

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Monday, October 24, 2011
6:06 p.m.

Location

University of Arizona
Student Union Memorial Center
North Ballroom
1303 East University Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Attending

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

Buck Forst, Information Technology Specialist
Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director

Joe Kanefield, Legal Counsel

Reported By:
Marty Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter #50162

Tucson, Arizona
October 24, 2011
6:06 p.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Whereupon, the public session commences.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good evening.

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

Today is Monday, October 24th. The time is
6:06 p.m.

It's wonderful to be here in Tucson, and thank you
all for coming tonight.

Let's all begin by rising and stating the Pledge
of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I'll begin with the folks
around the table.

I'm Chairman Mathis.

We also have tonight Commissioner McNulty and
Commissioner Stertz, both Pima County residents. And I am
as well.

The other two commissioners are Vice-Chair Freeman
and Vice-Chair Herrera.

1 And since we're going to about 26 locations across
2 the city -- across the state on this second round of
3 hearings, we're dividing up responsibility, and so not all
4 of the commissioners are going to every single meeting.

5 So too the other two can watch this via Internet.
6 We're streaming live tonight.

7 And otherwise all of our meetings are also
8 available for all of you to watch too. They're recorded and
9 put on the website after they've occurred.

10 So you should be able to find those at
11 azredistricting.org.

12 Other folks at the table tonight, we have legal
13 counsel, Joe Kanefield.

14 Our mapping consultant, Korinne Kubena Belock. I
15 got it just right this time.

16 Then we have a court reporter, Marty Herder,
17 who's going to be taking a transcription of everything
18 tonight.

19 Our chief technology officer is Buck Forst over
20 there trying to make things happen for us.

21 And apparently, if you have difficulty hearing on
22 this side of the room, our speaker wasn't working. And so
23 if any of you need to move and be closer to that speaker so
24 that you can hear better, please feel free to do so, and we
25 apologize for that inconvenience.

1 Other folks here tonight are Kristina Gomez, our
2 deputy executive director.

3 And we have two public outreach coordinators who
4 you should have seen on the way in, Lisa Schmelling and
5 Kristi Olson.

6 And those two women are in the back.

7 And please feel free to go to any of our staff
8 should you have any needs tonight or have any questions or
9 want to give them anything or give us anything, please give
10 that to the staff and they'll make sure that we get it.

11 And I don't know if we have a translator tonight.

12 And, is there a translator in the house?

13 (No oral response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. So maybe if they come
15 later Ms. Gomez can let me know. They're not here right
16 now, so we won't introduce them.

17 The purpose of tonight's hearing is to hear from
18 you. That's why we're all here, is so that we can get input
19 on these draft congressional and draft legislative maps that
20 the Commission approved.

21 And there's going to be a public comment session
22 of the hearing that will be coming up after a presentation.
23 And we'll be calling people up. So if you haven't already
24 filled out a request to speak form and you'd like to address
25 us tonight, please be sure to do that. And that form will

1 come up to me, and I'll be calling names later on in the
2 meeting.

3 There's, of course, other ways to provide input if
4 you don't want to stand at the podium tonight.

5 In the back of the packet that you should have
6 received on the way in is a blue form. And that blue form
7 allows you to give written comments to the Commission that
8 will be entered into the record the same as if you sit at
9 the podium.

10 So if you're not comfortable coming to the podium
11 or if you need to leave early or anything, you can fill out
12 that written form out and submit it here tonight by turning
13 it in or sending it to us in the mail or calling it in. You
14 can all us on the phone.

15 And you'll be hearing about all these different
16 ways to provide input.

17 This isn't your only shot by any means.

18 And, as I mentioned, we'll also going to be
19 continuing this second round of hearings to another 11 or
20 12 locations, so there's more opportunity to keep coming to
21 hearings as well.

22 So with that, I want to make sure I covered
23 everything.

24 And I think I have, so I will now turn this
25 meeting over to Korinne, who will give us a presentation and

1 overview of the process.

2 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: Thank you.

3 Good evening. My name is Korinne Kubena Belock
4 with Strategic Telemetry. I'm happy to be here this evening
5 in Tucson to cover the draft congressional and legislative
6 maps presented by the Arizona Independent Redistricting
7 Commission.

8 Thank you, of course, for attending. And the goal
9 of these meetings tonight is to hear comments from you about
10 these draft maps.

11 The draft maps you will see today are currently
12 under a 30-day review period so the Commission can hear your
13 opinion about these maps.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Korinne, I'm sorry.

15 Our translator just arrived, so I'm going to allow
16 him to come up to the podium.

17 Federal law requires us to provide translation and
18 interpretive services at these hearings, and tonight we have
19 a Spanish translator, Carlos Reyes. And he will come up and
20 say his message in English and then follow it up in Spanish
21 to find out if there's anybody here who needs those
22 services.

23 CARLOS REYES: Good afternoon, I do apologize
24 for -- give me a second.

25 Chair Mathis, commissioners, ladies and gentlemen,

1 in accordance with the Voting Rights Act, a translator
2 interpreter -- and interpreter will be available at all the
3 public hearings.

4 In order to provide the interpreting services that
5 might be needed for the citizens that need translating
6 and/or interpreting services.

7 Please contact the interpreter or translator
8 present at this meeting so that he or she can assist you.

9 Now I'll read it in Spanish.

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

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Sorry for the interruption, Korinne.

14 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: No, you're fine.

15 So, again, as I mentioned, the draft maps you see
16 today are currently under a 30-day review period. I want to
17 say that again.

18 And before I get into the maps, I want to give you
19 a quick overview of the redistricting process.

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: If you can hold it -- hold
21 the mic close.

22 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: Let me try it. Is that
23 better?

24 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Maybe if you moved
25 it to the center.

1 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: It's better now? Okay.
2 No problem.

3 So just going into a quick overview, so Arizona's
4 redistricting process is governed by the state constitution
5 as amended by voters in 2000 with the passage of
6 Proposition 106.

7 It stipulates that Arizona's Independent
8 Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's congressional and
9 legislative districts to reflect the most recent census.

10 Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a
11 congressional seat, going from eight to nine seats.

12 So what are the requirements of the state via
13 Proposition 106?

14 The new district boundaries must comply with the
15 U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights Act and the
16 districts must have equal population.

17 So criteria A and B are federally mandated.

18 And then to the extent practicable the districts
19 must be compact and contiguous, respect communities of
20 interest, use visible geographics features, city, town, and
21 county boundaries, and undivided census tracts, and favor
22 competitive districts where no significant detriment to
23 other goals.

24 Just briefly about the Voting Rights Act.

25 Arizona's congressional and legislative districts

1 must receive preclearance or approval from the Department of
2 Justice or a federal court under Section 5 of the
3 Voting Rights Act before they can take effect.

4 To get preclearance, Arizona must demonstrate that
5 new districts do not discriminate against minority voters in
6 purpose or effect, which means there can be no intentional
7 or accidental discrimination.

8 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting plans
9 cannot be retrogressive. The plans cannot weaken or reduce
10 minority voters' rights.

11 And the presence of discrimination can be
12 determined by analyzing population data and election
13 results.

14 So very, very briefly, I'm going to go with a
15 video from Bruce Adelson with the Federal Compliance
16 Consulting group. He is advising the Commission on matters
17 related to the Voting Rights Act.

18 (Whereupon, a video presentation of Bruce Adelson
19 was shown.)

20 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: Great.

21 So just moving on with the presentation. So, very
22 briefly, before we get into the maps again, a little more on
23 the timeline of the Commission.

24 So, earlier this year as step one, the Commission
25 was established. The commissioners were appointed following

1 a thorough screening process and serve in a voluntary role
2 for the state of Arizona.

3 Tonight, of course, we have Chairman Colleen
4 Mathis, Commissioner Richard Stertz, and Commissioner Linda
5 McNulty.

6 Not present are Vice-Chair Scott Freeman and
7 Vice-Chair Jose Herrera.

8 The second step of the Commission were first round
9 of hearings. So before drawing a single line, the
10 Commission held 23 hearings around the state, in July and
11 August, to get input from members of the public on issues
12 related to redistricting. Their comments were anything such
13 as geographic, communities of interest, minority voting
14 rights, and competitiveness.

15 After the first round of hearings, the mapping
16 process actually began.

17 Per Proposition 106, which we'll talk about in a
18 moment this, they started with a clean slate. They then
19 divided the state into equal population in compact,
20 grid-like districts.

21 The grid maps were approved on August 18th.

22 Since adopting the grid maps, the Commission's met
23 more than 25 times to consider adjustments to accommodate
24 all of the state's constitutional criteria.

25 During this time they received additional comments

1 from the public, as well as draft maps from the public as
2 well.

3 Approval of the draft maps was the next step. On
4 October 3rd the Commission approved the draft congressional
5 map that incorporated changes based on all at constitutional
6 criteria.

7 They also approved the draft legislative map on
8 October 10th.

9 Which brings us now to the second round of
10 hearing. The Commission is currently visiting 25 towns and
11 cities to share the draft map and to receive additional
12 public input during the months of October and November.

13 Step five will be approval of the final maps. On
14 completion of the public comment period, the AIRC will adopt
15 final maps.

16 And then as Bruce touched upon, step six is
17 preclearance.

18 Voting -- because Arizona is subject to Section 5
19 of the Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be approved
20 by the federal Department of Justice or a federal court in
21 Washington, D.C., before they can be used for Arizona
22 elections.

23 So now moving into maps.

24 To show how the Commission came to the current
25 draft map, we will show you the progression of the maps

1 through the process.

2 So the map you see here was the congressional map
3 that was approved by the last Redistricting Commission and
4 was most recently used in the 2010 elections.

5 And this is the blank slate that I was talking
6 about. So per Proposition 106, the Commission was required
7 to start with a blank slate, not taking into account any
8 previous election districts or incumbents.

9 Then in the congressional grid map, also per
10 Proposition 106, the Commission started with a grid map.
11 However, the grid map only takes into consideration two of
12 the constitutional criteria: Equal population and
13 compactness.

14 So in August the Commission asked that two grid
15 maps be drawn, and on August 18th they agreed on option two,
16 which you see here on the screen.

17 Which gets us to the congressional draft map.

18 So after more than 25 meetings, the Commission
19 voted to approve the draft map that you see here.

20 In addition to taking into consideration the
21 six constitutional criteria, the Commission took into
22 consideration public comment that was provided via public
23 meetings, round one of public hearings, comments mailed,
24 e-mailed, hand-delivered, faxed, and telephoned. Any way
25 people could possibly get in touch with the Commission,

1 those comments were accepted. And over 5,000 comments
2 helped develop this draft map.

3 So as we see, we'll briefly cover some of the
4 highlights of the congressional map -- draft map.

5 First creates two predominantly rural districts.
6 It creates three border districts. Three districts in the
7 greater Tucson region. Five districts that are entirely in
8 Maricopa County. It avoids splitting -- it avoids splitting
9 Arizona's Indian reservations. And it creates two districts
10 where minority voters have an opportunity to elect a
11 candidate of their choice.

12 So moving into the legislative map.

13 Much like the congressional draft map, developing
14 the legislative map followed a very similar process.

15 Here you see legislative map that was used by the
16 last Commission -- developed by the last Commission, which
17 was last used in the 2010 elections.

18 Again, per Proposition 106, the Commission started
19 with a blank slate.

20 They then moved to the grid map, which was
21 approved in August. And similar to the congressional map,
22 the legislative grid map only took into consideration equal
23 population and compactness.

24 Which leads us to the legislative draft map.

25 Arizona has 30 legislative districts, and each

1 district elects one senator and two house members.

2 Some of the points to cover about the legislative
3 draft map. The Commission took into consideration
4 population growth and reduction. In the old districts,
5 population ranged from about 155,000 to 378,000.

6 In the draft map that you see here, population
7 ranges from 207,000 to 215,000.

8 And to comply with the Voting Rights Act, the
9 draft map includes ten districts in which minority voters
10 have the opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice.
11 And the draft map includes three districts wholly within
12 Pima County, and three additional southern Arizona
13 districts, 17 districts primarily within Maricopa County and
14 nine districts that are primarily rural.

15 So, the main reason we're here tonight is because
16 the AIRC wants to hear your input on these maps. There are
17 many ways that you can stay connected. You can fill out a
18 request to speak form at a public hearing and provide the
19 Commission with your input.

20 Examples of input might include your thoughts on
21 any of the constitutional criteria or any specific
22 recommendation for the congressional or legislative draft
23 maps.

24 You can submit your hearing -- your input by
25 speaking at a hearing, filling out a public input form at a

1 hearing, or on the AIRC website.

2 And you can visit the AIRC online at
3 azredistricting.org or call (602)542-5221, or toll free
4 at (855)733-7478, with any input you might have about the
5 maps.

6 Another important goal of the AIRC is to make sure
7 that you can stay connected through this process. This, you
8 see here, is a screen shot of the Commission's website.

9 The arrows highlight a couple key areas of
10 interest. Under meetings, you can find future and past
11 meetings. If you'd like to watch any of the deliberation
12 that went into the formation of the draft maps, you can view
13 past hearings by date to watch those -- that input.

14 If you'd like to make comments, you can fill out
15 the public input form online that you see highlighted here.

16 And, finally, most importantly, you can access the
17 draft maps.

18 The arrow down at the bottom is one place where
19 you can get to the maps.

20 So, if you click on the link there, I'll show you
21 an example of the screen that will show up.

22 This is basically where you can find all of the
23 versions of the draft maps.

24 The thing that you see here is that these are
25 different file types. So some might be PDFs or JPEGs.

1 The one that we're going to highlight tonight is
2 the KMZ file, because it's a great way for you to be able to
3 view these draft maps and to zoom in and zoom out, which
4 we'll talk about.

5 If you click on the Google Maps/KMZ link, which is
6 circled in red here, this is a screen that you're brought
7 to.

8 So, Google maps is a great way for you to view the
9 maps, because you can zoom in and out to specific areas of
10 the interest.

11 On the left-hand column, you have the ability to
12 turn on and off county filters, filters for population,
13 filters for the different colors, basically play around with
14 this and check on and off boxes that are of interest to you,
15 it's just a better way for you to clearly view the area that
16 you're looking to highlight. So that's an explanation of
17 what you see on this side corner here.

18 Of course right here you see a zoomed out version
19 of the congressional map.

20 So if you zoom into the map, this is the view that
21 you'll get.

22 For the purposes of this example, this slide shows
23 you a zoomed in look on some of the areas surrounding
24 Maricopa County.

25 Again, you have an ability using the KMZ/Google

1 maps to zoom in and out down to specific blocks or streets
2 to see exactly where those boundaries run.

3 So, as I wrap this up, I just want to highlight
4 the Commission's website one more time for you,
5 azredistricting.org.

6 On that website you can draw maps of your own, you
7 can watch current and past meetings, and you can get updates
8 about future meetings as well.

9 And if you're into social media, I encourage you
10 to follow us on Twitter at AIRC, hash tag AIRC, and you can
11 friend us on Facebook. Both Facebook and Twitter will give
12 you an opportunity to get up-to-the-minute updates from the
13 Commission.

14 So, as I wrap this up, I want to thank you again
15 for coming out tonight to be a part of this process.

16 A final point about these maps, of course
17 copies are available in the packet that you received this
18 evening. We also have poster sized versions on the wall
19 over here that you can -- just makes viewing maps even
20 easier for you.

21 Also I'm available after the public comment period
22 with any questions you might have about the mapping process,
23 or how to access maps or how to decipher them a bit better.
24 And of course the staff is available to do the same.

25 So I look forward to speaking with you, and I

1 thank you for having us today.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Korinne.

3 So that brings us to the public comment section of
4 the meeting. And I've got about 75 request to speak forms,
5 if you can believe it. I think this might be a record for
6 us.

7 So thank you all for being here.

8 It does mean we should limit comments so that
9 everybody gets a chance to speak their mind tonight. And so
10 what we'd ask if you could try to limit your comments to
11 two minutes. I won't pull you off if you go over
12 two minutes, but if you hear the timer go off, the buzzer so
13 to speak, please be mindful and just try to wrap it up if
14 you can as soon as possible just to give everybody a chance
15 tonight.

16 Just to restate the purpose of this. It's really
17 to provide input on these draft maps, the legislative and
18 congressional. And to the extent you can be specific in
19 your remarks, please do so.

20 We really would appreciate any specificity given
21 to changes that you think need to be made. Even if you
22 thought about kind of the ripple effect around it, what we
23 might do to mitigate any ripples that would occur from the
24 changes you're suggesting. Because, as you know, any change
25 requires changes elsewhere. So we're open to all those

1 ideas, and we very much appreciate hearing your thoughts on
2 that.

3 If you like the maps, we'd also like to hear that
4 too.

5 It's always good to hear. But if it's, if it's
6 constructive criticism, all the better.

7 So with that, just a few ground rules to remember.

8 When you come up to the microphone, please adjust
9 the microphone so that you're speaking directly into it so
10 we can all hear you really well and that our court reporter
11 gets an accurate transcript.

12 If you could state your name and spell your last
13 name so that also we get an accurate transcript. And if you
14 could also state where you're from. Please don't give us
15 your address, just give us your city, town, or county, where
16 you reside. That's plenty.

17 And if you're representing a group, please let us
18 know who the group is.

19 So, with that, I think I will move into the first
20 speaker.

21 And tonight that is State Senator Olivia Cajero
22 Bedford.

23 SENATOR OLIVIA CAJERO BEDFORD: Good evening. My
24 name is Olivia Cajero Bedford.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Yeah, if you could speak

1 directly into it.

2 SENATOR OLIVIA CAJERO BEDFORD: Good evening. My
3 name Olivia Cajero Bedford, and that's O-L-I-V-I-A,
4 C-A-J-E-R-O, Bedford, B-E-D-F-O-R-D.

5 From Tucson.

6 I'm the current state senator from District 27.
7 You'll excuse my voice. I'm just getting over
8 pneumonia.

9 District 27 encompasses the central, west side,
10 and southwest area of Tucson, University of Arizona, and
11 Pima Community College.

12 I thank you for allowing me to speak.

13 I am strongly and enthusiastically in support of
14 the boundaries of Legislative District 3. Strongly and
15 enthusiastically.

