

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

From: Linda Sanchez

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 to keep the state house and senate districts intact, and more importantly keep the third congressional district (JoCo/WyCo) intact. I would also like to request a fair and transparent process in regard to redistricting any communities within our state.

I live in Johnson County but my family frequents restaurants, shopping centers, and other services in Wyandotte County. The county lines are blurred and we are really one community that shares roads, amenities, jobs and healthcare as well as many other services. There is a lot of similarity between our two counties and therefore it's important for us to have the same representation in D.C.

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.

I strongly support leaving the third congressional district intact and request that you prioritize a fair and transparent process in regard to redistricting within our state.

Respectfully,

Linda Sanchez

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