

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

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November 5, 2011
3:30 p.m.

Location

City of Casa Grande
City Council Chambers
510 East Florence Boulevard
Casa Grande, Arizona 85211

Attending

Richard P. Stertz, Commissioner

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

PREPARED BY:

AZ Litigation Support, LLC
Michelle D. Elam, CR
Certified Reporter
CR No. 50637

1 Casa Grande, Arizona
2 November 5, 2011
3 3:30 p.m.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: The time is 3:30.

5 Welcome to the last in the series of 31
6 meetings -- outreach meetings for the Arizona
7 Independent Redistricting Commission.

8 My name is Rick Stertz. I am one of five
9 commissioners on the Independent Redistricting
10 Commission.

11 We are not live-streaming today. We do
12 not have that capacity, but this is being recorded.
13 So hello to my fellow commissioners that will be
14 watching this after the fact.

15 A couple of introductions I wanted to
16 make, but before I do that, I just wanted to say
17 that this has been an emotionally-charged week.

18 There has been a lot that has been
19 written and said about what has transpired, and I
20 just wanted you all to know that we're going to
21 appreciate all of the comments that you make.

22 So we want to try to capture the
23 information that you have got so that we can place
24 it into the record. And whether or not you have
25 filled out a yellow sheet like this to speak or have

1 filled out a blue sheet like this to get it into
2 testimony, all of the testimony, whether or not it's
3 given in writing or given verbally or given online
4 or mailed in, is all being accumulated and
5 assimilated and collated for us -- for all of the
6 commissioners to be reviewing so that we can create
7 a bigger understanding and story about what your
8 feelings are about the draft maps as they were
9 published.

10 I want to introduce first some of our
11 staff.

12 We've got Kristina Gomez, who is our
13 deputy executive director in the back corner of the
14 room.

15 If there's anything that you need, any
16 paper that you need, any issues that you want to
17 take up, Kristina will be able to assist you.

18 Also if you have any written comments you
19 have already prepared that you will be reading into
20 the record or maybe that the time frame may not --
21 you've got a lot that you want to place in, you
22 might not get to it all verbally, make sure that you
23 get those documents to Kristina and she'll place
24 those into the record.

25 We've got Karen Herrman and Shane

1 Shields, both of our community outreach
2 representatives are also in the back of the room.

3 Our chief technology officer behind the
4 large black box over here is Buck Forst.

5 Taking our minutes is Michelle Elam. And
6 if during the course of the meeting when you come up
7 to give testimony, make sure that you spell your
8 name and -- clearly so that -- before you start
9 giving your testimony so that she can get that into
10 the record.

11 We also have Andrew Drechsler from
12 Strategic Telemetry who is going to be giving a
13 presentation and will be able after the meeting to
14 answer any questions.

15 And lastly we've got Carlos Reyes who
16 will be our Spanish interpreter if any
17 interpretation needs to be made.

18 But before we get started, let's all
19 stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

20 (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

21 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

22 I always enjoy that part of the meeting.
23 It's just a great way to begin.

24 Before we get started with Andrew, I want
25 to thank also the city of Casa Grande for hosting us

1 this evening and giving us the opportunity to be in
2 this beautiful location.

3 I feel very distant from you being all
4 the way back here. I just did a meeting this
5 morning in Casa Grande (sic) and it was like
6 theater-in-the-round.

7 So before we go with Andrew, if Carlos
8 Reyes -- would he be able to step up and in English
9 and Spanish give the introduction.

10 CARLOS REYES: Good afternoon,
11 Commissioner Stertz.

12 Ladies and gentlemen, in accordance with
13 the Voting Rights Act, an interpreter will be
14 available at the public hearings in order to provide
15 interpreting services that might be needed for those
16 citizens needing interpreting services.

17 Please contact the interpreter present at
18 the meeting so that he or she can assist you.

19 And now I will read the script in Spanish
20 for the Spanish-speaking citizens.

21 (Speaking in Spanish.)

22 Thank you very much, Commissioner.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, Carlos.

24 And Carlos has been following us on the
25 tour as well.

1 This has been a very exciting last 30
2 days as we been traveling around the state. This is
3 the 31st city that we have been in. We've literally
4 collected thousands and thousands of pieces of
5 testimony, maps, data, speeches, e-mails, letters
6 that we're going to be going through.

7 Before we get started and turn it over to
8 Andrew, we've got about 20, 25 comment cards for
9 speeches. We'll probably use four minutes as the
10 timing.

11 So if you'll look at your presentation
12 and if you can think about whether or not you can
13 make the presentation within that time frame, that
14 gives us about two hours worth of presentation
15 tonight.

16 I think that -- I'll try to -- when you
17 hear the buzzer go off, try to wrap up your comments
18 if you can, but we're here to collect testimony, not
19 to cut you off.

20 So with no further adieu, I'm going to
21 turn this over to Andrew Drechsler for a
22 presentation on the redistricting process.

23 Andrew.

24 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Thank you very much,
25 Commissioner Stertz.

1 Before we get started today, we just
2 wanted to give a quick presentation that goes over
3 -- that gives an overview of the process and what
4 we're doing before we get your comments tonight. I
5 will also share the draft maps with you today.

6 So the Arizona's redistricting process is
7 governed by the state's Constitution as amended by
8 voters in 2000 with the passage of Proposition 106.

9 It stipulates that Arizona's Independent
10 Redistricting Commission redraw Arizona's
11 congressional and legislative lines districts to
12 reflect the results of the most recent census.

13 Due to the 2010 census, Arizona gained a
14 congressional seat. So we'll be going from eight
15 congressional seats to nine congressional seats.

16 The state senate will remain at 30 and
17 the house representatives will remain at 60 with two
18 members of the house of representatives nested
19 within each of the state senate seats.

20 What are the requirements of the state
21 Constitution per Proposition 106?

22 And these are really the guidelines that
23 the commissioners are using when they are making any
24 of the considerations in drawing the lines and
25 drawing the maps.

1 New district boundaries must, A, comply
2 with the U.S. Constitution and the Voting Rights
3 Act.

4 B, be equal population.

5 Criteria A and B are federally mandated
6 to the extent practicable, the districts must be C,
7 compact and contiguous; D, respect communities of
8 interest; E, use visible geographic features, city,
9 town, county boundaries, and undivided census tract;
10 and E -- I'm sorry, F, favor competitive districts
11 where no significant detriment to other goals.

12 We just wanted to do a quick overview of
13 the Voting Rights Act.

14 Arizona's congressional and legislative
15 districts must receive preclearance or approval from
16 the Department of Justice or a federal court under
17 Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act before they can
18 take effect.

19 To get preclearance, Arizona must
20 demonstrate that the new districts do not
21 discriminate against minority voters in purpose or
22 effect, which means that there can be no intentional
23 or accidental discrimination.

24 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting
25 plans can be retrogressive. The plans cannot

1 weakenfsuch or reduce minority voting rights.

2 The presence of discrimination can be
3 determined by analyzing population data and election
4 results.

5 And we actually have a short presentation
6 on the Voting Rights Act as well, presentation by
7 Bruce Adelson.

8 And, of course, on the 31st day of
9 hearings we have to have technology difficulties.

10 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Do you need five
11 minutes of stand-up here?

12 ANDREW DRECHSLER: So we're going to
13 listen to Bruce give this two-minute presentation.
14 I apologize for the delay.

15 ((Mr. Bruce Adelson's video presentation
16 was played.))

17 ANDREW DRECHSLER: Okay. Next we want to
18 do a quick overview of the redistricting process.
19 And there's really -- we broke it down into six
20 steps okay.

21 So the first step was setting up the
22 Commission. So earlier this year basically what was
23 created was a new state -- whole new state agency
24 and the commissioners were appointed following a
25 thorough screening process.

1 Each of the commissioners serve in a
2 voluntarily, unpaid role for the Commission.

3 The second step was the first round of
4 hearings.

5 Before a single line was drawn, the
6 Commission held 23 public hearings around the state
7 in July and August. We got input from members of
8 the public about issues relevant to the
9 redistricting such as geography, community of
10 interest, minority voting rights and
11 competitiveness.

12 Third step was the map.

13 Per Proposition 106, we needed to start
14 with a clean slate. That means that we couldn't
15 take into consideration where any incumbents lived
16 or what any of the district lines looked like from
17 the 2010 elections. So we had to wipe everything
18 clean.

19 Next, we divided the state into equal
20 population and compact-like grids.

21 Again, per Proposition 106, they asked us
22 to create a grid map. This was approved on August
23 18th.

24 Since adopting the grid maps, the
25 Commission has met over 25 times to consider

1 adjustments to the grid to accommodate all of the
2 state constitutional criteria.

3 During this time they received additional
4 public comment and draft maps, so this was done at
5 the end of August throughout September into October.

6 Then we had the approval of the maps.

7 On October 3rd, the Commission approved
8 the draft congressional map that incorporated the
9 changes based on the constitutional criteria and
10 then the legislative map was adopted on
11 October 10th.

12 Next is step four, the second round of
13 hearings, which you are part of today.

14 We're currently visiting 30 towns and
15 cities around the state. Today is the very last
16 meeting, as we mentioned, where we've received
17 additional public input on the draft maps throughout
18 October and into November.

19 The next step is the final map, step
20 five.

21 Upon completion of the public comment
22 period, the Commission will adopt final maps.

23 And then the final step is preclearance.
24 Because Arizona is subject to Section 5 of the
25 Voting Rights Act, the district maps must be

1 approved by the federal Department of Justice or a
2 federal court in Washington, D.C., before they be
3 used for Arizona's elections.

4 So before we show you the draft map, we
5 just wanted to go over the process.

6 This map was the map that is currently --
7 was approved by the last Commission and most
8 recently used in the 2010 elections.

9 Per Proposition 106, we started clean
10 with a clean slate and then we built the grid map.

11 Again, the grid map only took into
12 consideration two of the six criteria, equal
13 population and compactness.

14 So once the grid map was considered,
15 that's -- when approved on August 18th, this is
16 where the commissioners met over 25 times at the end
17 of August and September and October to make changes
18 to the grid map, consider -- they took into
19 consideration the six criteria and thousands of
20 comments from the public. And here before you you
21 see the draft map.

22 Some highlights of the draft map is it
23 has two predominantly rural districts, three border
24 districts, three districts in the Greater Tucson
25 region, five districts that are entirely within

1 Maricopa County. It avoids splitting Arizona's
2 Indian reservations, and two districts where the
3 minority voters have the opportunity to elect a
4 candidate of their choice.

