

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

**From: Chris Wagner**

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 write to support maintaining the existing boundaries for the KS-3 congressional district. Johnson and Wyandotte counties are cohesive, and representative of the greater Kansas City metro area.

I've lived in Kansas for nearly 35 years. Raised in Johnson County. Higher ed in Douglas County. I've held employment in Johnson, Douglas, and Shawnee counties. The lines between Johnson and Wyandotte Counties blur together like no two others I can think of in Kansas.

In business, education, transportation, recreation, we move seamlessly back and forth between the two, often multiple times a day. A typical Saturday for me for years involved a haircut in Wyandotte, trip to the gym in KCMO, lunch in Johnson County, evening entertainment in any one of the three. My son made extensive use of soccer fields by The Legends; my daughter dances at a studio in west Shawnee.

For all intents and purposes, Johnson and Wyandotte constitute a single area, irrespective of lines on a map. One experience. Because of that, our current district (and its current representation) just works.

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.

The Third Congressional District does not require drastic change at this time. If Susan Wagle wants to win KS-3, she should do so via the ballot box, by supporting better candidates and better policies - not via back-room conniving.

Respectfully,

Chris Wagner

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