16 I firmly believe you have made a district that
17 meets the number one goal of the voting rights requirements
18 for this majority-minority district.

19 Legislative District 3 is not packed, a district
20 with too many minorities. An important criterion.

21 A five star feature is the compactness.

22 All of these points I have mentioned I believe
23 will speak well for the Department of Justice.

24 The only small negative that can and should be
25 fixed is to not break up Precinct 25.

1 I wish I knew the logic for taking away a four
2 block by four block neighborhood out of District 3. Those
3 16 small blocks should be a part of District 3, even
4 possibly extending the boundary of 40th Street to the east,
5 almost to South Sixth.

6 All of that neighborhood area ties in with
7 neighborhoods to the south.

8 These are all similar neighborhoods, communities
9 that share commonalities.

10 I know.

11 I grew up in that south side area.

12 I thank you. The Commission has done a wonderful
13 job with Legislative District 3. Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Georgette Escobar, from
16 Tucson.

17 After Georgette will be Matthew Laos, Mohur
18 Sidhwa, and William Sobeck.

19 GEORGETTE ESCOBAR: Thank you very much.

20 Good evening. I'm Georgette Escobar. I live here
21 in Tucson. It's E-S-C-O-B-A-R.

22 I'm a Latino voter. I currently live in LD 29.

23 And so soon I'll be a voter in LD 2, which, again, I also --
24 I do like LD 2, but just a couple things I'd like to change
25 with it.

1 Two changes actually.

2 The first one is we have Latino voters are packed
3 into the draft LD 2, and I think at over 61 percent.

4 And the Commission should go for that target of
5 54 percent in LD 2. This would be a fair change which would
6 keep LD strong while helping Latino voting power and
7 election competition in other Arizona districts.

8 The best way to try fixing minority packing in
9 draft two may be to delete the dog leg across southern
10 Cochise County, and maybe add voters to LD 2 from downtown
11 and east side of Tucson, which would also help Cochise
12 County election competition and communities.

13 Also, LD 2 should still include part of downtown
14 Tucson. LD 29 includes parts of downtown Tucson now, and
15 that would be easy to do by moving the draft LD 2 northwest
16 boundary slightly north to Congress Street, using the Union
17 Pacific Nogales line railroad track as the east border in
18 the downtown part. This would help keep our closely related
19 historic south downtown neighborhood people connected.

20 And the current LD 29 boundary starts at Congress
21 Street, and the district includes south downtown, and so
22 should the new district.

23 To fairly represent the interest of the community.

24 And, again, I'd like to thank you for your service
25 to the people here in Arizona very much, listening to my

1 comments and hopefully make some reasonable changes to LD 2.

2 Again, thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Matthew Laos, representing
5 self, from Tucson.

6 MATTHEW LAOS: Hello to the Commission.

7 Again, my name is Matthew Laos. That's L-A-O-S.
8 I am from Tucson, Arizona.

9 I'd just like to say first that I'm a former Army
10 officer, I am an Iraq war veteran, and I am a very concerned
11 citizen for the entire state of Arizona.

12 I want to congratulate the Commission on their
13 hard work, and I want to extend my concern that the
14 Commission's work will affect not only the current economic
15 state of Arizona but the future.

16 And with regards to the entire process, I would it
17 like to consider focusing on the criteria of
18 competitiveness.

19 For me, as a veteran, a former soldier, I can tell
20 you that competitiveness equates to equality, democracy that
21 we're seeing all around the world at this time, and
22 ultimately a better electoral process.

23 I know you have many decisions to make in tweaking
24 these maps. I can't begin to extend to you my thanks on the
25 hard work you're doing to do this with yourself and staff.

1 And, again, I would just end by saying the entire
2 state owes you a debt of gratitude for the seriousness of
3 the issue that you are embarking upon.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you very much.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Mohur
8 Sidhwa, representing self, from Pima County.

9 THE WITNESS: Madam Chairwoman, commissioners, and
10 the two who are not here, hi.

11 It takes courage to run for office in a
12 competitive district.

13 That is how it should be. That is our system of
14 government.

15 Bully tactics are a refuge of incompetence.

16 I suspect the draft maps will hold up to legal
17 scrutiny, as will this committee.

18 I have followed you closely for the past
19 five months. While I may have disagreed vehemently with you
20 at times, I know you are doing exactly what you have been
21 charged to do.

22 If legislative incumbents in the legislature
23 somehow manage to draw the maps to their own liking, it
24 would undermine the principles of democracy and a free
25 people.

1 This brings me to the newly formed joint
2 legislative committee, which seems to have shown contempt
3 for constitutional provisions, both of this Independent
4 Commission and the right of the free press under the First
5 Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

6 This contempt was displayed Friday in a bizarre
7 meeting -- committee meeting to discredit and undermine you.

8 A member of the media was tossed out, not for
9 speaking a single word, rather than what that legislator
10 thought he saw him mouth.

11 That's pretty thin-skinned. What next? Thought
12 police?

13 This Commission has endured a campaign of threats
14 and intimidation, lawsuits, politically motivated
15 investigations, lawyer lobbyists, and of course the usual
16 colorful characters who make these meetings such fun.

17 What part of independent do they not understand?

18 If legislatures -- legislators' positions or
19 issues are so anemic that they would not hold up to a
20 vigorously contested general election, then they should not
21 have the honor of representing us and should not run for
22 reelection.

23 I have been very sorry to see this difficult
24 third world mob mentality of the intimidation and bullying
25 that you have to endure these past months. Past five months

1 actually.

2 One party ruled about competitive elections is not
3 the American way.

4 That the -- generates the best candidates. Rather
5 it generates automatons that mindlessly shovel out the same
6 talking points.

7 Do not sell our uniquely American system of
8 competitive democracy to bully tactics and intimidation by
9 the legislators who are too lazy or too narrow to get out
10 there and campaign for our votes.

11 Our unique system of competitive democracy is now
12 in your hands. You should treat it with respect.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is William Sobuck, representing
16 Citizens for Common Sense Redistricting, from Pima.

17 After William will be Harvey Akeson, Fletcher
18 Strickler, and Dee O'Neill.

19 WILLIAM SOBUCK: Commissioner. William Sobuck,
20 S-O-B-U-C-K.

21 I'm a little confused on the compliance with the
22 Arizona Constitution.

23 It says we're supposed to be -- priorities are
24 communities of interest and geographic boundaries, towns,
25 county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

1 On one of the maps, Congressional District 1, I
2 counted over ten counties involved in that. That doesn't
3 comply with the Arizona Constitution.

4 Excuse me.

5 There's some other areas, in particular of
6 District 3 and District 8, Buckeye, and not Litchfield Park.
7 One is in District 3. One is District 8.

8 Communities of interest, I was stationed up there
9 years ago, and they are connected to Yuma.

10 I don't understand the rationale there. Why, why,
11 why with Yuma.

12 There should be a separation.

13 Camelback not with Glendale municipal airport.
14 They're right next together.

15 But they're connected more so -- not so with
16 San Luis down at the border.

17 So I'm a little confused on this compliance with
18 the Arizona Constitution.

19 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

21 Our next speaker is Harvey Akeson, representing
22 self, from Pima.

23 HARVEY AKESON: Harvey Akeson, A-K-E-S-O-N.

24 Madam Chair and members of the Commission and
25 staff, thank you very much for all the hard work you're

1 doing.

2 I just recently saw the legislature was attempting
3 to have some additional input into the committee.

4 I sort of at first resented it because when we
5 went out with the petitions to amend the constitution, it
6 was hard work. But then I remembered how I got a lot of
7 signatures, and that was because of what was going on at the
8 legislature at that time.

9 I won't go into the history any more, but I do
10 believe that like any sports game or football or basketball
11 or baseball, competition is what brings people to the game.
12 If we want the citizens of Arizona to participate in the
13 election, we want competition.

14 And so I leave that with you.

15 I know that there are so many other criterias you
16 have to look at, but competition would be good to get people
17 to the polls and participate.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 Our next speaker is Fletcher Strickler,
21 representing self, from Pima.

22 After Fletcher is Dee O'Neill, followed by
23 Victoria Steele and Matthew Kopec.

24 FLETCHER STRICKLER: Good evening, Madam Chair,
25 fellow commissioners, and ladies and gentlemen.

1 My name is Fletcher Strickler, S-T-R-I-C-K-L-E-R.
2 I live in unincorporated Pima County.

3 I think competition has been the watch word so
4 far, and continues to be so with me.

5 I believe that under the extreme pressures that
6 your Commission has been placed, you have done an admirable
7 job bringing competitiveness to the map that we are now
8 considering.

9 Personally I would have selected two border
10 districts as we had over the past decade. I know you were
11 under pressure to bring in four districts on the border, and
12 you finally selected three. And I think you've done a nice
13 job.

14 While the mapping of Arizona obviously contains a
15 lot of empty land and very few people, you've had to pull
16 together 700,000 people in each district. And with such
17 concentrated populations in the Maricopa County and in Pima
18 County, the map begins to look rather squirrely, and you
19 kind of look at these borders, and you wonder how in the
20 world did you get there.

21 But I think in District 1, the proposed
22 District 1, you have kept many of the native Indian
23 populations in a competitive district being represented
24 fairly by one representative.

25 I believe that in the legislative district you

1 have not given as much competitiveness as I would have liked
2 to have seen.

3 Somebody described it to me that if the Democratic
4 side of the political scene won every single competitive
5 district and held all the districts that they currently
6 have, they would still not be in any position to be close to
7 having a closer vote with the Republicans.

8 Thank you.

9 And I will say to you how much we appreciate your
10 volunteerism and the time that it's drawing you from your
11 families and everyday life.

12 Thank you very much.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. Our next speaker
14 is Dee O'Neill, representing self, from Tucson.

15 DEE O'NEILL: Good afternoon, good evening,
16 whatever we're doing.

17 My name is Dee O'Neill, O, apostrophe, N-E-I-L-L.

18 I have lived in central Tucson for 51 years.

19 First I want to thank the Commission for all of
20 your dedication to the process of making our elections as
21 competitive and fair as humanly possible. You have an
22 amazingly hard job.

23 In -- I believe in this process of redistricting
24 by an independent Commission above any other process, so
25 thank you for all your hard work.

1 Even though the map isn't perfect, and obviously
2 when people are complaining about it from all sides, that
3 gives you a pretty good idea you've done a good job.

4 It isn't as competitive as I would like to see it.
5 I would like to register my support for the congressional
6 map as it is currently drafted because it accomplishes what
7 I believe is most important, more rather than fewer
8 competitive districts, which is good for our state and for
9 our country.

10 Any changes you make should increase not decrease
11 competitiveness.

12 Voters need to believe that their vote can make a
13 difference, and that is only true when there is true
14 competition between the candidates and their views.

15 From my point of view living in central Tucson, I
16 believe this draft map accomplishes several important goals.

17 One, it ensures the Voting Rights Act is adhered
18 to.

19 And, also provides a third district for -- a third
20 representative district for congress in the central city and
21 Tucson area and southern Arizona.

22 Tucson also has more in common with the
23 unincorporated portions of Pima County than it does with
24 cities that have incorporated in the northwest side of town,
25 so I would urge you not to change the way in which you have

1 included northwest Tucson, who has much more interest in --
2 much more in common with Pinal County by including them with
3 Pinal County, including some economic development that's
4 been going on between the city of Marana and Pinal County.

5 Also your map helps keep the community of interest
6 along I-10 together, and I think that's a good thing.

7 Tucson should have one third of the congressional
8 districts. For the Republicans to complain because they
9 only have four for sure Republican districts, when by
10 registration they only have one third of the voters, is
11 unhealthy for a democracy and the state.

12 It isn't really wise for races to be decided in
13 the primary.

14 So for all these reasons I support this draft map
15 knowing that you will have to tweak it more, but hopefully
16 only to provide more competition.

17 As for the legislative district map, I believe it
18 does need a lot of change.

19 As it is now, if anyone other than a Republican
20 won all of the Democratic leaning districts and all the
21 competitive districts, there would still be no chance of
22 ever having a majority of representatives in the state
23 legislature be other than Republican.

24 Guaranteeing the Republicans will control the
25 legislature is bad for all of us in Arizona and for our

1 state as a whole.

2 Many countries with only one party in power are
3 usually called authoritarian dictatorships. I urge you to
4 reconsider enough to make more -- many more legislative
5 districts competitive just as you have in the congressional
6 districts.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Victoria Steele, representing
10 self, from Tucson.

11 Followed by Matthew Kopec, and then Sam Almy,
12 Molly Moore, and Sean Durns.

13 VICTORIA STEELE: Hi. My name is Victoria Steele,
14 S-T-E-E-L-E.

15 I want to thank you for your time as well.

16 I just am here to simply state my strong
17 preference for competitive districts.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 Our next speaker is Matthew Kopec, representing
21 self, from Tucson.

22 MATTHEW KOPEC: Thank you. My name is Matt Kopec,
23 K-O-P-E-C. I've lived in Tucson and Arizona my entire life.

24 I believe the people have the right to change the
25 course of government when they feel it is on the wrong

1 track.

2 I believe the draft congressional map achieves
3 this goal. I believe you've done a good job, and it should
4 move forward as is.

5 I would like to say the same thing about the
6 legislative draft map.

7 As it stands, both parties do not stand a chance
8 of winning a majority in one or two of the houses of the
9 legislature.

10 As it stands, there are about three competitive
11 districts, and I would encourage you to move it up to at
12 least ten.

13 The competitive districts in southern Arizona are
14 to be applauded. I've moved from a one party dominated
15 district to a competitive one, and I think this will be a
16 big help toward delegation there.

17 I ask you that you expand what you've done in
18 southern Arizona to the state as a whole.

19 Thank you for your time, and I appreciate what
20 you're doing.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is Sam Almy, representing self,
23 from Tucson.

24 SAM ALMY: My name is Sam Almy, A-L-M-Y.

25 And I was asked to come here and mention that I

1 have made a map and I was wondering -- sorry about that
2 folks.

3 I was asked to come here and mention that I have
4 made a map and I was one of the winners of the statewide
5 competition for that. And I was able to come up with
6 ten competitive districts in my legislative map.

7 As Matthew just said, this current legislative map
8 has three competitive districts, and that is not where we
9 need to be.

10 We need to have more.

11 The congressional map does do this. In Pima
12 County, the legislative, there are competitive districts,
13 but the rest of the state is very much lacking.

14 I think that if the Democrats were to sweep all
15 their races and the competitive districts, they would not
16 have a majority.

17 That does not form an effective government.

18 We need to have parties moving back and forth so
19 that they are working in the interest of the people rather
20 than the interest of their party.

21 My quick suggestion for you guys, unfortunately
22 most of them are in Maricopa County, which I'm a little
23 unfamiliar with, but I would suggest that you take the sort
24 of airplane rudder from LD 24 and add it to the LD 23, that
25 is sort of the northwest portion of that.

1 LD 21, you can add more Republicans from that
2 district to LD 29.

3 And also LD 30 could go more north into LD 20 and
4 that would, that would there create six competitive
5 districts.

6 Unfortunately I don't know where you move people
7 around from there. I haven't spent the hours on your map.

8 I spent about 15 to 20 hours working on my map.
9 And, again, I was able to get ten competitive districts.

10 I'm sure with your technology and the brains
11 behind what's going on here you will easily get this number
12 as well.

13 So I wish you luck. And, please, more competitive
14 districts.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Molly
18 Moore, representing self, from Tucson.

19 Then Sean Durns will be next, followed by Alex
20 Mich, Jr., and Barbara M. Cain.

21 MOLLY MOORE: My name is Molly Moore. And I'm a
22 long-time resident of Tucson.

23 Moore, M-O-O-R-E.

24 First I'd like to compliment and congratulate the
25 Commission for all its hard work, and particularly for the

1 Chair Mathis for standing up and staying focused in spite of
2 all the political pressure coming on you.

3 In 2002 the citizens voted to have this Commission
4 because we're tired of having our legislature determined by
5 incumbency what your districts are. And as it now stands it
6 does not really reflect the true sentiments and feelings of
7 the citizens of Arizona. So I would like to encourage you
8 to be focused on the principle of competitiveness.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

11 Our next speaker is Sean Durns, representing self,
12 from Tucson.

13 SEAN DURNS: Good evening. My name is Sean Durns,
14 and I am a Tucson native. That's D, as in David, U-R-N-S.

15 I'd like to thank the Arizona Independent
16 Redistricting Commission for holding public meetings and
17 performing what must be at times a trying, but nonetheless
18 important public service.

19 As a native of this state, Pima County resident,
20 and a recent college graduate, I feel it's absolutely
21 important and imperative to have involvement of the
22 community in politics and public service. I think this can
23 only be done through competitiveness.

24 As such, I am completely satisfied within reason
25 with the congressional districts. I think the Commission

1 has done an excellent job in instilling competitiveness as
2 far as the congressional map goes.

3 However, I would like to see more competitiveness
4 with the legislative map.

5 I think that three districts just really isn't
6 cutting it.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is Alex Mich, Jr., representing
10 self, from Pima.

11 After Alex will be Barbara M. Cain, Cecilia Cruz,
12 Claudette Olson.

13 ALEX MICH, JR.: My name is Alex Mich, Jr. My
14 last name is M-I-C-H.

15 I want to thank you for your very difficult work.
16 I just want to add my voice to the idea that competitiveness
17 is an important factor, and salute you for what you have
18 done to this point and to continue and make it as
19 competitive as you can.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Barbara M. Cain, representing self, from Pima
23 County.

24 BARBARA M. CAIN: Cain, C-A-I-N.

25 I'm going to join everybody out there. Thank you,

1 thank you, thank you for your work.

2 I'm sure you'll never volunteer again after this
3 experience.

4 But I'm not unhappy with congressional districts,
5 although I personally wouldn't want to have District 1. It
6 would be a lot of traveling there in that situation.

7 (Applause.)

8 BARBARA M. CAIN: However I have a bone to pick
9 about the legislative districts.

10 We're not happy with what's been happening in the
11 state of Arizona. We need competition in the legislature
12 here. And that's not going to happen. I've gone over these
13 statistics that you have given us, and there are only four
14 or five districts where there's even a chance of having a
15 competitive election.