5 The legislative map process followed a
6 very similar process.

7 Again, this is the map that was approved
8 by the last Commission and was most recently used in
9 the 2010 elections.

10 Again, we started with a clean slate.
11 Per Proposition 106, we didn't take into
12 consideration where any incumbent legislators lived
13 and we didn't consider previous lines. And then we
14 proceeded with a grid map that was approved on
15 August 18th.

16 Like the congressional grid map, it only
17 took into consideration two of the six criteria,
18 equal population and compactness.

19 And from there, that's where the
20 commissioners took in the other four criteria and
21 came up with a draft map that you see here.

22 Some of the things that we wanted to
23 point out about the draft map, in the districts that
24 were shown that were used for the last -- for the
25 2010 elections -- the population of those districts

1 ranged from 155,000 to 378,000. So that's obviously
2 one reason we had to shift the lines around, is to
3 come up with the concept of one person, one vote.

4 The current draft map has roughly 207,000
5 to 215,000. Under the state Constitution, we have
6 the -- I think the deviance of up to 10 percent
7 deviation, and I think we're under 5 percent here.

8 For the congressional map, I just wanted
9 to point out that the congressional map has to be
10 down to one person. So all of the districts in the
11 congressional map are equal and one of the districts
12 I think has one additional person.

13 To comply with the Voting Rights Act, the
14 draft map includes ten districts where minority
15 voters have the opportunity to elect a candidate of
16 their choice.

17 The draft map has three districts wholly
18 within Pima County and three additional Southern
19 Arizona districts, seventeen districts primarily
20 within Maricopa County, and nine primarily rural
21 districts.

22 We want your input. That's a big reason
23 why we're here today. If you haven't already, you
24 can fill out one of the yellow request to speaker
25 form -- request to speak forms and come up and

1 address your comments.

2 We want to hear what you like about the
3 maps, what you might not like about the maps, what
4 changes you would recommend. We would want to hear
5 them. You can also comment on any of the additional
6 constitutional criteria or give us comments on both
7 the congressional and draft maps.

8 Besides speaking at today's hearing, in
9 the packet of information you received there is a
10 blue sheet at the back and you can either fill this
11 out and hand it in today to one of the
12 representatives. Alternatively, at the bottom of
13 the sheet is the address. So if you wanted to mail
14 this in or call, the phone number is on there, or
15 you can visit us at www.azredistricting.org.
16 There's a public comment section on there that you
17 can fill out your comments as well.

18 And any of the comments, no matter what
19 format you give to us, they will be recorded as part
20 of the permanent record.

21 Here is just a screenshot of our home
22 page. We just wanted to highlight a couple of
23 different things.

24 On the top left you'll see an arrow that
25 says "maps." If you click on there, there's -- you

1 can find the grid maps, you can find the draft maps,
2 and you can also find -- during the period from the
3 grid to the draft maps, there was a number of
4 scenarios that the commissioners asked for. What we
5 call the what-if maps, and you can click on there
6 and see any of the what-if maps.

7 There's another arrow that points to the
8 meetings. If you want to watch and see the how the
9 commissioners came to the draft maps, all of the
10 meetings are online. All of the transcripts are
11 there so you can -- if you're bored tonight, you can
12 go home and start watching a hundred-plus hours of
13 the meetings, the 25 meetings took place at the end
14 of August and September and October and see the
15 development of how the maps went from the grid maps
16 to the draft maps.

17 And the public comment section, if you
18 click on there, you'll be able to give additional
19 public comments. You may get home tonight, you may
20 look at the maps and have some ideas, thoughts,
21 suggestions, by all means, give public comments it
22 to us there.

23 Down at the bottom there's another arrow
24 that says "maps." And if you click on either of the
25 two pictures of the maps that you see there, it will

1 take you to a page like this.

2 This page has a wealth of information.
3 First of all, it has maps in a number of different
4 formats that you can review the map.

5 There's a number of different reports.
6 There's population tables on the maps, there's
7 competitiveness tables, which show competitive
8 measures. There's compactness measures, there's
9 splits reports, and there's -- some of these reports
10 show how the draft maps compare to the maps that
11 were used in the 2010 elections.

12 So if you want to go in and compare the
13 two, you would be able to do that.

14 One of the things that we have circled
15 here is the ability to go look Google maps. If you
16 click on here -- this is a feature that the public
17 has really liked at the other meetings.

18 It will bring you to a page that looks
19 like this. And basically it's a Google map that has
20 the districts highlighted. This one shows the
21 congressional districts.

22 And what you're able to do is you're able
23 to scroll in and really zoom in and see what the
24 boundaries of are your district or you can go to
25 your neighboring districts -- neighbor's districts

1 and see what the boundaries are of their districts.

2 Here is just a quick screenshot that
3 shows you some of the level of detail that you would
4 be able to see when you zoom in. This is just a
5 screenshot of Maricopa congressional districts.
6 Four different congressional districts here and you
7 can see down to the exact neighborhoods, you can
8 have a map view or a satellite view if you wanted to
9 see various geographic features as well.

10 Finally, we want you to stay connected.
11 We encourage you to visit our website at
12 www.azredistricting.org. As we mentioned, there's a
13 wealth of information.

14 One of the features that we have on there
15 is draw your own map. We have an online mapping
16 program. You can follow any of the -- you can
17 review any of the past meetings. And as we move
18 into this stage where we're going to be finalizing
19 the map, you can get information on meetings, you
20 can watch -- most of our meetings are streamed
21 online. So if you're not able to drive and be here
22 in person, you can watch the proceedings online.

23 And you can also follow us on Twitter and
24 friend us on Facebook.

25 I just want to thank you. We really look

1 forward to hearing what you have to say about the
2 maps. I was as -- Commissioner Stertz mentioned,
3 I'll be here after the meeting. So if anybody has
4 any questions, by all means, feel free to come up
5 and ask me and I will be happy to answer them.

6 Thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, Andrew.

8 As is customary with our meetings, we
9 give preference to our leadership to speak first;
10 our mayors, our representatives, and our boards of
11 supervisors and then I take the rest of them in the
12 order that they were received.

13 So without further adieu, what I'll also
14 be doing is to list off the first three folks so
15 that you'll know that you will be coming up, you'll
16 be on deck or getting ready to speak so you can
17 start to get your thoughts in order.

18 So let's go ahead and get started, and
19 we'll start off first with the mayor of Casa Grande,
20 mayor Bob Jackson.

21 BOB JACKSON: Thank you.

22 I'm sorry I didn't mean to blind you with
23 that light. I was trying to make it a little darker
24 during the PowerPoint presentation.

25 My name is Bob Jackson. I'm the mayor of

1 the city of Casa Grande.

2 Do you want me to spell it for you or are
3 you okay?

4 THE COURT REPORTER: No.

5 BOB JACKSON: I'm here today not only as
6 mayor of Casa Grande but I'm also the chairman of
7 the Casa Grande -- or the Pinal County Alliance
8 Legislative Committee.

9 And we had previously provided some
10 suggested mapping to the IRC in hopes that we could
11 help solve some of the dilemmas that you guys have
12 at trying to put your maps together.

13 While I'm sure you know who the Alliance
14 is, I'll just briefly tell you that it's a group of
15 all of the Pinal County cities, the county, and many
16 of the special districts.

17 We've been in existence over 20 years,
18 and we typically meet quarterly and try to make sure
19 that Pinal County's issues, whether they be
20 congressional, legislative, local, have a forum
21 where we can decide what's best for Pinal County.

22 I know that we had submitted back at one
23 of your earlier meetings a suggested map. We have
24 made some slight changes to that, and later on today
25 you'll hear from Jill Kipnes with Robert Lynch &

1 Associates and she'll go through the details of
2 those maps for you.

3 I have provided a copy of this
4 presentation in its entirety. I can only read a
5 couple of highlight items in the interest of time,
6 but I have provided a complete document to your
7 staff.

8 The revised Alliance map that you will
9 see from Jill today keeps all nine counties whole
10 and keeps Pinal and Mohave counties mostly whole.

11 Certainly Maricopa and Pima County are
12 split as is Yuma County and Coconino County,
13 although they are only split once each.

14 We do think that it's important that this
15 map be given some consideration because rural cities
16 and counties -- rural cities and towns use the
17 counties to communicate particularly with the
18 federal government. The map that does not keep
19 rural counties together, does not benefit the
20 counties or the state as a whole.

21 Our proposed congressional map recognizes
22 communities of interest. Pinal County Indian
23 community, Gila River, Ak-Chin, Tohono O'odham
24 should continue to be in the same congressional
25 district.

1 Saddlebrooke located in southern --
2 Southeastern Pinal County, many of the residents
3 there have Tucson addresses and we more closely
4 align them with Tucson.

5 Marana, which is -- while it's in Pima
6 County, most of the -- much of the growth that's
7 going on in Marana is actually occurring in Pinal
8 County, and they are a member of the Pinal County
9 Alliance. And we have shown them as part of the
10 proposed congressional district for this area.

11 We also think that it protects and
12 enhances the majority-minority characteristics of
13 the districts. And like I said, Jill will get up
14 here later and give you specifics about that.

15 On the legislative side, much of the same
16 reasoning was used. We feel that Pinal County wants
17 to be -- remain whole, but much of the growth that
18 has occurred in Arizona has allowed us to have this
19 the additional congressional seat. It really
20 occurred in Pinal County and we feel that needs to
21 be recognized by the IRC.

22 Pinal County now has sufficient
23 population to have one full district and would need
24 approximately 52,000 people to create a second
25 district.

1 I know that there have been several
2 public hearings in the past where there's been some
3 question about whether Casa Grande is a rural county
4 or rural city or not, and I just want to read the
5 comment, our response to each one of those.

6 Rural county districts should be
7 completely rural and include areas like the city of
8 Maricopa or Apache Junction because they are not
9 rural cities.

10 Our answer from the Alliance is that
11 Maricopa and Apache Junction are full partners in
12 Pinal County's economic and political efforts, and
13 hence they actively participate in the Alliance.

14 Their future rests with Pinal County.

15 Second comment, cities of Maricopa and
16 Casa Grande don't care about rural issues.

17 I got to tell you this can't be further
18 from the truth on behalf of Casa Grande. Even our
19 general plan, it really stresses the rural nature of
20 our community.

21 The Alliance's response to that is that
22 Maricopa and Casa Grande have major agricultural and
23 rural neighbors of economic partners that thrust
24 them into rural issues constantly. That necessary
25 intersection is a major reason that the Alliance was

1 formed.

2 And so I think speaking on behalf of the
3 Alliance, we would really like to see, number one on
4 the congressional level, Pinal County be kept whole
5 as much as possible. Our membership does include
6 many of the mountain cities as well.

7 And on the legislative side, like I said,
8 we would like to have at least one district that is
9 wholly within Pinal County as much as possible and a
10 second one where we would be a major voice in that.

