them from the Secretary of State at different times.

MS. HAUSER: Let me just follow up on that for a second.

As far as registration figures are concerned, that may be true. In an earlier presentation, you used numbers based on gubernatorial and Attorney General races. This is a switch in methodology you presented today?
MR. ECKSTEIN: It is. I wanted it simplified. When we presented the plan at South Mountain, the Pointe South Mountain, we had our plan and had a full opportunity to get other races factored in. And you absolutely need to take into account selective races and voting registration. I think you need to take both into account. How you weigh them will require some judgment. And I'm sure you'll think long and hard and deep about how you give weight to those. But the components of them are pretty clear, voting registration on one hand, key raises.

We used key raises of '96, the 2000 presidential elections, the '98 gubernatorial election, and the '98 Attorney General election. We think those are valid elections, because you have the significant interest in the elections and people obviously know the parties of people running.

MS. HAUSER: Those key races are not reflected in those particular charts?

MR. ECKSTEIN: They are not.

MS. HAUSER: Thank you. That clears that up.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker is Frank Costanzo. On deck will be Dorothy Schultz.

MR. COSTANZO: Good afternoon.
Frank Costanzo, COSTANZO.

Mr. Eckstein is a tough act to follow.

I'm just a citizen here from Ahwatukee.

I'm a minority, I think, in the room.

The issue I wanted to speak to was the issue you addressed earlier, competitiveness. Before I do, I wanted to speak as an individual on the other side of the table in another state. I don't envy you. I thank you for your time and effort.

Competitiveness, obviously it's not addressed to date. We recognize that. You indicated it is something coming up shortly. I wanted to emphasize the fact when citizens voted for this, and after a long campaign and those of us who supported this effort believed the primary reason was the issue of competitiveness, that the fact that so many of our races in this state at so many political levels are settled at primary time seemed to make it less political, a less attractive position, both for individual candidates, those who wanted to try to run, and also for citizens who wanted to have the opportunity to judge other positions throughout the campaigns.

But I particularly, without taking up too much time, wanted to emphasize I believe the competitiveness issue is particularly important.

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When we look at District C, it is representative, that is the Legislative District, so broad and so rural, it really is a reflection of the other aspect of this entire work. And that is not so much during the election. And while it would be a difficult district to campaign in, and difficult campaign to finance, et cetera, that broad district becomes a question of how does one provide constituent services after an election. While that is not within the specific list of items that you are reflecting on, it is implicit in the exact list. And I think it's implicit in the fact citizens supported the position. Across the board, if one support or handles a district of that size, when you have alternatives available to you, you might question how an individual elected to that district could satisfy the needs of the citizenry after election. I submit to you perhaps you might be looking at constituent services.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker is Dorothy Schultz. On deck is Richard Miranda.

MS. SCHULTZ: Dorothy Schultz.

I'm a political scientist here on my own behalf. I also ran for office in District 15. There were a thousand more registered voters in the other party than the party I was running in. I ran so people
would have a choice. I learn when you run in a district
like that, you can't even get your name mentioned on
Horizon and are viewed as a fool for even running.

Having said that, I have a deep

appreciation for the job that you have before you and in
1963, as a graduate student at RCUI I worked on the
North Texas Consortium drawing up Congressional and
Legislative Districts for the State of Texas to be used
to present to the court when we won the reapportionment
suit. Unfortunately, I was told later that you can't do
things like that to your colleagues, and when the court
threw it back to the Legislature, as a young
23-year-old, I learned that incumbents protect each
other and draw up a list of who is to stay in power. We
find some jockeying along the same line now.

What really disturbs me, I was very

encouraged at the first grid. When I look at the map
now and look at this, I find of the Congressional
Districts, there are probably only two on here, by your
figures, that are competitive. And that disturbs me a
great deal. I haven't had a chance to look at similar
figures for the state Legislature in detail because
today is first chance I had a chance to look at this.

From what I read in the paper, the Legislative Districts
are not competitive either.

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I passed out, circulated petitions so you
guys would be having your job today.

I think competitiveness has to be a major
concern. Voters do not have a choice if there is not a
choice at the ballot. And we have not had a choice at
the ballot in too many Congressional races and into many
Legislative races. And as I look at this, it looks like
these districts are, again, packed to insure that one
party dominates. And when you have any districts where
there is, for example, 52 percent in one party and 28
percent in another party, that's District F; where
there's, District D, 58 percent to 28 percent; another
district, 48 percent and 28 percent, District C; B, 49
percent to 32 percent; where there's 55, G, 55 percent
to 26 percent; and those -- even more than a five
percent balance is too much, I think. And particularly
if you go over the 10 percent line of difference in
voter registration, that is too much.

Thank you.

THE REPORTER: Could I have the spelling
of your last name.

MS. SCHULTZ: S C H U L T Z, just like the
Peanuts author except with a T.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Next speaker, Richard Miranda, and then

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Evelyn Shapiro.

REPRESENTATIVE MIRANDA: Richard Miranda,

MI R A N D A. I am a State Representative from

District 22.

I do have a couple letters in support

here. I'm not sure who I'm supposed to give them to.

I'll read them off.

This is from the Superintendent from

Fowler Elementary District.

"Dear Mr. Miranda:

"Thank you for your informative letter

dated August 15th, 2001, in which you helped explain

some of the latest developments in the redistricting

process. I share your concerns with regard to the draft

recommendations from the Independent Redistricting

Commission. The needs and characteristics of the

southwest part of our valley would be significantly

disrupted by the plan as you have described.

"It is important to have the Legislative

Districts respect the boundaries of established school

districts. I am in support of that proposal that was

included in your letter. Because of a prior commitment,

I will be out of town on Saturday. Please use this

letter, however, as an endorsement of your plan."

(Letter signed by Randall J. Blecha, Ed.D.

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Phoenix, Arizona)
Fowler Elementary School District No. 45, submitted to
the Commission.)

REPRESENTATIVE MIRANDA: The other one
I'll read off real briefly is a resolution by the Isaac
School Board. If you'll permit me, I'll be real brief.
"Whereas, the Governing Board of Isaac
School District No. 5 of Maricopa County, Arizona, has
determined that it is in the best interest of the
District to be in one Legislative District and not more
than two Legislative Districts in order to have the best
representation in state government.

"Whereas, the State of Arizona is in the
process of drawing new Legislative Districts for equity
in representation.

"Whereas, the Isaac School District No. 5
is presently represented by District 22 and 20, it is
important to the citizens of Isaac School District that
our representation not be diluted by additional
Legislative Districts being placed within the school
district.

"Now, therefore, it is resolved by the
Governing Board of Isaac Elementary School District.
No. 5 of Maricopa County, Arizona, that the
Redistricting Commission for the State of Arizona locate
the Isaac School District No. 5 in one" -- again, they

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say, "in one Legislative District if possible and not
more than two new Legislative Districts."

