

**ARIZONA INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**

Wednesday, August 3, 2011  
6:05 p.m.

Location

**City of Glendale Council Chambers  
5850 West Glendale Avenue  
Glendale, Arizona 85713**

Attending

Colleen C. Mathis, Chair  
Jose M. Herrera, Vice Chair  
Scott Day Freeman, Vice Chair

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

Mary O'Grady, Legal Counsel

Reported By:  
Marty Herder, CCR  
Certified Court Reporter #50162  
[www.CourtReportersAz.com](http://www.CourtReportersAz.com)

Phoenix, Arizona  
August 3, 2011  
6:05 p.m.

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Whereupon, the public session commences.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Good evening.

This hearing of the Arizona Independent  
Redistricting Commission will now come to order.

The time is 6:05 p.m. It's Wednesday, August 3rd.

And it's great to see so many folks in Glendale  
out to talk to us tonight.

Let's begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: So, again, I just want to  
thank everyone for taking time on a Wednesday evening to  
leave your homes and come talk to us about what's important  
to you in the redistricting process.

It's delightful to see so many folks here.

In order to comply with federal law, there's a  
Spanish translator here at the meeting to help translate  
questions and comments into English.

And tonight it is Carlos Reyes. Is he in the  
room?

1 Great.

2 Carlos, would you like to come up to the podium  
3 and say a few words?

4 (Whereupon, the Spanish interpreter made a  
5 statement in Spanish.)

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Carlos.

7 So just to continue the introductions, I'm  
8 Chairman Mathis.

9 To my left is Vice Chair Scott Freeman, and to my  
10 right is Vice Chair Jose Herrera.

11 There are two other commissioners, who are based  
12 in Gila County, and I'm sure they're watching online if  
13 they're back home yet.

14 We just had a meeting here today in Phoenix. So  
15 they're probably on the road. So I hope they're not  
16 watching if they're on the road. Otherwise they would be  
17 definitely tuned in.

18 Just to introduce other folks here.

19 We've got Mary O'Grady, who is our legal counsel  
20 tonight.

21 Our mapping consultant, we have Ken Strasma and  
22 Korinne Kubena Belock.

23 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: You got it right.

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And we have also staff in the  
25 room.

1 I believe Kristina Gomez is here in the back,  
2 deputy executive director.

3 And we have a public information officer,  
4 Stu Robertson. I'm not sure if he's here tonight.

5 Any outreach directors, other coordinators here  
6 tonight?

7 Is that Lisa Schmelling?

8 Great. Lisa is here to help.

9 And please feel free to ask our staff any  
10 questions if you need any assistance tonight.

11 There are request to speak forms in the back. You  
12 should have seen them on your way in. They're the yellow  
13 sheets.

14 If you would like to address the Commission,  
15 simply fill one out and turn that in to Kristina, and she'll  
16 bring that up to us, and we'll make sure that you are part  
17 of the public tonight.

18 I'm being told that Buck Forst is here. He is our  
19 chief technology officer. I just don't see him at the  
20 moment, but -- oh, there he is. Great.

21 That's Buck.

22 We also have Marty Herder, who is our court  
23 reporter tonight. So that he'll be taking in -- all this  
24 in. So make sure, when you come up to the microphone, to  
25 state your name and spell it and say who you're representing

1 and also what county, if it's yourself, just if you could  
2 tell us where you reside, your city, county, or town, that  
3 would be very helpful, and that all gets into the record.

4 And I've told you about the request to speak  
5 forms.

6 There are also some blue forms in the back. If  
7 you don't want to go on public record tonight and address  
8 the Commission formally, you can still fill out a blue form.  
9 And that information will also come to us. You just won't  
10 be recorded tonight, but the information will get recorded  
11 that you put on that blue sheet.

12 So if you choose not to address us on the podium,  
13 that is another way to supply your input.

14 I want to make sure I've covered everything.

15 Okay.

16 I think we're ready to roll.

17 I wanted to -- I did want to mention, I guess we  
18 have a few distinguished guests tonight. Maybe they can  
19 stand and wave or be acknowledged.

20 State Representative Anna Tovar from District 13.

21 (Applause.)

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And Mayor Thomas Schoaf from  
23 Litchfield Park.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And State Senator Rick

1 Murphy.

2 (Applause.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And a few council members  
4 tonight. I assume these are from Glendale. If I'm  
5 mistaken, you can correct me.

6 Manny Martinez from the Cholla district.

7 (Applause.)

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Joyce Clark from Yucca  
9 district.

10 (Applause.)

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Norma Alvarez from Ocotillo  
12 district.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay. And I think that's it.  
15 Are there others?

16 Those are the ones I have notes of.

17 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Richard Miranda.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh, I'm sorry,  
19 Representative Richard Miranda, District 13.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We have Michael LeVault  
22 from -- the mayor from the town of Youngtown.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And I think that's it.

25 I'm sorry about all that. That's great. I'm so

1 glad everybody is here and joining us tonight.

2 We'll move to the next item on our agenda, which  
3 is the presentation by our mapping consultant about the  
4 redistricting process.

5 So Korinne will be giving that to us this evening.

6 KORINNE KUBENA BELOCK: So, good evening. My name  
7 is Korinne Kubena Belock with Strategic Telemetry. I'm  
8 happy to be here tonight and in Glendale for the first round  
9 of hearings to discuss the Arizona redistricting process.

10 The goal of these meetings is to hear comments  
11 from you about the redistricting process. So thank you for  
12 taking the time to attend.

13 This is 1 of 15 in the first round of public  
14 hearings.

15 There will be a second round of hearings once the  
16 draft map is published.

17 Before I begin the presentation, I just want to  
18 highlight again the forms. We have the yellow form and the  
19 blue form, and they can be found in the back of the room.

20 The form's in Spanish as well.

21 And so on to the presentation.

22 Unfortunately to see the presentation I'm going  
23 have to face this way.

24 I apologize. I'll try to do this from the side as  
25 much as possible.

1           A brief overview tonight of why -- of what all  
2 should you know.

3           The first topic, the first one is why do we have a  
4 Redistricting Commission.

5           What is redistricting?

6           What is the difference between redistricting and  
7 reapportionment?

8           Why do we have to redistrict?

9           What guidelines need to be followed when drawing  
10 new districts?

11           What are the steps in the redistricting process?

12           And how can the public input be submitted to the  
13 AIRC?

14           So, first, why do we have a Redistricting  
15 Commission?

16           This is the second time the Arizona districts will  
17 be redrawn by the Arizona Independent Redistricting  
18 Commission.

19           In 2000 Arizona voters approved Proposition 106.  
20 They created an Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission  
21 and established the process and criteria for drawing new  
22 district lines.

23           The Commission is made up of two Democrats, two  
24 Republicans, and an Independent chair elected by the other  
25 commissioners.

1           The fifth member shall not be registered with any  
2 party already represented on the Commission.

3           The 2011 AIRC members are:

4           Scott Freeman, Vice Chair, Republican, from  
5 Maricopa County.

6           Jose Herrera, Democrat, from Maricopa County.

7           Colleen Mathis, Independent, from Pima County.

8           Linda McNulty, Democrat, from Pima County.

9           And Richard Stertz, Republican, from Pima County.

10          So the second question, what is redistricting?

11          Redistricting is the process of redrawing  
12 congressional and legislative district lines.

13          What is the difference between redistricting and  
14 reapportionment?

15          The two terms are often used interchangeably.  
16 There is a difference.

17          Reapportionment is the process of allocating  
18 congressional districts among the states based on changing  
19 populations.

20          Because of the population growth in the last  
21 decade in Arizona, Arizona was allocated an additional  
22 congressional district after the 2010 census.

23          So going from eight to nine districts.

24          And redistricting is the process of drawing the  
25 actual boundaries of the districts.

1           So why do we have to redistrict?

2           Touched on this a little bit, but because Arizona  
3 gained a congressional district, new lines will have to be  
4 drawn to add the new district.

5           Even if Arizona had not gained a district, the  
6 congressional and legislative district lines would have to  
7 be redrawn to account for changes in population.

8           The concept of one person, one vote dictates that  
9 there should be as close to the same number of people per  
10 district as possible.

11           So because the rate of population growth is  
12 different in different areas, the existing districts will  
13 now have different populations.

14           So what guidelines need to be followed when  
15 drawing new districts?

16           First, it complies with the U.S. Constitution and  
17 the Voting Rights Act.

18           Equal population.

19           The criteria A and B are federally mandated. All  
20 plans must satisfy these two criteria.

21           The districts have to be compact and contiguous  
22 and must respect communities of interest.

23           They must use visible geographic features, city,  
24 town, and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

25           And, finally, create competitive districts where

1 no significant detriment to other goals.

2           So a little bit about the Arizona redistricting  
3 process.

4           And I'll look over here for a minute.

5           I do apologize.

6           First, public hearings just like this are being  
7 conducted all across the state to collect input.

8           The goal is to obviously start with a grid map.

9           So, in some states the previous plans are used as  
10 a starting point for the new plans. This is not the case in  
11 Arizona.

12           In the state of Arizona, the starting point is the  
13 grid map per Proposition 106.

14           The commencement of the mapping process for both  
15 congressional and legislative districts shall be the  
16 creation of an equal population in a grid-like pattern  
17 across the state.

18           The initial grid map will likely only meet  
19 criteria B and C, meaning you'll have equal population and  
20 compact and contiguous.

21           So, continuing, the grid map will need to be  
22 adjusted to meet the six criteria we discussed previously.

23           The Voting Rights Act. Arizona's congressional  
24 and legislative districts must receive preclearance or  
25 approval from the Department of Justice or a federal court

1 under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act before it can take  
2 effect.

3 To get preclearance, Arizona has to demonstrate  
4 that the new districts do not discriminate in its minority  
5 voters in purpose or effect, which means there can be no  
6 intentional or accidental discrimination.

7 Under Section 5, Arizona's redistricting plans  
8 cannot be retrogressive, the plans cannot weaken or reduce  
9 minority voters' rights.

10 The presence of discrimination can be determined  
11 by analyzing population data and election results.

12 So, continuing, adjusting the grid map to equal  
13 population.

14 That districts are compact and contiguous. That  
15 they respect communities of interest.

16 One of the goals at IRC's public hearings is to  
17 solicit public input about communities of interest.

18 We discussed the forms. We can build that  
19 information.

20 You must use visible geographic features to draw  
21 the districts, which means county boundaries, cities and  
22 towns, and census tracts.

23 And usually census geography follows visible  
24 features.

25 And, finally, create competitive districts where

1 no significant detriment to other goals.

2 So, finally, the AIRC wants your input.

3 You can fill out a request to speak form at the  
4 public hearing and provide the Commission with your input.  
5 Examples of input that we're looking for is talking about  
6 the criteria, the six criteria that we talked about tonight,  
7 communities of interest, and anything else about  
8 redistricting.

9 You can speak at public hearings or submit your  
10 form to submit input on a form to be included on public  
11 record.

12 And, finally, please visit us at  
13 [www.AZredistricting.org](http://www.AZredistricting.org), or call (602)542-5221, with any  
14 thoughts.

15 Thank you so much. Thank you so much.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Korinne.

17 Apologies. I've learned of a few other  
18 distinguished guests in the audience and wanted to  
19 acknowledge them.

20 Raise your hand and wave.

21 Rick Moreau, president of Valley Community  
22 Council.

23 (Applause.)

24 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Mark Herrington, chairman of  
25 Graham County Board of Supervisors.

1 (Applause.)

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And State Representative Jack  
3 Harper is also here this evening.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you all, thank you all  
6 for being here.

7 We've got a number of request to speak forms.

8 I don't know what our total is.

9 Okay. We'll tell you what that total is in a  
10 little bit.

11 We'd like again for you to come up to the podium  
12 when your name is called, and I'll try to name the first  
13 four, so if you can be ready to come to the front, and  
14 prepare to hear your testimony.

15 And you're also welcome to submit any  
16 documentation, maps, anything you have for us, or a written  
17 statement. And give that also to our executive director,  
18 the executive director Kristina Gomez. She'll get that and  
19 assure that it's part of our record.

20 And just a reminder to please speak into the  
21 microphone, give and spell your name for the court reporter,  
22 and specify the city or town in which you live.

23 And with that, we'll go ahead and get started.

24 Okay. We've got at least 30 some requests to  
25 speak forms. And in order to move through this as

1 efficiently as possible, if we could ask speakers to limit  
2 their time to three to four minutes.

3           There will be someone timing, I'm hoping.

4           Apparently Buck has that.

5           That way if we're bumping up against that time  
6 limit, if you could try to wrap up your comments as  
7 expeditiously as possible, that would be helpful.

8           Okay. Three and a half minutes is what we'll do.

9           And let's start with State Representative Jack  
10 Harper, representing retirement communities and LD 4 from  
11 Surprise.

12           JACK HARPER: Thank you, Madam Chair.

13           Can I hand you a map that kind of summarizes where  
14 I'm at?

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sure.

16           JACK HARPER: Thank you, Madam Chairwoman,  
17 committee members, guests, and audience.

18           I'm State Representative Jack Harper, J-A-C-K,  
19 H-A-R-P-E-R.

20           I'm here today to make a pitch -- well, let me  
21 start out by saying I believe fully under federal law that  
22 the Voting Rights Act would be upheld in federal court as  
23 the number one priority of redistricting, despite what the  
24 State Supreme Court might interpret it of the priority of  
25 the goals of Independent Redistricting Commission.

