

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY RECEIVED DURING
SECOND ROUND OF PUBLIC MEETINGS REGARDING SENATE

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

Jerry Schalow (48:28) Regarding Senate districts. Map A is the most appropriate for Rio Rancho. Likes keeping the east and west separate due to the need for job creation on the westside. Only change he suggests to Map A is putting all of Rio Rancho into District 10 by taking Rio Rancho portion in HD9 out, shift 40 north. Rio Rancho should have two full Senate districts. Map p4967 2 Senators for Rio Rancho was discussed. Chair noted that the proposed map would reduce Senate District 30-a Native American influence district from +30% NAVAP to 2% and asked Research & Polling if maintaining two Rio Rancho districts could be accomplished while also keeping SD30 as an influence district with a NAVAP above 30%.

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 comments regarding senate districts.

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)

SENATE CONCEPTS (01:52:00)

Paula Garcia (01:59:00) interested in compactness of district 39.

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)

SENATE CONCEPTS (01:03:30)

Julie Radosovich (1:13:44) asked if Pueblo maps would be advanced for public comment before Saturday meeting at IPCC.

Uriel Rosales (01:18:30) concerned with southern tip around Anthony, Chaparal presented CCP map 58332 district 31 which would create to Senate districts for Sunland Park

Steve Gross (01:23:30) concerned with district 36, representation would like unifying southern Las Cruces in district 36

Daisy Maldonado (01:26:30) supports CCP map 58332 because population is growing exponentially. Santa Teresa is a recognized Colonia, and need to include Las Cruces because it is similar to Sunland Park.

Matthew Runnels (01:32:30) Silver City district 28, does not like map A because too big but B and C are better.

Maria Burciaga supports map 58332 **(01:34:30)**

Ramona Urbina supports map 58332 **(01:35:00)**

Perla Aquilar supports map 58332 **(01:39:00)**

Maribel Vasquez supports map 58332 **(01:39:00)**

Link Leavely (01:41:00) concerned with representation prefers map C

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)*

SENATE CONCEPTS (01:27:00)

Frank Sanchez (01:37:20) spoke in favor of Concept C because it maintains court drawn districts, SD32 and SD41, keeps neighborhoods intact, and enhances the opportunity for Hispanics to elect a representative of their choice given that Roswell is now 56% Hispanic.

Senator Timothy Jennings (01:42:00) believes Hobbs and Carlsbad should have their own senators, wouldn't mix Artesia with Carlsbad, Artesia and Roswell can share a senator. Take care of the boot heel by keeping all of Chaves County together.

Kathy Elliot (01:48:00) had a question regarding population changes and boundaries.

Representative Nibert (01:53:30) Keep the boot heel of Chaves County in SD 32 or 33. Mescalero has more in common with Alamogordo than with Roswell.

Representative Candy Ezzell (01:55:00) supports maintaining districts in farming areas and agrees that precinct 104 must remain with Chaves County districts.

October 7, 2021 Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM

Keegan King (02:33:45) presents senate districts in northwest map #48339 districts 1,2,3,4,22 & 30. Discusses large deviations with CRC and acknowledges they can create higher NAVAPs but at the expense of communities of interest.

Casey Douma (02:47:00) issue of Native American representation for thirty years and discusses VRA issues and information that supports the conclusion that they are entitled to VRA protection, including history of past discrimination. Refers to Dr. Ingstrom who presented a racial polarization analysis during 2011 litigation. Offered election cycles for a racial polarizing analysis. Races in 2012 SD30, 2014 in HD65, 69 and 4, 2020 SD22 and SD30.

Austin Weahkee (3:30:40) Discusses fact that NA population have only participated in elections for thirty years. Additionally mentions undercount.

Regis Pecos (03:37:50) 16 years in state government, reviewed history of Native American voting and gave several examples of the importance of Native American representation.

Khloe Jake (04:03:45) Pueblo of Laguna decedent, and member of the IPCG Redistricting Committee. Discusses the importance of protecting sacred sites. Petroglyph west side of Albuquerque but still significant to Pueblo peoples. Has worked hard to educate the Native population about the importance of voting. Concerned with extraction industry.

Pablo Padilla, Jr. (04:09:50) General Counsel for Santo Domingo Pueblo, speaking for Governor of the Pueblo, Pueblo wishes to remain in Senate District 22 and House 55 district or in the revised districts as mapped by the CCP.

Amber Carrillo (04:12:35) adds to totality of circumstances given the socioeconomic issues facing tribal folks. Also discussed difficulties for Native Americans to vote, including difficulties in receiving timely absentee ballots, part of which is due to lack of conforming addresses. Language barriers also exist. There is a resource factor with elections, it is not just the quality of a candidate. Discussed data indicating poverty to demonstrate totality of circumstances that require voting districts that comply with the VRA.

Charlotte Little (04:22:40) discussed an article in the Journal of Pediatrics just released, regarding the loss by children of parents, grandparents, and primary caretakers to covid. Emphasized the difficult conditions of tribal communities during pandemic particularly since field workers were not allowed into Pueblos. Only Pueblo residents could enter Pueblos.

Ahtza Chávez (04:29:00) Native Education Project. Lack of internet access, roads, transitioning to urban areas, online internet strategy for census counts, lack of cell phones, shut down of field operations, confusion with the 12- digit identifier, lack of broadband resulted in an undercount of tribal communities by 2020 census. Only had a 17.9% response rate.

Julie Radoslovich (04:36:00) Principal of South Valley Academy. Cares about community and urges the legislators to follow the CRC process. Compelling testimony throughout the process, understands sacred lands, self-determination, South Valley, and other groups asked for adequate representation. Listened to Black Americans testify that they are still relevant, that Las Vegas wants to protect acequias, the common theme being the need for adequate representation. Do not disenfranchise the people of NM.

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)

SENATE CONCEPTS (02:31:00)

Lori Parra (02:41:00) in Gallup represents the Chamber of Commerce, introduces three maps submitted by Billy Lee with the Chamber of Commerce, these are balanced and best for northwest New Mexico on population and Native American representation.

Leonard Gorman (02:51:00) presented Navajo Plan for senate districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 22 and 30.

Michael Schaff . (03:02:00) in Gallup concerned with district 3, wants all of Gallup in one Senate district.

Austin Weahkee (03:05:00) Native Redistricting Coalition, referred to comments by precincts submitted already.