I'm here, and there's other persons here
from the southwest valley, from different school boards
that are going to come up here and talk about a
community of interest. And I hope that you take into
consideration demographics of that area, the long-time
history of that area, and their concerns.

Basically what I'm doing, I'm talking
about District M, if you can see, on the map. I'm not
going to give you a lot of numbers. I'm going to ask
that you use some common sense, as you can just drive
through those neighborhoods and see it is a community of
interest.

I'm always leery of using funny math. You
know, my math teacher always used to tell me figures
always lie. Liars, they use figures. I'm not going to
do that, show you a lot of maps. All I'm asking is we
use common sense here.

Proposition 106 did say competitive
districts. Proposition 106 absolutely said keep
communities of interest together. You cannot explain
one part of the proposition and ignore the other part of
that. They go hand in hand.

I know your job is difficult. But it also

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states you must consider communities of interest in
forming these, both the Congressional and Legislative
Districts.

So with that in mind, here is our
suggestions from the group of people that I've been
working with, Murphy School District, and there's a
member from Murphy School District here today to further
make that point. It has been divided. It's being
included in the area, we're talking from 35th Avenue and
Van Buren. That community is going to have to identify
with the community of 44th Street to Bethany Home Road.
That -- I don't see the connection, and neither do the
parents and the teachers and the superintendent and
school board members of Murphy School Board District.
We're asking that be put back in the area of District M.

I will congratulate you, that's on
including the lower half of Avondale with M. I spoke
with Vice Mayor Marie Rogers. She was very happy to see
that. We hope that stays in there. I don't see her
here today.

The other point I want to make is about
Isaac School District being represented here today.
They'll speak on their own behalf. That district is
being told they have to identify with a district from
35th Avenue and McDowell all the way up to 51st and -- I
believe that is Northern. That is too much of a
connection there. There is no commonalty.

Again, what used to be a community
interest, what used to be historically Southwest Phoenix
is torn asunder into three districts. That cannot
happen, must not happen.

Again, I'm asking on behalf of the
Maricopa and City Council of Tolleson, they were very
happy that that is still in that plan, District M. They
are very pleased with that.

Also, Fowler is here to speak on their own
behalf. They are very pleased to be in here.

Riverside as stands now not in here.

That's in part of the west community. They are here to
speak on their own behalf.

If we had any movement on lines, I'd
consider the northern part of District M being stopped
at essentially Indian School and bring back those areas
that included Isaac and Murphy and Riverside School
District.

I have a list, also, we'll be putting in a
letter, a hundred of names of principals, school board
members, teachers, and parents, from all six school
districts, that would like to see that community stay
together.
I thank you very much for your time.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Does anyone have any questions?

Thank you very much.

The next speaker is Evelyn Shapiro. On
deck will be Glenn Holmgren.

MS. SHAPIRO: Evelyn Shapiro,

I concur with what Richard Miranda said.

I'm with Isaac School District.

Madam Chairperson has a map I gave to you
before the board meeting.

I want to thank you all for putting us in
one district except for one little, bitty chunk at 27th
Avenue and Washington. There's one little, bitty box
that is all that is left of our district for putting it
into another district. Could we please be all together?

We're a minority group, mostly Hispanic,
bilingual teachers, teachers working with minority kids.
We have them working together as a family. We're all a
big family working together. We need to stay together.
Please reconsider, just go to Van Buren, bring us all
together so we can be all be a big family as we have
been in the past.

I thank you very much for listening.

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COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Next speaker is Glenn Holmgren followed by John Mills.

MR. HOLMGREN: Glenn Holmgren,

H O L M G R E N.

THE REPORTER: Is Glenn with one N or two?

MR. HOLMGREN: Two, thank you.

I live at 2115 West Pinchot in West Phoenix.

I consider myself part of this neighborhood. We bought our home 12 years ago and after moving back to Phoenix after a 10-year absence. We looked at the area where I used to sell real estate. The broker I had long established myself with and worked for previously suggested I pick a neighborhood to work in I enjoyed living in. So I did. We came back and looked. I looked through most of Central Phoenix. We kept coming back and comparing our home to others, and others fell short.

The reason I bring it up, as the map is laid out, the district map, we've been -- it put us in District N, I believe, what you have here. You have the westernmost boundary at 19th Avenue. And keep in mind, I'm talking about our neighborhood being two blocks north of Thomas. It runs from Thomas up to Indian...
School, from 19th Avenue to 23rd Avenue. I'll give you
the specifics of the neighborhood and the uniqueness in
a moment.

If you look at the red lines drawn through
this particular district, one of them being I-17, Black
Canyon Freeway, the other being Grand Avenue, how many
try to stay away from Grand Avenue in the afternoon or
I-17? They tend to be as natural boundaries as any
river or any mountain range. Very seldom do I find
myself or any of my neighbors finding a reason to travel
west. Most of our involvement is east. We consider
ourself part of central and downtown Phoenix.

We are currently identified as the
Westwood Village Neighborhood. It was developed three
years ago. We're involved, currently part of the
Encanto Village Planning Committee. As the district is
drawn out, if you'd move us over into, like most of us
consider, a significantly different, like community, if
you will. Most of the building, or activity, if you
will, or zoning, all up and down Black Canyon, except
apartments, is commercial. As you move a little west,
there's a triangle formed, a triangle, it even becomes
industrial. It's significantly different. That is a
very heavily industrial, commercial area.

If you get into the specifics of a

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planning committee or a Legislative District, I find it very probable that our interests as a neighborhood are being grossly overlooked when the predominant interest in that area is mostly commercial.

Another point about our neighborhood, and I apologize for speaking on such a narrow spectrum here, but I am interested about our community. I appreciate you folks are giving us an opportunity to speak. Our homes were manufactured, built by Alfred Anderson. Any neighbor that has as much gray hair as I do on my head knows who he was. He lived two doors west of me. I believe our development was the last he built.

He built a lot of the homes further east: Encanto Village, the Willows District, the Palmcroft area. His homes are all 100 percent brick. There isn't one two-by-four that makes up any part of the walls of our homes. These are homes people revere as very well-built homes. It's the only community he built, the only community he built exclusively, Alfred Anderson homes. In the twenties, thirties, forties, there were one here, one there, a mix match, of home builders.

There is a significant historic value to the neighborhood.

We started the historic status research. ASU is helping us with that. Why it's important to do
that, we're considering it as part of the Central Phoenix community. We're very excited, have been excited about what is going on in the downtown central areas.

My wife and I ride bicycles almost every Saturday morning, go downtown, up and down Central Camelback. We enjoy it. It's one of the most enjoyable areas to live in of all.

I think if we are separated from more of a like-minded community, which would be certainly consist with homes built by the same builder, built by, already established as historic, and we start finding ourselves fighting for interest in a mostly industrial or commercial area, I'm just trying to paint a picture and let you use your common sense.