11 So thank you, and I don't envy your day,
12 but I'm glad it's the end of the day and the end of
13 the road for you today.

14 So thank for your time.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up we've got
16 our mayor of Queen Creek, Mayor Gail Barney.

17 GAIL BARNEY: Thank you, Barry.

18 His dad used to work for us. He was our
19 foreman for about 40 years. He grew up on our farm
20 there in Queen Creek.

21 My name is Gail Barney, G-a-i-l,
22 B-a-r-n-e-y, and I have the fortune to be the mayor
23 of Queen Creek.

24 I want to thank you for the opportunity
25 to share Queen Creek Town Council's thoughts on the

1 proposed congressional and legislative districts.

2 As everyone knows, you've had a
3 challenging few months, and especially a challenging
4 week, and we appreciate the fact that you are still
5 here working at it and haven't given up on us.

6 The town has focused on two primary
7 issues, and it's the legislative district, of
8 course, and the congressional district.

9 And the town, as it's shown on the maps
10 right now, is divided into two different districts
11 on the congressional and the legislative and we are
12 making a request to be made whole by being in one
13 congressional district and one legislative district.

14 And as Mayor Jackson has said -- he
15 didn't say it specifically, but Queen Creek is also
16 part of the Pinal County Government Alliance, and
17 their maps have shown, by our request, that we have
18 been removed from them.

19 There is about 500 of our residents that
20 live in Pinal County, and we feel that it would be
21 more appropriate for them to be aligned with the
22 rest of Queen Creek in Maricopa County because of
23 our governmental alliance or governmental agreement
24 with our neighboring communities in Maricopa County
25 that we rely on for quite a few of our services and

1 some of our intergovernmental agreements.

2 Not that Pinal County hasn't been great
3 for Queen Creek. They've been good partners in
4 working and doing a lot of things with us, but we're
5 just more aligned with Maricopa County at this time
6 than Pinal County.

7 We have sent letters to the Commission
8 and maps explaining this to you. And again, we do
9 support the Pinal County -- or Pinal -- I was
10 president of that organization. I can't even say
11 the right name. But we do align with their thoughts
12 in their maps.

13 The town council respects -- boy, I'm
14 tongue-tied. It's been a long day. I've been
15 irrigating most of the night. We still farm in
16 Queen Creek.

17 We would request to be aligned in
18 Congressional District 5 and Legislative District
19 number 12. We would prefer and don't want our town
20 to be divided.

21 And I thank you for your time and your
22 energies.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

24 Next up, council member of the town of
25 Queen Creek, Robin Benning followed by Pinal County

1 Government Alliance, Jill and -- Pima County --
2 Pinal County, Supervisor David Snider.

3 ROBIN BENNING: Thank you for giving me
4 the opportunity to address you tonight, honorable
5 members of the Arizona Independent Redistricting
6 Commission.

7 For the record, my name is Robin Benning,
8 R-o-b-i-n, B-e-n-n-i-n-g, and I am a council member
9 representing the Town of Queen Creek along with our
10 mayor, Gail Barney.

11 As the mayor stated, we appreciate the
12 opportunity to present the Town's perspective on
13 redistricting maps, and we hope that our attendance
14 tonight and at multiple hearings emphasizes how
15 important it is to the town of Queen Creek that the
16 final redistricting maps keep the town of Queen
17 Creek in one congressional and one legislative
18 district, which reflect our desire to be within the
19 urban Arizona and Maricopa County cohort.

20 As explained in multiple hearings and
21 letters to the Commission as well as previous
22 statements, it's extremely important for the town to
23 be kept with the urban Maricopa County population.

24 The town of Queen Creek respectfully
25 requests the Commission amend the draft maps to

1 place the entire town within Congressional District
2 5 and Legislative District 12, including the portion
3 of the town's incorporated area which lies within
4 Pinal County.

5 The portions of our population that
6 reside in Pinal county do not wish to be separated
7 into a rural or non-Maricopa County district.

8 Thank you again for the opportunity to
9 speak on behalf of the residents of Queen Creek.

10 I sincerely hope you'll revise the maps
11 to include the town in one congressional district
12 and one legislative district.

13 Thank you very much.

14 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

15 Next up we have Jill -- and, Jill, have
16 you turned in your information to --

17 JILL KIPNES: I have, yeah. So I have
18 two digital -- I have two digital maps. So if you
19 can pull them up for me, that would be great.

20 I also have my handouts. Can I approach
21 and give them to you?

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Sure.

23 JILL KIPNES: Thank you.

24 It's Jill Kipnes, K-i-p-n-e-s. I'm with
25 Robert S. Lynch & Associates, and we represent Pinal

1 County Government Alliance.

2 So, Commissioner Stertz, thank you for
3 being here this afternoon.

4 So Pinal County Government Alliance
5 introduced a map to you in July when you were here
6 and we have since made some changes to the map.

7 The big advantage of going last, it has
8 allowed us to continue to revise our map up until
9 late this week.

10 So the major changes to our map, and some
11 of them have already been discussed, of course, it
12 combines the Navajo and Hopi Nations. It also adds
13 the other Grand Canyon reservation and the Salt
14 River and the Fort McDowell reservations of Maricopa
15 County.

16 It moves Queen Creek into Maricopa County
17 district. That includes their Pinal County
18 population.

19 It moves Saddlebrooke into the Pima
20 County district. It moves Marana into the eastern
21 rural district, and it combines all of Cochise into
22 what we call Congressional District 8.

23 This map still is constitutionally sound,
24 as it meets all of the six requirements. Probably
25 most importantly putting other -- the communities of

1 interest that want to be together in Saddlebrooke,
2 Marana, Queen Creek where they want, moving more
3 Indian reservations into that eastern district as
4 was requested and keeping Cochise County whole and,
5 of course, keeping Pinal County as whole as
6 possible.

7 And then, sir, our other map is our
8 legislative map. If you can go to page 2 on that.

9 This is a change from the draft
10 legislative map from the IRC. District 11, the one
11 over here on I guess the western side, District 11,
12 is the district that was drawn into the draft that
13 changed district -- it's District 8.

14 It pulls the population out of Gila and
15 Pima counties. It puts all of Queen Creek back into
16 that green district, which I think is District 12 --
17 there it goes -- and it puts Apache Junction and
18 Queen -- I'm sorry, and Gold Canyon into District 8.

19 So it makes two complete Pinal County
20 districts again, along with that northern Pima
21 population, which is, as Mayor Jackson said, is
22 growing into Pinal County and they are becoming more
23 aligned with Pinal County.

24 So what we really are asking is after all
25 of the public testimony that we have heard as well

1 as everybody else -- again, we're last, so we got to
2 hear everything else everyone has said is that we
3 know there is going to be a lot of changes going on,
4 especially on the legislative map.

5 And so what we would like is 11 to stay
6 the same, for our changes to be made to 8 and then
7 kind of make all of the other changes around us.

8 So please don't pull into Pinal County
9 just to fill other population gaps because we have
10 now made our two legislative districts.

11 Thank you very much for your time and all
12 of your work for Pinal County, and we look forward
13 to seeing the end result.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

16 Next up we've got David Snider, Pinal
17 County Supervisor.

18 DAVID SNIDER: Not members of the family,
19 but I thank them for their support.

20 My name is David Snider, David and
21 S-n-i-d-e-r. I am the Pinal County Supervisor for
22 District 3, and welcome to District 3 today.

23 I am here in support of the Alliance maps
24 as presented earlier and certainly by Ms. Kipnes.

25 We have worked very, very hard on those

1 maps, and I am proud to be able to say that they
2 have at least as many of the five Cs as Arizona
3 does.

4 They are constitutional, they are
5 compact, they are competitive, they represent
6 communities of interest, and they are compliant with
7 all federal and state regulations as they pertain to
8 redistricting.

9 The congressional district in particular
10 is strong. It represents the will, the expressed
11 will of certainly the Navajo and Hopi Nations.

12 It takes into account discussions with
13 the Eastern Arizona counties. As Mayor Jackson has
14 said, counties are a fundamental unit of
15 communication and government for much of rural
16 Arizona. And we deserve to be together.

17 We think that the Alliance maps represent
18 the two rural districts that everybody has been
19 talking about from the get-go. And they have been
20 tweaked in a responsible manner to solve some of the
21 issues that you have been confronted with and that
22 you have heard about over the past month and a half.

23 With regard to the legislative districts,
24 there are a number of ways, obviously, to resolve
25 those issues, but we feel very strongly that the

1 Alliance map is -- represents a very strong
2 contender and ultimately, when you look at the
3 consequences of keeping 8 and 11 in that manner,
4 that it will resolve some of the challenges that we
5 have heard from in terms of our neighbors to the
6 north, to the east, to the west, and to the south.

7 I would urge you to give serious
8 consideration to the Alliance maps.

9 You'll notice that in terms of the
10 populations, they are within seven people of meeting
11 that congressional target population in each of
12 those districts. That's the entire spread, from
13 710,220 all the way up to 710,227. That's pretty
14 close. We would have split some babies, but that's
15 prohibited.

16 The legislative districts are equally
17 strong and we would urge you to give serious
18 consideration to those as well.

19 As I said, when you were first here in
20 Casa Grande many, many months ago, I'm sure it seems
21 like -- we don't envy you. We thank you for
22 stepping up and taking on this challenge, and
23 challenge it is.

24 I respect your willingness to put
25 yourself in harms' way as it were. And so thank you

1 and best of fortune. We look forward to working
2 with you in further endeavors.

3 Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

5 Next up we have the chairman of Pinal
6 County Board of Supervisors, Pete Rios.

7 PETE RIOS: Thank you.

8 Good seeing you again.

9 Pete Rios, R-i-o-s, Pinal County Board of
10 Supervisors, serving in the capacity of chairman
11 right now.

12 Thank you again for letting me address
13 the group.

14 And as I stated last time, I think we
15 were in Globe or San Carlos, at one of those
16 hearings, is I'm speaking right now for myself, not
17 for a group.

18 But in respect to the congressional map
19 that you all have basically put up, of course, you
20 haven't adopted, you still need to do some tweaking
21 and changing, but as far as those particular
22 boundaries go, when I look at the U.S. Constitution
23 of one man, one vote, when I look at the Voting
24 Rights Act of 1965 that was again approved in 2006
25 by a Republican president, Republican congress, and

1 Republican U.S. senate, I find that that map pretty
2 much addresses those two major issues. And that is
3 what I look at when I look at boundaries.

4 And like I said before, this is my third
5 rodeo. I've done this a few times, so I appreciate
6 the job that you all have done on CDs with, of
7 course, some tweaking that needs to be done.

