

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY RECEIVED DURING
SECOND ROUND OF PUBLIC MEETINGS REGARDING PUBLIC
EDUCATION COMMISSION

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. You will have to access the recording at nmredistricting.org and move the dial to the time stamp – this is not a link

September 28, 2021 Sandoval County Commission Government Administration Building D, Bernalillo, NM 87004

Chair (2:24:23) Chair identifies PEC map drawn by Maureen Skowran p4983. Has low deviations and compact, needs adjustments to make sure there are minority/majority districts. Cannot tell about incumbent pairing. Moves the map be added as a concept for PEC. Seconded by Member Curtis and passed unanimously.

Richard Mason (2:26:20) With the League of Women Voters and wondered if anyone has done an overlay of the districts in the PEC concepts that shows charter schools. The answer is no. Recommends that such an overlay would be useful.

Maureen Skowran (2:27:40) Raises question about which one of her maps was moved forward for the PEC. Resolved that p4983 was the correct map.

September 29, 2021 Navajo Technical University, Crownpoint NM
(The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

CONGRESSIONAL CONCEPTS (0:38:30), STATE SENATE CONCEPTS (0:46:30), STATE HOUSE CONCEPTS (0:53:00), PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION (1:05:00)

All comments related generally to all maps.

Patti Williams (01:24:00), consultant with Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission (NHRC), attorney and litigator of voting issues. NHRC is part of redistricting working group. Principles provided in handout [appendix/materials?]. Principles: **self-determination; no retrogression, tribal entities are protected minorities.** Redistricting is important to comply with **federal and state voting**

rights law. (01:06:00) Discussion with Ms. Williams and Chair Chávez and Members on the **deviation standard, packing and the CRC act.**

Lauren Bernally with M.C. Balwin (02:25:00), presented LUCA, Local Updated Census Addressing, aerial topography pictures of housing units on Navajo reservation showing activity but overlays of census showed zero persons in residence, and spoke about **census undercounting** issues that were 4.9% in 2010 as admitted by the Census Bureau, and believed a similar undercount occurred in 2020.

Genevieve Jackson (02:45:00), McKinley County Commissioner, experience visiting homes on Navajo Reservation, said residents did not want to interact and did not want to be registered by census workers from distrust of government and fear of COVID during the pandemic, causing **census undercounting**.

Eli Cuna (02:53:00), Center for Civic Policy, presented social justice attributes of House **concept map E #541342 (supports)** submitted by the Center and moved forward by the CRC.

John Wertheim (03:00:00), complaint about **soft standards** discussed in reference to Navajo voting standards and redistricting, compared with **‘constitutional’ standards**. Disagrees that public should have to show exceptional circumstances to exceed + or – 5% deviations.

Daniel Tso (03:15:30), Chairman, Navajo, first appointed by Pres. Peter MacDonald. Worked to increase Navajo voter turnout. Navajo voter should **equal vote** by someone in Albuquerque.

Joseph Hernandez (03:34:00), Navajo, family Hogan east Chaco canyon, trained district representatives. Concerned with **population inadequate measures**.

Chloe Jake (03:41:30), lives in New Mexico, member of Oklahoma tribe, **concerned with senate districts**. Submitted plans.

Charlotte Little (03:45:00), worked in health with Native American organizations to ensure an accurate census, but pandemic prevented an accurate count. At end response rate was low. **Must take undercount into consideration**.

Ahtza Chávez (03:45:00), Navajo, Director for education project and a Native American redistricting coalition, concerned that discrimination keeps Native

Americans from voting. Worked on census but believes the Navajo Nation undercounted. Acknowledged that undercount likely means that the Native American Voting Age Population is in reality higher than reflected in the Census. **(03:49:30)**

Joseph Little (04:14:00), Mescalero Apache, attorney spoke about self-determination, communities of interest, and his **concern with the voting system**.

Leonard Gorman (04:22:00), Navajo Human Rights Commission Director, all here at the meeting who testified are concerned with the **ability to cast a ballot**. Presented a chart showing 20% never vote, 20% are confused about voting, 20% have issues e.g. transportation to the polling place and don't trust mail, only 35-40% vote. Presented aerial topographic displays of how residences show **people living there but not fully counted**. Presented maps from the Navajo Nation which are posted on nmredistricting.org under his name.

Sonlatsa Jim Martin (05:04:30), Navajo, **supports maps presented by the NHRC**, was an enumerator for Census and saw problems with count, also was a voter registrar, and saw difficulties faced by Navajos in voting.

October 1, 2021 National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM
(The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

October 2, 2021 New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM
(The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

October 4, 2021 New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
(The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

October 5, 2021 Roswell Museum and Art Center Bassett Auditorium, Roswell NM (The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

October 7, 2021 Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM (The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

October 8, 2021 San Juan Community College, Farmington NM (The CRC is grateful to Michael Kiley, SEC Staff member for preparing the following summaries with time stamps)

Leonard Gorman (04:45:00) comments in support of Navajo map for Public Education Commission. Creates a 55% NAVAP district.

Aleta “Tweety” Paisano Suazo (04:50:00) lives in Albuquerque says is Native American, personal comments, importance of voting, thanks Committee for advancing Native American maps.