

**Weiss, Rachel**

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**From:** Al [acarriere@montanasky.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 6:52 PM  
**To:** Redistricting  
**Subject:** Lake County

I live in Polson Mt, Lake County.

Depending on the map, Lake county is chopped into portions of 5-7 districts. It looks like you are cutting up lake county to make other districts whole. How about making Lake county whole? Reduce the number of districts that include portions of Lake County. Three would be a nice number.

Al Carriere

**Weiss, Rachel**

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**From:** Mary Hensleigh [mjhensleigh@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 26, 2012 12:21 PM  
**To:** Redistricting  
**Subject:** Redistricting Comment

I am in favor of the redistricting proposal that would include Whitehall with the Butte-Silver Bow District. I will be unable to attend the meeting on the 27th but will attend the meeting in Helena on the 28th. Change is not a four letter word and I applaud your efforts.

Mary Janacaro Hensleigh  
Mayor Of Whitehall

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I urge you to resist the clear intention of the Democrats to continue the gerrymandering of Montana's legislative boundaries. To go forward with the existing or communities proposal simply ignores the criteria adopted and fails the very system of how representation was intended to operate under our state Constitution. The community proposal in particular is an example of what should never be done, with respect to redistricting, since it's an obvious attempt to use political data and election results.

The map proposals, (urban-rural, subdivision) created by the non-partisan legislative staff complies with the criteria that is consistent with; communities of interest, equalizes the number of people in districts, meets the compactness requirement and avoids the manipulation attempt by partisan politics. These proposals also discontinue the urban control of suburban and rural areas, and the inconsistent application of deviation.

Thank for your efforts and listening to we the people of Montana. To have a map that favors the Democratic party and their political purpose and agenda is not in the best interests of all Montanans.

Sincerely,

Keith Kubista  
528 Redtail Hawk Lane  
Stevensville, MT 59870

[kredtailhawk@gmail.com](mailto:kredtailhawk@gmail.com)

Dear Montana Reapportionment Commission,

Chouteau County is currently split into three different house districts despite being far under the number of people for one House district. We know that a small part in the northeast may have to go to another House district, but we urge the commission to keep the rest of the county whole if at all possible. Our county is our community.

I have heard that the Montana Democratic Party is up to the same old tricks that it did last time when it gerrymandered the best map it could make for their party. I don't see how this is even possible given the fact that using statistics and election data is not part of the Commission's criteria. If it's not already, this practice should be illegal! Please reject maps that use these methods and make the criteria you developed the way you judge plans.

I hope the Commission will truly take into account the public's input into the process.

Sincerely,

Name:

Joan R. Albers

Postal address:

Box 515  
Fort Benton  
MT 59443

email: \_\_\_\_\_

March 12, 2012

380 Hawk Point Lane

Hamilton, MT 59840

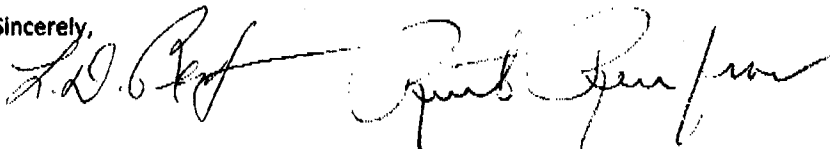
Members of the Restricting Commission:

It has come to our attention that there are currently proposals for new legislative boundaries that have used the election results to draw lines. I ask you, is this the way Montanans work?

Current maps split not only counties.....but cities. These maps are set up to delineate areas where there is a majority of Democratic voters, which gives the Republicans a disadvantage. This has an overtone of dishonesty. I urge you not to adopt maps that would in any way look like the existing ones. There are maps being submitted by local communities, which would have a more forthright approach to drawing the boundaries, and we ask you to review them and give them honest consideration.