1           After the Voting Rights Act as the priority, I'd  
2 like to make a pitch for communities of interest to be  
3 respected as much as possible, especially in the northwest  
4 valley.

5           I would like to see retirement communities  
6 together.

7           Under reapportionment, the legislative district  
8 that I represent would have to lose, I don't know, somewhere  
9 around 100,000 people. I forgot the total.

10           So, assuming that districts would say -- would  
11 stay close to what they look like now, but be reapportioned,  
12 and then the priority would be being keeping communities of  
13 interest together, I would hope that the amount of people  
14 that I would lose would be in the working communities rather  
15 than the retirement communities so they get to stay  
16 together.

17           So specifically I'm talking about northeast --  
18 northwest Phoenix, north Glendale, north Peoria being split  
19 off from Legislative District 4 so the retirement  
20 communities can be kept together.

21           If for some reason the Commission decides to also  
22 put Sun City in with Sun City West, Sun City Grand, and  
23 Sun City Festival, and all the retirement communities in  
24 Wickenburg and north Surprise, then probably also split off  
25 the two thirds of Yavapai County that's also in that

1 district.

2           So, I'm trying to make a pitch first with respect  
3 to the Voting Rights Act and the next priority is  
4 communities of interest.

5           And I appreciate an opportunity to be heard.

6           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7           Now I'll do what I promised, which was to read off  
8 a few names so they'll all be ready.

9           Rick Moreau, Mark Herrington, and Michael LeVault  
10 are the next three speakers.

11           So if Rick Moreau is ready, president of Tonopah  
12 Valley Community Council. From Tonopah.

13           City of Tonopah.

14           RICK MOREAU: Tonopah, that's right.

15           Good evening. My name is Rick Moreau,  
16 M-O-R-E-A-U.

17           And I'm the president of the Tonopah Valley  
18 Community Council.

19           Tonopah is located in the far west valley in an  
20 unincorporated part of Maricopa County.

21           As such, an unincorporated area, we do have a  
22 community spirit. We have what's considered a community out  
23 there of people, about 5,000 residents.

24           Currently legislative districts split us right  
25 down the middle.

1           We are 5,000 people, but both of us -- but we're  
2 in two different districts, which is really not fair.

3           So we're advocating to have those boundaries moved  
4 in a manner that will keep us whole.

5           Currently, what we consider our boundaries are  
6 west of Hassayampa River, north of Elliot Road, east of  
7 459th Avenue, and south of the Belmont Mountains.

8           So if you can see it to keep us in one district,  
9 we would really appreciate it.

10          Thank you.

11          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12          Our next speaker is Mark Herrington, chairman,  
13 Graham County Board of Supervisors, representing Graham  
14 County ECO/EECO.

15          Is that right?

16          MARK HERRINGTON: Yes, ma'am.

17          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

18          MARK HERRINGTON: Madam Chair, members of  
19 the Commission, I appreciate the opportunity to come  
20 here tonight, long distance from where I live, and having  
21 an opportunity to address you on these very important  
22 issues.

23          I want to talk about communities of interest and  
24 how important that is to southeast Arizona, specifically to  
25 LD 5.

1           And I worked hard ten years ago to be able to  
2 accomplish what we have today in LD 5.

3           And with the addition of Verde Valley, for numbers  
4 sake, I believe that we continue with LD 5 the way it's  
5 constituted pretty much and will serve these communities of  
6 interest.

7           We -- the communities of interest mainly that we  
8 have in common by ECO, and that's Eastern Counties  
9 Organization, of which I'm president, and the other is the  
10 Environmental Economic Communities Organization, which I am  
11 president. These constitute five counties: Greenlee,  
12 Graham, Apache, Navajo, and Gila County.

13           Which is all contained now within the LD 5.

14           But these communities of interest include mining,  
15 which are Gila County, Greenlee County, and Graham County  
16 today.

17           And the other communities of interest we have in  
18 common with all of these are agricultural, of course, is  
19 very important to us in southeast Arizona. Farming,  
20 ranching, and the greenhouse industry, which is a major  
21 economic engine that exists for us.

22           We have other communities of interest. Our family  
23 and cultural and historic communities. Pioneer ancestry,  
24 cultural ties are important to our citizens.

25           And all of these things make very successful what

1 we now have.

2           These things date back before statehood, so they  
3 have existed among us there for a long time.

4           But during the past decade, the Graham County  
5 citizens and the other citizens of these counties have had  
6 their voices clearly heard.

7           And what we ask you to do is please don't take  
8 away from us, in the realignment process, these things that  
9 are so important to us and help us to be able to stay in a  
10 contiguous way and to be able to represent each community of  
11 interest.

12           I'm also here to speak for support of the  
13 Pinal County Government Alliance congressional map.

14           And I have a new copy of that. There is a change.  
15 It was shown to you. And I will leave it here at the desk  
16 on my way out.

17           The other thing I would ask is that you consider  
18 having a meeting in southeast Arizona. Graham, Greenlee,  
19 and Gila Counties effectively were left out of the decision  
20 when the decision was made for meetings.

21           We'd like to have our people have an opportunity  
22 to share these same things with you as a Commission.

23           Again, I deeply appreciate you hearing me out  
24 tonight, and thank you so much for your time.

25           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you. And if you don't

1 mind, just spell your name for the record.

2 MARK HERRINGTON: Oh, I'm sorry, Mark, M-A-R-K,  
3 Herrington, H-E-R-R-I-N-G-T-O-N.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Michael LeVault, followed by  
6 Richard Miranda, and Mari Alvarado.

7 So if Michael is ready, you can come up. Mayor,  
8 town of Youngtown, representing Youngtown.

9 MICHAEL LEVAULT: My name is Michael LeVault,  
10 M-I-C-H-A-E-L, L-E-V-A-U-L-T. I am the mayor of Youngtown.

11 And thank you, Madam Chair and members of the  
12 Commission, for this opportunity to address you tonight.

13 I have a letter I'd like to read into the record.

14 Do you want a copy or shall I leave it in the back  
15 of the room? Would you like it now?

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Yeah, we'll keep it up here,  
17 and you can read that into the record.

18 MICHAEL LEVAULT: This letter is dated August 2nd,  
19 2011. Addressed to the Arizona Independent Redistricting  
20 Commission.

21 To whom it may concern.

22 The mayor and town council of Youngtown  
23 unanimously ask that the Arizona Independent Redistricting  
24 Commission consider the town of Youngtown to be a community  
25 of interest, or COI, for purposes of redistricting

1 legislative and congressional districts.

2           As a COI, Youngtown should be kept intact with the  
3 entire town being placed in the same district.

4           Youngtown was the country's first retirement  
5 community, incepted in 1954. However, since the town lost  
6 its age overlay in 1998, its demographics have changed  
7 profoundly.

8           Current consensus -- or I'm sorry, current census  
9 statistics show the retirement population in Youngtown to be  
10 around 20 percent of the total population. Consequently  
11 Youngtown has much in common with its neighboring  
12 communities to the west, El Mirage and Surprise.

13           We ask that you consider placing us in a district  
14 with which we are demographically compatible.

15           Sincerely, and then that letter is signed by me as  
16 mayor and by all six of my council members.

17           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Great. Thank you very much.

18           MICHAEL LEVAULT: Thank you.

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Richard  
20 Miranda, from Arizona Minority Coalition, representing  
21 District 13.

22           RICHARD MIRANDA: Thank you.

23           I'm going to try and use this. I'm not quite sure  
24 how to close this screen.

25           But Richard Miranda, R-I-C-H-A-R-D, M-I-R-A-N-D-A.

1 I live in Phoenix, but I have a Tolleson ZIP code  
2 address. Go figure.

3 I'm not sure how to do this.

4 This good?

5 There we go.

6 I'm trying to get to down here at the bottom.

7 Go ahead. Get the first map on there.

8 There's a lot of information I want to go through.

9 I know that the coalition presented the map at  
10 South Mountain High School, community college. But very  
11 briefly, the green is traditionally what's known as south  
12 Phoenix, which includes south Phoenix and the area of  
13 Laveen. It includes Roosevelt School District, Laveen  
14 School District, and also the town of Guadalupe.

15 The entire city council of Guadalupe approved this  
16 map, along with other members, members from that area.

17 Moving on very quickly, the yellow district  
18 incorporates several traditionally large Hispanic  
19 communities all the way from the west side, which includes  
20 Latinas, Cashion, old Avondale, the city of Tolleson -- by  
21 the way, Tolleson city council has approved this map, along  
22 with the mayor of Avondale, and several school board  
23 members.

24 Ranging all the way from the Ironwood School  
25 District, which I know they have an issue, a little section

1 in the east needs to be included, not much population.

2 And then we have Fowler School District, and then  
3 we have Tolleson Elementary, Tolleson High School. We have  
4 the old community of Santa Maria.

5 I'm a Phoenix native here. I'm talking about  
6 communities that have been in this area since there was --  
7 it was agricultural.

8 These have a rich tradition, and so we're asking  
9 that these communities of interest -- by the way, do these  
10 maps meet the first five requirements? Absolutely.

11 Communities of interest, we've got the boundaries,  
12 Voting Rights Act, population, it mirrors almost as close as  
13 to what the populations are.

14 If I could get some help.

15 Okay. The next two are the purple district, which  
16 we're going to have people here also speak, which  
17 incorporates communities of interest of old Glendale, the  
18 old Pendergrast School District, which used to be in a rural  
19 area when I was growing up. It was way out there off of  
20 91st Avenue.

21 It includes Cartwright School District, includes  
22 Phoenix Elementary, parts of Phoenix Elementary.

23 These are all predominantly Latino communities,  
24 reaching into the 70 percent population.

25 It is where we live. It's where we shop. It is

1 where we as a community identify ourselves.

2           These are all typically old neighborhoods, and  
3 therefore belong together.

4           And the population requirements are absolutely  
5 met.

6           The Voting Rights Act, they're absolutely met.

7           The thing I want to point out is also the Orange  
8 District. It is a largely Latino-based population that  
9 reaches 53 percent.

10           I know the maps in the past were not consistent in  
11 trying to represent Latino communities, and in my opinion  
12 were gerrymandered. And so if you'll notice there's no,  
13 there's no etching here for anybody in particular.

14           We just -- they're very straight lines.

15           They're trying to, we're just trying to meet the  
16 requirements that are needed to keep, in my opinion, the  
17 communities of interest together.

18           We also have school districts almost entirely  
19 within the boundaries that I've shown.

20           We have support from -- I'm not sure how much time  
21 we have.

22           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We don't have any, but if you  
23 can wrap up, that would be great.

24           RICHARD MIRANDA: But, you know, we have been open  
25 with this process.

1           We have shown our maps to other groups.

2           We haven't really gotten that kind of discussion  
3 with other groups.

4           We have not seen any maps, the paper, even though  
5 we know they're drawn. We are open to changes to our map,  
6 but we are not open to the dividing of communities of  
7 interest here.

8           So we're open to some changes to this, and to keep  
9 an open and honest dialogue.

10          Thank you very much.

11          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12          Our next speaker is Mari Alvarado, governing board  
13 member for LULAC, from Maricopa.

14          MARI ALVARADO: Hi. My name is Mari Alvarado.  
15 That's M-A-R-I, Alvarado, A-L-V-A-R-A-D-O.

16          Representing the Arizona Minority Coalition. I'm  
17 also a member of the governing board of the Alhambra School  
18 District.

19          I live in Phoenix, Arizona, and I'm a member of  
20 LULAC.

21          I want to thank you, Madam Chair, and members of  
22 the Independent Redistricting Commission.

23          I know that the task before you is very daunting,  
24 and I appreciate the time that you have to listen to us in  
25 the community.

1           I want to tell you that I strongly support the  
2 legislative redistricting maps that are proposed by the  
3 Arizona Minority Coalition and that were explained by  
4 Representative Richard Miranda.

5           Great thought, effort, and time have been included  
6 into forming these maps with several meetings that I have  
7 attended and that other local and state leadership together  
8 with many citizens have put these maps together.

9           These maps unite communities of interest, and also  
10 these maps provide the best opportunity for minority  
11 representation in the Arizona legislature.

12           So, in ending, I urge the IRC to adopt these  
13 proposed maps in your final redistricting position.

14           Thank you very much.

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

16           Our next three or four speakers, Jackie Rose, Rick  
17 Murphy, John Mireles, and Evelyn Shapiro.

18           So if we can have Jackie Rose, District 9,  
19 represent self, from Sun City.

20           JACQUELINE ROSE: I'm Jackie Rose. Jacqueline,  
21 J-A-C-Q-U-E-L-I-N-E. Middle initial D. Rose, R-O-S-E.

22           I'd like to thank the Commission for meeting here  
23 in west valley in Glendale, and giving us, District 9, and  
24 the other west valley districts, an opportunity to express  
25 our gratitude to you for following the will of the voters

1 and carrying out your constitutionally mandated  
2 prerogatives.

3 We support you in your goals to create fair and  
4 competitive districts, and we want you to know that.

5 I think it's very important to maintain  
6 competitiveness in each district to more closely represent  
7 the one third, one third, one third voter registration.