16 That's not going to make our state any better.

17 You have it in your hands to make a difference, so
18 that we won't be the lowest state in the nation when it
19 comes to education, when it comes to other valuable things.

20 We have a beautiful state, but it's not respected.

21 I just got back from Michigan, and quite frankly
22 we're pretty much considered a laughingstock by some of the
23 other states.

24 That's a heavy duty for you.

25 But go back and look at those figures and readjust

1 your lines and give us at least 10 to 15 legislative
2 districts that are competitive.

3 We must have it to have a future for Arizona.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is Cecilia Cruz, representing
8 self, from Tucson.

9 CECILIA CRUZ: Hello. My name is Cecilia Cruz. I
10 was born and have been raised in Arizona my entire life.

11 I want to thank you for your hard work to all the
12 commissioners who have volunteered their time to this
13 service for our state.

14 I've been a registered voter since the day I
15 registered at age 21.

16 I've never ever missed an election. I think it's
17 a responsibility that's what makes our state great.

18 I've heard the comments from people who want
19 competitive districts.

20 I think that especially north of Pima County where
21 we are here in Tucson, and in the southern part, you have
22 done that.

23 But, again, further up the state we need that to
24 occur.

25 My main concern with addressing you here today is

1 that I'm very -- wish that you continue to work in
2 compliance with the Voter Rights Act, especially with
3 respect to communities of interest and not to ignore that
4 minority voting power.

5 And I want to thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is Claudette Olson, representing
8 self.

9 And you'll have to tell us where you reside.

10 After Claudette will be Shirley Muney, William
11 Ferrell, and Roger Salzgeber.

12 CLAUDETTE OLSON: Hello. My name is Claudette
13 Olson, O-L-S-O-N. And I reside at the eastern edge of
14 Tucson.

15 I want to thank the Commission so much for your
16 work.

17 I'm a recent resident of Arizona, and I am
18 surprised and very pleased to see that we have an
19 independent Commission. And it's not -- our districts are
20 not determined by the legislatures, which, which can do
21 redistricting to their own advantage.

22 I am very happy with the congressional district
23 map.

24 I applaud you for that.

25 I think the legislative districts need help.

1 Competitiveness is a watch word. We have to make
2 them more competitive.

3 When people vote, they have to believe that their
4 vote counts.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is Shirley Muney, representing
8 self, from Tucson.

9 SHIRLEY MUNEY: Last name is Muney, M-U-N-E-Y.

10 Thank you.

11 And like other people, I do appreciate all the
12 work you've put in. I know you've had many long, long hours
13 and a lot of miles that went into your work.

14 I also want to speak about competitiveness.

15 You've had speakers here who are incumbent
16 representatives elected in a majority party in their
17 districts, and they have said that they want more
18 competitive districts.

19 With representation -- voting representation about
20 equal between Republicans, Democrats, and Independents
21 statewide, surely we can have more competitive districts
22 than has been allotted so far.

23 And I really urge you to rethink the way the
24 districts are split up.

25 Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is William Ferrell, representing
3 self, from Tucson.

4 WILLIAM FERRELL: William Ferrell from Tucson. I
5 represent myself.

6 And I'm impressed at your attempting an impossible
7 job, and I am very grateful for you trying to do that.

8 Mathematically I think it's impossible to satisfy
9 all the criteria.

10 The criteria does -- it seems to me the most
11 important, in particular for the legislative districts, is
12 the fact that the state is divided roughly one third
13 Republican, Democratic, and Independent. And one would
14 expect that a state so divided would be one in which it
15 was -- elections would be competitive.

16 So I think that the competitiveness is the most
17 important factor here.

18 And then the legislative districts I think greater
19 attention to that would be important.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is Roger Salzgeber, representing
23 self, from Pima.

24 He'll be followed by Faith Salzgeber, Cheri
25 Bludau, and Mary Gresham.

1 ROGER SALZGEBER: Good evening. My name is Roger
2 Salzgeber, S-A-L-Z-G-E-B-E-R.

3 And, first of all, like everyone else, I'd like to
4 thank you for your service and your dedication in
5 implementing the voter passed proposition.

6 After attending more than a few of these meetings
7 and hearing much talk of communities of interest and
8 competitiveness, I am struck by the fact that the largest
9 community of interest I have heard are the voters who
10 overwhelmingly support the constitutional amendment that
11 would create more fair and competitive districts.

12 With regards to the current proposed congressional
13 map, I believe that it is an important improvement over the
14 current map.

15 With the creation of two competitive districts
16 along with the voting rights district, southern Arizona is
17 headed in the right direction.

18 I support the draft congressional map that I would
19 encourage you that if any changes should be made, those
20 changes should increase, not decrease competitiveness.

21 As far as the Arizona legislative map, I live in
22 proposed LD 9, and I have seen -- and I see an increase in
23 competitiveness, which I support.

24 But statewide I am concerned that other LDs do not
25 share in that competition.

1 In conclusion the majority of voters want to pick
2 their legislators rather than the legislators picking their
3 voters.

4 Competitiveness in my mind is the name of the
5 game. When candidates compete for votes, they should have
6 to engage the whole community.

7 Competition brings out the best in the business
8 world, and it does so in politics too.

9 Every voter must feel that his or her vote counts
10 on election day.

11 Thank you very much.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Faith Salzgeber, followed by
14 Cheri Bludau, Mary Gresham, and then Shirley Sandelands.

15 FAITH SALZGEBER: Good evening.

16 And you're doing really well with our name.

17 I, first of all, would like to thank the
18 Commission members for all their hard work, often done in
19 spite of outside pressures that continue to try to influence
20 them.

21 I particularly would like to thank
22 Commissioners Freeman and McNulty who, if I heard correctly,
23 actually jointly developed the state legislative map. That
24 was a huge undertaking.

25 As far as the congressional map goes, initially I

1 did not favor three border districts. And I would rather
2 have had four competitive districts instead of three.
3 However, I believe that the draft congressional map as it
4 now stands is a huge improvement and should go forward.

5 The state legislative map, however, while a good
6 start, really needs to be improved in terms of developing
7 competitive districts.

8 While the competitiveness has been improved in my
9 district, excuse me, in the northwest Tucson area, there's
10 still much work to be done overall with many of the
11 districts in order to increase competition.

12 That is what the voters wanted when they passed
13 Proposition 106, and that's what clearly has been stated at
14 so many of these meetings.

15 Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17 Our next speaker is Cheri Bludau, representing
18 self, from Tucson.

19 CHERI BLUDAU: Good evening.

20 And I celebrate your work, because you are a
21 result of what has happened when Arizona citizens get it
22 right. They have gotten an independent Commission, and now
23 we can move forward.

24 I agree with everyone that competitiveness is
25 probably the most important as what you need to look at.

1 I have been horrified to find that in our state
2 legislature that one party sits and makes all the decisions
3 excluding very specifically everybody else.

4 That's not right. That's not representing the
5 people of Arizona. And only through competitive districts
6 will you give the people an opportunity to be able to have a
7 voice, because right now the voice that comes out in our
8 state legislature is pretty much through one perspective.
9 And so through these competitive districts I think we can
10 make it better.

11 And wouldn't it be a grand time when we celebrate
12 the 100th birthday of our state to truly become a state that
13 allows all people to have an equal opportunity to have their
14 perspective heard.

15 So I applaud you for what you've done.
16 Congressional is looking good. It could be better. State
17 really does need a little more competitiveness in it. Thank
18 you very much.

19 Thank you.

20 Oh, sorry. And if I can remind you to spell your
21 name for the court reporter.

22 CHERI BLUDAU: B-L-U-D-A-U.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And if everyone could
24 remember to spell your last name, that would be helpful.

25 Our next speaker is Mary Gresham, representing

1 self, from Pima.

2 MARY GRESHAM: Mary Gresham, G-R-E-S-H-A-M.

3 I want to thank you for all the work that you've
4 done, the long hours and miles on the road and listening to
5 us.

6 Thank you very much for that, and I would urge you
7 to continue your work to keep as many competitive districts
8 and make them as you can.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

11 Our next speaker is Cheri -- sorry, Shirley
12 Sandelands, representing self, from Pima.

13 SHIRLEY SANDELANDS: Thank you. I know it's a
14 hard name.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I'm sorry about that.

16 SHIRLEY SANDELANDS: My name is Shirley
17 Sandelands, S-A-N-D-E-L-A-N-D-S. Speaking as an individual.

18 I want to thank the chair and the Commission for
19 all of their work that you've been doing.

20 I was here two weeks ago when you went through --
21 had your consultant go through all of the categories and
22 explain every legislative district.

23 I too would like to see as much competition as
24 possible, but I do know that we have to follow the voter act
25 and you have to consider many things. So thank you for all

1 of your work.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Irvin Lee Tucker, representing
4 self, from Pinal.

5 Followed by Jim March, Charles Evans, and Brooke
6 Francisco.

7 TOMMY TUCKER: It's Tommy Tucker, T-U-C-K-E-R.

8 In your first meeting at Oro Valley at which I was
9 at and several others, there was a strong request to be sure
10 to have Saddlebrooke and Oro Valley stay together. And you
11 have done that, of course, in the LD 8 that is planned. And
12 we want to thank you for that.

13 Saddlebrooke, of course, representing a community
14 that is, first, it is out of Pima here tonight. We're in
15 greater Tucson, but we're just over the line in Pinal.

16 We're an unusual community because we're not a
17 town. We are 9100 population, 9100 people, and we represent
18 two homeowners associations.

19 So our real concern is that the congressional
20 district we put in not only will we possibly quite strongly
21 have our representative over 400 miles away in an area
22 that -- Pinal is larger than any one of three other states
23 and actually LD -- Congressional District 1 is much larger
24 than that.

25 We have no common interest to the north. As an

1 adult community, we're actually a community under Title VII
2 of the Civil Rights Act. All our people are either 55 or
3 older, except there are some exceptions to that.

4 We would deeply ask you to look at the criteria
5 that are in the constitution. We are clearly not in a good
6 situation with Congressional District 1.

7 And we certainly see ourselves as part of
8 greater Tucson and not a rural community. So placing us in
9 LD 1 -- Congressional District 1, changing that, please look
10 at that.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12 Our next speaker is Jim March, second vice chair
13 for Pima County Libertarians.

14 JIM MARCH: Thank you very much, Madam Chair,
15 members of the Commission.

16 I know a thing or two about being bullied.

17 Personally, growing up, I'm a mild Asperger's
18 case, so that means going -- being bullied pretty much goes
19 along with the territory in school.

20 As a political activist, I know where my head's
21 at. I don't like bullies.

22 I didn't like the kind of sheriffs that would sell
23 gun permits for campaign contributions in California.

24 I didn't like the kind of people who would rig
25 electronic voting machines across the entire U.S. and across

1 the globe.

2 And I don't like the kind of bullies that are
3 picking on you guys right about now.

4 They clearly are.

5 It never helps anybody to cave in to a bully. And
6 legally speaking, you don't have to.

7 You're supposed to be an independent Commission.
8 You've done an independent job of carving up the state like
9 a big Christmas turkey, which you're supposed to do every
10 ten years.

11 From a purely Libertarian point of view, a
12 completely race neutral set of boundaries would be the
13 preferred alternative. But given past misconduct, past
14 racism in this state, that's off the table. That's not
15 going to happen because of DOJ preclearance.

16 Given the limits that DOJ places on you for these
17 reasons, you've done about the best job you probably could
18 have done.

19 There are people asking to get more
20 competitiveness. But, again, carving up the racial lines is
21 probably closed that some.

22 What I'm here to ask you to do is to hold tough.
23 Okay?

24 Stand up to the people who are saying --
25 something. I don't even know precisely what argument they

1 can make.

2 You've got a tough job to do. You've done it.

3 You can't be sued for doing your jobs. And you
4 haven't done it in a corrupt fashion.

5 You have nothing to worry about. Stand up to
6 them.

7 Thanks.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Charles
11 Evans, representing self, from Pinal County.

12 After Charles is Brooke Francisco, Sherese
13 Steffens, and --

14 CHARLES EVANS: Thank you. My name is Charles
15 Evans, and I am a resident of Saddlebrooke, Arizona.

16 It's my belief that Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and
17 Marana should be placed back into CD 2.

18 As it stands, our small pocket of population finds
19 themselves in CD 1, which is, in fact, larger than several
20 contiguous northern states.

21 I receive my newspaper from Tucson. I receive my
22 television from Tucson. I shop in Tucson. I should be able
23 to select my representative to Washington who has the same
24 area interests as I do.

25 As it stands, I believe the district has now

1 disenfranchised me.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Brooke
6 Francisco, representing PALF/UFCW from Tucson.

7 BROOKE FRANCISCO: Good evening, ladies and
8 gentlemen. My name is Brooke Francisco, F-R-A-N-C-I-S-C-O.

9 As a resident of Tucson and a student here at
10 the U of A in the department of political science, I
11 recognize the need for competitive districts here in
12 southern Arizona.

13 Without competitive districts, elections are
14 predictable along party lines, and Independent voters are
15 often uncouned. Last year only 41 percent of registered
16 voters turned out in the election, and this is due to the
17 fact that they feel under-represented and their votes do not
18 matter.

19 Competition is a part of democracy, and if we do
20 not implement the type of districts, is it going to continue
21 to be a party of extremists among Democrats and Republicans.

22 More seriously, the number of voters who turn out
23 in elections will continue to dwindle. More people --
24 excuse me, the answer to the questions presented to us here
25 today is the need for competition among districts in

1 southern Arizona.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Sherese Steffens, representing
5 Northwest Conservatives, from Pima.

6 SHERESE STEFFENS: Good evening. My name is
7 Sherese Steffens, and that's S-T-E-F-F-E-N-S.

8 I live in northern Pima County, and I am here
9 today to represent the Northwest Conservatives Group.

10 Our group is very concerned that the Redistricting
11 Commission has lost sight of what the voters wanted when we
12 passed Proposition 106.

13 In regards to southern Arizona, neither the CD or
14 LD maps make any sense at all.

15 There are 13 rural counties in Arizona. No rural
16 county should be joined with any part of metro Phoenix or
17 Tucson.

18 According to the 2010 census, Arizona has enough
19 people in the rural parts of the state to deserve at least
20 two completely rural districts, one in eastern Arizona and
21 the other in western Arizona.

22 The CD 1 draft map places rural counties like
23 Coconino, Navajo, and Apache with the suburban communities
24 of Marana, Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke, and unincorporated west
25 Pima County -- northwest Pima County, all of which are

1 northern suburbs connected directly to the city of Tucson.

2 These areas do not have anything in common with
3 central and northern Arizona. We don't even share the same
4 TV news stations.

5 Additionally, the Navajo and Apache Nations do not
6 share the same visions, issues, and concerns that we do.
7 They are a sovereign nation with their own very specific
8 needs and goals.

9 Marana, Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke, and
10 unincorporated northwest Pima County which includes
11 Avra Valley, Picture Rocks, Casas Adobes, and Tortolita
12 areas belong in southern Arizona and should be moved into
13 Congressional District 2.

14 Legislative Districts 11 and 8 are so large that
15 they inhibit the citizens of both political parties from
16 gathering together and electing a representative who can
17 fairly represent the residents.

18 Attending LD meetings will not be possible for
19 many residents because of time restraints and transportation
20 costs.

21 Those living in the southern end of the LD like
22 Marana in northwest Pima County or Maricopa at the far north
23 end will be much less likely to have the opportunity to
24 participate in choosing their representatives than those
25 living in the middle.

1 Attending LD meetings will be difficult for
2 everybody.

3 The same goes for Marana, Oro Valley, Saddlebrook,
4 Florence, Coolidge, and the San Tan Valley. These areas
5 cannot be fairly represented by the same elected officials.
6 It is over an hour's drive from northern to the southern
7 boundary.

8 So why not put Marana, Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke in
9 unincorporated northwest Pima County which includes Avra
10 Valley, Picture Rocks, Casas Adobes, and Tortolita in the
11 same LD? There are only 30 minutes from end to end in all
12 directions. These areas share the same roads, schools,
13 doctors, and hospitals, grocery stores, and libraries. Also
14 Sun Tran, the public transportation system, connects all of
15 these communities together.

16 They are bordered by the Silver Bell Mountains on
17 the west and the Catalinas on the east and River Road on the
18 south. We would use geographical features and have
19 compactness, communities of interest, competitiveness, and
20 diversity.

21 Both the congressional district draft map and
22 legislative draft map do not comply with the Arizona
23 Constitution in many ways.

24 Many of the districts especially in southern
25 Arizona are not compact.

1 The CD districts do not separate rural communities
2 of interest from suburban areas which have totally different
3 needs.

4 Geographical features as well as city, town, and
5 county boundaries were not used whenever possible.

6 The Arizona Constitution states that to the extent
7 practicable the district lines shall use visible
8 geographical features, city, town, and county boundaries,
9 and undivided census tracts.

10 Southern Arizona should elect our representatives
11 from southern Arizona, not from central or northern Arizona.

12 Thank you for your time.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Demion
16 Clinco, representing self, from Tucson.

17 Followed by Demion will be Keith Bagwell, Leiann
18 Anderson, and Joyce Friedericy.

19 DEMION CLINCO: Thank you. Good evening,
20 commissioners. Thank you so much for the time to address
21 you. I'll be very brief. I think it's important that we do
22 have more competitive districts. It's important that we
23 have more competitive districts, but additionally I have a
24 concern about the boundaries of proposed LD 2 and 3 in
25 downtown Tucson.

1 The proposed boundaries exclude two neighborhoods
2 that are part of downtown Tucson, Santa Rita Park and
3 Barrio Santa Rosa.

4 And there are two ways to remedy this, which are
5 move the boundary to the line of the city of south Tucson,
6 25th Ave., or move the boundary north to Congress Street.
7 So I recommend that you look at both of those. To exclude
8 those neighborhoods from downtown really doesn't respect
9 communities of interest.

10 So thanks very much.

11 My last name is Clinco, C-L-I-N-C-O. And the two
12 communities are Santa Rita Park and Barrio Santa Rosa.

13 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

14 Our next speaker is Keith Bagwell, representing
15 self, from Tucson.

16 KEITH BAGWELL: My name is Keith Bagwell,
17 B-A-G-W-E-L-L.

18 I'm here, as I have been in the past, in support
19 of the map that was created earlier by the Hispanic
20 Coalition For Good Government.

