

ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

Wednesday, November 2, 2011
6:05 p.m.

Location

**City of Peoria, Arizona
Council Chambers
8401 West Monroe
Peoria, Arizona 85345**

Attending

Jose Herrera, Vice Chair

Kristina Gomez, Deputy Executive Director
Stu Robinson, Public Information Officer

Joseph Kanefield, Legal Counsel

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

Peoria, Arizona
November 2, 2011
6:05 p.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Whereupon, the public session commences.)

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Good evening. Let's start the meeting. The time is 6:05. Good evening. Thank you for being here. My name is Jose Herrera, co-Vice Chair of the IRC.

Before we start the meeting, let's do the Pedge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you all for being here. Let me introduce some people that are part of the Commission.

We have Kristina Gomez, who is the deputy executive director.

Stu Robinson, who is our public information officer.

We have Joe Kanefield, who's our legal counsel.

We have Karen Herrman and Shane Shields, who are our outreach representatives.

And then we have Carlos Reyes, who is the Spanish

1 interpreter. And we are required by law to provide
2 interpreting, to be able to provide someone in here to
3 interpret if they are unable to speak the language. So,
4 Carlos, if you'll do me a favor and approach the podium and
5 do your part.

6 CARLOS REYES: Good evening, Vice Chair Herrera,
7 ladies and gentlemen, Commissioners.

8 In accordance with the Voting Rights Act, an
9 interpreter will be available at public hearings in order to
10 provide interpreting services that might be needed for those
11 citizens that need interpreting services.

12 Please contact the interpreter present at the
13 hearing so that he or she can assist you.

14 Now I will repeat the script in Spanish.

15 (Whereupon, Mr. Reyes made a statement in
16 Spanish.)

17 CARLOS REYES: Thank you.

18 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, Carlos.

19 I forgot to introduce one very important person,
20 Marty Herder, our court reporter.

21 For those of you that would like to speak, make
22 sure you have one of these yellow forms. And if you choose
23 not to speak and still want to provide some comments to us,
24 there should be a blue form. And if you -- they should be
25 in the back. I think it's blue. There'll be a yellow form

1 to speak, blue form if you want to provide comments to us
2 but not speak.

3 The next thing we'll do is have Willie Desmond
4 with Strategic Telemetry give his presentation on the second
5 round of public hearings.

6 WILLIE DESMOND: My name is Willie Desmond. I
7 work with Strategic Telemetry. We are the firm hired to
8 provide technical mapping assistance to the Commission
9 throughout this process.

10 Happy to be here with you tonight with the draft
11 maps, and to hear what the public has to say about them.

12 The purpose of these meetings is to hear your
13 opinions on these draft maps, but I'm going to give you a
14 little presentation on what the IRC is, the process that was
15 used to develop these maps, and the maps themselves.

16 So before going onto the maps, I just -- I'll
17 start with a little background.

18 Arizona's redistricting process is governed by the
19 Arizona State Constitution, which was amended in the year
20 2000 with the passage of Proposition 106.

21 The voters of Arizona passed Proposition 106 and
22 created the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission and
23 established some criteria to be used for drawing new
24 congressional and legislative district lines.

25 One criteria is, that following the most recent

1 census, new lines must be created to follow shifts in
2 population.

3 So following the 2010 census, Arizona was
4 allocated a ninth and additional congressional district.

5 Aside from the ninth additional congressional
6 district, changes would have to be made anyway due to
7 expanding and contracting populations in different areas.

8 The criteria outlined by Proposition 106 are that
9 all plans must comply with the United States Constitution
10 and the Voting Rights Act.

11 Additionally, all plans must have equal
12 population.

13 These first two are federally mandated, so that
14 any plans that take effect anywhere in the country have to
15 follow these criteria.

16 The next four are Arizona specific, and the
17 Arizona State Constitution. So, they are, to the extent
18 practicable, districts must be compact and contiguous,
19 respect communities of interest, use visible geographic
20 features such as city, town, county boundaries, and
21 undivided census tracts when possible.

22 And must favor competitive districts when there is
23 no significant detriment to other goals.

24 Just to give you a little bit more background on
25 the Voting Rights Act, and then we'll show a brief video by

1 Bruce Adelson.

2 Arizona's congressional and legislative districts
3 must receive preclearance or approval from the Department of
4 Justice or a Federal Court under Section 5 of the Voting
5 Rights Act, before they can take effect.

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

10 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting plans
11 cannot be retrogressive.

12 Plans cannot weaken or reduce the minority voters'
13 rights.

14 The presence of discrimination can be determined
15 by analyzing both population data and election results.

16 So, now, I'm going to show a brief video by Bruce
17 Adelson.

18 He is an attorney with Federal Compliance
19 Consulting. He's been advising the Commission on the Voting
20 Rights Act and the preclearance process.

21 We've got the volume up as loud as we can, so
22 please bear with us.

23 (Whereupon a video presentation of Bruce Adelson
24 was played.)

25 WILLIE DESMOND: Now, the process of redistricting

1 is broken down into several steps. The first is
2 establishing a Commission. The Commission was created
3 earlier this year. The Commissioners were appointed
4 following a thorough screening process and they serve in a
5 voluntary capacity to the State of Arizona.

6 Following the establishment of the Commission,
7 there's a first round of public hearings, where the
8 Commission goes around the state, conducts public hearings
9 to receive people's input on what they want to be in the new
10 maps.

11 This year there were 23 public hearings around the
12 state throughout the months of July and August.

13 There was public testimony on things such as
14 geography, communities of interest, minority voters rights,
15 and competitiveness.

16 Following the completion of the first round of
17 public hearings the mapping phase begins.

18 Per Proposition 106, the Commission must start
19 with a blank slate. Cannot pay attention to the current
20 districts, and they cannot look at where incumbents live.

21 The first thing they do after starting the blank
22 slate is to create a grid map. This is simply a
23 redistricting -- a new district plan that only intention is
24 to put the population in equal sized districts in a
25 grid-like pattern.

1 It only meets two of the State's constitutional
2 criteria, and those are equal population and compact and
3 contiguous districts.

4 So once the grid maps have been created, the
5 committee then works with those grid maps and adjusts those
6 lines to meet the other six criteria and form the draft
7 maps.

8 So, the approval of the draft maps happened on
9 October 3rd for the congressional district map, and October
10 10th for the legislative district map.

11 The grid maps were adjusted over 25 times before
12 this, or were adjusted over the course of 25 Commission
13 meetings before this, in order to come up with the draft
14 maps that we'll present today.

15 Following completion of the draft maps, there is a
16 30-day public comment period, and a second round of public
17 hearings.

18 That's why we're all here tonight and that's why
19 you're all here today.

20 The purpose of this meeting is to hear your input
21 on these maps, so I thank you for being here, and I
22 encourage you all to speak.