8 No one party should dominate the state. That does  
9 not represent the voters.

10 It is important that you listen to the people of  
11 Arizona rather than special interest groups or organizations  
12 which are promoting the interests of elected officials  
13 rather than the citizens of the state.

14 Thank you for your attention.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is  
17 State Senator Rick Murphy, from Peoria.

18 RICK MURPHY: Hi. Good evening.

19 For the record, my name is Rick Murphy, R-I-C-K,  
20 M-U-R-P-H-Y.

21 Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight.

22 I think it would be really important when it comes  
23 to mid-northwest valley, as I call it, the town I live in,  
24 that the communities of interest is a very important feature  
25 to keep in mind.

1           And the current districts did a pretty good job of  
2 that, in the sense of we have Sun City as roughly about half  
3 of the voting population of this district, and it is  
4 contiguous, and it is all of Sun City.

5           And that is what the residents want. They want to  
6 all be in one district, as was expressed during the last  
7 redistricting. And other constituents I've spoken to, they  
8 prefer to be in one district to have a voice.

9           Equally important are the Glendale and Peoria  
10 areas of the district which, again, are about half of the  
11 voting population of the district.

12           I think that balance is relatively important,  
13 because what you don't want to have is only a segment of  
14 Sun City that is then dominated by the other family areas,  
15 or a small family area dominated by retirement areas, and  
16 then one of those areas might lose their voice.

17           The way we have it now, it's relatively well  
18 balanced in both areas. They are somewhat different, but  
19 contiguous, feel like they both have a voice and they're  
20 both listened, to and they're not dominated by the other.

21           So I think that balance is very important, and I  
22 think it's important to do that.

23           Thank you very much.

24           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25           (Applause.)

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is John  
2 Mireles.

3           Followed by Evelyn Shapiro, Kathryn French, and  
4 Dulce Gonzalez.

5           John.

6           JOHN MIRELES: Thank you.

7           My name is John Mireles, state director for  
8 Arizona League of United Latin American Citizens.

9           I just want to express my support for the map  
10 proposed by the Arizona Minority Coalition, the map that was  
11 described by State Representative Richard Miranda.

12           I think that map is very compliant with the civil  
13 rights laws and also the Voter Rights Act. I think it's  
14 compliant also with reflective of the communities of  
15 interest.

16           So thank you.

17           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18           Next is Evelyn Shapiro from Isaac School District  
19 No. 5, governing board member, representing herself.

20           EVELYN SHAPIRO: Thank you. My name is Evelyn  
21 Shapiro, E-V-E-L-Y-N, capital S-H-A-P-I-R-O.

22           And I am a member of the school board, and I have  
23 been since 2001 when you all decided to have redistricting  
24 once before.

25           And during that time, before, we were broken up

1 into four districts.

2           And that made it very difficult, because to ask a  
3 house of representative or senator to do something, we were  
4 only 6.8 square miles, and they had one little bit of this  
5 or one little bit of that, so we never got any attention.

6           And you all listened real well last time when it  
7 came time for us being in one district, whether it's 13 or  
8 14, but keep us all together.

9           And you got us all together right now, except for  
10 north of 39th Avenue and Thomas.

11           West of 39th Avenue, east of 43rd Avenue to  
12 Indian School, that segment is left out of your yellow  
13 design that you've got there for the map.

14           But to the canal is a proper domain where we have  
15 homes. After the canal it's all commercial.

16           And that -- but if you could keep us until the  
17 canal, then we would all be together and working.

18           And Mr. Miranda, our Senator Miranda, was there  
19 for us, and he worked with us and helped so much at that  
20 time.

21           I would ask you please consider and bring it back  
22 and keep us back as one district. Like I said, we're only  
23 6.8 square miles. If you can help us out, I'd appreciate  
24 it.

25           Thank you.

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Kathryn  
2 French, president of Agua Fria Ranch HOA.

3           KATHRYN FRENCH: Hello, Madam Chair and  
4 commissioners.

5           My name is Dr. Kathryn French, K-A-T-H-R-Y-N,  
6 middle initial J., French like in french fries.

7           I come today to speak to you about allowing the  
8 town of Youngtown to be aligned more with the community that  
9 has interests that are similar to it.

10           We do not align well at all with the Sun City  
11 areas.

12           The only thing we have in common is 111th Avenue,  
13 and there's quite a wide spread on that avenue if you've  
14 been on it.

15           We are a small town, but we've changed a great  
16 deal.

17           And I speak to you representing half of the  
18 community. Our HOA is a relatively new area that came to be  
19 around 2004, 2005, 783 homes. And those homes are all made  
20 up of young families.

21           And those families are not represented well in the  
22 district we are currently in, because it's overshadowed by  
23 the large number of retirees who are in our district in the  
24 Sun City area.

25           And so most of the time we are not listened to.

1           We're not seen, often not even asked what our  
2 opinion is, let alone what we'd be interested in a change.

3           Anytime there's anything that's related to growth  
4 related to our area, it cannot be seen or heard because of  
5 that.

6           So we would really encourage you, with community  
7 of interest being the topic I'm speaking to, that you align  
8 us more with an area like an El Mirage or Surprise, as the  
9 mayor also spoke of, because that is something that would  
10 make us more similar.

11           When you have six and seven and eight year olds  
12 running around, and Sun City has no interest in that, they  
13 raised all their kids, is how you hear them speak, then  
14 you're in a position where it's hard to put forward those  
15 issues and have them held up in the way that's meaningful.

16           So we appreciate the opportunity to speak to you.  
17 Thank you so much.

18           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19           Our next speaker is Dulce Gonzalez, and after  
20 Dulce will be Caroline Modeen, Rivko Knox, and Reid Rodger.

21           So Dulce Gonzalez, a student of law at  
22 South Glendale Community, Glendale.

23           DULCE GONZALEZ: Actually I'm a student at ASU. I  
24 live in south Glendale, and I am here as a resident of south  
25 Glendale, as a member of LD 13, and as a voter in

1 Congressional District 4, and as a law student.

2           The majority of my time I spend in south Phoenix.  
3 And for the last 11 years I've lived in south Glendale. And  
4 I see more and more household communities have so much in  
5 common. They're very similar.

6           South Glendale often feels like it's more a part  
7 of Phoenix, because in the neighborhood I live in, my  
8 brother still attends Alhambra School District, which is  
9 part of the Phoenix school district.

10           My sisters go to Phoenix College.

11           We go to church in Phoenix.

12           Our jobs are in Phoenix.

13           And so I feel that the way that all of the -- I'm  
14 happy to be a part of Glendale. Glendale has been good to  
15 us. To fulfill our municipal needs at the legislative  
16 level, I feel that with our community giving -- given our  
17 needs are social economic needs, cultural needs.

18           At the congressional level I believe that our  
19 boundaries -- or our districts, sorry, our neighborhood can  
20 fit into a congressional district, because I feel that this  
21 kind of issues that we bring up to the congressional level  
22 would not be fulfilled if they are taken by a congressional  
23 district that's in north Phoenix or northwest Glendale.  
24 Just our issues are not the same.

25           Our issues are education, transportation, social

1 services.

2 And, again, our social economic needs and our  
3 cultural, cultural backgrounds are very similar with south  
4 Phoenix, with Guadalupe, with central Phoenix.

5 And like Avondale, and I feel that as it currently  
6 stands we can have a voice into those levels and I  
7 appreciate it if you keep it that way.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Would you mind spelling name  
9 for the record?

10 DULCE GONZALEZ: Dulce, D-U-L-C-E, Gonzalez,  
11 G-O-N-Z-A-L-E-Z.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 Our next speaker is Carolyn Modeen, representing  
14 self, from Maricopa Sun City.

15 CAROLYN MODEEN: Carolyn, C-A-R-O-L-Y-N, Modeen,  
16 M-O-D-E-E-N.

17 Thank you to the Commission for the work you are  
18 doing, including public input, to establish fair and honest  
19 voting districts for Arizona.

20 These districts should represent the distribution  
21 of party as declared by Arizona voting residents, one third  
22 Republican, one third Democratic, one third Independent.

23 You were also aware of community cohesiveness, so  
24 that boundaries include communities of people that operate  
25 as a unit.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Rivko  
4 Knox, representing self, from Phoenix.

5 RIVKO KNOX: Thank you, members of the Commission.

6 My name is R-I-V, like in victory, K-O. First  
7 name. Last name Knox, K-N-O-X.

8 I live in Phoenix. Actually I've lived in the  
9 same house since 1966.

10 I've always lived somewhere between four or five  
11 legislative districts.

12 I don't know if you can see my shirt. It does  
13 show that I'm a member of the League of Women Voters. I am  
14 not representing them as a member of the league. We've  
15 learned a lot about the redistricting process and are very  
16 concerned that it's well done.

17 And I thank you all for holding the public  
18 hearings.

19 My main point that I really want to share is the  
20 whole idea of competitiveness.

21 And what we have seen so often in this state, and  
22 obviously around the country in many ways, is the lack of  
23 competition.

24 And what that -- when that happens, you wind up  
25 with a very -- with a preponderance of either Republicans or

1 Democrats. In so many current districts they are safe for  
2 that party.

3 And more extreme candidates are likely to be  
4 elected.

5 People more and more need or want candidates that  
6 appeal to all sectors of population, which is why it's so  
7 important that districts be competitive.

8 I'd like to make a final brief comment, which is  
9 that as you, I'm sure, are all aware, there is a  
10 non-legislative entity, a non-public entity called the  
11 Arizona Competitive Coalition.

12 And they sponsored a contest to create maps.

13 And they have a Republican and a Democrat  
14 co-chairing their competitive coalition.

15 And they have opened it up to the public for maps.

16 And I would certainly hope that you will pay  
17 attention to the maps that are being created by the public,  
18 because they are not responding to any special interest.  
19 It's just whoever wants to go sit in and use their mapping  
20 system, and is part -- certainly aware of the, of the  
21 requirement for criteria.

22 I do want to make one final, and I apologize for  
23 that.

24 I think, unfortunately, although I support the  
25 Voting Rights Act in one way, I think its interpretation

1 many times has been skewed.

2           The idea is not to discriminate against  
3 minorities.

4           It is not to put them all in one district. And  
5 frequently members of minority groups tend to be of one  
6 party.

7           And you wind up with one very heavily -- a  
8 district very heavily one party, and then there's no  
9 representation in the other.

10           Thank you very much.

11           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

12           Our next speaker is Reid Rodger.

13           (Applause.)

14           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next is Janet Baldon, Shirley  
15 McAllister, and Nelson Fink.

16           REID RODGER: My name is Reid Rodger, R-E-I-D,  
17 R-O-D-G-E-R.

18           I am chairman of the agricultural nursery  
19 greenhouse committee for State of Arizona Farm Bureau, and I  
20 am here representing myself and District 4 in Glendale.

21           I'd like to thank each one of you for the efforts  
22 putting in public input for issues that are critically  
23 important to our state.

24           In the Commission here you're trying to squeeze,  
25 what, yet another congressman on the state, and I think

1 it's, what, 30 legislative districts now.

2 Now, that's a daunting task.

3 I think it's got to be better you than me that  
4 tries to do all that.

5 But it's very important that each of our citizens  
6 are correctly represented.

7 And the community of interest that I have tonight,  
8 that I would like to talk to you about, is all of our rural  
9 districts. Not just in Maricopa County here in my district,  
10 but throughout the state.

11 As a small business owner that's been over the  
12 last few years encroached by urbanization, and I have to say  
13 that the rural voice has been removed due to the shear mass  
14 of the urban voice.

15 I believe that each citizen chooses and has close  
16 to the same hopes, desires, and dreams as any other citizen,  
17 but the legislative needs are very much so different.

18 If rural areas are merged with urban areas for  
19 whatever reasons, that rural voice inevitably gets drowned  
20 out.

21 Maricopa County, which I believe has the largest  
22 number of voters in the entire state, and whatever the  
23 citizens might vote or voice from the legislation, the  
24 citizens get heard.

25 As an example, if a rural community like Wikieup

1 were incorporated into urban Maricopa County, that voice  
2 might not receive the attention that's needed it.

3           The urban voice here might make demands or have  
4 needs perhaps of mass transit or public rail, Wikieup on the  
5 other hand might just need indoor plumbing. You know.

6           Merging a mass of rural land to add population to  
7 a mainly urban district, that rural voice will get lost.

8           Let's not drown out that urban voice.

9           Rural communities share much in common with each  
10 other no matter how far apart. That rural voice can be  
11 drowned out by urban population that might be closer in  
12 proximity, but not on ideology or the needs and demands of a  
13 rural community.

14           Tonight I've heard pretty much a lot that  
15 represents that.

16           You've been invited to go to Graham County.

17           I know those greenhouses down there

18           Those people have serious issues, legislative  
19 issues that are devastating to that industry.

20           Take them up on their invitation, go down and  
21 listen to people in Graham County. Thanks.

22           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23           Before we continue, we're going to take  
24 five minutes.

25           (Brief recess taken.)

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Let's get in and get started,  
2 back into public session.

3           The time is 7:10 p.m.

4           And our next speaker, and apologies for the brief  
5 break, but Janet Baldon, Shirley McAllister, Nelson Fink are  
6 next.