What you see, as everyone can see, you have a monumental task.

I already see a little glaze on some eyes.

I appreciate the opportunity to let us speak. I wish you the best and pray for good judgment on all of your parts.

(Appause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Mr. Holmgren, I would like to ask you a question. I'm sorry. I apologize. I just wanted you to describe, if you would,
the outlines of this neighborhood.

MR. HOLMGREN: I envision or we envision?

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Yes.

MR. HOLMGREN: The western boundary, we seem to think makes a lot of geographic sense, when I describe the Black Canyon, or river, mountain range, that's kind of the mountain boundary, or western boundary. 23rd Avenue is the western boundary of the Alfred Anderson homes. But the Black Canyon Freeway. I know you are working very hard to make numbers work as well as other issues, population issues work.

We do see that, that we are more similar to homes to the north and east of us than we are to the south and west of us, if you just turn south of Thomas or just go across the Black Canyon Freeway or even Grand Avenue.

Thank you for calling me back up. I'll cheat and tell you this: When we have people come to our home, people we're involved with from school activities, or church activities, one of the comments we almost invariably hear: Wow, we didn't even know this neighborhood was here. Because if they come in from the west, they don't picture it. If they come in from the east, it fits. That's who we are. That's why I live

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there. That's why a lot of people who do, live there.

We enjoy the Central Phoenix lifestyle, if you will.

And most of us, maybe we need to be forgiven, we buy
homes and get to enjoy the lifestyle of that particular
community.

Thanks.

(Applause.)

MR. MILLS: John Mills. I'm here representing myself.

M I L L S.

I also happen to be Chairman and the
Republican Precinct Committeeman for the current
Legislative District 26.

First of all, I'd like to take a few
minutes to congratulate the Commission here. While the
map is, in my opinion, not perfect, it's very good. And
for the most part, it would be something we can probably
live with.

Again, it's not a map I would have drawn
myself, but it's definitely something we can live with
overall.

The Congressional District of what is,
you've been calling District D, I believe, which is the
South Phoenix District, I would have to agree with
Supervisor Wilcox. When it comes to area she talked
about, the Biltmore area, this is roughly bounded
between 24th and 32nd Street, from Camelback on up on
the north until it moves into the other district,
District B, this district is quite a bit different than
what most of that district that you are -- that that
district would represent. So I would ask that that
district, that that area be moved into District B.

As I'm well aware, the population of these
districts have to be very uniform. The Congressional
District has to be down to a single individual. So to
balance that out, I would suggest that there is an area
roughly around -- between Thomas and Indian School, 32nd
Street to roughly 36th Street, that could be moved into
that area. And the populations would be pretty close to
being equal.

Another thing I noticed, I'm sure you are
aware of, there's a portion of Carefree split between,
actually the City of Carefree is split between two
Congressional Districts. If the little arm of Carefree
currently in District E was moved back into District B,
as in Baker, then that would again change the
population. And down in the same area I just described,
the small area between Thomas and Oak and between
roughly 36th Street and 40th Street, that again would
balance that population out. I'll be leaving these maps
with the Commission.

Next of all, turning to the Legislative Districts, there are several areas in and around the area.

I'm sorry, one other thing about the Congressional District. I spoke originally about the area of Arcadia. And as luck would have it, the Arcadia area is split between District B and E. My road is on it. My road is on one side. If I throw a rock, it's on the other side. This area is bounded by 50th Place to 50th Street, Indian School Road and Thomas Road. That area, if it were again moved -- that's roughly 1,200 people that live in that area. If that were moved into District 2 -- I'm sorry District B, and use the population down in the area I previously described to make everything balance.

With the data I've been working with, this would, the deviation right now, the plan that has been presented by the Commission is roughly .05 percent. And with the changes I suggested here, the deviation would be .03 percent. So it would be a more uniform plan.

Now we come to the Legislative Districts. And because I live in the southern portion of my Legislative District, there's kind of three areas I would like to talk about. The first portion is an area
that starts at Spur Cross Road and the Arizona Canal, 
goes east until it hits the Crosscut Canal, then goes 
south, and the Crosscut Canal goes into the 64th Street 
alignment. It then comes to Oak at 64th and Oak, goes 
west on Oak to 56th Street, and then back up to Thomas 
Road where it runs through another canal and continues 
on up to Spur Cross.

This area is, as far as school districts 
go, is in the Balsz School District. In fact, most of 
the students, almost all families, send their students 
to the Scottsdale School District. These people 
actually have a choice on where they are sending them. 
They've chosen the Scottsdale School District. With the 
alignment you've given them in District Q, as in Quebec, 
this has moved them into a Tempe type district.

I've heard from numerous people they'd 
like to be moved into the same district, District K. To 
do this, of course, we have to balance population, 
again.

There is a portion of District K which is 
Thomas Road to Oak and from 48th Street to 56th Street. 
There is a huge difference in communities below Thomas 
and above Thomas. And that area would much — we would 
be much similar to the homes in the original area that I 
described than we would be with those, with that
community. So it would be a nice switch between one and
the other, and pretty much population would hold. There
would also have to be a little more population given.
And that population could be found by an area roughly
from 51st, or 52nd Street and Oak, and taking in the
northern Park Avenue Parkway area down to portions of
the Grand Canal. If this area was moved in, we would
again have a little bit of population deviation.

The final area that we could use to be
picked up is an area roughly bounded by, and I'm reading
this off the maps, so give me a moment, Indian School
and 36 -- actually 40th Street to Clarendon to 36th
Street. So it would be 36th Street to 40th Street and
Indian School to Clarendon. That area is much similar
to the homes in the community in and around my area.

And with those three changes, the
population would move from a deviation of .38 to a
deviation of .1 -- I'm sorry, .0 -- I'll try again. .1.
So from .38 to .1.

Those are the issues that I will be
leaving with the Commission after I get it reorganized
in a minute will much satisfy a few of the small areas
in and around my communities.

Overall, I think the Commission has done a
very good job in satisfying a -- it's almost a

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monumental task of balancing different areas of interest. You have school districts. You have the Voting Rights Act. You have these historic neighborhoods, all these different communities of interest you've been looking at. They almost overlap each other. People don't understand no matter how hard you try, you can't make some changes. I think you could make some changes.

It's a very good map.

One final comment. Competitiveness.

Competitiveness is great in principle. In practice, it will be hard for you and the Commission to come together with. The reason is because take a look at what we're calling on your map District G, North Scottsdale.

There is, in my opinion, no way to draw a competitive district that would encompass this area. This area is heavily tilted to one party. If you take the entire East Valley, everything from roughly Alma School Road east to the county border, try to draw a competitive district in this area. Again, it is extremely heavily oriented one way. Look around the area of the South Phoenix, West Phoenix area. Again, it's heavily tilted one way.