21 To that end I would like to suggest a little
22 tweaking on the congressional map as it relates to
23 Congressional District 3.

24 I'd like to see you add one precinct to the east
25 of this all the way from Grant Road all the way to

1 Interstate 10.

2 And that would be Precinct 73, 78, 63, 82, 85, and
3 66.

4 And the reason for this is that these are all --
5 there are a lot of community of interests.

6 The northern precincts there are -- represent
7 historic neighborhoods, like the one I live in, Harmon Park.

8 These -- they're near the university. They're
9 racially diverse. There's age diversity. They have a lot
10 in common. They meet together once a month with the
11 university.

12 And so they have a lot in common.

13 There's a high union density and union halls in
14 these areas.

15 And then when you get down to the south we're
16 talking about three precincts that have very high minority
17 populations, have a lot in common with the precincts to the
18 west.

19 So I think you would do everybody a service by
20 tweaking this a bit and adding one precinct to the east all
21 the way from Grant Road to I-10 on Congressional District 3.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 Our next speaker is Leiann Anderson, representing
25 CCSR, from Pima.

1 LEIANN ANDERSON: Leiann Anderson, L-E-I-A-N-N.
2 Last name S-O-N, Anderson.

3 I ask that you keep Green Valley and Sahuarita
4 together. We are a family of shared lives. Our goals and
5 aspirations dovetail in myriad areas. We are a community of
6 interest.

7 I also support two rural districts in southern
8 Arizona.

9 Please give southern Arizona what we have asked
10 for over the last four months. There have been hours of
11 testimony given. Phone calls, faxes, e-mails have all been
12 sent.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Joyce
17 Friedericicy.

18 You can correct me when you come up.

19 Representing self, from Oro Valley.

20 Following Joyce will be Payton Davies, Alex
21 Bissett, and Garland Cox.

22 JOYCE FRIEDERICY: My name is Joyce Friedericicy,
23 from Oro Valley. That's F-R-I-E-D-E-R-I-C-Y.

24 Congressional District 1 shown on the current map
25 is a perfect example of a gerrymandered district.

1 It does not keep communities of interest together
2 or keep from splitting counties. Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley,
3 and Marana need to be joined in CD 2, which would make both
4 CD 1 and CD 2 more compact.

5 These communities are not close to northern
6 Arizona and have nothing in common with them and would not
7 be well served by one representative.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Payton
11 Davies, representing self, from Oro Valley.

12 PAYTON DAVIES: My name is Payton Davies,
13 D-A-V-I-E-S. I'm from Oro Valley.

14 Those of us from Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke, and
15 Marana have been asked to be kept together.

16 So with what I feel has been malice, you have done
17 that.

18 But you've put us in northern Arizona. Where we
19 will have very little influence. And if we even want to go
20 to a district meeting, it will take two days. Some of us
21 are not able to be away at night.

22 The proposed CD 1 is a travesty. You should put
23 us in the CD 2.

24 Give southern Arizona what we've been asking for
25 for the last four months.

1 We have been ignored.

2 Southern Arizona does not belong in the same
3 congressional district as northern Arizona.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Alex
8 Bissett, representing Sun City Vistoso residents,
9 Oro Valley.

10 ALEX BISSETT: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 Congressional District 1, I agree, as shown on the
12 current map, takes up about half of the area of the state of
13 Arizona.

14 And it does set a perfect example of a
15 gerrymandered district.

16 I believe this -- that we have -- this tiny little
17 area here of Oro Valley, Marana, and Saddlebrooke has been
18 dropped into this huge District 1 as a result of many of us
19 complaining about some of the improprieties on the part of
20 the chairman.

21 It does not keep communities of interest together
22 or keep from splitting counties.

23 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana need to be
24 joined into CD 2, which would make both CD 1 and CD 2 more
25 compact and preserve communities of interest in CD 2.

1 These communities are not close to northern
2 Arizona and have nothing in common with them and could not
3 be served well by one representative.

4 We feel we wouldn't have a representative.

5 To travel the CD 1 district would take a
6 representative a couple of days at least, but CD 2 district
7 with Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana could be done in
8 one day with events in each part of the district.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Can you spell your name,
11 please?

12 Sir? Mr. Bissett? Can you please spell your
13 name? Thank you.

14 ALEX BISSETT: Alex Bissett, last name
15 B-I-S-S-E-T-T.

16 From Oro Valley.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Marty, you good?

18 Okay. Keep going.

19 Our next speaker is Garland Cox, representing
20 self, from Pima.

21 GARLAND COX: I am Garland Cox, C-O-X.

22 I'm addressing the point that the counsel for the
23 Commission have become surrogates for the Department of
24 Justice and they have not given sound legal advice to their
25 clients, the AIRC.

1 Due to their malpractice, they have violated the
2 civil rights of millions of Arizonans.

3 I suspect that the dynamic between Mary O'Grady
4 and Joe Kanefield is very important to the way this process
5 has unfolded. Mary was Joe's boss at the Attorney General's
6 Office.

7 These two attorneys are supposed to advise the
8 Commission about the law, the actual law as written, not
9 interpreted by attorneys at the DOJ Civil Rights Division.

10 However, from the outset both attorneys,
11 representing the two sides, have consistently bought into
12 the DOJ idea that Hispanics as a minority are protected by
13 regression analysis.

14 This is not, this is not correct.

15 Regression analysis only applies to racial
16 minorities.

17 Hispanic is not a race in either DOJ guidelines or
18 in the census. Hispanics are members of an ethnic group and
19 may be members of a language minority under the Voting
20 Rights Act if they are eligible to vote and have limited
21 proficiency with English such that it affects their ability
22 to vote and elect a candidate of their choice.

23 That is exactly what the Voting Rights Act, the
24 DOJ civil rights guidelines, and the AG guidelines say.

25 This idea that the voting strength of Hispanics

1 must be protected as if they were a minority race is a
2 creation of some imaginative lawyers at the DOJ and the
3 Mexican American Legal Defense Fund.

4 Hispanic are potentially members of a language
5 minority, but only if they are eligible to vote and have
6 limited English proficiency.

7 That is why only 2.65 percent of Arizona's total
8 population should be considered as both Hispanic and members
9 of a language minority for Voting Rights Act purposes.

10 The only special consideration for members of a
11 language minority is that election and registration
12 materials be available in a language they understand and
13 oral assistance provided for language minorities that do not
14 have a written language.

15 The Commission will argue that they have been
16 following Arizona constitutional guidelines and goals by
17 attempting to comply with the Voting Rights Act at the
18 outset and designing two congressional districts and
19 nine legislative districts where election of a Hispanic is
20 assured.

21 This redistricting process has been guided by an
22 attempt to establish proportional representation for
23 Hispanics that is 29.8 percent. This is a position of the
24 DOJ and the advice given by O'Grady and Kanefield.

25 However, that is legally unfounded. It is

1 contrary to the holdings of several decisions by the
2 U.S. Supreme Court, but most specifically the holdings in
3 Shaw versus Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993.)

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Dustin
8 Cox, representing self, from Pima.

9 After Dustin will be Barbara Tellman, Tom
10 McConnell, and Luci Messing.

11 DUSTIN COX: Good evening, commissioners.

12 I want to start off by just saying thank you,
13 again, for traveling the state and spending so much of your
14 time, you know, working hard on creating these maps.

15 And I'm going to talk mostly on the legislative
16 districts map.

17 I think you did fairly well on the congressional
18 districts map as far as competitiveness goes.

19 But I'm a little disappointed on the legislative
20 maps.

21 We only have about three out of 30 districts that
22 are competitive.

23 And when Arizona's split into roughly thirds,
24 Republican, Democratic, and Independent, I don't think that
25 is reflective of our population.

1 So I'm going to tell a little bit of a story
2 because that's kind of how I think that -- and I think how
3 people understand.

4 In honor of our upcoming holiday Halloween, I'm
5 going to tell you a little story about that.

6 On Halloween I would go trick or treating with my
7 brother, and we would get our candy, and our parents would
8 split it up, you know, equally among us. And then he would
9 steal it from me.

10 And I would cry foul, of course, because that was
11 my candy.

12 And he'd give me, you know, maybe one out of ten
13 pieces of candy that was mine just to shut me up.

14 And that kind of kept me quiet.

15 I think that is what is happening in this case,
16 because we're getting just a few competitive districts when
17 we deserve more.

18 And while my brother got all of his candy and most
19 of mine, it kept me quiet. And now he's a little fatter
20 than I am now.

21 But he got what he wanted.

22 And that's kind of what I'm trying to describe in
23 a poorly worded story, is we deserve more, as Arizonans, we
24 deserve more competitive districts.

25 And while this map is better than what we have

1 right now, there is more work to be done, because we need
2 competitive districts so that we can have the ability to
3 change the status quo.

4 So please consider that as you go in and tweak the
5 districts to try to make some more competitiveness. I think
6 at least ten would be reasonable.

7 Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Barbara
11 Tellman, representing self, from Tucson.

12 BARBARA TELLMAN: Barbara Tellman, T-E-L-L-M-A-N.

13 Like everyone else I want to thank all of you
14 commissioners and your staff for your hard work and
15 dedication. I think you've come up with some really good
16 products in a lot of ways.

17 I'm only going to comment on the southern Arizona
18 portion of the legislative district map.

19 It has a lot of really good features, but it falls
20 short in several respects.

21 I think the division of Pima County into eight LDs
22 right now is excessively splitting Pima County.

23 We currently have six LDs. And what you have
24 proposed is three LDs entirely within Pima County, two with
25 a sizable number of voters in Pima County shared with

1 two other counties and three have only a small number of
2 Pima County voters that are shared with two to three other
3 counties.

4 This is bad for two reasons. This is a time when
5 almost every county in Arizona has had to cut its budget for
6 its elections department and cut staff. We're having
7 difficulty finding expertise. And increasing the complexity
8 of the number of ballots that have to be produced in the
9 computer programming is very difficult at this time of
10 financial hardship.

11 In addition, dividing a county such as Pima into
12 so many separate districts makes it very difficult for
13 either party to organize.

14 In rural counties you can avoid this. In
15 Pima County you could have minimized it.

16 We now face a situation as we now have with
17 Legislative District 25 where no one county has enough
18 voters to make the district an ability to organize.

19 We would now have three such problem areas in
20 Pima County, and I think this is a problem for both parties.

21 Even the Green Valley, Sahuarita area has been
22 split by this map.

23 Competitiveness has been talked about by a number
24 of people. I would like to give you two specific ways in
25 which I think you could increase competitiveness in this

1 area.

2 Cochise County has been divided into the
3 Republican north and the Democratic south, both of which are
4 shared with Pima County.

5 If you were to move the Democratic section into
6 Cochise County so that it's one entire county, you would
7 still have a minority -- majority-minority district with the
8 remaining Democrats, remaining voters in District 2.

9 It would go from 62 percent Hispanic to
10 approximately 52 percent, and that's plenty in order to
11 assure a voting for Hispanic representative.

12 The other one is District 3. It's hard to say for
13 Democrats, that's where I lived a long time. A Republican
14 might not even bother to run in that district.

15 It can be made more competitive by moving the
16 northern boundary to the Pinal County line west of the
17 freeway and moving the non-Hispanic Democratic areas east of
18 the freeway to increase competitiveness in an adjacent
19 district to the north.

20 This will reduce the Democratic majority margin
21 there from a sure thing to make sure it is competitive.

22 I urge you to consider this and put
23 competitiveness and county lines more in balance with the
24 other criteria.

25 I was able to draw a map that did this using

1 Maptitude, and I am sure that your experts can do even a
2 better job.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Tom McConnell, representing
6 self, from Tucson.

7 TOM MCCONNELL: Thank you for your service.

8 I, I wanted to comment that I've some analysis of
9 your response to the Voting Rights Act requirements.

10 The Native American districts seemed absolutely
11 fine.

12 The Hispanic districts I believe contain far more
13 Hispanics than are actually needed to accomplish the
14 VRA requirement.

15 The Section 5 requirement is that they be able to
16 elect a candidate of choice.

17 When I analyzed four of the current legislative
18 districts that cover most of your majority-minority region,
19 I find that 43 percent was the maximum amount that was
20 needed to ensure electability, since all of these were
21 heavily Democratic safe districts. Safe in quotes.

22 But the result was that the primary determined the
23 result of the election in almost every case where more than
24 43 percent were Hispanic voting age population.

25 Therefore I think you have some flexibility in

1 that -- in those majority districts that could be used to
2 create more competitive districts.

3 I did a map to show the ability to create as many
4 as 13 competitive districts given that sort of shift in
5 minority area.

6 The other comment -- and this is strictly applying
7 to the LD map at this point. I can live with this CD map
8 even though it puts me in the largest congressional
9 district.

10 That's a great experiment. We'll see how it works
11 out.

12 The other point is that you have spared the
13 scalpel only with respect to two counties in the LD map.
14 Every county has been carved up to some degree with the
15 exception of La Paz and Apache.

16 I think that county lines should be of much higher
17 priority. As Ms. Tellman just indicated, there are huge
18 budget issues administering this.

19 It's currently not well administered in counties,
20 particularly rural counties, and this adds a burden just as
21 they are asked to reduce budgets.

22 I believe you can maintain county lines with a
23 great deal more success than you've had so far.

24 Thank you.

25 I have a copy of the analysis.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Please spell your name.

2 TOM MCCONNELL: McConnell, M-C-C-O-N-N-E-L-L.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Luci
4 Messing, from Pima.

5 LUCI MESSING: My name is Luci Messing,
6 M-E-S-S-I-N-G.

7 I'm the past president of the Tucson Education
8 Association and an active member of the Arizona Education
9 Association, retired.

10 Like many others who have come to speak before
11 you, I urge you to seek competitive districts. In an ideal
12 situation, we would have 30 competitive legislative
13 districts, but that probably is not possible.

14 Therefore we should probably have equal number of
15 districts competitive with the political parties, ten
16 Republican, ten Democrat, ten competitive. Then no one
17 would have any reason to complain. And we would be able to
18 tell our students that your vote does count, because that is
19 what we try to teach them, the importance of going to the
20 polls and exercising their right to vote and have a say in
21 the political process.

22 My concern is that while yours is an impossible
23 task, it's important for you to be independent. That is
24 what the voters wanted when they voted in Prop 106. And
25 please don't allow some of the issues that are occurring

1 with the committee that is being formed by the Republican
2 legislature to interfere in the process.

3 Voters specifically did not want this left up into
4 the hands of the legislature, and so, therefore, it is
5 incumbent upon you to be as independent as possible and do
6 the job that you are doing.

7 Specifically with the CD districts.

8 We're going to obtain another one, so there will
9 be nine, so, again, I would say to you there should be
10 three, three, and three, so that individuals won't have a
11 complaint, it will be fair, and it will be serving the
12 intent of the voters.

13 And as always, the needs of the many outweigh the
14 needs of the few.

15 Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

17 Court reporter check.

18 Okay. We'll keep going.

19 Our next speaker is Magdalena Barajas,
20 representing Hispanic Coalition For Good Government.

21 After Magdalena is Doris Clatanoff, Rita Fjelseth,
22 and Carolyn Cox.

23 MAGDALENA BARAJAS: Good evening. My name is
24 Magdalena Barajas, M-A-G-D-A-L-E-N-A, B-A-R-A-J-A-S.

25 I'm here representing the Hispanic Coalition For

1 Good Government. Of course I want to thank you for
2 listening and making adjustments based on public input and
3 testimony.

4 The Hispanic Coalition stands by the maps that we
5 originally presented to the Commission. However, we do
6 recognize that those won't replace the work that you've
7 done.

8 We commend you for your efforts. We thank you for
9 your consideration.

10 That being said, the Coalition is asking for a
11 minor adjustment that we believe has a significant impact to
12 several neighborhoods.

13 Pueblo Gardens, Las Vistas, and Western Hills
14 neighborhoods, which are essentially bound by the -- on
15 the -- to the north by 22nd Street, to the south by I-10, to
16 the east just by Aviation Highway -- Parkway, excuse me, and
17 Campbell and Kino Parkway to the west.

18 There are like communities surrounding this area,
19 and we would like to see them be included in, incorporated
20 into the Congressional District 3, the proposed
21 Congressional District 3.

22 I'll give an example.

23 These neighborhoods are very key in working on the
24 bridges project that's along the Kino Parkway. These
25 neighborhoods have done work together for decades and have

1 been represented by the same representative, been in the
2 same districts for a very long time, and even are in the
3 same ward for the city of Tucson.

4 So, again, we ask that you incorporate these
5 neighborhoods into proposed CD 3, and we believe that you
6 have some options when making adjustments in other areas of
7 the districts.

8 The Coalition will be meeting very soon. And
9 should this minor adjustment be accomplished, we will
10 consider withdrawing any objections to the maps and help
11 support you moving forward with the Department of Justice
12 preclearance.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Doris Clatanoff, representing
16 self, from Saddlebrooke.

17 Followed by Rita Fjelseth and Carolyn Cox.

18 DORIS CLATANOFF: Thank you very much,
19 Madam Chairman.

20 My name is Doris Clatanoff, spelled
21 C-L-A-T-A-N-O-F-F. And I live in Saddlebrooke in Pinal
22 County.

23 I wish to address this evening a layoff for our
24 Congressional District 1.

25 As projected, this district covers all or part of

1 seven Arizona counties, if my count is correct, and borders
2 two states at least, maybe even three.

3 I went on a MapQuest to check out this district
4 and found out it's over 531 miles from Douglas, Arizona, way
5 up to Page, and it takes nine hours and nine minutes to make
6 the trip.

7 And by gosh you guys can identify with what a big
8 district this would be, and I would pity anybody who would
9 try to represent congress in such a vast district.

10 This actually, as it's laid out in my judgment,
11 and I thought this was original but it's not, it is a
12 travesty.

13 How are any people in this area to be fairly
14 represented.

15 You look at that, and you have northern Arizona up
16 there. And that's in the national forest area.

17 You have this great big rural area here that's
18 completely separate from northern Arizona and southern
19 Arizona.

20 And here we are in the southern -- in the Sonoran
21 Desert, and we're all packed together into one congressional
22 district.

