

Private
STAFF SUMMARY OF MEETING



OTHER COMMITTEE COMMITTEE ON JOINT INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

Attendance

- Aislinn Kottwitz X
- Amber X
- McReynolds X
- Blanca Uzeta X
- O'Leary X
- Constance X
- Hass X
- Danny Moore X
- Elizabeth X
- Wilkes X
- Gary Horvath X
- Heather Barry X
- Hunter Barnett X
- Jason Kelly X
- John Buckley X
- Jolie Brawner X
- JulieMarie X
- Shepherd X
- Macklin X
- Kevin Fletcher X
- Lori Schell X
- Martha X
- Coleman X
- Moussa X
- Diawara X
- Paula Espinoza X
- Robin E
- Schepper X
- Samuel X
- Greenidge X
- Simon Tafoya X
- William Leone E
- Carlos Perez X
- Carly Hare E

Date 08/20/2021

Time 07:05:32 PM to 10:50:29 PM

Place Pueblo

This Meeting was called to order by
Moussa Diawara

This Report was prepared by
Zach Beaudoin

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

Hearing Items Action Taken

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The chairs gave an introduction and played the introductory video.

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Mrs. Christy Fidura, representing self, testified. Mrs. Fidura testified that she moved to Pueblo for particular reasons. She continued to discuss many of those reasons and why she believes Pueblo County shouldn't be split.

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Mr. Dennis Chappell, representing self, testified. Mr. Chappell testified that Pueblo County should be a full county district. He would also like to expand HD 50 to include Pueblo West with Pueblo and discussed how he would like to alter the districts.

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Mr. Bill Thiebaut, representing self, testified. Mr. Thiebaut presented his map to the commissioners and discussed how he drew his districts.

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Mrs. Breta Ross, representing self, testified. Mrs. Ross testified that she created a map that has a CD along the bottom of the state to cover the interests of the community. She also discussed the challenges that the community face.

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Frances A Koncilija, representing self, testified. Ms. Koncilija testified that the southern congressional district should be focused on the watershed and pay attention to the communities of interest.

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Mark Gaber, representing League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) & Colorado League of United Latin American Citizens (Colorado LULAC), testified. Mr. Gaber testified that he believes that preliminary maps and staff memos didn't account for the potential diluting of minority opportunity districts and discussed the associated legal decisions.

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Dr. Velma Campbell, representing self, testified. Dr. Campbell testified that she would like Pueblo County to be as complete as possible and would like to create a southern district. She discussed how she believes the district should be constructed.

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Dr. Andrew Therriault, representing National Democratic Redistricting Committee, testified. Dr. Therriault testified that the congressional commission is not evaluating competitiveness properly and continued to give examples of why. He continued to discuss the legislative maps and his approach to competitiveness.

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Mr. Carlyle Currier, representing Colorado Farm Bureau, testified. Mr. Currier testified about the maps that the Colorado Farm Bureau presented and the reasoning for their changes.

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Mr. James Henderson, representing self, testified. Mr. Henderson said that he likes CD4 and how it represents his rural communities. He is also against a southern district.

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William Redmond-Palmer, representing self, testified. Mr. Redmond-Palmer testified that he'd like to see a Pueblo and southern Colorado congressional district. He believes they should be represented as a whole in congress.

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James Eklund, representing self, testified. Mr. Eklund testified on water issues and agreements, and asked that water issues be considered.

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Alvin Rivera, representing self, testified. Mr. Rivera testified that the areassouth of Pueblo don't have much congressional representation and that there has been little growth, so the area deserves different districts.

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Angela Giron, representing self, testified. Ms. Giron testified that a southern district would finally give Pueblo County's community of interest a voice. She went on to give the history and some considerations for the district.

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Steve Nawrocki, representing self, testified. Mr. Nawrocki testified that by creating a southern district the map can help give the rural areas and Pueblo the representation they've lost out on in the current map.

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Yesenia Beascochea, representing self, testified. Ms. Beascochea testified that as a Mexican immigrant, she believes they are very important in Pueblo and many other parts of the state. Yet, they aren't given much representation in rural areas and she feels there is a deep poverty barrier that restricts immigrants in rural from vital resources.

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Barbara Clementi, representing self, testified. Ms. Clementi testified that she supports the creation of a southern district due to economic disadvantages and shared interests in this part of the state.

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Mr. John Singletary, representing self, testified. Mr. Singletary testified that the Arkansas River provides water to the south eastern part of Colorado. He would like to see more attention paid to water and rural areas.

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Ms. Cassidy Hall , representing self, testified. Ms. Hall testified about the community of Pueblo and stated that she would like to keep Pueblo whole in a district.

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Bill Martinez, representing self, testified. Mr. Martinez testified that the southern district will help veterans get more representation and can empower their community of interest.

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Ms. Carole Partin, representing self, testified. Ms. Partin testified that she prefers the southern water basin map, but also likes the preliminary maps overall.

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Ms. Shaye Donohue, representing self, testified. Ms. Donohue testified that southern Colorado needs to be united in order to fight for their water interests. She also said that there are many communities of interest that need to be represented.

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Mr. Thomas McKenna, representing self, testified. Mr. McKenna testified that if you take Pueblo, El Paso, and Las Animas Counties they have more population than other parts of the state. He believes they should be represented together to represent the cultural and historical interests.

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Mr. Leland Swenson, representing self, testified. Mr. Swenson testified that he is concerned about rural areas, and farmers don't feel like their interests are being represented. He believes a strong voice is needed in congress for rural areas.

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John Freeburg, representing self, testified. Mr. Freeburg testified that he would like Pueblo to be in more heterogeneous districts and doesn't believe the preliminary maps make sense for the Pueblo community.

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Nick Hinrichsen, representing self, testified. Mr. Hinrichsen testified that he endorses the Colorado Southern Water Basin plan. He went on to further discuss the issues faced by the communities in the southeast.

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Mr. Francis Thompson, representing self, testified. Mr. Thompson testified that he is against a southern district because it separates communities, and that he would like to Pueblo County as one state senate district.

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Representative Donald Valdez, representing self, testified. Representative Valdez thanked the commission and asked for representation for all.

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Richelle Brown, representing self, testified. Ms. Brown testified about her experience in Pueblo as a medical professional and about the southern district.

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Sherry Dolce, representing self, testified. Ms. Dolce testified that the current maps don't give Pueblo and the southern part of Colorado representation and that the southern district would help.

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Augustine Garcia, representing self, testified. Mr. Garcia said there is a terrible disparity in the community and there are disparate interests between some areas.

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Rita Gonzalez, representing self, testified. Ms. Gonzalez testified about water issues and poor road conditions in the southern part of the state.

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Jayde Van Cleave, representing self, testified. Mr. Van Cleave testified that farmers and ranchers rely on each other and are a community of interest. He discussed some considerations farmers have when it comes to selling their products.

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Sara Blackhurst, representing Club 20 and Pro 15, testified. Ms. Blackhurst testified that these groups have been following the equal population directive and gave their group's opinion on competitiveness, population equality, and other issues.

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Raymond Crow, representing self, testified. Mr. Crow testified that he supports the southern Colorado River Basin map. He said the he would like the district to go to the western border due to all of the connections the communities have along of the Colorado border.

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10:50:29 PM The committee adjourned.