23 We're currently visiting -- it says 25 towns and
24 cities, but I believe it's actually 31 now, in order to
25 receive the public's opinion on these maps. And this has

1 been going on throughout the month of October and the early
2 part of November.

3 Following completion of the second round of
4 hearings, the Commission will vote on final maps.

5 Once these are done, it will be sent off to the
6 Department of Justice for preclearance.

7 Again, because Arizona is subject to Section 5 of
8 the Voting Rights Act, district maps must be approved by the
9 Federal Department of Justice or the Federal Court in
10 Washington, D.C. before they can take effect for Arizona
11 elections.

12 So, right now I'm going to show you a little brief
13 time line of how the maps came to be.

14 This is the current congressional district map.

15 It was last used for the 2010 elections and is
16 being phased out now.

17 This is one of the maps that we are working to
18 replace following the 2010 census.

19 Per Proposition 106, this was the starting point
20 for those new plans, completely blank slate.

21 Here is the grid map that the Commission selected.

22 They asked that two grid maps be prepared for both
23 the legislative and congressional districts in order to show
24 there are multiple ways of assembling population in a
25 grid-like pattern.

1 They've used option two for both the congressional
2 and grid maps.

3 That happened in mid-August. Since then the grid
4 map has been adjusted over the course of 25 public meetings.

5 What you see before you is the completed draft
6 maps. Some highlights include two primarily rural
7 districts, three border districts, three districts in the
8 Greater Tucson area, five districts that are entirely within
9 Maricopa County, and that avoids splitting Arizona's Indian
10 Reservations. And there are two districts where minority
11 voters should have the ability to elect a candidate of their
12 choice.

13 Looking at the legislative district map, this is
14 the current map as it sits now. This will be replaced for
15 the 2012 election.

16 Again, we started with a blank slate.

17 The first step was to assemble the population in a
18 grid-like pattern.

19 Again, over the course of 25 meetings, the
20 Commission arrived at this draft map.

21 Some things to note that are, because of
22 population growth over the last decade, some of the previous
23 legislative districts had wildly divergent populations.

24 The smallest districts had about 155,000 people in
25 them. The largest districts now have 378,000 people in

1 them. So some districts were more than twice as big as
2 others.

3 This current draft map has a deviation from about
4 207,000 to around 215,000.

5 Again, to comply with the Voting Rights Act, the
6 draft plan includes ten districts in which the minority
7 voters should have the opportunity to elect a candidate of
8 their choice.

9 The draft also includes three districts wholly
10 within Pima County, and three additional southern Arizona
11 districts, 17 districts primarily within Maricopa County,
12 and nine districts that are primarily rural.

13 Okay, again, the purpose of this meeting is to
14 hear your input. So thank you again for being here.

15 You're welcome to speak to anything you feel is
16 important for the Commission to know.

17 Possible things to speak about are the
18 constitutional criteria, the draft congressional or draft
19 legislative map.

20 If you don't feel comfortable speaking tonight, I
21 also encourage you to fill out one of the blue public input
22 forms in the back of the room and turn those in to a member
23 of the staff.

24 Your comments are also recorded into the record
25 and taken into account by the Commissioners as they do this

1 mapping.

2 Additionally, you can visit our website at
3 www.azredistricting.org and fill out some comments, or you
4 can call the office at 602-542-5221, or toll free at
5 855-733-7478.

6 Now, we would encourage you to visit our website.
7 There's a lot of other things you can do besides submit
8 public input.

9 Some of the red arrows show some of the important
10 features.

11 First, is the meetings tab. Under that you can
12 gain information about future times and locations.

13 Also go back and watch videos of all the meetings
14 so far.

15 If you're curious how these maps came to be, you
16 can watch as the public developed them in public meetings.

17 Also submit public input.

18 Probably most importantly, you can click on the
19 maps tabs at the top or the bottom, and view these draft
20 maps.

21 If you do that, it will take you to a page that
22 looks very much like this.

23 The maps are available in many formats. PDF, Jpeg
24 files, also Google maps.

25 There's population data tables, reports that list

1 different cities, in which district they're in.

2 Reports that tell you how many splits there are of
3 municipalities and census tracts, and also mapping files if
4 you have your own software and you'd like to play around
5 with that.

6 Again, I'm sorry if anyone here tonight was not
7 able to use the maps that were provided to find what they
8 needed. But one thing I do want to show you is the Google
9 maps tab on here, circled in red. If you click on that it
10 takes you to a page that looks a lot like this. What you're
11 able to do with this is zoom in and out all the way down to
12 the individual household neighborhoods.

13 You can see your street, your block, your
14 neighborhood. You can follow the borders so you can see
15 exactly where they are. You can really see what comprises
16 these maps.

17 The buttons on the left allow you to turn the
18 shading on and off, the county lines on an off.

19 It's a relatively good way to explore these maps
20 and see how they're put together.

21 You are able to zoom in, as shown here. You can
22 get much more detailed than this. I believe there is an
23 area in Maricopa County you can zoom down much, much
24 further.

25 So, again, that's available on our website at

1 www.azredistricting.org.

2 Also, there you can draw your own maps.

3 There's a public online mapping tool that allows
4 you to move boundaries and see how it affects population.

5 You can start with a blank slate, start with the
6 maps, start with these draft maps, and really drill down and
7 see the intricacies of trying to build these maps.

8 You can also watch the current and past meetings
9 and get updates on future meetings. If you'd like to stay
10 connected, you can follow us on Twitter at hashtag AIRC.
11 We're the friendliest on Facebook.

12 So with that, I'll just close by saying we
13 appreciate you hosting us tonight. Please feel free to
14 approach me or any member of the staff after the meeting.
15 We're more than happy to answer your questions. If we can't
16 answer them, we'll certainly do our best to find an answer
17 for you.

18 We look forward to hearing your comments, and
19 thank you very much.

20 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, Mr. Desmond.

21 As Mr. Desmond stated, the purpose of these
22 meetings is to hear your opinions, your -- the areas on the
23 maps that you want us to change, what areas you want us to
24 keep the same.

25 So this is your time to for you to voice your

1 concerns, and not a time for us to address any issues, but a
2 time for us to listen to you, the audience.

3 Again, you have yellow forms if you wish to speak.
4 Please do so by completing these forms.

5 When we will have -- we'll give each speaker three
6 minutes. You'll be able to see when the time is up there.
7 I think it turns green. Stu, can you let me know?

8 So it will be green, and then it will turn yellow,
9 one minute left, and, obviously, red when you are finished
10 with your three minutes.

11 And what I want to do is maximize all the public
12 comments, so please, I will stick to the three minutes.

13 So you have your warning up there.

14 I think three minutes is plenty.

15 And let's go ahead and get started.

16 When you come up, Marty would like, and we would
17 like you to spell your first and last name, speak slowly,
18 tell us who you represent, and the town or city you're from.

