

**ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

Saturday, August 6, 2011  
1:09 p.m.

Location

**Abrams Public Health Building Room 1106  
3950 South Country Club Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85714**

Attending

Colleen C. Mathis, Chair  
Linda C. McNulty, Commissioner  
Richard P. Stertz, Commissioner

Ray Bladine, Executive Director  
Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist

Mary O'Grady, Legal Counsel

Reported By:  
Marty Herder, CCR  
Certified Court Reporter #50162  
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Tucson, Arizona  
August 6, 2011  
1:09 p.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good afternoon, everyone.

This meeting of the Arizona Independent  
Redistricting Commission will now come to order.

Today is Saturday, August 6, and the time is  
1:09 p.m.

It is fabulous to see this many of you out today  
on a Saturday afternoon.

But let's start with the Pledge of Allegiance, if  
you'll all please rise.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: So I'd like to just introduce  
a few folks to you before we start the meeting.

I've got to my right Commissioner Stertz.

To my left Commissioner McNulty.

And I am Chairman Mathis.

There are two other commissioners on this  
Commission who are watching via webstreaming, and hopefully  
there are others out there watching via webstreaming,  
Vice Chair Herrera and Vice Chair Freeman.

1           So that makes up the five members. Three of us  
2 are here today, all from Pima County.

3           We also have with us today from our mapping  
4 consultant Andrew Drechsler.

5           Our legal counsel, Mary O'Grady.

6           Our executive director, Raymond Bladine, over here  
7 in the short sleeves.

8           Our chief technology officer is Buck Forst.

9           Our court reporter is Marty Herder right up here  
10 up front.

11           And speaking of court reporter, while this is  
12 being recorded, when you all come up to the podium to  
13 address us, please state your name and spell it so that we  
14 have an accurate accounting.

15           And then also tell us who you're representing or,  
16 if it's just yourself, if you want to say where you're  
17 from, either city, town, or county suffices, that would be  
18 great, and then we'll have an accurate accounting for the  
19 record.

20           We have a couple of public outreach coordinators  
21 with us today.

22           Lisa Schmelling. If you could raise your hand in  
23 the back there.

24           And Christy Olsen over here is also helping.

25           So any of these folks that I've named would be

1 happy to help you if you have any questions or need anything  
2 throughout this afternoon.

3 I have another important announcement that in  
4 order to comply with federal law a Spanish translator is  
5 here at the hearing to translate questions and comments into  
6 English.

7 And, Carlos Reyes, are you here?

8 Could you come up and just make a few remarks in  
9 Spanish of instruction and let folks know?

10 (Whereupon, the Spanish interpreter made a  
11 statement in Spanish.)

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Thank you, Carlos.

13 Well, I think this probably goes without saying,  
14 since I have a huge stack here, but there are request to  
15 speak forms in the back that are yellow that you can fill  
16 out, and that you would need to fill out if you would like  
17 to address the Commission.

18 So please do so if you haven't already.

19 I have a lot.

20 So we'll probably be limiting comments to try to  
21 go -- you know, I don't want to cut people off when they're  
22 in the middle of something important that they're trying to  
23 communicate, but if you can try to be mindful to keep your  
24 remarks limited to two and a half minutes or so, that would  
25 really be helpful.

1           And I'll also try to keep things efficiently  
2 flowing by reading off the first few names so that those of  
3 you set to speak can get ready to already come up along the  
4 sides, if you can, if you hear your name called.

5           I believe also there's an overflow room available.  
6           Is that correct?

7           So there may be some folks in another room. There  
8 is a speaker set up over there so that if you don't have a  
9 chair and would like to sit, there should be seating over  
10 there.

11           And you should be able to hear everything, at  
12 least that's the hope.

13           So, Mr. Bladine I know has been helping us with  
14 that.

15           So if any of you are standing along the back or  
16 sides --

17           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: I have a bad leg.  
18 Can I stay here or get up or do I have to go way back?

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh, you can stay.

20           So I think those are all my housekeeping items.

21           And with that, our first -- the next item on the  
22 agenda, after call to order, is the presentation on the  
23 redistricting process.

24           That's why we're all here today, as you probably  
25 know, is to comment. And our goal is to get from you your

1 thoughts on your communities of interest and what's  
2 important to you in the redistricting process. So we really  
3 appreciate everybody coming out and spending a Saturday  
4 afternoon to tell us all that.

5 So without further ado, let's turn it over to  
6 Andrew Drechsler who will give us a presentation on the  
7 redistricting process.

8 Andrew?

9 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Thank you, Chairwoman Mathis.

10 Thank you for welcoming us here today. And today  
11 I'm just -- we're just going to give an overview of the  
12 redistricting process. It's just a big level overview. So  
13 some of you people who have been to meetings before and seen  
14 this. Others we just want to make sure that there's a good  
15 understanding of what's going on.

16 In the overview today we're really going to cover  
17 several different things.

18 Why do we have a Redistricting Commission?

19 What is redistricting?

20 What is the difference between reapportionment and  
21 redistricting?

22 Why do we have to redistrict?

23 What guidelines need to be followed when drawing  
24 new districts?

25 What are the steps in the redistricting process?

1           How can public input be submitted to the  
2 Commission?

3           So, why do we have a Redistricting Commission?

4           Well, this is the second time that Arizona's  
5 districts will be redrawn by the Arizona Independent  
6 Redistricting Commission.

7           In 2000, when the Arizona voters approved  
8 Proposition 106, it created the Arizona Independent  
9 Redistricting Commission and established a process and  
10 criteria for drawing new district lines.

11           The Commission is made up of two Democrats, two  
12 Republicans, and an Independent chair elected by the other  
13 commissioners.

14           The fifth member should not be registered with any  
15 party already represented on the Commission.

16           So your 2011 commissioners are, Scott Freeman,  
17 Vice Chair; Jose Herrera, Vice Chair; today we have the  
18 chairwoman, Colleen Mathis, we have Commissioner Linda  
19 McNulty here with us today, and Commissioner Richard Stertz  
20 with us here today.

21           What is redistricting?

22           Redistricting is just the process -- is the  
23 process of redrawing congressional and legislative district  
24 lines.

25           What is the difference between redistricting and

1 reapportionment?

2           The two terms are often used interchangeable.  
3 Technically there is a difference. Reapportionment is a  
4 process of allocating congressional districts among the  
5 states based on changes in population.

6           This is what you see the census do when they  
7 present the final census number from the 2010 census.

8           In December the census presented that final  
9 number, and they also showed which states gained seats and  
10 which states lost seats.

11           As you've -- you may know that Arizona, because of  
12 growth in population, gained a seat in the 2010 census.

13           And what redistricting is it's the process of  
14 drawing the actual boundaries of the districts.

15           Why do we have to redistrict?

16           As I mentioned Arizona, did gain a congressional  
17 district, so, therefore, we have to draw lines to add that  
18 new district.

19           However, even if we hadn't gained, if we didn't  
20 gain a district, the congressional legislative districts  
21 would have to be redrawn to account in changes of the  
22 population.

23           The concept of one person, one vote dictates that  
24 there should be as close to the same number of people per  
25 district as possible.



1           And as the population -- because of the rate of  
2 population growth is different in different areas, the  
3 existing districts now have different populations.

4           So some districts gain population, some lost, some  
5 gain more than others, so that's why we have to redraw all  
6 the lines.

7           What guidelines do we need to follow when drawing  
8 new districts?

9           A, must comply with the U.S. Constitution and the  
10 Voter Rights Act.

11           B, equal population.

12           Criteria A and B are federally mandated, so all  
13 plans must satisfy these two criteria.

14           C, compact and contiguous.

15           D, respect communities of interest.

16           E, use visibly geographic features, city, town,  
17 and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

18           F, create competitive districts where no  
19 significant detriment to the other goals.

20           The Arizona redistricting process, we start with  
21 collecting public here -- we have public hearings to collect  
22 your input. And then the next step is we draw a grid map  
23 per the Proposition 106.

24           In other states, they usually start with what the  
25 current districts are and just adjust those district lines

1 according to the shifts in the population.

2           However, per Proposition 106, the commencement of  
3 the mapping process for both the congressional and  
4 legislative districts shall be the creation of an equal  
5 population in a grid-like pattern across the state.

6           The initial grid map will likely meet only  
7 criteria B and C, equal population and compact and  
8 contiguous.

9           So adjusting the grid map to meet the six criteria  
10 stated in Proposition 106, we have the Voter Rights Act.

11           Arizona's congressional and legislative districts  
12 must receive preclearance or approval from the Department of  
13 Justice or a federal court under Section 5 of the  
14 Voter Rights Act before they can take effect.

15           To get preclearance, Arizona must demonstrate that  
16 the new districts do not discriminate against minority  
17 voters in purpose or effect, which means there can be no  
18 intentional or unintentional discrimination.

19           Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting plans  
20 cannot be retrogressive.

21           The plans cannot weaken or reduce minority voter  
22 rights.

23           The presence of discrimination can be determined  
24 by analyzing population data and election results.

25           So, once we have the grid map, we start adjusting

1 the grid map with equal population and compact and  
2 contiguous.

3 Next we look at -- we respect the communities of  
4 interest.

5 And that's the big purpose while we're here today,  
6 as one of the goals of the Commission is public hearings to  
7 solicit input about -- input about communities of interest.

8 When you walked in, there was forms available, the  
9 blue forms, where you can either write on those or you can  
10 speak today.

11 Also on the website we have a link where you can  
12 enter or go in and fill in a form talking about your  
13 communities of interest or anything else regarding the  
14 redistricting process.

15 Next, we use visible geographic features, county  
16 borders, cities and towns, and census tracts. Usually the  
17 census geography follows visible features.

18 And F is create competitive districts when no --  
19 where no significant detriment to other goals.

20 Finally we want to make sure that we hear your  
21 input.

22 We have fill out request -- we ask that you fill  
23 out a request form if you would like to speak at the hearing  
24 today and provide the Commission your input.

25 Examples of input can include criteria,

1 communities of interest, or anything else having to do with  
2 redistricting.

3 Besides speaking at the hearing, you can submit  
4 one of the blue forms or you can go to our website and fill  
5 out information there. That you can visit our website at  
6 [www.AZredistricting.org](http://www.AZredistricting.org), or call (602)542-5221.

7 And just the other day we did have -- we did get a  
8 toll free number for the office, and that toll free number  
9 is 877-REDISTRICT.

10 Thank you very much.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Andrew.

12 Just some fun facts before we get started just to  
13 provide some context for this whole affair.

14 This is our 15th public hearing.

15 We're having a first round of hearings and then a  
16 second round. So this is the conclusion of the first round,  
17 but I thought it would be interesting for you all to know  
18 that we don't have statistics through last night, but we  
19 have them through the meeting through Sierra Vista, which  
20 was Thursday night.

21 At that point 915 people had signed in, so we're  
22 definitely over 1,000 folks that have signed in.

23 And that's not to mention just all the people that  
24 who attend without signing in.

25 So you can tell we've gotten a lot of great

1 response across the state from folks interested in this.

2 509 request to speak forms have been filled out,  
3 at least through the Sierra Vista meeting, so not including  
4 Phoenix last night or you all today.

5 So we're really just grateful that all of you are  
6 taking time to share your thoughts with us, and appreciate  
7 you doing this.

8 So let me move on to the next item, which is the  
9 call for public comment.

10 As I mentioned, there are a few just ground rules.  
11 If you come up, state your name, spell it so that our court  
12 reporter gets an accurate record.

13 And if you're representing yourself, please tell  
14 us where you reside. Either city, town, or county is  
15 enough.

16 If you could also try to be mindful to keep your  
17 comments limited to two and a half minutes, that would be  
18 great, so we can move through this as efficiently as  
19 possible.

20 And let me go ahead and read the first four.

21 First up will be State Senator Al Melvin.

22 Followed by State Representative Sally Ann  
23 Gonzales.

24 Followed by Representative Terri Proud and  
25 State Senator Paula Aboud.

1           So if you four can be getting ready, and we'll go  
2 ahead and start with State Senator Al Melvin, representing  
3 LD 26 from Tucson.

4           AL MELVIN: Thank you very much for the  
5 opportunity to be here.

6           State Senator Al Melvin, representing  
7 Legislative 26.

8           What I would like to say here today is that to  
9 speak in favor of keeping Legislative District 26 as an --  
10 as intact as possible as it exists today.

11           It's my understanding that we're basically where  
12 we need to be in terms of population. We need a little less  
13 than 20,000 to be added to our current numbers, and we're  
14 almost there.

15           And that could be done by adding part of Marana,  
16 or going on the other side of Craycroft, picking up some  
17 there, or possibly moving up a little bit into Pinal.

18           The other thing I wanted to talk about is the  
19 community of interest, and specifically not only  
20 Saddlebrooke but Oro Valley and Marana. There's an effort  
21 under way called MOVE, the Marana Oro Valley Experience, on  
22 the Tangerine Corridor, to try to stimulate business and  
23 jobs in that area.

24           With respect to Saddlebrooke, Saddlebrooke looks  
25 to the south as opposed to the north.

1 All of the volunteer work that hundreds of people  
2 do in schools and hospitals in the Catalina Mountain School,  
3 all of that is to the south, not to the north.

4 People go to hospitals, doctors, pharmacies,  
5 dentists, chemotherapy treatments, in the south, not to the  
6 north.

7 The community, the Golden Goose effort of raising  
8 hundreds of thousands of dollars is focused in the town of  
9 Catalina to the south.

10 The Elks Club, the Rotary Club, both of which I  
11 belong to, the American Legion, all of the volunteer work  
12 that they do is to the south.

13 So, no matter how you cut it, this truly is a  
14 classic community of interest, and I think it's in the best  
15 interest of the north side of Tucson that LD 26 remains  
16 intact.

17 And thank you for the opportunity to speak to you  
18 today.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 Our next speaker is State Representative Sally Ann  
21 Gonzales from LD 27.

22 SALLY ANN GONZALES: Thank you.

23 Good afternoon, and thank you for the opportunity  
24 to speak.

25 I'm here to speak also asking the Commission to

1 keep District 27 as intact as possible, including the  
2 University of Arizona.

3 I'm here again. I spoke on Tuesday, but I'm here  
4 again because since Tuesday I've been -- they offered me to  
5 look at a map.

6 And they're changing.

7 And I know it's not your map.

8 But people are coming up with all kinds of maps,  
9 and they're taking the university away from District 27.

10 And I'm here to speak to leave it intact as  
11 possible as it is now.

12 I know we need some population to be added to  
13 District 27.

14 Also community of interests are very important.

15 We have many barrios. As you know, it's a  
16 majority minority district. And we have many barrios of  
17 interest, communities of interest there, including, just  
18 some, Barrio Hollywood, Barrio Libre, Barrio Sevaco,  
19 Barrio -- also Robles Junction, which is also known as  
20 3-Points, that are currently in District 27, and I'd like  
21 for them to be kept in District 27.

22 That map that I saw yesterday also took away --  
23 left Robles Junction out of District 27.

24 And the other districts of interest for me and 27  
25 are also the Yaqui communities, Pascua Pueblo, which is the



1 reservation, Barrio Old Pascua, which is I-10 and Grant  
2 Road, Barrio Libre also known as 39, and Sonora Los Prados,  
3 which is off of I-10 and Ajo as well.

4           The Yaqui community has been here for centuries.

5           And also the Hispanic community before the  
6 Arizona -- became a state even in the territories, and this  
7 is important to keep these communities of interest together.

8           The languages, most of the Hispanic community are  
9 Spanish speakers.

10           Happy to have that you're providing interpreters  
11 here for people that are needing interpreters.

12           People tend to forget that this is a native  
13 language in here in this area, as well as the  
14 Native American languages, Yaqui being one of them, and the  
15 O'odham languages.

16           So we're connected -- the Yaqui community is  
17 connected to the Spanish community in District 7 for many  
18 reasons. We live together. We work together. The tribe  
19 employs thousands of Hispanic people as well as Yaquis in  
20 the government office, as well as the casinos. Well over  
21 1,000 Yaquis work in both entities.

22           And I don't know what the numbers are for  
23 Hispanic. So we live and work together. We attend T.U.S.D,  
24 is our school district, so that's also a common interest in  
25 these communities.

1           And I also would like to -- I am -- I know I'm  
2 speaking to the choir, but it's my testimony to remind the  
3 Commission about not diluting. You know, Arizona is  
4 covered -- is a covered jurisdiction under the Voting Rights  
5 Act, and, and, it, you know, it would be against that  
6 Voting Rights Act to dilute the Hispanic community, the  
7 voting, voting population in my district.

8           So I would like to remind you of that.

9           And, please, the other thing this map, that's why  
10 I'm here, that was discouraging, is that they had part of  
11 29, 29 is also a Hispanic majority minority district, and  
12 they had both districts together.

13           And this would also go against the Voter Rights  
14 Act, because it would be, it would actually be packing,  
15 packing these two districts, and that would also go against  
16 the Voting Rights Act.

17           I thank you again --

18           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

19           SALLY ANN GONZALES: -- for the opportunity.

20           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I appreciate it. Thank you.  
21 Representative Terri Proud from LD 26.

22           TERRI PROUD: Thank you.

23           My name is Terri Proud. I represent the current  
24 Legislative 26.

25           And I support the comments of Senator Al Melvin,

1 and for the record my comments are such.

2 This redistricting used to be done by the elected  
3 representatives who are directly answerable to those  
4 citizens. Voters put this new system in place to have even  
5 more transparency.

6 But this Commission, under this chairwoman, who  
7 has a clear conflict of interest, has done most of its work  
8 behind closed doors and out of the view of the citizens of  
9 Arizona and in direct conflict with the clear intent of  
10 Proposition 106.

11 So if you want to claim legislative privilege for  
12 your secrecy and also claim to be open and not nonpartisan,  
13 then you have a direct conflict, not only in your words, but  
14 also in your actions.

15 And the voters wanted to depoliticize this  
16 process.

17 However, you have made it the most partisan,  
18 underhanded, and expensive such process in our state's  
19 history.

20 You're costing our citizens almost \$10 million  
21 when we can least afford it.

22 And the idea that a member of the supposedly  
23 transparent body has implied that they would stonewall our  
24 own attorney general is disgraceful.

25 So perhaps more than one resignation from this

1 Commission would be in order. And with that I close my  
2 statement.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: If we could limit, and then  
6 not all cheer or boo or anything, if we could just try to  
7 let people have their piece and then move on, that would be  
8 really helpful.

9 State Senator Paula Aboud -- Aboud, I'm sorry.  
10 Right? And District 28 from Tucson.

11 PAULA ABOUD: Paula Aboud, A-B-O-U-D.

12 I represent District 28. I want to welcome  
13 everybody here to Pima County in Tucson, and I want to  
14 welcome and thank the commissioners for your public service.

15 Those of us that are elected or chosen understand  
16 the commitment and the dedication for a very public cause.

17 I want to suggest that many of the members of the  
18 legislature are so entirely new that their ability to have  
19 perspective is extremely limited.

20 I've been in the legislature for six years, and I  
21 am one of the most senior members in the Senate.

22 And what happens in that instance is less  
23 perspective is available for -- because people come in, and  
24 they bring in their attitudes and their opinions, and this  
25 is a -- it may seem like I'm speaking to

1 Representative Proud, but these were my comments even before  
2 I heard her.

3           And it's not personal, because Terri and I are  
4 friendly, as I am with Al as well.

5           But what I think about politics today is that it  
6 has become unseemly and it has become uncivil.

7           And that is what has made it so difficult to serve  
8 in the Arizona legislature, when the public brings these  
9 attitudes forward and disallows us from doing our work.