Now, one thing you could do, I guess District P that you have, you could put that in with
District T, the Ahwatukee area, blend those together. The Voting Rights Act will give you trouble. The other option is huge unnatural arms and legs from one District to another and go grab population here and grab population here.

I guess the only other option is forcing people to move from one home to another and saying you will register in this manner in this home and that's it. None of those options, of course, will work out.

So competitiveness is -- was written into 106 as the very last issue. And it was done specifically saying all other issues had to be satisfied first. There was a reason for that.

I hope very strongly the Commission takes that into account and sees the competitive districts for what it is.

Thank you very much.

Any questions?

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you very much.

The next speaker is Lynn Anderson followed by Kay Remein.

I would like to just take an opportunity here, if there is anyone else who wants to speak who has not submitted a yellow speaker form, please raise your
hand and staff will provide it to you.

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

I've been a Phoenix resident for 35 years and a Central Phoenix resident for 13 of those years, most recently. I'm an attorney. My husband is an environmental consultant, and we have two children. I live near 20th Avenue and Earll.

I concur with the comments of the resident who received so much applause, Glenn Holmgren.

I'm also a resident of Westwood Village Estates. I object to the draft Legislative boundary between the map sections O and N, as in Nancy, and request the west boundary be I-17. I'd like be to part of O. It still maintains a geographically compact area if we are part of section O.

We are currently in the Encanto Village Planning Community and wish to remain so.

As stated, the neighborhood is eligible for historic qualification in the year 2002. I strongly desire the historic district be part of the Central Phoenix community. It meets the goals of keeping like communities together and our interests with the historic neighborhoods.

My commonalities are with the central corridor. I really don't have much going on in common.
with other areas on the other side of the freeway. As
previously stated, I shop in Central Phoenix. My
children attend school in Central Phoenix. If 19th
Avenue would have been a boundary, it divides me and my
family from our community of interest. Our cultural and
recreational activities are in Central Phoenix, the
downtown Phoenix area. Much of my work as an attorney
occurs downtown.

This is an active, stable, improving
community. We're revitalizing, working, and excited
about the revitalization efforts of the Central Phoenix
area. By doing this, having a vibrant community, it
allows me to live there.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Does anyone have
any questions?

MS. ANDERSON: Thank you.

(Appause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker
is Kay Remein followed by Allen Grass.

MS. REMEIN: Kay Remein, R E M E I N.

I'm here also as part of the Westwood
Village Estates.

Everyone here from Westwood Village, raise
your hand.

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(Many hands are raised.)

MS. REMEIN: This area is very active. We like our community. If you go down Central Avenue, you may have noticed Hinkley Lighting Store. I live in Mr. Hinkley's house on Earll Drive. It's a beautiful neighborhood, an old, brick house a little over 50 years old.

If you look on the map, it's really simple. I want you to take a little piece right here, this green part, and when you take that little section off here, make N bigger for Isaac School District, take a piece out of N and put it on O, this will also help -- this will also help keep Phoenix Elementary School District together, this little area here, the little area in between I-17 and west of Central Phoenix.

We really want to stay with the rest of the Historic Central Phoenix District.

I'm so glad you all are doing this and planning this.

I would not enjoy what you are doing. I would enjoy if you put this little piece right over there in the O section.

Thanks.

(Appause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

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Next speaker is Carol Turoff.

A VOICE: She's gone.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker is Allen Grass followed by Bill Brotherton.

MR. GRASS: Allen Grass, last name spelled like the lawn, G R A S S.

THE REPORTER: Is Allen ALAN or --

MR. GRASS: A L L E N. Thank you.

There's a story with that, but I won't go into it.

I'm also from the Westwood Village Estates area.

(Appause.)

MR. GRASS: I've lived in Phoenix since 1951, so Phoenix is partial to me. I've lived in the house in Westwood Village since 1975. It's a beautiful area, as many of the others have intimated.

We're looking at going historic next year, if everything goes well. We've been working heavily with the Encanto Planning Committee as a Historic Planning Committee, as the others stated.

As we essentially stated, east of 19th Avenue, the leg there, the dividing line on 19th Avenue creates difficulties working with the historic area in the Central Phoenix area.

I believe District O, as mentioned, should
extend to I-17 versus stopping at 19th Avenue. If I relate that to Proposition 106, Section C, D, and E, C talks about contiguous boundaries. I think if necessary, there could be some adjustments made to District N, if there are population issues, that sort of thing. Again, with the freeway, I-17 being a boundary, that makes more sense. If you look at section D, Proposition 106, I mentioned Westwood District filing for historical status. Currently with the Encanto Planning Committee, keeping like communities together, I mentioned that in there. I think it's important we remain tied to the Encanto community as we work on our historic status, as we move forward on that. It's important as we move forward revitalizing the Central Phoenix section, work on that over the years. I've lived in the neighborhood since 1975. That neighborhood struggled, is on a path now tied into historic status. More and more people, as Glenn mentioned earlier, come into the neighborhood and are amazed and impressed with what is going on.

If we look at section E of Proposition 106, again, where it talks about obvious boundaries, as Glenn mentioned, the freeway is an obvious boundary, much more obvious than 19th Avenue.

For all those reasons, it makes sense to
extend Legislative District O, make adjustments as
necessary, minor adjustments, as necessary, with N,
maybe even to the south of I-10, in order to balance
some of the things you are trying to balance.

Again, I feel very strongly about this.
I've been a resident a long time, have been in Phoenix
since 1951. I appreciate the difficulty of your job and
recognize everything you are going through.

I would appreciate any consideration you
would give to moving the boundary.

Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Any questions?

MS. HAUSER: Yes.

Mr. Grass, when you are working on
attaining historic status, what particular governmental
entities do you have to work with to accomplish that?

MR. GRASS: I'm not as close to that as
I'd like to be. We've recently become involved as we
worked, there's a gentleman, F.C., that is very aware --

MS. ITO: I'm Donna Ito, I T O.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Donna, if you'd
fill out a speaker slip as soon as you are done.

MS. ITO: We handed in the documentation
to be a Phoenix Historic, handed it in to the Phoenix
office, networked with the National Historic Office.

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They have asked specifically, in our documentation, that one of -- we do the normal documentation, but since there are no post-WWII tract homes that have been historic, would we please write up the defense and documentation thereof to make our district historic. We've done that.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

MS. ITO: I'll fill out the form.

DR. MARSTON: I'm Dr. Ruth Ann Marston, Marston.

Within the City of Phoenix, as Westwood Village becomes historic, the zoning changes and historic overlay will have to go through the Encanto Village Planning Community and probably should be supported by other historic neighborhoods. I think that's pertinent to the question you asked.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Ladies and gentlemen, we'll take one more speaker and then take a brief break, then resume.

Bill Brotherton.

REPRESENTATIVE BROTHERTON: I'm State Representative Bill Brotherton, Brother-ton. I actually represent the people in Westwood Village.