19 Let's go ahead and get started.

20 Our first presenter is Dorothy Ward, representing
21 herself, from Phoenix.

22 DOROTHY WARD: Where do I go?

23 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Ma'am, right here.

24 DOROTHY WARD: I am Dorothy Ward. The last name
25 is spelled W-A-R-D.

1 I'm representing myself and central Phoenix.

2 And I'm most concerned that the district map
3 proposed in the October 10th Arizona Republic be adopted.

4 I think it's a wonderful map, with 710,000 people
5 in each district, and hopefully, the Native Americans being
6 able to have a representative in Congress.

7 I want to thank each of the Commissioners for
8 accepting the position knowing what a contentious situation
9 it would be.

10 I particularly want to acknowledge the Chairman's
11 position. I guess she's not here tonight. But I think she
12 has done a superb job, and I think Governor Brewer's
13 absolutely wrong in trying to get her ousted.

14 (Applause.)

15 DOROTHY WARD: She has done nothing wrong.

16 I hope she sleeps well at night, knowing that
17 she's been doing the right thing, because she certainly has.

18 I think all of you should be commended,
19 particularly her.

20 Thank you.

21 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Still a minute and 44 seconds
24 left.

25 Next speaker -- if I mispronounce somebody's name,

1 I apologize in advance. Rivko Knox is our next speaker.

2 RIVKO KNOX: Good evening. Thank you for the
3 opportunity to speak. My name is R-I-V-K-O, my first name.
4 Last name is Knox, K-N-O-X.

5 I'm representing myself.

6 I live in Phoenix, Arizona, and as I've said at
7 prior meetings, I live in the same house that I have for
8 almost 40 years, except I've been moved from district to
9 district.

10 First, I want to thank all of you. I'm sorry,
11 both the staff and the Commissioners, I am sorry that
12 there's only one Commissioner here. I had hoped after I --
13 I hoped this would be the last meeting I would speak at, but
14 it looks like nobody knows exactly what the future is going
15 to be.

16 I am not a data person, so I'm not here to speak
17 on any specifics. I'm primarily here to say that I -- my
18 main focus is continue to be in a competitiveness. And the
19 numbers do seem to indicate that it's not going to turn out
20 to be the most competitive of maps.

21 Having said that, I would also like to say that
22 with all that, I'm not 100 percent happy with this, the maps
23 the way they are. I recognize it's a really difficult
24 balancing act. You move one, you move another.

25 It's my understanding that the recent judge has

1 indicated that all the criteria are basically considered
2 equal except for the two mandatory ones by Federal law.

3 But the community of interest has been used in so
4 many different ways. And I -- I'm not going to say there
5 are no such things as communities of interest, but they can
6 be absolutely used to just say anything you want to say, and
7 I've heard too many comments about communities of interest.

8 I almost want to laugh about it.

9 And, finally, I would like to say that I am very
10 disturbed, even with my comments about the final maps, I'm
11 very, very disturbed at what has happened to the process.

12 I think the process has worked very well.

13 Like I say, I've attended four hearings. I've
14 submitted comments. Legislators have attended meetings,
15 public hearings, like everybody else, and their comments
16 have been heard as well as everybody else's.

17 The removal of the -- or the attempt to remove the
18 removal of the Chair, I think is a real travesty of the
19 concept of an Independent Redistricting Commission.

20 And I'm hopeful that this will not stand, and I'm
21 hopeful that even though no final maps have been issued, to
22 remove somebody without any proof of or any due process is
23 extremely disturbing.

24 And thank you very much for your time.

25 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Glenn
3 Jacques, representing Arizona Competitive District Coalition
4 from Phoenix.

5 GLENN JACQUES: I'm Glenn Jacques, G-L-E-N-N,
6 Jacques, J-A-C-Q-U-E-S.

7 I'm the winner of the Arizona Competitive
8 Districting Coalition, and I live in Phoenix, Arizona

9 I have submitted to my Commission both my maps,
10 that won the Arizona Competitive District Coalition contest,
11 both the congressional and legislative.

12 I have submitted those via the website and you
13 have a copy of both of those.

14 Competitive districts can be obtained while
15 preserving community of interests.

16 If you take a look at the congressional map that I
17 submitted, you'll notice that it has five competitive
18 districts. Three of those are in Maricopa County.

19 One of those includes much of central Phoenix and
20 northern parts of Phoenix. And another one includes much of
21 Tempe and Mesa. There's also two more rural districts that
22 are competitive, both on the eastern portions of Arizona.

23 If you take a look at the legislative map that
24 I've sent into the Commission, it has seven competitive
25 districts.

1 It also protects community of interest while
2 meeting all the Voting Rights Acts.

3 In taking a look at your legislative map, I feel
4 that you did a good job of creating some competitive
5 districts, but additional ones can be created while fixing
6 some of the communities of interest that have been split.

7 For example, if you take a look at your draft map
8 of the Legislature, District Number 28 in north central
9 Phoenix, you could give some of those Democrats to the south
10 Scottsdale area.

11 This would make the Scottsdale area, Scottsdale
12 district, more competitive.

13 And also may lead to making a more competitive
14 district in the northwest part of Phoenix.

15 I'd like to thank the Commission for all the work
16 they've done so far and their attempt to create both maps.

17 Thank you.

18 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

19 Next speaker is Bill Stough, S-T-O-U-G-H,
20 representing himself, from Goodyear.

21 BILL STOUGH: Commissioner, my name is Bill
22 Stough, S-T-O-U-G-H.

23 I'm a resident of Goodyear, Arizona.

24 And as I look at your legislative draft map, I'm
25 concerned about the fact that we split Goodyear in half.

1 The north side goes into District 13 and the other
2 part of Goodyear goes into the Yuma district, which is 4.

3 Now, I know that there's been some subject about
4 the community of interest being overdone, but it would seem
5 to me that the south side of the residents in Goodyear have
6 really nothing in common with the people in Yuma. That's a
7 long way away.

8 I think the only time they go to Yuma in that area
9 is when they go to California or go down to Mexico to buy
10 their medicine.

11 But it would seem to me that by putting Goodyear
12 back together, that we have more of a -- more of a lock
13 there for community of interest, as opposed to the way you
14 drafted it now.

15 I don't understand the logic of why it was split
16 in half to start with, because I don't see any other, as I
17 look at your map here, I don't see any other cities of that
18 size being split like that. So I would hope that you would
19 go back and take a second look at that and try to pull the
20 city of Goodyear together so that we would be in one
21 district.

22 Plus the fact that we have -- we have some
23 representatives that have represented us very well in the
24 State Legislature. And I would like to see them remain in
25 the districts that they're in now, as opposed to going into

1 other districts.

