

Written-only Testimony for Friday, August 13, 2021 in Lawrence

From: Michael Campbell

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'm writing because of my concern about how the redistricting process has started.

By only holding public meetings before Census data has been released and only for a single week, the committee is preventing ordinary Kansans from having meaningful input into this fundamental government process. I fear that limiting public input is part of a plan to create gerrymandered districts designed for partisan advantage by unfairly dividing communities of interest. Indeed, powerful career-politicians like two-term Senate President Susan Wagle have already publically-stated that Republicans intend to gerrymander the state in just this way. In order to ensure that all Kansans are fairly represented throughout the redistricting process, I ask the committee to adopt the following:

- Schedule public hearings several weeks after the release of the census data, so people have time to adequately address the new numbers in their testimony
- Prioritize keeping communities of interest together
- Ensure that all district plans submitted to the committee be publically available

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Respectfully,

Michael Campbell

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