

**Private**  
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING

OTHER COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON INDEPENDENT CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

		Attendance	
		Martha	X
		Coleman	X
Date	05/26/2021	Moussa	X
		Diawara	X
Time	02:02:37 PM to 04:01:05 PM	Paula Espinoza	X
		Jason Kelly	X
Place	SCR 354	William Leone	X
		JulieMarie	X
This Meeting was called to order by	Carly Hare	Shepherd	X
		Macklin	X
		Danny Moore	X
This Report was prepared by	Elizabeth Burger	Lori Schell	X
		Simon Tafoya	X
		Elizabeth	X
		Wilkes	X
		Jolie Brawner	X
		Carly Hare	X

X = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent, \* = Present after roll call

Hearing Items	Action Taken
Public Comment	Committee Discussion Only
Discussion of Communities of Interest	Committee Discussion Only

02:03:14 PM

Chair Hare called the meeting to order and reviewed the meeting agenda. Meeting materials can be found here:  
<https://coleg.box.com/s/x5m3hsumdti9an7qjzjqh4zg1d2oxm1k> (<https://coleg.box.com/s/x5m3hsumdti9an7qjzjqh4zg1d2oxm1k>)

### Public Comment - Committee Discussion Only

- 02:04:02 PM Commissioner Brawner introduced the public comment section of the meeting. She explained that the question period for commissioners will be limited to ten minutes.
- 02:04:54 PM Aleks Kajstura, Prison Policy Initiative, discussed the work of her organization with regard to the Census count of incarcerated persons. She discussed the reallocation process, noting that it is unlikely to be perfect. In response to a question from the commission, she asked that the commission support the reallocation process, and that the commission support the staff in the process. She discussed differential privacy and how that affects the reallocation process, noting that the issue of noise imputation has improved over recent months.
- 02:18:25 PM Ms. Kajstura responded to questions from the commission about the issue of reallocating incarcerated persons and census counts of undocumented persons.
- 02:22:37 PM Amanda Gonzalez, Common Cause, spoke in favor of the process of the reallocation of incarcerated persons. She noted that the issue is important for congressional redistricting even though the numbers of incarcerated persons who would be reallocated is relatively small. She explained that the average length of stay in prison is 36 months but redistricting only occurs every 10 years. She stated her belief that counting incarcerated persons in the district where the prison is located unfairly skews the map and results in unequal representation. She responded to questions from the commission about the number of persons who would be reallocated, and the importance of conducting this process at the legislative redistricting level.
- 02:40:47 PM Ms. Gonzalez responded to questions from the commission regarding whether the commission should engage in the process without specific constitutional direction to do so.

### Discussion of Communities of Interest - Committee Discussion Only



- 02:46:06 PM Commissioner Coleman began the discussion regarding communities of interest (COIs). Commissioner Brawner continued by discussing the constitutional definitions of COIs. Commissioner Espinoza commented on the classification of Hispanic as an ethnic indicator rather than a racial indicator.
- 02:57:58 PM Commissioner Coleman continued by discussing the use of public comments to identify COIs, and discussed areas with high tourism as an example. Commissioner Kelly discussed the constitutional hierarchy of redistricting criteria. Commissioner Espinoza discussed critiques of the COI process, including that the term can be criticized for its vagueness and lack of definable standard, and that the identification of a COI may be easily manipulated by political groups including incumbents and political strategists.
- 03:09:14 PM Commissioner Coleman continued by discussing a recommendation that the commission work through two to three comment group areas per week during commission meetings. The subcommittee will present content of what they learned through public comments and maps, and commissioners could share additional information. From there, the commission could begin identifying COIs for the area. She listed the proposed comment group areas.
- 03:15:59 PM Commissioner Leone commented on COIs. Commissioner Wilkes commented on the identification of COIs, and commission discussion regarding how to consider COIs in the redistricting process continued. Commissioner Coleman asked for time to review public comments in commission meetings before the committee conducts public hearings.
- 03:34:21 PM Chair Hare commented on how to organize future commission discussions on COIs, and the commission discussed the issue and the potential need for legal advice. Commissioner Shepherd Macklin commented that the commission should also address competitiveness at future meetings. Commissioner Schell asked if the commission would still be having meetings during the public hearing process, and Jessika Shipley, Independent Redistricting Commissions Staff, responded.
- 03:58:25 PM The committees continued to discuss COIs and agendas for future meetings.
- 04:01:05 PM The committee adjourned.

