

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY RECEIVED DURING FIRST ROUND OF PUBLIC MEETINGS REGARDING CONGRESS

The witness's testimony is organized by date and venue followed by the name of the witness with the time stamp in parenthesis indicating when the witness began testifying.

August 2, 2021 Santa Fe Capitol, Santa Fe

Roger Taylor (1:11:30) Galisteo resident in CD3, SD39, HD50. Suggests that the CRC consider different community interests when drawing maps. CD3 and SD39 seem to do this but HD50 has incongruities that should be considered. The Santa Fe County component which includes Eldorado, Galisteo, Lamy, Cerrillos, Madrid, has historical cultural interests, with its population including artists, retirees, who are concerned with arts, culture. Further to Edgewood and other counties you have ranching, agriculture. Although the two areas are concerned about the environment and water, they have different needs. Edgewood is split up between counties which is confusing to voters. Suggests a possibility for improvement of the HD50 is to move Galisteo to the Santa Fe County area.

Loyda Martinez (1:17:32) from Rio Arriba. Citizens moving to Rio Rancho, so wants to increase CD3 to include Rio Rancho so that history from Rio Arriba is maintained. Keep northern cultures together.

Paul Dirdack (1:20:36). Keep the congressional districts with northern and southern boundaries. Do not go longitudinal because it would destroy the decades of work to keep communities of interest together. Submitted written testimony on the input portal.

John Block (1:26:20) He is from Alamogordo. Keep communities of interest together. Oil patch should not go up to Espanola. There are differences between the north and the south. There are also local district problems with the current maps. He is in HD51 which is Alamogordo (?) but HD54 which is adjoining extends all the way to Carlsbad and Artesia. He has a proposed map on the public input portal nmredistricting.org. Suggestion is to move Cloudcroft/High Rolls, Weed, Mayhill out of HD54 and place it with Alamogordo. He is satisfied with his Senate District.

Evelyn Vinogradov (1:38:34) Lives in Edgewood. Agrees with witness Roger Taylor about southern Santa Fe County. She does not want Edgewood split

between congressional districts CD1 and CD3, or the house districts HD22 in west Edgewood, and HD 50 in east Edgewood.

August 5, 2021 NMHU, Las Vegas

Gary Martinez (57:55) HD40 Mr. Martinez and several others made the point that the district is divided by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains which makes it difficult to travel and maintain communities of interest throughout the district. Many participants argued that the east side of the Sangre de Cristo range is a very different community than the west side of the mountains. For the HD40 suggests bringing in Raton and Clayton. **For CD suggests combining Union, Colfax, Harding, and Quay.**

Paula Garcia (1:12:30) HD40 Also raised concern about having to drive out of the district to get from Mora to Pecos. NM Acequia Association will likely submit maps, suggests that Guadalupe County has more in common with San Miguel County than does Torrance County. Also suggests bringing Penasco into the district. **Wants CD3 to continue to be a northern district.**

John Morris (1:24:35) Does not like the idea of radical changes for congressional districts, to do so would disrupt political alliances.

Martin Leger (1:30:30). Preserve the Northern Congressional district. Suggests growing the CD3 by reaching into Rio Rancho or even Albuquerque. Agrees with problems with HD40 would like Torrance County be moved to HD70 which could unite folks on the east side of the Sangre de Cristos.

Gilbert and Nancy Quintana (2:52). Live in precinct 3 Holman, NM. **CD3 is a good composite of political, socioeconomic backgrounds, so leave it alone.** Senate District 8 which is Senator Campos's district should be left alone because it combines similar communities of interest. They expressed concerns that HD40 is dominated by Rio Arriba County.

August 7, 2021 Albuquerque (West Mesa High)

Colton Dean (2:05:20) Suggests that Congressional Districts be drawn east to west instead of North South to foster statewide cooperation.

Andrea Serrano (2:46). Lives in South Valley. County services are very different from city services, and downtown is different from the valley. Do not

pack all the county into CD1, too many competing needs and interests. Move South Valley into CD2 something like re-envisioning New Mexico map.

Joe Galant (3:29). First noted that NM elections are secure. Wants ABQ spread out among all three congressional districts.