If indeed there is a desire to be in a

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district east of I-10, that would be fine with me. I assume they are aware for the last 20 years they have been in a district west of 19th Avenue. So actually you would be changing what is set right now.

I guess I want to clarify a few things. I spoke with the lady from the Planning Commission here, a staff member from the City of Phoenix on the Legislative lines. And however you draw them, it will not change the situation from the standpoint of the planning committee. They won't be placed into any different planning, moved out of the Encanto Village, because of being in one Legislative District or another. Those lines have been fixed for quite some time. So your drawing of lines won't make a difference there.

I wanted to correct that misinformation because some folks were concerned this would affect them in other ways.

A lot of people were getting confused about city boundaries, school district boundaries, county boundaries, and that is one thing that isn't going to be affected.

I guess what I would want to point out, though, is there are some neighborhoods that are going to be coming up further north on I-17, coming up from a historic standpoint from the 50-year mark. I don't know...
if you guys are going to be able to get everybody in, in
that sense.

I guess from the standpoint of talking
about historic status, I checked with our staff. On the
Legislative level, we've never dealt with any type of
legislation that dealt with historic neighborhoods.
It's a city issue. Putting them all together in one
Legislative District would be fine. I don't think it
makes any difference from the standpoint on a statewide
level. It is a local issue. As you heard, the process
would be going to local governments. The concern I
have, though, as much as folks in Westwood Village would
like to change 20 years and be over here in a
Legislative District on the other side of I-17, I do
want to stress their boundaries are approximately the
I-17, Thomas to 19th, and then Indian School. But the
area south of there and north of there are not historic
areas. They were asking for the entire line to be made
at I-17 there. The areas south of there, many of them,
and north, are minority areas.

Right now, District N as it stands, part
of my old district, District 20, is a majority-minority
district. I think that would have impact on whether or
not it stays a majority-minority district if you were to
take out the area south of Thomas and areas north of
Indian School and swap them over into a different district.

So I guess it would be possible to maybe take a chunk out there, Thomas to Indian School, but from -- I don't know on a Legislative level whether it would make all that much difference from the standpoint of representation, because those issues are more addressed by City Council people.

Things I did want to commend Commission on were with regard to my district was, and I had spoken at a previous meeting, not parting, in part, the district with El Mirage, Surprise, and Sun City. I see that has not been done. That's split apart, and there's a definite split of community of interest there.

Lastly, to kind of just address something more generic, beyond the El Mirage issue, or folks in Westwood Village, I do want to stress, I know you guys are looking at how important that is.

I have no problem in being in a competitive district. I think we need that from the standpoint that one of the biggest complaints I hear from voters with regard to elections are that there is nobody to vote for, that, depending on what party they are, they either have an election, primary to vote in, or if they happen to be in the out party in that

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district, have no one running at all, or one individual.  
When it gets to the general race, it's really over.  
Whoever won the primary, whatever party it is, is really  
a shoe-in, other than a few districts throughout the  
state.  

I think that is why you see a situation  
where more and more, people are going unopposed.  

My first election, I actually was  
unopposed for the position. And as nice as that  
personally can be for a candidate to do that, I don't  
think it's good for the system as a whole.  

I think what we need to do is not, as  
speakers talk about, if you run in one of those types of  
districts, your chances of winning are so astronomically  
small, we really do need to look at the competitiveness  
issue, which I think can be done, along with all the  
other issues, and make sure that folks think that, hey,  
this is a winnable race. This is something doable. If  
this individual is not representing that Legislative  
District, or Congressional District in a proper fashion,  
they can win as opposed to a situation where a candidate  
only has to placate the voters who vote in that primary,  
whether a Democratic primary or Republican primary.  
Then talking low voter turnout, those individuals, and  
we're not getting representation, looking at the needs

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of the entire district and not just one small segment.
That's the thing you really have to do.

I found the difficult thing to do as a Legislator, to look at the district as a whole, and all the different competing -- people say you don't you listen to your constituents. On almost any issue, there's controversy. You have somebody calling saying "vote yes," somebody calling saying "vote no." That's good. You are trying to balance that. We want that to be done, I think more so by competition.

I just think we could make this map I see much more competitive and then we'd be much more likely to get more people out to run. If there are more races, we'd have more people voting, feeling like their vote is going to count as opposed to being a forgone conclusion.

Thank you very much.

(Appplause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: We'll now take exactly a 10-minute break.

(Recess taken from 4:48 p.m. until approximately 5:03 p.m.)

COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: I'll call the meeting back to order. We need to start back up so we can finish. The recess was for the reporter to rest her hands.

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For those of you that have had to wait, I apologize. Maybe I shouldn't, because it's really neat to have so many of you here; but for those of you who got your speaker slip in late, it's bad, because you'll have to wait.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker is Peter Moraga followed by Bert Tollefson.

MR. MORAGA: Peter Moraga. I'm from Willow District. I spoke before the Commission once before.

There are two things. I want to say thank you for the maps to you folks. Last time I was before you on behalf of the Historic Districts. Last time it showed a split. You brought it together. I appreciate that.

I think a lot of people here are from another Historic District. They are talking about putting it back in with other Historic Districts. Being from Willow, I support that.

Willow, every single person on my street was at my house this morning having coffee. We didn't talk about these issues. You might not like that. We didn't talk about Legislative Districts. We talked about personal issues, talked about issues like cars driving too fast, it being unsafe for children. Those
were our issues, policy issues, people trying to raise
families, wanting to do good things for the
neighborhood.

That's what we support, bringing in other
sections, bringing in a historic section into historic
neighborhoods.

Somebody asked a question, had a good
point: How much does a Legislative District impact a
Historic District? You are right, the City Council has
more of the day-to-day impact on Historic Districts.

Some of the issues we're talking about
revitalizing are Central Phoenix, revitalizing the urban
area, cultural entity. We have a very important solid
working relationship, not only with the City Council,
but State Legislators. That's why I believe so many
people came out today, talking about the importance and
relevance of having Historic Districts together.

We really are involved. That's why people
are out here speaking about this. We care about
Phoenix. We care about the state. It's important we
maintain historic areas together.

Again, I think you've done a great job. A
tiny bit of work needs to be done on the rest in the
Encanto area in Phoenix, in the Encanto Village
Districts.

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We have one map left, and we will submit another one to make your job that much easier.

If you keep Historic Districts in mind, that would be great.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Bert Tollefson followed by Jeff Bagg.

A VOICE: Jeff has left.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Mr. Tollefson followed by Susan Bitter Smith then.

MR. TOLLEFSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission.

You've gone to great effort.

I spoke at the other session you had a few weeks ago. Some other folks were there.

We're all God's children. It's understandable there are different interests, community interests. We need to keep things in mind. They are less and less of a factor.