Thank you for your time and dedication to making Montana a proud, honest and forthright state; one where we can all say we run a government of which we can be proud.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L.D. & Ruth Renfrew". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

L.D. & Ruth Renfrew

March 11, 2012

Districting & Apportionment Commission  
Legislative Services Division  
PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620

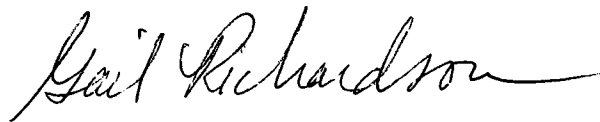
I totally support the Communities Plan for our state re-districting process. This plan not only meets the mandatory criteria, but it reflects the diversity of our state's population and interests and seeks to create fair and competitive districts. This is so important! So much goes into drawing legislative boundaries, so it must be done right for all citizens to ensure full participation. Communities of interests should be kept intact. This plan considers such crucial elements as: urban, suburban, rural and neighborhood interests; trade areas; geography; communications and transportation networks; media marketing; social, cultural and economic interests.

Protection of our constitutional right of one person, one vote is paramount, thus population equality is of utmost importance. Minority voting rights for our American Indian citizens and others must be respected. Things like functional compactness and contiguousness are also necessary components of the successful plan, again to ensure full participation.

There must be fairness and balance in our political and geographic boundaries. Elements like counties, cities, towns and school districts should be kept intact. We Montanans deserve a legislature that reflects our diversity not a re-districting plan that allows for a single party to dominate the legislative process. You owe it to all Montanans to come up with the best plan for all; the Communities Plan is by far the best.

Thanks for considering our input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Richardson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Gail Richardson  
5263 Cimmeron Drive  
Bozeman, MT 59715

March 14<sup>th</sup> 2012  
1726 De Foe Street  
Missoula, Montana  
59802-1915

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission  
P. O. Box 201706  
Helena, Montana  
59620-1706

Last evening I attended the commission meeting being held in Missoula, Montana. I sit through the two and one half hour session. I would like to say it was well conducted. Here are my comments on what I heard and seen at the meeting.

Most of the people speaking had one main concern in giving the dissertations They all wanted to have their one ballot to count as a full representative of their feeling and wishes as to who would be their elective official. This is called governing from the ballot box.

Now it is your responsibility to put this action into operation in the most fair way that it can be set up for the voting public.

I would like to see the new districts set up using the city streets and county roads as the main lines used to arrange these districts. When you vary from this process it begins to make a person wonder why they are not sufficient.

Please use this in your consideration of redistricting our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert L. Auras". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert L. Auras

Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

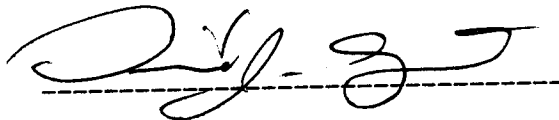
I appreciate how tough the task at hand must be in redrawing district lines in the Legislature, but I don't know why you must have proposals that gerrymander based on how people vote in certain areas. Doesn't that go against the criteria you adopted? Montana shouldn't just follow the bad examples of other states that allow one political party to draw seats that help them in elections. You should reject those kinds of maps.

There are at least a couple of maps on the table that seem to follow your criteria. I think the urban-rural 100 map is a common sense recognition of the differences between cities and rural areas of the state. I think the subdivision 100 map is also a good approach since it seems to keep many counties and towns together when possible.

Allowing the Democratic party to have a map that draws lines to help them is ridiculous. It shouldn't even be under consideration.

Thank you for listening to my comments,

Name:



Address:

107 Stewart Street  
Anaconda MT. 59711

Email Address:

GR+FLMT74@yahoo.com



To the members of the Redistricting Commission,

I understand there are proposals before the commission for new legislative boundaries that used election results as a basis for drawing lines. This may be something that is common in Washington, D.C., New York or California, but it's not the Montana way.

I believe it is impossible to follow the criteria you adopted while also taking into account political data. Relying on statistics about how areas vote lead to many of the problems of the current map: urban domination of suburban and rural areas, unnecessary splitting of counties and cities, and inconsistent application of deviation. Please do not adopt any map that uses such statistics or has any resemblance to the current map.

It appears the commission has at least three good proposals put together by non-partisan staff members (urban-rural, deviation, subdivision). For Dawson county, it makes sense to keep it all together and add neighboring Wibaux County. Combined, the two counties would make a House district within the acceptable deviation range.

