# Public Comments: A - E

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission Comments received between midnight on October 29, 2021, and 5 p.m. on November 2, 2021

Distributed electronically November 2, 2021

From: Brad Abell
To: Districting

Cc: "Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov"; "Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov"; "Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov"; "Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov";

"Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov"

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support of Map CP-12 **Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:58:14 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

Thank you for your service to the state of Montana on the districting commission. Your job is important, and I am encouraged by your work to date.

I support Map CP12 because:

I believe map Cp-12 follows the directive of state law MCA 5.5.115(3)

It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district. It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole. It only splits 1 county

It is not based on previous election results but on community boundaries

Thank you for your consideration.

Brad Abell

Flathead County Commissioner District 1

406-758-5506

From: <u>adawn1036@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Sarah Alling</u>

To: <u>joe.lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please Choose Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully

**Date:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:11:28 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hi support map 11

Sincerely, Sarah Alling 2844 Alexis Ave Helena, MT 59601-8655 adawn1036@gmail.com From: <u>David Amati</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana District Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:25:34 AM

I fully support the proposed MAP 11 as the new voting district. I have listened to the Commissioner debate and have read public accounts of the cases brought forth for the different proposals. MAP 11 best creates opportunity for more effectively and equally representing the citizens of the proposed district.

From: Chris Amyes
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:29:38 PM

My support for CP-12 is tepid at best as it is the least objectionable unlawful map. Sadly CP1, the only legal map, was quickly scuttled early in the process.

The benefits of CP12 are as follows:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Amyes
P.O. Box 9828
Kalispell, MT
(406) 890-2457 (I consider this number private. Not for public release)
cjamtPA@pm.me

#### Chris Amyes

Support Hillsdale College: https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://www.hillsdale.edu/\_\_;!!GaaboA!5-mDUZLutQmvjxzsGJIxLT7pOk8aj1wZB5MU1T0IYdwgoLiVAb2rC4ukNcuCiv1EgA\$
Support Judicial Watch: https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://www.judicialwatch.org/\_\_;!!GaaboA!5-mDUZLutQmvjxzsGJIxLT7pOk8aj1wZB5MU1T0IYdwgoLiVAb2rC4ukNcu9J-eeyQ\$

Sent with ProtonMail Secure Email.

From: Diane Anderson
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 10:17:27 AM

It is critically important to respect our Native American tribal nations while preserving county administrative boundaries. For this reason, I support CP12. Keeping district boundaries definable and simple for our tribal and county residents is fundamental, in my opinion.

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Tom A Anderson

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:09:37 AM

From: Tom A Anderson toma@glacierprecast.com

Residence: KALISPELL, MT

## Message:

As a business owner (Glacier Precast Concrete) in Kalispell and an active community member in Flathead County I strongly urge the Commission to not split the Flathead Valley as proposed in CP11. The Flathead Valley is one community and not separate little towns like it shows on a map. The commerce and industry would not be supported by a division like CP11. CP11 will cause more problems than it will solve.

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MDAC

<u>Districting</u>
[EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kevin Andriolo Sunday, October 31, 2021 5:22:12 PM Subject:

Date:

From: Kevin Andriolo kandriolo@msn.com

Residence: Billings MT

#### Message:

The only map that makes sense is the straightest north and south line keeping population equal. This is CP1 which is the least political. Any map moving Kalispell to the East is for pure political benefit (gerrymandering). CP11 is the worst choice possible.

The way counties have voted for either republicans or democrats in the past should not be a part of the decision making process. MT has a history of electing both Democrats or Republicans and thus setting up a congressional district based on political affiliation is a moving target and short sighted. Trust the voters to select the best candidate regardless of party affiliation.

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (https://mtredistricting.gov [mtredistricting.gov] 
<a href="https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://mtredistricting.gov\_:!!GaaboA!4qvwfHLuJh22eR3p13FCxG63P021XYpgGXLkoxlTqAqNmXm\_cTyL2czW1xvM8iaxZA\$>"https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://mtredistricting.gov\_:!!GaaboA!4qvwfHLuJh22eR3p13FCxG63P021XYpgGXLkoxlTqAqNmXm\_cTyL2czW1xvM8iaxZA\$>"https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://urldefense.co

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Terence Alan Apa

**Date:** Sunday, October 31, 2021 12:39:39 PM

From: Terence Alan Apa apa 7064@icloud.com

Residence: Billings, MT

## Message:

Reviewed the latest offering by Republican's in the Gazette – Thank you for actually listening and NOT splitting counties – That the population is a difference of ONE is excellent – the map follows a natural line and is easy to follow. Politics can change, populations will fluctuate – making a map that is simple and easy to follow, does not split counties, and that also makes sense geographically; I feel is the most important thing to get right. –

Just so I am perfectly clear on which map I support: "Commission Republicans have drawn Flathead County in the West and all of Gallatin County. Lewis and Clark County is entirely in the Eastern District, so is Park County. There is a one-person difference between the population of the Western and Eastern Districts."

\_\_

From: <u>c.r.arcenas@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Claire Arcenas</u>

To: <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:52:14 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Dr. Claire Arcenas Missoula, MT 59801 c.r.arcenas@gmail.com From: <u>Virginia Arensberg</u>

To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting map options **Date:** Sunday, October 31, 2021 10:15:40 AM

I support map #11. This map seems to be the most equitable based on the criteria adopted by the Montana Districting and Appointment Commission.

Thank you,

Virginia Arensberg

Missoula, Mt.

Sent from my iPad

From: Shibu Arens

Cc: Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;

<u>Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Urging support for a fair, competitive map

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:17:01 PM

#### Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

Thank you for your service to our state. I wanted to register my support for map proposals that respect competitiveness of a district and keep communities of interest together. Both of these values are key to a fair districting process and ensure that politicians running for election in a district stay in touch with the breadth of views their constituents may hold and the issues most important to the people they represent.

I fear that completely safe seats for a party may lead towards a tyranny of the majority, which so much of our Constitution and the State Constitution as well as our shared norms and values seek to prevent. As commissioners have highlighted, Montana has moved from one of the worst-represented states in Congress to one of the best-represented on a per-capita basis, and it is crucial that this level of representation is not squandered by safe seats that disincentivize compromise, lead to more extreme rather than more measured positions, and unfortunately ensure that a meaningful portion of voters will not have a real chance to elect a candidate of their choice for 10+ years, just by virtue of how the line was drawn.

I also worry about the effects of maps which split communities of interest such as union towns or commuting workers who live outside a city but work in it. Dividing in such a way to achieve an aesthetically pleasing line dilutes the electoral power of those voters, which may cause their views and issues to lose adequate representation.

I applauded when the Commission chose competition as one of the important parts of a fair redistricting process, and I encourage the Commission to follow through and select a fair proposal in which at least one of the districts is competitive. I believe CP 11 or CP 13 best achieve this difficult but vital balance.

Sincerely,

Shibu Arens (406) 396-4882 shibuarensmt@gmail.com Missoula, MT 59802 From: Tom Arvidson

Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov To:

[EXTERNAL] I don"t like map 12 Subject: Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:11:01 PM

Map 12 does not fulfill the requirement for a competitive district. It would pretty much guarantee 2 Republican Representatives for the next 10 yrs.

Tom Arvidson Missoula

From: Dorothy Ashcraft
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:35:25 AM

I support Map CP12. It keeps Flathead County in the Western District (I'm in Lake County) and it only splits one county. NO to CP 11 and 13.

Dorothy Ashcraft dashcraft49@gmail.com 406.250.2714 From: jewelia222@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Julia Augustus

To: <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 1:14:32 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Julia Augustus 2830 S 3rd St W Missoula, MT 59804-1140 jewelia222@hotmail.com From: T Baer

To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.govj; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.govj; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.govd; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.govk;

Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting of Montana

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 2:02:24 PM

My name is Tammi Baer

My address is 626 6th AV SW Ronan Montana 59864

My phone number is 4065298275

My email is <u>honeybeemaria73@gmail.com</u>

I support CP 12. It is not the best since CP 1 is most fair. Just because we share the 406 area code does not mean we share much else. Whitefish belongs in the West. We see how we are being has lit to keep dragging this out. Just because I believe in freedom just like everyone else does not mean I agree on what freedom means to you. My opinion is just as valid just as important and just as true. The difference is I am not trying to get something over on someone else. I dont have unlimited resources to take time off work everytime you decide you want to submit another angle. But if I go broke taking time off to deal with your issue. Then so be it.

Tammi Baer

From: <u>Dolores Bandow</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map 10 please

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:23:00 PM

Please know that we want map 10 Thank you for your efforts to keep free and honest elections. Dolores

Sent from my iPad

From: <u>Lizbeth Barnea</u>
To: <u>Joe Lamson</u>

Subject:[spam]Public Comment for Final MapsDate:Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:28:04 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Lizbeth Barnea and I have lived in Billings at 1104 Poly Drive since 1984.