23 There's absolutely no way that one human being
24 could fairly represent all of us.

25 It's just utterly impossible.

1 I don't care whether they're Independent,
2 Democrat, or Republican. I'm all for competition there, but
3 I don't see competition there because I just don't see how
4 one person could travel around and/or represent this
5 particular district.

6 Saddlebrooke needs to be linked with the urban
7 area and rural areas near it where it has community of
8 interest and contiguity.

9 The rural area could be banded together because
10 they have a lot in common.

11 Northern Arizona can be incorporated into a
12 congressional district up there.

13 I want to thank you for your attention to these
14 concerns because I know that you can do better than this for
15 the people who reside in this proposed district.

16 Every Arizona citizen deserves to have a fair
17 chance to be represented in congress. And frankly the way
18 this is set up, I don't see it reflected.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Rita
23 Fjelseth, representing self, in Oro Valley.

24 RITA FJELSETH: Rita Fjelseth, F-J-E-L-S-E-T-H.

25 I am from Oro Valley.

1 Congressional District 1 shown on the current map
2 is a perfect example of a gerrymandered district.

3 It is not competitive or compact. As the lady
4 before me just said, it takes nine hours to drive from one
5 end to another.

6 It does not keep communities of interest together
7 or keep from splitting counties.

8 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana need to be
9 joined into CD 2, which would make both CD 1 and CD 2 more
10 compact.

11 These communities are not close to Arizona and
12 have nothing in common with them.

13 It could not be well served by one representative.
14 Not at all. Unless he had a helicopter.

15 To travel the CD 1 district would take a
16 representative at least two days, but the CD district with
17 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana could be done in one
18 day with events in each part of the district.

19 I thank you for your consideration in changing
20 this outrageous line.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Carolyn
25 Cox, representing Pima Republican Party.

1 CAROLYN COX: My name is Carolyn Cox.

2 I have a resolution of the Pima County Republican
3 Party, Pima County, state of Arizona, strongly condemning
4 the actions of the Arizona Independent Redistricting
5 Commission.

6 Whereas, the Arizona Independent Redistricting
7 Commission has knowingly violated its responsibilities for
8 redistricting under federal and Arizona law including, but
9 not limited to, the 14th and 15th Amendments to the
10 United States Constitution, the Voting Rights Act,
11 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, and Article 4 of the Arizona Constitution.

12 And, whereas, the Arizona Independent
13 Redistricting Commission has failed to demonstrate a sincere
14 commitment to performing its responsibilities in an honest,
15 independent, and impartial fashion, and to upholding public
16 confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process.

17 And, whereas, the Arizona Independent
18 Redistricting Commission has knowingly violated its
19 responsibilities for conducting open meetings to the public
20 under Arizona law including, but not limited to, Title 38 of
21 the Arizona Revised Statutes.

22 And, whereas, the Arizona Independent
23 Redistricting Commission has knowingly violates its
24 procurement responsibilities to the public under Arizona law
25 including, but not limited to, Title 41 of the Arizona

1 Revised Statutes.

2 Now therefore be it resolved by the Pima County
3 Republican Party, Pima County, state of Arizona, strongly
4 condemn the partisan and unlawful actions of the Arizona
5 Independent Redistricting Commission and recommends the
6 following.

7 That Governor Jan Brewer, state of Arizona, remove
8 the five members of the Arizona Independent Redistricting
9 Commission the in accordance with Article 4 of the Arizona
10 Constitution.

11 That Attorney General Tom Horne, state of Arizona,
12 aggressively continue his criminal investigation and civil
13 litigation against the Arizona Independent Redistricting
14 Commission.

15 That the majority leadership of the senate and
16 house of representative, state of Arizona, make written
17 redistricting recommendations to the Arizona Independent
18 Redistricting Commission in accordance with Article 4 of the
19 Arizona Constitution that are in the best interest of the
20 state of Arizona and all Arizona citizens, not the
21 Commission's favored special interest groups.

22 These recommendations should be eliminated --
23 should eliminate the wholesale gerrymandering of Arizona and
24 protect the voters' constitutional and democratic rights
25 guaranteed under both the equal treatment clause of the

1 14th Amendment and the Voting Rights Act.

2 (Applause.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 Are you good still? Okay.

5 Our next speaker is Margaret Knowles, representing
6 self, from Tucson.

7 And then Raquel Cook from Oro Valley followed by
8 James Cook from Oro Valley.

9 MARGARET KNOWLES: Thank you for your patience.
10 I'm a little slow.

11 I'm Margaret Knowles, K-N-O-W-L-E-S.

12 And I live in the community of Saddlebrooke in
13 Pinal County.

14 Chairman Mathis and commissioners, thank you for
15 this opportunity to share my opinion.

16 I think the legislative district map is well drawn
17 and should stand.

18 However, I'm very concerned about the
19 congressional district map.

20 In particular CD 1.

21 It is so far-flung that it totally ignores
22 communities of interest.

23 As you've heard from others, Saddlebrooke is
24 linked with rural communities hundreds of miles away. There
25 is no way this could possibly comply with the criteria to be

1 compact.

2 So bottom line, please include Saddlebrooke with
3 Oro Valley and Marana and our neighbors to the south in
4 CD 2.

5 Thank you very much for your time.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is Raquel Cook, representing
9 self, from Oro Valley.

10 RAQUEL COOK: Raquel Cook, C-O-O-K.

11 When I first saw the lines that were drawn for
12 CD 1, I thought there must be some huge mistake. This is
13 almost funny if it were not so serious.

14 I regret to say that the Congressional
15 District No. 1 appears to me to be an egregious example of
16 gerrymandering. Covering nearly half the state of Arizona
17 as currently drawn, it is not competitive and certainly not
18 compact. It does not keep communities of interest together
19 or prevent the splitting up of counties.

20 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana should be
21 placed into CD 2, which would make both districts more
22 compact.

23 These communities are geographically distant from
24 those in northern Arizona, having nothing in common, and
25 could not be well served by one representative. It would

1 take a representative two days at least to travel
2 Congressional District 1 as currently drawn.

3 But with Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana
4 included in CD 2, it could be done in one day.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

8 Our next speaker is James Cook, from Oro Valley.

9 After James will be Maria Apodaca and Adela
10 Lara-Lubbers.

11 JAMES COOK: Thank you, Madam Chairman and
12 commissioners and staff.

13 Once again, not to get redundant, you've been
14 hearing this from all the people at Oro Valley, but the CD 1
15 is just not workable.

16 And it's contiguous, but it's not compact.

17 And I feel that the voters would really be
18 disenfranchised to have a district this large.

19 And I really encourage the Commission to break
20 that up somehow.

21 So put us in CD 2.

22 Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Maria

1 Apodaca, representing self, from Tucson.

2 MARIA APODACA: Good evening. My name is Maria
3 Apodaca, A-P-O-D-A-C-A.

4 I have a question before I get started. This is
5 for legal counsel. I just wanted to ask a question.

6 This says here what are the requirements of the
7 state constitution via Prop 106. Is this in order of
8 importance, in the way it's written? You know, with -- you
9 know what I'm talking about? Okay. It says what are the
10 requirements of the state constitution via Prop 106. It was
11 in the handout.

12 (Brief pause.)

13 MARIA APODACA: Okay. So the reason I ask that if
14 it was -- if it's put -- worded in the order of importance,
15 I see competitive districts as last.

16 And the way the map, the CD map is drawn, the
17 communities of interest, it's not there.

18 So I want to let you know that when I purchased my
19 house I did not go in thinking what is the most competitive
20 district I can live in. I went with communities of
21 interest.

22 And what the map does is break that up.

23 So I just wanted to make that point about that.

24 I have to put my glasses on to read my statement.

25 The Commission should draw at least two districts

1 completely outside metro Phoenix and metro Tucson, one in
2 eastern Arizona and one in western Arizona.

3 If Coconino County must be included in a district
4 with a heavily populated area, it should be kept completely
5 out of Maricopa County and Pima County.

6 No rural county should be joined with any part of
7 metro Phoenix or metro Tucson except when necessary to
8 complete -- to comply with the Voting Rights Act.

9 The new CD 1 places Coconino County with the
10 suburban communities of Marana, Oro Valley, and Saddlebrooke
11 just north of Tucson.

12 Do not put Pima County communities of Marana and
13 Oro Valley in with the eastern rural district that includes
14 Coconino County.

15 The rural counties should be able to elect a
16 candidate from rural Arizona, not from suburban Tucson.

17 If two rural districts and three border districts
18 are truly desired by the Commission, this can be
19 accomplished without putting the eastern counties in with
20 Pima County and without putting the western counties in with
21 the urban areas of Maricopa County and Pinal County.

22 Arizona has more than enough people in the rural
23 parts of our state to deserve a minimum of two complete --
24 completely rural districts.

25 The northern parts of Pinal County that are

1 currently drawn in CD 4, such as Florence, Gold Canyon,
2 Queen Valley, and the San Tan Valley, should be in the -- in
3 currently drawn in CD 1 and non-reservation part of
4 Coconino County currently drawn into CD 1.

5 This would be a very easy swap that would create
6 two real rural counties and not make the Commission have to
7 completely redraw the map. It would be an easy fix.

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: It's 8:05 p.m., and we've got
12 about 42 more request to speak forms. More got added from
13 the very beginning. So we'll take maybe a ten-minute break
14 and be back shortly.

15 The time is now 8:05.

16 (Brief recess taken.)

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. We'll end recess now.

18 The time is 8:23 p.m.

19 And we're in the midst of public comment.

20 Our next speaker, next three speakers, Adela
21 Lara-Lubbers, excuse me, former State Representative Tom
22 Prezelski, and Mariana Spier.

23 ADELA LARA-LUBBERS: My name is Adele
24 Lara-Lubbers, L-A-R-A, L-U-B-B-E-R-S.

25 I just want to say thank you to the committee for

1 the time and commitment that you've put into this. And I
2 know that you're away from your families and so I know -- I
3 greatly appreciate the time that you are putting in.

4 My issue will be short, and it's just about the
5 congressional district.

6 I just would like for you to consider putting
7 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, Marana, Cochise County, Graham,
8 and Greenlee into CD 2.

9 The Rillito River should be the northern line,
10 Alvernon, the east Tucson dividing line.

11 We share communities, school boards, and interest.

12 I feel that the committee can go back to the
13 drawing board and come up with something that will be
14 favorable to everyone in the CD 1 as it is now wanting to be
15 passed.

16 And so any efforts to make this a more comparable
17 congressional district for the people that live in this
18 community would be great.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is former State
23 Representative Tom Prezelski, from Tucson.

24 TOM PREZELSKI: Thank you. Thank you,
25 Madam Chair, commissioners.

1 I just wanted -- first before I go into my
2 comment, I just wanted to address the issue about CD 1.

3 The truth is is that northern Arizona has always
4 been very problematic in terms of drawing congressional
5 districts.

6 Currently the district as it stands extends to
7 Casa Grande and Graham County. It's currently an unwieldy
8 and large district and looks like there's very little way to
9 fix that given the sparse population of the rest of the
10 state.

11 I would like to remind some of the people who came
12 up to speak that these districts in rural Arizona have
13 always been very large, have always been districts that
14 cannot be traversed easily within a day. In 1960 Arizona
15 had two congressional districts. One was Maricopa County
16 and the other was the rest of the state.

17 And I'm sure that there were similar complaints
18 then.

19 It's just a problem of our geography and
20 demographics, and I don't think there's really a good way to
21 resolve that at this point.

22 My second point is about the maps we have
23 available right now. Speaking as a resident of Barrio
24 Viejo, first I think it's very strange that I am
25 currently -- under the maps you're working with now, I'm in

1 a legislative district that includes Bisbee and Douglas.

2 This looks like an effort to pack all the Mexican
3 Americans in one district.

4 It doesn't make much sense, and I hope you revisit
5 that.

6 Also there's a problem with some neighborhoods,
7 particularly Las Vistas and Pueblo Gardens neighborhood.
8 Those are currently marginally African American
9 neighborhoods, but they have a long history with the
10 Mexican American community in that area.

11 They've always been in the same district as the
12 adjacent Mexican American areas, whether it's
13 Congressman Udall's district or the old District 10.
14 They've always shared that history.

15 The -- when I was on the city's redistricting
16 commission, we got the city, in 2001, we got the city to
17 create an ArcView layer of all the organized neighborhood
18 associations in Tucson. And we used that to make sure we
19 didn't divide any established organized neighborhood
20 associations.

21 The current map does divide some of those
22 organized neighborhood associations.

23 And I'd urge you to try to get that data and make
24 sure that those neighborhoods on the south side in
25 particular are kept whole.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. Yeah, please
2 spell.

3 TOM PREZELSKI: P-R-E-Z-E-L-S-K-I.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Mariana
5 Spier, representing self, from Tucson.

6 MARIANA SPIER: Good evening. My name is Mariana
7 Spier, S-P-I-E-R.

8 Madam Chair, commissioners, thank you for your
9 service.

10 I am a United States citizen by choice. I
11 strongly believe in democracy and the democratic political
12 process.

13 I follow politics and elections very closely.

14 To my surprise, last November in 2010 only
15 55.6 percent of the registered voters in Arizona voted.

16 Probably, as a matter of fact, I'm sure, my choice
17 number down the ballot to elect their senator or
18 representative in Arizona district.

19 I wonder myself why.

20 For me there is only one obvious answer to this
21 lack of civic interest and involvement. People feel that
22 their votes don't count.

23 It is not good, not for good for anybody, not good
24 for Arizona, not good for democracy.

25 I don't think this is American way.

1 You have the opportunity to restore the democratic
2 process in Arizona by creating as many fair and competitive
3 districts as possible.

4 I have a couple of suggestions regarding the
5 community of interest point, from that point of view.

6 I didn't hear anybody here representing
7 Rita Ranch. I don't live there, but I know the area.

8 I suggest you consider keeping the community of
9 Rita Ranch together, either in District 1 or 2. I'm not
10 sure how the numbers would play.

11 And probably shifting some population from
12 District 2 to 1 along the border will solve some of the
13 problems and keep also Cochise County as a whole.

14 Thank you for your service.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Our next speaker is
16 Bob Breault, representing Tucson.

17 After Bob is Frank Bergen, followed by Ben Love,
18 and Sami Hamed.

19 BOB BREULT: I've got one for you. Bob Breault.
20 Last name is B-R-E-A-U-L-T. It's a French name.

21 I'm here to represent myself, a businessman in the
22 optics industry.

23 Chair Mathis and commissioners, thank you very
24 much for today's occasion, the vast amount of time you have
25 put in.

1 For the judicial record, I support what you have
2 conceived as the congressional district, especially the
3 third district in Tucson and the three border districts.

4 I trust in what you have done, and therefore I
5 trust in what you may have to do to accommodate all these
6 conversations.

7 I believe it will be good for the economy.

8 I go to Washington about eight times a year,
9 interface with a vast number of people who represent me in
10 District 2.

11 And Adam Smith from Oregon, Barbara Boxer from
12 California, Jeff Bingaman from New Mexico, Colorado,
13 Florida, Gephardt, Gingrich, Dole, Pat Choate, running mate
14 to Perot, clear through Pennsylvania, and Kennedy.

15 So this district stuff that they're talking about
16 in District 1, that whoever you assigned it to, somebody's
17 going to say it's too big.

18 And if you meet all the requirements of A and B,
19 that it's going to be big.

20 So the way you have done the districts I believe
21 will be good for the economy, it will be competitive, it
22 shows fairness and balance in Proposition 106 as far --
23 well, I want more competitiveness in the legislative
24 districts.

25 We're politically split into thirds, so if you

1 could find some more, thank you very much.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Frank Bergen, representing
5 self, from Tucson.

6 FRANK BERGEN: Madam Chair, commissioners, my name
7 is Frank Bergen, and it's B-E-R-G-E-N.

8 And I'm here once again, but tonight I'd like to
9 begin by reminding everyone who's here that we began the
10 meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, which
11 ends with a reference to this country as being one in which
12 there is liberty and justice for all.

13 When the Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965,
14 there were reasons for it. And the reasons had to do with
15 the lack of justice for all.

16 Those reasons have to a very great extent been
17 lessened.

18 But apparently this state has not yet got itself
19 together enough to come out from under the aegis of the
20 Voting Rights Act.

21 That act is the law of the land.

22 We have to comply with it in order to go ahead
23 with new districts in which hopefully we can vote as our
24 minds and our consciences urge us.

25 Were there never a need for a Voting Rights Act, I

1 am convinced that in the year 2000 the state voters would
2 still have found that the legislature was not doing a
3 terribly good job of fairly and competitively drawing
4 district lines and would still have passed Proposition 106,
5 which calls specifically in its very preamble for fair and
6 competitive districts.

7 All the other stuff is really in, in the long run,
8 subordinate to fair and competitive districts.

9 And I am going to end right there, but with this
10 one last word -- two last words.

11 One is, I'm thankful that up to the present point
12 I find myself in a congressional district which is probably
13 a tad more competitive than the one that I have been in for
14 the past ten years. And in a legislative district in which
15 I can hope at some point in the next ten years to elect one,
16 two, or three people who will represent me better than those
17 have in the last ten years.

18 The other thing is, I don't think that any of the
19 commissioners, except for Commission Stertz, may be aware
20 that when I'm dressed up on Sunday, it's with a collar on.
21 And I would be happy, if necessary, to pay chaplain visits
22 to you when you're sent to jail for the excellent job that
23 you are doing.

24 Thank you and God bless.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thanks.

1 Our next speaker is Ben Love, representing
2 Oro Valley Democrats, from Oro Valley.

3 BEN LOVE: Madam Chair, commissioners.

4 Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you.
5 Ben. L-O-V-E is my last name.

6 And I am here because I've heard so much about
7 competitiveness.

8 I am a Democrat in Sun City.

9 I don't have any proposition or resolution to
10 threaten you with.

11 I'm not like Terri Proud and Williams and Melvin
12 who threatened you, but it apparently worked, because you
13 got Oro Valley with Saddlebrooke. And we love our
14 Saddlebrooke people. We just don't have to vote with them.
15 And they say they have to come to Oro Valley to get their
16 golf carts serviced.

17 Well, they will still vote in the same place they
18 are right now, in Saddlebrooke. So I don't believe that
19 that's a valid thing.