8 I specifically wanted to speak today to
9 legislative districts at the particular -- in Pinal
10 County, which is LD 8 and LD 11.

11 And as I had mentioned before, included
12 right now in LD 8 are portions of Pima County, which
13 is Oro Valley, Catalina, and you also have
14 Saddlebrooke, which technically is Pinal County, but
15 by all practical purposes, part of Tucson. Their
16 mailing address is Tucson. They identify with
17 Tucson. Everything they do is in Tucson.

18 How do I know? Because I represent them
19 as Pinal County Board of Supervisors, they are part
20 of my district and they tell me every day that I
21 talk to them that their real identity is with
22 Tucson.

23 So you have them included in LD 8. I
24 would recommend -- and at this particular point I am
25 speaking for myself and there's others, but we are

1 not a formal group that agrees with me, that we
2 should put Saddlebrooke and Catalina and Oro Valley
3 with what is currently District 11. And I will be
4 submitting electronically some maps by Tuesday or
5 Wednesday of next week that will show what it is
6 that we're truly trying to do and we'll give you all
7 the demographics and numbers that go with it.

8 We are swapping the numbers. 11 will be
9 8 and 8 will be 11. I know that will be confusing,
10 but at the end of the day, what we are recommending
11 is that you include with the new 11, which is the
12 copper corridor area, Apache Junction and Gold
13 Canyon.

14 And when I speak of the copper corridor,
15 that includes Globe and Miami. Even though there
16 may be some conflicting testimony, I have spoken
17 with the mayors of both of those communities and
18 they have both told me that they want to be part of
19 the copper corridor.

20 We are suggesting that we swap San Tan
21 Valley and put them in LD 16 to make the numbers
22 work.

23 When we remove AG -- AJ, which is Apache
24 Junction, and Gold Canyon to the new 11 and we
25 suggest that we swap and put into the new LD 8

1 Saddlebrooke, Oro Valley, and Catalina, and I think
2 that will work.

3 Again, I don't want to take too much
4 time, but I think when you do that and you look at
5 those new proposed LDs, they are closer in
6 communities of interest and they are a little bit
7 more compact.

8 And you have to remember, when we put
9 Globe and Miami with the copper corridor, that is
10 part of the CAAG, councils of government. We belong
11 to the same CAAG, which is the Central Arizona
12 Association of Governments.

13 Pima County does not belong to that.

14 And I heard the buzzer, so with that I
15 will terminate, and I thank you very much.

16 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Mr. Rios, before
17 you step away --

18 PETE RIOS: Yes, sir.

19 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Just as general
20 information, we are going to continue -- how the
21 Proposition was crafted in the 106, it said there
22 was a minimum of 30-day review period after the
23 draft maps were approved. That means the minimum is
24 going to continue. It doesn't mean that there's a
25 cutoff.

1 We're going to continue to receive maps,
2 we're going to continue to receive testimony. So
3 we're going to encourage everyone to get their
4 information as quickly as possible, but I just
5 wanted to let you know that as you have those in,
6 that delivering --

7 By the way, everybody, this is one lucky
8 guy. When we were up in Globe, we took a 15-minute
9 quick break. He popped over and dropped a dollar
10 into one of the machines and came out a winner.

11 PETE RIOS: That's why I laugh. I hope
12 you don't send these tapes to the Internal Revenue
13 Service, but I will be reporting that as extra
14 income.

15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up we've got
17 Lynne Pancrazi, who I think gets the driving award.

18 LYNNE PANCRAZI: I'm Lynne Pancrazi. I'm
19 the -- L-y-n-n-e, P-a-n-c-r-a-z-i.

20 I am the state rep for Yuma and La Paz
21 County, which is currently District 24.

22 Rural Arizona -- my part of rural Arizona
23 would like to stay rural.

24 Right now the districts that you have us
25 attached to would be parts of Maricopa County. And

1 if at all possible, if you could include Yuma and La
2 Paz County together as whole into one district --

3 I understand George Reiners from my
4 community put together a map that met all of the
5 requirements and presented it at the Yuma hearing.

6 And with that -- if for some reason you
7 cannot include Yuma and you have to split Yuma, Yuma
8 would like to be attached to another rural area,
9 which is either Buckeye or Gila Bend and then
10 District 4 could be attached to Santa Cruz.

11 And that would help keep the map and the
12 representation rural.

13 But again, we would like to be put
14 together into one district mainly because of rural
15 representation and the lack thereof at the state
16 legislature.

17 With the way the maps have been drawn
18 District 13 would more than likely be represented
19 from someone from Litchfield Park or Surprise, which
20 has nothing in common with Yuma County, which is
21 rural and agricultural.

22 District 4 on the other hand is a pretty
23 good minority-majority district. And if we allowed
24 the strip to come down to Mohave County and we put
25 La Paz County and Yuma County in District 13 and we

1 picked up Gila Bend and Buckeye, that district would
2 also be rural. And with regard to who is
3 representing who, they would be rural
4 representatives, which the voice of rural Arizona
5 needs to be heard for the capitol.

6 So with that, thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: And Representative
8 Pancrazi, I wanted to -- I'm glad that you are okay.

9 LYNNE PANCRAZI: Oh, yes, I am okay, yes.
10 Play house is torn and my car is now fixed.

11 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Congratulations.

12 She was a road warrior as we were going
13 through our tour. And doing so, there was a mishap
14 on the highway and she's okay, which is -- we're
15 always happy to hear that.

16 So thank you very much for our
17 representatives and our leaders in coming up and
18 giving testimony.

19 So now we'll go to members of the general
20 public. And again, our comment period is -- we're
21 looking for about four minutes, and I'll name off
22 the first three that will be coming up to testify.

23 The first up will be Greg Schuller
24 followed by Barry McCain and Penny Phelan.

25 And again, as a reminder to spell your

1 name for the reporter.

2 GREGORY SCHULLER: Thank you.

3 My name is Gregory Schuller,
4 G-r-e-g-o-r-y, S-c-h-u-l-l-e-r.

5 First off, I would like to say that I
6 know the people in Saddlebrooke, and the people in
7 Saddlebrooke would want to remain with us here in
8 the central part of the state. Having spoken to a
9 number of them quite often, that is their desire.

10 So I can understand our board of
11 supervisors, Pete Rios, wanting to get them out of
12 there because they are primarily Republican.

13 That's one of the things that I think
14 should be taken into consideration whenever this is
15 done.

16 The maps that the Commission has adopted
17 is political gerrymandering to allow the Democrats
18 to take over the congressional delegations. Even
19 the Arizona Republic, who is ultra left, says this
20 map flunks out and it needs to be redone.

21 (Audience talking over Mr. Schuller.)

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Folks, let's be
23 respectful of each other.

24 GREGORY SCHULLER: The Commission is
25 misleading the public by claiming there are three

1 competitive district. In reality, these districts
2 are all Democrat districts.

3 One competitive district in Tucson, which
4 swings left and the other is in Phoenix with a
5 narrow Republican advantage that will fade quickly
6 due to growth patterns.

7 Representative Gosar's new district is
8 not competitive. Gosar won 2010, a high-water
9 yearly for the Republicans, by less than 6 percent.
10 But this map gives the Democrats over a 9.50
11 advantage, up 5.7 percent.

12 The maps are currently competitive.
13 Three of the eight congressional districts have
14 switched parties within the last two elections.

15 The Democrats ignored the Arizona
16 Constitution by abandoning the grid map in Maricopa
17 County so they could gerrymander the districts for
18 the Democrats.

19 The maps -- Maricopa district looks
20 nothing like a grid map. This is in violation of
21 the Constitution, which calls for the Commission to
22 use the grid map to develop the final map.

23 The map that the Commission adopted is
24 not a compromise. The two Democrats and the
25 Democrat-oriented chair compromised with themselves,

1 not with the Republican members.

2 Even you, Commissioner Stertz, have
3 properly labeled the Mathis/McNulty maps.

4 This map result is a completely unnatural
5 combination of rural and urban areas and
6 combinations of parts of the state that have nothing
7 in common with each other.

8 Gold Canyon, Apache Junction, Florence,
9 and the San Tan Valley all share the district with
10 Yuma and Colorado City.

11 Large areas of Mesa are arbitrarily
12 included with a district that zigzags throughout
13 Tempe and East Central and North Phoenix.

14 Maricopa, Eloy, and Casa Grande are put
15 with the four corners area and Flagstaff's district
16 goes all the way to the Mexican border.

17 The map is an obvious gerrymander that
18 could have been drawn by the Democratic party.

19 The new CD 9 slithers around like a snake
20 and gerrymandered solely for the purpose of giving a
21 congressional seat to liberal Kyrsten Sinema and
22 David Schapira.

23 The Gosar district goes from being a
24 competitive one to a not competitive one. From
25 Democrats 3.8 to over 9.50. Considering the

1 district was close even in 2010, these kinds of
2 numbers make it virtually impossible for a
3 Republican to win in any election year.

4 The Democrats are protesting in
5 Giffords's district --

6 Thank you very much.

7 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: If you've got
8 formal comments, you can go ahead and submit them.
9 We'll go ahead and get them into the record.

10 Thank you, Mr. Schuller.

11 GREGORY SCHULLER: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Next up is Barry
13 McCain.

14 BARRY MCCAIN: Good afternoon,
15 Commissioner Stertz.

16 My name is Barry McCain. Spelled like
17 the senator. I don't have to spell that.

18 I would like to first off -- this is my
19 sixth time before you, and it's been nothing but
20 pleasure and informative and I see all of the hard
21 work that you are doing. I would like to commend
22 you for that.

23 The thing is, the governor, what she's
24 done is unconstitutional and I don't need to address
25 it, but I'm sorry for all of the problems that

1 you've had to go through. It's just appalling that
2 someone would do that. But when they were afraid
3 and having been a patient at a V.A. hospital, I
4 understand what fear does. So again, that's to the
5 task.

6 Pinal County, we want one competitive
7 legislative district. As has been said already,
8 District 8 and District 11 is problematic but in the
9 United States Navy, I believe compromise -- if the
10 Commission would readdress District 11, I would
11 appreciate it. If either of -- you got to pick one
12 or the other.

13 But like I said, it's been a wonderful
14 experience and I thank you so much.

15 You have a good day.

16 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

17 Next up is Penny Phelan followed by Irene
18 Littleton and Art Kennedy.

19 PENNY PHELAN: Good afternoon. I'm Penny
20 Phelan, and Phelan is spelled P, as in papa,
21 h-e-l-a-n, as in Nancy.

22 I appreciate your time this afternoon,
23 and I would like to start by saying I really can't
24 believe all of your unselfish gift of time for our
25 state, and I appreciate your efforts at transparency

1 and communication with the citizens of Arizona. I
2 think it's an impossible task.