I support map11 because, as a more competitive district, it better represents the breadth of Montana citizens. Furthermore, splitting the town of Big Sky into two Congressional districts, as map 10 does, is very unfair to the residents of that small community.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Regards, Lizbeth Barnea 1104 Poly Dr Billings, MT 59102 From: michelle barstad

To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting VOTE FOR CP11

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:30:28 AM

PLEASE, PLEASE put Helena in the west district. With all proposals remaining on the table (10, 11,12,13), I vote for CP11 which puts Lewis and Clark County into the Western District.

IT IS MY OPINION that Helena has more in common with western counties, while I believe the Flathead area is more in common with the Eastern counties. I am even comfortable with L&C county being split with zip codes 59601 and 59602 going to the Western District and all other zip codes going to the Eastern District.

While some suggest that the common/political leanings shouldn't count drawing the redistricting line, I disagree. Suppressing and diluting the vote and opinions of a large group (democratic leaning) sends the wrong message to voters. We want MORE inclusion, not less.

With hope for equality, Michelle Barstad MT Voter (both Eastern Miles City) and Western) since 1986

From: Michael Bayuk

Districting; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:38:43 AM Date:

Subject: Fair Maps

Dear Montana Redistricting Commission,

Please vote for the most fair map, CP-11.

Of the two options, it is obviously the best. It divides less than the other option. And it is more competitive, a very necessary element.

Please vote for the map that will allow the largest number of Montanan voices to be heard through their elections. That map is CP - 11.

Thank you for your work on this effort. Michael J. Bayuk Helena, MT

From: John Beck
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] districting

**Date:** Sunday, October 31, 2021 12:26:58 PM

#### Hello,

I am writing to urge this committee to support option number 11 to create competitive districting. If these are formulated to give both districts to one party I believe that hurts the entire state and creates monopoly like state where many people will feel disenphranchised. Politicians need to be willing to earn our votes by articulating plans and policies that work for the common good rather than the privileged few. Especially in a state that for years has been purple and independent. People of Montana need to be able to receive a range of ideas from which to consider. In a time of hyper partisanship my hope is that this committee will be impartial and fair minded.

On a personal note, I have lived in Montana and Wyoming almost all my life and I have lived in Bozeman and worked in Livingston and Bozeman since 2001. I believe this important connection between Livingston and Bozeman is important to me and to the people who live in both locations. I know first-hand this connection through my work in community mental health and hope this can be considered in your districting.

Thank you for your consideration and impartiality.

John Beck

--

John Beck LCPC MA, MEd 1940 West Dickerson Street Suite 205 Bozeman MT 59718 406.581.6415 irbeck11@gmail.com

The contents of this email are confidential.

From: Mikeal Beland

maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; Districting
[EXTERNAL] Map Comments
Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:49:50 PM To: Subject:

Date:

10 - No

11 - Yes

12 - No

13 - Yes

From: gebenasutti@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Grace Benasutti

To: <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 1:04:12 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our communities and for Montana!

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Ms. Grace Benasutti 721 Cleveland St Apt 201 Missoula, MT 59801-3866 gebenasutti@gmail.com From: <u>smbennett312@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>suzanne Bennett</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [spam]Please Choose Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully

**Date:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 9:01:33 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Please choose map #11.

Sincerely, suzanne Bennett 312 N Howie St Helena, MT 59601-6222 smbennett312@gmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Margaret Bentwood

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:45:13 PM

From: Margaret Bentwood mkbentwood@gmail.com

Residence: Helena MT

# Message:

Please choose Map 13. Helena does not belong in the eastern district. We have a community of interests with the western urban areas.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cheri Bergeron

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:52:05 PM

From: Cheri Bergeron cherib6100@gmail.com

Residence: Helena

Message:

I support Map 11.

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From: <u>Calvin Beringer</u>

To: <u>Districting</u>; <u>Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>;

Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:48:46 AM

# Chair Smith and Commissioners,

# I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Finally, as a veteran of over 30 years of law enforcement, I strongly encourage you to follow the law and constitution.

Thank you for your consideration.

Calvin Beringer

406.871.2606

calvinberinger@gmail.com

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carol Bibler Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:02:39 AM

From: Carol Bibler carol@springbrookranch.com

Residence: Kalispell, MT

## Message:

I am writing today to change my support from CP11 to CP10. When I submitted a comment last week I did not realize how negatively CP11 would impact Flathead County. I have since studied the maps and impacts more carefully.

CP10 would separate an important segment of Flathead County, potentially fractionalizing overall efforts to maintain a healthy economy here.

CP12 or CP13 would be acceptable, but CP10 is preferable. Thank you for your efforts.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: D Jerry Bichsel

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 6:37:28 AM

From: D Jerry Bichsel j bichsel@comcast.net

Residence: Reed Point, MT

## Message:

All politicians need to stop representing their own or their party's interests and remember they are in office to represent "We, the people..." "We, the people..." need to hold our elected representatives accountable and even remove them from office, imprison them when they fail to perform in the manner intended. Stop the insanity, wasted time and money of redistricting. Why do politicians make everything they touch so idiotic and complicated? To obfuscate the corruption and greed and fleece the people.

--

From: Sharon Bieker
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map CP12

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:46:36 AM

I'm a strong supporter of Map CP12. It would not be right to put the Flathead county in the eastern district. Please vote for Map CP12. Thank you for your support. Sincerely, Sharon Bieker PO Box 1714 Eureka, MT 59917. (405) 740-9667

From: James Billard
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting Maps

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:03:46 PM

Montana Districting & Apportionment Commission,

I am reaching out regarding the proposed redistricting maps that are currently under consideration by the Commission. Based on the information I have reviewed, I believe that the Commission should select Map 11.

First and foremost, Map 11 is a competitive map. Creating competitive districts is the central purpose of this redistricting effort and Maps 10 and 12 would in effect guarantee victory for one political party for the foreseeable future. Choosing either Map 10 or 12 would constitute a failure to achieve that most basic purpose. Both Map 11 and 13 would be competitive and would achieve the primary goal of redistricting.

Second, Gallatin County is not split in Map 11. I am a resident of Gallatin and it seems nonsensical to divide it given how the county, Bozeman and Belgrade operate together and collectively. They are not distinct areas and instead are part of a larger whole that share many functions, including sewer and water and health services. To divide them would needlessly create artificial political barriers dividing our community.

Given the ultimate end to create a politically competitive map and the interconnectedness of Gallatin County, I urge the Commission to select Map 11. That will achieve the principal goals of the redistricting while keeping the interconnected Gallatin County as one community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards, James Billard From: Crackle Bingham
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map 11

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:54:57 PM

In a state where already there is a heavy influence of corporate funds to adopt Map 10 would further imbalance this state. I strongly urge for the approval of Map 11.

Thank you for your consideration Caroline Bingham

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michele Binkley

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 1:42:48 PM

From: Michele Binkley mbmtgirlygirl@gmail.com

Residence: Hamilton

# Message:

I choose this map, however, this is not the most constitutional map available.

I am not happy with how the commission was structured, nor r way the maps were chosen.

--

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Andy Bixler

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:49:11 PM

From: Andy Bixler ambixler3@gmail.com

Residence: Helena, Montana

#### Message:

I write today to urge the Commission to reject Map CP 12, and to instead choose a map that works for all communities and voices in our state. Montana is built on compromise and cooperation; but years of increasingly Republican rule has challenged that norm, and the nasty, divisive politics we currently enjoy is the predictable result. We need a map that allows both parties to compete, and that gives equal weight to voices from all ends of the spectrum, instead of favoring one party over the other which CP 12 clearly does. Further, I hope you are giving equal weight and listening to folks who cannot attend these meetings in person. It is wildly unfair that a few busloads of Republicans, brought in by a state lawmaker, have played such an enormous part in this process. Not everyone can an entire day off to go testify – we have jobs, children, and responsibilities. Please listen to the chorus of voices calling for moderation, equality, and sanity, and reject CP 12 in favor of a more fair map that represents the interests of all our communities, not just a few busloads of Flathead Republicans who don't speak for us all.

--

From: <u>Erin Blair, Skin Therapy</u>

To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Map CP-12

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:29:43 PM

## Chair Smith and Commissioners,

# I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Erin Blair

545 2nd Ave West, Kalispell MT 59901

406-270-3777

# skintherapystudio@gmail.com

Erin Blair, LE CHC
Acne Specialist + Nutrition Coach
Creator of The Clearly Method
ClearlyBetterSkin.com [clearlybetterskin.com]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary Blake

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:52:31 PM

From: Mary Blake maryb@montanamary.com

Residence: Helena MT

Message:

I strongly prefer map 13 for parity and map 11 is my 2nd choice. Thanks

--

From: Roger Blank
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Districting Map CP12 **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:33:23 AM

#### **Dear Sirs / Madams:**

Please support districting Map version CP12. Reasons why the committee should support it as the new district map:

It keeps all of Flathead County in the Western District, unlike CP11.

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District.

It only splits one county, unlike CP13. Lastly, CP12 is a competitive map that follows all the mandatory criteria.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that Map CP12 be adopted as the new districting borders.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

This e-mail was sent from my iphone as I am currently away from my office. Please excuse any typing and/or spelling errors.