10           Now, when we talk about transparency and  
11 partisanship, you know, when a budget is created in the  
12 Arizona legislature behind closed doors year after year  
13 after year, and it's called partisan and underhanded and  
14 non-transparent, nobody complains hugely about it. So it's  
15 a little difficult and disingenuous to come here and say  
16 what you're doing is something other than what's being done  
17 by the majority party.

18           So I just wanted that to be clear just in terms of  
19 fairness and balance.

20           My basic message to you is around competitiveness.

21           I represent District 28. It is an overwhelmingly  
22 Democratic district.

23           Overwhelmingly, Democrats win senate and house  
24 seats.

25           And I'm coming here to you today to talk about the

1 need to make my district and other districts more fairly  
2 balanced.

3           Because there are so many Republicans that are  
4 disenfranchised by the distribution, the small number of  
5 Republicans, that they don't participate in the political  
6 process.

7           They don't come to forums. They don't present  
8 their ideas.

9           And so we never have a Republican Democrat debate  
10 that is really fair and true to the needs of all voters.

11           Now, I represent all voters when I'm in the  
12 legislature. I never turn away a constituent, whether it's  
13 a business person or a labor person.

14           Not one person.

15           I represent everyone.

16           But during an election process, they don't come  
17 out and share their issues with me.

18           We don't get an honest debate in front of the  
19 public.

20           And because of that, we have lost the interest and  
21 the spirit of the voters in these districts.

22           And if there's anything that Arizona needs more,  
23 it is more involvement of the public, more interest, more  
24 passion, more spirit, and more understanding and listening  
25 to all sides. And that means all candidates listening to

1 all sides and the voters feeling like their vote matters.

2 But, in my district, a Republican vote does not  
3 matter and --

4 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Time.

5 PAULA ABOUD: -- that's wrong.

6 (Brief interruption.)

7 PAULA ABOUD: Do we have a time keeper?

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We do not. We're doing it  
9 informally.

10 PAULA ABOUD: If I'm in that time, that's fine  
11 too. I've made my point, and I hope it's well received by  
12 all members.

13 And thank you all again for serving.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

16 We do have a timer, I'm sorry.

17 Buck Forst, chief technology officer, will be  
18 timing comments. If you hear the beeper go off, if you  
19 could try to wrap up your comments within a few seconds,  
20 that would be helpful.

21 The next four speakers, Shawn Callanan -- forgive  
22 my mispronunciation.

23 Doris Clatanoff, Vince Leach, and Pat Canady, so  
24 if you could all get ready to speak.

25 Our next speaker is Shawn Callanan, representing

1 self, from Pima.

2 SHAWN CALLANAN: Thank you very much for the  
3 opportunity to speak. My name is Shawn Callanan,  
4 C-A-L-L-A-N-A-N.

5 As you said, I'm representing myself. I'm from  
6 Pima County.

7 And one thing that's come to my attention is  
8 there's a certain idea to create a legislative district that  
9 will include the, the facilities in Eloy where 4,000 inmates  
10 are awaiting deportation, as well as a facility in Florence,  
11 which holds many thousands more inmates.

12 And it's very important to remember that these  
13 people cannot vote, and yet they're supposedly being counted  
14 for purposes of redistricting.

15 And that seems like a very fishy idea to me, to  
16 put it mildly.

17 I'm very concerned about this because it seems to  
18 make a mockery of the one person, one vote values that --  
19 and the United States Constitution that I think are very  
20 important to everyone here.

21 And I don't know who came up with this idea, but I  
22 think it betrays a profound disrespect for uniquely American  
23 traditions, like democracy and equal representation.

24 And so I hope that now I think the scheme has  
25 gotten out and we're more and more aware of this, that we



1 heed this warning that there are indeed people who do not  
2 support equitable elections, and we must do whatever we can  
3 to ensure that we have elections that are both fair and  
4 competitive.

5 Thank you very much for the time.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Doris Clatanoff, representing  
9 self, from Saddlebrooke.

10 DORIS CLATANOFF: Thank you very much, Madam Chair  
11 and Commission.

12 My name is Doris, D-O-R-I-S, Clatanoff,  
13 C-L-A-T-A-N-O-F-F.

14 Yes, I am from Saddlebrooke. My address is  
15 Tucson, and I live in Pinal County, which is -- all I have  
16 to do is cross Ina Road and I am in Pima County.

17 And for the information of those people who don't  
18 know this, Pinal County is the largest county in this state.  
19 It's larger than one or two states in the United States of  
20 America.

21 And I hope for heaven's sake you're not going to  
22 expect everybody in Pinal County to vote together. Because  
23 we're not cohesive. We're not compact. We're not a  
24 community.

25 If you look at this great big county, you'll see

1 that Saddlebrooke, as several have pointed out, identifies  
2 with the Tucson area.

3           The people up in Maricopa -- and somebody wants to  
4 put us up with Maricopa, which is over 100 miles away.  
5 There's vast desert in between.

6           But the people up in Maricopa, I know they send  
7 their kids up to Phoenix to play soccer. And we happen to  
8 belong to a county group, and that county group is saving  
9 special tickets up there. They're having a meeting up there  
10 in that north part, and they're saving special tickets for  
11 the people from Maricopa County.

12           Now that is community.

13           Now, as Senator Melvin pointed out, I belong to a  
14 Rotary Club. We come down here to District 5500. That is  
15 all of -- in Pima County down here and all of southern  
16 Arizona.

17           When I was a Rotary Club president back in 2000  
18 after I first moved to Saddlebrooke, I came down here to the  
19 corner of Pima and Swan, and I attended meetings with the  
20 district presidents from Marana and Tucson and Oro Valley.

21           This is community.

22           This is where I go to the doctor. This is where I  
23 go to church. This is where I do all of these things.

24           This is community.

25           It is compact.

1           No district could be more competitive than that  
2 Congressional District 8.

3           When we first moved here, we had a representative  
4 who was Republican.

5           Now we have a representative who's Democratic.

6           And I think both were just a couple thousand  
7 difference in between.

8           And I would hope that you not take a -- you know,  
9 something place like Maricopa and Saddlebrooke, there's a  
10 very Republican, and I agree with this legislator that was  
11 up here and said you got to have competition, because  
12 otherwise you disenfranchise one side or the other.

13           And I would also argue that if you have good  
14 representation between your Democrats and your Republicans  
15 in the given district, that the Independents have a good  
16 chance to be Independent and decide how things will happen,  
17 and that does happen sometimes. Thank you very much.

18           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19           (Applause.)

20           DORIS CLATANOFF: I have a form here.

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Great.

22           Sorry, Vince Leach is next, representing self,  
23 from Saddlebrooke.

24           VINCE LEACH: Vince Leach, L-E-A-C-H,  
25 Saddlebrooke.

1           Thank you, commissioners. It's good to see you  
2 again. It's good to be with you.

3           Thanks for being in Pima County, although I'm from  
4 Pinal County.

5           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's hard to hear  
6 you.

7           VINCE LEACH: Is it hard to hear me? Is that  
8 better if I speak into it?

9           I want to speak on three brief topics here today.

10          The first one is the legal problems that seem to  
11 be all over the press, from a number of things, from how the  
12 Commission is made up to the recent statements.

13          I would encourage the Commission to take action on  
14 these just as soon as you can, get this behind you.

15          And let's not fight this all the way through the  
16 grid maps and all the maps that are coming up.

17          I'm reminded as I look back to the Independent  
18 Redistricting Commission budget. That's on the 2012  
19 baseline. We started this process in 2000 with allocating  
20 \$6 million, and ended up allocating another \$4 million to  
21 cover the lawsuits.

22          The recent budget called for a \$10 million  
23 allocation of our tax money to the Commission, and this is  
24 before the certain lawsuits are to come up based on the  
25 actions of life to date.

1           I would really encourage you to get a hold of  
2 this, particularly Madam Chair, if you would get your arms  
3 around this and deal with this and get it behind -- get  
4 behind the state of Arizona.

5           Secondarily, I would like to talk about  
6 competition, and that being where we stand.

7           I'm in CD -- currently in CD 8, where we have,  
8 according to the registration, Republicans have a  
9 13 and a half point advantage.

10           This is partisan registration by district.

11           That advantage is figured by Democrats and  
12 Republicans.

13           Yet in the last two elections we have been  
14 represented by a Democrat in office.

15           In the 2000 -- 111th Congress we had  
16 five Democrats and three Republicans statewide in our  
17 congressional makeup.

18           And 112th, we had three Democrats,  
19 five Republicans.

20           You can't get -- if you can get just a little bit  
21 more even, by having won both ways, but for all those saying  
22 competitive, competitive, competitive, I would argue we're  
23 there.

24           Thirdly, and I am probably running short on time,  
25 is community of interest -- I am finished with time?

1 Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Pat  
5 Canady from LD 30, Pima County.

6 And I will go ahead and read the next four.

7 Betty Bengtson, Pete Bengtson, Lynne St. Angelo,  
8 and Jim March.

9 PAT CANADY: Hi. I'm Pat Canady, C-A-N-A-D-Y.

10 I'm a registered voter in Pima County. I live in  
11 Legislative District 30, but I am here to talk about  
12 competitive congressional districts.

13 And I'm going to read, because I'm nervous, read  
14 what I wrote.

15 Greater Tucson and southern Arizona should be  
16 represented by three members of Congress. Tucson and  
17 southern Arizona have unique needs, and they should have  
18 access to no less than one third of Arizona's congressional  
19 delegation.

20 These three districts should not be gerrymandered  
21 to artificially touch the border. Our metro area is a  
22 million people now, and our representatives also represent  
23 Sierra Vista, Nogales, and the Tohono O'odham Nation, and  
24 Yuma.

25 We deserve three voices in congress. A

1 voting rights district in two competitive districts. One  
2 that starts in Marana and Oro Valley and goes north, and one  
3 that starts in the Catalina Foothills and goes south and  
4 east.

5 That makes it much more competitive.

6 There has been suggestions to pack all of central  
7 Tucson into a single district.

8 I am really against this.

9 First of all, we are connected -- I live on the  
10 east side, by the way.

11 That will make more sense of what I'm going to  
12 say.

13 We are very connected to central Tucson. We go  
14 there for our hospitals, our doctors, our work, the  
15 university, and a lot of our shopping is there.

16 So we feel like we have a lot in common.

17 It would diminish Tucson's access to congressional  
18 representation and potentially violate the Voting Rights Act  
19 if everything was in central.

20 If we did that, we would end up with a very  
21 Republican district and a voting rights district. Neither  
22 one would be competitive.

23 I really believe that.

24 That's wrong.

25 I like the idea of everybody having a say, having

1 a really good civil debate like we used to in the old days.

2 We deserve more competitive districts, not fewer.

3 It makes it much more interesting to go out, and  
4 in the old days I was able to vote either way.

5 That hasn't happened.

6 Next year our voting rights district, which is  
7 legally required, we should have two competitive districts,  
8 one that starts in Marana and Oro Valley, as I said, goes  
9 north, and one in the Catalina Foothills.

10 And that is my recommendation, and I really am  
11 thrilled to have an opportunity to speak to you, and I  
12 appreciate you.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Betty Bengtson.

15 BETTY BENGTON: Thank you. My name is Betty  
16 Bengtson, B-E-T-T-Y, B-E-N-G-T-S-O-N.

17 And I live in an unincorporated area of Pima  
18 County and LD 26.

19 First, thank you for the opportunity to speak  
20 today.

21 The Commission is addressing the very essence of a  
22 representative democracy in its work. I commend all of you  
23 for your hard work and efforts to make this process. Thank  
24 you for your service.

25 I've attended several public sessions of the



1 Commission over the last few weeks and have heard citizens  
2 speak and have spoken myself about many of the six  
3 redistricting goals.

4           People particularly have addressed communities of  
5 interest and competitive districts.

6           I have heard communities of interest described as  
7 where people shop, go to church, and where their friends  
8 live or where they recreate.

9           I shop in many places in Pima County, Marana,  
10 Tucson, Oro Valley, and occasionally Green Valley, and have  
11 friends who live in Tucson, Marana, Oro Valley, Vail,  
12 Green Valley, and in unincorporated Pima.

13           My husband and I hike and bird in rural areas of  
14 the county and in all of southeast Arizona, Pima, Santa  
15 Cruz, and Cochise County.

16           And I wouldn't necessarily describe -- define all  
17 of those areas as being my community of interest.

18           I have many communities of interest.

19           And what the -- it isn't clear to me what the  
20 Commission wants to hear, which communities of interest you  
21 want to hear about.

22           I think it's essential that the Commission define  
23 what is meant by a community of interest for the purposes of  
24 redistricting.

25           Competitive districts also have not been defined.

1           One speaker at the meeting in South Tucson earlier  
2 this week suggested one definition, but that's the only one  
3 I've heard publicly.

4           I think it's equally important for the Commission  
5 to define competitive districts. How are you going to --  
6 how are you going to judge those?

7           The issue of prison populations was brought up by  
8 a speaker at the meeting earlier this week. It's a new  
9 issue for me, but the more I thought about it, the more I  
10 believe the Commission needs to somehow address the  
11 distorting effect of census counts of prison populations on  
12 redistricting requirements.

13           Thank you very much.

14           (Applause.)

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

16           Our next speaker is Pete Bengtson from Pima  
17 County, LD 26.

18           PETE BENGTSON: I live with Betty. In  
19 unincorporated Pima County.

20           And like Betty, I've attended a number of these  
21 meetings.

22           I fully support the Chair Mathis, the rest of the  
23 commissioners, and the Strategic Telemetry.

24           You're doing a great job.

25           I hope you continue working as you have been.

1           One of the interesting meetings I attended was  
2 July 8, in Phoenix, where there was a briefing on state and  
3 federal laws governing redistricting.

4           I took special note that goals C through F are  
5 equal in importance, and that most of the talk has been on  
6 communities of interest and competitive districts, but I  
7 want to call your attention to the geographic -- visible  
8 geographic boundaries, city, town, and county boundaries,  
9 and undivided census tracts.

10           Drawing the maps to comply with those lines is  
11 just as important as community of interest or competitive  
12 district.

13           I live in Legislative District 26, and I'd like to  
14 see the north boundary at the Pima County line.

15           I'm a real believer in the importance of  
16 measurements, so that you'll know whether you're meeting  
17 your goals or getting close to them.

18           AIRC and Strategic Telemetry need to have measures  
19 in place to demonstrate the amount of compliance with the  
20 six goals.

21           The drafts maps are going to be available the week  
22 of August 14th.

23           I urge Strategic Telemetry to provide information  
24 on a number of measures of compact and contiguous for their  
25 consideration at the proposed August 15th business meeting.

1           You're going to be producing these first  
2 generation maps that are going to be compact and contiguous,  
3 and you need that definition quickly.

4           The other thing I'm interested in, as I said, is  
5 visible geographic boundaries.

6           I was thinking about it today.

7           The only way I can see to do it is when you draw  
8 the maps you produce a list -- a table of the total miles of  
9 boundary lines.

10           And then determine how many of those boundary  
11 lines go along city boundaries, town boundaries, and county  
12 boundaries.

13           As the maps change, you'll be able to use those  
14 measures to see if you're meeting your goals.

15           Thank you for your time.

16           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17           (Applause.)

18           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Lynne  
19 St. Angelo, followed by Jim March, Alex Jacome, and Mohur  
20 Sidhwa.

21           So Lynne St. Angelo, representing self. And if  
22 you could state your city, county, or town.

23           LYNNE ST. ANGELO: Yes, I am Lynne St. Angelo.  
24 L-Y-N-N-E, S-T, period, A-N-G-E-L-O.

25           And I live in Oro Valley and would like to speak

1 about my community of interest.

2 In my community, we have a newspaper that covers  
3 our local community. It is the Northwest Explorer.

4 This is the area that it covers according to its  
5 own description.

6 Quote, for residents and businesses northwest of  
7 Tucson, including Catalina, Casa Adobes, Continental Ranch,  
8 Continental Reserve, Copper Creek, Dove Mountain,  
9 Gladden Farms, Marana, Oracle, Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke,  
10 Sun City Vistoso, and Tortolita.

11 This is a community made up of small towns that  
12 are connected in their business plans, as Senator Melvin has  
13 stated, for the future and how the residents travel on the  
14 northwest edge of Tucson and should be kept together in the  
15 redistricting process.

16 There is no reason to break this community of  
17 interest up because it is also very competitive.

18 This district now has been electing people of both  
19 parties since 2006, showing that either party stands an  
20 equal chance of being elected depending on the political  
21 winds.

22 It doesn't get more competitive than that.

23 I'd also like to set the record straight when I  
24 asked to hear each commissioner's personal definition of  
25 community of interest.

1 I did not want the formal definition of community  
2 of interest that the Commission votes on.

3 I would like to hear what each commissioner's  
4 opinion is, and I would appreciate that very much.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 Next is Jim March, second vice chair for  
8 Pima County Libertarian Party.

9 JIM MARCH: Thank you.

10 Jim March. Last name is spelled the same as the  
11 month.

12 Folks, I appreciate your allowing me to talk to  
13 you.

14 I have some concerns about this prison issue as  
15 well.

16 Some of the redistricting plans seem to involve  
17 roping together the big Eloy deportation center with another  
18 major prison nearby and calling the result a minority  
19 majority district, which as far as voting would actually be  
20 dominated by the surrounding ranchers or whatever is in that  
21 rural area.

22 Not only is that a problem in and of itself, it  
23 would seem to indicate possible undercurrents of planning  
24 that maybe aren't quite right going on.

25 And I don't know by who. I -- no details, but I

1 just want to point out my concern.

2 First of all, the prison system has the ability to  
3 figure out where somebody is really from. If you've got  
4 somebody going into the pokey in Cochise County, and they're  
5 actually from Flagstaff, they should be assigned as a  
6 Flagstaff voter.

7 If, on the other hand, they're from California or  
8 New York or from Tijuana or from Honduras, they should be  
9 assigned as being those kinds of people, even though they're  
10 in the jail system.

11 That's actually how the U.S. military does it,  
12 with the obvious exception that the soldiers entering  
13 the U.S. military declare where they're from and what they  
14 are.

15 Here we would have the prison system do it  
16 instead, but that seems to be the best solution to this  
17 problem.

18 Now, there's a concern on the left, of course, of  
19 creating a district that appears to be minority on paper,  
20 but in reality is, well, not, not in terms of voting.

21 And, you know, some rural ranchers and such, with  
22 inordinate amounts of political power, for the people on the  
23 left, that's a problem. For the people on the right,  
24 there's a much bigger issue.

25 What happens several years from now when Juan from

1 Honduras goes in front of the three judge panel of the  
2 Ninth Circuit in San Francisco and says, hey, for purely  
3 citizen census purposes, I was included in Arizona's  
4 political process, you can't deport me.

5 Now, I don't think that they'll win that case, but  
6 I'm not willing to completely bet against it either.

7 So before we rope in the deportees in Eloy into  
8 our political concepts, maybe we ought to think about other  
9 implications of doing so.

10 Thank you very much, folks.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Alex Jacome from Sahuarita.

14 And followed by Mohur Sidhwa, Paul Hilts, Diane  
15 Lowell, and Pete Hershberger.

16 ALEX JACOME: Thank you.

17 Thank you, Chair Mathis, members of the  
18 Commission.

19 My name is Alex Jacome. That's A-L-E-X,  
20 J-A-C-O-M-E.

21 I'm from Sahuarita, Pima County,  
22 Legislative District 30, Congressional District 8.

23 I'm going to read this, if you don't mind, because  
24 I can't remember any more than 20 minutes.

25 My wife and I live in Sahuarita. We spoke at the



1 last meeting regarding communities of interest where we  
2 heard several people speak regarding competition.