Thinking in my own case, my oldest son, who farms out here west of Phoenix, he's nearly 50 years old now, he's been single a while, married a beautiful lady, a Hispanic widow, raised two sons, both in college now, 15, 16, you know, nationality lines are getting less and less.

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My youngest son is married to a young lady, a thanatologist. She's part Japanese.

It's getting to be more and more in this country a United Nations.

I'm a real minority, a Norwegian Native American, along with Peterson. That's what we deal with.

I've run for office a few times. I just want to say how important it is for people running for office being involved. I was originally involved against a prominent Senator in South Dakota. I've been here 30 years. I didn't make it. Sometimes you win. Sometimes you don't. I don't feel that was a wasted effort in any way. I ran for Congress a couple times.

One reason I'm glad to see redistricting the way it is, I ran out of Phoenix against an East District Congressional race. You know, you see that arm going out into Phoenix, nobody is going to get elected from the Phoenix area from an east district. It's understand we have a community of interest. I have a lot of friends out there. That's one of the things that happens.

I think you moved in the right direction, whether for Congressional races or Legislative Districts. I.

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Do think we have an opportunity here to do
it in such a way as you've structured things it can be
an example to the rest of the country to look at this.
If it goes well, they'll say it makes sense to do it
this way and the end result will be acceptable and
beneficial for this state. And that's the main thing.

Thank you very much.

(Appplause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Susan Bitter Smith
followed by Corey Overgaard.

MS. BITTER SMITH: Madam Chairman, Members
of the Commission, I'm Susan Bitter Smith.
I'm here on behalf of Sherwood Heights,
Fairway Park, and Heritage East Neighborhood
Association.

We're in South Scottsdale, bounded on the
north by Thomas Road, on the south by Oak, 56th Street
to 64th Street. We are the neighborhood Mr. Mills
stated, the Arcadia children that attend Scottsdale
public schools.

Let me first again offer thanks to you as
volunteers for your efforts on the Commission and the
great progress you've made.

Obviously I'm here with minor suggestions
for Legislative changes to suggest to the Commission.

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Our particular in neighborhood South Scottsdale, as I already mentioned, does share a community of interest, not only community, but Boy Scout areas, Girl Scout areas, Little League areas, neighborhood areas such as YMCA, baseball teams, things that bind communities together. As such, that's where neighborhood issues are resolved. That's where communities of interest seem to be held.

Unfortunately, the current draft map puts the neighborhood interest into Q which encompasses the City of Tempe and South Scottsdale. I have an affinity for Tempe, but I do not share a community of interest with Tempe. A multijurisdictional interest, place of residence, does dictate the outcome.

Current Legislative 26, those neighborhoods, Tempe, lumped with City of Scottsdale District 26, effectively found success in being candidates or having their interests represented. I'd encourage you to look at the kinds of interests and boundaries and areas there.

Let me address also, if South Scottsdale residents moved the same District Q further towards east 64th Street to Pima Road, those residents in tune with Scottsdale School District would have nothing in common with the school district, services of the City of Tempe.
If you look at potential movement of as many precincts as possible into proposed District G, I believe, more into the City of Scottsdale area, I recognize the entire city cannot be one area, the city areas, local school areas, on behalf of the Commission, those make sense.

South Scottsdale, those follow the politics. South Scottsdale and North Scottsdale have different conflicts, management issues, zoning interests, money issues. Pulling South Scottsdale and the Arcadia issue out with the minority population will not help that.

I ask you look at my area of interest, the Sherwood Heights area, South Scottsdale, to balance the interests with the areas north of that region.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Anyone have questions?

MS. BITTER SMITH: Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next two speakers are Penny Overgaard and Corey Overgaard.

I think both left.

Next is Pat Buckmaster followed by Susan Shelton.

MS. BUCKMASTER: Patricia Buckmaster, B U C K M A S T E R. And I'm here on behalf of the

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Murphy School District.

I see part of our district is in one district, and part of our school district is in another. I'm also on the Estrella Village Planning Committee.

We have Fowler School District, Murphy School District, Isaac School District, and Riverside School District.

We feel like we should be a part of section M here, because we are in the west part of the valley, and we are in the southern part of that section. Again, as everybody else has said, you guys have done a good job, but we would like to stick together, those school districts, and be a part of M. Estrella Village Planning Committee goes to 107th Avenue. We go to the west, not to the east.

Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

(Applause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Susan Bitter Smith, if you would come back up here one moment. We have a follow-up question we wanted to ask. This is Florence Adams with NDC, our consultant.

DR. ADAMS: Yes, Ms. Bitter Smith, I'm wondering if you have suggestions of territory you would trade for territory you want to bring into your...
district? Do you have specific territory you would move out of the district?

MS. BITTER SMITH: I do.

The current District Chairman for District 26 and I, we've visited. My sense is what is the most practical area we're seeing bounded on the north, in the current proposed District Q, it's bounded north by the Crosscut Canal following down 56th Street to Oak and over to 64th, which is area the I specifically represent. That potentially has an affinity with proposed District K. Now, if you do that, obviously you have to lose something from District K. South of Thomas, in District K, all the way to 48th or even 32nd Street, is, on the west side of 56th Street, is in fact Phoenix Union High School District and Balsz Elementary District. That make sense. Those neighborhoods have much more in common. They may disagree.

Other areas currently proposed, District P, if you make those exchanges, as I read my cursory demographics, make the demographics you are charged to do, on the other broader issue, the rest of South Scottsdale, then east of 64th Street, if you were potentially to move that into potential District G, all I suggest is move proposed District Q further south, proposed District T, some neighborhoods complete the
cycle in Tempe in a more totality fashion and create
some balance. Some neighborhoods in the south part of
Tempe, south part of Scottsdale, have similar economics
and demographics. I'm less confident of the numbers
there. The other gentleman might come up with more
definitive numbers.

DR. ADAMS: Thank you very much.
MS. BITTER SMITH: Thank you.
COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Susan Shelton
followed by Robert Fleckenstein.

MS. SHELTON: Susan Shelton,

S H E L T O N.

I'm from Westwood Village and a native
Arizonian, and I will be fairly brief as so many people
from Westwood spoke so articulately on the matter. I'll
speak from a little different standpoint.

My parents, Dr. and Mrs. Milton Shelton,
bought off 21st Drive and Verde Lane in 1952 when it was
all an orange field. I, therefore, grew up there as I
was two years old. From that you can figure out
approximately how old I am now. I'm also a health care
provider.

My parents over the years could have moved
to many different places but chose to stay there. My
dear neighbor, Mr. Arbon, is an original owner from the

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area. Unless, like my parents, who have passed away, original owners have lived there until they die. Why? Because it is a wonderful, beautiful, clean, pristine neighborhood.

As was stated before, they are Anderson homes. They are all brick. The neighborhood has worked extremely hard to maintain the neighborhood and prepare for the historical moment which we've all been in anticipation of in the next four months to come. Our community has worked very hard as a neighborhood community. We've contributed to the area with contributions to the schools, churches, to the neighborhoods themselves.