Best regards, Roger Blank 3745 Galloway Street, Apt. E309 Bozeman, MT 59718

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elizabeth Blavatsky

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:34:37 PM

From: Elizabeth Blavatsky liz.blavatsky@gmail.com

Residence: MT

## Message:

I urgently promote map 11 or 13. This is a time for democracy to work and represent the will of the people and not be suppressed by special interest groups

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: LYNNE BOONE

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:21:54 AM

From: LYNNE BOONE lmboone@earthlink.net

Residence: Helena, MT

## Message:

I SUPPORT CP11. I am a 39 year resident of Lewis and Clark County and strongly believe this county belongs in the Western District. Please vote in favor of CP11. Thank you.

--

From: Renelle Braaten
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Unfair districting

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 4:34:59 PM

CP12 Republican Proposal violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party. It clearly does not meet any basic definition of competitiveness that this Commission unanimously adopted as a goal.

This plan intentionally cracks the union vote to separate workers who have banded together for more equitable workplace standards. It slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston which is a vital part of the greater Galaltin regional economy, and their interests will be ignored in District 2. They should be split more logically and ensure real representation for communities divided within a county.

This plan also ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in any Congressional district. Our largest urban areas are equally split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans will never be able to elect a Congress person of their choice.

Sincerely, Renelle Braaten

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: ranrhotan@aol.com

To: **Districting** 

Subject:

[EXTERNAL] Proposal 11 Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:36:25 AM Date:

Voicing my SUPPORT for Proposal 11 please. Support FOR Proposal 11.

Regards

Rhonda M. Bradley

From: Jill Brass
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:32:51 PM

#### Chair Smith and Commissioners,

I support Map CP12 because it keeps flathead county together and in the western district. It keeps Lewis and Clark, flathead and Gallatin counties whole and only splits 1 county! It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the western district, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

Thank you for your time and consideration!



# Jill (Bowen) Brass

#### Broker

P: (406) 253-7369

E: jill@mtrealestateassoc.com

W: jill.mtrealestateassoc.com [jill.montanarealesateassociates.com]

<u>Districting</u>
[EXTERNAL] CP 11 is still the best starting base Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:49:57 PM

By area Flathead County is the second largest in Montana. Gallatin County is 24th largest. Flathead County is nearly twice the area of Gallatin County. Therefore, it makes sense to split Flathead County before splitting Gallatin County.

The population density of Flathead County is half that of Gallatin County. Therefore, it is nonsensical to divide Gallatin County in preference to dividing Flathead County .

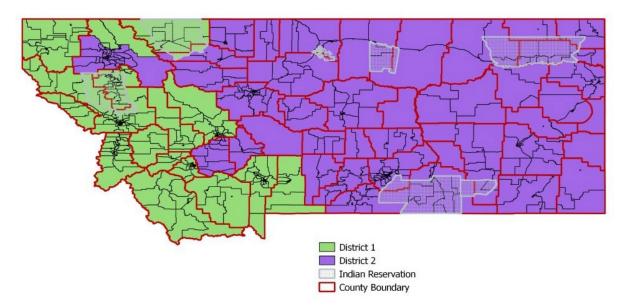
County boundaries in Montana are mostly arbitrary. Counties vary considerable in size and shape. Indian Reservation boundaries do not coincide with county boundaries and cross many of them. Therefore, it will be impossible to create two districts with equal population that does not divide a county

The shape of the resulting districts is irrelevant and need not be esthetically pleasing. The only reason to keep adjacent counties together is to keep local communities in a single sphere of influence together. For that reason Gallatin and Park County should be in the same district and Gallatin County should

The objective of two districts of equal population is unrealistic. Population numbers are always changing and have changed since the census was taken last year. A variation of up to 1% between the populations of each district is acceptable.

Of all the maps presented, CP11 is the best for meeting all redistricting objectives.

Here is a map based on CP11 that includes the whole Flathead and Blackfeet Reservations.



Sincerely,

Noreen Breeding

Bozeman

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Suzanne Bressler

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:03:17 PM

From: Suzanne Bressler sjb.foreverwest@gmail.com

Residence: Billings

Message:

Honorable Commissioners,

I would like to voice my strong support for the redistricting map proposed the the Democratic contingency.

As a former Republican, I am horrified by the actions of the Republican party – not just in Montana but across the nation. For them to accuse the Democrats of gerrymandering is so hypocritical that it is laughable.

I strongly believe that at least one district in Montana should be competitive. Really the whole state and country should be – let the most qualified person prevail. Rather than someone prevailing solely based on party affiliation.

For the first time in my life, I actually fear for the future of our democracy/republic. It seems the Republicans' agenda is not to support truth, honor and our Constitution but to gain power and establish an autocracy.

Please be wise and thoughtful in your decision.

Thank you for your time.

Suzanne Bressler

Billings

--

From: <u>joe.bretz917@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Joe Bretz</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [spam]Deciding on Montana"s Congressional Map **Date:** Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:26:29 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I have been a Montana resident for 27 years and a Bozeman resident for 9 years.

The final two districting options both account for the vastly different economies of the eastern and western sides of the state, which I was very pleased to see.

However, to make a final decision between the two, it appears to come down to splitting Flathead or Gallatin county.

The split of Gallatin county appears more severe by separating Bozeman from Big Sky and Bridger canyon, especially given the strong growth in Gallatin county. In contrast, there is no major town in the section of Flathead county split by the districting line where growth is much slower comparatively.

For these reasons I urge the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission to select Commission Proposal

Sincerely, Joe Bretz 109 Paisley Ct Apt B Bozeman, MT 59715-7313 joe.bretz917@gmail.com From: Virgle Brite
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:39:35 AM

I prefer CP-1. But if I have to accept a map that is not lawful I would choose CP-12. A question was asked by a member of the commission on the 30th, why would CP-12 not be lawful. As outlined in MCA 5-1-115 (3) A district may not be drawn for the purposes of favoring a political party or an incumbent legislator or member of congress. The following data or information may not be considered in the development of a plan: (a) addresses of incumbent legislators or members of congress; (b) political affiliations of registered voters; (c) partisan political voter lists; or (d) previous election results, unless required as a remedy by a court. So, the question I would ask was any map drawn with any of these political views in mind? If so, then their lawfulness is in question.

Sincerely, Virgle Brite

From: John Brock

To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Map 11

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:15:32 AM

Thank you for the additional time to review Maps 12 and 13. I had supported Map 13 when there were only two maps under consideration at the end of last week. As it has a possible improvement in including the Blackfeet Reservation in the West along with the Salish Kootenai Reservation.

However, Maps 12 and 13 do so at the cost of splitting contiguous populations around Helena, Butte, and Bozeman and, especially in the case of Map 12, have moved away from having any competitive districts.

At this time I withdraw that support and return to supporting Map 11 as the best choice. In doing so I note that maps 10, 12, and 13 are weak according to the unanimously approved guidelines. They split contiguous populations; are unfair in not having at least one competitive district; or both.

Select Map 11 as the best choice for Montana and the only choice based on the guidelines.

John Brock Missoula From: ScotiaColleen
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please support CP12 Redistricting Map

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 6:10:25 PM

I support Map CP12: it keeps Flathead County in the Western District. It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

CP12 keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole; only splits one (1) county.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scotia C. Brosnan 2146 Merganser Drive Kalispell Montana (406) 607-9429 scotiacbee@gmail.com colleendelong@protonmail.com

Sent from ProtonMail mobile

From: <u>bfrbrown59@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Barbara Brown</u>

To: <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 5:21:06 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Redistricting is the first step in electing leaders who are accountable to voters and represent our communities. I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

This proposal creates at least one district where neither party would be unduly favored, which would allow for a competitive race, ensuring that candidates have to spend time in the communities they represent.

This is the only map that firmly upholds the Voting Rights Act by placing more than one Tribal Nation within a competitive district, ensuring that candidates need to work for the confidence and votes of Indigenous people. By having at least two reservation communities within a competitive district, it will ensure that Tribal governments can have a more powerful government-to-government relationship with our next Congressperson.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for folks across the state who don't feel heard by politicians. It is good for our

communities and for Montana!

Map 11 is the most practical for Montana. Barbara Brown, Bozeman

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Ms Barbara Brown PO Box 6490 Bozeman, MT 59771-6490 bfrbrown59@gmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Delores Brown

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:26:29 AM

From: Delores Brown tanddbrown@yahoo.com

Residence: Belt, MT

### Message:

I fully support the adoption of Map CP12. As a long time resident of Pondera County, I like that the Blackfeet Reservation is kept whole, and the eastern half of the County will lay in District 2. It allows the residents of the county the opportunity to become better informed by speaking with District 1 and 2 candidates. Please choose Map CP12.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Brown

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:01:21 PM

From: Robert Brown bobbrown197082@gmail.com

Residence: Butte, MT

#### Message:

The redistricting proposal to place Helena, Bozeman, and Park County in the western US House district together with the Kalispell area would be a rational compromise between those districting proposals offered by the Redistricting Committee's respective partisan committee members. As a conservative-leaning Independent who has lived in Silver Bow County for nearly forty years (and all of my life in Montana), I have more than a passing familiarity of the impact where voting choices/outcomes are overwhelmingly controlled by one political party. Even when I lived elsewhere in Montana where the "majority's" views were more consistent with mine, the reality that the other viewpoint could prevail brought a healthy realism to those candidates who might otherwise skew to the extreme. Balance providing the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the electoral process is critical in a democracy. What goes around comes around. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<a href="https://mtredistricting.gov">https://mtredistricting.gov</a> [mtredistricting.gov] [mtredistricting.gov] (<a href="https://mtredistricting.gov">https://mtredistricting.gov</a> [!!GaaboA!4Xa7bPUfOopHSVnS2xkqDhY1YuXAjyVfjPAij1H6OMCkL39U-Bcy3P4q\_ffIP4bMvA\$>)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mark Broyles **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:32:25 PM

From: Mark Broyles drbroyles@icloud.com

Residence: MT

Message: Option 12

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Benjamin A. Burdick

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 5:52:24 PM

From: Benjamin A. Burdick benjaminburdick@gmail.com

Residence: Bigfork, MT

## Message:

By all means, please pick map 10. I understand both maps split a county. But due to the much higher population density of Flathead County, Map 10 is by far the fairest option. Thank you.