3 I would like to speak to competitiveness
4 in general for legislative and congressional
5 districts.

6 I am a resident of San Tan Valley.
7 There's 81,000 of us now. I am a Democrat and I am
8 in a very Republican area. I do not expect probably
9 ever to be represented in my legislative district or
10 perhaps my congressional, but I am very concerned
11 that you are not taking into account fairness for
12 the entire state.

13 One of the things I have noticed is that
14 we evidently as a state are divided into thirds. At
15 the moment registration seems to be a third
16 Democrat, a third Republican, and a third
17 Independent. I do not feel that our current
18 legislature reflects this.

19 Furthermore, this March there was a PEW
20 Gallup poll that ranked the states according to
21 leanings, liberal leanings to conservative, with a
22 scale of zero to 50, I believe, with zero being the
23 most liberal state, which I fail to remember,
24 Massachusetts perhaps, and most conservative perhaps
25 is Alabama.

1 We evidently rank right in the 20s, we
2 are moderate. Again, I do not feel that our
3 legislature as it is currently is composed reflects
4 this.

5 Therefore, I feel like our legislative
6 districts really need to pay attention to
7 competitiveness for our state so that we do not have
8 the extremes on either side of parties.

9 I feel part of the moderation that we are
10 noted for on the PEW poll can be seen by Proposition
11 106. It can also be seen by the fact that we
12 overwhelmingly passed the half-cent tax for
13 education, even though it was not purported to be
14 desired by the legislature.

15 So finally, please, when you do draw the
16 final maps, keep our state's status in consideration
17 and work the best to have a fair and competitive
18 version for the entire state.

19 Thank you very much.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
21 much.

22 Next up is Irene Littleton followed by
23 Art Kennedy and Weymouth Fogelberg.

24 IRENE LITTLETON: Good afternoon.

25 My name is Irene Littleton, and I want to

1 thank you for giving us the opportunity to get up
2 and speak.

3 Littleton, L-i-t-t-l-e-t-o-n.

4 Thank you.

5 This is the first meeting that I have
6 come to, but I have noticed one thing about these
7 maps and how they are being drawn and that is I
8 don't think enough attention is being paid to
9 communities of interest.

10 Every one of the counties except one is
11 cut. Cities are cut in half. Even Florence is cut
12 in half. I don't understand why this has to happen.
13 And I think that this is something that the whole
14 committee should look into and try to get us back
15 together again the way we should be.

16 According to the Arizona Constitution,
17 district lines shall use visible geographic
18 features, city, town, and county boundaries and
19 undivided census tracts when possible.

20 It doesn't seem it's been possible in a
21 lot of areas. So I would like to have all of that
22 reviewed and keep Florence as one union, please.

23 Thank you very much.

24 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
25 much.

1 Next up is Art Kennedy followed by
2 Weymouth Fogelberg and Tag Preskit.

3 ARTHUR KENNEDY: Good afternoon.

4 My name is Arthur Kennedy, A-r-t-h-u-r,
5 K-e-n-n-e-d-y.

6 I'm not a map reader and I have
7 difficulty trying to follow that one, but it appears
8 to me that community of interest, which is paramount
9 in my mind, is not being adequately addressed and
10 that's my issue.

11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

13 Next up is Weymouth Fogelberg followed by
14 Tag Preskit and Henry Wade.

15 WEYMOUTH FOGELBERG: Hello.

16 I'm Mr. Weymouth Fogelberg,
17 W-e-y-m-o-u-t-h, Fogelberg is easy.

18 I'm a 92-year-old veteran, and I'm going
19 to do something I've never done before. I'm going
20 to talk about myself as a veteran because this
21 morning at the Veteran's parade I was reminded that
22 those many years ago in the South Pacific in World
23 War II, I worked with 85 men who died. I was a
24 medic.

25 I would like to bequeath them to you. I

1 would like to have their guts and their courage with
2 you as you make your decisions.

3 I think there are so many things pulling
4 at you people that it must take more than the wisdom
5 of Solomon. I am very sympathetic to that. But in
6 your heart want to be fair. Ignore this distortion
7 of people who are extremely partisan. Give these
8 guys what they died for; a fair democracy.

9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Does anyone want to
11 follow that?

12 Thank you, sir.

13 My dad served in the South Pacific in
14 Guam and lost him five and a half years ago. So
15 thank you for your service.

16 Next up is I believe either Tag or Jay
17 Preskit.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He was here a
19 minute ago.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: I'll put it aside.
21 Henry Wade followed by Tom Cox and Mary
22 Matthias.

23 HENRY WADE: Good afternoon.

24 My name is Henry Wade, W-a-d-e. I am a
25 citizen of currently LD 23 to be split into either

1 LD 11 or 8.

2 I come before you in several different
3 aspects; however, I try to concentrate on at least
4 12.

5 The main purpose for my standing before
6 you is to thank you. To thank you for what you have
7 done. The task that you have taken on as
8 commissioners as volunteers -- I am a volunteer in a
9 number of different activities and organizations,
10 and these volunteer tasks become jobs after a while
11 and lifestyle eventually.

12 So I appreciate the efforts that you have
13 gone through, and I stand before you as one who has
14 challenged my senator, challenged our governor and
15 the action that they have taken to remove an
16 Independent member of an independent committee.

17 I believe that we as citizens of the
18 United States have the opportunity to serve. And
19 when we do serve and are recognized for our
20 volunteer efforts, that we should be allowed to do
21 our jobs without being impeded by a political
22 process. And that is what has taken place.

23 One of concerns that I have in reference
24 to this is your 30-day period in which you have to
25 respond to the Department of Justice and what the

1 actions of the governor has and how that will affect
2 that process and how it will affect the overall
3 process that you are undertaking and whether or not
4 if the process cannot be completed in the time
5 frames that you have to work with, will it then
6 revert back to the senate, which we know is not the
7 place for this action to take place?

8 That is a real concern of mine, and I'm
9 hoping that that will not happen.

10 If that happens, all the work that you
11 have done, all of the people who have come before
12 you on either side of the issue have placed in goals
13 to naught.

14 We will then be in the process of
15 undergoing a gerrymandering because we know just by
16 the very action that's taken place to remove your
17 chair what happened in the senate.

18 I believe as the gentleman who stood
19 before you, I stand before as a 20-year veteran of
20 the United States Air Force who under unlimited
21 liability stood to protect and defend the
22 Constitution of the United States.

23 So the constitution is important to me,
24 whether it is the United States Constitution or
25 whether or not it's the Arizona Constitution. And

1 it should not be used as a weapon against volunteer
2 citizens who are doing their job.

3 I'm hoping that this process will
4 continue. I hope that competitive districts will be
5 allowed to be presented, and that competitive
6 districts is what will rule the day, whether it be
7 the congressional map or the legislative map that
8 has been put before us.

9 I said this to you the first time I met
10 before you, do your job. Do your job well and we
11 will appreciate it. Some will not, but in the long
12 run, as citizens of the United States, our process
13 will have been protected.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

16 Next up we have Tom Cox followed by Mary
17 Matthias and Dwight Snider.

18 TOM COX: Good afternoon.

19 My name is Tom Cox, C-o-x, and I live in
20 Casa Grande, and I appreciate the opportunity to
21 address you.

22 I'll keep my comments brief because most
23 of it has already been said. But in my opinion, no
24 real rural county should be joined with any part of
25 Metro Phoenix area or Tucson, except when necessary

1 to comply with the Voting Rights Act.

2 The new CD 1 places Pinal County in
3 suburban communities of Marana, Oro Valley, and
4 Saddlebrooke just north of Tucson.

5 And why in the world has the Pinal County
6 seat of Florence been placed in the western rural
7 district?

8 Draw at least two districts completely
9 outside of the Phoenix and Metro Tucson areas, one
10 in eastern Arizona and one in western Arizona.

11 It's the third largest county in Arizona
12 but still very rural in nature. Pinal County should
13 be the major population base of the new district
14 that goes east.

15 Thank you for your time.

16 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
17 much.

18 Next up we have Mary Matthias followed by
19 Dwight Snider and Neola Bye-Beza.

20 MARY MATTHIAS: Good afternoon.

21 My name is Mary Matthias. Mary as usual,
22 M-a-t-t-h-i-a-s. No relation to the athlete.

23 Just to mention, my father also served in
24 the South Pacific in New Guinea in World War II. So
25 it's always hard to talk about that.

1 My concern with the congressional
2 district is the carving up of Pinal County. I think
3 it needs to be as whole as possible. And if we're
4 missing seven people, I think they moved here last
5 week. So I'm sure it's going to be just fine for
6 however you do it.

7 I support the Alliance map, and my
8 concern is keeping together the communities of
9 interest. And Pinal County has a lot of interest.

10 We have been under -- in previous years
11 we've been under Maricopa County. It was a disaster
12 for us. We have been under Pima County and it
13 wasn't a whole lot better.

14 So we really do encourage you to think
15 about us as a rural district, even though most of us
16 have lived all over the world. We like it here.

17 Thank you very much.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, ma'am.

19 Next up is Dwight Snider followed by
20 Neola Bye-Beza and Diann LeSueur.

21 DWIGHT SNIDER: First I would like to
22 thank the Commission for the work they have done. I
23 know just by reading all of the stops you have made,
24 that it's grueling and this is -- I know you're
25 volunteers and I'm glad I wasn't the one that had to

1 do all of this work, although I have some interest
2 in it.

3 I live in Johnson Ranch area, and as most
4 of you know, that's one of the fastest growing areas
5 in the U.S. and there's a lot of changes going on
6 there.

7 I used to drive to San Antonio and
8 instead of taking the interstate highway, I would
9 drive down through Oracle because it was a nicer
10 drive.

11 And all of a sudden out of the desert I
12 arrived in -- north of Tucson. Well, that's an area
13 that is now going to be put, according to some of
14 these maps, in Pinal County. I really think it's
15 a -- Saddlebrooke is a suburb of Tucson. It's right
16 there. Once you hit that, you're in city traffic.

17 One of the things I did was work the
18 polls in the last election. And I was able to see
19 the way the parties were distributed in the area.
20 And there was a large proportion of Republicans on
21 the rolls.

22 Now, we just had -- we just had the
23 governor and the state senate remove one of the
24 members of your committee, and I looked at some of
25 the voting of the 11 elected members of the state

1 administration, nine are Republican, two are
2 Democrats. The senate is -- they got 30 people in
3 the senate. There's 21 Republicans, and this has
4 been pretty steady for decades. And the reason is
5 because of the way the voting districts were
6 distributed and laid out.