3 Most felt that their voices were not being heard.

4 But if this is the case, perhaps they should be  
5 more active in their respective political party where  
6 candidates for office are recruited, identified, and then  
7 nominated.

8 It is not up to the Redistricting Commission to  
9 ensure that suitable candidates are guaranteed.

10 Your task is difficult enough, when you consider  
11 what has to be balanced: Population, demographics,  
12 political affiliation, ethnic makeup, and communities of  
13 interest, among others.

14 A concern to us is the balance of the political  
15 entities.

16 Every effort should be made to avoid favoring one  
17 party over another.

18 There is not much you can do to affect the  
19 dynamics that occur in partisan politics. But there is  
20 something that you can do to create balance. The creative  
21 word is independent.

22 Your choices of a consulting firm is a cause of  
23 consternation.

24 Its relationship with the administration and  
25 political campaigns is suspect. The fact that they had

1 little or no experience in mapping is troubling.

2 Chicago politics are not the kind of examples that  
3 we would like to see here.

4 We do not need the kind of gerrymandering  
5 prevalent in the Midwest and East.

6 We hope that as part of your duties you will be  
7 ever vigilant to avoid the kind of -- change page -- of  
8 activity designed to skew political powers.

9 As an elected official, I serve as chair of the  
10 Pima County Joint Technical Education District, I am aware  
11 of the acrimony, dirty tricks, and skullduggery that occur  
12 in campaigns.

13 It is unfortunate this happens.

14 Please make every effort to avoid the temptation  
15 to correct what some view as an intolerable situation.

16 Concentrate on creating a competitive balance at  
17 all cost and avoid gerrymandering.

18 I will close by saying that I do not envy the task  
19 for which you volunteered.

20 You're crazy.

21 I praise you for your commitment, dedication, and  
22 willingness to take on this awesome responsibility.

23 You'll never make everyone happy.

24 All I ask is that you try to be fair, leave any  
25 bias you have at the door, and keep in mind you serve as an

1 Independent Redistricting Commission and we all live in the  
2 greatest state of the country.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Ms. Sidhwa, if you don't  
7 mind, we have another person that needs to speak next, if  
8 that's okay.

9 Is Guy Keenan here? Representing self from Pima  
10 County.

11 GUY KEENAN: Thanks. And first I'd like to thank  
12 the Commission for what you're doing. It's a thankless  
13 task, so let me counter that balance a little bit.

14 And I'd also urge you to be -- I know you're going  
15 to be fair. I also would urge you to be vigorous in  
16 defending your mandate to be independent of the political  
17 process.

18 The voters of Arizona established your Commission  
19 in 2000 to avoid legislative overbearing, and we really --  
20 that's what the voters wanted and that's what we really  
21 expect.

22 My own comments today are of a more personal  
23 nature, having to do with the compactness of my own  
24 particular district.

25 I live west of Swan Road, north of Skyline, in the

1 central foothills of Tucson.

2           Despite that location, our district, our location,  
3 our neighborhood has been put into the District 30.

4           We are the farthest north and the farthest west  
5 point in that district.

6           And as you know, LD 30 goes way out into  
7 southeastern Arizona. I think it goes to the Mexican  
8 border.

9           I really think that any community that's west of  
10 Swan or maybe even west of Wilmot, or at least Craycroft, in  
11 Tucson, in the central foothills, should be in the foothills  
12 district, which is LD 26.

13           And I don't think it's contiguous at all or  
14 compact at all to be placed in that.

15           Our next LD district meeting is in  
16 Corona de Tucson, which for me would be, you know, a good  
17 35-mile trip, so it discourages participation in the  
18 process, in my own particular situation.

19           So, that's really what I wanted to talk about here  
20 and just give you guys some general encouragement.

21           It's a tough job.

22           I think the faster you get on with the process  
23 itself, the better you'll be.

24           And I believe that last time there were  
25 approximately nine years of legal fights after the

1 Commission came out with its map, and somehow the state  
2 survived.

3 So I wouldn't let that deter you. Do your  
4 independent job, and we'll all appreciate it.

5 Thank you very much.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mohur Sidhwa, representing  
9 self, from Tucson.

10 MOHUR SIDHWA: Everybody knows what I'm going to  
11 talk about.

12 I have been like a groupie following you guys from  
13 hearing to hearing, from meeting to meeting, and have gotten  
14 to know each of you, including the staffers.

15 And have been impressed by you, those on my side  
16 of the aisle as well as the other, because you do seem to  
17 care about what's going on and take your job seriously.

18 I do have some random thoughts about what I have  
19 heard and seen, but I certainly want to start with my  
20 favorite.

21 Competitiveness.

22 Competitiveness is a very -- is the foundation of  
23 American impulse, be it in business, be it in school, be it  
24 on the sports field.

25 How can somebody possibly tell us that that should

1 be the last possible criteria to choose, I don't know.

2 We have to keep vigilant about protecting our  
3 democracy on every level.

4 When we give over the selection of candidates to  
5 party insiders by settling the races in the primaries, it  
6 really does hurt our system.

7 The moderates on both sides of the aisle get shut  
8 out.

9 And as Senator Aboud said earlier, she doesn't  
10 mind competition.

11 It's okay to go toe to toe on the battlefield of  
12 ideas. There's nothing wrong with that.

13 And there our only protection really is  
14 competitiveness for the most part, because we really do have  
15 to develop a way of life, and that is competitiveness.

16 I want to thank you for putting up with a lot of  
17 the stuff you're putting up with.

18 We've heard some of the accusations going back and  
19 forth.

20 This is just the beginning.

21 Once the maps come out, the five of you will be  
22 under even greater pressure.

23 So whatever it takes, if that means working out,  
24 eating more salads, drinking less coffee, going for walks,  
25 whatever it takes, stay strong, because you -- people will

1 try to flatter you.

2           They will, you know, make you into showboats  
3 almost.

4           They will try to bully you. They will try every  
5 tactic under the sun.

6           But you are to remain independent. And that means  
7 sometimes you will go against the wishes of some people in  
8 the room.

9           So let them yell.

10           Sometimes it will go against my wishes, so let me  
11 yell. That's okay.

12           Once again, I thank you.

13           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14           (Applause.)

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker Paul Hilts,  
16 representing self, from Tucson.

17           PAUL HILTS: Thank you. My name is Paul Hilts,  
18 H-I-L-T-S, from LD 28 in Tucson.

19           And, Madam Chair and honored commissioners, thank  
20 you for coming. Thank you for allowing me the time to  
21 speak.

22           I want to talk about CD 8 and keeping it  
23 associated with the city of Tucson in the name of  
24 competitiveness in both districts and for the benefit of all  
25 their citizens.

1           This is especially true because I live in the  
2 north end of 28 in one of the safest Democratic precincts in  
3 the entire state.

4           We hardly ever see a Republican candidate.

5           The people who live straight east of the city,  
6 from Speedway to 22nd, are the ordinary, run of the mill,  
7 old-style Republicans, the city clerks, the firemen, the  
8 policemen, all Republican.

9           Only by balancing districts like mine against  
10 people like that can you get fair, competitive districts.

11           Jim Kolbe represented that group for  
12 22 uninterrupted years, but he was famous for helping all  
13 his constituents regardless of party.

14           Gabrielle Giffords, she continues to win her  
15 elections, but she also has 11,000 cases settled for her  
16 constituents, the largest number for anyone in the  
17 U.S. congress to date.

18           (Applause.)

19           PAUL HILTS: That means no one wins in CD 8  
20 without promising a lot to all the voters.

21           You don't get reelected without delivering a lot  
22 to all the voters.

23           It is therefore in both of our interests to keep  
24 CD 8 associated with the mass of the other voters in Tucson  
25 city. And with that, I thank you.



1           I also -- you know, you cannot, no matter what you  
2 do, give us fair elections.

3           You can only give us fair and competitive  
4 districts.

5           Then it's up to the parties to make good  
6 candidates and the voters to get informed and vote their  
7 conscience.

8           So I know from what I heard at that first meeting  
9 in Phoenix that you are doing your best to give us the best  
10 districts there are.

11          I thank you for your time. And thank you very  
12 much.

13          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14          (Applause.)

15          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Diane  
16 Lowell, representing self, from Pinal County LD 26.

17          And just to follow up, that will be Pete  
18 Hershberger, Carolyn Cox, Garland Cox, and Sam Almy.

19          DIANE LOWELL: My name is Diane Lowell, D-I-A-N-E,  
20 L-O-W-E-L-L, from Saddlebrooke.

21          Thank you for letting me speak today.

22          I'm from Saddlebrooke. And we are competitive,  
23 not just Republicans and Democrats, but I have many friends  
24 that are independent thinkers and independent voters.

25          So there is a real competitiveness in LD 26, and I

1 would like to see that stay intact.

2           Since I'm representing myself, I never go to  
3 Maricopa County or north at all.

4           All my activities, my church, my social  
5 activities, et cetera, run from Saddlebrooke south to --  
6 occasionally I go down to the casino for bridge tournaments,  
7 which draw 300 to 400 people, and the Tucson symphony,  
8 et cetera.

9           I support Al Melvin's comments and Terri Proud's  
10 comments. And I would like to see LD 26 stay intact.

11           Thank you.

12           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13           (Applause.)

14           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Pete  
15 Hershberger, representing self.

16           You'll have to tell us which county or city you're  
17 from.

18           PETE HERSHBERGER: Madam Chair, members of the  
19 Commission, thank you for the opportunity to address you.

20           My name is Pete Hershberger,  
21 H-E-R-S-H-B-E-R-G-E-R.

22           And I am from Tucson. I'm a lifelong Republican.  
23 I served eight years in the Arizona House of  
24 Representatives. I come from a family with a strong  
25 Republican heritage.

1           And I'm here to support the Independent  
2 Redistricting Commission, the mission of the Commission, and  
3 the chair of the Commission.

4           I believe in civil discourse, and I'm deeply  
5 disappointed in the vicious partisan attacks on the  
6 Commission and on the chair.

7           (Applause.)

8           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Quiet, guys. Thanks.

9           PETE HERSHBERGER: These politics of intimidation  
10 should be rejected by the citizens of Arizona.

11           The IRC should remain independent, free from such  
12 blatant partisanship.

13           I also know the chair of the Commission,  
14 Chairwoman Mathis, to be a dedicated public servant and to  
15 be a person of the highest integrity.

16           Keep the Commission independent. Arizona needs  
17 competitive districts, and it is through competitive  
18 districts we will get back to civil discourse.

19           Thank you very much for your time.

20           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

21           (Applause.)

22           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Carolyn  
23 Cox from Green Ridge HOA.

24           If you could tell us the county that you're in.

25           CAROLYN COX: Yes. My name is Carolyn Cox,

1 C-A-R-O-L-Y-N, C-O-X.

2 And I am representing Green Ridge HOA on the east  
3 side of -- northeast side of Tucson.

4 I believe that Proposition 106 clearly states  
5 transparency and communities of interest are the most  
6 important criteria, and that's what the voters said, and the  
7 Commission must honor that.

8 LD 30 and CD 8 are already competitive.

9 We do have Frank Antenori in the state house and  
10 Gabrielle Giffords in congress.

11 My concern is keeping my community of interest  
12 together.

13 My husband and I retired to Tucson in 1998 in  
14 order to ride bicycles year round. Our community of  
15 interest goes from the top of Mount Lemmon, south to Vail,  
16 Sahuarita, Sierra Vista, and from the Rincon Mountains on  
17 the east to Harrison on the west, and Rita Ranch and  
18 Purple Heart Park.

19 The rural low density housing and roads with low  
20 traffic and biking shoulders are what we want to keep in our  
21 Legislative District 30.

22 We ride on Spanish Trail, love the farmers market,  
23 and riding to Saguaro Park East, the Forty-Niners Road and  
24 Redington Ranch area.

25 Our community of interest is the rural feel of

1 this area and the huge variety of riding areas with low  
2 traffic.

3           It is in our best interest to have legislators who  
4 understand the state and nation cannot spend themselves into  
5 bankruptcy as Europe has done. A welfare state saps  
6 ambition, creates self-defeating dependency. Bigger  
7 government is not the answer.

8           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9           (Applause.)

10           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Garland  
11 Cox, representing self, from Pima County.

12           GARLAND COX: My name is Garland Cox,  
13 G-A-R-L-A-N-D, C-O-X.

14           I represent myself.

15           Proposition 106 clearly states that transparency  
16 and communities of interest are the most important criteria  
17 in what is -- and that is what the voters said.

18           The Commission must honor that.

19           LD 30 and CD 8 are already competitive in that we  
20 have Frank Antenori in the state house and we have Gabby  
21 Giffords in the congress.

22           I retired to Tucson, Arizona, in 1998 so that I  
23 could continue my passion for cycling on a year-round basis.

24           My community of interest is determined by this  
25 desire to cycle on a 12-month basis.

1           I am joined by at least 8,000 other cyclists in  
2 this community of interest.

3           As such I have located in the northeast quadrant  
4 of Tucson area near Mount Lemmon in proximity to Catalina  
5 Highway, both of which offer broad bikeways on both sides of  
6 the roadways.

7           My riding area extends from the top of  
8 Mount Lemmon on the north, down the Catalina Highway, and  
9 out along Houghton Road to Sahuarita Road, west to I-19, and  
10 south to Green Valley.

11           Then I ride along the Spanish Trail east to  
12 Colossal Cave, over to Vail, and on southeast to  
13 Sierra Vista and on to Cochise County sometimes.

14           I also include the Tanque Verde Road east to  
15 Redington Pass, the Forty-Niner Club Roads, east of  
16 Speedway, Broadway, and all points accessible by road in and  
17 around Saguaro Park East.

18           I also include the Rita Ranch area, and east and  
19 west along Redington Roads and Valencia Roads.

20           It is this variable terrain with its occasional  
21 shopping facilities and restaurants and convenient centers,  
22 low density housing, similar rural atmosphere, and lower  
23 traffic that I want to see maintained in our  
24 Legislative District 30.

25           The cohesion of this geographic cycling area and

1 its community of interest seems to me to be important and  
2 should be perpetuated as a continuum.

3 I also request that the city of Tucson be  
4 moved into Congressional District 7 to make  
5 Congressional District 8 a more rural district.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Sam Almy, representing self,  
9 from Tucson.

10 I'll go ahead and read the next few names.

11 I have Susan Tanner, Shirley Cooney, Don Nevins,  
12 and Richard Tracy.

13 SAM ALMY: Hi, my name is Sam Almy. Last name is  
14 A-L-M-Y, and I am from Tucson.

15 I just wanted to come in front of you guys today  
16 to let you know, for what it's worth, I was the -- one of  
17 the winners of the legislative mapping contest that was  
18 held, and I was able to get ten competitive districts in the  
19 state.

20 And if I can get it, you guys can get it, because  
21 I'm sure you're much smarter than me.

22 One of the things I did learn while I was doing  
23 this mapping contest is that your job is hard. It is really  
24 hard.

25 I admire what you're doing.

1           You have a lot of people that will be not happy,  
2 but I'm sure that the vast majority will be happy with the  
3 maps that you get.

4           Second thing I wanted to talk about today is  
5 competitive districts and how that relates to communities of  
6 interest.

7           I live in Congressional District 8. I live in  
8 midtown Tucson.

9           I don't have very much in common with the elderly  
10 population of Green Valley or the ranchers in Cochise  
11 County.

12           My issues on the federal level are much different  
13 than they are, and yet I'm still lumped in that same  
14 community of interest.

15           What happens is because it is such -- they're such  
16 small communities of interest that are working in this  
17 congressional district, you get Gabrielle Giffords, who is  
18 one of the hardest working members of congress, and a lot of  
19 people may not agree with her politics, but what they will  
20 do is respect her and respect the job that her staff is  
21 doing in getting the veterans the metals they need, the  
22 seniors the Social Security checks that they need. And  
23 that's what I want.

24           That's what I want as my community of interest, a  
25 representative in government that is going to work for me,



1 that is going to change this country, have less partisan  
2 debates, and really just sort of fix the country and the  
3 state.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Susan  
8 Tanner, representing self, from Oro Valley.

9 SUSAN TANNER: Thank you. Susan Tanner,  
10 S-U-S-A-N, T-A-N-N-E-R.

11 My thanks to the Commission for your excellent  
12 work in holding all these public meetings.

13 I've lived in the Tucson area for over 30 years  
14 and have been a resident of Oro Valley for 17 years.

15 I'm a registered Republican.

16 And my specific areas of concern are communities  
17 of interest, competitiveness, and contiguous legislative and  
18 congressional districts.

19 When I moved to Oro Valley in 1994, it was a very  
20 small community.

21 I remember two grocery stores and a Circle K. And  
22 I've seen this town grow into a vibrant community consisting  
23 of families, professionals, educators, those in early or mid  
24 career, and also retirees.

25 I've shared the growing pains of this community,

1 and I feel that we have a thriving town.

2 I also feel very connected to my Oro Valley  
3 neighbors.

4 I feel a strong affinity to incorporated areas of  
5 Pima County immediately to the south and to the west of  
6 Oro Valley, and I also feel a very strong affinity to Tucson  
7 and all it has to offer.

8 I feel no affinity whatsoever to Saddlebrooke.

9 My understanding is that about half of the  
10 Saddlebrooke residents are part-time residents in Arizona.  
11 And as a full-time resident I feel these people are more  
12 visitors than neighbors.

13 I've no sense that we share a community of  
14 interest for the purposes of redistricting, and I don't feel  
15 that my interests are better served by including these  
16 Pinal County voters in my district.

17 I believe that future districts can and should  
18 follow the county boundary without adversely impacting the  
19 competitiveness criteria.

20 I also feel that Marana does not form a community  
21 of interest with me in Oro Valley. It's more focused on  
22 growth and development for themselves.

23 I've seen an article that I submitted that  
24 indicates that a part of Marana's strategy to become an  
25 economic power house is to partner with Pinal County

1 officials and their business interests.

2 I suggest that to address contiguous and community  
3 of interest criteria the Commission should consider running  
4 the district boundary along that Pima County, Pinal County  
5 line, eliminating the little pimple at Saddlebrooke, and to  
6 the boundaries that may encompass the town of Marana.

7 So thanks again for your work.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Shirley Cooney, representing  
10 self, from Pima.

11 SHIRLEY COONEY: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm  
12 Shirley Cooney, S-H-I-R-L-E-Y, Cooney, C-O-O-N-E-Y.

13 My grandparents were married in Tucson in 1898.  
14 My father was born in Tucson. I was born in Tucson. And  
15 even though after I married a University of Arizona  
16 graduate, we lived overseas most of those years. And all  
17 those years, all I could dream of was coming back to Tucson.

18 Anyway, 20 years ago we did, and here I've been  
19 ever since. And it's wonderful. I love Tucson.

20 I'm just so sorry that there are five people  
21 sitting in front of me and yet there's a cloud over your  
22 heads.

23 It distresses me no end to think that there will  
24 be partiality in the outcome of this redistricting, because  
25 I want to see Tucson and I want to see all of Arizona as

1 having the best chance to be fair and may I use the word  
2 balanced voting situation possible.

3 I live in the southern part of LD 26, so I have a  
4 foot in both Tucson and in the rest of LD 26.

5 I have friends who live in Saddlebrooke, Marana.  
6 Actually I have friends sprinkled throughout the  
7 whole LD.

8 And I think that it should be maintained as it is,  
9 because it is very balanced. I mean, we slide back and  
10 forward between Democrat and Republican as far as our  
11 representatives are concerned, our senators.

12 And it is a cohesive group.

13 Saddlebrooke is very important.

14 I have so many friends that go to church in --  
15 near where I live, which is in the southern part of LD 26.

16 We just, we just have a good rapport with the  
17 whole area.

18 Whether they're Democrats, Republicans, or  
19 Independents, we're a cohesive group, and we get along very  
20 well.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Don Nevins, representing Men  
24 of the Bean, from Tucson.