--

From: <u>Mcgarry409@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Mary Burke</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

Subject: [spam]Proposal 11 is the least devise

Date: Thursday, October 28, 2021 2:02:33 PM

#### Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am a lifelong Montana resident and retired teacher. I am very concerned annoy losing my voice in our elections. Please adopt Proposal 11 for the State's redistricting. It fairly represents all Montanans and keeps communist and the areas they work in together.

Sincerely, Mary Burke 6455 Linda Vista Blvd Missoula, MT 59803-2774 Mcgarry409@msn.com From: Betsy Burns
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:43:51 AM

Dear Commission - This email is in support of map 11. This map meets the agreed upon criteria. Thank you for you consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Burns

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS [apps.apple.com]

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michael L Butler

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 11:10:07 PM

From: Michael L Butler onelazy8@hotmail.com

Residence: Shawmut, Mt

Message:

I would like to have the cp 10 districting map used for the redistricting of Montana

--

From: <u>Maureen Byrne</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:49:57 AM

#### Dear Commissioners;

You have a very important decision to make that will affect all Montanans in the near future. I urge you to choose Map 11 over Map 10 & 12 because it will create the most competitive electoral environment. Montana's population is growing quickly and if we want to maintain the ideological balance that historically has existed in Montana, the redistricting maps have to allow for that opportunity.

Maps 10 & 12 undeniably favor Republican voters and therefore the representation at the Federal level. Map 11 at least provides for healthy competition which is what our democracy is founded on: all voices carry the same weight in an election.

Politics in our country have become so divisive. I strongly urge you to resist bringing that division home to Montana; choose Map 11 to keep the playing field as level as it can be.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Maureen Byrne Livingston, MT

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rebecca M. Caldwell

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 11:46:59 AM

From: Rebecca M. Caldwell lovaqat@outlook.com

Residence: Libby, MT 59923

Message:

Please choose map #12. I consider this the most fair apportionment to date.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Katherine Campbell

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 4:49:57 PM

From: Katherine Campbell kathic43@gmail.com

Residence: Missoula Montana

## Message:

i think the map supported by the Democratic members is one that allows the western part of Montana a chance to be represented in Congress. The big money for political campaigns seems to lie on the eastern side of the state. Big money does not represent ALL Montana values.

--

From: <u>Catharine</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support map 13

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:40:57 AM

Robin and Catharine Carey urge you to choose map 13 because at least one district should be competitive politically to give the minority in Montana opportunity to have some say in Congress. Also map 13 puts two reservations in each district.

From: Cathy Carlson
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting-Map 12

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:51:54 PM

Thank you for your work on Redistricting.. Map 12 is the best (as it appears Map 1 is off the table but most preferred).

Please follow the law in this process.

With respect,

Cathy

Sent from my iPhone

From: Weiss, Rachel
To: Districting

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] New districts

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 12:09:03 PM

----Original Message-----

From: Gary Carlson <garykcarlson11@gmail.com> Sent: Monday, November 1, 2021 9:57 AM

To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>; Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>; Debbie Churchill <debbie@mtgop.org>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New districts

Rachel, Joe and Debbie. Please let the commissioners know that I support map #12. Remember I was involved in two districts before and now believe #12 is the best choice not 10 or 11.

Gary

--

Gary K. Carlson, Publisher White Hat Express garykcarlson11@gmail.com

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Bruce carroll Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:43:39 AM

From: Bruce carroll further17@hotmail.com

Residence: Livingston, mt.

## Message:

Please include our town of Livingston in the same district as Bozeman and Butte...thank you for being fair, Bruce

--

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Brian Cassell Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 8:46:05 AM

From: Brian Cassell brian.casselldvm@gmail.com

Residence: Bozeman, MT

### Message:

The argument that CP10 is substantially more compact than CP11 is just nonsense if one looks at the big picture of the state, and is a way to try to prevent creation of a politically competitive district. CP11 is vastly preferable to create a politically competitive district which is an important goal to try to give every citizen a relevant voice and vote in our governance.

--

From: Written In Stone
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] new Congressional map

Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 1:51:03 PM

## I encourage you to vote for CP #11 for the following reasons:

It's population equal It only splits one area (Flathead County) It'a the most competitive (Cook PVI Score of R+5)

#### Don't vote for CP#10 because:

It splits 2 areas: the city of Big Sky and Gallatin County.

It is **not** within the competitive range (Cook PVI Score of R+7)

It unduly favors a political party and does not take into account competitiveness, *ensuring candidates need to work for our votes* 

Thank you, Barry Chandler Proctor, MT

--

<sup>&</sup>quot;I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

From: <u>STEVENYLA BRACKENCHANDLER</u>

To: <u>Districting</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional maps

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:32:50 PM

I encourage the adoption of Congressional map number 11. It seems the most balanced and fair. I oppose numbers 10 and 12.

Thank you

Nyla Chandler 108 East Story Bozeman, MT 59715

Ph 406-570-0644

Sent from my iPhone

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Loy Chvilicek

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:25:17 AM

From: Loy Chvilicek loyannchvilicek@gmail.com

Residence: Helena

## Message:

I prefer CP12 because 1. it meets the qualifications of population, which reflects voter rights, and 2. Keeps The geographical counties together for easier campaigning Thanks so much for doing all the research needed for this task! God bless all of you!

--

From: Pat Clancey
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] comments off the mark

Date: Saturday, October 30, 2021 7:53:31 PM

#### Commissioners,

I am writing to implore you to ignore the comments I am currently witnessing on MPAC that are

- religiously based. The principles of our nation respect separation of church and state.
- The belligerent nut who claims he is representing all the Montanans who can't be there to comment and who was combative when told his time was up.
- I have lived in all corners of Montana Havre, Kalispell, Fort Peck, Bozeman, Ennis and Helena, so have lived in conservative rural areas and progressive urban areas.
- I am less concerned about splitting of counties than some of the other criteria because even some of our counties are diverse enough to warrant splitting.
- I support CP 13 as the best option, it keeps more communities of interest together than other maps proposed.

Thank you, Pat Clancey Helena

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Joseph M. CLeary

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:48:27 PM

From: Joseph M. CLeary josephmcleary@gmail.com

Residence: Divide, Montana

### Message:

I would like to register my opposition to Map #12.

This proposed districting map incorrectly places the maintenance of county boundaries as more important than insuring that competitive districts are created, such that no political party is favored. On the contrary, competitive districting is clearly of higher priority as it has been and should continue to be the bedrock of our democratic republic.

--

Claudia Clifford From:

Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleq.gov To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 12 is pure gerrymandering Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:21:57 PM

Attachments: twitter.png

I have written previously of my support for proposal 11 and will add that proposal 13 is fine as well. Both provide for a competitive congressional seat honoring the independent political leanings of Montanans.

Proposal 12 provides for two solid Republican seats and is pure gerrymandering. This only serves Republicans and not the many Montanans who generally identify as independent voting for people of both parties and the Montanans who identify as Democrats. In the beginning of this process, the commission voted unanimously for the goal to create a competitive district. Stay firmly committed to that goal and reject proposal 12.

I believe we are a better state if all points of view are considered, the more likely result of a competitive district. Former Congresswoman Rankin said it well many years ago:



"It is important for people to be able to read all sides of every r.com question; for a feeling of national unity does not come from onesided or inadequate information, but from a sense of freedom impartially secured and of opportunity equalized by a just government."

Jeannette Rankin

Thanks again for considering my comments,

Claudia Clifford\ Helena, MT 59601

Sent from my iPad

From: John Clinch
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting MAP 12

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 2:10:51 PM

#### Mr. Chairman and Commissioners,

I applaud your latest rendition of the proposed redistricting MAP 12. I believe it accurately represents the constituencies of counties that were kept whole. The notion to divide counties for purely political reasons is unacceptable to me and my fellow residents of Flathead County.

I appreciate all that you do in an otherwise unappreciated position. I believe you have taken reasonable approach into consideration that makes sense both geographically and each constituency. Thank you for your consideration of my input.