Thank you for your work and for listening to regular Montanans. Please stay away from manipulating lines for political purposes and stick to the state constitution.

Yours Truly,

(NAME):

Kenn Black

(ADDRESS):

119 Benet St  
Missoula MT 59801

(EMAIL):

KBlack@a1Quest.com

Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

I appreciate how tough the task at hand must be in redrawing district lines in the Legislature, but I don't know why you must have proposals that gerrymander based on how people vote in certain areas. Doesn't that go against the criteria you adopted? Montana shouldn't just follow the bad examples of other states that allow one political party to draw seats that help them in elections. You should reject those kinds of maps.

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Thank you for listening to my comments,

Name: Richard Champion Edmunds Jr

Address: P.O. Box 17612  
Missoula, MT 59808

Email Address: champ.edmunds@yahoo.com

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Thank you for listening to my comments,

Name:

Elsie A. Nelson

Elsie A. Nelson

Address:

3926 Bellecrest Dr.

Missoula, MT 59801

Email Address:

Geolnelson@aol.com

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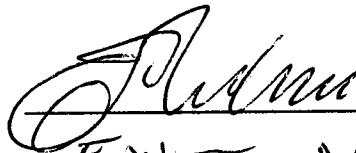
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It appears the commission has at least three good proposals put together by non-partisan staff members (urban-rural, deviation, subdivision). For Dawson county, it makes sense to keep it all together and add neighboring Wibaux County. Combined, the two counties would make a House district within the acceptable deviation range.

Thank you for your work and for listening to regular Montanans. Please stay away from manipulating lines for political purposes and stick to the state constitution.

Yours Truly,

(NAME):

  
\_\_\_\_\_

(ADDRESS):

ERNEST NELSON  
3976 BELLECREST  
MISSOULA, MT. 59801  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(EMAIL):

\_\_\_\_\_ geo@nelson@aol.com \_\_\_\_\_

Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

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Thank you for listening to my comments,

Name:

Charles W. Olinger Jr  
CHARLES W. OLINGER JR

Address:

2436 Wylie  
Missoula MT 59802

Email Address:

colinger@falcommt.com

To the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

I am ardently opposed to the commission using maps that rely on political data and election results in legislative redistricting. This is a shameful practice and it goes against everything in our constitution about transparency and open government. It's almost as if the Montana Democratic party believes it has to rig election results in order to have a shot at controlling the legislature.

In the last redistricting cycle, deviation was used in a way to benefit Democrat and urban areas while it hurt Republican and rural areas. Also, the commission totally ignored much of the rest of the criteria in favor of a map that relied on political data to draw legislative lines. This approach should be rejected.

Richland County is just around the perfect size for a House Seat within the 3% deviation. Counties are communities of interest, so we urge you to make things simple by using the county line as the legislative line.

If the commission sticks with the criteria it adopted, I believe you will come up with something that looks a lot more like Montana.

Name:

Linda Frey

Address:

100 Hillview  
Missoula Mt

E-mail:

lfrey@bigsky.net

Members of the Districting and Apportionment Commission,

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Name:

Mark Frey

Address:

100 Adliew  
Missoula Mt 59803

Email Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

To the members of the Redistricting Commission,

I understand there are proposals before the commission for new legislative boundaries that used election results as a basis for drawing lines. This may be something that is common in Washington, D.C., New York or California, but it's not the Montana way.

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It appears the commission has at least three good proposals put together by non-partisan staff members (urban-rural, deviation, subdivision). For Dawson county, it makes sense to keep it all together and add neighboring Wibaux County. Combined, the two counties would make a House district within the acceptable deviation range.

Thank you for your work and for listening to regular Montanans. Please stay away from manipulating lines for political purposes and stick to the state constitution.