Sheridan Lord (3:36) CD1 should be framed based on national issues, shift east to pick up Santa Fe, Edgewood, and Moriarty.

Aline Castelan (3:45) Lives in the South Valley. Submitted the Re-envisioning New Mexico map because wants more Hispanic congressional districts.

Julio Chavez (4:08:29) Lives in South Valley. South Valley is still very much a part of Albuquerque. Don't take the South Valley and put it in CD2 keep with CD1 and Albuquerque because it will result in less representation. CD2 is the largest congressional district in the United States. Many dignitaries visit the South Valley when they come to Albuquerque.

August 9, 2021 San Juan Community College, Farmington with satellite in Gallup, UNM

Laurie Weahkee (40:25) San Juan County lost 5% of population. Do not change the districts leave the Native American population alone, they are trying to go solar, and strengthen the infrastructure. Keep a high NAVAP. More Native Americans are becoming engaged in voting.

Rep Rod Montoya (47:39) HD1 is mostly populated with lower income white population. Believes census is wrong because lots of people moving in from California and Colorado, the housing market favors the seller, gross receipts have been up for about a year, and people are moving back home from going to work at the Permian basin. He is against packing rural districts so that urban districts get more representation. Wants Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Las Cruces to have less authority. Urges the CRC to treat rural communities as a Community of Interest. Wants as many competitive districts as possible. **Doesn't want CD3 to be represented by a metropolitan area candidate.** Farmington should move more into HD4. HD9 sparse in population, might want to move it to into 5. HD1 move a little to the East, HD2 can pick up a little from the bottom of HD1, HD9 up into HD4. HD 9, 5, 69 go south to Pueblos toward Isleta. HD65 also awkward.

Don Schreiber (1:35) keep CD3 as is due to its diversity.

Leonard Gorman (1:45). Navajo voter prefers to go to polling places not to convenience centers nor do they like to mail in ballots. McKinley county cooperated to make precincts align as best as possible with chapter boundaries, San Juan still has not decided. He said they are shooting for minimum 64.8% voting age Native American population for each Native American district. He wants to unpack the 70%+ Native American voting age districts. He wants the CRC to respect indigenous plans, when designing statewide plans. Regarding NAVAP must take 20% off the top because they do not register to vote, take 20% more off the top because these are individuals who get confused by election day polling places since they must vote in different locations, one for Navajo elections, the second for state elections. This may be mitigated with adopting as close as possible precincts to chapter boundaries. Take another 20% for those who struggle voting during election day due to weather conditions, road conditions, lack of resources to get to polls, thus 64.8% NAVAP is the floor to give Navajo's a fair opportunity to elect a representative of their choice. Ceiling is 70-73% NAVAP.

August 11, 2021 ENMU, Roswell with Portales satellite

Yolanda Rodriguez (3:13:13) single mom has been in Roswell 20 years. Lives in HD58 just east of HD59. The Hispanics are disenfranchised, do not have job opportunities, fair wages, the census undercounts, and immigrant rights should be important. Wants Hispanic representation in CD2.

August 12, 2021 NMSU, Las Cruces with satellite in Silver City, WNMU

Luis Guerrero (54:00) need racial equity in a congressional plan for the south. Intrigued by Re-envision NM map on the website because gives potential for a Hispanic congressional district.

William Hudson (1:32:28) from Mimbres Valley east of Silver City. Agrees with complaints about HD38 and HD39, need to be more compact. Urges CRC to keep minority districts in the state noting that Hispanic women are underrepresented.

Perla Aguilar (1:35:15) need to make CD2 a majority Hispanic district. Expressed concerns about HD32.

Ariana Arcienga (2:11:03). NM Café advocacy group. Wants a majority Hispanic district and urges CRC to remain flexible when looking at communities of interest. Needs Hispanic districts in House, Senate and Congress.

Andy Payne (2:13:20) of Silver City. CRC does not reflect the diversity of NM and therefore legislature will ignore the CRC recommendations unless the CRC addresses race equity and maintain or increase majority-minority districts. Consider prison gerrymandering which favors rural counties. Cites to Mario Jimenez. Prison population favors Hobbs and Grants because they are not eligible to vote. In grants one district 38% of population are prisoners who cannot vote.