2 Thank you for your time.

3 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

4 (Applause.)

5 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker, Shirley
6 McAllister, representing herself.

7 SHIRLEY McALLISTER: My name is Shirley
8 McCallister, S-H-I-R-L-E-Y, M-c capital A-L-L-I-S-T-E-R.

9 I'm Shirley McAllister of Sun City, and a resident
10 of Arizona for 15 years after being here three years longer
11 as a winter visitor.

12 I've attended several of these sessions, including
13 being present during four days while the Commission was
14 drawing the new district lines.

15 I am appalled at the action taken by the Governor
16 and Republicans in the Arizona Legislature regarding
17 Chairman Mathis and the work of the Commission.

18 Surely they did not attend any of these sessions
19 or they could not have made some of the statements I read in
20 the press.

21 It is also unfortunate that one Commissioner,
22 Mr. Freeman, has given statements to the press that are
23 inaccurate. His comments were printed in the Daily News
24 Sun, our local paper.

25 Although I do not agree with all the boundaries

1 set by the Commission, my observations have shown no bias
2 on the part of the Chair, nor of the staff.

3 Partisan Commissioners have worked to achieve
4 district lines to favor their political party, and that was
5 to be expected. Some public comment has been designed to
6 subvert one of the restrictions of the law, that of not
7 considering the residences of elected officials.

8 For example, the Republicans of the west valley
9 have sought lines that would include a current legislator,
10 and have been open to citing that as a reason for requesting
11 that Peoria and Sun City be a part of the same district.

12 The alternative of combining Sun City with Sun
13 City West to two communities who have more in common was
14 spoken against so that Sun City would have the eastern
15 connection.

16 The Commission did not act contrary to the law in
17 meeting this request. They were responding to public
18 comment regarding communities of interest.

19 I regret that politics has come to play such an
20 ugly role in the redistricting process.

21 All the citizens of Arizona, including me, want us
22 to have more competitive districts. I believe the
23 Commission has sought to accomplish that goal, while also
24 working within the constraints of equal population and
25 voting rights districts, contiguous districts, compact

1 districts, and districts of community of interest have also
2 been goals.

3 Not all of these goals can be met perfectly.

4 Competition with as many districts as possible is
5 essential for the better government in Arizona.

6 The actions of the Governor and the Arizona Senate
7 yesterday demonstrates what the lack of competitiveness has
8 wrought in Arizona.

9 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

10 (Applause.)

11 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is Lynne
12 Pancrazi, representative from the great city of Yuma.

13 LYNNE PANCRAZI: Good evening, again.

14 Lynne Pancrazi, L-Y-N-N-E, P-A-N-C-R-A-Z-I.

15 And I am the State Representative for Yuma,
16 District 24.

17 First, let me thank the Commission for the hard
18 work and the service that you've given to the state of
19 Arizona.

20 I too am opposed to what happened at the
21 Legislature last night, and the Governor and members of my
22 -- of the Senate being involved in what is supposed to be an
23 Independent Redistricting Committee.

24 And I too do not like the draft maps, as several
25 have, but I feel like this is the forum to voice my

1 concerns, and it is not at the State Legislature.

2 First of all, rural Arizona does not want to be
3 attached to metropolitan Phoenix, Goodyear. And Goodyear,
4 as you heard, does not want to be attached to Yuma.

5 The needs of rural Arizona are quite different
6 from those of the metropolitan area.

7 So I ask that the Commission please keep rural
8 Arizona separate from metropolitan Phoenix and Tucson.

9 Second, La Paz County has been represented by the
10 Yuma Legislature since before it was a county, as it used to
11 be part of Yuma County, and wish to stay with Yuma County.

12 I do know that the Arizona strip wants to be part
13 of District 5, proposed District 5, Mohave County, so I
14 would like the Commission to consider swapping those two and
15 bringing La Paz down to District 13.

16 Third, if -- if it's -- if you're unable to keep
17 Yuma County and La Paz County together in one district, and
18 still meet all the federal and state requirements that
19 you're supposed to, then, please, keep Maricopa, all of
20 Maricopa out of District 13, except for Buckeye and Gila
21 Bend, and put these together with La Paz County in
22 District 13, so that we have a rural representation.

23 Then add parts of Santa Cruz to District 4, and we
24 will remain being represented by rural legislators, and the
25 voice of rural Arizona will still be heard at the Capitol.

1 And with that, I want to thank you, and it's nice
2 to see you again.

3 Good night.

4 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is James, I
7 think it's Hoxworthy, or Hoxworth.

8 I probably butchered your last name.

9 JAMES HOXWORTH: That's all right.

10 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Sorry about that.

11 JAMES HOXWORTH: No. I don't know how Hoxworthy
12 gets in there, but it does sometimes. But it's Hoxworth,
13 H-O-X-W-O-R-T-H.

14 Good evening.

15 How you doing?

16 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: I'm doing great.

17 JAMES HOXWORTH: It is kind of a crazy time we're
18 under, isn't it.

19 I tried to get in Tempe back in the day, but it
20 was a little bit rushed and wasn't able to speak then, so...
21 But I got a chance now, so thank you very much for being
22 here.

23 My name is James Hoxworth. I am a pastor at
24 Bible Church, which is located at 40th Street and Stanford
25 Drive, just north of Camelback Road.

1 We have a growing unique congregation serving the
2 neighborhood of the Biltmore, north of northeast Phoenix,
3 Arcadia, as well as the town of Paradise Valley, where we're
4 located.

5 When I read, and I -- this was unique to me, when
6 I looked at the selected congressional draft maps, I was
7 curious how this would impact the civically minded
8 parishioners in our congregation. I was surprised and
9 realized that your maps had the immediate neighborhood of
10 Camelback Bible Church in one congressional district, while
11 we were closely surrounded on all four sides, including less
12 than 500 feet to the east, by an entirely different
13 congressional district which is based in the east valley.

14 With this configuration, our parishioners who
15 would be walking to church would be walking from one
16 congressional district to the other.

17 And, then, if they're walking down Stanford Drive,
18 you would be back again in the same or a different, excuse
19 me, congressional district.

20 Seemed as though almost a small pocket was curved
21 out without consideration of how it would be accessibly
22 splitting the neighborhood.

23 In one of my roles, I serve there as pastor of
24 small groups and young adults, so we're encouraging our
25 parishioners to serve our community, especially through

1 volunteering and keeping on track of prominent issues,
2 thinking about how it may impact them regardless of our
3 party affiliation, since we are nonpartisan.

4 So it's our request that you would keep the
5 neighborhoods surrounding our church at 40th Street and
6 Stanford in the same congressional district.

7 With the configuration of the draft as has been
8 drawn, we feel it would be important to keep the
9 neighborhoods of our parishioners together, and link with
10 north Phoenix, Paradise Valley, by including the
11 neighborhoods surrounding our church together, and in the
12 north Phoenix district which you have created.