25 DON NEVINS: Our daily coffee club.

1 Don Nevins, N-E-V-I-N-S, LD 26.

2 I'd like to preface my remarks to say I support  
3 our good senator Al Melvin's views heartily.

4 I wrote a letter to the chair, and I felt -- after  
5 the June 30th meeting, and I had some observations that I  
6 hoped would prove useful. Some of them are pretty hard to  
7 swallow, but I also have an apology in there to the chair, a  
8 personal one.

9 To the Honorable Chair of the Arizona Independent  
10 Redistricting Committee Colleen Mathis from Don Nevins.

11 You and your committee, at least the two  
12 Democrats, took a pounding today.

13 This is dated June 30th.

14 From some 60-plus of the 100-plus public seeking  
15 to speak out, only four of which appeared even modestly  
16 supportive.

17 It was roundly deserved for the following reasons.

18 You did not keep the public in the loop before you  
19 acted on the Strategic Telemetry mapping company decision.

20 It had the appearance of an extremely biased  
21 choice, and for a first year Yale student incurred a totally  
22 predictable public result.

23 For which I'm sorry.

24 You responded with a weak defense, pointing  
25 fingers, well, this is the best we had or the mapping

1 company does what we instruct, to the charges laid out by  
2 the public during the three hours.

3 Patently, without an independent audit, you do not  
4 know what the mapping company programs into their work.

5 You allowed Jose Herrera in his response to insult  
6 the public you all work for, without rebuking him and  
7 apologizing to the assembled public.

8 I disagree with the committee's choice of a  
9 mapping company for a sound reason, which Mr. Herrera, like  
10 the callow youth he is, neglected to inquire.

11 His lack of inquiry does not mean I am smoking  
12 something.

13 I hope his experience in smoking something is not  
14 with the Arizona Society of CPAs for whom he works.

15 At 73 and a CPA, retired, with a long professional  
16 history with major corporations, I have never insulted those  
17 who pay my salary.

18 I apologize to you for immediately walking out. I  
19 have no patience with young fools who insult me.

20 Like Julius Caesar's wife, your choice needed to  
21 be above reproach.

22 I heard the -- one comment, one last. This was  
23 prescient.

24 I wish you luck, but you now appear to have a job  
25 of herding cats with precious little support.

1           I truly hope you will not go down in history for  
2 starting a legal nightmare for the Arizona taxpayers to cope  
3 with.

4           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5           (Applause.)

6           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Richard  
7 Tracy, who is chair ad hoc committee for fair redistricting  
8 from Pima, Oro Valley.

9           And the next four will be Dee Pfeiffer, Barbara  
10 Cain, Parralee Schneider, and Walt Stephenson.

11          RICHARD TRACY: Good afternoon, chair, committee.

12          I am truly an Independent. I'm not a Democratic  
13 shill, nor a Tea Party member.

14          I represent an ad hoc committee of like-minded  
15 voters from LD 8 -- I mean from LD 26 and CD 8.

16          And I agree with the previous speakers in keeping  
17 those as together as possible.

18          I grew up in Chicago, and as a youngster I was  
19 involved in anti-administration faction.

20          We were about 100 in a city of three million at a  
21 hotbed of anti-administration view and activity.

22          We were redistricting out of emerging power and  
23 position of power and influence, so I know what  
24 redistricting can do. And I am very much concerned about  
25 how this mapping consultant was chosen.

1           After that, I became a Democratic precinct captain  
2 for 18 years in the most conservative Democratic  
3 congressional district in the state.

4           I really don't want Saddlebrooke and Oro Valley  
5 with a northwest community can be divided up.

6           If you, the chair and consultant, cannot be fair  
7 and independent, you should resign. That's my, that's my  
8 view.

9           I think the district talking about prisoners and  
10 whether or not they vote or have the right to vote or should  
11 have the right to vote, my feeling is the district should be  
12 drawn by interpolating the number of registered voters into  
13 the state's population and then dividing that by the number  
14 of new congressional districts, not by who is illegal in  
15 this country, or in this state, or in one legislative  
16 district.

17           I don't think they have the right to vote. I  
18 think they shouldn't be counted as voters. I think voting  
19 is a privilege for us, the citizens of the state and the  
20 citizens of the United States.

21           Thank you.

22           (Applause.)

23           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24           Our next speaker is Dee Pfeiffer, representing  
25 self, from Vail.



1           DEE PFEIFFER: Thank you. Dee, D-E-E, Pfeiffer,  
2 P-F-E-I-F-F-E-R. And I'm from Vail, LD 30 and CD 8.

3           I'm here tonight or I'm here today to speak on  
4 behalf of myself and my husband.

5           I own a small business in Vail. And prior to  
6 October 8th, it was a very successful business. After  
7 that, we all know what happened. My business failed  
8 tremendously.

9           And I'm telling you that because it has given me a  
10 chance, given me a chance recently, but it gave me a chance  
11 to get involved in the political arena.

12           And I was very closed eyed before and I didn't  
13 realize how much the political process would have an effect  
14 on me and my business.

15           When I started investigating things and hearing  
16 things about some of the organizations, such as ACORN and  
17 SEIU and things like that, I was appalled, and decided to  
18 get involved.

19           I'm a Republican.

20           And one of the gentlemen here earlier said, where  
21 have the Republicans been, why don't they get involved.

22           Well, we're here, and we're going to be involved  
23 through this next election.

24           I want to say that I hope this Commission will  
25 cooperate with the investigation that's ongoing by the

1 Attorney General Tom Horne and resolve the cloud, as  
2 someone already mentioned, that's hanging over the  
3 Commission.

4 Those who choose to demand protection from the  
5 legal process, well, that speaks volumes and needs to be  
6 taken care of right now.

7 Get it done, get it done quickly, and move on.  
8 Give Arizona a transparent process and a fair redistricting  
9 result.

10 I am glad that your list of priorities, I think in  
11 the handout it's called guidelines, does give greater weight  
12 to communities of interest before competitiveness.

13 And I encourage you as you direct the mapping  
14 company to draw the lines to give extreme weight to our  
15 communities of interest.

16 And in particular, allow CD 8 and LD 30 to remain  
17 intact.

18 In some of the talks I've heard that there is  
19 people who want to move Rita Ranch out of CD 8, and I think  
20 that would be a great mistake.

21 The only other comment that I have is that after  
22 coming to several meetings and listening to people about the  
23 border cities, I think it may be better to have the border  
24 represented by more representatives rather than less. We  
25 need all the help we can get to focus on the border

1 situation there at the border.

2 I thank you for your service, and I hope the  
3 results are fair and in the best interest of all of Arizona.  
4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Barbara  
8 Cain, from Pima.

9 BARBARA CAIN: Barbara, B-A-R-B-A-R-A, Cain,  
10 C-A-I-N.

11 I'm formerly from Cochise County. I lived out in  
12 the country and loved it.

13 And my community of interest just happened to be  
14 whoever lived up and down the creek where I lived.

15 And now I live in Tucson, and I have an expanded  
16 community of interest.

17 But basically the two communities are related.

18 Because we're U.S. citizens, and most of us, I  
19 think, are very proud that we're here in Tucson, that we're  
20 here in Arizona.

21 And that should be, what would you say, the glue  
22 that binds us together.

23 I'm very interested in competitiveness.

24 I'm a former teacher. Twenty-seven years of  
25 fourth, fifth, and sixth graders.

1           And believe me, if you let two boys pick their  
2 team, they're not going to be competitive.

3           And so I found a number of different little  
4 techniques to seeing that there was -- those kids that never  
5 got chosen were still on a team.

6           And the kids didn't like it always.

7           But, you know what, it's about opportunity, and  
8 occasionally we'd have a surprise.

9           I would like to say in CD 8 I was under Jim Kolbe.  
10 And he was an active representative. Not my party. I'm a  
11 Democrat. But he did things for us.

12           And now with Gabby Giffords in CD 8, it's the same  
13 story.

14           Since she was injured in January, they've handled  
15 over 1,000 cases, her staff, and following exactly the way  
16 she would want them handled.

17           And I feel that we, everybody in CD 8, no matter  
18 what their church or their shopping interests are, are part  
19 of a community of interest.

20           And your job is to see that it's competitive, that  
21 everybody gets a fair shake.

22           And I thank you for your service, and I agree with  
23 Mr. Jacome. You must be crazy to have volunteered.

24           I tried it on the computer. I'm not terribly  
25 computer savvy. You wouldn't have liked the districts that

1 I came up with.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker -- thank  
3 you. Our next speaker is Parralee Schneider, representing  
4 self, from Pima County.

5 PARRALEE SCHNEIDER: My name is Parralee  
6 Schneider. That's spelled P-A-R-R-A-L-E-E,  
7 S-C-H-N-E-I-D-E-R.

8 And I live in eastern Pima County,  
9 Legislative District 30.

10 My district is now configured -- it's a  
11 combination of rural-type communities with one half acre  
12 homesites to over 3.3 acre suburban ranch lots to  
13 established subdivisions and even to two small towns.

14 My neighbors and friends walk or ride the arroyos,  
15 hike into the low foothills, bike along the back roads, and  
16 then every now and then they go into town.

17 Our kids belong to the 4-H and spend Sundays in  
18 the churches within our ZIP codes.

19 Our school districts are small, and the parents  
20 get involved, whether it is in Tanque Verde district, Vail,  
21 or Sahuarita.

22 This district provides us with what some may call  
23 a quiet life. We like not living in incorporated Tucson for  
24 the most part.

25 My neighbors step up when something needs to be

1 done, like making sure the zoning conforms to the community  
2 style or joining in sometimes forming clubs and non-profits  
3 to address the needs of far eastern Pima County.

4 We find simpatico along the Houghton corridor, out  
5 on Spanish Trail, across Rita Road into Green Valley, and  
6 down the Sonora Highway.

7 There are families living here who take care of  
8 business and appreciate an elected official who reflects  
9 that this is the way we want to be governed.

10 I ask the Independent Redistricting Commission to  
11 just moderately tweak our district lines, and let us remain  
12 who we are now and for the next ten years.

13 We live this life because we want this community  
14 for the children, the grandchildren, our families, and our  
15 friends.

16 Thank you so much for our time and your attention.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Walt Stephenson, chairman  
20 LD 28, from Pima County.

21 WALT STEPHENSON: Thank you.

22 Earlier Senator Aboud spoke to a more competitive  
23 LD 28.

24 It is my job and my wish to make that come true.

25 I'm hoping that you can meet your guidelines

1 simply by taking the eastern boundary of LD 28 and moving it  
2 to Houghton Road, taking our western boundaries of LD 28 and  
3 moving it east to an area that will balance the district so  
4 it is competitive.

5 I think it's imperative that you look at the  
6 Independent vote and not just Republican and the Democrat  
7 also.

8 I'm not hearing anybody here starting to talk  
9 about the Independents.

10 I think they're a tremendous force, and I think  
11 it's something that you really need to take a look at as  
12 you're redistricting.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 It's 2:40, and we're going to just take a few  
16 minute recess for our court reporter to give him a break.

17 So the time is 2:40, and we'll step out into  
18 recess or maybe -- we'll take five minutes.

19 Thank you.

20 (Brief recess taken.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. If everyone could take  
22 a seat.

23 The time is 3:00 p.m. We'll enter back into  
24 public session.

25 Since we've got so many -- so much input today,

1 which is fabulous, and more speakers want to speak, we'll  
2 try to keep moving through it as efficiently as possible.

3           However, if there are some of you who would like  
4 to address us but just can't wait until your name is called,  
5 please remember there is a blue sheet you can fill out and  
6 supply your input on that in a written way. And then we  
7 will -- that still is part of the public record. So it's no  
8 different than speaking here at the podium, except you  
9 aren't speaking at the podium. Feel free to do that if you  
10 need to leave.

11           If you would let someone know if you are leaving  
12 so that we'll know that we won't -- that you won't be  
13 speaking up here at the podium, that would be great.

14           Our next four speakers will be Steven Nygren,  
15 we've got Linda Rosenthal, Sherese Steffens, and Madeleine  
16 Wachter, are our next four.

17           STEVEN NYGREN: That means I'm next.

18           I'm Steven Nygren. It's Steven with a V. Nygren  
19 is N-Y-G-R-E-N.

20           And I come from the east side of Tucson, and I  
21 would like to talk to you guys today.

22           First of all, I'd like to thank the rest of Tucson  
23 for showing up. I'm glad to see who's here, and I  
24 appreciate what's been said by my fellow constituents.

25           I believe that the redistricting for the



1 congressional districts needs to be looked at in a way that  
2 has not been discussed today. I think we need three or four  
3 districts along the border.

4 I believe that the Democrats have frozen out us  
5 for representation on the issues very pressing to the  
6 economy and to our nation.

7 I think that we do need to split Tucson up in any  
8 sort of a district, seems to be that we're either east,  
9 west, north or south.

10 I believe that the community of interests are like  
11 bases. The DM and Fort Huachuca work together, not on the  
12 bases in southern Arizona area.

13 I also believe that Phoenix is an isolation group  
14 and that they probably need to stay in their own district.

15 And also I am very upset when I look at the  
16 current map to see the incredible threading that was done to  
17 put the Indian nation of influence together.

18 I believe that those people need to realize that  
19 they are Americans first. I'm sorry for the many wars that  
20 they have lost, but I think it's time for them to join the  
21 United States of America and to be citizens.

22 Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Linda

1 Rosenthal, representing CCRS. So if you can tell us what  
2 that stands for. And from Tucson.

3 LINDA ROSENTHAL: It's just communities of  
4 interest.

5 What I'm going to be talking about is my  
6 community. I live on the east side at Speedway and  
7 Harrison, lived there since '73 with my husband.

8 We enjoy the views of the Rincons, Catalinas.

9 And our children attended Wrightstown Elementary,  
10 Ridley, and Saguaro High School. And our grandchildren are  
11 now currently attending there.

12 We enjoy the hiking, biking trails that are in  
13 that area. We live right behind the Tanque Verde Wash, and  
14 have always enjoyed that.

15 Okay.

16 I like -- I volunteer at my grandson's schools. I  
17 enjoy the activities.

18 I'm a retired school teacher.

19 So I like to contribute to the community and give  
20 the educational opportunities to grandchildren and  
21 neighbors.

22 Shopping centers are conveniently located.

23 We have access to doctors and dentists and medical  
24 labs without having to go into town.

25 The combination of rural and neighborhood

1 activities is unique to the east side of Tucson. We have  
2 many horse properties, but also have many developments  
3 within the rural areas.

4 So I am a member of the CCRS group, which has been  
5 involved in the redistricting.

6 I feel it is important that all new boundaries  
7 reflect a nonpartisan approach to the new congressional and  
8 legislative districts.

9 We currently have a diversity that reflects the  
10 varied views in our district.

11 The natural geographic boundaries currently within  
12 the district provide a non-political approach to prevent any  
13 outside of gerrymandering.

14 We need to provide our state with a transparent  
15 process to ensure the citizens an unbiased decision  
16 regarding the new congressional and legislative districts.

17 Thank you very much for your time.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Sherese  
21 Steffens, representing self, from Pima.

22 SHERESE STEFFENS: Hi. My name is Sherese  
23 Steffens, S-H-E-R-E-S-E, S-T-E-F-F-E-N-S.

24 I have been a realtor in southern Arizona since  
25 1998.

1           I would like to talk to you about the geographical  
2 boundaries in southern Arizona and how they affect the  
3 communities of Saddlebrooke, Dove Mountain, and Marana.

4           All of these areas are in the north -- northern  
5 part of southern Arizona and should be included in the same  
6 legislative and congressional districts.

7           The Catalina Mountains border Oro Valley and  
8 Saddlebrooke on the east.

9           The Tortolita Mountain Range borders Dove Mountain  
10 and Oro Valley on the north.

11           Saddlebrooke is approximately five miles north of  
12 Oro Valley, and Dove Mountain is approximately five miles to  
13 the west of Oro Valley.

14           As a realtor working in the area when both  
15 Saddlebrooke and Dove Mountain were started, I can tell you  
16 neither one would have been built if Oro Valley had not been  
17 close enough to supply the amenities that both of these  
18 communities need.

19           They include the medical and hospital, Oro Valley  
20 Hospital, that Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke, and Dove Mountain  
21 go to.

22           They go there for their dentists. They go for  
23 their shopping, their entertainment.

24           The Oro Valley marketplace has a theatre and  
25 restaurants.

1           And as a realtor in 1998 when Saddlebrooke was  
2 first started, and Dove Mountain later than that, people did  
3 not buy there unless they could get to a shopping center, a  
4 Fry's, a Wal-Mart, within five to ten minutes.

5           So that's just my input is that it is a community  
6 of interest.

7           It is contiguous, all the way over to Marana. As  
8 Senator Melvin pointed out, there is a concerted effort  
9 between the town of Marana and the town of Oro Valley  
10 along the Tangerine Road. They have plans to make that, I  
11 think, into a four-lane or a six-lane transportation  
12 corridor.

13           And it will be a contiguous shopping centers, job  
14 creation.

15           There's already several subdivisions along there.

16           It encompasses high density subdivisions,  
17 apartments, all the way through to 3.3-acre homesites,  
18 RH zoning 5-acre homesites and 10-acre homesites, and larger  
19 acreage, all the way up against the Tortolitas.

20           So it's a large contiguous area all the way across  
21 from Oracle Road to I-10, which includes Marana and  
22 Dove Mountain, so they're contiguous and they should be  
23 included in the same political legislative districts.

24           Thank you for your time.

25           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

1           Our next speaker is Madeleine Wachter. She'll be  
2 followed by Ronald Cohen, Christine Bauserman, Karen  
3 Rossmann.

4           MADELEINE WACHTER: Madam Chair and Commission, my  
5 name is Madelaine Wachter, M-A-D-E-L-E-I-N-E, W-A-C-H-T-E-R.

6           I'm speaking today on behalf of the board of  
7 Planned Parenthood Advocates of Arizona, which is a  
8 statewide nonpartisan political group that supports the  
9 activities of Planned Parenthood Arizona.

10           Planned Parenthood has been providing medical  
11 services and counseling to Arizonans for more than 75 years,  
12 and we have 14 health centers in 11 cities across the state.  
13 More than 50,000 women and men have been served just this  
14 past year. Over 80 percent of the patients we serve  
15 received preventative health care, including life saving  
16 cancer screening, STD screenings and treatment, and birth  
17 control.

18           And we are often the only health care provider  
19 available for many of our clients.

20           And as a health care provider, Planned Parenthood  
21 regularly participates in the legislative process on health  
22 care issues. And we have witnessed firsthand the  
23 deterioration of civic dialogue in the state legislative  
24 process. Bipartisanship is almost nonexistent.

25           And to us at least part of the problem stems from

1 Arizona's lack of competitive legislative districts.

2 As a result of this lack of competition,  
3 legislative races are too often decided in the primaries  
4 dominated by the more extreme elements within each of the  
5 major parties. And when legislative races are decided in  
6 primaries, it obviously eliminates the effectiveness of the  
7 purpose of general elections and also results in lower  
8 turnout.

9 And we believe low voter turnout undermines the  
10 Democratic process.

11 Competitive districts and voter turnout go hand in  
12 hand.

13 If we have more districts with balanced  
14 population, a larger number of voters will be motivated to  
15 participate in Arizona's electoral process.

16 We recognize that to avoid discrimination this  
17 Commission has a legal obligation to respect and to maintain  
18 minority majority districts.

19 However, as you know, this legal obligation is  
20 only one of the controlling factors in this Commission's  
21 work, and if weighted too heavily, it can lead to districts  
22 that are disproportionately Democratic, large D Democratic.  
23 And then in turn result in the creation of other districts  
24 that are disproportionately Republican.