Best regards, John U. Clinch 111 Stageline Court Whitefish, Montana 59937 Sent from my iPhone

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Clinch

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 1:58:09 PM

From: John Clinch juclinch@me.com Residence: Whitefish, Montana

### Message:

I whole heartedly agree with your latest rendition of the districting MAP 12. It keeps intact the majority of the counties that have their unique ideological identity. It also provides a larger collective voice for the tribal concerns in our state. It was obvious from the initial renditions of this map that they were politically motivated to the extreme. I applaud your common sense.

--

From: todd cochran
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The two new districts. **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:58:53 AM

The two new proposed districts, CP12 and CP13, appear to be superior to the two previous finalists. Both 12 and 13 keep the Blackfeet nation whole, and in the West. Of the two, 13 APPEARS TO BE THE BEST. Helena, and perhaps all of Lewis and Clark County properly belongs in the West, but dividing Gallatin county, and placing Park countY in the East might not make much sense. THERE REMAINS ROOM FOR REVISION AND COMPROMISE.

From: <u>msmae2007@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Marilynn Cochran</u>

To: <u>joe.lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please Choose Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 9:58:35 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.I would like to see Map 11 used in redrawing district lines. It is a fairer map and not just swaying votes to one side or the other. Thank you.

Sincerely, Marilynn Cochran 311 Edith St Missoula, MT 59801-3915 msmae2007@yahoo.com From: <u>kcochranroberts@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Karilynn Cochran-roberts</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Proposal 11- CP11

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 12:31:38 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I would like districting maps to be nonpartisan. Where equal distribution of political persuasion is represented, NOT Partisan.

Sincerely, Karilynn Cochran-roberts 2651 Quinn Ct Missoula, MT 59804-1208 kcochranroberts@gmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kim Codiga **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:08:32 PM

From: Kim Codiga kcodiga5@gmail.com

Residence: Whitefish, Montana

# Message:

I am against CP11 as it puts most of the Flathead County in the East and splits too many other counties in the process. No geographic similarities with the East and would give less representation to those in Flathead County.

--

From: jillfcohenour@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jill Cohenour

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [spam]Reject CP 10 Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully

**Date:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 7:01:33 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

#### .Halloo-

Thanks so much for your hard work on this commission. I am asking you to reject CP10 for a number of reasons. This map does not allow for the voice of farmers and ranchers in the Golden Triangle and other critical Ag related area to be heard loudly. This map separates that voice which will hurt the messages needed to be heard in Congress. This map makes a partisan divide in Gallatin County that is not necessary. Having a competitive mapping allows for all voices to be heard and not silenced by not having no visit with people you disagree with. We need our representative. To hear from all sides and respect all sides.

Please reject CP10. Thanks. -Jill

Sincerely, Jill Cohenour 2610 Colt Dr East Helena, MT 59635-3442 jillfcohenour@gmail.com From: jillfcohenour@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jill Cohenour

To: joe.lamson@mtleq.qov

Subject: [spam]Support CP11 Montana"s Congressional Map Needs to be competitive so all voices are heard

**Date:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 6:51:15 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

#### Halloo-

I just wanted to drop another note about these final two maps.. I real that keeping like communities together is an important concept..

Keeping unions towns together is a good goal, keeping Helena and Butte together. I also think it's important to keep Livingston and Bozeman together. These towns are linked by workers and economic ties.

This map also elevates rural agriculture voice in norther central Montana. I'm from Havre and understand the need for a strong voice on ag issues at the federal level.

I think that making a district that is competitive helps Montana citizen voices be heard. Please support CP 11. Thanks so much for your work. -Jill

Sincerely, Jill Cohenour 2610 Colt Dr East Helena, MT 59635-3442 jillfcohenour@gmail.com From: Abbey Cook
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Map 12

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:55:31 PM

To whom it may concern -

I am a resident of Lewis and Clark county and am writing to express my opposition to proposed map 12.

CP 12 splits a small rural county, ensuring that its voters will be ignored by both Congresspeople. County splits should respect communities of interest and large counties have distinct communities of interest within them that can be split more logically and ensure real representation for communities divided within a county.

Additionally, CP 12 ensures that rural voices can never carry the day in any Congressional district. Our largest urban areas are equally split between the two districts, meaning that rural Montanans can never elect a Congress person of their choice.

Given that one of the main duties of a congressperson is helping their constituents navigate the federal government and access critical services - it is vital that our rural voters are represented by their elected choice - not someone who invariably only focuses on the population centers.

It stands to reason based on this that either proposed map 11 or 13 would be far better for the entirety of the state rather than 12 which seems only to serve the larger population centers.

Sincerely,

Abbey Cook Helena

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: J. Lee Cook Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:29:51 PM

From: J. Lee Cook Tobin3064@gmail.com

Residence: Polson

# Message:

To best represent Montana, map #11, is "The One" which is fair to ALL Montanan's.

Please choose map #11, which is indicative of the best from past State elected officials. for example, Senator Mike Mansfield would be very proud of the work you've accomplished for the future generations of Montana citizens. Balance, population indicators are equal, geographically sound and economically feasible for the entire state of Montana.

Let Montana become a leader in our Country for being able to elect strong, opposing Congressional views that know how to "get the job done". We can do this together. Thank you for your service and being able to work for a consensus that brings us together. in truth, justice and representation for those who don't have a voice in traditional Montana politics. Peace,

--

From: Rockit Prudente
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting of Montana

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:30:22 PM

I appreciate all your hard work! Saturday was a long one!

After hearing so many Montana citizens that spoke to you I hope that seeing the majority of those that spoke are hoping you will NOT divide our state geographically with the maps from before.

Of the current choices I am in favor & in support of MAP CP-12.

I ask that you keep WESTERN Montana in the WEST. That is where we are geographically & emotionally.

Thank you, Maureen Cordoza 406-253-1433 Whitefish, Montana

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elise cormier

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 7:06:09 PM

From: Elise cormier ecormier@logan.org

Residence: Kalispell

Message:

I strong support cp11

--

From: <u>James Cote</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: CP 12

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:42:18 PM

Please see attached email, your website was down

Sent from my iPhone James Cote President-CEO jaccapitalmanagement@gmail.com 925-787-4794 C 406-375-0005 D

# Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Cote <jaccapitalmanagement@gmail.com>

Date: November 2, 2021 at 4:22:00 PM MDT

To: debbie@mtgop.org, Don Kaldschmidts <don@donk.com>

Subject: CP 12

I support MAP CP 12 for the following reasons;

It keeps the Flathead County in the Western District

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfoot Reservations in the Western District It keep both CSKT and Blackfoot Reservations in the Western District It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties Whole, it only splits 1 county.

The CP 12 appears to be the most sensible, fair, best representation of a viable creation of the new districting map.

I've lived in Montana for over 30 years, developed businesses here, started two non profit organization to help those in need through out the state, donating millions of dollars to these causes and I am totally in favor of the CP 12 Map. Thank you for your consideration.

James Cote, President, CEO jaccapitalmanagement@gmail.com 925-787-4794 Cell 406-375-0005 Office

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rebecca L Coursey

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:56:27 AM

From: Rebecca L Coursey business@rebeccacoursey.com

Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

This comment was also sent to Maylinn Smith:

Support for Map #11:

I live between Bozeman and Belgrade, in the Valley Grove subdivision. I try to be informed about our Gallatin County and local issues. I am a therapist and see clients in this area, which includes further places like Billings, Great Falls, Butte and sometimes even Missoula. On occasion I have clients from West Yellowstone.

I agree with Map #11 because I feel that this entire area functions as a locale. Livingston, while being its own vibe and thing, is so interwoven with Bozeman . .. CONSIDER HRDC and the warming center! The number of people who commute over the Pass between these two cities is a lot. I regularly have clients from Livingston. I have friends in Livingston, even more than Three Forks or Manhattan!

The people I know from West Yellowstone, including some clients, quite often travel to Idaho Springs or resource other areas in Idaho rather than come to Bozeman. While West certainly is a Montana "state of mind", it's not a Bozeman state of mind. It's very different and it mostly thrives on tourism. This is true of Bozeman and Livingston, however there is such an active vital local economy and Livingston and Bozeman are an integrated-but-different community. Just talk to any person in his or her twenties and thirties to hear what restaurants they eat at, what concerts they are going to, what plays and where their friends are.

Hence I would not split the Gallatin County and Park county up. Again just thinking of what HRDC does in this community, the collection of help and how we help, it's a very different system.

The idea of supporting the tourism and destination of West, Big Sky and Whitefish actually makes sense because the issues for them are similar. While the distances are far from each other, the ways in which Montana is served and we serve others, is a similar "gestalt".

Thanks for reading this or to some assistant.

I prefer Map #11. I will also submit this in the public comment.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L Coursey

Rebecca L. Coursey Board Certified Rolf Practitioner Structural Integration Cranial Sacral Therapy, Advanced Energy Healing Somatic Bodywork and Therapy
Rolf Movement Practitioner/Certified
Songbird Healing Studio
379 Mountain Lion Trail
Bozeman, MT. 59718
(406) 570-1608
www.rebeccacoursey.com [rebeccacoursey.com]

--

From: Laura Cova

Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov To:

[EXTERNAL] For Map 13 Subject:

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:59:40 PM

I'm for Map 13. It creates a competitive Western District.