7           Janet, representing LD 9, from Sun City.

8           JANET BALDON: Good evening. And I thank you,  
9 Madam Chair, and the board, for allowing me to speak  
10 tonight.

11           I'm concerned about the changes that might come  
12 about in LD 9.

13           My name is Janet Baldon, J-A-N-E-T, and the last  
14 name is B, as in boy, A-L-D-O-N.

15           I currently reside in Sun City, and Miramosa  
16 precinct, or Mimosa is the way it's pronounced, that's in  
17 LD 9.

18           For those of you that don't know Sun City, LD 9 as  
19 has Sun City, parts of Peoria, part of Glendale, and  
20 Youngtown.

21           Sun City is a community of interest to me, because  
22 I moved there recently to take care of my aging mother.

23           My community, all around me, my neighbors and the  
24 people that I know live in Sun City, all shop and go to the  
25 doctors and get their entertainment and restaurants from

1 Peoria and Glendale.

2           So it makes sense to me that economically those  
3 communities should continue together.

4           Westbrook is also currently in LD 4. And because  
5 of a lack of numbers in population, LD 9 needs to grow. And  
6 because Westbrook borders Sun City, and both areas have  
7 similar interests, it seems like it would be a good way to  
8 help LD 4 lose some of the population that they need to  
9 reduce themselves by.

10           The current boundaries are north to Union Hills,  
11 south to Northern Avenue, west to the Agua Fria Ranch, and  
12 east to 51st.

13           The proposed boundaries are the boundaries that  
14 I'm proposing tonight are to move it on farther north to  
15 Beardsley because the 101 is right there and that's a good  
16 natural boundary, to keep the boundary east at 51st because  
17 that is a natural boundary, it separates Glendale from  
18 Phoenix, and it would also keep the Peoria Unified School  
19 District in only two legislative districts.

20           And the southern boundary would dip just below  
21 Northern Avenue and then west to the natural boundary which  
22 is the Agua Fria River.

23           The reasons for these changes, well, as I said  
24 before, LD 9 only has 34,000 and needs to increase their  
25 population by 34,000 and LD 4 needs to decrease by 81,000.

1 Adding Westbrook would reduce LD 4, and Peoria  
2 would remain in just two districts.

3 Sun City and south Peoria, I feel, should be kept  
4 together because the residents primarily go to Peoria, like  
5 I said, for shopping and medical facilities.

6 I heard talk that, and I don't know if it's true  
7 or not, but there was some discussion about trying to  
8 combine the residents of Sun City and Sun City West into one  
9 district.

10 And I want to address that, because I feel that  
11 that would not be beneficial to either group.

12 Because we both have different utilities,  
13 different buyer districts, and what might be beneficial to  
14 one community would not necessarily be beneficial to the  
15 other.

16 The two communities also have completely and  
17 separate HOAs that govern them, and what is okay in Sun City  
18 might not be okay in Sun City West.

19 Most of Sun City's activities take place outside  
20 of Peoria or Glendale. By Sun City West, most of them go to  
21 Surprise.

22 And my last point, Sun City West recreation board  
23 is under Title 33, while Sun City's is under Title 10, and  
24 these differences might make some major problems if they're  
25 placed in the same district.

1 I thank you again for allowing me the time to  
2 speak.

3 And I do have a copy of my map here.

4 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

5 VICE CHAIR FREEMAN: Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Shirley McAllister,  
8 representing self, from Maricopa.

9 SHIRLEY MCALLISTER: Hi, I'm Shirley McAllister,  
10 S-H-I-R-L-E-Y, M-C, capital A-L-L-I-S-T-E-R.

11 Thank you for serving on this important  
12 Commission. I recognize your task is a difficult one. In  
13 fact, you'll not be able to please all of us in coming up  
14 with your recommendations for our new district lines.

15 Your commitment for serving our state is  
16 commendable.

17 I've been a resident and voter in Arizona for  
18 15 years, voting in every election since 1996.

19 When I voted in my first primary election, I  
20 understood why so few people did not vote -- why so many  
21 people did not vote.

22 We had very few choices on the Democratic primary  
23 ballot.

24 In many of our districts, voters have little or no  
25 choice even during the general election.

1           That is because we have so few competitive  
2 districts.

3           I know there are many considerations to be made  
4 before the new districts lines are drawn. Please keep in  
5 mind that with voter registration being closely divided  
6 among Republicans, Democrats, and Independents, it would  
7 make sense that there be more competitive districts  
8 available for the next ten years than have been available in  
9 the past.

10           Without competitive districts, many of us have no  
11 representation.

12           Those elected do not respond to our calls,  
13 e-mails, or letters.

14           Without competition, we have lost our voice.

15           So I ask that you give serious consideration to  
16 forming competitive districts, and I appreciate the  
17 opportunity to address you tonight.

18           Thank you.

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20           (Applause.)

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Your next speaker is Nelson  
22 Fink.

23           He will be followed by Garrett Simpson, Steve  
24 Gallardo, and John Keck.

25           Nelson Fink, representing self.

1           And you'll have to tell us where you're from.

2           NELSON FINK: Good evening. My name is Nelson  
3 Fink, N-E-L-S-O-N, F-I-N-K.

4           I elected to come this evening to provide input to  
5 the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission and return  
6 my copy of the public input form.

7           My wife and I do the majority of our shopping,  
8 entertainment, belonging to our church, as well as being  
9 members of local organizations, within the current  
10 boundaries of LD 9. However, LD 9 needs to gain  
11 approximately 34,500 people, while LD 4 needs to reduce by  
12 approximately 81,172.

13           Therefore Westbrook, which is currently in LD 4,  
14 should be added to LD 9, still keeping Peoria in just two  
15 districts.

16           This action is recommended I feel because  
17 Westbrook borders Sun City. And they have similar  
18 interests, such as both being retirement communities and  
19 sharing the same shopping amenities.

20           That would also add to our 34,500 people that we  
21 need to increase.

22           Most persons living in Glendale, Peoria, and  
23 Sun City utilize the same shopping, churches, and  
24 entertainment within the above boundaries I'm about to  
25 mention.

1           I think the boundaries should be Beardley and the  
2 101 Freeway. That would be the northern boundary. The  
3 eastern boundary, 51st Avenue. The western boundary at the  
4 Agua Fria River. And the southern boundary Northern Avenue.

5           The 51st Avenue is a natural breaking point  
6 between Phoenix and Glendale.

7           The Agua Fria would be a natural breaking point  
8 between Sun City and Sun City West.

9           I've heard and seen some legislation that was  
10 causing some problems in our last legislative session.

11           And I think the lady before me has covered it  
12 pretty well, but I'd like to reiterate, because I think it's  
13 important that you folks understand that you just can't take  
14 two retirement communities or two communities that have been  
15 working together for ten years and decide now you're going  
16 to change it.

17           And that is you'll have problems by putting  
18 Sun City and Sun City West together, because of a Title 33  
19 for the recreation centers in Sun City West, while Sun City  
20 is only using Title 10 for their recreation centers.

21           These differences can cause an awful lot of  
22 problems.

23           Again, you have separate fire departments for  
24 these folks.

25           You have separate homeowners associations.

1           And if any of you are familiar with the homeowners  
2 association, they make their own laws whenever they want to.

3           And these people have been living ten years under  
4 these current laws that they've made for each one of these  
5 communities.

6           Thank you for your attention. The work you do is  
7 critical to the future of Arizona.

8           I trust you will do it impartially and in the best  
9 interest of our great state.

10           Thank you.

11           I'll turn this form in to the back.

12           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Wonderful.

13           Thank you.

14           (Applause.)

15           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Garrett  
16 Simpson, representing self, from Maricopa.

17           GARRETT SIMPSON: From Glendale actually.

18           Ms. Mathis, Madam Chair, members of the  
19 Commission, thank you for having us here.

20           I'm delighted to be here to share this open  
21 process.

22           This is the sort of thing that usually takes place  
23 in the back rooms and smoke filled rooms is the political  
24 cliché.

25           The Arizona that I grew up in was rather like

1 that, before Baker versus Carr, back when the rural  
2 communities were running everything in Arizona. Maybe you  
3 can remember, if you've lived here as long as I have, that  
4 the interstate highways were built from Yuma and the state  
5 lines were the agricultural communities were to Phoenix.  
6 Traffic in Phoenix and Maricopa County was messed up for  
7 years, as they slowly, slowly approached the city with  
8 freeways.

9           You can still see the Harold Giss Parkway in Yuma  
10 that was built -- overbuilt for a community that really  
11 didn't need it, because that's where the power was, that's  
12 where the power was before one man, one vote.

13           The reason I wanted to take your time was because  
14 the demographer's Power Point presentation talked about the  
15 concept of one person, one vote.

16           It's not a concept.

17           It's a constitutional mandate. Baker versus Carr  
18 is the law. It's a matter of equal protection of law.

19           I know you know that.

20           But I think it needs to be underlined because a  
21 lot of the fine people behind me that came up to speak were  
22 talking about things that were discretionary. Communities  
23 of interest are an important consideration. Discretionary.

24           Keeping fire districts in the same legislative  
25 district, not a bad idea. But it's discretionary and it's

1 subordinate to the need to make sure that the votes of human  
2 beings that are citizens of the United States don't get  
3 diluted, don't get diminished by political considerations  
4 that even while meritorious don't rise to the level of  
5 constitutional mandate.

6           The competitiveness that Ms. McAllister talked  
7 about is crucial because that's goes to the essence of the  
8 Voting Rights Act and the essence of equal protection. The  
9 one third, one third, one third is a natural place to do it.  
10 I agree with Ms. McAllister completely.

11           I just think it's important that as we go through  
12 this process, and, again, I'm delighted to see it happening  
13 in the daylight and sunshine, the things that really matter,  
14 the things that are requisite have to come first. The  
15 things that are dispositive are not suppressing the vote,  
16 and making sure that people have access to the ballot, and  
17 that their votes count as much as the votes in the next  
18 district, in the next congressional district as well as the  
19 next legislative district.

20           I think that's the essence of your Commission and  
21 of your duties, and I commend you for your service and hope  
22 that you'll take that to heart.

23           Thank you.

24           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25           (Applause.)

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is  
2 State Senator Steve Gallardo, Cartwright governing board  
3 member as well, representing self.

4           STEVE GALLARDO: Good afternoon. Thank you,  
5 members of the Commission.

6           Real quickly for the record, State Senator Steve  
7 Gallardo from District 13, and also serving on the  
8 Cartwright elementary school board.

9           I come here in support of the Minority Coalition  
10 map that has been presented by Representative Richard  
11 Miranda.

12           It is a map that we have worked on profusely for  
13 quite some time now.

14           And when we first started looking at the area, one  
15 of the things that we know that not only the Department of  
16 Justice is going to be looking at, but also you all as  
17 commissioners, and that is what are the communities of  
18 commonality, what are those communities of interest.

19           And so we took a step back, and we looked at those  
20 areas, we took in a lot of different considerations, from  
21 property values, school districts, household income,  
22 language, graduation rates.

23           We looked at all those different type of category,  
24 and we were able to kind of draw an outline of what we would  
25 call communities of interest, communities of commonality.

1           From that outline we divided up what we hope to  
2 have for our legislative districts.

3           Those legislative districts have been presented to  
4 you all.

5           We did our best to try to keep them as compact as  
6 possible, at the same time looking at population.

7           We -- of course we have to make sure that they're  
8 equal in terms of population to the extent practical.

9           So we looked at all those factors when drawing  
10 this -- these minority districts.

11           They're not perfect. And even just standing out  
12 right there near the door, I got an earful by some folks  
13 that had some suggestions.

14           And we are definitely open to some suggestions on  
15 how we can make these districts fair and be able to  
16 represent those communities.

17           Just even this evening, this is interesting, I'd  
18 add another community of interest.

19           Currently right now I'm working with the project  
20 with Ranch Market, Wells Fargo, some other corporations, to  
21 give out back to school backpacks to kids. These kids are  
22 predominantly low income kids. They go to some of the  
23 public schools in those areas.

24           And we identified certain areas, and come and  
25 behold, those areas are within the boundaries in which we

1 are now looking at.

2           We did our first giveaway this evening of 600.  
3 We'll give out another 600 backpacks tomorrow and throughout  
4 the weekend. 4,000 back packs altogether.

5           But, nonetheless, it is encompassed of those  
6 geographical boundaries, those four districts. Those are  
7 the areas in which we gave out backpacks.

8           So when we looked at these maps, we looked at it  
9 based on communities of commonality, communities of  
10 interest, what are those. And we drew those districts based  
11 on that.

12           And also when it comes to congressional lines, we  
13 have yet to sit down and even start focusing on  
14 congressional lines.

15           I know there are other folks that are working on  
16 the congressional lines.

17           But here's a perfect example of what a  
18 congressional district can look like, in Maricopa County, in  
19 terms communities of commonality.

20           You can look at that -- I'm not too sure in terms  
21 of the total numbers of people there, but here's a perfect  
22 ideal district in which a congressional district can be  
23 drawn from.

24           So with that, I would hope that you take into  
25 consideration the Minority Coalition map.

1           I know we're shopping around to more folks, school  
2 board members, community leaders. Anyone that is willing to  
3 sit down and talk and look at it, we are open.