25 Polarized districts are not in the best interest

1 of Arizona. We need fewer safe seats, more competitive  
2 seats.

3 Thank you for your service, and thank you for  
4 holding these open meetings in the process that was  
5 established a decade ago by the electorate.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Ronald Cohen from Pima County.

9 RONALD COHEN: Hi. My name is Ronald Cohen,  
10 C-O-H-E-N.

11 First thing I'd like to say is that we should  
12 retain the two border districts to protect those people who  
13 live on the border from the influence of those to the north  
14 not living on the border. This keeps the population, which  
15 are mostly ranchers, from having their voice deleted.

16 Secondly, keep the congressional districts along  
17 county borders. Currently two precincts in Pinal County are  
18 in either District 8 or 9, and really should be with the  
19 rest of Pinal County as most of their concerns are located  
20 in Pinal County.

21 Whether they shop in Pima County or go to  
22 physicians or go to church, politically they belong in the  
23 county that they live in.

24 That's the important thing.

25 I wish to thank the members of the Redistricting



1 Commission on their hard work and time spent on this massive  
2 project and also for the work in difficult decisions they  
3 will deal with in the future.

4 Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Christine Bauserman, from  
7 Citizens for Common Sense Redistricting, from Pima County.

8 CHRISTINE BAUSERMAN: Hi.

9 I have maps -- don't start my time yet. I'm going  
10 to talk really fast.

11 I have maps to submit.

12 Tucson city is too large for one CD area, and so  
13 is Pima County which wraps all the way around it.

14 CD 8 needs to be Cochise County, eastern Pima  
15 County, and Tucson.

16 CD 7 needs to keep the U of A.

17 Then if you move that line north just to redraw,  
18 you've made the numbers work.

19 LD 30 is defined by the master community plans of  
20 Tanque Verde, Vail, Rita Ranch, Sierra Vista, Sahuarita,  
21 Benson, Sabino Canyon Road, the wash or the wash, and the  
22 borders, all the way around I-19.

23 And I'd like to address the two commissioners,  
24 Herrera and Stertz, have asked for definitions of  
25 competitiveness and independent.

1 CD 8 defines competitiveness and independence.

2 And 2000 we had Kolbe, and in '2 we had Kolbe, in  
3 '4 we had Kolbe, and in '6 we got Giffords with double  
4 digits.

5 And that was at a time in the national level the  
6 Democrats took back over the house, and she got voted in.

7 In '08 she won with double digits. In '10 she won  
8 again, again, a very low number, for an unknown person, but  
9 that was when the Republicans took back over.

10 So this all to me is because of our large number  
11 of Independents.

12 Arizona is an Independent state. It's a third of  
13 our vote.

14 We seem to vote incumbent. Look at John McCain.  
15 He's still in there.

16 Unless you're under the age of 25, if you're  
17 Independent you were once a Republican or Democrat in most  
18 cases.

19 And most are Independents because they're tired of  
20 partisan politics.

21 Sitting and listening to all these competitive  
22 district requests to me sounds like they're asking you to be  
23 a partisan politic, and it's blatant gerrymandering.

24 Our large Independent number prevents you from  
25 defining competitive districts because you don't have a

1 gauge of how we're going to vote, especially in Arizona.

2 In CD 8, I live there. They vote on the issues  
3 all the time. They pride themselves on listening to both  
4 sides. And, you know, that's how they live out there.  
5 That's how a lot of Arizona is.

6 I moved into the Tanque Verde area due to the  
7 school districts, the 1.3-acre lots and lifestyle. After  
8 20 years that I have been there, I still can't tell you if  
9 my neighbors are a Republican or Democrat. And local  
10 issues, I don't think the Republican approved of the sign on  
11 their yard.

12 So, hope that helps.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 CHRISTINE BAUSERMAN: Here are my maps.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: If you want to give those to  
16 Mr. Bladine.

17 CHRISTINE BAUSERMAN: I have done many maps. I  
18 like to play around with this stuff.

19 It is so easy to get three or four border  
20 districts, very doable.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is Karen Rossmann from  
23 Casas Adobes.

24 I'll go ahead and read the four. Donna Wangler,  
25 Francie Merryman, Harry Laughman, I think, and Barbara

1 Tellman.

2 KAREN ROSSMANN: Hello.

3 Thank you for this opportunity. My name is Karen,  
4 with a K. My married name is Rossmann, R-O-S-S-M-A-N-N.

5 And I'm from northwest Tucson where I've lived for  
6 11 years.

7 I'm here today to request that my communities of  
8 interest in the area of northwest Tucson be kept together.

9 I live in Casa Roma Estates in Casas Adobes, and  
10 am a member of the La Canada Magee Neighborhood Association  
11 and Mountain Vista Fire District.

12 My community is north of the Rillito River, west  
13 of Craycroft, east of Silverbell, and includes the Oracle  
14 Corridor from Saddlebrooke south.

15 Our community banded together for the road  
16 widening of La Canada, a project that started back in 2008  
17 and still continues.

18 We didn't get the sound barriers that we  
19 petitioned the County for, but the project was a major  
20 unifier for our community and residents in the area.

21 We're also the community, the neighborhood, with  
22 the tragic shooting of January 8th, another major unifier as  
23 was evidenced last month when we had a six-month memorial at  
24 the Safeway where the shooting of Gabrielle Giffords took  
25 place.

1           The Rillito River must be a very good natural  
2 boundary that I don't cross very often.

3           Personally I can count on both of my hands the  
4 number of times I've gone across south of the Rillito River,  
5 and one of those times is today this year.

6           Otherwise, all of my shopping, medical services  
7 are in the northwest between La Encantada and I-10 at the  
8 Oracle corridor.

9           I'm also a business owner.

10          And I own a real estate company and a pest control  
11 company, and have most of my clients in the same area.

12          I recently started a 501c3 that plans on working  
13 with the Saddlebrooke outreach -- community outreach group  
14 to provide math and reading tutors to schools north of  
15 Saddlebrooke in the San Manuel, Oracle, and Catalina  
16 schools.

17          As for competitiveness, we are currently  
18 competitive, as has been mentioned before today, in our  
19 congressional and legislative districts.

20          In the past ten years we've had both Republican  
21 and Democrat congressional representation, and our LD 26 has  
22 elected both Democrats and Republicans in alternate years.

23          I've been a registered Independent all my life  
24 until very recently and never felt underrepresented.

25          I worked on Gabby Giffords' campaign in 2006, and

1 I also helped Nancy Young Wright in 2008.

2           When my elected officials overextended my tax  
3 burden -- excuse me, I'm almost finished -- and created  
4 policies that did not represent my goals, I worked equally  
5 hard to unelect them.

6           My community is similar to the Tortolita,  
7 Oro Valley, Marana, Catalina Foothills, and the town of  
8 Catalina, Oracle, and Saddlebrooke.

9           My Saddlebrooke friends are much closer to  
10 northwest Tucson than they are to anything in Pinal County.

11           My purpose today is to request that you keep our  
12 community together.

13           We don't belong with Tucson, and we do belong with  
14 Saddlebrooke.

15           We urge the Commission to keep our northwest  
16 community united.

17           I also heard coming out here today that the  
18 commissioners have agreed to give testimony to the attorney  
19 general. And I do hope that's true. I heard on Monday that  
20 you're going to do that.

21           I thank you.

22           I brought maps and demographics for my area, and  
23 I'll leave that with you today.

24           Where do I leave them?

25           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: With Mr. Bladine over there.

1 Or Buck will take it.

2 Thank you.

3 Donna Wangler, Pima County, Democratic party,

4 LD 28.

5 DONNA WANGLER: Can somebody put the mic?

6 I thank you for your work, commissioners. It's  
7 not easy.

8 My name is Donna Wangler, W-A-N-G-L-E-R. I live  
9 at 3138 East Kleindale Road, Tucson, Arizona. I've lived  
10 here for 39 years.

11 And I hate to say, my family came to Tucson when I  
12 was younger. My brother died in 2008. He's a graduate of  
13 Salpointe, and worked for 40 years in television. He got  
14 sick from his job.

15 My mother died last year.

16 I just found my sister died in February, away at  
17 Cambridge, she moved back there. She lived in Chicago for  
18 years. She died in February, and I found out in May.

19 I think there's one thing in my neighborhood that  
20 I don't like.

21 And I hate to say, they came through across the  
22 border. I see drugs in my neighborhood. I came home the  
23 other night. There was a paddy wagon police car, I asked,  
24 across the way.

25 I hate to say, it used to be a nice place, Morris

1 Pardee (phonetic) used to lived there, across from Quik  
2 Mart, Country Club and Kleindale. It's now got drugs in  
3 there.

4 And I don't know what to do.

5 I feel like I'm on my own.

6 I've been a precinct committeeman, and I see  
7 people attacking me for what? I work hard in this  
8 community.

9 You don't even know who I am. I was a teacher. I  
10 was in ministry for 29 years. I did politics for 25 years.

11 I lost my gallbladder doing something for the  
12 party. Don't even know about it.

13 I've seen a lot of things that I've done, and I  
14 worked hard. I've been told off. I've been attacked.

15 I came in this room, told me I couldn't sit here.

16 This is my community.

17 I'm the last of my family.

18 I'm proud of Tucson, but I can't be attacked.

19 But both parties have got to realize where I live.  
20 We the neighbors are always proud of having a parade there.

21 I have the racquet club. They're making a new  
22 lodge down there.

23 I see people going into the Quik Marts getting the  
24 things, I think that's where they're getting their drinking  
25 from.



1 I do have families. I've had college people.  
2 I've had a lot of senior citizens.

3 I'd like to see my community proud again. Tucson  
4 shouldn't have this going on.

5 I don't mind people coming here to work and  
6 getting new jobs, but they don't have to bring their drugs  
7 and their drinking to my neighborhood.

8 One time I asked, a few years ago, I think they  
9 were doing a sanctuary movement.

10 I'm telling you the truth this went on.

11 I called the police. A police woman and a Mexican  
12 woman showed up and told me off. My mother was alive then.

13 They wouldn't do a thing. Okay? I'm telling you  
14 the truth.

15 This has got to stop. I'm thinking of moving from  
16 here. I don't want to be there any more. I'm telling the  
17 truth.

18 I see things going on that I don't know what to  
19 do.

20 Please, I mean, my border is -- I'm going to say  
21 there's illegals there. I've got a lot mobile homes in that  
22 area. I've got housing. I've got apartments.

23 I see this one area, I do have a two Section 8s,  
24 one behind my neighbor. One time she's even said to me --

25 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

1           DONNA WANGLER: I'm sorry. She -- I just want to  
2 add this. My neighbor said that she's proud that a friend  
3 of theirs was a drug addict.

4           I'm sorry.

5           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6           Our next speaker is Francie Merryman from Tucson.

7           FRANCIE MERRYMAN: Good afternoon. I'm Francine  
8 Merryman, F-R-A-N-C-I-E, M-E-R-Y-M-A-N.

9           I've been a resident of Ward 6 and the city of  
10 Tucson for 39 years, and I voted in every election since I  
11 moved here.

12           I'd like to reinforce what Pete Hershberger said.  
13 You all are doing an incredible job, and I thank you for  
14 your volunteering to do this for us for the next ten years,  
15 I think you signed up for. You're nuts.

16           Probably excited about it.

17           I think that the conditions under which you work  
18 are extremely difficult, and I thank you for trying very  
19 hard.

20           I don't believe that because someone disagrees  
21 with my perspective they are biased in favor of the other  
22 side.

23           I read everything from all parts of the spectrum  
24 to get hopefully to some semblance of truth, because I think  
25 everyone puts out propaganda, and I think if we only read

1 one side we don't really know what's the truth and what's  
2 going on.

3 I think that in a state where we have 34 percent  
4 Republicans, 32 percent Independents, and 31 percent  
5 Democrats, when we end up with a state legislature that's  
6 two thirds majority to one side, we don't have very balanced  
7 competitive districts.

8 And I think going forward we need to do that.

9 I would rather see us have nonpartisan election  
10 completely at all levels up through U.S. Senate so that we  
11 have much more efficient, effective government, as we do in  
12 all our municipalities in the state with the exception of  
13 Tucson. And they function much better because we come more  
14 to the center and we don't leave out a lot of voices. As  
15 Senator Aboud said, where you have very skewed districts,  
16 you don't have to listen to the other people in your  
17 district who may have a different perspective, and it may  
18 skew your point of view.

19 With respect to Senator Proud's comments regarding  
20 having the state legislature take back over this  
21 redistricting process, we the citizens of Arizona voted  
22 overwhelmingly before the last census in 2000 to have it  
23 become an Independent Redistricting Commission because we  
24 weren't happy with the way legislature had done it in the  
25 past.

1           And when we have a Gallup poll that shows only  
2 10 percent of the citizens in Arizona believe the  
3 legislature is doing a good job, I certainly do not want to  
4 see this Commission turned back to them.

5           I would like you all to try your hardest in spite  
6 of the ad hominem attacks and everything else that's coming  
7 at you to give us fair, competitive, balanced districts.

8           Thank you.

9           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10          (Applause.)

11          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Harry  
12 Laughran? I'm sorry. I can't read your writing. I'm  
13 butchering that.

14          From Tucson.

15          It looks like it's L-A-U-G-H-R-A-N.

16          We'll call his name later and see if maybe he just  
17 stepped out.

18          Barbara Tellman is our next speaker.

19          And the next few after Barbara will be Marilyn  
20 Zerull, Maddy Urken, Geri Ottoboni, and Frank Bergen.

21          BARBARA TELLMAN: Barbara Tellman, T-E-L-L-M-A-N.  
22 I live in boundaries of 27, 28, and 29. And I won't be mad  
23 at you if you put me in any one of those districts.

24          I have listened to both Tuesday night and tonight,  
25 a lot of confusion about what is a community of interest.

1           I heard it defined as where I shop, where I  
2 bicycle, newspaper coverage. And I heard just all kinds of  
3 different ideas for community of interest.

4           I've heard many different concepts of what is a  
5 community of interest, and I think it's not well defined in  
6 the law, and I think there's confusion.

7           Is it a bicycle route? A lifestyle? Newspaper  
8 coverage area?

9           What about my friend from Catalina, whose  
10 community of interest, you might say, is a second amendment,  
11 rugged individual lifestyle, and they feel threatened by the  
12 invasions from the north and from the south down the road  
13 from Oro Valley.

14           I think we need a definition, and I would also  
15 like to see a legal opinion on whether the order in which  
16 the criteria are listed in the law is the same as a  
17 priority.

18           I think we need to really balance all of these  
19 different ones.

20           On Tuesday I brought up the subject of prisoners.  
21 And I'm happy to tell you that I have a solution.

22           There are something like 45 to 50,000 prisoners in  
23 Arizona that the census counts as residents of the Arizona  
24 prison in which they live, in spite of the fact that the  
25 Arizona Constitution says the prisoners do not lose their

1 place of residence by virtue of being in prison.

2 This is the law you operate under, and there are  
3 some ways around it.

4 Furthermore, many of the prisons have a  
5 disproportionately large number of minority population for  
6 various unfortunate reasons, and so not only are your  
7 districts distorted in terms of total population, but they  
8 may be distorted in terms of minorities.

9 For example, in Florence, only one tenth of the  
10 population is registered to vote.

11 Is this because of apathy? No, it's because  
12 65 percent of the people in that area are in prison and are  
13 not legally allowed to vote.

14 So, my remedies, as long as you have to live with  
15 the law and the prisoners have to live in the prison,  
16 number one, minimize the number of prisons in any one LD,  
17 ideally no more than one per LD.

18 The prisons in Eloy and Marana should be in  
19 separate districts, made easy by the fact that the county  
20 line separates them.

21 Florence should not share an LD with any other  
22 prison.

23 If the Colorado River district is drawn, the  
24 prison in Kingman and San Luis should not both be included,  
25 especially since both have a high percentage of Mexican

1 nationals.

2           Where this doesn't work, you can just add some  
3 more people to a district and stay within your large  
4 allotted margin of deviation.

5           For example, you can take the Florence prison and  
6 just had add another 11,000 people to that congressional  
7 district without going beyond the standard deviation.

8           This will work less well in the legislative  
9 districts, but I have maps to submit.

10           Tom Machado gave you some maps of his draft  
11 district, and I overlaid the prisons onto those maps to show  
12 you that it wouldn't do much --

13           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Time.

14           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Give that to Mr. Bladine.  
15 Thank you very much, Ms. Tellman.

16           Our next speaker is Marilyn Zerull, representing  
17 self, from Oro Valley.

18           MARILYN ZERULL: My name is Marilyn Zerull,  
19 spelled M-A-R-I-L-Y-N, Z-E-R-U-L-L.

20           And my community of interest is in Oro Valley. I  
21 have many friends in Saddlebrooke, and I attend clubs there  
22 as well.

23           And Saddlebrooke residents recognize Oro Valley  
24 interests in turn. So I feel that Oro Valley and  
25 Saddlebrooke need to be kept together.

1 I also want to address competitiveness.

2 In 2008 I ran for the Arizona House of  
3 Representatives, and lost to Nancy Young Wright, a Democrat.

4 I had walked five days a week for seven months,  
5 but that wasn't the best year for Republicans.

6 Now that seat is being held by a Republican  
7 because of the state of the economy. The economy does  
8 influence how people vote regardless of their party  
9 affiliation.

10 This shows that my community of interest is also a  
11 competitive district, where people vote the issues and not  
12 necessarily the party.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next few speakers, Maddy Urken, Geri Ottoboni,  
16 Frank Bergen, and Frank Olivieri.

17 So, if we can get Maddy Urken, from --  
18 representing self, from Sahuarita.

19 MADDY URKEN: My name is Maddy Urken, M-A-D-D-Y,  
20 U-R-K-E-N. And I live in Sahuarita.

21 Thank you very much for undertaking this very  
22 important topic.

23 This is the second meeting I've attended in these  
24 hearings, and I've heard numerous suggestions for  
25 communities of interest. As mentioned by at least two



1 speakers today, the suggestions include bicycle routes,  
2 shopping venues, and the location of family and friends.

3           Some of the suggestions I heard contain implicit  
4 definitions for criteria.

5           I assume that at some point you will come up with  
6 an explicit working definition or set of criteria for what  
7 does it mean to be a community of interest.

8           The same holds true for the criteria of  
9 competitiveness.

10           When those are drafted, I ask that you post them  
11 on your excellent website, for which I thank you. It's  
12 really a wonderful, wonderful resource. So that the public  
13 can understand your reasoning as you go about the difficult  
14 task of drawing fair maps of legislative and congressional  
15 districts.

16           Without these explicit definitions, we simply have  
17 no way of understanding why you drew a line in one place  
18 rather than another.

19           So thank you very much for your time and your  
20 work.

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22           Our next speaker is Geri Ottoboni from Rancho  
23 Vistoso HOA in Pima County.

24           GERI OTTOBONI: Yes, my name Geri Ottoboni.  
25 That's G-E-R-I, O-T-T-O-B-O-N-I.

1           I understand why some Democrats are upset with the  
2 results of the 2010 elections.

3           That they forget that when they were in the  
4 majority party in the senate and the house before the  
5 economy tanked, they continued their spending habits even  
6 though the income was diminishing through lack of jobs,  
7 businesses going out of business.

8           They did not know how to cut back.

9           Many households in Arizona had to cut back, and we  
10 expect our politicians to do the same.

11           For example, a citizen making \$50 an hour, losing  
12 their job and having to acquire one at \$6 an hour, their  
13 expensive spending habits had to stop and they have to pull  
14 in their belts and live by their means.