Laura Cova Missoula Resident

On Tue, Nov 2, 2021, 3:57 PM Laura Cova < lauraleecova@gmail.com > wrote:

I'm against Map 12. It does not create a competitive Western district.

Thanks,

Laura Cova

Missoula resident

Laura Cova From:

Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Against Map 12

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:57:57 PM

I'm against Map 12. It does not create a competitive Western district.

Thanks,

Laura Cova Missoula resident From: <u>Dan Cramer</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:19:35 AM

**Attachments:** <u>image002.png</u>

# Chair Smith and Commissioners, I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

W. Dan Cramer CIC 287 Sir Arthur Dr. Bozeman MT 59715

406.589.4260 cell

dcramer@1stwestinsurance.com

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From: Karen Cramer
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting committee **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:12:17 PM

# Chair Smith and Commissioners,

# I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Cramer

115 Moes Run Kalispell, MT 59901 406-890-4253 Karen @beckmansrealestatemt.com From: Roberta Crane

Districting; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov To:

Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support map 11 and 13 Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:26:30 PM Date:

I am writing to ask you to support map 11 and 13. For many reasons, which I am sure you have heard many times, I think these maps are by far the most fair to everyone. 10 and 12 do not make competitive districts.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Sincerely, Roberta Crane Missoula, Montana

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Vicky H Creamer

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:58:07 AM

From: Vicky H Creamer vickycreamer@montanasky.us

Residence: Bigfork

# Message:

I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole
- it only splits 1 county

\_\_

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Colter L Cumin

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:17:46 AM

From: Colter L Cumin colter.cumin@gamil.com

Residence: Deer Lodge

# Message:

I am in favor of Map CP 12. I am against CP 11. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Colter Cumin of Deer Lodge

--

From: Jennifer Curtiss
To: Districting
Cc: Jennifer Curtiss

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Map CP12

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:33:48 AM

#### Redistricting committee:

#### I support Map CP12 because:

- it keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- it keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- it only splits one county.
- I don't like CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east and I believe it is not in the best interest of Montanans.

I believe CP13 splits too many counties which is not a good idea.

Thank you for your consideration of my input.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Curtiss Lincoln County

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 From:
 Jeri Dalbec

 To:
 Districting

 Subject:
 [EXTERNAL] Map

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:46:44 AM

# Dear Commissioners:

I hope that you will see clearly to adopt Map 11. It is so important that we have inclusivity in our State. Montana's "Hazard" situation requires Representation for all of us. It is crippling.

# The six main categories of hazards are:

- Biological. Biological hazards include viruses, bacteria, insects, animals, etc., that can cause adverse health impacts. ...
- Chemical. Chemical hazards are hazardous substances that can cause harm. ...
- Physical. ...
- Safety. ...
- Ergonomic. ...
- Psychosocial.

Thank you for consideration, Geraldine Dalbec 1010 Pleasant St. Miles City, MT 59301 From: Connie
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Choose Map CP12 (NOT 11)

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:24:30 AM

#### I am EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED of where we are at:

<!--[if!supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Map CP 11 is a TOTAL FAILURE, it has Flathead County in the East where it has NOTHING AT ALL IN COMMON, politically, economically or culturally with the East. It puts Gallatin and Park County into the Western District which definitely belongs in the Eastern District. This is NOT keeping communities of interest in tack!!

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->It also has Glacier National Park in the East! I can only say you have things totally BACKWARDS!!

<!--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->Map CP 11 has about 1/10 of the Canadian Border with the other 9/10 of the Canadian border going to the Eastern side, obviously the border should be shared more equally.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->Out of the seven Native American Tribes in Montana, CP11 has (1) in the West, which clearly isolates it from all the other tribes, and (6) in the East.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->5. <!--[endif]-->It's also not compact, as per one of the requirements when a Congressperson from the East would have to travel approximately 500 miles or 10 hours, without stopping, to speak to his voters.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->6. <!--[endif]-->CP11 is totally offensive it's even being considered and is nothing more than trying to manipulate the boundaries to favor one party.

#### Map CP12 is MUCH better:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->It keeps Flathead County and Glacier County in the Western District.

- 2. It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- 3. It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- 4. It only splits 1 county

Map CP1 was definitely the best....let's choose CP12 and get this process completed.

From: <u>Lucy Dayton</u>

To: <u>Districting</u>; <u>Jeff.Essmann@mtleq.gov</u>; <u>Dan.Stusek@mtleq.gov</u>; <u>Kendra.Miller@mtleq.gov</u>;

Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Joe Lamson

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re-districting proposals.

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 2:37:46 PM

#### Dear Committee.

I am writing you once again to voice my strong support for Proposal 11 and strong opposition to Proposal 10 and now Proposal 12.

I am surprised and disappointed after all your careful consideration over the past many months, and whittling it down to 2 proposals for the public to give comment, at the very last minute you are not only re-considering, but adding 2 additional last minute proposals.

I cannot imagine these have been very well thought through or analyzed; and it further points to last minute gerrymandering and shenanigans by the Republicans.

Proposal 12 seems totally ludicrous, as well as totally biased!

This plan absolutely favors the Republican party and seems to not be remotely competitive or fair.

It is my understanding that one of the basic premises of your committee and deliberations was to create fair, competitive Districts.

You are separating Jefferson County from Butte where there is common bond; and Helena from neighboring Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge; and Park County from Gallatin? Really???!!!

I see no logic or rationale for these new boundaries other than separating like populations who need to be represented for who they are from one another.

I MOST STRONGLY ASK YOU TO ADOPT PROPOSAL11 (CP11) or PROPOSAL13 (CP13); and STRONGLY OPPOSE PROPOSAL 12 (CP12). BE FAIR!!!

Thank you again for all your time and hard work; let's hope you make a right decision for all Montanans.

Sincerely. Lucy B. Dayton 531 Power Street Helena, MT 59601

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David & Alicia Dellinger

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:43:58 AM

From: David & Alicia Dellinger d.t.dellinger@gmail.com

Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:

Dear Chair Smith and Commissioners,

Thank you for your time: we support Map CP12 because it follows the concept of those who are naturally together, by either reservation, county or geographical (like mountain ranges) are kept together; and only splits one county. Great Job!

The example is keeping Flathead County in the Western District, along with both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations. This allows for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

It would keep Flathead, Lewis and Clark, and Gallatin counties whole.

Thank you, again, for your efforts for Montana and for hearing from us,

DoraAlicia &David Dellinger Helena, Montana

--

From: John de Neeve
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Redistricting map

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 3:13:50 PM

#### **Redistricting Commission**

Thank you for your difficult work in choosing a new congressional district for Montana. I have voted positively for the CP 11 with commission several weeks ago and will be comfortable if that is

the redistricting map that is chosen. But I was happy to see a new map CP13 as a great improvement. I was glad to see that Flathead county was added

to the map that also added the Blackfeet Indian reservation. This balanced the map and included two important communities to the district map. Overall both of these maps are competitive and they need to be. Map C13 Does a better job of including the integrity of the main voting communities in this district. As a citizen that votes with the Democratic Party, I can't stress how important it is for democrats to feel they have a say in voting in a state that is a majority Republican. The region of Western Montana should be a competitive district as a political map. I have lived in this district for 50 years and feel strongly that this has been a democratic region. Keeping this a competitive map is very important

for the integrity of the right to vote

for its citizens. Thank you for your time. John de Neeve. 670 Concord lane, Kalispell

Sent from my iPhone

From: Chris Deveny

To: <u>Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please Reject CP12 and Choose CP11 or CP13

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:56:30 AM

Dear Chair Smith and Commission Members:

<u>Please reject CP12</u> which creates two noncompetitive congressional districts and smacks of gerrymandering at its worst.

As a fourth generation Montanan, 42 year resident of Helena, and an active citizen I find it appalling that proposal CP12 would put my community into the Eastern District essentially removing the opportunity for competitive elections in Montana by greatly favoring the GOP.

The gerrymandered CP12 proposal would also split natural commonalities among commuting workers and union members (Butte-SilverBow, Anaconda, Deer Lodge, and Jefferson County). It would also likely alienate some regions of rural counties while giving other rural areas excessive influence. This unfair and biased proposal is bad for Montanans all around and should be soundly rejected.

As a commission you agreed that competitiveness would be a goal and guiding principle. Please hold to that and ensure what is best for all Montana citizens by selecting either CP11 (my overall preference) or CP13.

Thank you,

Christine Deveny 626 2nd Street Helena, MT

From: <a href="mailto:cherilyn.devries@everyactioncustom.com">cherilyn.devries@everyactioncustom.com</a> on behalf of <a href="mailto:Cherilyn DeVries">Cherilyn DeVries</a>

To: <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [spam]Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map!

**Date:** Friday, October 29, 2021 3:02:41 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am writing to urge the commission to support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map.

We need districts that will be competitive and balances, and Proposal 10/11 is an excellent choice.

This map ensures that neither party starts with a clear advantage, which means that candidates would have to get to know voters in order to gain support.

This is the only map that respects the rights and voices of Tribal Nations and their interests in our state. Indigenous issues are diverse, and they deserve a representative who truly knows their needs and honors their leadership.

Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map is the best map for many people and will allow Montanans to have the support to elect their leaders in fair elections.

Please support Proposal 10/11 Consensus Map. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Cherilyn DeVries Kalispell, MT cherilyn.devries@gmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Johanna DeVries

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:03:54 AM

From: Johanna DeVries jodevries@hotmail.com

Residence: Livingston, Montana

# Message:

I've already emailed the districting commission on the previous two maps presented, just a few days ago. Now I see both parties have thrown a wrench in the process by putting in last minute maps!

As a voter, and someone whose lived in both central Montana (Grass Range) and in Park County (Livingston), all my family wants is an equitable districting that does not favor one party over another. To this end, I would prefer Park County be included in the western district. Our county votes predominantly Democratic and would be eclipsed if put into the eastern district. I'd also like the commuters around Helena to be able to vote with the location where they work.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Dick **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 12:53:35 PM

From: Deborah Dick dbdick4@yahoo.com

Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:

I believe map 13 is best for representing our Montana constituency with map 11 running a close second.
Thank you!

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Dick

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 8:56:22 AM

From: Deborah Dick dbdick4@yahoo.com

Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

Please select map 11 for the new congressional district!!

--

From: Karin Dickinson
To: Joe Lamson

**Subject:** [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps **Date:** Thursday, October 28, 2021 8:08:47 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Karin Dickinson and I have lived in Montana since 1976. I currently live in Missoula and have been here since 1993.

Please select the proposed Congressional Map #11. I support this choice mainly because it does not favor one political party.

Map #11 would provide at least one competitive district in Montana, which Map #10 would not. I truly support non-gerrymandered elections and urge you to support Map 11.

Thank you so much for your time and support.

Regards, Karin Dickinson 516 Redwood St Missoula, MT 59802

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cynthia Di Francesco

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:20:50 AM

From: Cynthia Di Francesco cyndifran@gmail.com

Residence: Livingston

#### Message:

As a resident of Livingston, I have written with much concern regarding the redistricting proposals.

We in Park County are a community of interest along with all of Gallatin County. We are intricately linked in our economies, transportation, job markets, educational and healthcare systems and tourism economies.

I am requesting you keep our two counties completely intact in your choice. Map 11 satisfies the criteria for competition and community of interest. The two maps proposed at the last minute are not competitive and clearly favor one political party.

Please do the right and fair thing for Montanans. Thank you.

I support Map 11 It does not unduly favor a political party and keeps communities of interest together

Map 10 and the two maps proposed at last minute select out parts of Bozeman and Helena, dividing communities and separates communities of interest in Park and Gallatin Counties.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

\_\_

From: Weiss, Rachel
To: Districting

**Subject:** FW: Submission from Redistricting **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:04:42 AM

From: leg-noreply@mt.gov < leg-noreply@mt.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 7:40 AM

**To:** Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov> **Subject:** Submission from Redistricting

# **Submit Information to the Redistricting Commission**

**Date:** 2nd November 2021 07:39

# Your Full Name:

Cindy DiMarco

# **Email Address:**

cadimarco@aol.com

#### **Subject Line:**

Redistricting Maps

#### **Your Comment:**

I believe that Map 12 is the best division of the state for purposes of legislative redistricting. This map allows Gallatin County residents to vote as a block instead of separating the county. The needs and concerns of Gallatin County are different from nearly every county in the state due to its rapid growth and Map 12 would provide the best option for having our voices heard and or needs and concerns represented.

#### **Upload Information:**

Sent via <u>uat.leg.mt.gov/districting/2020-commission/public-comment/</u>

From: Jon
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Favor Map 13

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:49:59 PM

Dear Districting and Apportionment Commissioners

I've been a resident of Park County for 30 years and before that lived in Gallatin County. The two counties have always had close ties to each other. This connection has dramatically increased over the last 5 years. I know many people who live in Park and work in Gallatin, and vice versa. The economic and social bonds between Park and Gallatin Counties are inexorably linked and will continue to grow in the future.

I don't see any legislative reason to split this district other than to unduly favor a political party, which might be the case here.

I don't believe the CP-12 map is fair representation for Park and Gallatin County residents.

I favor Map 13 as the most equitable for the majority of Montanans.

Thanks for you consideration,

Jon Dodson Livingston, MT From: Sharger@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Domitrovich

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

Subject: [spam]Please Choose CP11

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 10:35:50 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please choose CP11 to allow for a fair distribution of electorate in Montana.

Sincerely, Stephanie Domitrovich 109 Ironwood Pl Missoula, MT 59803-2425 Sharger@gmail.com From: R.J. Doornek
To: Districting

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Redistricting Map CP-12

Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 10:27:39 PM

## I support the Redistricting Map Cp-12 for the following reasons:

- Maps should not favor one political party over another
- The Commission needs to minimize the splitting of counties, as stated in the Commission's goals. The Democrat Commission members map splits three counties total, while the Republican map only splits one.
- Lewis and Clark County, Jefferson, and Broadwater Counties should be kept in the East. They are in the Missouri River drainage, which flows in the east. Like Eastern Montana, these three counties also rely on agriculture.
- Park County should also be put in the Eastern district. The county is located in the Yellowstone drainage, which also goes East.

I encourage the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission to approve Map CP12. It is what is most fair and representative for all the citizens of Montana. Thank you.

R.J. Doornek 6975 Alisha Dr Missoula, MT 59803

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kelley Haley Dowdell

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:10:14 AM

From: Kelley Haley Dowdell dowdellfamily@gmail.com

Residence: Bozeman

## Message:

I would like to comment on the redistricting map for our congressional seats. The proposed CP 12 map is an unfair redistricting for a number of reasons. The most concerning is splitting Gallatin and Park counties, this would be an unfair representation for residents in both counties. The Gallatin regional economy is a great benefit to residents of both counties and therefore Park and Gallatin should be kept in the same district. Also, this is an unfair split for residents of Jefferson county who commute and work in Butte and would be split from that area.

Please vote for CP11 as that is the most accurate reflection of needs for rural voters in the region.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kelley Haley Dowdell

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:08:18 AM

From: Kelley Haley Dowdell dowdellfamily@gmail.com

Residence: Bozeman

## Message:

I would like to comment on the redistricting map for our congressional seats. The proposed CP 12 map is an unfair redistricting for a number of reasons. The most concerning is splitting Gallatin and Park counties, this would be an unfair representation for residents in both counties. The Gallatin regional economy is a great benefit to residents of both counties and therefore Park and Gallatin should be kept in the same district. Also, this is an unfair split for residents of Jefferson county who commute and work in Butte and would be split from that area.

Please vote for CP11 as that is the most accurate reflection of needs for rural voters in the region.

--

From: Sherri Downing

To: <u>Districting</u>; <u>Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov</u>;

<u>Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting Map preference **Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 8:29:21 AM

#### Greetings:

Please adopt Map 13 as the best balance for Montana's diverse citizenry and for voters in Lewis and Clark County to have a real choice. It is important to ensure that votes count and I am strongly in favor of proposals that keep Lewis and Clark and Gallatin counties in the western district. This is a critical step to ensuring fair and balanced elections where the voices of all Montanans can be heard.

Thank you, Sherri Downing 3362 Tizer Drive Helena, MT 59602 406-443-0580 From: <u>pkdoyle10@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Patricia Doyle</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [spam]Comments on District and Apportionment Maps

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:08:09 AM

#### Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.I would like to thank you for your dedication to the task of drawing the new congressional districts map for our state and ask that you honor the work of those who came before you to create voting districts that respected the views and interests of all Montana voters.

It appears Proposal 11-CP11 provides for one district that would be politically competitive, divides no towns, and results in fewer counties varying from the 1980s Congressional line. I would ask you to consider this proposal for these reasons.

I appreciate the opportunity to share my comments.

Sincerely, Patricia Doyle 395 Tie Chute Ln Florence, MT 59833-6536 pkdoyle10@gmail.com From: Patti Doyle
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mt Districting

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 2:15:31 PM

I have been reading about the different suggestions for Mt districting over the past weeks and since it has now been narrowed to 2 options I feel compelled to send a comment. It seemed counterproductive to split the very western Flathead county which I am relieved to read is no longer suggested. The only thing I am confused about is the last option I read is that Gallatin county is to be split with the western side being in eastern district and eastern side being in the western district??? If I were a resident there this would lend to much confusion! I think the counties would benefit if kept intact as much as possible, promoting potentially less division and conflict.

Thank you for the invitation to express my thoughts on this matter!

Respectfully, Patti Doyle

Sent from my iPhone

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Terrie M Dresch

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 6:56:37 PM

From: Terrie M Dresch missy@gtfalls.com

Residence: Great Falls MT

## Message:

I support map CP12 because it keeps FlAthead County in the Western District. It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin County's whole and it only splits one county. Thank you for serving Montana.

--

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Bruce Dresel **Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:43:14 PM

From: Bruce Dresel bruce@dreselranch.com

Residence: Circle mt

Message:

District should be decided up evenly from south to north based on population

--

From: <u>Mike Duffield</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Maps 10/11/12/13

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:58:25 PM

I am Mike Duffield of Missoula County, writing to say either Map 12 or Map 13 look better than Map 10 or Map 11 considered earlier. My opinion of keeping Counties undivided/whole is more desirable than focusing on creating competitive election districts-----EXCEPT I do like dividing Gallatin County as was done on Map 13.

