

Excerpts From the Independent Redistricting Commission Public Hearing in Flagstaff, AZ: June 19, 2001

“The Verde Valley area represents a community of interest as defined in the legislation guiding the commission. This is true from both a geographic as well as a political point of view” –Judith Cooper, Pg 11

“Also Verde Villages, an unincorporated area of 9,000 people, is also divided right down the middle for no apparent logical reason. The League of Women Voters ask that municipal boundaries be kept whole in the new redistricting plan.”-Cooper Pg 11

“The Navajo population on its reservation in Arizona far out number Hopi. In fact, the Hopi constitutes small minority that is less than a tenth of the size of another minority, the Navajo. Our voice would easily be extinguished by this much larger community if we were not separately represented. Hopi access to state and federal process would inevitably disappear under the weight of Navajo interests and votes.” – Wayne Taylor, Chairman of the Hopi Tribe, Pg 12 and 13

“We very much want the entire Hopi reservation, as a community of common history, culture, and tradition, including the village of Moencopi to the west, to be consolidated into District 3 and Legislative District 2.” – Wally Youvella, Council Representative of First Mesa, Pg 14

“We would not like to be split. In addition, going north up through Oak Creek Canyon, we would like to keep that area in the same district as the city of Sedona. We do very definitely feel that we have a community of interest with all the Verde Valley and with the Flagstaff and the Northern Arizona area.” – Anita McFarlane, speaking for the City of Sedona, Pg 22

“The rural votes and voice have more in common with each other politically than they do with people in Phoenix.” – Louise Yellowman, Pg 23

“I would like to suggest that if Mohave County, I know Mohave wants to be part of West Phoenix, fine I guess. I don’t think the rest of Northern Arizona wants to be connected to Phoenix.” - Yellowman, Pg 24

“We cannot go about splitting up communities. Sedona has lived through this horror for many many years just between Yavapai and Coconino Counties.” – Al Richmond, Pg 27

“Right now, the Northern Arizona Council of Governments is made up of Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Yavapai Counties. So if we added Yuma and La Paz or Mohave and La Paz, it would give us a nice rural Northern Arizona district.” – Chip Davis, Pg 28

“I believe that lack of water should be included within a district. How we handle our water resources now and in the future, correlates the quality of life we will have in Arizona in the future, good long term deepening of available and limitations of natural

resources, like water, as well as a coming together of similar values that allow a common voice.” – Doree Christensen, Pg 29

“I believe I heard a suggestion from County Supervisor Chip Davis, that you align the northern portions and if you like the idea of counties, that you align Mohave, La Paz, Yavapai, Coconino, and Navajo County. My greatest concern is being lost in the kingdom of Maricopa.” – Tony Ginia, Pg 33

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.