15           Even fiscally responsible Democrat, Independent,  
16 and no party individuals would Republicans in 2010 because  
17 they could see the Democrats were not able to curb their  
18 spending habits.

19           I know this because it is public record and I  
20 walked door to door speaking to thousands of people who told  
21 me. On the same street you have Democrats, Independents, no  
22 party, and Republicans, all living in the same neighborhood  
23 because of schools, jobs, shopping, doctors, et cetera.

24           Oro Valley, have you seen, has signs. It says  
25 live within your means. These signs were put up by

1 Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.

2 As each year's budget came forth, there was less  
3 and less money to spend for various programs, but the  
4 programs kept increasing and the debts kept getting higher  
5 and higher.

6 The Republicans promised to cut spending, and  
7 because the residents had enough they voted the Republicans  
8 into office in 2010.

9 Arizona over the years has had competitive  
10 districts which would include communities of interest in the  
11 communities of, from my experience walking again,  
12 Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, and no party.

13 Registered voters who all felt that spending had  
14 to stop.

15 It was that reason that the 2010 elections were so  
16 devastating to the Democrats.

17 It was not because the districts were not  
18 competitive.

19 Also with school budgets being cut, there are ways  
20 to help the schools.

21 Tax credits to the school of your choice where you  
22 get a tax deduction. Donating to the school of your choice,  
23 or even volunteering if you have the time. This is a great  
24 help to the teachers. I did it for my grandson's  
25 kindergarten class, and I intend to do it again this year.

1 I received -- I received a notice from my  
2 grandson's school. There was going to be 31.75 children in  
3 my grandson's class.

4 I was wondering where they are going to find that  
5 one .75 child.

6 Arizona LD 5, LD 10, LD 11, 17, 20, and  
7 southern Arizona districts 23, 24, 25, and 26 all have  
8 Democrats and Republicans since the last census. But in  
9 2010 both Democrats were thrown out. Now the Democrats are  
10 yelling because it's not competitive --

11 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

12 GERI OTTOBONI: -- district, and it is not true.

13 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

14 GERI OTTOBONI: The people spoke in 2010, and the  
15 Democrats lost, and it's just that simple.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Frank  
19 Bergen, followed by Frank Olivieri, Vicki Davis, and Arthur  
20 Nicolet.

21 Frank Bergen from Tanque Verde Valley Democrats,  
22 Tucson.

23 FRANK BERGEN: It's Frank, F-R-A-N-K, Bergen,  
24 B-E-R-G-E-N.

25 Thank you, Madam Chairman and members of the

1 Commission.

2           And thank you for all of you behind me who have  
3 stayed around through a long afternoon.

4           I've heard an awful lot, some of it almost  
5 amusing, and some of it enough to make me angry if I were  
6 still prone to becoming angry.

7           But one of the things that I heard that I'd  
8 liked to address is the competitive nature of  
9 Legislative District 30.

10           I have lived approximately at the intersection of  
11 Houghton Road and Catalina Highway since late 1995.

12           Since the results of the redistricting, not a  
13 Democrat has been elected in Legislative District 30.

14           It has been difficult for Democrats to put up a  
15 full slate of candidates. Indeed, they have not ever had  
16 three candidates in any of the five election cycles.

17           I think that is an indication that this district  
18 is not terribly competitive.

19           And it's not because we don't work, because I have  
20 pounded on more doors in Legislative District 30 than I like  
21 to think.

22           The last Commission did a pretty good job in  
23 redistricting and in increasing the number of congressional  
24 seats.

25           We've gone from two and six to six and two, and

1 back and forth in the number of representatives in congress.

2 But, in the state legislature, with Republicans  
3 getting 57 percent of the vote in 2010, they took  
4 70 percent of the seats in the senate and 6 -- and  
5 66 and two thirds percent in the house.

6 Now, somehow something is out of balance.

7 In 2010 there were 17 districts statewide in which  
8 there were not three candidates.

9 In eight Senate districts, there was only one  
10 party had a candidate. And in the state house, there were  
11 12 districts with only -- with less than the two candidates,  
12 you know, from each party.

13 There is clearly a lack of competitiveness  
14 statewide.

15 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sorry.

17 FRANK BERGEN: Did the buzzer go off?

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: It did.

19 FRANK BERGEN: Okay. I'm sorry. And I thank you  
20 very much, and I praise you for doing a job that I never  
21 realized was as horrendous as it has turned out to be.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 Our next speaker is Frank Olivieri, representing  
25 self, from Pima.

1 FRANK OLIVIERI: Frank Olivieri, O-L-I-V-I-E-R-I.

2 Thank you, Commissioners, again for speaking. I'm  
3 going to have this -- talking about competitiveness versus  
4 communities of interest.

5 There have been several meetings, and today's  
6 the first time I'm hearing a lot about what's competitive.  
7 And competitive comes down to is purely political,  
8 nonpartisan.

9 So, I've heard some examples in recent -- about  
10 competitiveness and where we were competitive, starting in  
11 Casa Grande and the meeting where they come up and said now  
12 with recent elections they pointed out LD 26, they pointed  
13 out CD 8, they pointed out other ones.

14 I happen to live in Pima County, in an  
15 unincorporated area. I live in LD 26.

16 What are we, what are we afraid of of the term  
17 political.

18 And it looks as though we had it balanced out to  
19 be political.

20 I'm in favor of competition, but it's  
21 competition -- what does it mean?

22 Competition means my community of interest is that  
23 I choose to live because the people are -- I don't care if  
24 they're Democrat, Republican, Independent. We share the  
25 same goals. We want the same for our school districts.

1 We want the same from economics, all right, for our  
2 community.

3 I have a corridor or an area of business contact  
4 that I have or my community wants to work within.

5 All right.

6 Do I compete globally or regionally.

7 I travel professionally all over the world in my  
8 work.

9 I visited -- I've been in countries where they  
10 don't have elections. And I see where they -- it's a  
11 competitive model where things balance out and people get --  
12 don't get to move at that point because everything's  
13 balanced out because it eliminates the representative  
14 government. Therefore there's no more city, county, or  
15 state governments. It ends up with a single central  
16 government with administrators.

17 The decision that you guys will make, as  
18 commissioners, all right, is going to go for ten years. So  
19 when you look at these communities of interest and where is  
20 it going to affect now and in the future, these communities  
21 are people that choose to move, live where they want to  
22 live, and then move. So if everything is balanced where all  
23 I have is the same amount of Democrats, same number of  
24 Republicans, same laws, so forth, I have no decisions, no  
25 choices. My own, everything is made by someone else.



1           That's my opinion.

2           That's where -- same was the Constitution.

3           The states gave the right to federal government.

4 I think we're turning this around, where we have to be  
5 balanced so one central government is going to bring on  
6 everyone else.

7           My community of interest, balanced right now,  
8 politically, economically, is pretty balanced.

9           Hey, I'm hoping that it can stay that way.

10           I live where Marana, Oro Valley, unincorporated  
11 Pima County, Saddlebrooke, and the I-10 corridor, even going  
12 up to the Casa Grande, where that the new -- that Sun  
13 Transportation is going.

14           That's all separate from Tucson. If Tucson wants  
15 to change, let Tucson educate and bring the people in there  
16 to make the changes.

17           And I appreciate Senator Aboud's comment about  
18 making it politically viable. Make -- educate everybody and  
19 have everybody educate both parties to do that.

20           Thank you.

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I apologize for the  
22 chilliness in the room.

23           I don't know if there's --

24           RAY BLADINE: I've pushed all the things up I had.  
25 I think as people leave --

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We need more people.

2           All right. So, Vicki Davis, representing self,  
3 from Tucson.

4           Followed by Arthur Nicolet, Payton Davies, Linda  
5 White, and George Allen.

6           VICKI DAVIS: My name is Vicki Davis. V-I-C-K-I,  
7 D-A-V-I-S.

8           I've spoken to you before, so I won't bring up  
9 those issues anymore.

10           I respect the job that you have to do, and  
11 appreciate it's difficult.

12           But frankly I don't trust any of you. And I think  
13 that's good and healthy for citizens to be on the watch all  
14 the time.

15           We know about the quangos in England, which are  
16 quasi-autonomous governmental committee --

17           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Can't hear.

18           VICKI DAVIS: Quangos, which is pretty much what  
19 you are.

20           And the reason I'm worried about you is because  
21 you don't really have to respond or be responsible to us  
22 directly.

23           I feel like we need to be kept informed.

24           I appreciate the fact that now we're starting to  
25 get some agendas and some schedules of meetings so we can

1 plan to be there.

2 I do want to ask or question why we still don't  
3 have meetings -- minutes of the meetings available, because  
4 obviously you're writing them.

5 And I would request that those be made available  
6 so those of us who can't come to every meeting can keep  
7 informed.

8 And I just expect you to do the best you can, but  
9 realize that you need to realize that we as citizens have  
10 responsibility to keep a tight watch on what you're doing  
11 and to bring the things that we see you doing wrong to your  
12 attention and have you address those.

13 Again, I'd just request that we have minutes made  
14 available. Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Arthur Nicolet, representing  
18 self, from Tucson.

19 ARTHUR NICOLET: Thank you. My name is Arthur  
20 Nicolet, N-I-C-O-L-E-T.

21 Thank you for this privilege to speak. I was  
22 beginning to think I wasn't getting to speak because of the  
23 tee shirt.

24 However, I do represent just myself and my wife.

25 You know, in a committee like this where

1 independent is the key word, credibility is everything.

2 I'm a retired senior subcontract manager from a  
3 large aerospace firm here in Tucson, which means that I am  
4 very familiar with the whole idea of the RFP process. I've  
5 gone through many request for quotes. And have gone through  
6 the grading process.

7 I know it like the back of my hand.

8 When I saw that the State Procurement officer  
9 walked out of the procurement meeting, my ears went up right  
10 away.

11 I knew there was a problem.

12 And sure enough, what we've come to find is that  
13 Strategic Telemetry was awarded the position that -- in a  
14 very unethical manner.

15 That is very unfortunate, because they were the  
16 highest cost of the bidders.

17 And the process by which this company was chosen,  
18 the records are destroyed. And that's fortunate. That's  
19 a -- up a little bit?

20 Hard to tell here.

21 That is something that we cannot have.

22 It's a violation of the open meeting laws.

23 So there are four other facts too. I'm sure I've  
24 already covered a couple of them.

25 Mr. Herrera I wish was here today, because I would

1 like to look him in the eye and say, Mr. Herrera, are you  
2 going to cooperate with the attorney general or not.

3           And the reason I wish he was here is because these  
4 people would like to hear his answer.

5           Credibility is a major problem with this  
6 committee -- which this Commission.

7           And there are things that this Commission needs to  
8 correct.

9           There were mistakes on applications that have been  
10 disclosed and yet the mistakes have not been corrected.

11           Thank you. I hope you will take this into  
12 consideration.

13           (Applause.)

14           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Payton  
15 Davies, representing self, from Oro Valley.

16           PAYTON DAVIES: You ought to organize the short  
17 people and the tall people.

18           BUCK FORST: I agree.

19           PAYTON DAVIES: My name is Payton Davies, and I  
20 think that Oro Valley, Marana, and Saddlebrooke should be  
21 considered a community of interest and should stay as they  
22 are in their legislative and congressional districts.

23           The people in Marana and Saddlebrooke shop,  
24 worship, golf, take care of their medical needs, and dine  
25 out in Oro Valley, plus the people in Oro Valley dine out in

1 Marana and Saddlebrooke. We get our golf carts serviced in  
2 Saddlebrooke.

3           There are two other things I'd like to mention.

4           In the past four years I've ridden in the  
5 El Tour de Tucson, a 40-mile race that I participate in,  
6 begins here in Oro valley and goes through Marana, down to  
7 Tucson.

8           Tucson seems very distant for those of us on bike.

9           Ina Road is my normal cutoff.

10           I ride in the race to raise money for Parkinson  
11 support groups in southern Arizona.

12           The people that have supported me to the tune  
13 of \$10,000 have come from Saddlebrooke, Marana, and  
14 Oro Valley.

15           The Parkinson's support groups from Saddlebrooke,  
16 Sun City, Tucson, and Oro Valley get together for many  
17 activities through the year.

18           Those of us Parkies in Sun City have helped start  
19 a new support group in Saddlebrooke, and Arizona Parkinson's  
20 Association has helped -- held an educational seminar in  
21 Saddlebrooke of this year and they plan to continue that in  
22 the future.

23           Back to the bike riding part of it.

24           I'm a little old lady. I don't go fast. I don't  
25 go far.

1           But my routes take me to Dove Mountain, down  
2 Oracle to Sprouts and Trader Joe's and up to Saddlebrooke.

3           The group I ride with, when there's a group, is  
4 mainly Democrats, a few Independents, and I'm the token  
5 Republican.

6           But the area that we ride in feels like our home.

7           I would also like to add that I think LD 26 and  
8 CD 8 are competitive and should remain intact.

9           The people there have gone back and forth from  
10 electing Republicans to Democrats and back to Republicans.

11          We have Gabby in the U.S. House and Al Melvin in  
12 the state house.

13          We are truly competitive.

14          And when I hear people from Oro Valley saying that  
15 they have nothing in common with people from Saddlebrooke  
16 and Marana, I see a lot of snobbishness and elitism. Is  
17 that another attempt to incite class warfare?

18                 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19                 (Applause.)

20                 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Linda  
21 White, from LD 26.

22                 LINDA WHITE: Before I read my statement, I have a  
23 question of consideration for the Commission.

24                 I would like to know why -- I was at the Tucson,  
25 South Tucson meeting. And as matter of protocol, I would

1 like to know why Strategic Telemetry had a seat with the  
2 commissioners at the table.

3 My statement.

4 The competitiveness of LD 26 is alive and well.

5 One only needs to review the district's political  
6 history to recognize their both major parties have been  
7 sworn to oath to represent its constituents.

8 Any attempt to change, alter, or gerrymander would  
9 be a blatant attempt to rewrite history. The competition in  
10 LD 26 is energetic and always in play, as it always is.

11 A particular concern is the very real possibility  
12 of removing the community of Saddlebrooke from LD 26.

13 As I previously stated in other statements,  
14 Saddlebrooke is entwined as a business, religious,  
15 entertainment, arts, leisure, hobbies and clubs makers  
16 shared with its friends, family, and neighbors within the  
17 district.

18 As one who has worked for several of the  
19 districts, knocked on hundreds of doors, made thousands of  
20 phone calls, the consensus gained remained a constant. This  
21 is a community of strong, similar interests, a close knit,  
22 like-minded community, with similar hopes and dreams.

23 Whether you reside in the Foothills, Oro Valley,  
24 Golden Ranch, Casas Adobes, or Pusch Ridge, we are a  
25 geographically, like minded, economically, spiritually



1 united community and deserve to stay as one.

2           Again, I would like to say that I would like to  
3 recognize -- excuse me, recognize and commend our  
4 Attorney General Tom Horne for taking steps to open an  
5 investigation into several serious allegations perpetrated  
6 in the short history of this Commission.

7           Thank you.

8           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9           (Applause.)

10          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next is George Allen,  
11 representing self, from Pima, Oro Valley.

12          And following Shirl Lamonna, Maria Apodaca, Keith  
13 Keith Van Heyningen, and Ted Downing.

14          GEORGE ALLEN: Hi. My name is George Allen. I am  
15 from Oro Valley, and I'm representing myself.

16          Thank you for choosing to serve. I wish you good  
17 luck, and most importantly I pray for you.

18          I pray that you will be honest. I pray that you  
19 will be fair. I pray that you will do with vigilance the  
20 things that you have been requested to do from the state.

21          I am requesting that LD 26 remain intact. And the  
22 reason I want it to remain intact is because it's all the  
23 things that you profess that you need.

24          You want a group that is homogeneous. You want a  
25 group that is consistent. You want a group that has

1 boundaries, geographical and otherwise, common needs and  
2 common interests.

3 Common interests because we all chose to live  
4 where we live, which means we were happy to be there.

5 Common interest because we share ideas with each  
6 other. And, yes, we argue. Yes, we agree. And, yes, we  
7 disagree. All at one time, and all different.

8 Thank you for listening.

9 Please, please consider honestly the things that  
10 you need to do in the Commission that you were chosen to  
11 perform.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker is Shirl Lamonna, representing  
15 self, from Pima.

16 SHIRL LAMONNA: Hi. My name is Shirl Lamonna.  
17 S-H-I-R-L, L-A-M-O-N-N-A.

18 I'm from Oro Valley.

19 I've been following the redistricting process  
20 since it began. I have spoken several times previously.

21 But today I'm going to limit my comments strictly  
22 on two items, one of them being the Independents and the  
23 other the public input.

24 First of all, there seems to be a notion that  
25 Independents are not represented in this process.

1           But like all of the 500 plus people who have  
2 spoken to you, Independents have had their chance to share  
3 their views with the Commission.

4           Few of them have done so, but let me tell you how  
5 they have -- their actions have actually spoken for them.

6           Since April of this year, 11,135 registered voters  
7 removed their party preference and became Independents.

8           Republican registration slipped by 3,243.

9           And Democratic registration fell by 7,892.

10           According to the Secretary of State's Office,  
11 33 percent of the voters in Arizona now have no party  
12 affiliation.

13           Why has this happened?

14           Well, generally speaking such changes are  
15 attributed to backlashes against the party holding the  
16 presidency, economic factors, and voter migration patterns.

17           Since an Independent is generally defined as  
18 someone who votes for candidates and issues rather than on  
19 the basis of a political ideology or partisanship, they  
20 choose their representation by voting, whether it be  
21 Democratic leaning, as it was in the 2008 election, or  
22 Republican leaning, as it was in 2010.

23           So I'm sure their voices will be heard loud and  
24 clear in 2012, even if they have not chosen to speak  
25 directly to you here at the Commission.

1           In terms of public input, there's an obvious level  
2 of discontent that's voiced at these meeting which is caused  
3 by two competing visions for the state which mirrors the  
4 mood of the country. A July Rasmussen poll indicates that  
5 only 17 percent of voters feel the country is heading in the  
6 right direction.

7           Fifty percent of Democrats supported government  
8 with more services and higher taxes, while 83 percent of  
9 Republicans and 70 percent of Independents favor one with  
10 fewer services and lower taxes.

11           Relative to redistricting, the Democrats and  
12 progressives want fair, competitive districts while  
13 conservatives, not astroturf-ists, Ken Clark called us last  
14 night. We fight for communities of interest, a requirement  
15 incidentally that weighs more than competitiveness in the  
16 process according to the presentation today.

17           We were ignored nationally when we spoke out  
18 against bailouts, Obamacare, quantitative easing, and the  
19 increase in the debt ceiling.

20           And we don't really trust you're listening to us  
21 now.

22           Nevertheless I will end by reading the guidelines  
23 that were included in Strategic Telemetry's offer form that  
24 was given to the IRC.

25           Three short sentences. Please bear with me.

1           There is no single definition of a community of  
2 interest. It's a concept best defined by those who live in  
3 the affected areas. Public hearings will be key to  
4 answering questions about which communities of interest  
5 should be given the most weight.

6           Thank you.

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8           (Applause.)

9           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Maria  
10 Apodaca, from Pima.

11           MARIA APODACA: Good afternoon. My name is Maria  
12 Apodaca, M-A-R-I-A, A-P-O-D-A-C-A.

13           I'm a former teacher. I'm a licensed esthetician,  
14 and currently a caregiver for my adult daughter who's  
15 disabled.

16           I live in LD 30 and CD 8. I'm a fiscal  
17 Libertarian and social conservative.

18           A little mixed up there, huh?

19           I want to start off by talking about the community  
20 of interest.

21           LD 30 and CD 8, my request is that they pretty  
22 much keep intact, because of community of interest. A lot  
23 of that has already been explained.