It's a good neighborhood. For the little tiny area mentioned here, and most of us who have lived in this area, for me, 50 years, always has felt Black Canyon Freeway, which I can remember when it was built, is the natural boundary.

I feel Westwood Village should be considered part of Encanto Village, should therefore still be considered for historic. Everyone I know in the neighborhood works extremely hard to maintain a good, clean area and to support the area.

That's all I need to say. And from a native Arizonian, thank you for your time.

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COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Robert Fleckenstein and then Ken Waters is the next speaker.

MR. FLECKENSTEIN: Robert Fleckenstein.

THE REPORTER: Would you spell your last name, please?

MR. FLECKENSTEIN: F L E C K E N S T E I N.

I'd like to thank the Commission for leaving my area in one piece. People have heard enough. I'm in favor of it, and in favor of Fowler District's proposal, in favor of Richard Miranda's proposal.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

(Appause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Ken Waters followed by Ralph Haran.

MR. WATERS: I just wanted to address the competitive issue.

I don't know why the statement was made at the beginning of the meeting about don't worry about it. I don't understand why that statement was made. If so many are concerned about it, I think we should speak our mind about it.

That's the issue that concerns me most.

The voters of Arizona voted for independent politics, to take out gerrymandering from politics. When you took the duties to do this, to make it independent, then they...
give it to an independent body, and 75 percent of the
districts, I'm talking Congressional, I haven't really
addressed the Legislative Districts, 75 percent of the
Congressional Districts, they're uncompetitive. That's
a landslide.

If you look across the board there to
competitive, the rest are landslide numbers. It's not
even competitive.

When the people voted to go with an
independent commission, I mean, competitiveness would
have been numero uno on the issues of politicalness.
That's why they wanted to make it an independent
commission.

Then you were also mandated to ignore
residency of incumbents. Low and behold, all six
Congressional incumbents land in their own separate
districts. I mean, that's a slap in the face to the
voters of Arizona. No competitiveness and incumbents
retaining power.

It irks me to look at this. One, the lack
of competitiveness, and incumbents retain power across
the line.

I'd like to say thank you for the public
service. I don't think this is a public service.

When the national media looks at the job

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the Independent Commission has done in Arizona, we'll be
out there in the wing again looking at the results
produced, and it's landslides for incumbents.

Thank you.

THE REPORTER: Is that W A T E R S?

MR. WATERS: Yes.

MR. HARAN: Bob Haran, H A R A N.

I'm Chairman of the West Side Republican
Club.

Yes, we do have Republicans on the west
side. We represent the area, we represent the area west
of central, south of Northern. It's predominantly
Democrat, but we are out there.

I was a candidate last election. I, along
with candidate Mr. Brotherton, supported it, were
against gerrymandering, Democrat, Republican, or ethnic.

It only serves politicians, not the people.

I'm for competitiveness. We need
competitive districts. We're supposed to have two
people running in an election. People need a choice.

That's from two different parties.

I want to talk about my little area here.

By the way, looking at this, this should
be in the Guiness Book of World Records. You're working
on the world's largest Rubik's cube.

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I live in South Glendale. We have drugs, drive-bys, a lot of neglect, indifference by the powers at be. You have us, have split our community.

Draft Legislative L, it's split us right in half, right down Maryland Avenue, right through the heart of Glendale.

You have, I don't know what the areas are, I don't know whether it is south of Cotton Avenue, the southeast valley, innercity of Glendale, hooked in with an agriculture area. I don't know where the logic is there. I don't know where it is at all. That's a big problem I have with this district.

Looking at other draft districts you have, probably the best solution for my neighborhood -- my neighborhood, the only problem I have, is this the end of L, it comes out here, way out here. That's south of Glendale. Push M up into that. I understand this is Republican now. I'm asking for a Democratic district. I want to keep my community in one piece. I put my community before my party.

(Applause.)

MR. HARAN: Supervisor Wilcox was up here earlier, really had some interesting ideas about my community, putting it in with, I believe, District O, over here, from here to there. That doesn't make any

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sense, makes no sense whatsoever. This is Glendale.

This is Southeast Phoenix. Where is the connection? I
don't see that at all.

She also was talking about El Mirage in
with M. How do you do that without having an island out
there? Going to draw a line up, I don't know what,
Dysart Road? That doesn't make sense, either.

She keeps on looking at -- she's trying to
keep all the Hispanics in one big area. It doesn't work
that way.

I live in a Hispanic community. I'm a
non-Hispanic other. We don't have a district. You
might want to draw one for me. It makes about as much
sense as having El Mirage in the same district as
Nogales.

(Laughter.)

MR. HARAN: It really is silly. I wish
you wouldn't be looking at race so much. People in my
community, I live there. We have the same problems. We
have drive-by shootings. They can hit my house as well
as my neighbor's house. Everyone is in the community.
Every precinct, I don't think there's a precinct in this
state entirely of one ethnic group or another. There
are blacks in each precinct. There are blacks in my
precinct. They are a minority, small minority. I'm

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there, an Anglo. I don't know of any Hawaiians.

I'd like to see that. That's the major thing I'd like to talk about.

Thank you for your time.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

(Applause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: At this time we're down to four more speakers. I'd offer one more opportunity for anybody that wants to speak. Fill out a speaker slip. Staff will bring you a speaker slip.

The next speaker is Brian Miller followed by Susan Schweiger-Nitchals.

MR. MILLER: Good evening. Brian Miller,

M I L L E R.

THE REPORTER: Brian with a --

MR. MILLER: I A.

I live in the Westwood Village Neighborhood Association. I'm the treasurer of the association.

One bit of information, to correct Glenn Holmgren, yes, Westwood goes up 23rd Avenue, but it jogs over and picks up 24th Avenue in a couple spots.

I-17 is the natural boundary.

I've been involved with ASU with the information-gathering they helped us do. One of the
bits of information they did, Mr. Anderson wrote,
indicated some homeowners in Westwood Village wouldn't
just own their first home there, they'd own their second
home and third home, and some got up to their fifth
home. People stayed in that community. Bringing that
bit of information to today's standard, my wife and I
are just finalizing a deal in a couple days, are buying
a home in Westwood Village because that's where we want
to stay.

Again, it's a natural boundary.

We've been involved in the association,
have been active for four, five years. I can only just
echo everything said about our neighborhood and
association. And it should be part of the East Valley.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: The next speaker

is Susan Schweiger-Nitchals.

MS. SCHWEIGER-NITCHAL S: My name is
Suzanne Schweiger-Nitchals. I'm a native Phoenecian
voting in Arizona.

I based my perception when I turned 18 and
could register to vote. I wanted to make sure I could
have a shot. That meant I had to vote in the primary.
If I didn't vote in the primary, I didn't have a choice.
My first point is I really feel it's very
important to have competitive districts. With that in

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mind, I have to look at my special interest.