20 This Oro Valley has been cast out of Pima County
21 by these people who have threatened you, and I'm sorry that
22 that happened. I just hate to think of it.

23 They have us in District 8 now. They picked off
24 some of our candidates for the house legislature up, up in
25 Phoenix.

1 We're now in this eight, Legislative 8. And it's
2 obviously their threats and, and lawsuits and stuff worked,
3 because they have an 11-point advantage.

4 And that's not enough for them apparently.

5 They never want competitive.

6 And District 26, out the last ten elections, only
7 two Democrats have been elected. So we're not -- we're not
8 going to change much there. And the possibility of anyone
9 in the bottom of the District 8 ever being elected, well, we
10 got wonderful Democratic candidates, but we can't outlaw the
11 Republicans like that.

12 What happened to competitive districts?

13 Why can't it be more competitive? Why is
14 Oro Valley cast out?

15 I worked and retired in Tucson. I volunteer down
16 there.

17 Did you forget about Arroyo Grande? That's coming
18 up. That's going to be right in their area in Pima and
19 Pinal County.

20 It's going to be a big development, just opposite
21 the city of Oracle.

22 Please follow the Pima County line. There's
23 different rules up there in their neck of the woods.

24 Give Oro Valley Tucson roots instead of
25 Pinal County.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Sami Hamed, representing self,
4 from Tucson.

5 Not here? Okay.

6 Our next three speakers, JoAnn Evans, followed by
7 Greg Wagner, followed by Justin Schmidt.

8 So our next speaker is JoAnn Evans, precinct
9 committee person, in Pinal County.

10 JOANN EVANS: Hello. My name is JoAnn Evans. And
11 thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you.
12 Evans, E-V-A-N-S.

13 I live in Pinal County, in Saddlebrooke.

14 I do my shopping, my grocery shopping, any kind,
15 in Oro Valley and Tucson. I use the medical facilities
16 there. My mailing address is Tucson.

17 I am interested in keeping communities of interest
18 together, per draft map District 2.

19 Saddlebrooke has nothing, absolutely nothing in
20 common with northern Arizona.

21 I've lived there for ten years. And I've never
22 been to northern Arizona.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

1 Our next speaker is Greg Wagner, representing
2 self, from Pima.

3 GREG WAGNER: I want to first thank the Commission
4 for this very thankless work. I'm lucky to be thanking you
5 guys today, so I guess that made me feel a little better
6 about your job.

7 My name is Greg Wagner. My last name is
8 W-A-G-N-E-R.

9 And I live in what in your current maps would be
10 CD 3, LD 3.

11 And when you guys are looking at tweaking the
12 maps, obviously the first focus is on meeting the federal
13 requirements, but I also want to see the districts becoming
14 more competitive and also protect communities of interest.

15 And when I'm looking at the maps I see that LD 3
16 butts up against LD 11. And LD 3 and LD 11 are basically not
17 that -- they're very competitive. And one thing you could
18 do was maybe move up the district from LD 3 further up maybe
19 to Tangerine and to make that district more competitive.

20 So I see it as a community of interest, west
21 Tucson having more in common with Marana than, say, Marana
22 has in common with Casa Grande, which LD 11 is in right now.

23 So thank you again for your time, and hope you
24 guys have a fun selection process.

25 Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Justin Schmidt, representing
3 self, from Pima.

4 JUSTIN SCHMIDT: Justin Schmidt, S-C-H-M-I-D-T.

5 When I was growing up I was thought that
6 gerrymandering is a bad word.

7 It is bad because it makes it so that all of us do
8 not get a fair shot at quality, and it's bad because it
9 makes our system very biased.

10 But some people have forgotten what gerrymandering
11 means.

12 Gerrymandering comes from a term a legislature or
13 a party of the legislature are using districting lines to
14 promote their own interest in opposition to the interest of
15 we as the citizens of that area.

16 And I would say a corollary of that is special
17 interest.

18 Special interest is bad. We all know that. Oh,
19 it's mine, it's them, then it's good.

20 And so I plead to the Commission to consider that
21 their job on the congressional districts I think was
22 outstanding.

23 The complaints about District 1. Oh, it's big.

24 Well, remember, way back Mo Udall had the entire
25 state, except for a small area of Pima County he had to

1 handle.

2 There was no Internet. There was no Facebook.
3 There was no Skype. And you couldn't pay your phone bills.

4 It all worked quite well.

5 So I don't think that size itself is the problem.

6 Now I don't know what the problem is why people
7 are complaining about that. I don't want to get into that.
8 I think that's beyond the purpose here.

9 But my point here is that I think we're all
10 Arizonans, we should all try to work together, and not be
11 separating each other.

12 I was also taught that competition is a good word.

13 Competition is the American way. That's how we
14 make things better.

15 If we don't have competition, then we have
16 somebody who is able to be unfair to at least part of the
17 population.

18 That's not what I want in my Arizona.

19 So I guess in conclusion what I want to say is I
20 congratulate you as commissioners. You've done an
21 outstanding job.

22 I think you've had a lot of vitriolous attacks at
23 various points, and you stood up to those, and I commend you
24 on that.

25 If I had one little minor criticism, I would say

1 try to make the legislative districts a little more
2 competitive.

3 But I trust you. I want you to keep your spirits
4 right and do the right thing for all of us.

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next three speakers are
9 Martin Drozdoff, Christine Lee Oler, and Frank Olivieri.

10 So this is Martin Drozdoff, representing self,
11 from Tucson.

12 MARTIN DROZDOFF: And hi. It's D-R-O-Z-D-O-F-F.

13 And I'm from Casas Adobes. In fact, I'm vice
14 president of the Casas Adobes neighborhood association. But
15 in addition to that, I'm representing myself, not Casas
16 Adobes neighborhood association.

17 So I've been living in the northwest of Arizona
18 for -- of Tucson here for 31 years.

19 First off, I want to thank all of you for your
20 personal sacrifice, for your extreme efforts to try and make
21 competitive districts.

22 I know this has been a big charge on yourselves
23 and on your family and on your personal life. So, I really
24 appreciate all that you've done.

25 Okay. In addition to that, I want to say

1 gerrymandering is what we have right now.

2 Gerrymandering comes from England, the term, where
3 I think it was William Gerrymaner actually is where they
4 got the term from.

5 And that's what we have now.

6 Where constituent interests would change areas to
7 make sure that they get reelected.

8 And that's not what we want.

9 We want what your charge is. Your charge is to
10 make competitive districts. And so far you've done a good
11 job, I think.

12 On the congressional level.

13 Of course, being in the northwest for 31 years, I
14 have my own feelings about Oro Valley. I feel like they're
15 neighbors.

16 I can see where they would easily fit into
17 District 2.

18 As far as Dove Mountain, Marana, they would
19 be more in the District 3 that you have. They're more
20 rural, in the more -- they would fit in more with the
21 District 3.

22 As far as Saddlebrooke goes, well, as an
23 adult-isolated community, part of Pinal County, which is
24 central Arizona. And I think they made their choice in
25 isolating themselves from Tucson.

1 Isolating children, isolating themselves from the
2 community.

3 They want it both ways. That's fine. They're
4 allowed to want things both ways. But that's not reality.

5 In terms of what of I would ask from you folks,
6 and you've tried so hard, please keep up with the
7 competitive districts. It's an impossible task, I know.
8 But that's really a wonderful thing you folks are trying to
9 do.

10 You're working very hard.

11 So thank you very much.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is
15 Christine Lee Oler, from Tucson.

16 CHRISTINE LEE OLER: Good evening, all of you
17 wonderful people who are doing this for day in and day out.
18 My name is Christine Lee Oler. Last name is O-L-E-R. I
19 live in Tucson.

20 Last time I spoke a few weeks ago I was just Lee
21 Oler, so don't put me in there twice, please.

22 Okay.

23 I came at a quarter to 6:00, signed in, got my
24 blue sheet, whatever it is, and I only had one thing to say.
25 Please make the districts competitive.

1 Since I've sat here for three hours, I've added to
2 that list.

3 We do have problems in Pima County and southern
4 Arizona, because we don't have enough competitive districts.

5 One of the speakers said we deserve more
6 competitive districts than we have. I agree with that
7 speaker.

8 I think that, for example, some of our people are
9 disenfranchised right away by the primaries.

10 Because the primary candidates are basically the
11 people that are going to win the general.

12 There's no, the way that the districts were
13 previously drawn, the general election was just a farce
14 because it was done by the primary.

15 And that needs to be fixed.

16 I personally thinking of 26, LD 26 along
17 River Road, the old LD 26.

18 But that isn't a good system to have these people
19 pre-selected and then the election comes and what are we
20 going to do? Nothing.

21 And good people have run against each other in
22 those races, I would say.

23 The Democrats have been really good to not keep us
24 partisan, but it just slipped out.

25 The other thing that I want to talk about is that

1 the people in Saddlebrooke and Oro Valley and Marana are
2 wanting to be down with us out of the district, the top
3 district, and we -- I know why. One lady said, well, I buy
4 my groceries in Oro Valley.

5 Well, go ahead and buy your groceries in Oro
6 Valley. But stay up in the district that the committee has
7 put you in.

8 It's -- you can do other things down in Tucson
9 too, but your election will be in the other district.

10 Justin Schmidt made a wonderful statement. I'll
11 just say that you can refer to his because he made a good
12 job on that.

13 We need to remain independent. You're doing that.

14 And we need to also have competitive districts
15 because we deserve more down here than we get.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18 Our next speaker is Frank Olivieri, representing
19 Northwest Conservatives from Pima.

20 After Frank will be Steve Dotson, Onita Davis, and
21 Paul Hilts.

22 FRANK OLIVIERI: I'm Frank Olivieri,
23 O-L-I-V-I-E-R-I.

24 I too am from Northwest Conservatives. I live in
25 the unincorporated section of northwest Pima County.

1 Northwest Conservatives is about 700 members.

2 Thank you for saying -- letting me address the
3 Commission.

4 Our group is very concerned that the Redistricting
5 Commission has lost sight of what the voters wanted.

6 We also want to know a little bit about -- like to
7 have a little information regarding the lost 90 minutes of
8 testimony that's missing on 4-13 meeting in Flagstaff, and
9 that's the testimony disagreeing with the Flagstaff Forty.

10 So we'll put it on record.

11 In regards to southern Arizona, neither the CD or
12 LD maps make any sense.

13 Let me read quickly. I'll finish in the
14 two minutes.

15 Let me read the Arizona Independent Redistricting
16 Commission legal counsel review by Joseph Kanefield and
17 Mary O'Grady, section two, subsection B.

18 The IRC must create districts of equal population
19 in a grid-like pattern across the state. Working from the
20 map the IRC must next adjust the grid as necessary to
21 accommodate the following six goals.

22 Districts shall comply with the United States
23 Constitution, districts shall have equal population to
24 extent practical(sic) and state legislative districts shall
25 be equal population, districts shall be geographically

1 compact, be contiguous to the extent -- contiguous to the
2 extent practical, district boundaries shall represent
3 communities of interest to the extent practical.

4 The other to extent practical district lines, use
5 visible geographic features, city, town, county boundaries,
6 undivided census tracts, to the extent practical.

7 Competitive districts should be favored to where
8 we do not create no significant determine(sic) to the other
9 goals.

10 Throughout the process in navigating through these
11 first two phases, the IRC must exclude party registration by
12 the voting history from the initial phase of mapping
13 process, but may use the data to test mapping for compliance
14 goals.

15 So, section B in the order of six goals,
16 competitiveness is number six.

17 Goals one and two, numerically correct.

18 Goals three, four, and five, geographically,
19 compact, communities of interest, and via visible geographic
20 features are from our meeting criteria.

21 The CD 1 draft map places rural counties like
22 Coconino, Navajo, and Apache with suburban communities like
23 Marana, Oro Valley, Saddlebrooke, and unincorporated
24 northwest Pima County.

25 The Navajo Apache Nations do not share the same

1 visions, issues, concerns of Pima County. They are
2 sovereign nations with their own specific goals.

3 CD 2 should include Marana, Oro Valley,
4 Saddlebrooke, and unincorporated northwest Pima County,
5 including Avra Valley, Picture Rocks, Casas Adobes, and
6 Tortolita, belongs in southern Arizona, not in Navajo or
7 Apache County.

8 There is no common interest.

9 In the new LD 9 the Casas Adobes area is -- in
10 unincorporated northwest Pima County does not share the same
11 interests of downtown Tucson, nor the university --

12 Sorry. In LD 9 the Casas Adobes area in
13 unincorporated northwest Pima County does not share the same
14 interest of downtown Tucson or the university such as
15 medical facilities, doctors, hospitals, shopping, schools.
16 We're more in common with Marana and Oro Valley.

17 It is clear we need to reevaluate these maps.
18 Southern Arizona should not have a representative be from
19 central or northern Arizona.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Steve
24 Dotson, representing self, from Marana.

25 STEVE DOTSON: Steve Dotson, D-O-T-S-O-N.

1 First of all, when I got this at the door, I
2 thought it was kind of funny. I thought it was something my
3 three-year old son drew.

4 This is, this is kind of ridiculous.

5 This size of this map for this one district is
6 larger than the state of New Hampshire.

7 The entire state.

8 And you expect one representative to cover that
9 entire area.

10 There is no way on earth the people from Marana
11 have anything in common with their living habits, shopping,
12 hospitals, doctors, anything with the people of northeastern
13 Arizona along the Grand Canyon or in the very southeastern
14 corner.

15 This is pathetic.

16 With regards to the legislative districts, you
17 seem, you seem to punish the people of Marana, or the
18 southern part of the new District 11, by including the
19 people from Tempe, Casa Grande, and Maricopa.

20 They have nothing in common either. They are
21 separated by more than 100 miles.

22 The congressional district is separated by several
23 hundred miles.

24 I know you read in the past the size of the
25 districts. But with the ability to draw the maps today, I'm

1 sure you could have made it a little easier on it us.

2 Arizona has roughly -- well, has 13 counties of a
3 total population of about 1.6 million people, according to
4 our 2010 census.

5 That's enough to make at least two rural
6 counties -- or two rural congressional districts that yield
7 a district having roughly 710,000 residents. This
8 Commission should draw at least two districts completely
9 outside of metro Phoenix and metro Tucson. One in eastern
10 and one in western Arizona.

11 No rural counties should be joined with any part
12 of the two large metropolitan areas.

13 The draft map does not comply with the Arizona
14 Constitution in many ways.

15 Districts are much less compact than those
16 represented in the previous maps.

17 The districts do not respect rural communities of
18 interest. And all of District 9 shown on the draft map has
19 a connection with metro Phoenix or metro Tucson area.

20 I find it funny that we're having to punish the
21 people of Oro Valley, Marana, and Saddlebrooke by splitting
22 them up when they are communities that are the same minded
23 people.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Onita
2 Davis, representing Smart Girl Politics, from Pima.

3 After Onita is Paul Hilts, Linda Rosenthal, and
4 Claire Morgan.

5 ONITA DAVIS: Commissioners, my name is Onita
6 Davis, O-N-I-T-A, D-A-V-I-S.

7 Thank you for this opportunity to speak with you
8 again.

9 I find it rather difficult to speak right now,
10 because it seems like those of us who have a difference of
11 opinion have been under attack all afternoon.

12 So isn't it wonderful to live in the great
13 United States of America where we can agree to disagree and
14 still be respectful of each other.

15 CD 1 to me is the perfect example of a manipulated
16 electoral district.

17 It's not competitive. It's not compact. It's not
18 respectful of geographic and county boundaries.

19 It does not keep communities of interest together,
20 nor does it prevent the splitting of counties. And although
21 some people might disagree with me on the importance of
22 communities of interest, I do have that right to hold that
23 opinion.

24 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana should be
25 moved into CD 2. Thereby making both CD 1 and CD 2 more

1 compact.

2 These communities are not close to northern
3 Arizona and have nothing in common with them and could not
4 be well served by one representative.

5 Now, we can agree until the end of time that, yes,
6 modern technology has made it easier for us all to
7 communicate. That does not change the fact that northern
8 Arizona has very specific issues that are important to them.

9 Flagstaff, Prescott, Verde Valley share economic
10 development interests, transportation, education, forest
11 restoration, water management, medical and health care
12 issues, and of course tourism.

13 Those issues are unique to that area, just as the
14 issues and interests of Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Marana
15 are unique to our area.

16 And certainly that Navajo and Apache Nations have
17 acknowledged that those nations do not have the same
18 interest as the non-reservation portions of the currently
19 drafted CD 1.

20 They want to be represented by someone who is
21 going to look out for their interest.

22 And because they are, quote, unquote, an affected
23 category, that seems to be okay.

24 But it's not okay for the residents of Oro Valley,
25 Marana, and Saddlebrooke to feel the same way.

1 Now, you may hear this again before the end of the
2 evening, because it's a statement that was made by my
3 favorite constitutionalist, but I think it bears being
4 repeated.

5 Making areas competitive is based on the
6 democratic idea of majority rule only, which always leads to
7 majority tyranny. We are a republic. Republics are about
8 majority rule with minority consent.

9 It is not a one-way street. And that's all I
10 hear.

11 And it's rooted in the concept of representation.

12 The more varied the representation, the more
13 discussion there will be about legislation.

14 But representation is not about parties.

15 All I hear is Democrats versus Republicans, and
16 I'm an Independent, and I'm not a piece of furniture.

17 I vote too.

18 It is about communities of interest having a
19 voice.

20 The Marana, Oro Valley, and Saddlebrooke
21 communities of interest certainly have those attributes
22 before being moved into CD 1.

23 Please move us to CD 2. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Paul

1 Hilts, representing self, from Tucson.

2 After Paul is Linda Rosenthal and Claire Morgan
3 and Tracy Scheinkman.

4 PAUL HILTS: Thank you. My name, last name, is
5 H-I-L-T-S. And I am from LD 28. I represent myself.

6 Madam Chair and honored commissioners, welcome.
7 Thank you for your time and your service.

8 Just your stamina alone is very impressive.

9 I came before you folks a while back to ask to
10 keep with regard to congressional districts the mass of
11 mainstream Republican voters east of central Tucson
12 associated with the mass of Democratic voters in the north
13 end of LD 28 in order to keep the competitive balance that
14 has kept our representatives from both parties attentive to
15 the voters' needs.