4           And as we continue to shop it around, I would plan  
5 that we would have additional feedback or we would be able  
6 to present to the Commission.

7           But at this point, I am totally supportive of the  
8 Minority Coalition map and hope that you take that into  
9 consideration.

10           Thank you.

11           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Senator.

12           (Applause.)

13           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is John  
14 Martin Keck.

15           And I'll read off the next three names, Bill  
16 Cheatham, Greg Hynes, and Steve Schallenberger.

17           JOHN MARTIN KECK: Good evening.

18           I'm John Martin Keck, J-O-H-N, M-A-R-T-I-N,  
19 K-E-C-K.

20           I do not represent any group, although I am a  
21 member of one of the major political parties.

22           I will paraphrase a quote from a former United  
23 States senator.

24           There are too many Democrats in the Arizona  
25 legislature, there are too many Republicans in the Arizona

1 legislature, and not near enough Arizonans in the Arizona  
2 legislature.

3 (Applause.)

4 JOHN MARTIN KECK: Gerrymandering is a practice to  
5 which I object. And if you look at the present map, you  
6 will see many examples of it. The prime examples appear in  
7 Districts 13, 14, and 15.

8 There is no way that a district can be extended  
9 over that much urban geographical territory and say that it  
10 represents either a community of interest nor is it a  
11 competitive political district.

12 I will say that two of these three districts are  
13 predominantly one ethnic group. As if any ethnic group votes  
14 as a block.

15 It is my personal belief that compactness of the  
16 district and the community of interest should be paramount  
17 for your consideration for redistricting.

18 With the rise in the Independent voters, you may  
19 find some new districts in which neither the Democrats nor  
20 the Republicans are the plurality.

21 In the past 30 years, I have lived in three  
22 different legislative districts and three different county  
23 supervisory districts.

24 I haven't moved.

25 From this experience I will say that I believe I

1 can be fairly represented in the legislature by persons who  
2 are of different political party than I am and of a  
3 different ethnic group than I am.

4 It all depends on the personality of the  
5 representative.

6 Registered voters are American citizens.

7 And I am a great believer in the one person, one  
8 vote.

9 But being American by birth or naturalization is  
10 the common bond we all have.

11 Please do not take your guidelines on  
12 redistricting from the seven dwarfs and their followers in  
13 Washington, D.C.

14 (Applause.)

15 JOHN MARTIN KECK: It is necessary to discuss,  
16 consider, and compromise to reach the best decisions.

17 If anyone is 100 percent happy with your final  
18 outcome, you will know there's something wrong with it.

19 I suggest you proceed with a fundamental fairness  
20 to all people who are involved.

21 I realize the United States Justice Department is  
22 the large pile of fecal material you must shovel through on  
23 your way to successful redistricting.

24 They have believed for over 50 years that the  
25 citizens of Arizona are not intelligent enough to conduct

1 our own business.

2           You are engaged in a great task.

3           Have patience and endurance, and may you be guided  
4 by a power that does not reside on this earth.

5           Thank you.

6           (Applause.)

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is ready?  
8 Bill Cheatham, representing self, from Phoenix.

9           BILL CHEATHAM: Chairperson Mathis and the other  
10 members of the Commission, thank you for letting me speak.

11           In reviewing the provisions that you're following  
12 in this important process, I'm most interested in community  
13 of interest goal.

14           I'm a resident of Phoenix with a Paradise Valley  
15 address. It actually starts right across the street from  
16 me.

17           I lived in Scottsdale for ten years before moving  
18 to my current residence.

19           I have found myself spending almost all of my time  
20 in Phoenix since I moved seven years ago.

21           I work out of my home, and my wife works in  
22 Phoenix, and my children work in Phoenix.

23           I have found that a move of only two miles has  
24 changed my work, recreation, and shopping patterns to  
25 Phoenix and Paradise Valley.

1           The exception is my cleaners, and you can't give  
2 up good cleaners no matter where they are.

3           We are active in many organizations, and almost  
4 all are based in Phoenix, including our church and our  
5 granddaughter's school.

6           Most of our friends and family live in Phoenix and  
7 P.V. And I have been far more cognizant of the direction  
8 the issues that affect Phoenix than I had been as a  
9 Scottsdale resident.

10           Tatum has replaced Scottsdale Road as my main  
11 thoroughfare.

12           In short, the fortunes of Phoenix are more  
13 important to me and my family. I believe that the  
14 communities of P.V. and Phoenix are strongly linked and  
15 should be in the same congressional district.

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18           Our next speaker is Greg Hynes, representing self,  
19 from Phoenix.

20           GREG HYNES: Madam Chair, members of the  
21 Commission, my name is Greg Hynes, G-R-E-G, H-Y-N-E-S. I  
22 live in downtown Phoenix in the historic Willo neighborhood.

23           I think that the historic districts in Phoenix,  
24 central Phoenix, should stay together.

25           Historic neighborhoods of central Phoenix are

1 located between 24th Street and 19th Avenue, east and west,  
2 and Bethany Home Road and Van Buren north and south, with a  
3 couple of neighborhoods outside of these boundaries, and a  
4 majority of the neighborhoods clustered south of Thomas Road  
5 and west of Seven Street.

6 Historic neighborhoods have similar concerns and  
7 have a history of successfully working together with issues  
8 regarding historic preservation, graffiti, reduction of  
9 crime, local traffic concerns, obtaining speed bumps,  
10 roundabouts, and overall neighborhood improvements.

11 Historic neighborhoods should stay together  
12 because they are a community of interest with similar  
13 histories, schools, transportation routes, culture, arts  
14 districts, concerns for historical integrity, festivals,  
15 home tours, very active neighborhood associations, voting  
16 histories, et cetera.

17 It is a very unique part of Phoenix, unlike areas  
18 that are located east of it.

19 In a congressional map, the historic neighborhoods  
20 of central Phoenix should be included with west Phoenix,  
21 Maryvale, Isaac neighborhoods, and south Phoenix.

22 There is a natural connection between downtown  
23 Phoenix and south Phoenix, which is Central Avenue, because  
24 of similar elementary schools, high school, and community  
25 colleges shared by the residents of the areas, as well as

1 frequently -- frequenting the same parks and transportation  
2 services.

3           People in these communities have very similar  
4 voting histories, and shop and worship in the same  
5 communities.

6           People in central Phoenix utilize the lightrail,  
7 and there are many active residents in the south Phoenix  
8 area that are currently working on connecting the lightrail  
9 from Phoenix -- from central Phoenix to South Mountain  
10 through Central Avenue.

11           Thank you very much.

12           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13           Our next speaker is Steve Schallenberger,  
14 representing self, from Glendale.

15           And the next three will be Celeste Pettijohn, Jim  
16 Larson, and Lisa Gray.

17           STEVE SCHALLENBERGER: Madam Chair, members of the  
18 Commission, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

19           My name is Steve, S-T-E-V-E, Schallenberger,  
20 S-C-H-A-L-L-E-N-B-E-R-G-E-R.

21           With that, I think half my time is up.

22           In all seriousness though, in the past few months  
23 the American people have been worn to a frazzle by the  
24 goings on back in Washington. Depending on who you talk to,  
25 the process has either been fair or it has not.

1           It is fairness, however, that this process is all  
2 about.

3           Each new district should be redistricted fairly,  
4 with as much as possible the mix being equal, such that the  
5 people of those districts can have a fair chance of being  
6 represented by those who understand their views.

7           Any district that is carved out strictly for the  
8 benefit of a single group of people is not a fair district.  
9 It's not a district that reflects the diversity, the melting  
10 pot that is Arizona, and indeed is the United States.

11           Fairness is all we ask.

12           I know that the IRC will do its level best to make  
13 that happen.

14           It's in the best interest of the people of  
15 Arizona, and to the spirit of fairness which is a true mark  
16 of all Americans.

17           Thank you.

18           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

19           Our next speaker is Celeste Pettijohn,  
20 representing self, from Phoenix.

21           CELESTE PETTIJOHN: Madam Chairwoman, committee.  
22 My name is Celeste, C-E-L-E-S-T-E, and Pettijohn,  
23 P-E-T-T-I-J-O-H-N. And I am here to speak on behalf of  
24 competitiveness.

25           I think it is absolutely critical that

1 competitiveness be taken as one of the major aspects to be  
2 looked at in drawing these maps.

3 As a manager and district chair I can tell you in  
4 Legislative District 6 as it currently exists it is almost  
5 impossible to attract good candidates.

6 You cannot get quality candidates to run for a  
7 position they feel they have absolutely no hope of  
8 achieving.

9 And I believe the same exists in any of the other  
10 legislative districts that are so lopsided.

11 We have also a particular problem with the amount  
12 of acreage, for lack of a better word, that we cover.  
13 We extend all the way up through Anthem, and we currently  
14 now have representatives that basically don't consider the  
15 interests of Phoenix. They even refer to themselves as  
16 representatives from Anthem. Which of course isn't any form  
17 of any city at all.

18 So you can see it's vitally important that we have  
19 competitive districts where both parties can get together  
20 and get us people who are worthy to represent us.

21 And I thank you very much for your time, and I  
22 appreciate everything that you've done.

23 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Jim

1 Larson, representing self, from Phoenix.

2 JIM LARSON: Thank you, chairwoman, members of the  
3 committee.

4 My name again is Jim Larson, J-I-M, L-A-R-S-O-N.

5 And I am representing actually myself, but I also  
6 was a candidate for state senator in District 6.

7 And if you look at the demographics and the size  
8 of our LD, it runs all the way from basically Thunderbird  
9 south, a very urbanized area, all the way up to the Maricopa  
10 County border, very rural.

11 My issues at that time, and still are, I want to  
12 represent -- I want our people that are here in the  
13 legislature to represent all the people that are in the  
14 district.

15 So it's very diverse.

16 Unfortunately I didn't -- no matter really who you  
17 would get into the council, into the legislative positions,  
18 they're not really geared towards representing rural people  
19 with all the issues going on in the county, because there  
20 are a lot of county districts up there, as well as the urban  
21 districts down here, which is really heavily with crime,  
22 fire department, police department, density issues.

23 So when you're making your maps, please besides  
24 looking at the interests of your -- the interest of a people  
25 that are in the urban areas and in the residential areas,

1 make sure that you're also looking at the competitive side  
2 as well.

3 As was also spoken.

4 The people in the rural areas need to have a  
5 representative that fairly represents everybody in that  
6 district, which means also looking at the competitiveness.

7 People in the urban areas need to have the same  
8 thing.

9 And so basically that's what I'm looking for is  
10 making sure that the competitiveness in the districts match  
11 the members, the special interest groups and stuff, so you  
12 can't have one or the other. You need to balance it all  
13 out, which I'm sure you're all working on to get that done.

14 But that's just a very highlighted outline for  
15 that.

16 With that, I thank you very much for your time.

17 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Lisa Gray is our next  
20 speaker, representing self, from Sun City LD 9.

21 I'll just read the next three. I believe this  
22 says Lord Hansen, Anita Christy, and Walt Gray.

23 LISA GRAY: Chairwoman, members of the Commission,  
24 my name Lisa Gray, L-I-S-A, G-R-A-Y.

25 I am representing myself, but I am the Republican

1 district chairman for Legislative District 9.

2 I want to agree with our Representative Rick  
3 Murphy that District 9 is a very well-balanced district. We  
4 currently have a representative that was elected that lives  
5 in Sun City, one lives in Peoria, and one that lives in  
6 Glendale.

7 So I really think that we have a great balance.

8 I'm going to reiterate some of the talking points  
9 or some of the things that were brought out today.

10 That we do have to grow by 34,500 people, while  
11 District 4 needs to shrink by 81,172.

12 So Westbrook, being just north of Sun City, would  
13 be a great addition into our district.

14 It, like I said, it borders Sun City. It has  
15 similar interests. They are both retirement communities,  
16 and they shop in the same areas, same shopping amenities.

17 And then that also by adding Westbrook it would  
18 decrease the Legislative District 4.

19 On the west side, the Agua Fria River makes a  
20 natural boundary between Sun City and Sun City West.

21 And then on the east side, 51st Ave is a good  
22 natural boundary line that separates Glendale and Phoenix.  
23 It also separates the Peoria School District from the  
24 Washington Elementary.

25 So it would be really nice to try to keep PUSD in.

1 I mean, it's a very -- right now it's a majority is in four  
2 and nine, but it would be really nice to have all of the  
3 schools in at least just the two districts.

4 I don't think there's no way we can put that huge  
5 school district in one district.

6 I will tell you that I do live in Sun City, even  
7 though I don't look like I'm old enough to live there.

8 But I will tell you that in talking with people in  
9 my community, that they do not want to be together with  
10 Sun City West. They are -- there are distinct differences  
11 between the two communities, even though they are retirement  
12 communities.

13 Sun City West does a lot of their shopping and  
14 things in Surprise. Same with Sun City Grand and Sun City  
15 Festival. There's that river separation.

16 Those people are pretty much a community of  
17 interest.

18 While Sun City, the original Sun City, they do a  
19 lot of their shopping in the Peoria area.

20 So I'd like you to take that into consideration.

21 Also, as has been said earlier, Sun City and  
22 Sun City West, they do have separate fire districts and  
23 utilities systems.