I'm a clerk at the Creighton District School Board. I'm not speaking on behalf of other members but as a concerned citizen and involved person in my school district.

Our school district has 8,400 students, 30,000 registered voters, and we're split into three Legislative and three Congressional Districts. We're really very small, but we're all over the place. And I've talked to people about maybe that being an advantage. I don't know if it's ever going to be, but I have real concern about that.

I do hope you will take under consideration that school districts do have an interest. It's very difficult in this state to find support for schools, especially in our Legislature and in National Congress, also. We are underfunded, and part of it is because we have very little voice. And in order to have a voice, we can only have 25 percent of the voters in a district who have children in the public schools. That means 75 percent of the people don't really care what is going to happen to kids. That's one of the problems with education right now. There are not enough people that really care.

It's really important to look at the

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community of interest, that school district, when you
are looking at these kinds of divisions.

I'm also concerned when I'm sitting here
listening, I have so many people trying to divide my
particular small neighborhood into a small district.
I'm the area bordered by 36th Street and 40th Street,
McDowell to Thomas. I've been in all kinds of districts
as I've listened today. I have concern with that. I
also have concern with being pulled into District P in a
Legislative District when we have the airport that
separates us, really, from the rest of that district.

Our district, that area, my area of
Phoenix north of the 202 shops north and east and west,
but we don't go south. There's nothing south for us to
shop in. So that community of interest is not being
looked at as far as this map is concerned.

I really appreciate your taking the time
to do this. I know it takes a lot. And thank you very
much.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Bev Cuthbertson
and then Harriett Granthen.

MS. CUTHBERTSON: Bev Cuthbertson,
C U T H B E R T S O N.

I'm Secretary of the Republican Party,
Second Vice of the American Republican Party. I'm

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representing myself and attended two premeetings before
you had maps.

I'd like to take the opportunity to thank
you. You listened to me. You kept me in my district.
I don't know why.

You heard a lot of people here today
talking about the boundary of I-17 being a legitimate
boundary for districts. I mentioned last time it took a
long time getting across I-17 to get across traffic. I
can sympathize for the people in the Historic Westwood
District that want to stay east of the freeway, as I
did.

The other thing I want to talk about very
briefly is this: Actually, I think you've done a great
job with things. You've squared things off, which is
another thing I asked for. But as I said the last time,
when we talk about competitive districts, we talk about
gerrymandering, we talk about taking away from the
Legislature, all the other things, talking about
politics, people, talking about Democrats, Republicans,
Libertarians, green party, it makes no difference. This
is a political interest for a community of interest.
That's why I wanted my district to stay the way it was.
I worked a long time on my district and
wanted to keep it the way it was. I don't think that's

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wrong of me. God created us all with free will. If a
lot of one party want to live in one part of a city or
state, I don't see how you can take one part, put them
in another without creating odd-ball districts, like
carving out El Mirage and Surprise again.

Let us live together in peace, like Bob
Haran said. We're all different nationalities, came
from overseas, many of us, not me, but my grandparents
did. We learned to live together. Let's all live
together, have peace and quiet, have a good Legislative
District.

And thank you for your work.

(Applause.)

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Thank you.

Harriett Granthen followed by Bill
Brotherton.

MS. MITTEN GRANTHEN: Harriett Mitten
Granthen, H A R R I E T T, M I T T E N, Granthen,
GRANTHEN. It's German Lutheran.

You drew a line real personal. Now you'll
have to listen to my personal story.

I live in Westwood Village, have since
1958. Before that I lived at 8th Avenue and McKinley.
I'm a fifth generation Phoenician, and I very much love
my neighborhood.

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I work at 35th Avenue and Thomas. I'm very much politically active there, and I want to go home every night across I-17 to the east. And I want my friends and neighbors where I vote to be in District O.

REPRESENTATIVE BROTHERTON: Bill Brotherton from Westwood. Some heard what I said before, some didn't.

I don't support putting Westwood into the Central Phoenix area. As you have N now, it's a majority-minority district. What I'm concerned about, above them, the other parts in between I-17 and 19th Avenue, if you indeed go ahead and take them there and put it into the Central Phoenix District, that's fine. If that's what they like, that's fine.

What I'm concerned about is let them, the people come speak for themselves. Perhaps they are not here. There are folks in other parts of that same strip that are not historic.

What I'm concerned about is changing the entire map for that portion. Certainly taking them out would be fine. I have no problem with doing that.

So I just wanted to make sure that was clarified.

I believe some of the speakers mentioned going up all the way up to Northern, I believe where

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that was, bringing it across, and that certainly would not be in their neighborhood there.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER HUNTWORK: Anyone else still awake enough to speak?

MR. HOLMGREN: Can we ask questions?

COMMISSIONER MINKOFF: We'll stay around to answer questions.

I want to thank you for coming down.

These are called draft maps. They'll change.

The input you've given us today has given us food for thought and will be considered before any changes are made in these draft maps.

Thank you for your interest.

As I said before, if you do have questions you want to ask us individually, we're not running out the door.

(Written Letter submitted by O'Dell Arbon is included as follows:

"To: The Commissioners of the Independent Redistricting Commission.

"Subject: West Boundary of Westwood Village/Estates.

"I'm O'Dell Arbon, reside at 2919 North

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"
21st Drive, and am a resident of Westwood Village/Estates. I would like to present the following request to the Commission.

"According to the City zoning office, they said that the boundary to the west, is referred to as, 'Just a little bit beyond west of Nineteenth Ave.' Well...I recommend to keep the established boundary as it presently is today. It's easily recognized by everyone as, the I-17 Freeway. This seems to be a very logical boundary to establish for everyone's convenience, and geographical location.

"At the present time we are an 'Encanto Village' planning community. Our neighborhood is Historic eligible in just four months, and I strongly desire to remain a part of the existing historic neighborhoods. This is in accordance of 'Keeping like communities together.'

As expected, in anticipation of being historic eligible in such a short time, there is much excitement, pride and expectation for this to happen. I, as 'One of the first residents in this neighborhood,' would be most thankful for the designation of historic eligible. It is my hope this will meet with your approval.

"Thank you very much."

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"O'Dell Arbon.  2919 No. 21st Drive, Phoenix, AZ., 85018-6016, 602, 253-4055, dated 24 August, 2001.)

(Whereupon, the hearing concluded at approximately 5:47 p.m.)

* * * *
BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing hearing was taken before me, LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR, Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Arizona, Certificate Number 50349; that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that the foregoing 93 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all proceedings had upon the taking of said hearing, all done to the best of my ability.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am in no way related to any of the parties hereto, nor am I in any way interested in the outcome hereof.

DATED at Phoenix, Arizona, this 26th day of August, 2001.

LISA A. NANCE, RPR, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate Number 50349

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