16 You managed to do that in this congressional map,
17 and I really appreciate your efforts.

18 That plus the fact that you managed overall to add
19 a whole district that was more competitive thus keeping the
20 competition more even, more possible for the future,
21 together that means to me personally that you have fulfilled
22 the independent nature of your Commission from
23 Proposition 106. And I thank you for that.

24 Everybody I know has problems with the maps as
25 drawn. I hope we can fix that.

1 I would really like to see the folks in
2 Saddlebrooke and Oro Valley attended to, but given the
3 problems of population, if you take that group of folks and
4 put them into two where I am now, we had to lose 40,000
5 voters to go from eight to two.

6 I don't know what you would do with those other
7 voters to make the balance redressed.

8 I have to say that we should endorse this map as
9 drawn until something can be done to redress that other
10 balance.

11 So I think this is as good as I can suggest at
12 this time.

13 With regard -- oh, there's also one other note
14 that no one has mentioned.

15 CD 8 has the largest number of veterans of any
16 congressional district in the United States.

17 Keeping Fort Huachuca and Davis-Monthan in one
18 congressional district helps to ensure that those people
19 will be served by whoever their representative is. And I
20 thank you for that.

21 And so I have other comments about the legislative
22 map, but I'll have to keep them for another time. Thank you
23 very much for your service, and have a good evening.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. You too.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Linda
2 Rosenthal, Citizens For Common Sense Redistricting, from
3 Tucson.

4 After Linda, Claire Morgan, Tracy Scheinkman, and
5 Peg Sutherland-Jones.

6 LINDA ROSENTHAL: Linda Rosenthal, from Tucson.
7 R-O-S-E-N-T-H-A-L.

8 And I -- talking here again about the community of
9 interest. In my first letter I lived in -- lived here since
10 1973, we've raised our children, and now enjoy watching our
11 grandchildren growing up in the same area.

12 We have many horse properties and are right near
13 the Tanque Verde Wash. We enjoy the bike path and hiking
14 available within riding and walking distance.

15 Get down here.

16 The rural areas need to have districts that will
17 address their specific needs that cannot be represented in
18 the suburban metropolitan areas.

19 There are many natural boundaries that seem to
20 have been ignored during this process. We're wondering why
21 our rural area is being combined with a metropolitan area.

22 Here is a suggestion that will address this
23 matter.

24 The 2010 census shows Arizona's 13 rural counties
25 have a total population of 1,594,637 residents.

1 That's enough to make at least two rural
2 congressional districts with an ideal district having
3 7,110 -- 710,224 residents for two districts.

4 That would leave 174,189 people who could be
5 incorporated into other districts close to them.

6 Cochise, Graham, Greenlee County have
7 approximately 170,000 people.

8 They could be added to two southern districts by
9 adding them to eastern and northwest Pima County and
10 northwest Santa Cruz County.

11 The eastern and western rural districts can make
12 those choices in the north.

13 We are concerned about the southern rural
14 districts.

15 The current maps does not allow for any rural
16 southern Arizona representation in congress.

17 We realize that your job is a difficult one.
18 Appreciate your time. Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Claire
22 Morgan, representing self, from Tucson.

23 CLAIRE MORGAN: My name is Claire Morgan,
24 M-O-R-G-A-N.

25 Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

1 Arizona has a republican form of government,
2 little R, as guaranteed and required by the constitution of
3 the United States and our own state constitution.

4 Consequently our laws are made by elected
5 representatives in a state legislature.

6 The purpose of a state legislature is to make laws
7 for the entire state, laws that have been deliberated on,
8 deliberated on by all members of the legislature. Those
9 members represent the people of various districts.

10 They are not there to represent the concerns of
11 particular political parties, although unfortunately they
12 do.

13 The districts are to be composed of communities of
14 interest. That is, areas of similar topography, culture,
15 resources, and like-mindedness. That will send a
16 representative to represent and defend that district's
17 interest.

18 If these districts create safe seats for some
19 parties, so be it.

20 The emphasis should not be on competitiveness.

21 Majoring on competitiveness focuses on parties and
22 not on the protection of the people's rights to be
23 represented fairly in district composed of people with
24 similar concerns. That is, communities of interest.

25 The legislature must have voices from all the

1 communities of interest in order to make just laws.

2 To emphasize political party competitiveness means
3 that the legislature will be dominated by party interest not
4 the interest voiced by the varied communities we have around
5 our state.

6 Besides, more and more people are registering as
7 Independents.

8 Why would Democrat, Republican parry be the
9 driving factor for district lines?

10 Our state and our country are not democracies, but
11 republics.

12 The goal of districts in a republic is to have as
13 many different voices as possible from the various
14 communities of interest in order to discuss, deliberate, and
15 decide on effective laws.

16 You should not be looking for more districts that
17 are competitive, but more districts that represent the
18 various communities of interest so that the people have a
19 voice.

20 The redistricting is about the people, not
21 parties.

22 Your maps eviscerate Glendale, putting parts of it
23 into five separate districts in the LD maps.

24 Cochise County is lumped in with northern Arizona.
25 Two areas widely diverse.

1 Any representative in that district would have to
2 juggle competing interests.

3 Fountain Hills is completely detached from the
4 surrounding area and totally separate and a very different
5 community of interest.

6 Please stop focusing on political parties.

7 We the people want representatives that are a
8 voice for our communities of interest. Some of those
9 communities will be conservative. Some of them will be
10 liberal. Others will be a mix, a mixture.

11 We want our rights and interests protected, not
12 the interests of political parties. Let the parties compete
13 for the right to represent we the people. They have to
14 compete in the marketplace of ideas.

15 The people are not here to serve the parties or to
16 serve the government.

17 The parties and government are here to serve the
18 people.

19 And one other comment.

20 The way that you get more people involved in local
21 politics is to start practicing federalism. When the power
22 is taken away from Washington, D.C., and put back in the
23 counties and cities and states where it belongs, then
24 people will compete. Look at the history. It will prove
25 it --

1 (Applause.)

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Tracy Scheinkman, representing
4 self, from Tucson.

5 TRACY SCHEINKMAN: Hello. My name is Tracy
6 Scheinkman. It's spelled S-C-H-E-I-N-K-M-A-N.

7 And I want to thank the Commission for its work on
8 the congressional map and the legislative map.

9 I think you guys have been doing a very, very
10 difficult job. It's been a very arduous and combative
11 process. And I know that you've done your best to be fair
12 to everybody, which is almost an impossible task.

13 But you've done a very good job on the
14 congressional map, and I want to thank you for that.

15 One of the things -- it's not, it's not an ideal
16 map. It's not what I would consider to be a perfect map.

17 There are problems with it that maybe or maybe
18 not -- maybe can be solved, maybe can't be solved.

19 But I really appreciate the work that you've done
20 on it.

21 And I really appreciate the fact that there are
22 three competitive districts within that map.

23 If you do tweak the congressional map, please do
24 so to increase competitiveness or to maintain
25 competitiveness within those districts that you have

1 created.

2 I say this despite the fact that my family has
3 property up in northern Arizona, and I am -- that property
4 is actually in District 4, which is a relatively
5 noncompetitive district.

6 But I still think that competitiveness in at least
7 a reasonable portion of our congressional districts is a
8 good thing for the state.

9 I view the situation with Saddlebrooke and
10 Oro Valley being in CD 1 as actually beneficial to Tucson.

11 It gives Tucson a voice in three different
12 congressional districts.

13 Maricopa County has quite a number of
14 congressional districts that have voices for it. Tucson
15 only had two.

16 Now we have three that have voices.

17 And I think that that could be to our advantage.

18 So I think that I'd like to leave the
19 congressional map situation right now and discuss the
20 legislative map, which is my area of main concern right now.

21 The legislative draft map is very interesting.
22 However, I think that it could be improved by making at
23 least four or five additional safe districts into
24 competitive districts. Now, because the Republicans hold a
25 larger majority, this would probably be from mostly

1 Republican districts.

2 My concern is that there seems to be packing in
3 both directions.

4 There are some districts that are heavily packed
5 Democratic and some districts that are heavily packed
6 Republican.

7 It wouldn't take much to tweak those just a little
8 bit to make more competitive districts.

9 I would appreciate it if you would consider that,
10 and I thank you very much for your work.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12 Our next speaker is Peg Sutherland-Jones,
13 representing self, from Pima.

14 No?

15 How about Max Rubin, representing self, from Pima?

16 How about Patricia Maisch, representing self?

17 Okay. After Patricia, Richard Elias, Keith
18 Van Heyningen, and Pam Branch.

19 PATRICIA MAISCH: I'm Patricia Maisch,
20 P-A-T-R-I-C-I-A, M-A-I-S-C-H.

21 I'm a registered Independent in the proposed
22 Congressional District 2 and Legislative District No. 9 --
23 No. 9.

24 Thank you for taking on this daunting task. I
25 know you've worked hard with lots of problems.

1 I cannot stress how pleased I was when
2 Proposition 106 passed in 2000.

3 This state is not as red as some would want us to
4 believe.

5 According to my calculation, there are
6 approximately 36 percent Republicans, 33 percent
7 Independents, and 32 percent Democrats.

8 Please do not be bullied or intimidated by the
9 opposition that you have encountered.

10 Do not let them relax standards that we the people
11 have asked for and got with Proposition 106.

12 I understand the dissatisfaction to some degree
13 with District 1.

14 I know you have constraints that are difficult.

15 And although not perfect, I feel the rest of the
16 congressional districts are reasonable and workable
17 representations of our state.

18 The legislative districts are another matter, and
19 I think they need improvement to improve competitiveness.

20 Thank you for your time and work.

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22 Our next speaker is Richard Elias. Pima County
23 supervisor.

24 I don't see him.

25 Okay.

1 Keith Van Heyningen.

2 Pam Branch, representing self, from Pima.

3 How about Scott Wilson, representing self, from
4 Marana?

5 After Scott, Diana Rhoades, then Brian Flagg, and
6 then Regina Romero.

7 SCOTT WILSON: Hello. My name is Scott Wilson,
8 W-I-L-S-O-N.

9 I'm going to read from the second page of the
10 handout that was handed out this morning, which -- this
11 evening, which is pretty compliant with the law.

12 But what it basically says is this sort of pecking
13 order.

14 In creation of competitive districts where there
15 is no significant detriment to other goals. Okay.

16 If you're going to respect geographic boundaries,
17 the city of Tucson itself is probably a congressional
18 district.

19 It really is.

20 And that anything -- the fact that people of one
21 particular political persuasion tend to live in Tucson is
22 historic.

23 I moved here in 1981.

24 In 1981 there were two parts of Pima County
25 politics you could almost feel.

1 They weren't really official, but they were real.
2 Those who lived in the city of Tucson and those who wanted
3 nothing to do with the city of Tucson.

4 We formed a fire district to keep the city of
5 Tucson from encroaching into our suburban areas.

6 The city -- town of Marana is as big as it is,
7 Marana was a little town way out there.

8 Why did it come to down to Tucson, to border
9 Tucson?

10 Because those of us who were in suburban areas did
11 not want to become annexed by the city of Tucson.

12 Quite honestly, folks, this whole discussion of
13 competitiveness is not in keeping with the law.

14 The law says that communities of interest should
15 be kept together.

16 Community of interest is the city of Tucson.

17 I think I did some quick numbers, and pretty close
18 to the incorporated areas city of Tucson would pretty much
19 make a congressional district.

20 It would have to be some modifications obviously,
21 but that's my feeling.

22 The city of Tucson should be a congressional
23 district.

24 The fact that it is a safe district for one party,
25 that is by self-selection quite honestly.

1 People who wanted all the services and the
2 politics of a city in a metropolitan area chose to live on
3 that side of the city line.

4 Those of us who more like the more rural
5 lifestyle, many of us who were very happy to stay in
6 unincorporated counties became part of small towns in order
7 to keep the city of Tucson.

8 Respect communities of interest. Make Tucson a
9 district. Competitive splitting of the city of Tucson is
10 ridiculous.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Diana Rhoades.

14 No?

15 Brian Flagg, from Pima?

16 No.

17 Regina Romero?

18 Mark Kerr?

19 How about Steve Nygren? Representing Vote For
20 Tucson.

21 After Steve is Ken Smalley, Angelica Alvarez, and
22 Geri Ottoboni.

23 STEVE NYGREN: Steve Nygren. It's N-Y-G-R-E-N.

24 I'm here to talk about neighborhoods. Something
25 that seems to be in the back of everybody's mind, but not

1 being showing up in the maps.

2 I think that the community of interest that has
3 been discussed today is probably the stronger vein.

4 We all might be calling for competition, but when
5 I dial down in my map in my area of my city, in Tucson, I
6 was amazed at the way District 10, 1, and 2 actually kind of
7 doglegged into my neighborhood missing the major streets,
8 missing geographical boundaries, and basically apparently
9 coming up with some sort of map that this lady's firm
10 considers to be an honest representation of a district.

11 I think what we've been hearing is that because of
12 Arizona's topography, natural history, and geography, that
13 these districts that we're seeing are very much not
14 communities of interest, but are some sort of mathematical
15 equation to equality that may be ten years out of date at
16 the time that the maps are accepted.

17 I hope that there is a way to manipulate or put in
18 public input into the maps.

19 Is that true?

20 I'm making a direct question to the lady here.

21 Is the site still up as far as doing map
22 manipulations?

23 Are we able to mail in -- you know, e-mail maps?

24 Okay. That's what I was trying to figure out.

25 That period is going to end when?

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We're under a 30-day comment
2 period right now, so --

3 STEVE NYGREN: So within the 30 days that's
4 allowable. That's what I was after.

5 All right. Thank you.

6 So, again, I believe that tonight we've heard a
7 lot of people talk about competition, but then they've asked
8 for personal adjustments to their district.

9 Interesting.

10 Whereas people who ask about community of interest
11 basically celebrate the natural qualities of their areas and
12 their neighborhoods.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Ken Smalley.

16 Not here?

17 How about Angelica Alvarez?

18 Geri Ottoboni, representing Rancho Vistoso, from
19 Pima.

20 After Geri, John Antliff, Gary Gomez, and David
21 Graff.

22 GERI OTTOBONI: Good evening, commissioners.

23 My name is the Geri Ottoboni, and that's
24 O-T-T-O-B-O-N-I.

25 I want to address CD 1. It is so gerrymandered

1 that it looks like a salamander, or better yet, Puff the
2 Magic Dragon.

3 What was the commissioner thinking or what were
4 the commissioners thinking?

5 It would appear that some of the Democrats and the
6 Republicans are not pleased with this map.

7 For one congressional representative to represent
8 the district would require a helicopter whereas in other
9 districts that you have drawn it would take one
10 congressional person two days to drive around in a VW Bug,
11 the whole district.

12 This map borders Mexico, New Mexico, Colorado, and
13 Utah, and almost to Nevada.

14 The people in this district in many cities would
15 receive little or no representation.

16 This district, CD 1, is not compact, does not have
17 communities of interest or competitive districts. Instead
18 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, Marana, Cochise County, Graham,
19 and Greenlee, should be moved to CD 2.

20 Thank you very much.

21 And I am going to leave this.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker is John Antliff, representing
24 self, from Oro Valley.

25 After John, Gary Gomez, Dave Graff, Tim Sultan.

1 JOHN ANTLIFF: Thanks. I'm John Antliff,
2 A-N-T-L-I-F-F. Double F as in Frank.

3 I'm from Oro Valley, representing myself. And I
4 just want to make a brief statement to the effect that the
5 proposed CD 1 is not compact and does not respect
6 communities of interest.

7 Oro Valley, Marana, and Saddlebrooke have nothing
8 in common with Flagstaff. They should be moved into CD 2.

9 That would make both districts more compact and
10 will respect communities of interest.

11 Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Gary Gomez, representing self,
14 from Pima.

15 GARY GOMEZ: Hi. I'm Gary Gomez, G-O-M-E-Z.

16 I came to speak on primarily CD 1, which is
17 bizarre to say the least. I really don't understand it.

18 I've lived in Flag. It's very much a different
19 mentality of Flagstaff from Oro Valley.

20 How that can be tied together is beyond
21 imagination.

22 This district is too large. As was previously
23 mentioned, borders a number of states. And does not respect
24 communities of interest.

25 Communities of interest to me is far more

1 important.

2 People don't buy a house because of what
3 congressional district they're in. They buy a house because
4 of the people that live there, the schools, the activities.

5 And by the constitution, communities of interest
6 should be respected.

7 This district must be changed. It is just not a
8 workable district whatsoever.

9 Representation would be minimal for one area or
10 the other. If the representative lives in the southern part
11 of the state, they're probably not going to get up to the
12 northern part very often, or vice versa.

13 Legislative districts.

14 A lot of people made a lot more better comments
15 than I can make on that.

16 But I'm very concerned with CD 1, and I hope that
17 you all would consider taking Oro Valley and bringing it
18 back into, you know, Tucson metro in some form or another,
19 Congressional Districts 2 or 3.

20 It just makes sense.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 Our next speaker, David Graff, representing self,
24 from Tucson.

25 DAVID GRAFF: Hi. My name is David Graff,

1 G-R-A-F-F.

2 First I want to thank you guys for your time for
3 listening to all the concerns, and obviously there's a lot
4 of them.

5 My concern -- my first concern is that the
6 University of Arizona and downtown are combined with south
7 Tucson in central District 3, while I believe the U of A
8 should probably be, and most neighborhoods that surround it,
9 should be in the central -- not central, Congressional
10 District 2.

11 And possibly two should be split along the train
12 tracks that separate downtown from Fourth Avenue and most
13 of -- and a lot of southern Tucson from northern Tucson.

14 The second thing is that Congressional District 3
15 should not include parts of both Phoenix and the Phoenix
16 metro area and Tucson, as I don't think any of the
17 communities, there's any, like, similar interests in terms
18 of that.

19 And I also believe that central District 1 is a
20 little bit too, too large. I don't think it can represent
21 communities of interest the way it is designed.

22 However, I don't necessarily agree with everyone
23 that Marana and Oro Valley need to be in central District 2,
24 because doing so might make the district uncompetitive. And
25 I think competitiveness is a bigger concern, should be a

1 bigger concern to evaluate.

