

Written-only Testimony for Thursday, August 12, 2021 in Overland Park

From: Danielle Keller

To: The Joint House and Senate Committees on Redistricting
Re: Fair & Equitable Representation in Kansas

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to supply testimony in support of transparent and fair redistricting.

I am asking that the redistricting process be fair, transparent, and free from partisan gerrymandering.

This committee should only use data provided under federal law by the Census Bureau. No consideration should be placed on the incumbents' places of residence, voter registration, election, or other partisan data, or any demographic data other than that provided under federal law by the Census Bureau for redistricting purposes. Redistricting plans should be presented at statewide public hearings immediately after introduction in bill form and before consideration by the House and Senate.

Without detailed 2020 Census data, I cannot make suggestions about the composition of fair districts at this time. No one, including yourselves, has had an opportunity to see detailed Census results and identify what changes are required to maintain equality of population in our districts. I urge the committee to hold additional town halls after census data is available and Kansans can review that data and offer input. I would encourage that those meetings be accessible, available online, and announced with enough time to foster engagement.

Current Congressional and Legislative maps were created by the courts and should, as possible, be altered as little as necessary to fulfill reapportionment shifts. The Kansas City Metro is currently whole within Kansas' Third congressional district and should remain in a single district as residents have shared interests in representation.

Thank you for considering my position that the redistricting process be fair, transparent, and free from partisan gerrymandering.

Respectfully,

Danielle Keller

10101 Grandview Dr.

Overland Park, KS 66212
402-480-4433
dskeller95@gmail.com