13 And it would seem, again, to follow with the idea
14 of keeping everything compact and contiguous, keeping the
15 communities of interest united.

16 And also using just geographic features such as
17 the town boundaries, et cetera.

18 Thank you very much.

19 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

20 (Applause.)

21 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Jeanette
22 Dubreil. I know I'm not pronouncing the last name right.
23 I apologize.

24 (Applause.)

25 JEANETTE DUBREIL: Good morning. My name is

1 Jeanette Dubreil.

2 And I would like to speak to you about the
3 legislative district that -- the proposed district that I
4 will be living in. And that is the new proposed LD 22. And
5 I did provide some maps to your staff when I signed in to
6 speak.

7 LD 22 is in the northwest valley, and it
8 encompasses parts of Phoenix, Glendale, Peoria and Sun City.

9 For the most part, the district is very compact
10 and contiguous, and is drawn pretty much to my liking.

11 I would like to make some very small
12 recommendations that would help improve the constitutional
13 requirements.

14 There's a little segment up north that is in
15 Yavapai County, and I think it has, like, seven voters.

16 So if we remove that one voting precinct, that
17 contains or confines the LD 22 to one county.

18 Also, currently, it is drawn with a segment that
19 goes over the I-17 around the town of Anthem, and pick ups
20 New River from in between Anthem and Cave Creek.

21 I would like to use the I-17 as the eastern
22 boundary. Again, it's a good natural geographic that would
23 define the eastern boundaries of LD 22 very well.

24 Also, one of my main concerns is the northern
25 portion of the new LD 20 that is the Happy Valley

1 communities.

2 They're north of the Thunderbird Mountain
3 recreational area and the Adobe Dam.

4 I don't know if they gave you my maps, but
5 basically, LD 20 goes north, and this area, Adobe Dam and
6 Thunderbird Mountain cut off these communities from the rest
7 of their district.

8 Currently they -- those communities are part of
9 Legislative District 4, which is where we are now.

10 And I am requesting that they be put into the new
11 LD 22.

12 When you use the I-17 boundary and you cut off the
13 New River portion, and then you bring in those Happy Valley
14 communities of Stetson Hills, the population pretty much
15 balances itself out. So we are within one percent of the
16 population.

17 And as for the competitiveness factor, it doesn't
18 have any significant impact on the registration figures.

19 So I just ask that you take those into
20 consideration, and thank you very much for your time.

21 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

22 (Applause.)

23 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Don't be afraid to clap for
24 people. You can do that.

25 Larry Templeton is our next speaker, representing

1 self.

2 LARRY TEMPLETON: Okay. I'm Larry Templeton,
3 L--A-R-R-Y, T-E-M-P-L-E-T-O-N.

4 I live in Surprise, where I have lived since 2004.
5 Whenever I decided to live in Arizona I picked a
6 community that I wanted to be in. And Surprise was it.

7 I hear a rumor is floating around that they want
8 to split Surprise in half. I definitely want that not to
9 happen.

10 Now, as far as an eastern boundary, I believe 17
11 would make a really good natural boundary to go there, but
12 whatever you do, keep Surprise together as a unit. You
13 should try to do that with all cities.

14 But, anyway, I didn't choose to live in a region.
15 I chose a particular section.

16 Now, I think another thing has been over
17 emphasized. And that's the competitiveness.

18 The reason I think that, is because when you look
19 at statewide, the voter registration is within 5 percent of
20 the Republicans with the Democrats, and the rest of them are
21 pretty much Independent.

22 Therefore, I think that competitiveness has been
23 over emphasized in the maps they're trying to do.

24 I think it should be communities of interest that
25 are emphasized. Because that's where we all choose to live,

1 the community we want to live in.

2 It might be a retirement community.

3 It might be a work community.

4 But whatever that is, we should stay with that.

5 And then a final comment.

6 I am totally in support of what the Governor did
7 and what the Senate did, simply because the way I understand
8 it, we got a Chairman that was married to a Democratic
9 fundraiser, and I don't think she was unbiased.

10 Therefore, we need to do something different.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Jacquie Rose,
14 representing self.

15 JACQUIE ROSE: Hello. I'm Jacquie Rose.

16 J-A-C-Q-U-I-E. Rose, R O S E.

17 I've lived in District 9 for almost ten years.

18 I'm horrified by what Governor Brewer and the Legislature
19 did yesterday to Commissioner Mathis, and I want to thank
20 the Commission for continuing to do the work for which you
21 were appointed, under tremendous pressure.

22 I think you've been brave and valiant in this
23 effort, and we appreciate your efforts and your
24 determination.

25 Our military is fighting wars to bring democracy

1 to the public of Iraq, Afghanistan and now Libya. But at
2 the same time, our state leaders are trying to take our
3 democracy away from us.

4 You're Arizona's last defense against a fascist
5 state.

6 Despite what the Governor's -- despite the
7 Governor's efforts, fair and competitive redistricting is
8 important for the future of our state, and will determine
9 the direction the state takes for the next decade.

10 Without competitive districts there is no fair
11 representation for the majority of residents.

12 It's difficult for good candidates to run for
13 office when they don't have a chance of winning.

14 Furthermore, a lack of competitive districts hurts
15 public participation in government.

16 People feel that since they do not have a
17 representative in government who shows an interest in their
18 opinions, they drop out of the political process.

19 This lack of participation can destroy a
20 democracy.

21 I'm cutting it short. Okay.

22 I have lived in different states in different
23 areas of the country, as well as Washington, D.C., before
24 moving to Arizona. With the exception of the time I spent
25 in Washington, where there is no representation in Congress,

1 this is the first time that I have felt that I have no
2 representation in both the State Legislature and in
3 Congress.

4 My representatives and senators do not share my
5 values or views in any area of civic or civil thinking.

6 In fact, when I write my Congressman and Senators,
7 or try to lobby for an issue at their office, their staffs
8 have said on more than one occasion that they only represent
9 the people who voted for them.

10 Furthermore, when I write to them, I receive an
11 automatic response that asks me to prove that I'm one of
12 their constituents.

13 This is not the way an elected official should
14 represent their constituents, whether you voted for them or
15 not.

16 They don't care.

17 They know that without competitive districts they
18 will be re-elected no matter what they say or do. It's
19 important that you listen to the people of Arizona rather
20 than special interest groups or organizations who are
21 promoting their own interest rather than the interest of the
22 people of Arizona.

23 I thank you for your efforts, and also for your
24 time and attention this evening.

25 Thank you.

1 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

2 (Applause.).

3 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Guys, do me a favor. When
4 someone is speaking, whether you agree with them or not,
5 please don't laugh, don't make any comments, because I
6 guarantee you wouldn't appreciate it done to you. Please
7 keep your comments to yourself. If you want to clap, that's
8 great, but anything else I'm not going to tolerate that.