7 This program here that you are doing I
8 think will help correct that. But we have to make
9 sure that the party in power does not corrupt this
10 committee.

11 And I'm hoping that in the next 30 days
12 you'll be able to align this so that it benefits
13 someone other than the Republican party.

14 There are many, many Independents, as
15 Penny Phelan said, maybe a third. And when I was in
16 the polls as a worker, the Independents in Arizona
17 have virtually no voice, and I think it's time they
18 got some.

19 Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

21 Next up is Neola followed by Diann
22 LeSueur and Glenn Miller.

23 NEOLA BYE-BEZA: Well, thank you for the
24 pronunciation. You did very well.

25 Neola, N-e-o-l-a, last name is Bye-Beza,

1 B-y-e, hyphen B-e-z-a.

2 And I'm a senior citizen who has been
3 voting since I was first eligible. And generally
4 what I found is I get my way about 50 percent of the
5 time until I moved to Arizona.

6 And this week my heart just got broken.
7 And so I just want the Commission to know that --
8 because I think you work for us, I am very angry at
9 what happened and I want you to continue to do
10 independently what you've been doing and I think
11 you've been doing a great job.

12 And I appreciate the meetings are open
13 and well-run and we are able to come -- this is my
14 third one. We are able to say what we want to say.
15 And I want to thank you every one of you on the
16 Commission for doing this for us.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
19 much.

20 Next up is Diann LeSueur, Glenn Miller,
21 and Tom Miller.

22 DIANN LESUEUR: Thank you for allowing me
23 to have this opportunity to speak.

24 It's D-i-a-n-n, L-e-s, like Sam, u-e-u-r.

25 I want to thank you as volunteers for

1 what you -- I can't even imagine what you have put
2 into this and the hard work.

3 I've been a volunteer before. I've never
4 been fired. I don't think you can collect
5 unemployment.

6 I just wanted to say I do appreciate the
7 hard work and that you do listen to rural Pinal
8 County and are helping to try to keep us rural.

9 I appreciate the drafts that you have
10 presented, your grids, and I would also like to say
11 that I appreciate being at least one competitiveness
12 legislative district as it's now drawn and I would
13 like to encourage it to be two. I think it would
14 give fairer representation to all of us.

15 And I would also like to say that I would
16 appreciate it if our legislators would keep their
17 noses out of this.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Glenn Miller
19 followed by Tom Miller and Mary Kortsen.

20 GLENN MILLER: I'm Glenn Miller. That's
21 G-l-e-n-n, last name M-i-l-l-e-r.

22 I am here for Yavapai County. You may
23 have seen on the yellow sheet there. This is my
24 second time testifying before the Commission.

25 I came down here also to get out of the

1 cold and now you all here in Casa Grande and Pinal
2 County come up to Prescott to get out of the heat.
3 So this is nice weather for me; it's probably cold
4 for you.

5 But I am basically -- I'm not competent
6 to speak to the specific issues with regards to the
7 boundaries of districts in the draft map for this
8 area.

9 I made criticisms when I spoke in
10 Prescott Valley before you all with regard to the
11 map and how it -- you know, the prospective LD 14,
12 prospective CD 4, gave my opinion on that.

13 The big 2,000-pound gorilla here as it's
14 been spoken to to some degree, and that is the
15 highjacking of this process by an out-of-control
16 state senate and out-of-control governor.

17 I second the comments of Mr. Henry Wade.
18 Specifically this is unconstitutional, it's a
19 complete lack of due process, and I hope the State
20 Supreme Court will restore justice in this state.

21 This whole idea came out of the
22 Progressive movement. Arizona, a hundred years ago,
23 was created out of the Progressive movement. We
24 fought for the recall against President Taft and we
25 won that fight. After we got statehood, we had a

1 recall because that's what we wanted, and we were
2 standing for the Progressive movement.

3 This -- Proposition 106 is a
4 representation of the Progressive movement that was
5 passed in 2000 by the people of Arizona. The idea
6 is to give the power to the people as opposed to a
7 majority party, a temporary majority party.

8 They should not dominate the process.
9 The whole idea is fair competition in the way
10 districts are drawn and to not be gerrymandering.

11 That is why I think beyond the precedence
12 much the mandate of the Voting Rights Act and equal
13 population in each district, the LDs and CDs, I
14 think the other four, I think competitiveness is --
15 should be considered the most important.

16 But essentially to highlight the key
17 points of no due process, the impeachment process --
18 number one, there was no chance to first alter the
19 maps after this 30-day process that we are finishing
20 up today. There was no chance to, you know, let you
21 guys listen to the comments, take account of that,
22 and alter the maps and come up with a final product
23 that then they could address and see if there was a
24 violation of your mandate by the state Constitution.

25 You didn't have a chance to do that

1 before Ms. Mathis was fired.

2 And I honor all of you, including the
3 Republicans and the Democrats and Ms. Mathis for
4 your volunteer work.

5 This little buzzer over here I think may
6 have been my idea, by the way. I don't want to end
7 my four minutes, I want it drawn on, but you didn't
8 do that in Prescott Valley and people abused it in
9 Prescott Valley. And I said to Ms. Mathis you need
10 to have some kind of buzzer or something like that,
11 and apparently you're doing it. Maybe that's
12 because of me.

13 Ms. Mathis had no chance to respond to
14 the claims before she was canned. There was no
15 hearing before the senate Committee of Jurisdiction,
16 which is chaired by Steve Pierce, who is my state
17 senator in LD 1. He's chair of that committee.

18 The claims of impeachment are complex to
19 support this gross misconduct charge. They are not
20 self-evident. They need to be stated in specifics
21 and the chance for Ms. Mathis to respond
22 specifically to each charge.

23 All three authors of the Proposition 106
24 in 2000, the Democrats, the Republicans, the
25 Independents, all oppose this outrageous act by

1 Governor Brewer and the state senate.

2 Going back to '98, President Clinton had
3 a chance when he was impeached -- before he was
4 impeached by the House of Representatives in
5 Washington, D.C., and our federal government, his
6 attorneys had a chance to appear before a House
7 committee and answer the charges before they issued
8 articles of impeachment to the full floor of the
9 House.

10 This process has been basically ignored.

11 And I think in wrapping it up, I think --
12 well, all we can say is we're depending on the
13 Supreme Court to restore justice in our state.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

16 Next is Tom Miller followed by Mary
17 Kortsen and Dale Smith.

18 TOM MILLER: Good afternoon.

19 I'm Tom Miller. No relation to Glenn,
20 although I appreciate the music that he produced.

21 And I was volunteer once and got fired.
22 I volunteered to sing in a group and pretty quickly
23 they told me they really didn't need me.

24 But anyway, I've appeared before the
25 Commission on a couple of occasions. I live here in

1 Casa Grande, and I do continue to support that we
2 keep Pinal County whole.

3 I think this is very important. I think
4 the fact that this draft map here has taken the town
5 of Florence and that area away from CD 1, to me,
6 just makes absolutely no sense, to put it bluntly.
7 I think that was a mistake, especially between
8 Florence and Coolidge. They were two communities
9 that are totally tied together, and to split them
10 apart and put Florence in a district that's going to
11 go all of the way to the western border and all the
12 way to the northwestern part of the state just
13 doesn't really make any sense to me.

14 I totally -- looks like I totally support
15 the Alliance map of what I saw on the screen
16 earlier. It puts CD 1 basically back the way it
17 was, and I think it was a good district the way
18 we've got it and I see no reason to really change
19 it.

20 And it would also take us away from the
21 area down by Tucson and put that area back into the
22 Tucson area where they belong.

23 So keep Pinal County whole and put
24 Florence and that area back into CD 1. I think that
25 would be a major accomplishment.

1 Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

3 Next up is Mary Kortsen followed by Dale
4 Smith and Tonya Norwood.

5 Is Mary Kortsen here?

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She's gone.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She left.

8 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: We'll go to Dale
9 Smith.

10 DALE SMITH: I'll not speak.

11 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you for your
12 -- we'll have your comments that you wrote on your
13 sheet. They will be included.

14 We'll go to Tonya Norwood followed by
15 Emily Verdugo and Nancy Hawkins.

16 TONYA NORWOOD: Commissioner, hello. How
17 are you?

18 Tonya Norwood, T-o-n-y-a, N-o-r-w-o-o-d.

19 Today I stand before you representing the
20 Arizona Consumers Council, and we have a resolution
21 that we would like to put into evidence.

22 Whereas in November 2000, Arizona voters
23 passed Proposition 106, a citizen initiative that
24 amended the Arizona Constitution by removing the
25 power to draw congressional and state legislative

1 districts from the state legislature and reassign
2 this task to the newly-created Independent
3 Redistricting Commission.

4 Whereas under the Arizona Constitution,
5 the sole task of the IRC is to establish
6 congressional and legislative districts. The
7 Constitution permits no more than two members of the
8 IRC to be from the same political party and requires
9 that the fifth commissioner not be registered with
10 any parties represented on the IRC at the time of
11 appointment.

12 Whereas the state of Arizona falls under
13 the Voting Act, which is a landmark civil rights
14 legislation that protects the rights of the minority
15 voters to participate in the electoral process. It
16 was enacted in 1965 and amended -- and extended in
17 subsequent years. The two major provisions that
18 concern the redistricting today are Sections 2 and
19 5.

20 And the Commission should be aware of
21 Section 2 and 5, so I will not read those.

22 Now, therefore be it resolved, we the
23 Arizona Consumers Council supports maps that A,
24 honor minority-majority landscapes and maintain
25 equal voting representation for all Arizonans.

1 B, that maintain respect for communities
2 of interest.

3 C, that incorporates geographic features
4 and acknowledges the undivided census tract.

5 D, that creates competitive districts
6 without the violation of the before-mentioned goals.

7 Be it resolved that we, the Arizona
8 Consumers Council affirm the autonomous right and
9 responsibility of the Arizona Independent
10 Redistricting Commission and condemn all actions
11 that circumvent, distract from, or unjustly
12 influence the independent operation of this
13 Commission.

14 Be it also resolved, we the Arizona
15 Consumers Council support the Arizona Independent
16 Redistricting Commission's transparent
17 implementation of the will of the Arizona voters
18 outlined in Proposition 106, established in 2000.

19 Be it further resolved, we the Arizona
20 Consumers Council assert full -- assert faith and
21 trust in the character and integrity of the chosen
22 commissioners assigned to fulfill the charge of the
23 redistricting process.

24 We additionally emphasize our unyielding
25 support of Chairwoman Colleen C. Mathis.

1 Be it finally resolved, we, the Arizona
2 Consumers Council and its members, condemn the
3 deliberate actions of the governor and the members
4 of the legislature that conspire to undermine the
5 standing of this Commission and the will of the
6 Arizona people.