24           We are competitive, like we already said. We have  
25 Senator Antenori and Congresswoman Gifford. So it's pretty

1 competitive.

2           And if you need to do away with any part of CD 8,  
3 I would suggest that you simply move the city of Tucson into  
4 CD 7.

5           Give them all of the city of Tucson. We want to  
6 keep Cochise County, eastern Pima County.

7           These groups are of the smaller cities and rural  
8 areas of eastern and northern Pima County. This gives us  
9 representation focusing on people with common interests.

10           Now, what I want to address now is what really  
11 concerns me about this whole process.

12           I know you're a volunteer commission; right?

13           You're volunteering.

14           But you do take an oath.

15           And I said this last time. I spoke at the  
16 college.

17           I don't know why people take oaths if they're not  
18 going to honor the oath they take.

19           I'm a real stickler on living up to what you say  
20 you're going to do.

21           What I want to bring out is because I've heard  
22 different things about the facts and attacks.

23           Okay.

24           There is a clear difference between facts and  
25 attacks.

1           There's a clear difference between propaganda and  
2 what's on public record.

3           Okay. So I'm going to just list some things that  
4 really concern me.

5           Strategic Telemetry is a political consulting  
6 firm, not a mapping firm.

7           Okay.

8           They cost the most and they have no experience.

9           Their commissioners that voted for them awarded  
10 the contract to the company that was hired by the DNC to do  
11 a nationwide state-by-state strategy to, you know, to make  
12 more Democratic districts.

13           I mean, that's, that's their strategy.

14           Strategic Telemetry also did microtargeting down  
15 to the precinct level for then candidate Barrack Obama in  
16 2008.

17           So, you know, we're talking about a very partisan  
18 company here that you've hired.

19           So I really want you to -- my recommendation is  
20 that you go back and redo this.

21           First of all, all public records of this were  
22 destroyed.

23           That's -- with the voting? Is that true? It was  
24 all destroyed?

25           And one of the other things that -- because all

1 this is being brought up, I am giving you the latest things  
2 that I'm reading that's in public record. One of the  
3 commissioners stated in public that he would not cooperate  
4 with the attorney general's investigation.

5 And I just think, oh, my goodness, if something is  
6 not being held properly here with what's going on, I think  
7 you need to cooperate with the attorney general. They're  
8 there to do their job.

9 So that was a big concern of mine.

10 And I have so many notes here.

11 But, oh, I do have a map for the CD 8, but when I  
12 copied it up, it only showed half of it. So I'm going to  
13 redo this and give it to you.

14 But it does show three and four -- I have two  
15 different maps that shows three or four CDs at the border  
16 level, which I think is better than just two, because right  
17 now we have two, seven and eight. That would be with  
18 your -- but, anyway, thank you for your time.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Keith  
22 Van Heyningen.

23 And he'll be followed by Ted Downing, Laura Hogan,  
24 and William Hutchison.

25 KEITH VAN HEYNINGEN: Good afternoon. My name is



1 Keith Van Heyningen, K-E-I-T-H, V-A-N, H-E-Y-N-I-N-G-E-N.

2 I'm a Tucson resident, have been for 12 years,  
3 spent 10 years in Chicago, five years in Miami, 12 years in  
4 Orlando, the rest I was an Army brat. I guess you know  
5 where I'm coming from.

6 I'd like to say to all the idiots they're  
7 delusional and they're communists.

8 We live in a representative republic, not a  
9 democracy.

10 My community of interest is the United States of  
11 America.

12 Like I said, I'm a veteran.

13 We elected here in Tucson a Republican city  
14 council mayor. The first time in 40 years. It's solid  
15 Democrat, was for 40 years. And you want to talk about fair  
16 balanced.

17 No.

18 Planned Parenthood comes in to speak.

19 A bunch of baby killers responsible for the murder  
20 of how many millions of babies?

21 They're not a person. They're an evil group.

22 Don't let them get to you.

23 Lawyers should have been disqualified from this  
24 board to start with.

25 And, yes, the information was destroyed, partially

1 due to Janet Napolitano.

2           And I'm tired of so many people stepping up to  
3 you, blowing smoke up your butts, and then referring to  
4 their racism as a community of interest.

5           We are coming up in a year and a half on the next  
6 great election.

7           And personally I can't wait.

8           But back to our Strategic Telemetry.

9           Like I said, I spent time in Miami. I have  
10 friends who are there still.

11           And you are an arm of the Democrat party, plain  
12 and simple.

13           You are no friend to an Independent. You are no  
14 friend to a Republican.

15           Your work is that of a socialist, trying to impose  
16 a dictatorship on this country.

17           Laugh all you want.

18           The country's broke, and it's because of  
19 politicians and people who don't know what real life is.

20           You ought to come out and work in the desert with  
21 me sometime.

22           I suggest you do the same thing I do. Carry a big  
23 gun and wear a bulletproof vest, because that's what you  
24 need out there. That's reality.

25           I know, you can sit there and stare at me all you

1 want. I don't care.

2 Just like our city council and our cabinet here,  
3 run by Democrats, and corrupt.

4 Have a nice day.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Ted Downing, former state  
7 legislator, from Tucson.

8 TED DOWNING: Thank you very much, honorable  
9 commissioners.

10 I'm Ted Downing, D-O-W-N-I-N-G, recovering  
11 politician, former state legislature, and an Independent.

12 I'm a member of the national Independents group  
13 from the Independent party, but I'm not here to talk on  
14 their behalf.

15 I'm also an author of the new open government  
16 provisions that's coming out.

17 And I want to talk to you about the third criteria  
18 of the ranked criteria we've got.

19 That of the six criteria, the one that says the  
20 compact -- they shall be geographically compact and  
21 contiguous to the greatest extent possible. Compact and  
22 contiguity are mathematical concepts.

23 I ask that the Commission mandate that the maps  
24 are prepared according to the strictest mathematical  
25 definition. And that would be if you want the most compact

1 district is you sum the perimeters of all your districts,  
2 add up the number, and that gives you the lowest number  
3 represents the most contiguous. It's a simple, eloquent,  
4 and true mathematical solution.

5           You can be challenged legally if you do not carry  
6 out that criteria and come up with any other solution, and  
7 each of your maps can be compared using that, sum the  
8 perimeters and use those perimeters, every time you sum  
9 them, the smaller number is the most contiguous. That's the  
10 way it works.

11           I ask that that criteria, if we respect the right  
12 criteria, that criteria ranks higher than competitiveness,  
13 it ranks higher than the other three you've been discussing  
14 today.

15           It has that ranking after voting rights. It has  
16 that ranking after the constitutional proportionment  
17 representation.

18           It should be respected and considered.

19           I say that because it represents an interest of  
20 people that are Independent and apart from the partisanship  
21 and the multiple definitions of competitiveness you've heard  
22 here.

23           So I'm speaking in favor of that criteria.

24           Second, as an Independent, I'm concerned -- after  
25 listening to some of the testimony, I'm concerned that you

1 realize that you have to rise above the circumstances that  
2 brought you to the Commission.

3 Four of the five members are appointed by the  
4 political committees, by the speakers, by the party  
5 leadership. But the part -- and then the fifth one, the  
6 Independent, is actually selected by the parties, so this is  
7 not a real independent Commission.

8 Independent, for everybody's information, meant  
9 independent of legislature, not independent in judgment.

10 But you can be that way. You can rise above it.

11 And you have to do it for a couple of reasons.

12 First is the demography.

13 Right now the growth rate over the last 80 months,  
14 I was calculating it, is that 6 percent Independents,  
15 4 percent -- excuse me, 6 percent Republicans, 5 percent  
16 Democrats, and 24 percent Independents.

17 That voice has to be heard.

18 And if not, the last thing I say is, if we don't  
19 see a true independence, then you will probably be the last  
20 independent Commission because you will be -- the next  
21 Commission that we vote in, you will be independent of party  
22 influence.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 Our next speaker is Laura Hogan, representing

1 self, from Vail.

2 LAUREL HOGAN: Thank you so much. Laura Hogan,  
3 H-O-G-A-N.

4 I would like to thank the Commission for the work  
5 they're doing. I know you're all volunteers. And I realize  
6 it's not -- it's a pretty thankless job.

7 And I appreciate your work.

8 I'd like to speak to advocate that we keep our  
9 border congressional districts representative of the border  
10 communities.

11 And we best do that by keeping two border  
12 congressional districts. That way the districts will elect  
13 representatives who actually live in the border communities  
14 they're elected to represent.

15 The borders are so important that it's important  
16 that our representatives come from those border communities  
17 and not from northern Arizona districts.

18 Creating more districts on the border would  
19 drastically change the way that those communities are  
20 represented.

21 Combining the border communities with more  
22 northern Arizona neighbors would dilute our influence in  
23 terms of border issues, and I think that's important.

24 I'd also like to say that I live in Vail. And I  
25 work and go to the hospital, grocery shop, in Tucson.

1 I don't work and go to the grocery store in  
2 Sierra Vista.

3 Thank you very much. I appreciate your time.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is William Hutchison, from  
6 Oro Valley.

7 And he will be followed by Alex Bissett, Grace  
8 Schnakenberg, and Merritt McGlothlin.

9 WILLIAM HUTCHISON: My name is William S.  
10 Hutchison. Last name is spelled H-U-T-C-H-I-S-O-N. There's  
11 no N in the middle.

12 Thank you to the Commission for your service and  
13 allowing me to speak.

14 I'm a 16-year resident of Oro Valley.

15 I'm an Independent voter, registered as an  
16 Independent for 16 years.

17 Two items very briefly.

18 I won't go into the Saddlebrooke specifications  
19 really carefully because other speakers have covered that,  
20 but I think this is a classic case of community of interest.

21 The Saddlebrooke folks patronize businesses in  
22 Oro Valley, northwest Tucson, Marana, et cetera.

23 I don't think they would be particularly  
24 appreciative of being placed electorally in the upper  
25 portion of Pima and Pinal County.

1           So I would consider that to be something of a  
2 travesty.

3           Secondly, I'm very concerned about public  
4 information which has come out regarding the chairman's  
5 application for service on this committee.

6           Apparently the chairman for reasons unknown failed  
7 to report information about her husband's partisan political  
8 activities.

9           This is wrong.

10          It casts a cloud on the entire operation of the  
11 Commission.

12          It should be corrected.

13          I would urge the chairman to resign. This is  
14 doing the right thing.

15          Thank you.

16          (Applause.)

17          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Alex  
18 Bissett, from Oro Valley Redistricting Study Group.

19          ALEX BISSETT: My name is Alex Bissett, A-L-E-X,  
20 B-I-S-S-E-T-T.

21          I live in the community of Sun City Vistoso in  
22 Oro Valley.

23          I'm going to eliminate some of my comments in the  
24 interest of time, but I wish to comment on the placement of  
25 Sun City Vistoso's sister community of Saddlebrooke.



1           I understand the preliminary recommendation of the  
2 mapping firm is that Saddlebrooke be taken out of LD 26 and  
3 placed with a community of Maricopa over 100 miles away.

4           Saddlebrooke, Sun City Vistoso, and Marana share  
5 strong community interest and need to maintain the Marana,  
6 Oro Valley growth corridor along Tangerine Road between I-10  
7 and the same common districts -- in the same common  
8 districts.

9           Both Marana and Saddlebrooke are within about a  
10 ten minute drive of my community of Sun City.

11           Moving Saddlebrooke out of LD 26 would be a  
12 blatant attempt at gerrymandering in its most obvious form.

13           The primary reason this is being done is that  
14 Democrat Nancy Young Wright lost her 2008 bid for election,  
15 and the swing votes came from Saddlebrooke.

16           The Commission cannot escape the fact that the  
17 Commission's chairman fraudulently lied on her application  
18 by conveniently omitting on question eight that her husband  
19 was the paid treasurer of the Nancy Wright campaign.

20           This isn't -- this is public knowledge, and it's  
21 in the public records.

22           Had she not lied, she would not be chairing this  
23 Commission and applying her influence to move Saddlebrooke  
24 out of LD 26 to give her husband's political associate a  
25 better chance in the Tucson election.

1           This is a definite conflict of interest.

2           I had great faith in Proposition 106. I have lost  
3 it entirely.

4           Thank you.

5           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6           (Applause.)

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Grace Schnakenberg,  
8 representing self. And you'll have to tell us where you're  
9 from.

10           (No oral response.)

11           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. We'll call the next  
12 name.

13           Merritt McGlothlin, from Oro Valley.

14           MERRITT MCGLOTHLIN: My name is Merritt  
15 McGlothlin, M-E-R-R-I-T-T, M-C-G-L-O-T-H-L-I-N.

16           Good afternoon. I am a Republican precinct  
17 committeeman, but I am actually representing myself.

18           I am a resident of Sun City Vistoso and Oro  
19 Valley.

20           I make no attempt to hide my political affiliation  
21 because I want to emphasize that, superseding my politics,  
22 I'm an American and an Arizonan. And I want and expect  
23 good, clean, open government.

24           The proposal placing the Saddlebrooke community  
25 into a legislative district that has its main population

1 base located many miles north of Saddlebrooke makes no sense  
2 at all.

3 I support Senator Melvin and others against that  
4 absurd proposal.

5 Why not instead place Saddlebrooke in a  
6 legislative district over by Yuma. It makes just as much  
7 sense.

8 I cannot leave this podium without revisiting a  
9 fact that we have discussed over and over and over again,  
10 but it must be repeated again and again, as it is a very  
11 important narrative regarding what others dismissed as  
12 partisanship.

13 This has been a flawed process, initially, from  
14 the beginning, and continues as the Independent vote which  
15 as most often will cast the tie breaking vote of any vote by  
16 this committee of a political nature is tainted.

17 The chairwoman did not answer a very pertinent  
18 question on her original application, disclosing her  
19 husband's involvement as a paid staff member on a campaign  
20 in LD 26 for a failed candidate in the 2010 election.

21 This indefensible fact remains as a legacy of this  
22 Commission.

23 The charges that have been alleged regarding this  
24 Commission in regards to the attorney general's  
25 investigation raise very serious questions about the

1 function and the veracity of this body.

2 This is no witch hunt.

3 This redistricting must be done openly, fairly,  
4 and with transparency.

5 If this Commission desires to have a modicum of  
6 credence, they must cooperate fully with the AG. No one  
7 should even consider claiming any type of immunity, hiding  
8 behind some self-appointed veil of secrecy --

9 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

10 MERRITT MCGLOTHLIN: -- or invoke some form of  
11 lawyer speak regarding this investigation.

12 The good people of Arizona deserve and expect from  
13 this Commission, regardless of politics, transparency,  
14 frankness, and candor.

15 They do not deserve obfuscation or deceit.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next speaker is Ben Love,  
20 retired lieutenant colonel, from -- I can't tell Pima or  
21 Pinal, if you want to tell us.

22 Then Dustin Cox, Rachel McMenamin, and Vivian  
23 Harte.

24 BEN LOVE: That's B-E-N, as in Benjamin, L-O-V-E.  
25 And I live in Oro Valley.

1           And I would like to thank the Commission for  
2 letting me talk today.

3           I support the voting that you have arranged. I'm  
4 here to thank you for all of your -- the things you have  
5 done for us.

6           I have had a stroke, and I struggle over words at  
7 times, but it's important that you succeed.

8           Those who attack you are missing some of the  
9 facts, I'm sure. That they cannot have all these facts.  
10 Maybe they read them in the paper.

11           We want to have dialogue. We must have it.

12           You were selected to replace our old system that  
13 didn't work, and that was that the legislature gerrymander  
14 our districts.

15           And it had all sorts of problems.

16           If you fail, the people who are attacking you  
17 obviously want to go back to the legislature where they can  
18 get power that you have and screw up our state more than it  
19 is now.

20           As far as contracts go, and we've heard some of  
21 that.

22           When Governor Brewer was the attorney generals,  
23 she awarded without competing the bid some \$11 million worth  
24 of proven to be faulty voting machines which could be rigged  
25 by an insider. And we're using those today. And it doesn't

1 speak well for our state.

2 I advocate the preservation of the county lines as  
3 they are now drawn.

4 The counties have different laws, different voting  
5 procedures.

6 We heard that Pinal County has and is in disarray  
7 and that they need help.

8 I suggest Saddlebrooke people stay in Pinal County  
9 and straighten them out and organize them, as they are  
10 trying to do to Pima County.

11 These officers from Saddlebrooke will promise the  
12 ones that are in power, have promised us things, and they go  
13 to Phoenix, and they follow the Republican line and vote for  
14 the Republican parties down there who are really against our  
15 constitution.

16 And we think that you ought to follow the county  
17 lines.

18 We have plenty of people in Sun City and in  
19 northern Pima County and thank you for your time.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Dustin  
22 Cox, representing self, from Pima.

23 And then Rachel McMenamin, Vivian Harte, and Lisa  
24 Johns.

25 DUSTIN COX: My name is Dustin Cox. That's

1 D-U-S-T-I-N, C-O-X.

2 And I'm here to talk to you today about my family.  
3 That's my community of interest.

4 My family is Arizona.

5 Five generations of my family have called this  
6 state home.

7 We've been small business owners, electricians,  
8 ranchers, aerospace industry employees, retirees.

9 We are children.

10 And, yes, we are Republicans, Democrats, and  
11 Independents.

12 And oddly enough, we split about one third, one  
13 third, and one third as well.

14 So that makes Thanksgiving dinner quite  
15 interesting, as you can imagine.

16 So my family, around that Thanksgiving dinner, we  
17 debate, we disagree, but we compromise, we come together,  
18 and we care for each other, and rise above our differences,  
19 and do what's best for all of us.

20 What I've seen in my entire life here in Arizona,  
21 I have not lived in a competitive district, nor has most of  
22 my family.

23 And therefore our legislature and our elected  
24 politicians are unable to come together.

25 Because everything is decided in a primary, no

1 matter what district you're in. It's decided in a  
2 Democratic one or a Republican one.

3 I think that is a travesty for Arizona. I think  
4 that we don't get the representation that we deserve. And I  
5 think that's evident when one party, no matter what party  
6 that is, is able to garner more than two thirds in both  
7 houses of the legislature when we are roughly split equally  
8 across the state.

9 And so, therefore, I want to emphasize and  
10 encourage this Commission to highly consider competitiveness  
11 on your list of criteria.

12 I think that is the best way to get to serving our  
13 community of interest, which is all of Arizona, here,  
14 because if one of us is silenced, all of us are.

15 And so I thank you for your service, Republicans,  
16 Democrats, and Independents alike.

17 And I'm very impressed that you can all sit there  
18 stoically and be berated in this way for a position you're  
19 volunteering for.

20 So thank you very much again. I appreciate your  
21 service.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Rachel McMenamin, from Marana.

24 (No oral response.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Vivian Harte is our next



1 speaker.

2 VIVIAN HARTE: Hello. My name is Vivian Harte,  
3 V-I-V-I-A-N, H-A-R-T-E. There's an E at the end.

4 So I voted for the proposition in 2000 because I  
5 did not like the idea of the state legislators figuring out  
6 their own legislative districts so they could get elected  
7 over and over and over again.

8 I appreciate very much the work that you're doing,  
9 because it's important that there be another voice.

10 I want to suggest that you create more competitive  
11 districts.

12 And I'll tell you why.

13 When there is -- my understanding is that the last  
14 group ten years ago created about one competitive district  
15 out of 30. And so then what happened was that many more  
16 Republicans got in than were represented in our state.

17 We have a third of the people that's Republicans,  
18 a third as Democrats, and a third as Independents.

19 And what happened then in the state legislature  
20 was the Republicans didn't even want to talk to the  
21 Democrats.