24 Let's see, what else really quick.

25 The HOAs are different as well, as was said

1 earlier.

2           The Sun City West rec board operates under  
3 Title 33, while the Sun City operates under Title 10.

4           So it would be nice to keep all of Sun City  
5 together, as we have had in the last ten years. That is the  
6 preference of the people that live in Sun City.

7           And, again, I think that we do have a good  
8 balance.

9           It would be nice to bring in Westbrook Village and  
10 to bring in a little -- we do have to bring in more people.

11           And, I think that's all.

12           I just want to put on the record too that Rick  
13 (inaudible), they would agree with this as well.

14           So thank you very much for your time. I know you  
15 guys will have a very long day.

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18           (Applause.)

19           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Next is Willerd Hansen. Does  
20 that sound at all correct? From Sun City West.

21           Okay.

22           (No oral response.)

23           VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Willerd R., president of  
24 Port. William, Bill Hansen. Bill Hansen from Port.

25           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: From Sun City West.

1           Okay. The next speaker is Anita Christy,  
2 representing Gilbert.

3           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Are you Mr. Hansen?

4           UNIDENTIFIED MAN: No, I'm not.

5           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Oh, okay.

6           ANITA CHRISTY: I admire you being able to stay  
7 awake.

8           My name is Anita Christy, A-N-I-T-A,  
9 C-H-R-I-S-T-Y, and I live in Gilbert, but I couldn't make it  
10 to the Mesa or Phoenix meetings, so I traveled halfway to  
11 California to be here with all of you wonderful people.

12           And I'd like to just restate the obvious, although  
13 I don't want to put you asleep, there are portions of  
14 Article IV, Part 2, Section 1, of the Arizona Constitution  
15 which directs the IRC on how to map congressional and  
16 legislative districts, which appear -- and the following  
17 appears to be an order of priority.

18           A, districts shall comply with U.S. Constitution  
19 and the United States Voting Rights Act.

20           B, congressional districts shall have equal  
21 population to the extent practicable and state legislative  
22 districts shall have equal population to the extent  
23 practicable.

24           C, districts shall be geographically compact and  
25 contiguous to the extent practicable.

1           D, district boundaries shall respect communities  
2 of interest to the extent practicable.

3           E, to the extent practicable, district lines  
4 should use visible geographic features, city, town, and  
5 county boundaries, and undivided census tracts.

6           F, to the extent practicable competitive districts  
7 should be favored where to do so would create no significant  
8 detriment to the other goals.

9           I know you don't have any wiggle room on letter A,  
10 Voting Rights Act, and B, relating to equal population  
11 within the districts.

12           However, C, D, and E relating to compact,  
13 contiguous boundaries, communities of interest, and using  
14 visible geographic features in retaining the integrity of  
15 town and county boundaries are very important to the  
16 residents within those communities.

17           They take priority over the last criterion, F,  
18 related to competitive districts.

19           When you consider Gilbert or any community for  
20 that matter, please consider and respect the people within  
21 those communities and don't draw lines that resemble a  
22 malaria germ in order to divide an area into political units  
23 to give special advantage to one group or another.

24           If the IRC honors the criteria set forth in the  
25 Arizona Constitution, all should be well.

1           But if you ignore those criteria and lean toward  
2 one of them to the detriment of the others, that's not the  
3 intent of Prop 106 and violates the Arizona Constitution.

4           Thank you.

5           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6           (Applause.)

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Walt  
8 Gray.

9           And he will be followed by Glenn Jacques -- do I  
10 have that right?

11           Angela Conterra, and Francine Dobkin.

12           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Walt Gray, representing self,  
13 from Maricopa.

14           WALT GRAY: My name is Walt, W-A-L-T, Gray,  
15 G-R-A-Y.

16           I've lived in Maryvale, west Phoenix, for over  
17 30 years, and I think a community of interest -- a basic  
18 building block of community of interest I believe should be  
19 a school district.

20           I think that that provides diversity and the  
21 public participation that's necessary for good government.

22           And I think that it's good to kind of think of  
23 this not only for the legislative boundaries and the  
24 congressional boundaries, but also for the city council  
25 boundaries, although I know that's not your job.

1           But the more that we can create a phylum, so that  
2 people have the same representatives at all levels of  
3 government, it will make those levels of government work  
4 together, better, and they'll know better who represents  
5 them.

6           Now, the boundaries are all mixed up, that it's  
7 very difficult for people to know who represents them.

8           So I think as far as west Phoenix is concerned,  
9 Maryvale, I think the Pendergast, the Cartwright, and the  
10 Isaac School Districts should all be in one legislative  
11 district. And shut off those parts east of I-17, up in  
12 Glendale -- or not Glendale, but east of I-17, or even to  
13 the west into Avondale.

14           And keep us -- because we're a natural community,  
15 and we'd like to stay that way, in my belief.

16           Thank you.

17           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

18           Our next speaker is Glenn Jacques, from Arizona  
19 Competitive Districts Coalition.

20           GLENN JACQUES: Hi. Thank you for allowing me to  
21 address you. My name is Glenn, G-L-E-N-N, Jacques,  
22 J-A-C-Q-U-E-S.

23           I am the winner of the Arizona Competitive  
24 District Coalition for the best congressional and best state  
25 legislature map.

1 Ken Clark has forwarded the maps on to your  
2 Commission for you to take a look at.

3 You'll notice in my maps that for the  
4 congressional, four out of the nine are competitive, and for  
5 the state legislature I was able to come up with 7 out of  
6 the 30 districts being competitive.

7 I spent quite a bit of time working on these maps,  
8 and I certainly appreciate all the things that the -- all  
9 the challenges that this Commission is going to face.

10 I really believe that competitive districts are a  
11 way to give the voters a voice.

12 I believe it's the way to attract quality  
13 candidates from both political parties to run.

14 It's the way to get voters a real voice.

15 It's also a way for once a candidate is elected  
16 for them to be accountable to the voters to know that  
17 they're going to face a re-election.

18 So thank you very much for letting me speak.

19 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Angela  
22 Conterra, representing self, from Avondale.

23 ANGELA CONTERRA: Actually that's Angela Conterra,  
24 A-N-G-E-L-A, C-O-N-T-E-R-R-A. I flunked penmanship.

25 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: And I flunked reading.

1           ANGELA CONTERRA: Let me begin by thanking the  
2 commissioners and particularly Chair Mathis for your  
3 voluntary service as members of a very difficult, but  
4 actually vital commission.

5           I hope you all know how much you are appreciated.  
6           (Applause.)

7           ANGELA CONTERRA: I have been a resident in  
8 Arizona for 44 years, and I've lived out in Avondale for  
9 20 years.

10           I'm one of tens of thousands of west valley  
11 residents have who have had no voice in the Arizona  
12 legislature for over 20 years. Because we live in single  
13 party dominant districts.

14           In fact, because of the demographics of my  
15 legislative district, in 2006 we did not even have a choice  
16 in the general election.

17           There were three candidates for three legislative  
18 seats from one party.

19           Because I truly believe the democracy demands that  
20 voters at least have a choice, I ran for the legislature.  
21 And when I went out and talked with voters in my district  
22 who shared my priorities from all parties, they routinely  
23 told me how isolated and how voiceless they felt in the  
24 community.

25           Often they admitted they had stopped voting

1 altogether, they had stopped contacting the legislators,  
2 because their voice didn't matter and their votes did not  
3 matter in the district.

4 Certainly a foundation of the representative  
5 democracy is that all citizens have a right to have their  
6 voice heard through their elected officials. At least from  
7 time to time.

8 Furthermore, our elected officials must be  
9 accountable to the majority of the constituents.

10 Without competitive districts, however, election  
11 results and officials who can ignore the voice of any  
12 constituent who cannot or does not participate in the  
13 primary election without consequences.

14 For example, based on my district, my current  
15 representatives, they only have to be responsible for about  
16 15 percent of the registered voters.

17 When 15 percent of registered voters are able to  
18 set the agenda for an entire district or for an entire  
19 state, we no longer have a true democracy.

20 Fortunately this year, the citizens of Arizona  
21 knew.

22 You have an historic opportunity to turn Arizona  
23 into a robust representative democracy.

24 Every vote must matter.

25 In forward for this to happen, elections must be

1 decided in general election.

2           This only occurs when districts are competitive.

3           So I'm here tonight to ask you to help restore my  
4 voice and the voice of hundreds of thousands of Arizonans  
5 who have been effectively disenfranchised for decades.

6           Please make the creation of competitive districts  
7 your number one discretionary priority.

8           Help Arizona take the first and most important  
9 step towards being a true reflection of all of her citizens,  
10 and the silent majority will be silenced no more.

11           Thank you for your service, again, and thank you  
12 for the opportunity to speak to you.

13           (Applause.)

14           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

15           I've been told Francine Dobkin departed.

16           So our next three speakers are Joyce Clark, Harry  
17 Garawall, and Rosie Lopez.

18           Okay.

19           So Joyce Clark, council member, representing self,  
20 from Glendale.

21           JOYCE CLARK: Yes, good evening,  
22 Madam Commissioner and Commission members.

23           Thank you for coming to Glendale.

24           We appreciate it, and thanks on behalf of our  
25 mayor and our entire council. Most of whom are on vacation

1 right now.

2 Did you know, or if you didn't know you should  
3 know, that Glendale is the fifth largest city in the state  
4 of Arizona?

5 It's got a population of approximately 236,000  
6 people.

7 Before I go any further, I have to spell my name.  
8 J-O-Y-C-E, C-L-A-R-K.

9 Glendale, unfortunately, is part of six different  
10 legislative districts.

11 Now, to put that in context, Tucson, the second  
12 largest city in the state, has five districts.

13 Mesa, the fourth largest city in the state, has  
14 four districts.

15 Phoenix, the largest city in the state, has  
16 11 districts.

17 So how come Glendale has six legislative  
18 districts?

19 Well, they plucked a little part of Glendale and  
20 put it in one legislative district, another little part of  
21 Glendale and put it in a different, and we ended up being in  
22 six legislative districts.

23 Which virtually guarantees us no voice in any of  
24 those districts, because the city is so diluted by being  
25 part of six different districts.

1           So I guess what I'm saying is Glendale is a  
2 community of interest.

3           We're not asking for much, but could you reduce  
4 the number of legislative districts that are in Glendale?

5           If you could get it down to three or four, we  
6 would be ever so grateful.

7           Now, as a last parting comment, usually I'm on  
8 that side, not on this side.

9           This is like a very difficulty zoning case where  
10 you have to sit up there and listen to people say the same  
11 thing over and over and over again.

12           And all I want to say is, I want to thank you for  
13 what you're doing.

14           You came to this voluntarily. You come to it with  
15 principles, ideals, mandates. And no matter what you  
16 decide, you're going to be damned if you do and damned if  
17 you don't.

18           It's just one of those things.

19           But I know that you will have given it your very  
20 best effort, that you will have lived up to whatever  
21 principles and guidelines you believe in, and you will be  
22 doing the very best that you can for the citizens of the  
23 state of Arizona. And for that I am grateful and very  
24 thankful.

25           Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 (Applause.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Is Harry Garawall here?

4 (No oral response.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Rosie Lopez, founder Arizona  
6 Hispanic Community Forum, from Phoenix.

7 And I'll go ahead and read the next few names.

8 J. Woodfin Thomas, Manny Martinez, and Marian  
9 Barry.

10 ROSIE LOPEZ: Rosie Lopez, R-O-S-I-E, L-O-P-E-Z.

11 I'm here in support of the Minority Coalition map.  
12 I think they did a very good job, and they worked very hard  
13 in accomplishing this task.

14 I want to thank you again.

15 I was with you at South Mountain.

16 I am in LD 16.

17 I live right by South Mountain, beautiful place,  
18 beautiful boundary.

19 And I spoke on behalf of District 16, the  
20 District 16 map that Leah Landrum, our senator, presented at  
21 that time.

22 But I'm also here today to speak about  
23 Congressional District 4.

24 I believe that we should keep those districts  
25 together, and District 16, 13, 14, and also Tolleson and

1 Glendale.

2 My husband lived in the Glendale area. We had a  
3 lot of friends here.

4 We have come to a lot of events here. We share  
5 the same commonalities.

6 We have the same -- we are communities of  
7 interest.

8 And also Tolleson, same thing, he had relatives  
9 there, and we were very close to a lot of people there. I  
10 still have a lot of friends there. He has too. He has  
11 family there as well.

12 So I used to live -- we used to live in  
13 District 13 and 14, which was 22 at one time.

14 It was all in one, and then they split them up to  
15 13 and 14.

16 Eventually we ended up in 14, but then we moved to  
17 District 16.

18 So I'm very well familiar with all of the areas,  
19 of Isaac District, all of the school districts, Roosevelt,  
20 Isaac, Cartwright, all of those districts that are -- that  
21 have a lot in common.

22 We have the same transportation needs. We have  
23 the needs in our school districts.

24 I'm a retired educator as well, and I worked at --  
25 in Phoenix Elementary District and Murphy District, which is

1 also part of that -- I believe it's 13, District 13.