9 So thank you.

10 Our next speaker is Roma Thomas, representing
11 himself -- herself.

12 ROMA THOMAS: My name is Roma Thomas, R-O-M-A,
13 T-H-O-M-A-S.

14 I'm from Sun City West. I've lived there about 14
15 years. And I am representing myself and the United States
16 of America.

17 If we want to believe in the rule of law, and our
18 U. S. Constitution, I feel that redistricting has not been
19 done properly over a number of years.

20 All you need to do is go to Article 1 of our U. S.
21 Constitution, which says that representatives and direct
22 taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which
23 may be included within the Union according to their
24 respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to
25 the whole number of free persons.

1 And I emphasize free.

2 What has happened in the United States is that the
3 prison gerry -- gerrymandering has gone on.

4 In the 2010 census, for instance, there were
5 2 million people that were counted in the wrong place.

6 We have down here, for instance, down here in
7 Florence, in Pinal County, they have lumped all the
8 prisoners there into Legislative District 8. But some of
9 these prisoners could be easily transferred to another
10 district.

11 Actually, by law, I think, the way I interpret the
12 Constitution is, that those people that are not free, should
13 be counted in their own district where they first came from.

14 This happens in New York state. So many prisoners
15 are in from New York City, are sent up to upper New York
16 state to prison. It skews that representative district in
17 New York.

18 And it happens here in Arizona.

19 We have lots of prisoners down in Florence.

20 We have lots of prisoners in Kingman.

21 It skews the system. The non-voting of the prison
22 population in a particular legislative district would lead
23 those that can actually vote into a hyper majority by virtue
24 of having many prisoners in a particular legislative
25 district who wouldn't be voting or who cannot vote.

1 I -- as I say, we want to abide by the rule of law
2 and keep this an independent Commission, then we should be
3 abiding by the U. S. Constitution. And all those prisoners
4 counted in the Florence area, or whatever, and throughout
5 the state, they should be put back into their own home
6 district.

7 We have a lot of Hawaiian prisoners here, for
8 instance. They should be back in Hawaii counted.

9 It's just not fair, and I believe in fairness and
10 justice.

11 Thanks to the Commissioners.

12 I hope this helped.

13 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

14 (Applause.)

15 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Alvin
16 Vaughan, citizen of Peoria.

17 ALVIN VAUGHAN: I request to withdraw. My
18 statements have been made very eloquently by several people.

19 Thank you.

20 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

21 That will save us three minutes.

22 Our next speaker is Lisa Gray, LD number 9,
23 representing Sun City, Peoria, and Glendale.

24 LISA GRAY: Good evening. My name is Lisa Gray,
25 L-I-S-A, G-R-A-Y.

1 First, I just want to thank the Commission for LD
2 9, and, actually, we are going to be the new LD 21.

3 We came -- a bunch of us came and spoke on behalf
4 of what we were hoping would take place, and you guys really
5 did a great job with the district.

6 So I really want to thank you for that.

7 There are just a couple things that I would like
8 to bring to your attention to try to maybe clean up a couple
9 things.

10 The first thing is, I would recommend that we move
11 El -- remove El Mirage from the district. And the reason
12 being is that because that's part of the Dysart School
13 District, and that actually splits Dysart and puts another
14 school district into LD 9 or LD 21.

15 Also, El Mirage is more of a community of interest
16 with Surprise. All the shopping and everything takes place
17 in that area.

18 The other thing is, I would recommend that we move
19 -- remove El Mirage. That we go north, and we go up to
20 Beardsley and the 101.

21 We would take in Westbrook Village, which is a
22 community of interest to Sun City, because they are both
23 retirement communities, and they also use the same shopping
24 amenities.

25 Also, by going north, we keep Peoria School

1 District more intact.

2 The other thing that I would recommend is that we
3 bring back the area from Cactus to Olive to 51, and that we
4 use the 50 -- that we use 51st as a border. And I recommend
5 that because that corner is Peoria School District. So when
6 you took that out, it actually puts Peoria into another
7 school district.

8 So I would encourage that.

9 And then finally, using -- when we -- if you were
10 to use Agua Fria River, that separates Youngtown and El
11 Mirage, that's a natural boundary. That's kind of where we
12 are right now, so that separates it out.

13 Those are a few of the changes that I would
14 recommend for this district.

15 The other thing I want to say is that I, too, want
16 to say that I believe that there's been an over emphasis on
17 competitiveness.

18 You know, the -- if we remember prior to 2011, the
19 congressional seats belonged to Democrats.

20 The Governor was a Democrat, and the Attorney
21 General was a Democrat.

22 So I think that competitiveness has played out.

23 And the final thing is, when you look at Prop 106,
24 which is part of our Arizona Constitution, which we are
25 bound to follow, which was voted by the people, there are

1 six goals for this Commission.

2 And the final one states, and we've talked about
3 other ones. We've talked about the geographical compactness
4 and the boundaries and such, but the final one says: To the
5 extent practicable, competitive districts should be favored
6 where to do so would create no significant detriment to
7 other goals.

8 So that is the final goal.

9 That's not the -- the other goals above that play
10 into being first and foremost.

11 So I just offer that you keep that in mind as you
12 continue on that.

13 Thank you so much for your time.

14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Jim Malicki,
17 representing himself.

18 JIM MALICKI: Good evening. My name is Jim
19 Malicki, Jim, M-A-L-I-C-K-I.

20 I live in Phoenix, what will be LD 20, maybe.
21 Currently LD 10.

22 You know, I guess I'll start out by saying maybe
23 the best evidence that you guys have done a good job is
24 nobody's really happy, frankly.

25 And keep in mind that although I'm not going to

1 compare to the Declaration of Independence, but Thomas
2 Jefferson actually got stuck with the job because Benjamin
3 Franklin realized that he didn't want to put forth a
4 document that would be held under such scrutiny. So thanks
5 for getting stuck with it. And thanks for all the work you
6 guys are doing, by all means.

7 And what a job you have done.

8 Now, a basic tenant of our founding fathers is
9 that for the best form of American democracy to exist,
10 public participation and civic discourse must be evident.

11 Redistricting offers a unique opportunity that
12 only happens every ten years. That can promote that civic
13 discourse by enhancing competitiveness.

14 Yesterday, such civic discourse, and thus a basic
15 tenant of American democracy, has been stifled through the
16 actions of the Governor and the State Senate.

17 (Applause.)

18 JIM MALICKI: I am a Democrat, and I am proud to
19 say so.

20 And I put forth that through competitiveness we,
21 as a state, shall realize -- will realize the best elected
22 officers. I hear from Republicans that free market should
23 be promoted to have a healthy economy and government should
24 have minimal influence.

