

**Oral with Written Testimony for Thursday, August 12, 2021 in Pittsburg**

**From: Dawn McNay**

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 for me to speak to you this morning on creating and maintaining a fair and equitable redistricting process based on data for Kansans.

My name is Dawn McNay, I have lived in Pittsburg since 1993. I am employed by Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas and I am a current Commissioner for the City of Pittsburg. I am not representing these organizations however my remarks reflect my work for and with them. As you know, SEK experiences some of the poorest health outcomes in Kansas. When Covid reached our counties, the potential negative health impact was far greater than some other areas of the State. The healthcare and public health community forged relationships to serve the citizens of our region. Which includes our partner Betha Elliott in Cherokee County and Carolyn Mueller in Montgomery County.

We collaborated, communicated and cooperated. The reality is, what the Governor or Legislature or County Commissioner said about masks, vaccine did not deter us - when someone needed a test or vaccine or transportation or food or mental health services – we all were there and continue to be there.

Collectively, we served/serve in a fair and equitable manner. That is not an unreasonable expectation for the redistricting process. We use data to drive our outreach services – without the 2020 detailed Census data, how can redistricting be assured of fair and equitable results for our region.

Kansas has traditional redistricting guidelines and criteria which for the most part, I believe, with the data applied results can be equitable. Restoring faith in our governmental institutions, of which I am part of at the local level, can only be done with us having a sincere desire for transparency. So, follow-up the Listening tour with accessible opportunities for Kansans to participate after the data is available. I challenge you, to make Kansas a model for other States with a redistricting process that is transparent, uses objective data and encourages meaningful input from the communities you serve.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my remarks.

Respectfully,

Dawn McNay  
807 TWIN LAKES DR  
Pittsburg, Kansas 66762  
620-249-7298  
dawn.mcnay7298@gmail.com