Fred Kennon (2:18:12). Had submitted a map and committee appropriately did not consider it. Supports the re-envisioning NM map on the portal for Congressional districts. People on eastside emphasize ranching, oil and gas. On the west there are not the same concerns. The east side of the State begins with the Oregon Mountains. The philosophies between Dona Ana County and the east side of the mountains are very different. Three or four counties border Mexico, but not Lea and Eddy Counties, which means they have a different experience with immigration than the counties that do border Mexico. The bordering counties also interact with El Paso.

Daniel Sanchez (2:46) with NM Café. Lives in Mesilla park/Tortugas area—Spanish speaking community. CD2 drawn for conservatives not for minority interests. CD2 needs to give minorities a chance to elect a representative of their choice.

Brian Sanderoff (2:49) responds to Member Michael Sanchez question re HVAP in 2010 for Dona Ana County. HVAP in 2010 for CD2 was 46.9%.

Nena Benavidez (2:50:37). Zoom. Grant and Hidalgo County community organizer for NM Café. 53% Hispanic population. Wants CRC to increase majority minority districts including making CD2 a majority minority district. Do not decrease Hispanic or Native American districts.

Sanderoff/Brittany (2:54:30) CD2 HVAP is now 50.8% up from 46.9% ten years ago.

Scott Chandler (2:55:53). Lives in Luna County and Ranches in Sierra County has cattle in Hidalgo and Valencia Counties. Urged CRC not to forget the ranching and farming communities in Hidalgo County. Thinks it would be disastrous to put

representatives from Las Cruces into these other counties because zero in common with ranching and farming communities. Move CD2 more up to Socorro or Catron County for more rural perspective. Go up to Catron Socorro if you need to grow.

Senator Carrie Hamblen (3:14:45). Albuquerque should have its own CD. Do not split Albuquerque between all 3 CDs.

Lee Peters (3:19:15) urges CRC to make the CDs more competitive.

August 14, 2021 IPCC in Albuquerque

Casey Douma (35:10) from Pueblo of Laguna, made a presentation regarding the history of redistricting with specifics about the Voting rights of Native Americans and the Sovereign Nations of New Mexico. Co-Chair of APCG redistricting task force. Recounted the history of disenfranchisement of the Native population. Mr. Douma described the different eras beginning with the Indian Removal Era 1828-1887, the Allotment/Reservation Era 1887-1934, the Assimilation Era 1887-1934, the Indian Reorganization Era, 1934-1945, the Termination Era 1945-1968, and the Self-determination era beginning in 1968. Native Americans were not granted citizenship until 1924 under the Indian Citizens Act. Yet, citizenship did not come with the right to vote. In New Mexico the right for Native Americans to vote did not occur until 1948, and only occurred due to Miguel Trujillo from Isleta Pueblo who sued New Mexico for the right to vote in Trujillo v. Garley. The right to vote for the Navajo population did not occur until 1962 in the case of Montoya v. Bolack. Many Pueblos that once existed are no longer pueblos but the spiritual lands remain important to the Pueblos and they will seek to take such lands into consideration during redistricting.

All 20 Pueblos are working together to propose maps for the Native American population. Native American approach to redistricting requires adherence to principles of self-determination, consultation, and consent.

Issues of concern include 1) Public safety and Justice, 2) education and culture, 3) communications and technology, 4) environment and energy, 5) infrastructure and housing, 6) transportation and roads, 7) Natural resources, land and agriculture, 8) human services and health care 9) economic development and commerce.

Urged the CRC to adopt maps that will be drawn by the Nations and Tribes because the maps will have gone through an extensive process with compromise and they know what is best for their people. Tribes do not speak in language of Democrats v. Republicans, instead they look for candidates who support their

issues and respond to their needs. The goal for the Native Americans is an opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

Arden Kucate Councilman from Zuni (2:28:41). In 2011 Zuni sought to be included in CD 2&3, in SD4 and SD30 and in HD6 based on ancestral lands and their communities of interest which extend beyond the Zuni boundaries and even into neighboring states. Goal is 2021 is the same as their goal was in 2011. Concerns remains about preservation of sacred lands, education reform, natural resources, and healthy lifestyles. Oppose the Arizona Salt River project. Urges the CRC to respect their right of self-determination.

