

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

From: Loretta Nemechek

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.

KS I am asking that all changes to District 3 of Kansas be tabled until all of the 2020 Census information becomes available to the public.

I have lived in Johnson County for the past 24 years and consider Wyandotte County and Johnson County to be part of the Kansas City Metro on the Kansas side. Our demographics are similar and the needs of our 2 counties align in many ways. We all want safe neighborhoods, the upkeep of our roads, bridges and infrastructure as we all travel through both of our counties in the Kansas City Metro. I believe that maintaining the existing parameters of the 3rd District as much as possible is in the best interest of our district for fair and responsible representation in Congress.

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.

In summary, I want a transparent process in any changes that are made in my 3rd Congressional District to be made with as few changes as possible based on the actual 2020 Census information when it becomes available and not before.

Respectfully,

Loretta Nemechek

11206 W. 140th Terr
Overland Park, KS 66221
9136383042i
Ltnemechek@gmail.com