25 Doesn't it make sense that in the realm of ideas

1 and debate we also have a free market, in order to have the
2 best candidates to elect for office?

3 We should promote competitiveness and not try to
4 pre-determine Republican and Democrat seats in order to keep
5 the powers that be in place.

6 Why do we fear debate?

7 Why do the powers that be want to keep those
8 people quiet, silenced.

9 In closing, I speak to the Independents, of which
10 there are many.

11 To consider that for future elections that as you
12 cast your ballots, keep in mind that the Governor and
13 Republicans in the State Senate are doing their utmost to
14 make sure your votes don't count.

15 (Applause.)

16 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Joan
17 Spittler, Chairperson for the Northwest Valley Democrats.

18 JOAN SPITTLER: I'm Joan Spittler. J-O-A-N,
19 S-P-I-T-T-L-E-R.

20 I'm from Sun City West, and I am representing
21 myself. I'm also in LD 4.

22 I would like to thank the Commission for their
23 hard work. The fact that they're volunteers, they have
24 certainly worked very hard to make this a fair and
25 independent redistricting.

1 I, too, as others have said, am deeply concerned
2 about the Chairman of this committee being removed yesterday
3 by the Republican Congress and the Governor.

4 In LD 4, we have been outnumbered two to one for
5 years. In the new redistricting plan we are still
6 outnumbered and not fairly represented.

7 Our voices have been silenced for too long by one
8 party rule.

9 Our ideas and values are still not represented.

10 On behalf of the Northwest Valley Democrats, I ask
11 the Commission to work toward real fairness and
12 competitiveness in the new LD 4.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Bill
16 Mitchell, representing self, from Maricopa County.

17 BILL MITCHELL: Bill Mitchell, M-I-T-C-H-E-L-L.

18 It's nice to see you again, and the staff. I
19 really appreciate the things you have done. In spite of
20 what I said, I really like you all, really do. It's
21 interesting here to see so many constitutional experts in
22 the active judiciary that's gone before me.

23 The Commission no doubt has a challenging task,
24 especially since the voters of the state have put so much
25 faith in this Commission.

1 Your product is a reflection of all of you, of
2 each of you, and the result of leadership or lack of it.

3 What it should not be is a reflection of anything
4 other than the constitutional requirements.

5 We've all seen the valid criticism of various
6 newspaper editorials and community organizations regarding
7 the CL and LD maps. So I won't repeat those assignments.

8 But I'd like to take you back to the IRC's record
9 of October the 3rd, at which I was present. Up to that time
10 I had either attended or watched a number of the sessions
11 online.

12 One of my first statements to the Commission, I
13 indicated that as a citizen all I was looking for was
14 fairness, and political neutrality from the Commission.

15 Fairness was following applying Article 4, Part 2,
16 Section 1, Paragraphs 14A through F of our State
17 Constitution.

18 Fairness was not to be defined as, in quotes, "to
19 think either party could win," as stated by the Chairman in
20 that session on October the 3rd, 44 minutes into the
21 session.

22 This October 3rd session is important to follow,
23 because the CD draft map, which in my view was not complete
24 at the time, was adopted.

25 At six minutes and 52 seconds into the meeting,

1 the Chair says she wanted to get a third competitive
2 district out of Maricopa County.

3 At about 34 minutes and 24 seconds into the
4 meeting, Commissioner Freeman said he still didn't really
5 understand how competitiveness was being defined.

6 At about 48 minutes and 22 seconds into the
7 meeting, answering a question from Commissioner Stertz, the
8 Chair said that she wanted to adopt the map.

9 At about 51 minutes, Commissioner Stertz said
10 that -- stated that he didn't have the other evidence or
11 really understood how competitive is being defined.

12 There was a theme here that I saw developing and
13 sitting watching the people.

14 Commissioner Freeman had already made a similar
15 statement and added to these comments at about 53 minutes.

16 It was clear that this map was sprung upon both
17 those Commissioners.

18 Commissioner Herrera had to leave. He had to go
19 to a meeting. They took a break and went to public comment.

20 After public comment, around the 180 minute mark,
21 Commissioner Stertz spoke about competitiveness, stating it
22 wasn't adding up. CD 1 had 35,000 more Democrats, but it
23 was showing up as competitive. It wasn't.

24 CD 2 competitiveness showed no registration
25 advantage. More Republicans were added into CDs 4, 5, 6,

1 and 8, which seemed like packing more than anything.

2 And Commissioner Stertz repeated the statement
3 that he was interested in competitiveness.

4 Well, I see my time has expired.

5 Last thing I want to say is, going after this
6 round, round two, as you go back into session to tweak the
7 maps, they need more than a tweak.

8 They need to be redrawn, keeping the citizens that
9 are communities of interest ahead of what determined results
10 of October the 3rd.

11 Thank you.

12 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

13 (Applause.)

14 Next speaker is Jean McGrath, representing
15 herself.

16 And it says the Honorable Jean McGrath, so I will
17 call her.

18 JEAN McGRATH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 I'm Jean, J-E-A-N, M-C capital G-R-A-T-H.

20 I'm very concerned about the communities of
21 interest and the compactness of the districts.

22 I'm especially concerned with the present day
23 Legislative District 12. It encompasses parts of Glendale,
24 Litchfield Park, Estrella, Avondale, Goodyear, Pebble Creek.
25 And the current districts that you have it drawn into are

1 Legislative District 4 and Legislative District 13.

2 The majority of the population in those districts
3 are in the east end of each one of those districts, close to
4 Phoenix and the suburban communities there.

5 It is 170 miles from the eastern end of those
6 districts down to Yuma.

7 I cannot imagine where you envision these
8 legislative districts having their legislative district
9 meeting.

10 I think you will be treating the citizens of Yuma
11 in very poor fashion, because we're very active out here in
12 the west valley. We will outnumber them and I don't think
13 that they will ever get to attend a district meeting unless
14 they want to fly in.

15 It just -- these maps very badly need to be
16 redrawn when you take in LD 4 and LD 13, because you have
17 eliminated communities of interest and you've also ignored
18 compactness, which is one of the requirements in the State
19 Constitution.

20 I thank you for your attentiveness and hard work
21 on this Commission.

22 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

23 (Applause.)

24 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is Anna
25 Hubernan, representing herself.

1 ANNA HUBERNAN: My name is Anna, A-N-N-A,
2 H-U-B-E-R-N-A-N.

3 I would like to say that I'm mostly concerned
4 about the competitiveness of the districts.

5 I'm concerned that the districts don't represent
6 the diversity of the population of Arizona and they don't
7 represent the political reality of Arizona.

8 I am appalled by what Governor Brewer's actions --
9 by Governor Brewer's actions yesterday, but I'm even more
10 appalled by what the senators did.

