

Citizen Redistricting Committee  
New Mexico Bar Association Center  
5121 Masthead St. NE 2nd Floor  
Albuquerque, NM 87109



Hon. Edward L. Chávez, Chair  
Ryan Cangioli  
Hon. Lisa Curtis  
Robert Rhatigan  
Joaquin Sanchez  
Hon. Michael Sanchez  
Christopher Saucedo

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## CITIZEN REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

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Meeting Minutes of August 12, 2021 | 3:00PM-7:00PM

New Mexico State University  
Las Cruces

[View Recording Here](#)

**[SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY COMMITTEE]**

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chávez. The roll was called; the following Committee Members were present. The Chair introduced visiting officials present. The chair and members briefly gave biographies and appointments upon affirming that they were present.

HON. EDWARD L. CHÁVEZ, CHAIR  
RYAN CANGIOLSI, MEMBER present  
HON. LISA CURTIS, MEMBER present  
ROBERT RHATIGAN, MEMBER present  
JOAQUIN SANCHEZ, MEMBER not present  
HON. MICHAEL SANCHEZ, MEMBER present  
CHRISTOPHER SAUCEDO, MEMBER present

### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Chávez sought a motion to approve the agenda. Committee Member Cangioli moved to approve the agenda; Committee Member Saucedo seconded. Hearing no discussion, Chair Chávez conducted a vote. All Committee Members voted in the affirmative, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

### 2. OPENING REMARKS ON CRC'S WORK AND MISSION

Chair Chávez made comments on the Committee's work and direction. He explained that this meeting has a satellite site in Silver City at the Western New Mexico University, watching the meeting and able to speak during public comment.

### 3. REDISTRICTING 101

Mr. Brian Sanderoff, of Research & Polling ("R&P"), gave a brief presentation on the recently

released census data and the criteria the Committee must consider in its development of maps.

4. **COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY** (tags are bolded, time shown is elapsed, and full comments are available in Zoom recording linked on first page.)

- John Heaton, Representative, **CRC should focus on economic communities of interest.** Favors **changing district boundaries to provide for a state senator that represents the economic communities of interest in Eddy County.** (00:43:43)
- Luis Guerrero, concerns **congressional districts,** favors **re-envisioning New Mexico map.** (00:52:00)
- Linda Pafford, Silver City, both house and senate have **split districts, favors contiguous and compact districts for city, local representation, believes last redistricting was gerrymandered.** (1:01:52)
- Tiffany Rivera represents agricultural businesses, requests fair representation for **agricultural community of interest, rural communities do not have an adequate voice in state legislature.** (1:14:09)
- Uriel Rosales, town of **Chapparral is split between two senate districts** (31 and 34) **Carlsbad and Chapparral have very different interests,** recent problem of flooding, wants **representation that is focused on addressing climate change,** no common community to solve problem. (1:20:00)
- William Hudson, from valley east of Silver City, **state house districts 38 and 39 should be redrawn to provide for greater compactness.** In favor of **maintaining minority districts** such as those that make it possible for Native American, Latino, and Hispanic communities to elect candidates that represent them. (1:32:28)
- Perla Aguilar, **Hispanic and Latino communities of interest in Las Cruces area.** (1:35:00)
- Representative Luis Terraza, District 39, Silver City, size, and diversity of districts is representative of New Mexico as a whole, **disfavors changing district boundaries.**
- Senator Crystal Diamond, District 35, Community of Vernon is disconnected from its house representative, **rural communities of interest need more representation,** (2:04:47)
- Ariana Arcienega, Hispanic and Latino communities of interest in Las Cruces, NM need representation. (2:10:30)
- Andy Payne, Silver City, **voting rights equity,** encourages CRC to pay attention to, protect, and increase districts for **minority communities of interest,** counting prisons

skews representation away from rural urban communities and towards rural communities. (2:12:053)

- **Mario Jimenez** with Common Cause is concerned about prison gerrymandering.
  - Fred Kennon, Dona Ana, (submitted map not considered for population inconsistencies), supports **re-envisioning New Mexico map for Congressional Districts**. (2:18:12)
  - Frances Williams, retired, State Ethics Commission, Las Cruces resident 68 years. **Wants legislature to follow Committee's recommendation**. (2:31:56)
  - Daniel Sanchez, concern that Latinos have no representation in his district, **boundaries need to be changed to give minority communities of interest better representation**. (2:45:32)
  - Nena Benavidez, community organizer in Hidalgo County, **Congressional Distric 2 is a Hispanic majority district but does not have Hispanic representation, to not split up the Hispanic and Native districts**. (2:50:07)
  - Scott Chandler, rural rancher, senate district 38, encourages CRC to focus on economic communities of interest, state needs to help the south, need to **district to reflect the people of New Mexico, like rural representation**. (2:55:24)
  - Senator Carrie Hamblen, District 38, disfavors redrawing **congressional maps** in such a way that would allow for Albuquerque to be split into more than one district, **minority communities of interest** are the majority of the state, favors paying legislators. (3:14:40)
  - Lee Peters, attorney, Las Cruces, **congressional districts** should be more politically competitive. (3:18:30).
  - James Povijua, **Native Americans need districts conducive to their self-determination and ability to elect Native American candidates of their choosing**. (3:25:00)
5. **COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIONS TO RESEARCH & POLLING REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL PLANS.**  
No new maps.
  6. **COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIONS TO RESEARCH & POLLING REGARDING STATE SENATE PLANS.**  
No new maps.
  7. **COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIONS TO RESEARCH &**

**POLLING REGARDING STATE HOUSE PLANS.**

No new maps.

**8. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION AND DIRECTIONS TO RESEARCH & POLLING FOR THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION (“PEC”) PLANS.**

No new maps.

**9. ADJOURNMENT.**

Chair Chávez sought a motion to adjourn. Committee Member Michael Sanchez moved to adjourn; Committee Member Christopher Saucedo seconded. Hearing no discussion Chair Chávez conducted a vote. All Committee Members voted in the affirmative, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**[SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY  
COMMITTEE]**