22 They were not included in the budget hearings.  
23 Those were done behind closed doors.

24 They were not included in decisions that were made  
25 in the legislature because it was two thirds Republican.

1 Even though they're registered one third in the state, they  
2 were two thirds or more in the legislature.

3 And so the Democrats who represent the one third  
4 registered also, those were not even included in the  
5 decisions that were made.

6 And I think that that is not healthy for our  
7 society.

8 So I would suggest that you do that.

9 I have heard that about ten or more of the LDs  
10 could be considered -- could be created as competitive, and  
11 I encourage you to do that.

12 I do not believe that LD 26 is competitive.

13 Out of the last ten years, of the 15 possible  
14 terms, only three of those were held by Democrats. Twelve  
15 were held by Republican, so I would not call that a very  
16 competitive district.

17 I thank you very much.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19 Did I miss what county you're from?

20 VIVIAN HARTE: Oh, I live in unincorporated  
21 Pima County.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is Lisa Johns, I think. Is  
24 that -- am I getting that the right? From Tucson.

25 LISA JONES: You ready to be shocked? Jones.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

2 LISA JONES: Lisa Jones, and I am from Tucson.

3 My house is in Precinct 42,  
4 Legislative District 28. I am a Democrat, but two of the  
5 people I've loved most in my life, my mom and dad, were  
6 Republicans. So I grew up in a Republican household.

7 I know you think this redistricting is important.  
8 Otherwise you wouldn't be volunteering your time and your  
9 energy and your care to be here. And I thank you all very  
10 much.

11 My hope is that however you come to the  
12 districting -- and to me honestly it's mind boggling. I'm  
13 just -- I really, really do appreciate the enormity and the  
14 detail of work that you're considering.

15 My hope is that the new redistricting will be fair  
16 and competitive.

17 And when I say competitive, what I mean by that is  
18 that the outcome will be without one party, either party,  
19 having complete domination.

20 I very much believe that the health of our  
21 democracy absolutely depends upon diversity and competitive  
22 representation.

23 With the -- without that we're clones of each  
24 other and the doors are shut, and, and we're not a democracy  
25 anymore.

1           There's an absolute distortion.

2           As you know, southern Arizona and Tucson have very  
3 unique needs.

4           Metropolitan Tucson is now about a million people.

5           Our representatives also represent Sierra Vista,  
6 Nogales, Tohono O'odham Nation, Yuma area.

7           As such, we should have no less than one third of  
8 the congressional delegation.

9           It only makes sense.

10          It only makes sense for greater Tucson and  
11 southern Arizona to be represented by three members of  
12 congress.

13          Two things I hope you will not do.

14          Please do not have three districts gerrymandered  
15 artificially dysfunctionally to touch the border. That's  
16 not a way to solve border issues.

17          Another really bad suggestion that I've heard is  
18 to consolidate -- oh, dear.

19          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: You can wrap it up.

20          LISA JONES: Pardon me?

21          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: You can wrap it up.

22          LISA JONES: I'll try.

23          Don't consolidate all of Tucson. Again, that  
24 would diminish Tucson's access to rightful congressional  
25 representation.

1           It would end up having one party and one voting  
2 rights district. Neither one would be then competitive.  
3 That's wrong.

4           We need to have more competitive districts, not  
5 fewer.

6           Tucson and southern Arizona deserve three voices  
7 in congress. The voting rights district plus two  
8 competitive districts. And for toss-ups, one starting in  
9 Marana or north valley going north. The other one starting  
10 in Catalina Foothills and going south and east.

11           Not only would this districting be functionally  
12 doable, it would also be the right thing to do.

13           And, again, I thank you all. You've got  
14 tremendous patience to hear us all.

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. And if you want  
16 to submit your statement for the record, since you didn't  
17 get to finish it, feel free.

18           LISA JONES: Thank you.

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Ted Prezelski is our next  
20 speaker from Tucson.

21           (No oral response.)

22           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Gary Gomez, representing  
23 self, from Tucson.

24           GARY GOMEZ: Commissioners, thanks for having the  
25 opportunity to hear and meet the people.

1 I would like to speak to several topics today.

2 The first one has been brought up in other  
3 meetings. I've been to several.

4 I'm in favor of a third -- the new congressional  
5 district or a third congressional district that runs on the  
6 border.

7 I don't understand, having worked on a campaign  
8 for CD 7, how Yuma was really fit in with Nogales and  
9 Green Valley.

10 I feel like Yuma and the Colorado River area is  
11 more contiguous, and they have much more in common, having  
12 spent much time in Yuma.

13 So I would be in favor of a third congressional  
14 district that ties the border and maybe centered on Yuma and  
15 going up the Colorado River.

16 They don't have much in common with Nogales other  
17 than the border and Green Valley.

18 They probably have more in common with, if need be  
19 the size, south Phoenix, where it's much more agricultural.

20 My former in-laws were all in farming, and that's  
21 kind of how they lived and tied together.

22 I was also glad to hear today that some people  
23 that spoke in favor of competitive districts were actually  
24 willing to have theirs changed.

25 Having gone to these hearings since very early on,

1 the vast majority of people that speak of competitive  
2 district all want the other guy's district to be  
3 competitive.

4 They want to keep their community of interest.

5 I think community of interest is far more  
6 important than competitive districts.

7 I have never bought a house, moved someplace,  
8 because of what precinct or who my congressman was.

9 And I've had a great variety in different places.

10 In fact, in Texas I had Ron Paul for a while, and  
11 then I got -- I can't think of his name right now, but  
12 opposite Democrat, and I lived in the same place.

13 And for a while my district went from Austin all  
14 the way to Corpus Christi.

15 So the gerrymandering really drives me crazy, just  
16 from a logical point of view.

17 Last, and I'll just make this really brief, please  
18 cooperate with the attorney general and put that cloud  
19 behind you.

20 We need a report and maps that are not tainted.

21 And I thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Val  
25 Little from Tucson.

1 (No oral response.)

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next is Joyce Smith from  
3 Tucson.

4 (No oral response.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Bart Pemberton, from Pima  
6 County, representing self and LD 26.

7 BART PEMBERTON: Yes. My name is Bart Pemberton.  
8 I live in LD 26.

9 First I wanted to say that I think LD 26 and  
10 Congressional District 8 are both self-evidently competitive  
11 and do not need to be changed.

12 Including Saddlebrooke out of LD 26 is very  
13 blatant gerrymandering.

14 As far as to remove a cloud of illegitimacy on  
15 this Commission, I think at the very least the mapping  
16 company needs to be fired and a new one hired.

17 Otherwise I think it's not worthy of the name  
18 Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.

19 Thirdly, I don't know what, under the term used, I  
20 don't know what civil discourse in politics has to do with  
21 redistricting. Since the topic is brought up, I would say  
22 if anybody reads about Alexander Hamilton and the founding  
23 fathers, they'll find that there never has been civil  
24 discourse in American politics and never will be as long as  
25 we have the First Amendment.



1           And lastly about community of interest, I tend to  
2 think of American citizenry as a community of interest. But  
3 since we're going to go into that for redistricting, I think  
4 the most important community of interest are the people that  
5 pay the vast majority of taxes in this country, and I think  
6 that community of interest should be taken into -- take  
7 precedence over every other one and every single district,  
8 period.

9           Thank you.

10           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Marilee Malmberg,  
11 representing self.

12           You'll have to tell us where you're from.

13           MARILEE MALMBERG: My name is Marilee Malmberg,  
14 M-A-R-I-L-E-E, Malmberg, M-A-L-M-B-E-R-G.

15           I'm from Green Valley, and I live in Pima County.

16           So, I live in Green Valley, which is part of LD 30  
17 and CD 8.

18           And, first of all, I'd like to just let you know  
19 that I really support this Commission. I support the chair.  
20 I appreciate the work that each one of you is doing.

21           It's a tremendous commitment on your part, and I  
22 think it's really great.

23           I would also like to know for the record that  
24 there's a recent news report on Richard Stertz, the  
25 commissioner, Richard Stertz failed for disclose some tax

1 liens and judgments against him.

2           And I think that's important to note that in the  
3 record.

4           Statewide there are rough -- sorry, first of all,  
5 I'd like to talk about my concerns as it relates to  
6 competitiveness and community of interest.

7           Living in LD 30, I've seen firsthand what it's  
8 like to live in a district that's not competitive. Based on  
9 voter registration numbers, the LD 30 breakdown is roughly  
10 40.7 percent Republicans, 28 percent Democrats. That's a  
11 12.7 percent advantage for Republicans.

12           That difference really is too high. It seems, you  
13 know, a reasonable difference might be something like in the  
14 mid single digits.

15           It's no wonder Democrats don't even have a full  
16 slate to run in the legislative races. The outcome is  
17 almost always a foregone conclusion.

18           And I really do think that we can do better.

19           Statewide, as you've been hearing today, there are  
20 roughly a third Democrats, a third Independent, and a third  
21 Republicans. Yet our legislature have been Republican led  
22 since 1966. Currently enjoys a super majority in both  
23 houses.

24           Our legislature makes national news on a regular  
25 basis for their one-sided approach to governing.

1           The creation of more competitive districts will  
2 allow citizens to the vote for the candidate of their choice  
3 and it will mean candidates will need to talk to both sides  
4 of the aisle.

5           And that's a good thing for all of us.

6           We deserve an equal chance at representation in  
7 government. We want what's fair.

8           I urge you to work to achieve competitiveness in  
9 as many districts as possible. And, in fact, it seems  
10 reasonable to expect that the majority of districts will be  
11 competitive.

12           Central Tucson has significant common interests  
13 with Green Valley and Sahuarita, as many residents work and  
14 shop in central Tucson along the I-19 corridor. In essence,  
15 we are a community of interest.

16           We go to Tucson frequently. For many of us it's  
17 several times a week or more to utilize various institutions  
18 of higher education, for example, at the University of  
19 Arizona, Pima Community College, for shopping, medical  
20 services, dining, sporting, and cultural events.

21           We are not a community of interest with  
22 Sierra Vista, which is 70 miles to the east of Green Valley  
23 and across the Santa Rita Mountain Range.

24           The Sierra Vista community is a nice day trip for  
25 us, but it is not a frequent trip for anyone that I know who

1 lives in Green Valley or Sahuarita.

2 Please make competitiveness --

3 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Time.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sorry, there's a timer.

5 MARILEE MALMBERG: Please make competitiveness a  
6 priority, as this will provide us with representation in  
7 government or equal chance at representation in government.

8 Additionally, please respect the central Tucson,  
9 Green Valley, Sahuarita community of interest throughout  
10 this process.

11 I thank you for your time.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Onita Davis from Smart Girl  
14 Politics.

15 ONITA DAVIS: Excuse the icicles you see hanging  
16 off of me. It's been a long wait.

17 My name is Onita Davis, O-N-I-T-A, D-A-V-I-S.

18 Let me share some data with you today.

19 U.S. partisan trends: 34.8 percent of Americans  
20 identify themselves as Democrats, 33.1 percent Republican,  
21 and 32.1 percent Independents.

22 I'll return to those facts in just a moment.

23 As an Independent, I'm not here because I see  
24 myself at the mercy of a process that favors Republicans  
25 over Democrats, or even vice versa.

1 I'm not here because I believe I have been  
2 disenfranchised.

3 I'm not here because I want to play the victim  
4 card.

5 I'm here because I feel I am empowered as an  
6 Independent.

7 If I am to believe the polls, those who identified  
8 themselves as being Independents are growing in numbers.

9 On August 1, 2011, Rasmussen cited the  
10 above-mentioned data.

11 The significance is not that the Democrats have  
12 inched past the Republicans, but that each has lost in  
13 percentage points while the other category grew.

14 In January of 2004, 36.9 percent of Americans  
15 identified themselves as Democrats versus 38 -- 34.8.

16 And 34.9 as Republicans versus 33.1.

17 While 28.9 were labeled other, versus now, 32.1.

18 Now, that's empowering.

19 Closer to home, take a look at LD 26 and CD 8, my  
20 districts.

21 In 2006 there was a Democrat senator and a  
22 Democrat representative.

23 In 2008 there was a Republican senator, one  
24 Democratic representative, one Republican representative.

25 But in 2010, LD 26 put in three Republicans, and

1 still had a Democrat for the U.S. House of Representatives.

2           The split in LD 26, CD 8 mirrors the national  
3 partisan trends very closely. Neither party can win without  
4 the Independents' votes.

5           That fact makes for a very competitive district  
6 and shows that Independents are making a difference with  
7 their votes.

8           In 2008, when many Independents voted for Barrack  
9 Obama in the Democrats, but in 2010 they changed their mind  
10 and voted for Republicans, that was because of policy being  
11 made.

12           What more proof do we need that we as Independents  
13 need to validate our strength as a voting block. Some  
14 people would have you believe that my Independent voice is  
15 not being heard and that my vote is being cancelled.

16           I say that my Independent vote is making the  
17 difference.

18           Thank you.

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20           (Applause.)

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our last speaker, I'll read  
22 the ones that didn't come up, but Jessica Pacheco,  
23 representing self, from Tucson.

24           JESSICA PACHECO: Hello. Thank you all for your  
25 graciousness and your patience today. This has been a very

1 long meeting.

2 My name is Jessica Pacheco. I'm a native Tucson,  
3 born and raised here. I am also a single parent of an  
4 11-year-old boy. He turned 11 yesterday.

5 So my concerns are really regarding the lack of  
6 competitiveness that we currently have in our state. And my  
7 concern is also that we -- if you look at our prison  
8 population, there's -- there are overwhelmingly minority  
9 population.

10 And I'd like to ask the Commission to please not  
11 include a prison population which have no voting rights.  
12 It's my opinion that if the prison population is included,  
13 it would artificially inflate the minority population of any  
14 given area.

15 Competitive and fair districts are part of the  
16 founding principles of our democracy. Competitive and fair  
17 districts is what we owe our children and future  
18 generations.

19 And on another note, it really saddens me that  
20 we've overwhelming heard from voters from the same  
21 geographical area, and it is my hope that while we all are  
22 here to really represent all Arizonans.

23 My thanks to the Commission, and I really want to  
24 thank you and applaud you on your commitment to making it  
25 Independent.

1 Thank you very much.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 I'll read the -- the other folks just in case they  
4 stepped out.

5 Joyce Smith.

6 (No oral response.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Val Little.

8 (No oral response.)

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Ted Prezelski.

10 (No oral response.)

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Rachel McMenamin.

12 (No oral response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Grace Schnakenberg.

14 (No oral response.)

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And Harry Laughran.

16 (No oral response.)

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Those folks left

18 unfortunately before we could get to them.

19 Wow. That was pretty amazing.

20 It's 4:49 p.m. I'm really impressed with how many  
21 are still here, especially given the temperature in this  
22 room.

23 I will -- I'm sure my fellow commissioners would  
24 like to say something.

25 I'll start with Commissioner Stertz for some



1 wrap-up thoughts.

2 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

3 First off, that was a record, the 71 people gave  
4 public testimony today, so I want to applaud all my fellow  
5 southern Arizonans, Pima Countians, Tucsonians, for, for  
6 doing that.

7 What resonated today was competitiveness.

8 And I brought forth a question, when I was in  
9 Casa Grande, what actually competitiveness means.

10 And one of the people of the audience actually  
11 came up with the concept that it's a competitive  
12 congressional district where you do not have a known outcome  
13 after the, after the -- before you enter into the election.

14 I look at it a little bit differently.

15 If you want to look at the state of Arizona and  
16 competitive districts, if we do truly have it in the state  
17 of Arizona, we've got approximately 999,000 active Democrat  
18 party registered voters, approximately 1,043 -- or 1,043,000  
19 active third party or Independent or non or others, and  
20 approximately 1.14 million Republican registered voters.

21 People have said approximately a third, a third, a  
22 third.

23 Where the real -- I think that the comment that  
24 was just made was that we don't vote other.

25 We don't vote Independent.

1           Who we have in our elected office are Republicans  
2 and Democrats.

3           So it's truly -- it is truly a solid thing to say  
4 that the Independent block is a powerful block.

5           And it was the Independent block that placed the  
6 legislature as it sits today, in the state house, and the  
7 Independent block that set the tone in Washington.

8           I go back to -- I'm a Wisconsin guy, and I go back  
9 to the Green Bay Packers during the glory days. This is a  
10 city of 60,000 people. And they won two Super Bowls.

11           Does that mean that being a city of 60,000 people  
12 in a farming community made them not competitive? Of course  
13 not.

14           What they did is they fielded the best team.

15           And they fielded the best team and they were the  
16 most competitive because they were able to confront their  
17 opponents head on. They ran a good camp, and they won.

18           So what I look forward to is when we talk about  
19 competition is that we need to field the good candidates.  
20 And it's what the candidates are is what we're -- what we  
21 should be focusing on and not trying to create an unnatural  
22 state of competition where one side or the other is given  
23 preference.

24           Because I don't think that that was the intent of  
25 our constitution.

1           I am a constitutionalist, both in the -- both our  
2 federal and our state, and it is the intent for me to  
3 continue to carry out the directive that I -- the oath that  
4 I took and the directive that I took, which was to follow  
5 the constitution.

6           And, Madam Chair, that ends my remarks.

7           And I want to congratulate everybody that's been  
8 involved and been watching online for the amount of public  
9 input that we've had. It has been significant. So far.

10           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. Agreed.

11           Commissioner McNulty.

12           COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you. I don't know if  
13 I can talk because I'm shivering.

14           But, I'm going to read to you the preamble of  
15 Proposition 106, which describes the purpose for which the  
16 constitutional amendment that created us was enacted.

17           And it says proposing an amendment to the  
18 Constitution of Arizona, amending Article IV, Section 1,  
19 relating to ending the practice of gerrymandering and  
20 improving voter and candidate participation in elections by  
21 creating an Independent Commission of balanced appointments  
22 to oversee the mapping of fair and competitive congressional  
23 and legislative districts.

24           I think that's important. That's why I  
25 volunteered for this job.

1 I think every part of that is important.

2 And I'm committed to the -- to do the best I can  
3 to ensure that we get there.

4 And I want to thank you all for hanging in there,  
5 for a very long day on a Saturday.

6 I think we should take names going out of the  
7 people that hung in for the longest, should get some sort of  
8 award, for hanging in for the whole process.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Agreed. I would also note  
10 that I had watched the interview at the hearing last night  
11 in Phoenix online. And Vice Chair Freeman and  
12 Vice Chair Herrera conducted that meeting. And at the end,  
13 and I would like to do the same thing here, I thought it was  
14 a good idea, to basically give a round of applause to our  
15 staff and our court reporter for doing this yeoman's work of  
16 conducting 15 hearings around the state.

17 And this was -- this is our final one, as I  
18 mentioned, just of the first round. We'll have more  
19 hearings once we get draft maps, and get your input and  
20 feedback then, but this concludes kind of the first round.  
21 So if you wouldn't mind joining us in applause for them.

22 (Applause.)

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you all. You did a  
24 fabulous job.

25 And thank you, the public, for all the input we

1 received today and all the other locations around the state.  
2 I know we've seen some of you, some that you have traveled  
3 multiple times to different hearings to make your case and  
4 give your testimony, and we really appreciate your  
5 dedication to this.

6           So with that, it is now 4:55 p.m. on a Saturday  
7 afternoon, and I declare this meeting adjourned.

8           (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA            )  
  )  
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA        )        ss.

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4                    BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceeding was  
5 taken before me, Marty Herder, a Certified Court Reporter,  
6 CCR No. 50162, State of Arizona; that the foregoing 157  
7 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all  
8 proceedings had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to  
9 the best of my skill and ability.

10                   DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 26th day of  
11 August, 2011.

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C. Martin Herder, CCR  
Certified Court Reporter  
Certificate No. 50162

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