

Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Phoenix(South Mountain Community College), AZ: June 12, 2001

“The language issue is a special needs for residents other communities may not be sensitive to. For this town I urge you, the town of Guadalupe, South Phoenix, the Gila River community should not be in a congressional and legislative district with Ahwatukee, Tempe, or Chandler. Guadalupe has very little culturally in common with these communities. Also, with respect to political subdivisions, precincts, the town of Guadalupe congressional and legislative districts. Mary Rose’s areas, the peach, blue, green areas, predominantly minority, a very segregated society, communities I’d point out.” – Frances Osuna, Pg 14 Ln 14-25

“The main issue is the lack of likeness with the communities that may be considered for merging with South Phoenix. For example, I’ll use our neighboring area of Ahwatukee. They have very little like concerns or issues with South Phoenix. Merging South Phoenix with a community without likeness, for any community, would be very harmful and wrong to us.” – Norma Munoz, Pg 15 Ln 17-23

“For that reason, the Surprise, and again I say the old town sit in El Mirage, I’m asking you even throw in an isolate area, and the isolated area is way on the top, you consider our request very seriously and consider putting us in the Congressional and Legislative district with Tolleson, Avondale, or any other districts.” – Rachel Villanueva, Pg 19 Ln 9-15

“To have Garfield bisected by a Congressional or Legislative District line would be potentially disastrous. Our efforts to work with elected officials on needs for a single, unified neighborhood could be doubled.”-Jeff King, Pg 24 Ln 5-9

“Allow Garfield and other small, impoverished inner-city neighborhoods that retain the unity they have fought so hard to attain as a community of interest to stay together.” – King, Pg 24 Ln 17-20

“The Ahwatukee foothills area is a community of interest, hopefully a community of interest. It’s a community of interest bounded on three sides by south mountain, Gila River, bounded by the mountain with three zip codes.” – John McComish, Pg 28 Ln 3-7

“You’ve taken out the community, the town of Guadalupe. Guadalupe, we made an extra effort to give the voting base, Gila River, Guadalupe, Ak-Chin, 40 percent Pascua Yaqui Indians, you’ve taken many groups out, Avondale out of District Seven, and included Gold Canyon, Jack Nicholas, Winkelman, Hayden.” – Senator Rios, Pg 32 Ln 23-25 and Pg 33 Ln 1-3

“People don’t think of South Phoenix as part of Phoenix. It is, historically, and it deserves its own recognition as well.” – Ed Clark, Pg 40 Ln 5-7

“We end up being urban with overrepresentation for rural representation.” – Bradley Vandermark, Pg 40 Ln 23-24

NOTE: These summaries and excerpts were developed for the Independent Redistricting Commission by its consultant, National Demographics Corporation, and have not been reviewed by the Commission prior to posting. They are not official statements of the Commission and represent only the consultant’s best effort to identify major themes and highlights of each public hearing. The excerpts were chosen by the consultant in an effort to identify common themes and especially noteworthy statements.

These materials are placed here for citizen review and with the hope that they will encourage comments. Comments can be made on the form provided.