7 Thank you, sir, for your time.

8 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

9 Did you have information that you could
10 be able to submit about who the Arizona Consumer
11 Council is and their membership?

12 TONYA NORWOOD: Yes, sir.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: That would be a
14 great help to be able to place it in record along
15 with the resolution.

16 TONYA NORWOOD: Thank you, sir.

17 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
18 much.

19 Next up is Emily Verdugo, Nancy Hawkins,
20 and Tom Ramsdell.

21 EMILY VERDUGO: Good afternoon,
22 Commission Stertz.

23 My name is Emily Verdugo, V-e-r-d-u-g-o.

24 And I have come before you on several
25 occasions, and I have stated my appreciation for the

1 proposed Congressional District 1, which includes
2 most of Pinal County and is perfectly competitive.

3 The proposed legislative map for Pinal
4 district has not met the competitive criteria, and I
5 hope the Commission will tweak this map to make it
6 more competitive.

7 We deserve two competitive districts and
8 we deserve it because we all know that Arizona
9 Supreme Court issued a finding in 2009 that
10 competitiveness is not subordinate to the other
11 criteria and should be taken into consideration as
12 well as the other five.

13 So please make our LDs more competitive.

14 But I also wanted to take the time to
15 cover some of the talking points I have heard today,
16 because even after months of testimony and meetings,
17 some folks just don't get it.

18 The congressional map, we have Exhibit
19 nine. Four out of those nine districts are
20 Republican -- favor Republicans and only two are
21 safe for Democrats.

22 As for the legislative districts map, we
23 have 30. 17 out those 30 favor Republicans.

24 A word about gerrymandering. Like
25 Ms. Phelan had mentioned, Arizona is one-third

1 Democrat, one-third Republican, one-third
2 Independents.

3 The proposed maps do not mirror this and
4 definitely do not favor Democrats.

5 What was proposed in the congressional
6 maps was an increase in competitive district, which
7 is what folks have come before you asking for.

8 As to certain urban/rural areas, folks
9 have come before the Commission asking for two rural
10 districts, two rural majority districts. And in
11 order to do this, some areas had to be placed with
12 urban areas, and that's what came of it.

13 In closing, I just wanted to say thank
14 you to the Arizona Independent Redistricting
15 Commission for all of their hard work, but most of
16 all for listening to all of us who have said time
17 and time again, we want competitive districts.

18 This message has been clear to you. Now
19 let's make it clear to our governor and the state
20 senate.

21 Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

23 Next up we have Nancy Hawkins, Tom
24 Ramsdell, and Lynne St. Angelo.

25 NANCY HAWKINS: N-a-n-c-y, H-a-w-k-i-n-s,

1 and I will be very brief.

2 I have attended a few of these meetings.
3 It is my understanding that part of the
4 requirements -- or a good part of the
5 requirements -- in fact, they should be a priority
6 as well as competitive districts, and that is
7 compact, contiguous, and maintaining communities of
8 interest.

9 And I've heard a lot of talk about
10 communities of interest, and that seems to be the
11 focus. And I just want to make sure that these
12 other three areas are not overlooked, ignored, or I
13 guess taken advantage of or disallowed or
14 manipulated in any way because those represent
15 people, too.

16 People live in like areas for a reason.
17 People live in compact areas and they have like
18 needs and everything else.

19 So I would hope that you would take into
20 consideration and give great importance to the three
21 things, the compactness of the area, the contiguous,
22 and maintaining communities of interest because a
23 lot of these have been ignored and disrupted, in my
24 opinion, just for the sake of being competitive.

25 Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
2 much.

3 Next up we've got Tom Ramsdell followed
4 by Lynne St. Angelo and Geri Ottoboni.

5 TOM RAMSDELL: Mr. Commissioner, my name
6 is Tom Ramsdell, R-a-m, as in Mike, s-d-e-l-l.

7 I've attended a number of meetings here
8 and in Tempe, and I've noticed, as you probably
9 have, that everybody has an opinion.

10 I don't know how you -- I don't know how
11 you can sit through all of these different opinions,
12 but I'm going to concentrate on two things that I
13 have always talked here.

14 One is having more than two districts
15 along the border. And this final draft map shows
16 three; that made me happy.

17 I think everybody in the country
18 understands that the Arizona border is the gateway
19 to America, and certainly we do here in the southern
20 counties of Arizona. So what I see there, I'm happy
21 with. I would like to have three gatekeepers on
22 that border rather than two.

23 The other thing, instead of taking a
24 microview at legislative districts, I would like to
25 speak to Pinal County because I've always asked for

1 the ability to try to keep Pinal County as whole as
2 possible.

3 I understand where -- I think it's
4 District 3 comes into the southern -- southwestern
5 corner. I understand why that is and why that has
6 to be; however, when the county seat of Pinal County
7 is removed from our Congressional District 1 and put
8 in the western congressional district, that just
9 boggles my mind.

10 I'd say that -- if you're talking about
11 communities of interest, if you're talking about the
12 Constitution, there's six criteria that have to be
13 followed, and I'm sure you know exactly what they
14 are.

15 But when you look at the current map and
16 you look at how CD 4 encroaches from the north down
17 into Pinal County, from where I'm sitting, that
18 doesn't comply with C, D, or E in the Constitution,
19 and I would like to go over those real quick.

20 C, districts shall be geographic, compact
21 and contiguous to the extent practicable.

22 D, district boundaries shall respect
23 communities of interest to the extent practicable.

24 And I don't think anybody can formulate a good
25 argument that the county seat is not a community of

1 interest to Pinal County.

2 And E, to the extent practicable,
3 district lines shall have visible geographic
4 features, city, town, and county boundaries and
5 undivided census tract.

6 Now, I know where Pinal County is located
7 and I know exactly where Florence is because I drive
8 there all the time, but to take Florence and put it
9 in with cities in Yavapai County and Mohave County,
10 like Cottonwood, Peoria, Sedona, Prescott, Camp
11 Verde, Chino Valley, Clarkdale, Dewey-Humboldt --
12 I'm slowing down for her -- Prescott Valley, Lake
13 Havasu, Kingman, Bullhead City, and Colorado City,
14 plus 24 unincorporated towns and settlements in
15 Mohave County, I don't get that.

16 It's here. It's in our county. It's our
17 county seat, and it should be part of Pinal County.

18 It's not as bad as October 1st when I
19 looked at that map that came out with five
20 congressional districts in Pinal County. That's why
21 I went to that meeting in Tempe on Monday and found
22 out that we were back down to three.

23 So if you would, just look at Pinal
24 County. We're rural in nature. We want to be in
25 with our rural partners on the eastern of the state

1 because those are our communities of interest. We
2 have common goals.

3 And you know, if it were me, if I was,
4 you know, the guy, I would move that line up and put
5 Marana and Oro Valley back down into that southern
6 district. And by moving the boundary up, you could
7 move the northern boundary -- we could get Florence
8 back into our district.

9 So if you would please consider that and
10 try to make Pinal County as whole as possible, I
11 would appreciate it.

12 Thank you very much.

13 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you, sir.

14 Next we have Lynne St. Angelo followed by
15 Geri Ottoboni and then, unless -- I'm being handed
16 another sheet -- followed by Barbara Davis.

17 LYNNE ST. ANGELO: I'm Lynne St. Angelo,
18 L-y-n-n-e, S-t, period, A-n-g-e-l-o, and I came in a
19 little late, but Jill was presenting a map, and I
20 think it was called the Alliance maps, and I kind of
21 liked what I saw, although you can't see in detail,
22 you only see the big picture, big colors, but it
23 looked very much like probably what I'm going to
24 say. I would like to see.

25 As you're adjusting the maps now after

1 this public comment period, the only thing on the CD
2 map I really liked a lot, but the LD 8 map, it
3 looked like maybe it cut cross on the Pinal County
4 line and I want to make sure that Oro Valley does
5 not get separated from Saddlebrooke because Oro
6 Valley, Catalina, and Saddlebrooke are right there
7 together. You can't tell when you leave one and you
8 come to another. They basically are a community
9 that's right there together.

10 Arizona has 13 counties that are rural
11 with an approximate population of 1.6 million
12 people, according to the census. And that is enough
13 to make at least two completely rural congressional
14 districts.

15 The Commission can draw those districts
16 without getting into Metro Phoenix and Metro Tucson.
17 One on the eastern side and one on the western side
18 of Arizona if -- and it may be that Jill's maps
19 already did this. It kind of looks like it. You
20 may have taken a lot of this into consideration.

21 If Coconino County must be included in a
22 district with heavily populated area, it should be
23 kept completely out of Maricopa County and Pima
24 County.

25 The more populated northern areas with

1 Yavapai County, Mohave County, for example, would be
2 much more in -- compatible with Yav- -- Coconino.

3 The draft map does not comply with the
4 Constitution in a number of ways. The districts are
5 much less compact than those in previous maps.

6 The districts do not respect the rural
7 communities of interest. All of the nine districts
8 shown in the draft map have a connection to the
9 Metro Phoenix or Metro Tucson areas.

10 It has created districts like CD 1, which
11 is not compact, it does not respect communities of
12 interest or geographic boundaries, and it is not
13 competitive.

14 Do not split the five counties, Pinal,
15 Cochise, Gila, Pima, and Yavapai for the one purpose
16 of keeping Coconino County whole.

17 Do not put Pinal County communities of
18 Marana and Oro Valley in with the eastern rural
19 district CD 1 that includes Coconino County. We
20 would rather be with CD 2, which is right there by
21 us in Southern Arizona and keeps us in Southern
22 Arizona.

23 The rural counties should be able to
24 elect a candidate from rural Arizona, not from
25 suburban Tucson, and the communities in Southern

1 Arizona should be able to elect a candidate from
2 Southern Arizona.

3 If you really want to have three border
4 districts and the two rural districts, I think that
5 possibly could be accommodated without still putting
6 in with Pima County -- without putting the western
7 counties in with Maricopa County and Pinal County.

8 Arizona does have enough people in the
9 rural parts of the state to deserve a minimum of two
10 completely rural counties -- I mean two completely
11 rural districts.

12 Florence, Coolidge, and the San Tan
13 Valley, if they want to be -- and I'm sure not sure
14 that this is true -- in the currently drawn CD 1 and
15 the nonreservation part of Coconino County wants to
16 be in the currently drawn CD 4, this would be an
17 easy swap to make those counties work -- or those
18 congressional districts work.

