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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Redistricting Panel Adopts Draft Congressional Map**

PHOENIX (Oct. 3, 2011) – Arizona’s Independent Redistricting Commission voted 3-1 today, with one abstention, to adopt a draft congressional-district map.

The map has been posted online at <http://bit.ly/o112vo>. It includes two vast rural districts: a northeastern district stretching from the Navajo Nation on the Utah border to the southeastern corner of the state that includes most of the Arizona’s Indian nations; and a so-called Colorado River district stretching from the Utah border to the northern part of Yuma. It contains two so-called majority-minority districts: one in South Phoenix and one that stretches from southern Yuma east to Santa Cruz County. Three of the districts touch the border with Mexico.

As a result of reapportionment, Arizona will have nine seats in the U.S. House of Representatives for the next decade.

The draft map reflects a number of revisions proposed today by Chairwoman Colleen Coyle Mathis (I-Pima County) after hearing public reaction to the map that was considered on Friday. She led off today’s meeting in Tempe by walking her fellow commissioners through those changes.

Following some discussion and a period of public comment, she urged the commission to formally adopt the map.

“I think we’ve worked really hard on this, and it’s time to move forward,” she said.

Commissioner Linda McNulty (D-Pima County) moved to adopt the map. Vice Chairman José Herrera (D-Maricopa County) seconded the motion. Mathis, Herrera and McNulty voted “yes”; Commissioner Richard Stertz (R-Pima County) voted “no”; and Vice Chairman Scott Freeman (R-Maricopa County) abstained.

The adoption of the draft map triggers a 30-day public comment period highlighted by IRC hearings around the state during the middle of October.

Following their adoption of the congressional draft map, the commissioners returned to work on a legislative-district map.

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