2 But, anyway, we have a lot of commonality, as I  
3 said.

4 Our churches, places of worship. We're Spanish  
5 speaking and English speaking. We're bilingual, many of us.

6 And so I urge you to and recommend to you the map  
7 that the Minority Coalition put together.

8 And, again, also, the Legislative District 4 that  
9 includes Tolleson, Glendale, and District 13, 14, and 16.

10 Thank you very much, and thank you so much for all  
11 the work that you do. I appreciate it.

12 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Sensitive to our court  
15 reporter. It's 8:02 p.m. And you're okay with going  
16 through. Okay. We'll keep rolling through then.

17 J. Woodfin Thomas, representing self, from  
18 Maricopa Litchfield Park.

19 J. WOODFIN THOMAS: Good evening.

20 Thank you, and thank you for saying my name right.  
21 You're one of the few.

22 That's J, period, W-O-O-D-F-I-N, T-H-O-M-A-S.

23 I'm also known as Woody Thomas, former mayor of  
24 Litchfield Park.

25 And I live in LD 12.

1           And something I do believe I heard a lot tonight  
2 about how we want to maintain a district.

3           I was in District 15 when I moved here. Now I'm  
4 in District 12. I don't think there's any special thing of  
5 what was in the past.

6           I'd like to use LD 12 as a example.

7           Very extreme activity in one party, as you heard  
8 Angela Conterra speak clearly about.

9           And I find that this is really quite a challenge  
10 because when the last districting Commission got together,  
11 there was a concept of, I believe, the Voter Rights Act,  
12 according to Representative Miranda, that has to do with  
13 voter performance.

14           Voter performance is pathetic in my estimation.

15           There's been a lot of talk about, you know, this  
16 mandate that some people believe they had or whatever.

17           This last election in 2010, 55 percent of the  
18 population turned out to vote.

19           That may seem to be a significant amount.

20           Unfortunately only 59 percent of Arizona residents  
21 are registered to vote.

22           So that means that 32.4 percent of eligible voters  
23 actually showed up at the polls.

24           I don't believe that's your challenge to get more  
25 people to vote.

1           I'll give you an example. In my district I voted  
2 in a gated community where I had to go through a gate house,  
3 I voted in a country club that had member only signs out  
4 front.

5           This -- it did not bother me, but I can only  
6 imagine how offensive that was to a large group of people.

7           And I think that, again, that needs to be  
8 considered in how you address our legislature, not how you  
9 address the prospect of legislative districts.

10          Need for competition is huge.

11          In this idea that voter performance comes in, I  
12 believe Legislative District 13 was overloaded with a  
13 minority group because of their lack of voting.

14          That then in turn meant my district was then  
15 predominantly one party.

16          That has since leveled out. We're about one  
17 third, one third, and one third. That's only been in the  
18 last election.

19          I've been on the equal opportunity -- Equal  
20 Employment Opportunity Commission for my agency in the past,  
21 and I believe very strongly that we should give people an  
22 equal opportunity. That does not make any guarantees.

23          If people don't vote, I don't know what to tell  
24 you. I think it's a Russian adage, you get the government  
25 you deserve.

1           When I look at Congressional District 2, I think  
2 that meets the definition of gerrymandering.

3           If you look at Litchfield Park and try to compare  
4 that with the Hopi Nation, I can't imagine anybody thinking  
5 that that would have any common interest or about  
6 competitiveness between the two.

7           The fact that they don't like the Navajo, or the  
8 Navajo doesn't like the Hopi, I don't know who or which, and  
9 I've done appraisal work up in that part of the world, that  
10 that's not for the redistricting committee. Their common  
11 interest I would think is a lot greater than what it is with  
12 Litchfield Park.

13           And when I look at Litchfield Park being  
14 associated with Kingman, Lake Havasu, and other riverside  
15 communities, I would Yuma would be a lot more competitive or  
16 a lot more interested in their thoughts than what we have in  
17 Litchfield Park.

18           And, again, thank you for your time. And, again,  
19 being on that side of the dais, I do know the difficulties,  
20 and I appreciate your service.

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22           Our next speaker is Manny Martinez, council member  
23 from Glendale.

24           MANNY MARTINEZ: Good evening. My name is Manny,  
25 M-A-N-N-Y, Martinez, M-A-R-T-I-N-E-Z.

1 Hello. Council member, welcome to the city of  
2 Glendale. I'm speaking for myself this evening.

3 But I do want to tell you that we're very proud of  
4 the city of Glendale. We think it's a community. And it's  
5 great place to live, work, and play.

6 And I'm really glad to see the great turnout that  
7 you have this evening, and giving of this input, from not  
8 only our citizens, but from the west valley.

9 And I want to thank you for I'm sure a thankless  
10 job. I've been following you with some of the comments made  
11 and some of the meetings that we've had. And so you have a  
12 very, very important job, I thankless one, and I do really  
13 appreciate that.

14 The although I'm here representing myself, the  
15 council very early on did come to a consensus that, as  
16 Councilman Clark said, we have too many districts.

17 The six, that we would like to get them reduced.  
18 I'm not here to tell you what the magic number is, but I  
19 think that it is something that I hope you would strongly  
20 consider, because I think that our -- when our citizens'  
21 strength is really diluted, and that they would be, I think,  
22 their voice would be heard a lot better if we had, you know,  
23 four districts.

24 Thank you for being here and having us speak this  
25 evening.

1 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

2 Our next speaker is Marian Barry. And then I'll  
3 go ahead and read the next three.

4 Vince Ansellmo, Deanna Stropes, and Jay Humphrey.  
5 Marian Barry, representing self, and also if you  
6 can spell your name.

7 MARIAN BARRY: Okay. My name is spelled  
8 M-A-R-I-A-N. Last name is B-A-R-R-Y.

9 I want to thank you for allowing me to speak this  
10 evening.

11 I'm from a small town, Tonopah.

12 We have about 5,000 people living out there. When  
13 I moved out there in 2003, there were about 2500 people  
14 living there.

15 Someone had the brilliant idea to take the I-10  
16 and make that a dividing line for this small town, which  
17 happens to be home to the Saddle Mountain Unified School  
18 District, which is the largest school district in the state  
19 of Arizona.

20 They drew this line right across I-10. North of  
21 the I-10, you're in -- I forget the district number, I think  
22 it's two.

23 South of the I-10, your congressman happens to be  
24 down in Sierra Vista.

25 Now, whatever happens, how can you possibly build

1 a town that is divided in half where their congressman comes  
2 from 150 miles away and doesn't care anything about those  
3 2500 people or so in his district.

4 As a small town, we have a great fire department  
5 that we built. We're unincorporated, yet we have one of the  
6 best fire departments in the county.

7 We have great schools. They're building that  
8 sense of pride in the community. And when it comes to  
9 events like the 4th of July, our fireworks beat out Phoenix  
10 every time.

11 This is all done by fundraisers, and just the town  
12 coming together.

13 We are pleading with you tonight, make Tonopah one  
14 town.

15 We have a natural boundary line with Belmont  
16 Mountains, the Hassayampa to the east of us, Happy Valley to  
17 the west of us.

18 We do our shopping right now in Buckeye, because  
19 the economy -- Tonopah was scheduled for a Wal-Mart that was  
20 originally to open 18 months after they opened one.

21 The economy took a downturn. The Fry's didn't  
22 open. Wal-Mart didn't open.

23 So we still have to go into, into Buckeye.

24 But we want to grow.

25 We want to be a community.

1           And it's only going to happen when we have one  
2 district that services the entire county.

3           Thank you so much for letting me speak this  
4 evening.

5           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

6           (Applause.)

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Vince  
8 Ansellmo, private citizen, from Phoenix.

9           (No oral response.)

10          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: We'll go to the next one,  
11 Deanna Stropes, representing self, from Sun City.

12          DEANNA STROPES: I'm Deanna Stropes, D-E-A-N-N-A,  
13 S-T-R-O-P-E-S.

14          Until about two days ago, I knew next to nothing  
15 about redistricting. So if I get any facts wrong, I'm sure  
16 someone will correct me.

17          I'm here to support the work of this Commission  
18 based on my understanding of certain facts.

19          In 2010 the voters of Arizona demanded and won an  
20 Independent Redistricting Commission because they wanted  
21 fairness and representation for all of Arizonans, not just a  
22 segment that's willing and able to get in the system.

23          The outcome the first Commission was not what the  
24 people voted for.

25          According to the Arizona Competitive Districts

1 Coalition, 46 percent of all voters, almost 1.5 million  
2 people out of a total just over 3 million, still have no say  
3 after the primary.

4           It's taxation without representation.

5           Until human beings are perfect, there can be no  
6 perfect commissions.

7           As far as I can tell, this one has taken every  
8 reasonable precaution to meet the criteria for fair and  
9 effective redistricting.

10           The criteria that I care about include  
11 independence, transparency, competitiveness, and a focus on  
12 building districts around communities of common interest.

13           You seem committed to your mission of fair and  
14 balanced redistricting.

15           Based on careful consideration, this new  
16 Commission apparently chose a different mapping consultant,  
17 one that's actually willing to follow and provide  
18 documentation of best practices.

19           Only time will tell, but I believe that this  
20 current Commission is doing a commendable job in a very  
21 difficult political climate.

22           You deserve our respect and our support, and thank  
23 you for your hearing my comments.

24           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25           (Applause.)

1           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Jay  
2 Humphrey.

3           And I'll read the next three.

4           Gene Diehl, Gil Fidler, and Ann Heins.

5           So Jay Humphrey, representing self.

6           JAY HUMPHREY: Jay, J-A-Y, Humphrey,  
7 H-U-M-P-H-R-E-Y.

8           I know that you're going to be able to please  
9 everybody that asks a favor tonight, but I live in Tonopah,  
10 Arizona. And it's an unincorporated area of Maricopa  
11 County.

12           And the big issue that we have out there isn't  
13 like she said before me. We are split right down I-10. So  
14 we're on the west -- on the north and south side of I-10,  
15 and we're trying to build a community that where the people  
16 work together and have enjoyment together and do things  
17 together.

18           We have the major event we have out there is the  
19 4th of July.

20           That's the one event that everybody comes to. I  
21 think we had around 2,000 people show up this year for our  
22 event.

23           And so we would ask that you consider putting us  
24 at least in one district together, so we can work together  
25 as a community.

1           So, with that, thank you very much for staying so  
2 long, and we appreciate your help.

3           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4           Our next speaker is Gene Diehl, from Sons of  
5 Liberty Riders.

6           UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: They left.

7           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Okay.

8           Our next speaker is Gil Fidler, from LD 22 in  
9 Gilbert.

10          GIL FIDLER: I'm not representing LD 22. I'm  
11 representing myself. I'm just from there.

12          My name is Gil, G-I-L, Fidler, F-I-D-L-E-R.

13          I just have a couple short comments.

14          The Democrats think they lost the last election  
15 because of unequal districts, but the Democrats are  
16 confusing results with opportunity.

17          Could it be the voters didn't like their message.

18          The Secretary of State's Office reported on  
19 July 1st that the number of Democrats dropped 8,000 voters.  
20 They now are under one million voters for the first time  
21 since 2008.

22          Thank you.

23          (Applause.)

24          CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

25          Our next speaker is Ann Heins, representing self,

1 from Maricopa.

2 And I'll go ahead and read the next few.

3 Margaret Gallagher, Jeffrey Rich, Karen Mahon.

4 ANN HEINS: Ann, A-N-N, Heins, H-E-I-N-S.

5 I'd like to congratulate the Commission. You have  
6 allowed all the talking heads to make their points and  
7 meanwhile the rest of the people with opinions have now left  
8 after two hours. Thank you very much. And you just did  
9 that in Tucson.

10 So we appreciate you're partisanship.

11 I came a great distance after watching the hearing  
12 today.

13 I would like to say that the software chosen by  
14 you should be publicized and be online. No more closed  
15 door, no more behind scenes dealings.

16 Number two, Commissioner Herrera stated that we  
17 are wasting the taxpayers' money. And it's a partisan that  
18 the Attorney General is investigating your illegality.

19 Could this be because Commissioner Herrera refuses  
20 to be interviewed or that he refused to take the oath of  
21 office?

22 It could be due to the fact he's been accused of  
23 bid rigging and vote trading.

24 Or is it the fact that the Commission has  
25 destroyed their documents or the State Procurement Office

1 has called it illegal?

2 That is not reason and that is a waste of taxpayer  
3 money.

4 I voted for Prop 106 because I actually happen to  
5 be an Independent from Berkley, California. And I was  
6 disgusted the way they were treated before.

7 Now I come and see that you've chosen a mapping  
8 consultant who knows nothing about mapping, and whose only  
9 experience is handling President Obama's campaign and  
10 working for the SEIU, MoveOn.org, and AFL-CIO.

11 How do you think one side would feel if the other  
12 side now has the Hope Brothers, John Birch Society, Sarah  
13 Palin, Russell Pearce?

14 Stop it.

15 I don't believe it should be one way or the other  
16 way.

17 Just be fair.

18 Stop the corruption.

19 I want to have you throw out Strategic Telemetry.  
20 Start over. There's got to be some Arizona company that is  
21 nonpartisan that doesn't put -- have to have had to scrub  
22 his whole website of progressivism. He's so ashamed of his  
23 own clients.

24 It's scrubbed.

25 There has to be one nonpartisan mapping company

1 out there.

2 Thank you for your time.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Our next speaker is Margaret  
6 Gallagher, representing self, from Scottsdale.