#### **DIVIDING GALLATIN COUNTY**

Gallatin County is the fastest growing County in Montana, growing approximately 29,500 residents (+32.9%) from 2010 through 2020. We should expect continued growth to 2030, and this significant increase should be shared by the 2 Districts to maintain approximately the same populations.

#### DON'T FOCUS TOO HEAVILY ON COMPETITIVE ELECTION

Montana has been trending Republican, and in the 2020 election the Republican Party was elected to all 8 Federal (3) and State Wide (5) positions. The smallest margin of victory was in the Superintendent of School election, won 52% to 44%, (+8%) by over 50,000 votes. The largest margin of victory was for Secretary of State, won 60% to 40% (+20%), over 113,000 votes. This was done in the face of Democrats obtaining control of the Presidency and both Chambers of Congress in 2020.

In the Superintendent of School 2020 election, Democrats won 10 of 56 Counties, i.e. 4 in the West (Missoula/Glacier/Deer Lodge/Sliver Bow), 4 in the East (Hill/Blaine/Roosevelt/Big Horn)-----plus Gallatin and Lewis & Clark which could go to either East or West. Only Hill/Blaine counties, and Deer Lodge/Silver Bow counties were contiguous to one another. In order to provide competitive elections for the near term, significant gerrymandering would be required, such as illogically moving Flathead County to the Eastern District, and overloading the Western District with the majority of the high-growth Counties, which I oppose.

From: Loren Dunk

To: <u>maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov</u>; <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] redistricting

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:33:11 PM

I strongly oppose CP12. This is a gerrymander by the republicans. It creates two noncompetitive republican districts. This plan creates a district where republicans have won over 75% of statewide elections over the last 8 years in one district and 100% of elections over the last 8 years in the other district.

I support CP11 and CP13 that create competitive districts where either party can win.

Sincerely Loren Dunk Power, MT

Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mark Duston Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 1:24:37 PM

From: Mark Duston markduston@me.com

Residence: Whitefish, Mt

## Message:

To the Commission and Madame Chair Thank you for taking time to hear feedback on this important issue.

I prefer the map CP 11 because it reflects the unique characteristics of the resort town that I live in and creates a more competitive opportunity to reflect my community's values, problems and interests. I would feel that there was more of a possibility of meeting with my DC Representative and more potential in having federal assistance in things like overvisitation/sustainability, housing crisis, environmental stewardship and diversity challenges.

Most sincerely,

Mark Duston

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Eddleman

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 12:20:13 PM

From: Robert Eddleman roberteddleman@gmail.com

Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

Quit trying to make "competitive." Follow the continental divide. Quit trying to gerrymander.

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From: Glenda Edgeworth
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map- Support CP-12

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 11:29:18 PM

# Chair Smith and Commissioners, I support Map CP12 because:

- It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.
- It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.
- It only splits 1 county

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Thank you for your consideration.

Glenda Edgeworth 870 N Burnt Fork Rd Stevenville, MT. 59870 406–777-3932 gedgeworth@aol.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Linda Edwards

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 11:35:56 AM

From: Linda Edwards kelefishing09@msn.com

Residence: Polson, MT

Message:

Dear MT Districting and Apportionment Commission:

Please count me as supporting the Congressional Proposal II! I believe it is better at evenly splitting the state. The map by the Republicans is disproportionate to me. Thank you for taking my input!

Linda Edwards

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Bill Ellis **Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 7:35:06 PM

From: Bill Ellis billellis58@aol.com

Residence: Miles City, MT

#### Message:

I like map CP 12 because it complies with all the Mandatory Criteria for Congressional Districts that the Redistricting Committee has adopted because,

- Districts are equal in population by one person.
- District has protection of minority voting rights because it divides the Native American Reservation as equal as possible.
- Each district consists of compact territory in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography.
- Each district is contiguous and are in one piece.

Map CP 12 meets the Committees Goals for Congressional Districts because,

- Both districts are equal as possible and do not favor a political party. Montana's vote for the candidates and not always the party.
- Minimize dividing cities, towns, counties, and federal reservations between two districts. Pondera County is the only county divided because of the Blackfeet Reservation.
- Keeps communities of interest intact, based on Indian reservations, urban interests, suburban interests, rural interests, tribal interests, neighborhoods, trade areas, geographic location, demographics, communication and transportation networks, social, cultural, historic, and economic interests and connections, or occupations and lifestyles intact.
- Both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district

Map CP 12 meets Montana Code Annotated 5-1-115 requirements.

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From: Pam Ellis
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Be Fair

**Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:03:46 AM

I despair the hypocrisy of the Republican talking points that drawing the boundaries for redistricting cannot consider politics. Renting a bus to take people to Helena--politics! Advocating maps that ensure only Republicans can represent MT in the US House--politics!

All the proposed maps meet the rules.

I am a Democrat. None of the statewide Republican officials have ever had a public forum open to all. I recognize the majority of voters are Republicans. I expect all elected officials to be responsive to constituents and unafraid to meet and discuss issues.

MT while not a purple state, has a growing number of disenfranchised voters--

- students were disenfranchised when Student id's cannot be used to vote but concealed carry and COSTCO cards can
- Native Americans were disenfranchised by not allowing friends and neighbors to take their ballots to the election office (many don't have a street address and live a long distance from a post office or election office)
- this same rule disenfranchised retired voters living at home or in congregate facilities

The maps and the rules are intended not to ensure election integrity, but to limit who votes and deny equity of opportunity to those "not on my team".

Pam Ellis 406 252 6399 Billings, MT

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Corinne Erdahl

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 7:50:19 PM

From: Corinne Erdahl theerdahls@gmail.com

Residence: East Helena, MT

Message:

Commissioners~

Of the two maps we have been provided to choose from, map # 12 is definitely most preferable.

Thank you for your consideration.

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary Lou Erfle **Date:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:56:16 AM

From: Mary Lou Erfle mlespringcreek@hotmail.com

Residence: Laurel, MT

## Message:

I want to voice my support for Map CP12. It only splits one county and keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole. It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district. Thanks.

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From: <u>Larry & Lois Eslick</u>
To: <u>Districting</u>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Congressional Redistricting Map - Support CP-12

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 2:17:20 PM

#### Chair Smith and Commissioners,

## I support Map CP12 because:

It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.

It only splits 1 county

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry & Lois Eslick 126 Frontier Cir Marion, MT 59925 4068542511

assurance@startmail.com

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ralph Esposito

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 11:51:56 AM

From: Ralph Esposito resposit@carroll.edu

Residence: Helena

Message:

I believe that the 10/11 Consensus Map is the best option. Please adopt this one.

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From: <u>czevanger@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Carol Evanger</u>

To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov

**Subject:** [spam]Please follow your original intent and guidelines for the map

**Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 9:20:21 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission:

My name is Carol Evanger and I am writing to urge you to follow the promise and intent or your commitment that you agreed to follow with the commission was put together. As a native Montana, I am writing for the third time to urge you to vote for the most fair and evenly distributed map, which is #CP11. This map gives Montana the most balanced congressional lines and is the closest to the historic map from the 1980s congressional lines. The map is also the most competitive and DOES NOT MOSLY FAVOR ANY POLITICAL PARTY, which is the point of drawing a balanced map. For the best and most equal districts to give Montanans the most power to have our voices heard, which is the point of free and fair elections and voting rights.

I urge you to follow and keep focused on the guidelines that the commission agreed upon when you started the districting process. Keep voting fair and equal in Montana. It's what our ancestors wanted us to do. I want our state to remain collaborative and open. Stand and fight for their hard work and our hard work in the future.

Thank you for your consideration, Carol Z. Evanger 1520 Renaissance Drive Missoula, MT 59802

Sincerely, Carol Evanger 1520 Renaissance Dr Missoula, MT 59802-9612 czevanger@gmail.com From: Dan Ewing
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 11:32:36 PM

I think CP-12 is the most fair map option put forth. Counties/communities are intact as much as possible. Rules are followed. Intent is followed. It's not perfect but I think it's the best option with minimal politics involved. Several of the other maps submitted showed blatant Gerrymandering.

Sent from my iPad

From: Terry Ewing
To: Districting

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Districting

**Date:** Monday, November 1, 2021 11:40:07 PM

#### Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for working hard to do what is right for Montana and our citizens. Your decision will have a huge impact in determining the future of Montana! Montana values are very important to most residents of our beautiful state. We cherish those values and are asking that your decision is one that will help us ensure that Montana continues to be the great place we all know and love. With that in mind I ask you to please consider my comments and preferences as you deliberate. Also, please follow the law with regard to this matter. 5-1-115 (MCA).

I support Map CP12 because:

It keeps Flathead County in the Western District.

It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district.

It keeps Lewis and Clark, Flathead and Gallatin counties whole.

It only splits 1 county.

Thanks so much!

Terry Ewing

196 Riverview Dr

Kalispell MT 59901

ewing196@gmail.com