11 They submitted blindly to the Governor's will and
12 voted in block without debate and without consideration to
13 their constituents or to the will of the voters, who are the
14 people who actually voted to establish this Commission.

15 The irony is that if this Commission were allowed
16 to actually be independent, it would lead to competitive
17 districts, which would assure better candidates and
18 consequently better elected officials, or maybe that's the
19 point.

20 I encourage you to relook at the legislative
21 district maps to ensure more competitiveness. I do want to
22 thank you for the hard work that you've put into this, and
23 thank you for allowing me to speak.

24 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, ma'am.

25 (Applause.)

1 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Our next speaker is Garrett
2 Simpson, representing self.

3 THE WITNESS: Good evening. My name is Garrett
4 Simpson, G-A-R-R-E-T-T, S-I-M-P-S-O-N.

5 I'd like to thank the Commission for the thankless
6 job it's undertaken, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, and I share
7 the concerns about the lack of competitiveness that seems to
8 be called for by our Governor and State Senate.

9 Now, it may be true that competitiveness is the
10 last consideration in the Arizona constitutional scheme for
11 redistricting, but competitiveness to me is most congruent
12 with the highest aspirations of equal protection set out in
13 the 14th Amendment and in the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

14 Non competitive districts are less than
15 Democratic, and tend to sequester people in a way that
16 dilutes the votes of minorities and people of color and
17 different economic levels. And so it tends to enhance the
18 entrenchment of power.

19 And I think that's what happened yesterday to our
20 Chairman. She was removed not because of misconduct, but
21 because the State Senate and our Governor didn't like the
22 results.

23 And that's unfortunate, but that's why we have an
24 Independent Commission to put a -- to put a -- to put a
25 barrier between political expediency and an important and

1 politically consequential act, which redistricting certainly
2 is.

3 We came out here from Glendale where we live to
4 express our solidarity with the independence of this
5 Independent Commission, and our support for Ms. Mathis, and
6 objection for the deplorable action taken yesterday by the
7 Governor and the State Senate. And that we hope whatever
8 product does come from this, is one that honors Arizona and
9 doesn't continue the sorry reputation that we have that has
10 landed us on the Voting Rights Act watch list for many
11 years.

12 We hope that that's something that can be lifted
13 in good conscience.

14 Thank you.

15 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

16 (Applause.)

17 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Next speaker is
18 Representative Jack Harper.

19 REPRESENTATIVE JACK HARPER: Good evening,
20 Mr. Vice Chairman, technically may be the co-chairman at
21 this time.

22 My name is State Representative Jack Harper,
23 H-A-R-P-E-R.

24 I'm not here representing an organization or
25 representing my own self interest.

1 But, I think technically for the congressional
2 districts to be constitutional, they have be more compact.
3 I believe that Districts 4 and 12 have an unmistakable
4 appearance of being gerrymandered.

5 But I do not have an opinion on what would be a
6 community of interest in a congressional district. I think
7 so many communities are in the average size of a
8 congressional district it's hard for me to define.

9 As far as legislative districts, I agree with the
10 Republican Party Chairwoman from current Legislative
11 District 4, Jeanette Dubriel.

12 The area east of I-17 that has been included in LD
13 22, has nothing in common, really, with the rest of LD 22,
14 since the Wittman area was drawn out of it.

15 So if by chance the Commission sees fit, I support
16 the map drawn by GOP Jeanette on her website.

17 Thank you.

18 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you, sir.

19 (Applause.)

20 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: This is our last speaker.
21 Actually, we have at least one more.

22 Our next speaker is Maureen Bayardi, representing
23 herself, from Phoenix.

24 MAUREEN BAYARDI: Thank you for listening to me
25 once again. I've attended numerous many of these meetings.

1 My name is Maureen, M-A-U-R-E-E-N, B-A-Y-A-R-D-I.

2 I am here once again to talk about
3 competitiveness.

4 In attending these meetings, it seems to me that
5 the weight of competitiveness has overpowered the other
6 criteria that are mandated that we have for this process.

7 It's been hammered competitiveness,
8 competitiveness, competitiveness.

9 And I think that we need to take a look at the
10 other criteria as well.

11 One of the issues that I personally find that
12 needs to be considered, are the communities of interest.

13 We buy our places, our homes, or rent, whatever
14 the case may be, in areas that we want to live.

15 We're thinking they're about where we live, where
16 we shop, where we worship, and where we socialize.

17 And enough attention has not been given to this.
18 It's not just something convenient, it's who we are as a
19 people.

20 And I also support the Governor and the Senators
21 in removing Commissioner Mathis. And I feel that way, as I
22 find it very difficult to believe that she can truly be
23 independent in view of the fact that her husband is very
24 involved with the Democratic party in southern Arizona.

25 I just don't know how that can be.

1 (Applause.)

2 So thank you once again for listening to me and I
3 hope you all have a good evening.

4 (Applause.)

5 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Last speaker is Jeffrey
6 Tucker.

7 JEFFREY TUCKER: Actually, I'm just going to have
8 my comments kept on record.

9 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: There's another three
10 minutes. Thank you.

11 I think that is it.

12 I want to thank the city of Peoria for hosting us.
13 In particular, I have her name in here somewhere, Claudia
14 Vaughn, from the City of Peoria, for organizing this
15 meeting, along with staff.

16 And we will be next -- if you feel like you have
17 to make more comments, and you definitely can do so, we'll
18 be in Scottsdale tomorrow at 6:00 p.m, Friday we'll be in
19 the town of Sells, followed by Marana at 6:00 p.m.

20 And I have -- what else? Green Valley on
21 Saturday, and Casa Grande later that day at 3:30.

22 So, I again thank you. And let me say, by saying,
23 you know, I voted for Prop 106. And I think there's quite a
24 few of you who did if you were living in Arizona at the
25 time.

1 Political parties do change.

2 The Governor, we used to have a Democratic
3 Governor.

4 I think the people that are favoring what the
5 Governor did, if there was -- if the tables were turned and
6 it was a Democratic Governor doing what you guys perceive
7 to be a right-leaning independent, you guys would be
8 outraged. So I don't want this to happen to anyone, not a
9 Republican, not a Democrat, not an Independent. This is an
10 Independent Redistricting Commission, and it should stay
11 independent.

12 (Applause.)

13 VICE-CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you all, and have a
14 good night. The time is 7:20.

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1 STATE OF ARIZONA)
)
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA) ss.
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4 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing proceeding was
5 taken before me, Marty Herder, a Certified Court Reporter,
6 CCR No. 50162, State of Arizona; that the foregoing 54 pages
7 constitute a true and accurate transcript of all proceedings
8 had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to the best of
9 my skill and ability.

10 DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 6th day of
11 November, 2011.

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C. Martin Herder, CCR
Certified Court Reporter
Certificate No. 50162

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