7 MARGARET GALLAGHER: Margaret, M-A-R-G-A-R-E-T,  
8 Gallagher, G-A-L-L-A-G-H-E-R.

9 I want to thank you for your participation in this  
10 Commission, which, as you know, was created by a voter  
11 proposition to ensure that our elected politicians did not  
12 control the process.

13 You have no doubt noticed how many voter  
14 propositions are appearing on Arizona ballots lately,  
15 specifically intended to direct or limit our elected  
16 politicians' actions.

17 Why do we have to circumvent our elected  
18 representatives with voter propositions? Because too many  
19 of our districts are not competitive and are controlled by  
20 the fringes of one party.

21 Please keep competitive districts a priority in  
22 your consideration so that Arizonans may truly have  
23 representative government and no longer need to resort to  
24 propositions to try to achieve the representation that we  
25 deserve.

1 Thank you for your efforts.

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Jeffrey Rich, representing  
4 self, from Avondale.

5 JEFFREY RICH: Thank you, Madam Chair, members of  
6 the Commission.

7 Although I represent myself, I am also the chair  
8 of the Legislative District 12 Democrats.

9 And in several recent meetings, this Commission  
10 has heard public comments from lobbyists hired to represent  
11 a group called Fair Trust.

12 These are two Phoenix attorneys, Michael Thomas  
13 Liburdi, Jr., and Dave Cantelme.

14 And they have publicly stated their affiliation  
15 with Fair Trust, but what they have not publicly stated is  
16 who's behind Fair Trust.

17 The Arizona Capital Times recently reported that  
18 Fair Trust is actually funded and organized by Republican  
19 Senator John Kyle and Arizona's Republican congressional  
20 delegation.

21 Once you know who is behind Fair Trust, it's clear  
22 they're on a cynical mission.

23 The group appears to be distorting the public  
24 record with comments under the guise of promoting the  
25 Voting Rights Act.

1           The comments are implicitly against competition,  
2 which we all know would preserve the status quo of the  
3 current Republican power structure in Arizona.

4           Fair Trust has already testified in Nogales,  
5 Casa Grande, and south Tucson.

6           If these lobbyists intend to keep addressing the  
7 Commission on the public record, they should disclose who  
8 their group represents and disclose its donors also on the  
9 public record.

10           Given that Arizona's voter registration is sliced  
11 roughly into thirds, more competition should lead to more  
12 representation, representative government.

13           And that's exactly what Fair Trust does not want  
14 to happen.

15           The group exists solely to protect the interests  
16 of our state's most powerful Republicans.

17           I'd like to add to the public record that the  
18 so-called Fair Trust is not interested in fairness at all,  
19 but is attempting to highjack what is supposed to be a  
20 citizen led process.

21           Thank you.

22           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

23           (Applause.)

24           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: I have four more request for  
25 speak forms, just so you all know.

1           Karen Mahon, precinct committee person,  
2 representing self, from Glendale.

3           And then it will be Dwight Amery, Larry Templeton,  
4 and William Crum.

5           KAREN MAHON: Thank you. My name is Karen Mahon,  
6 that's K-A-R-E-N, M-A-H-O-N. And I'm from LD 10.

7           It is my concern that the voters of Arizona will  
8 not be fairly represented in the redistricting process.

9           It has been reported that Strategic Telemetry, the  
10 mapping consultant chosen by this Commission, has known  
11 political ties. They're partisan in nature.

12           Its past affiliations with the Democratic party,  
13 the 2008 Democratic presidential election, and its  
14 involvement with recall efforts aimed at Republican  
15 officials in no way indicates that consultants will provide  
16 redistricting maps that are based on impartial and  
17 nonpartisan decisions.

18           I have little confidence that all voters will  
19 receive equal representation.

20           I am pleased that our Attorney General Tom Horne  
21 has authorized his office to conduct an investigation and to  
22 report on procedural practices of the Commission. And I  
23 hope the outcome will benefit all voters in Arizona,  
24 Democrats, Republicans, and Independents alike.

25           Thank you.

1 (Applause.)

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Dwight Amery, representing  
4 self.

5 You'll have to tell us where you're from.

6 DWIGHT AMERY: Thank you. My name is Dwight  
7 Amery, D-W-I-G-H-T, A-M-E-R-Y.

8 I live a couple miles south in west Phoenix.

9 Thank you for sticking around. I had to cut out  
10 at 8:00. I had a two and a half hour school board meeting  
11 before this. Great, I get down there and I'm last in line.

12 And everybody tonight talked about protecting  
13 their communities and everything, yet Rich Miranda put up a  
14 map that cut Maryvale in half right down Thomas Road.  
15 Two miles of Maryvale in one district and two miles in  
16 Maryvale in the other district. And split it right by down  
17 the middle. Thomas Road bisects Maryvale.

18 I'm president of Maryvale revitalization and also  
19 chair of the Maryvale village planning committee. It's as  
20 well known of a community as Ahwatukee or any of the other  
21 areas around the village of Maryvale, and I would like to  
22 keep Maryvale as one entity.

23 The people of Maryvale all work together.

24 The city did us so good. They split Maryvale  
25 three ways for the city council.

1           So it's like my office is within 200 yards of  
2 three different city council districts.

3           So, please, legislatively keep Maryvale as one  
4 whole. It's very compact as people talk about that. It's  
5 like four miles north to south and about eight miles east to  
6 west.

7           And there's over 200,000 residents, but almost  
8 half of them are under 20.

9           The other part on -- and the young lady that was  
10 going to law school really covered the congressional  
11 district very well, with trying to piece those massive land  
12 pieces together, with Glendale, Maryvale, south Phoenix, all  
13 sticking together in CD 4.

14           But, please, keep Maryvale as its own entity and  
15 its own district.

16           Don't start slicing it all up. If you cut it in  
17 half, as people have talked, you're taking whoever is  
18 representing the area is representing a majority of  
19 somewhere else and where that sliver was added on.

20           Thank you.

21           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

22           Our next speaker is Larry Templeton, representing  
23 self.

24           You can tell us where you're from.

25           LARRY TEMPLETON: Hello. Thank you very much for

1 letting me speak.

2 Larry Templeton, L-A-R-R-Y, T-E-M-P-L-E-T-O-N,  
3 from Surprise.

4 In 2004 I was one of the probably large number of  
5 people that was moving in here, and I picked the area I  
6 wanted to live in.

7 I wanted to live in Surprise.

8 It's a nice area.

9 I would like for you to consider community as a  
10 big thing whenever you're doing your redistricting, because  
11 that's what we choose when we decide to move and get there.  
12 We pick the community.

13 So make sure you keep that as a priority.

14 Now, second thing.

15 I live in a retirement community. You haven't  
16 seen anybody hardly from the whole northwest valley.

17 Most of the people up there don't drive that well  
18 and don't want to drive after dark. And I would like to  
19 request that you have a redistricting meeting in the  
20 Surprise area.

21 You could service Sun City Festival, Sun City  
22 West, Sun City Grand, the people from Sun City that couldn't  
23 get here.

24 You really need to have it so that everybody can  
25 have an input.

1           And older people pay taxes too, and so we want to  
2 give them a shot at getting out and addressing meetings like  
3 this.

4           They need to be here too.

5           Thank you.

6           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

7           And the last request to speak form is William  
8 Crum, representing self.

9           You can tell us where you're from.

10          WILLIAM CRUM: My name is William, W-I-L-L-I-A-M,  
11 Crum, C-R-U-M.

12          I'm not from one of the major parties, I can tell  
13 you that, because if they've had it their way for many  
14 years.

15          I'm a member of a Arizona Green Party.

16          Though I do not expect you to go out and balance  
17 the field by saying only so many of the party can live here,  
18 I do want something a little bit more fair.

19          I'm basically running as a candidate of CD 2.  
20 What we have out there is roughly 146 Democrats, 210,000  
21 Republicans, and the other is just as big as the Democrats.

22          And I can't read that. I can't tell whether or  
23 not they're Independent or not.

24          So what I would like to see, and I understand this  
25 has been suggested by somebody, is maybe our new district

1 should be on the west side of the state.

2 One which we can include more rural areas and go  
3 all the way down, down as far as you want to go, Yuma. And  
4 the reason being as whoever's representing us now, whoever  
5 he may be, doesn't care of anybody in the rural area.

6 So let's not let the new district be a rural area  
7 congressman.

8 I mean, the problem is -- I mean, who listens?  
9 It's like not listening to your kids. Who cares?

10 Okay.

11 And as an Arizona Green, which basically we only  
12 have 5,000 members in the state, we don't -- we know what  
13 we're going to get when we go in there and run for an  
14 office.

15 But what I would like to see is people around us  
16 saying, well, maybe if we balance it out between the two,  
17 the big two, maybe some of those people will say maybe my  
18 vote will count if I vote for this man.

19 I mean, my first election on the ballot was  
20 basically about they had 300 Greens in my area, and I got  
21 3600. So where did the other 3300 go.

22 I'd like to see truly District 9, I believe it is,  
23 right, go to the west side and take care of the entire  
24 thing.

25 Number two, I'd like to see the Hopis cut off my

1 district.

2 That's ridiculous. That's crazy.

3 How can someone who represents the west side  
4 expect to represent the right as well.

5 Which I do not see.

6 Currently we have over 526,000 voters in my  
7 district. One of the largest people districts in Arizona.

8 I would like that down to about 400.

9 And with that, I want you to know that being the  
10 last speaker, thank you, and have a good night.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you, Mr. Crum.

12 Do you mind stating where you're from, what city  
13 you're from?

14 WILLIAM CRUM: What city I am is presently right  
15 now I'm in Phoenix trying to move to Glendale.

16 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: All right.

17 Thank you.

18 Great. Well, unless there are other request to  
19 speak forms, we've gone through all of them.

20 I see the time is right now 8:31.

21 And I want to thank everyone who is still here for  
22 your patience and listening to each other, because that's  
23 how we all progress is to listen to one another. And it's  
24 impressive how many of you are still here and how many of  
25 you all came out to testify tonight. We really appreciate

1 and.

2 And I'll open it up to my two fellow vice chairs.

3 And, Vice Chair Freeman, do you have any comments  
4 for folks?

5 Catching you right when you're getting a drink.

6 Sorry.

7 VICE CHAIR FREEMAN: I'd just like to say thank  
8 you for the city of Glendale and the people hosting us.  
9 It's really an honor and a privilege to come out here and  
10 meet with you all and serve on this Commission.

11 I think, you know, some would say that we  
12 commissioners represent all 6.5 million Arizonans. In  
13 substance that's right.

14 But we weren't really elected by anyone. None of  
15 you really know who I am. We were appointed to fill a  
16 specific constitutional role.

17 And that is -- and that's the only promise I made  
18 when I was appointed, which was I swore to uphold the  
19 constitution.

20 And not the constitution that as I would like it  
21 to be, but as the constitution actually reads.

22 And that is to provide the people of this state  
23 with an independent, fair, politically balanced  
24 redistricting, and to do it in a way that builds confidence  
25 in the process and hopefully the result as well, and that's

1 what I think we're all trying to do here.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

4 Vice Chair Herrera.

5 VICE CHAIR HERRERA: Thank you all for staying  
6 here this late. And it's -- as a citizen, this is my  
7 favorite part of the meetings. I do enjoy hearing from  
8 people from all sides of the political aisle.

9 One of the things for me, I've been volunteering  
10 for campaigns probably since college, and both Democratic  
11 and Republican.

12 And the reason I volunteered is because I really  
13 felt that for each of the campaigns I volunteered for that  
14 they had a chance of winning, because I felt that, you know,  
15 I'm not wasting my time, that the candidate that I chose to  
16 support had a chance of winning in that district.

17 And that's based upon competition.

18 And I will feel a competition is important. It is  
19 not a subordinate goal. The Supreme Court in Arizona held  
20 on that they -- that that particular goal is just as  
21 important as the other ones.

22 So I, I encourage those of you who support  
23 competition to invite your friends to come to these meetings  
24 and state your opinion about what is important to you. And  
25 especially if competition is important to you, I welcome

1 your comments, because I think if -- without competition,  
2 you know, I think people said it better than I did, there's  
3 not a voice.

4           And we have competition in sports, in business,  
5 and we should have competition in politics.

6           So I, again, thank you for coming and hopefully  
7 will see some of you in Sierra Vista, if not in Phoenix on  
8 Friday. Thanks again.

9           CHAIRPERSON MATHIS: Thank you.

10           Yes, we have another hearing tomorrow evening in  
11 Sierra Vista, and Saturday I know in Tucson.

12           So hopefully, if you're interested, you can tune  
13 in via the webstreaming ability and watch us if you're  
14 curious to here what those folks are saying.

15           So the time now is 8:34 p.m., and this meeting or  
16 hearing is adjourned.

17           Thank you very much for coming.

18           (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.)

19

20

21

\* \* \* \* \*

22

23

24

25

1 STATE OF ARIZONA            )  
  )  
2 COUNTY OF MARICOPA        )        ss.

3

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 105  
7 pages constitute a true and accurate transcript of all  
8 proceedings had upon the taking of said meeting, all done to  
9 the best of my skill and ability.

10                   DATED at Chandler, Arizona, this 26th day of  
11 August, 2011.

12

13

14

---

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

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25