Julie Radosevich (5:11:40) Submitted a Congressional map online. South Valley connects more with Los Lunas, Vegita and Belen than with Tanoan. South Valley should be moved to CD2. South Valley has farming, language and connections to Mexico that define its interests. Spoke about immigrant population in the South Valley, many of which are DACA students. South of I-40 should be the boundary of the South Valley. See HD16 and SD26. Also has prepared maps for HD16 and SD26.

Governor Martin Kowemy from Laguna Pueblo (2:35:15) Laguna was active in the 2011 litigation. Wants the CRC to create as many Native American majority minority districts as possible. Laguna exists in Cibola, Valencia, Sandoval, and Bernalillo counties. Zuni has connections with lands beyond their boundaries, i.e., Mt. Taylor, Chaco Canyon, Zuni Mountains, Magdalena Mountains, Rio San Jose River, Rio Puerco River, and other areas beyond their borders, all of which they consider to be sacred lands. Concerns remain preservation of sacred lands, education, and economic development. Urges the CRC to honor their decision regarding redistricting because it will be based on consensus and consistent with the VRA and redistricting principles.

Brian Vallo (2:47:20) Governor of Acoma reiterates the importance of land to the Tribes. New Mexico at state and federal level have struggled to consult with Native Americans, even when they do so, they are repeatedly asked the same questions, as though their previous input was ignored. The 2011 lawsuit should not have been necessary. Urges CRC to reach out to their experts to understand their thought process if we still have questions about their approach. Wants more balance and equity.

Senator Benny Schendo (2:53:04). Senate District 22. Maintenance of Towa language, which is a unique language, is as important as their historical connection

to sacred places like the Pecos area. Self-determination is important. He has a large district but enjoys representing its people.

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Sheridan Lund (5:31:20) Submitted a map for Congressional districts. Tried to keep CD1 with some rural communities, moved CD3 up on the east side, and move CD2 lower on the west side.

August 15, 2021 Santa Claran, Espanola

Charlotte Madueno (1:26:34) Commission on Status of Women Executive Director. Census undercount occurred because census packets were delivered to post office boxes not to houses. Due to the pandemic the public was not allowed to get packets from Post Office. Urges the CRC to rely on alternative data including Medicaid data when considering population.

Committee discusses Census undercount concerns (1:28:55) Member Curtis (1:42:40) moves to have the CRC request Medicaid data by county from the Human Services Department, seconded by Member Rhatigan. Motion passes unanimously. Committee continued discussing the complexities of identifying alternative reliable data and the need to convert it into precincts within the deadlines imposed on the CRC. Discussion ends 2:10.

Paula Garcia (2:10:25) From Las Vegas, New Mexico Acequia Association. Acequias are a community of interest because of agriculture and water conservation practices. Acequias are predominantly Hispanic, so need to avoid diluting the vote of Hispanics. Recommends that the CRC keep CD3 as is because most acequias are in Northern NM.

Don Bustos (2:25:35) Has an organic farm in Santa Cruz and member of the Acequia Board. Wants traditional New Mexicans to have a voice in the North. CD3 should continue as is in northern New Mexico.

Isaac Dakota Casados (2:31:45) Chair of Native American Democrat Caucus, emphasized self-determination of Native Americans. Regarding Medicaid approximately 186,000 Native Americans were enrolled in Medicaid. Suggests that where stimulus checks were mailed to the Native American population may assist with an accurate count of the population. Amber Carrillo (2:37:20) explains that Medicaid number for 2020 is 134,737 on Medicaid, 13% increase in MCO, and 5% increase in fee for service. Ms. Carrillo also noted that Native American's are concerned about educational issues as evidenced by the Yazzie lawsuit.

Recess (2:47:30) Chair Chávez contacted Secretary Scrase during the break in the meeting and conferenced in Robert Rhadigan to request Medicaid data.

Rhadigan (3:05:35) explains conversation with Secretary Scrase and the Secretary's assurance to cooperate in getting Medicaid data to Mr. Rhatigan.