19 CD 8, which is where I was, was the most
20 competitive congressional district in the state,
21 switching back from Democrat and Republican. And
22 now that we're CD 1, which has a Democrat 10 point
23 majority, which in no way can possibly be considered
24 competitive, even though competitive really hasn't
25 been defined by the Commission and is certainly not

1 rural.

2 I would request in the 30-day review --
3 I'm almost done -- that you get the 2004 and 2006
4 election data and include those in the new data that
5 everyone would be able to see that as well for the
6 new districts.

7 Thank you so much.

8 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
9 much.

10 Lynne -- Geri Ottoboni, Barbara Davis,
11 and finally, Cheryl Sims.

12 GERI OTTOBONI: Geri Ottoboni. That's
13 O-t-t-o-b-o-n-i.

14 CD 1 shows no respect for the
15 geographical features of the state. They have
16 created the largest, most hard-to-travel district
17 this state has ever seen.

18 This district includes Mohave desert, the
19 Colorado plateau, the Central Highlands, the Sonoran
20 desert, the grasslands, and the southeastern part of
21 the state. It runs from Utah to Mexico and crosses
22 the Mogollon Rim -- the state's great divide. And
23 it includes 12 of the 14 counties.

24 It appears, in fact, that the geographic
25 features criteria was totally ignored in this

1 process.

2 The Commission has two super-Hispanic
3 districts and four super-Republican districts, both
4 of these is packing.

5 There -- excuse me, then there were the
6 weirdly shaped LDs, like LD 2 with a tail to get it
7 packed with Hispanics. There are seven of these
8 LDs.

9 Competitiveness, Indian reservations, and
10 Hispanic districts have been the prime area of focus
11 of the Commission from day one. Never mind
12 communities of interest, which were barely ever
13 discussed. And when they were, certain
14 commissioners reminded the public -- public comment
15 of a few people that ignored the comments of the
16 vast majority of people as was done in splitting
17 Yuma in half.

18 Making the entire state and all of the
19 districts competitive has been the overriding focus
20 of the Commission, making all other criteria subject
21 to that and then refusing to define what competitive
22 is.

23 So the commissioners would say, well,
24 this is competitive like CD 1. Well, it has 10
25 point Democratic majority and it can be no way

1 considered competitive.

2 The McNulty-designed CD 9 was created and
3 the voting results from 2004, 2006 have never been
4 made available for comparison of whether this is a
5 new district, or any other is true competitive. The
6 data manipulation has been and continues to be
7 deplorable.

8 Colleen Mathis was asked to answer
9 questions by the AG Tom Horne and instead lawyered
10 up so she would not respond to questions about the
11 illegal activities, but instead the Commission has
12 hired nine attorneys to protect the two Democrats
13 and one Independent when the Republicans did not
14 seem to have a problem testifying without attorneys.

15 We, the taxpayers, are paying for these
16 very, very expensive personal attorneys to defend
17 these three commissioners from the AG and the
18 governor.

19 In addition, Chair Mathis appointed two
20 vice chairman, which now throws the Commission into
21 gridlock. This is a blatant violation of the
22 Constitution, Article IV, part 2, which reads: The
23 five commissioners shall then select by majority
24 vote one of their members to serve as vice chair.

25 At the time of the vote to select the two

1 vice chairs, the IRC has made aware the
2 unconstitutional decision, and Ms. Mathis chose to
3 ignore advice to follow the Constitution.

4 Not only was this unconstitutional but
5 Mathis's act has had the predictable impact on the
6 IRC. With two vice chairs, will be almost
7 impossible for the IRC to act on anything.

8 The governor and the senate realized
9 evidence was overwhelming that Ms. Mathis had
10 committed gross misconduct and substantial neglect
11 of duty.

12 What they perhaps didn't realize was the
13 impact of her unconstitutional reign that would have
14 after she left the IRC.

15 The governor did not go far enough.
16 Voters have no idea what Proposition 106 would
17 bring, and she should have gone ahead and gotten rid
18 of the whole -- all of the commissioners and put the
19 Proposition 106 back on the ballot.

20 Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you.

22 Next up is Barbara Davis and Cheryl Sims.

23 BARBARA DAVIS: Hello. Hi.

24 My name is Barbara Davis, B-a-r-b-a-r-a,
25 D-a-v-i-s.

1 I want to say thank God for all of the
2 men and women who have served our country, and are
3 currently serving our country.

4 And I do believe in the voice of people.
5 And I think that the -- there are several people
6 that mentioned that there are certain communities
7 that should be attached to this or that or whatever,
8 but I think that the communities need to be of
9 interest, compact or contiguous, remain communities
10 that are most important.

11 And perhaps the people of Florence,
12 Saddlebrooke, Catalina, and Oro Valley would rather
13 have their communities not with some other community
14 but where they are presently.

15 So I would appreciate if the Commission
16 would take time to look at that.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
19 much.

20 And before we go to our final speaker,
21 did Jay Preskit come back?

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: We'll get to our
24 final speaker, Cheryl Sims.

25 CHERYL SIMS: Well, I guess they did save

1 the best for last.

2 I had to do it. Thank you, Commissioner
3 Stertz.

4 My name is Cheryl Sims, C-h-e-r-y-l,
5 S-i-m-s, and I am here to speak on behalf of my
6 sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated,
7 which is a public service organization that was
8 founded in Washington, D.C., in 1913.

9 So we, too, are soon to celebrate our
10 centennial celebration like our great state of
11 Arizona.

12 Today we are more than 250,000 members
13 strong, and I would like to acknowledge some of my
14 sorority sisters who have come to support me today
15 from around the state of Arizona.

16 If you ladies would please stand.

17 Thank you so much.

18 To put into evidence, the 2011 Arizona
19 Redistricting Commission resolution in the
20 affirmative, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,
21 Incorporated, sponsored by the Tempe Alumni chapter,
22 presented by Tucson alumni chapter.

23 Whereas in November 2000, Arizona voters
24 passed Proposition 106, a citizen initiative that
25 amended the Arizona Constitution by removing the

1 power to draw congressional and state legislative
2 districts from the state legislature and reassigning
3 this task to the newly created Independent
4 Redistricting Commission, the IRC.

5 Whereas, under the Arizona Constitution,
6 the sole task of the IRC is to establish
7 congressional and legislative districts. The
8 Constitution permits no more than two members of the
9 IRC to be from the same political party and requires
10 that the fifth commissioner not be registered with
11 any party represented on the IRC at the time of
12 appointment.

13 Whereas, the state of Arizona falls under
14 the Voting Rights Act, which is a landmark civil
15 rights legislation that protects the rights of
16 minority voters to participate in the electoral
17 process. It was enacted in 1965 and amended and
18 extended in subsequent years.

19 Therefore, be it resolved that the
20 Arizona chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority,
21 Incorporated, aligns their support with maps that
22 honor minority-majority landscapes and maintains
23 equal voting representations.

24 Be it resolved, the Arizona chapter of
25 the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, affirm

1 the autonomous rights and responsibility of the
2 Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.

3 Be it also resolved, the Arizona chapter
4 of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated,
5 supports the Arizona Independent Redistricting
6 Commission's transparent implementations of the will
7 of the Arizona voters outlined in Proposition 106.

8 Be it further resolved, the Arizona
9 chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated,
10 assert faith and trust in the character and
11 integrity of the chosen commissioners assigned to
12 fulfill the charge of the redistricting process.

13 Be it finally resolved, that Delta Sigma
14 Theta Sorority, Incorporated, a sisterhood of
15 250,000-plus college educated women will vigorously
16 encourage each of its members to attend hearings,
17 voice her opinion and communicate in writing with
18 state senators and representatives in an effort to
19 urge the support and monitoring of the redistricting
20 process.

21 Thank you, Commissioner, for your time
22 and God bless you.

23 COMMISSIONER STERTZ: Thank you very
24 much.

25 Is there anyone else in attendance this

1 evening that would like to speak?

2 With that being said, a couple of closing
3 remarks.

4 Mr. Wade had asked a question about what
5 the process is going forward.

6 There is sort of a parallel process. In
7 Proposition 106, there was a remedy clause if there
8 was a choice where a commissioner was removed, there
9 is a remedy where the Appellate Court Appointment
10 Board reconvenes together and selects a new member,
11 which will be then vetted by the remaining
12 commissioners.

13 That Appellate Court Appointment Board is
14 having its meeting on Monday.

15 Simultaneously there is a legal response
16 taking place where there's a legal challenge by the
17 Commission against the removal of Chairman Mathis
18 that was filed in Supreme Court, and those
19 proceedings are beginning as well on Monday.

20 Because of the 30-day process of response
21 time, it doesn't end. It's just that the minimum
22 time is 30 days or longer, as the Constitution lays
23 out, that we are to collect comments after the draft
24 maps for at least 30 days. The end of that first
25 minimum period is this upcoming Wednesday.

1 So what we'll be doing now is we have
2 literally -- and I think Mr. Forst said earlier
3 today that we literally have thousands and thousands
4 of e-mails, not including the testimony that we've
5 had in person, the writing of testimony, the maps,
6 et cetera, that we've accumulated over the past
7 travel time since the draft maps have been
8 distributed.

9 That information is going to be gathered
10 together, collated, and then distributed to the
11 commissioners so that we can begin our assimilation.

12 And this is a -- this is a deliberate and
13 intentional process by the commissioners to really,
14 truly understand all of the ramifications of the
15 testimony that we have received, the impact of the
16 changes that they have, how we have Florence in one
17 district slightly outside of the majority of the
18 rest of the county.

19 These are the adjustments that sometimes
20 when you are drawing draft maps you just don't
21 really capture. And that's the reason why this --
22 the crafters of 106 were quite smart and said you've
23 got to get a draft period. Go out to public,
24 capture a bunch of information and then digest all
25 it and then go back and make these adjustments.

1 So I want to tell you thank you very
2 much. Please keep us in your thoughts and your
3 prayers.

4 This has been a difficult challenge this
5 past week and going forward. We know that we are
6 not going to satisfy everybody's needs, wants, or
7 desires as we move this ball down the field, but if
8 you can keep us in your thoughts and prayers, we
9 would surely appreciate it.

10 And again, thanks to the city of Casa
11 Grande for letting us use this beautiful facility.

12 I will call this meeting -- the last
13 meeting of our public comment period to a close at
14 5:35 -- or 5:30. We'll call this meeting adjourned.

15 (The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.)
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I, MICHELLE D. ELAM, Certified Reporter
No. 50637 for the State of Arizona, do hereby
certify that the foregoing 89 printed pages
constitute a full, true, and accurate transcript of
the proceedings had in the foregoing matter, all
done to the best of my skill and ability.

WITNESS my hand this 10th day of
November, 2011.

MICHELLE D. ELAM
Certified Reporter
Certificate No. 50637