2 As for the legislative map, I think that
3 especially in the Phoenix area, I think it's largely
4 uncompetitive the way it is designed.

5 Specifically, LD 23 needs to be redesigned.

6 I think part where it stretches into Scottsdale,
7 it shouldn't go quite that far to the south.

8 LD 18 and 26 I think should be designed a little
9 differently to be more competitive.

10 And LD 30 and 20 need to be changed as well.

11 And similar, LD 25, LD 22, LD 19, and LD 20 in my
12 opinion are not competitive as they both strongly in favor
13 of one party.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

16 Our next speaker is Tim Sultan, representing self,
17 from Tucson.

18 After Tim is Shirl Lamonna, Dee Pfeiffer, and
19 Benjamin Brookhart.

20 TIM SULTAN: Hi there. My name is Tim, Tim
21 Sultan. It's S-U-L-T-A-N.

22 And I'm from Tucson.

23 And thanks for letting me speak.

24 First, you know, I just want to applaud you. You
25 guys are incredible public servants. All the time you're

1 spending on this with your families and jobs and everything
2 else, so thank you. Thank you.

3 And I understand you have a few slings and arrows
4 that have been thrown at you too, so I appreciate you
5 dodging those and coming back.

6 I -- well, who is it, Winston Churchill said
7 democracy is the worst form of government, except for all
8 the rest.

9 And it is a messy process that you're doing, but
10 you're making democracy better. And we're all better for
11 it. So thank you.

12 I came here tonight to speak to competitiveness
13 and to just say that I think you did a great job.

14 I looked at the congressional map. And I live
15 here in Tucson, have lived here my whole life, born and
16 raised here. And I think that you did great.

17 So I came just to say hold steady. You don't need
18 to change a thing. But since I been here, I've listened to
19 some of these, these comments, and a lot of folks have good
20 points.

21 And I just wanted to address a couple of them.

22 To me personally, the most important thing is
23 competitiveness.

24 So I think on that mark you, you, you did a great
25 job, at least here in my hometown.

1 And the reason I think it's important, a couple
2 other folks mentioned it, but it really frustrates me as a
3 citizen that we have sometimes so polarized representatives
4 that we have folks, you know, far left and far right, and
5 then no one gets along, and we can't get anything done.

6 I think that competitiveness helps us find the
7 best candidate, regardless of party.

8 So I think that we're all going to be better for
9 it.

10 A lot of folks have mentioned communities of
11 interest, which I hadn't thought too much about before
12 coming here tonight. But some -- we mentioned Marana,
13 Saddlebrooke, and Oro Valley. And, you know, sure, I think
14 that those three clearly are a community of interest.

15 We all think of them as that. It's pretty
16 obvious.

17 But I think what you've done actually is you fixed
18 a lot of the things that were in the old map that didn't
19 really make sense.

20 I mean, we have, you know, a lot of communities of
21 interest that really weren't connected.

22 You know, currently I think we have those areas,
23 Oro Valley and the others, in the same district as Naco,
24 which clearly had nothing in common.

25 So I think you're actually doing a great job of

1 keeping those three together.

2 I grew up in San Hughes, and I am glad to see that
3 you put that back in, in the district with the rest of them,
4 so that those of us who went to school, you know, on the
5 east side and grew up in San Hughes, we feel like we're all
6 sort of in the same area as our friends and neighbors,
7 because that really is a community.

8 So I guess my point really is is to come back to
9 holding steady and continue dodging those bullets if you
10 can. And thank you for your hard work.

11 I think you did it right.

12 So I know a lot of people have small things they
13 would like to tweak here and there, but in general I think
14 you've accomplished your goal.

15 So I think you can pretty much settle this and go
16 home tonight.

17 So, it was my pleasure speaking with you, and
18 thanks again for the time.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 TIM SULTAN: I think Winston Churchill is smiling
21 down upon us. And you've done your job.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thanks.

23 Our next speaker is Shirl Lamonna, representing
24 self, from Oro Valley.

25 Followed by Dee Pfeiffer, Benjamin Brookhart, and

1 the last request to speak form I have is Barney Brenner.

2 SHIRL LAMONNA: My name is Shirl Lamonna, it's
3 S-H-I-R-L, L-A-M-O-N-N-A.

4 And as you all know, I'm no stranger to your
5 redistricting meetings.

6 But unlike many who are here tonight, I got
7 involved in this process early on.

8 And not because some college professor or
9 political leader told me to come here and handed me his
10 talking points and told me what I should share with you. My
11 comments are mine. I sat here throughout the night
12 scribbling them, because I worked today and I didn't have
13 time to prepare all of this.

14 They do contain many points that were brought out
15 by others tonight from Oro Valley and Marana, simply because
16 we are a community of interest and we are like minded.

17 So in terms of the congressional districts, as
18 many as have said before me, CD 1 is not compact. It's
19 simply too large for effective representation of the
20 citizens.

21 And while someone mentioned it was okay, you know,
22 back in the days of Mo Udall, I kind of think that the
23 population has grown considerably since then, so that seems
24 to me like a bit of an odd rationale for accepting that
25 reasoning.

1 CD 1 also doesn't have any respect for our
2 communities of interest.

3 What on earth could a border town have in common
4 with Sedona or Flagstaff.

5 As far as the LDs, I live in the new LD 8 and
6 members of that community have told you repeatedly about the
7 Oro Valley, Marana business corridor, and the unique
8 relationship that we have with Saddlebrooke. And yet you
9 ignored that community of interest. You split Marana into
10 LD 11. And you need to make us whole again and put us all
11 into CD 2.

12 Finally we've heard a lot of competitiveness
13 tonight. And for some reason you and many of the others
14 choose to ignore the requirement of Prop 106 which has been
15 identified as dead last on the handout, and that is that
16 competitive districts are favored where there's no
17 significant detriment to the other goals.

18 And sadly these maps do offer a significant
19 detriment to our state, and I sincerely hope this round of
20 public hearings is not in vain.

21 Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Dee
25 Pfeiffer, representing self, from Pima.

1 DEE PFEIFFER: Dee Pfeiffer, P-F-E-I-F-F-E-R.

2 I came tonight with some suggestions to the maps.
3 And after I sat here through this whole meeting, I will
4 submit those changes via the website.

5 But mostly I'm concerned with LD 1, which has now
6 put four solid conservatives against each other. Seems
7 pretty obvious to me the purpose of doing that.

8 Others have been very complimentary of the
9 Commission. And I too appreciate your time and effort.

10 However, a lot of people mentioned pressures put
11 on the Commission, threatening to the Commission, attacks,
12 being bullied and intimidated, dodging bullets. I just have
13 to wonder why -- or if they just don't understand why that
14 is happening to the Commission.

15 That it's due to the misleading party title of our
16 independent commissioner, the possible unlawful process of
17 choosing the mapping company, and mostly because the
18 Democrats and chairwoman refuses to testify to the
19 attorney general and clear up the missteps regarding the
20 scoring sheets and even the destruction of those cards.

21 I really encourage the Commission to be open about
22 that and speak to the attorney general.

23 I reread Proposition 106 again. I've done it
24 several times, but once again, and I see that it still says
25 that competitiveness is the last priority and is to be

1 considered and accomplished only if the competitive district
2 does not harm the other goals listed.

3 No matter how many people want it to be a
4 competitive district, Prop 106 states otherwise.

5 You need to get it changed if that's what you want
6 it to say.

7 Communities of interest and compactness must take
8 priority over competitiveness per your Prop 106.

9 I voted for Prop 106. It sounded great. It
10 sounded fair.

11 How misleading was it.

12 Five people deciding our fate for ten years makes
13 no sense.

14 It is far too expensive by the time we get through
15 the legal battle that is sure to follow because of the
16 closed situation with the board not -- or the Commission not
17 reporting and testifying in front of the attorney general.

18 I hope there is a call for a repeal of 106, and
19 let our elected representatives, which we elected, represent
20 us by drawing the lines next time in open session of the
21 congress where we can all watch it on C-SPAN or whatever,
22 but this has been just an atrocious process.

23 Thank you for letting me speak.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Benjamin
2 Brookhart, representing self, from Pima. And then followed
3 by Barney Brenner.

4 BENJAMIN BROOKHART: Madam Chair, commissioners.
5 My name is Benjamin Brookhart, B-E-N-J-A-M-I-N,
6 B-R-O-O-K-H-A-R-T.

7 Thank you for again for allowing me to speak to
8 you concerning these congressional and legislative districts
9 that are being drawn.

10 I just want to say first off that I represent
11 myself. I don't represent an interest group. I'm not
12 trying to support some organization.

13 I live in the proposed area of Legislative
14 District 11, in Picture Rocks.

15 And I'm a hard worker. I pay my taxes. I vote.
16 And I believe that one of the things that concerns me the
17 most is that we're doing so much to let one group of people
18 over another group of people rather than just focusing on
19 total population in regards to and respect to geographic
20 areas and communities of like interest.

21 Now, the purpose of you guys drawing up these
22 lines is so that we have equitable representation per
23 population for each district. And I'm concerned that what's
24 going on is that we're trying to determine the outcome of
25 elections.

1 And that is not what we into should be doing
2 whatsoever.

3 That should be determined by those that live in
4 their local areas, and that competitiveness should be looked
5 at based on the message of their candidates in their areas,
6 not based on the drawing up of these lines.

7 Now, I have to say that you guys have been working
8 very hard, and that there is a map that you guys put
9 together that I thought was a good sounding board to build
10 off of, and that's the river/three border combo version 1A
11 map.

12 I have it right here.

13 And I'll certainly issue it to you.

14 But the thing that I liked about it is that you
15 have basically two rural districts, you have three border
16 districts, you have compactness in terms of communities of
17 like interest within the Phoenix area of Maricopa. And the
18 other thing that I liked about it the most was that you
19 could divide all your legislative districts pretty fairly
20 and equally along county lines within those districts.

21 So I'm very confused and puzzled as to why we're
22 not operating off that map as opposed to the one we
23 currently have now, where the Congressional District No. 1
24 is clearly disproportionate, and, I just would like to
25 suggest that we consider looking at this from a different

1 standpoint, starting off with this river/three border combo
2 version 1A map, and that that we scrap the legislative map
3 completely and start again so that we fit these legislative
4 districts in within those congressional districts. It will
5 make sense, and, you know, in regards to that, I mean, even
6 a two year old can put this thing together.

7 I mean, it wouldn't be difficult for them to
8 figure out how to put this map together versus what we have
9 now, which is so confusing, so I'd like to suggest that.

10 Also, in regards to where I live specifically,
11 being in Picture Rocks, Picture Rocks, Marana, Oro Valley,
12 Saddlebrooke, all these areas of communities are very
13 tightly knit. Most of my social circles, the industry, the
14 resources, the commerce, is deeply connected. And we're
15 getting split.

16 And I'd ask that that be once again put back
17 together.

18 I thank you for your time.

19 I hope that you guys would maintain openness in
20 what I have shared with you tonight.

21 I think that it's reflective of the fact that I'm
22 focusing on the individual and not groups, so that we're
23 having representation based on the total population in a
24 geographic area where people are determining their own
25 destiny because of where they live, not because of these

1 lines being purposely changed around based on party
2 affiliation or racial balance or any of that. That should
3 not even be a factor.

4 And I appreciate the time that you've given me.
5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sure. Thank you.

7 Our next speaker is Barney Brenner, representing
8 self, from Pima.

9 BARNEY BRENNER: Yeah, there seems to be one after
10 me --

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I don't have one, so -- and
12 I'll do a call to the audience after.

13 BARNEY BRENNER: My name is Barney Brenner,
14 B-R-E-N-N-E-R.

15 I've got concerns about any number of the
16 districts.

17 In the first decades of our country, voting
18 districts were naturally compact and represented communities
19 of interest.

20 Then a man came along by the name of Elbridge
21 Gerry and became our fifth vice president, and he drew a
22 district purely for partisan political advantage that was
23 bizarrely drawn and extended through, I believe it was,
24 Massachusetts, to pick up voters for something that
25 Ms. Pfeiffer earlier alluded to, but didn't state clearly

1 when she said four conservatives were brought together in
2 one district for obvious reasons.

3 But I'll state the reasons.

4 It seems to have been done for purely partisan
5 political advantage. Which is against multiple laws and
6 against the spirit of what they're supposed to be doing
7 here.

8 Now, at the time what Mr. Gerry did was legal.

9 And it remained that way through much of the
10 history of our country, where the law allowed legislators to
11 draw -- these are representatives elected by the people who
12 drew district lines. But they did it within the bounds of
13 the law.

14 And in the late '90s the citizens of Arizona
15 passed Proposition 106, which was supposedly to put an end
16 to such travesties of drawing districts purely for partisan
17 political advantage. And it was intended and intended us to
18 return to a system which placed a higher priority on keeping
19 communities of interest together.

20 And also which was, by the way, required on the
21 Voting Rights Act.

22 And in addition it was to place an emphasis on
23 compactness, which is of crucial consideration to voters.

24 And I think it was our first speaker, Olivia
25 Cajero Bedford, was thrilled that her district was compact

1 and it would be nice if this consideration was extended to
2 as many other voters and candidates as possible.

3 Somebody made mention of the needs of the many
4 and the needs of the few.

5 Well, this would certainly be of help to the many.
6 Although in this country, the needs of the law are what's
7 paramount.

8 And it was mentioned many, many times tonight the
9 word competitiveness or competitive district. But it
10 doesn't matter how many times you mention the word or the
11 phrase, it doesn't change the law.

12 And although it's not the only one, not the only
13 problem district, when you take a district that puts Marana,
14 takes it out of Pima County, puts it all the way to the Utah
15 border, the northern border of the state of Arizona, also
16 puts it in a district which goes to the southeast corner of
17 the state of Arizona, you are deliberately diluting
18 communities of interest in violation of the law, including
19 portions of the U.S. Constitution, the Arizona Constitution,
20 the Voting Rights Act, and Prop 106, the very law that you
21 are sworn to uphold.

22 So if there's any suggestions to be made, it would
23 be similar to the one that Benjamin just a couple speakers
24 ago mentioned, to go back to an earlier version and work
25 from there prior to this gerrymandered effort which is

1 against the law on many levels.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. So I think
5 Christine Bauserman would like to speak. And we'll just
6 need you to fill out a request to speak form --

7 CHRISTINE BAUSERMAN: Hi. Christine Bauserman,
8 B-A-U-S-E-R-M-A-N.

9 This will be my last time speaking. I was at my
10 son's college the last time you were in Tucson, which is why
11 I was not here.

12 I know you been tracking all my comments, so I
13 started this out wanting four border districts.

14 I actually had a map I submitted.

15 And something I have seen through the process of
16 this map making is it was too difficult to do. The maps
17 really went all the way up and snaked into Phoenix.

18 And like you, hearing all these comments, nobody
19 seems to really want that.

20 That map that he talked about with the three
21 border districts, I actually liked a lot too at one time,
22 but I don't know how much goes into Phoenix.

23 My point being, I preferred three to four border
24 districts, but I don't know if it will work.

25 This definitely does not work.

1 I've talked to people who live in ranches out
2 there, and they're afraid. Because they're -- you know, the
3 guy who was killed, the rancher down there, lives in of
4 little border district. And they know they're not going to
5 get any representation. And they were just dealing with the
6 horrible tragedy of Gabby Giffords.

7 You know, they're not getting representation that
8 is important to them.

9 So I think we should go back to two.

10 I know on this map you're asking for a domino
11 effect, so here are some lines.

12 Cochise, all of Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee back
13 into two, Saddlebrooke and Oro Valley, and then in
14 Pinal County you really could take the rest of that county,
15 which is the Florence, Gold Canyon, Green Valley, San Tan,
16 all that, put Pinal County back in CD 1.

17 And then I don't really know the rest of the area,
18 but I know I've heard a lot from Flagstaff that the county
19 people, the non-reservation people, would rather be over in
20 four.

21 So I don't know exactly how that population would
22 work, but I do know -- I just saw a recent map where -- I
23 should have wrote it down. It was on -- the state has a
24 rural population of 1,420,448 people.

25 Two congressional districts, if you minus those

1 up, that leaves 174,000. The population of Cochise, Graham,
2 and Greenlee is 170,000, so you could easily do that.

3 The LD areas. We have had hours and hours and
4 hours of testimony in Tucson.

5 Is that horribly -- it looks like I'll be in some
6 LD area.

7 But Rita Ranch, you know, a lot of the testimony
8 of communities of interest of Pima County needs to be
9 listened to a little bit more, with that Tanque Verde,
10 mountain corridor, Rita Ranch, Sahuarita, Green Valley being
11 split with some simple little switcheroos that you could
12 make there.

13 And since everybody wants it more competitive, I'm
14 been in a CD area with a Democrat for eight years, so give
15 me some Republicans in there, so we can give them all what
16 they want.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19 Is there anyone else that we've missed that wanted
20 to speak tonight?

21 (No oral response.)

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. Wow. Well, we thank
23 you for hanging in with us, and for anybody still watching
24 online, if they are.

25 Let me, let me turn it over to my fellow

1 commissioners and see if they have anything to say.

2 Commissioner Stertz?

3 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

4 For anybody that's still here, I wanted to thank
5 you for still sticking around.

6 I was trying to keep a tally tonight of people
7 that came up and complimented us on our hard work and then
8 wanted competitive districts.

9 And they equaled each other.

10 So thank you for the compliments and thank you for
11 asking for competitive districts.

12 It was an interesting exercise to find out the
13 balance of talking points that were looking at
14 competitiveness versus looking at independent thought and
15 independent thinking.

16 I'm hoping that as we move through these last half
17 of comment periods that we're going to get that we're going
18 to get a lot of people coming out with independent thought
19 and independent thinking and checking the talking points at
20 the door, because it's not doing us any good other than
21 piling a bunch of stuff on the record.

22 So thank you for coming out tonight.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 And Commissioner McNulty.

25 COMMISSIONER McNULTY: Thank you for sharing your

1 evening with us.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And with that, the time now
3 is 9:56 p.m., and we'll declare this meeting adjourned.

4 Thank you all for coming out tonight.

5 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned.)

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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
7 153 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 1st day of
11 November, 2011.

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C. Martin Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50162

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