Yours Truly,

(NAME):

RAY E. HAWK

(ADDRESS):

4875 HOBLITT LN S  
FLORENCE MT. 59833

(EMAIL):

RHAWK@BRESNAN.NE1



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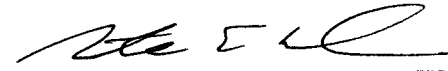
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Yours Truly,

(NAME):

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Niles E Brush

(ADDRESS):

286 Rodgeary Dr  
Lolo, mt 59847  
\_\_\_\_\_

(EMAIL):

niles.brush@umontana.edu

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I strongly urge you to reject maps that use political data and election results in the development of district lines for the legislature. Political parties should not manipulate boundaries to maximize the number of seats they think they can win in elections. That defeats the purpose of redistricting, which is to equalize the number of people in districts, protect minority voting rights, following existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

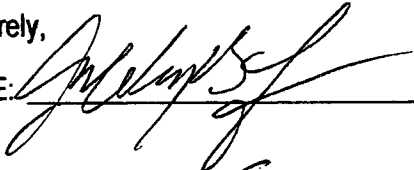
The last map in Montana was developed through a heavy reliance on political data and election results. There is no other way to explain how many communities were divided, other than it served a political purpose for the Montana Democratic Party. The new map should have no resemblance to the current map, because it inconsistently ignores existing political subdivisions, communities of interest, lacks the compactness requirement and all of the other official redistricting criteria.

The commission should use the three maps developed by non-partisan legislative staff as starting points for the new map: the urban-rural, deviation and subdivision maps. The fourth map is just a slightly modified version of the map the Democrats put forward in 2000 using political data and election results. Many local communities are putting forward suggestions for their areas – please pay special attention to those.

Thank you for your work on building consensus throughout this process. We encourage you to reject partisan politics in the redistricting effort.

Sincerely,

NAME:



ADDRESS:

121 Severus Hamilton 59040

EMAIL:

FISCHLIAGER@gmail.com

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Sincerely,

NAME:

*Carmin Mowbray*

ADDRESS:

*Box 1202 Polson MT 59860*  
*38334 Pinewood -*

EMAIL:

*carminemowbray@gmail.com*

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Sincerely,

NAME: Jon BAKER

ADDRESS: 2017 W SUSSEX AVE  
MISSOULA, MT 59801

EMAIL: JONATHAN EDWARD BAKER

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Sincerely,

NAME:

Jarvis Ballance

ADDRESS:

388 Hawk Point Ln  
Hamilton, MT 59840

EMAIL:

nballance@aol.com

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Sincerely,

NAME



ADDRESS:

42470 Solomon Road  
Rona, MT 59864

EMAIL:

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Sincerely,

NAME:



ADDRESS:

429 CURLEW ORCHARD RD.  
VICTOR MT 59875

EMAIL:

GARYMACLAREN@YAHOO.COM

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Sincerely,

NAME:

Mark J. Brady

ADDRESS:

1500 Cote Ln, Missoula, MT 59808

EMAIL:

markbrady@bresnan.net



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Sincerely,

NAME:

Ronald J. Ehli

ADDRESS:

Box 765  
Hamilton, MT 59840

EMAIL:

MTMUTT@MONTANA.COM

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Sincerely,

NAME:

Jr Reed ND 15

ADDRESS:

35506 Terra LK Rd  
Ronah MT 59064

EMAIL:

jrde mob@yahoo.com

Dear Chairman Regnier,

I strongly urge you to reject maps that use political data and election results in the development of district lines for the legislature. Political parties should not manipulate boundaries to maximize the number of seats they think they can win in elections. That defeats the purpose of redistricting, which is to equalize the number of people in districts, protect minority voting rights, following existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

The last map in Montana was developed through a heavy reliance on political data and election results. There is no other way to explain how many communities were divided, other than it served a political purpose for the Montana Democratic Party. The new map should have no resemblance to the current map, because it inconsistently ignores existing political subdivisions, communities of interest, lacks the compactness requirement and all of the other official redistricting criteria.

The commission should use the three maps developed by non-partisan legislative staff as starting points for the new map: the urban-rural, deviation and subdivision maps. The fourth map is just a slightly modified version of the map the Democrats put forward in 2000 using political data and election results. Many local communities are putting forward suggestions for their areas – please pay special attention to those.

Thank you for your work on building consensus throughout this process. We encourage you to reject partisan politics in the redistricting effort.

Sincerely,

NAME: Paul Vankuza

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Missoula, MT 59802

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NAME:

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