

Public Comments: A-D

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between midnight on November 3, 2021, and 5 pm on
November 7

Distributed electronically November 7, 2021

From: tnpadams@bresnan.net
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting map CP12
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 2:02:20 PM

Please adopt Map CP12, As a registered Montana Voter, I feel this proposed districing map will be fair to all voters.

Respectfully,
Patricia A Adams
Missoula, MT 59801-8412

From: [Cookie Agnew](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 3:08:57 PM

Dear Commissioners:

I should have known better than to hope that a matter as critical to our future as drawing new district maps could be apolitical. But you asked for public comment on the various maps, and from what I saw, Montanans were overwhelmingly *against* CP-12. Furthermore, you ignored the voices of our Native American Tribes (something they are, unfortunately, all too well accustomed to): what an insult. This is such a blatantly Republican map that you might as well cancel elections for the next 10 years.

I hope that you will reconsider your decision when you have the opportunity on Tuesday.
Cookie Agnew
Big Timber

Sent from my iPad

From: [Brenda Allington](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 3:08:03 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Brenda Allington of Florence, MT where I have lived for 30 years; and Missoula prior to that. I am respectfully asking that the districts be divided in a fair and equitable manner and therefore I support proposal 11. Thank you for your consideration.

Map 11

It is fair and equitable and makes logical sense.

Thank you again.

Regards,
Brenda Allington
326 Bullrun Rd
Florence, MT 59833

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michael Allison
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:34:49 PM

From: Michael Allison michael.allison@outlook.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

I am so disappointed. You have a chance to show the nation that Montana will do the right thing. Please choose Map 11 so Montana will have non-partisan representation.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Joyce Anderson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 4:36:45 PM

I prefer maps 12 & 13. Of the 2 I would choose 12 because it divides fewer counties.
Thanks for all of your hard work.
Joyce Anderson

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Anderson
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:46:40 AM

From: Robert Anderson bobander88@gmail.com

Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I'd like to see map 11 adopted. As a Helena resident I'd like to be in the western district or I feel my vote will be inconsequential. I also think L&C County should remain intact as it is not as politically diverse as Flathead County.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Scot Anderson
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 10:19:20 PM

From: Scot Anderson sandemt@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I am writing to share my input about Proposal 12 recently proposed as the final redistricting map from the Commission.

Proposal 12 would split Pondera County, move Lewis and Clark County from the west district where it has been historically to the east, split the Native American representation between the two districts which would reduce their influence, and would create two districts which would not be competitive. I oppose Proposal 12 as currently designed for these reasons.

I want to offer the following suggestions to improve Proposal 12 and make it more consistent with the stated objectives of the Commission. First move all of Pondera County, now split between the west and east districts, to the east district. While that would divide a small portion of the Blackfeet Reservation from the rest of the Reservation, it would keep Pondera County whole. Second move Powell County from the west district to the east district, since it shares social, economic, and cultural values with Lewis and Clark County and the counties to the east. Third move Park County from the east district to the west district, since it shares social, economic, and cultural values with Gallatin County and the counties to the west.

The revised Proposal 12 with these changes would not split any counties. This proposal would include most of two Native American reservations in the west district and the remaining reservations in the east district. This proposal would create a reasonably competitive western district, rather than two districts which would be dominated by Republicans and would never be competitive.

These maps will be the basis for our political representation for the next decade and it's important that the maps fairly reflect our communities. Thank you for taking the time to read my public comment.

Scot Anderson
3825 Trails End Rd., Missoula, MT 59803

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Nancy Armistead](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:16:18 PM

I urge the Commission to reject CP 12 and adopt proposal 11 which has broad tribal and public support. Our democracy is dependent upon equitable representation and not on partisan politics. The Commission should reconsider the tentative plan and put forth a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals.

Respectively submitted,

Nancy Armistead
27643 White Swan Rd
Polson, MT 59860
narmistead@mac.com
804.356.6272

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: David Aronofsky
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 4:49:10 PM

From: David Aronofsky aronofskydavid@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

Splitting Pondera County is dumb, unnecessary and arguable illegal to the extent leaving it intact meets all other districting requirements because of the mandate to keep all subdivisions together to the extent this can be done. Stop trying to achieve mathematical precision between the two districts because this is not legally required. The more I think about this issue overall the more I think that to achieve competitiveness Flathead should be taken out entirely of the western district and Cascade plus a couple of smaller counties bordering it should be put in. As indicated in my prior comment, doing this actually closes the gap between the two main parties by a lot of votes based on the 2020 election results. I stand by those comments and urge the Commission to adopt them.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: April Barnes
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:48:06 PM

From: April Barnes ajunebarnes@gmail.com
Residence: Manhattan, Montana

Message:

The commission decided to add 2 maps for final consideration at the last moment, without adequate time for public input.

The commission set criteria that any map approved would have to meet and then chose Map 12, that does not meet the stated criteria.

The commission said they would consider public input but then ignored it.

The commission, with these actions, has failed to properly represent the citizens of Montana.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: peggy barta
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 4:05:50 PM

From: peggy barta pbarta02@gmail.com

Residence: Billings

Message:

Dear friends and neighbors: First, thank you for all the work you've put into this important decision.

I do wish you'd reconsider. Map 12 doesn't look like it meets the criteria for choosing the boundaries of Montana's new congressional district.

Please choose another.

Thank you,

Peggy Barta

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Karen Bashkirew](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] We favor CP 11
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:00:05 PM

NO to CP 12. It us unfair and uncompetitive. WE FAVOR CP 11. Thank you for your hard work! PLEASE reconsider and CHOOSE CP 11.

Karen and Nikolai Bashkirew

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jack Batsel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps 11 and 13 are better choice
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:22:45 AM

Commissioners

Thank you for considering my input from an earlier email. Of the four finalists Map 11 best meets the criteria the commission agreed upon at the start. It is population equal, minimizes the division of communities and is within the range considered to be competitive. Please choose this map.

Jack Batsel

Butte MT

From: [Max Baucus](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Clarification
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:21:38 AM

Dear Members of the Montana Redistricting and Apportionment Committee,

Thank you for your service to our great state. I write to clarify that my letter submitted with former Montana Gov. Marc Racicot was not an endorsement of any specific congressional map, including map #12, as has been suggested by some.

With best personal regards, I am.

Sincerely,

Max S. Baucus

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Stacy Bausch
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:43:10 AM

From: Stacy Bausch stacethegreatest@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell MT

Message:

Areas separated by natural geographical or artificial barriers that prevent transportation by vehicle on a maintained road shall be avoided when not in conflict with the commission's adopted criteria and goals.

CP11 is the map that carves out Kalispell to the East and leaves Whitefish in so they can pad more liberal votes in the west district without Kalispell watering it down with conservatives while both are in the same area – western MT.

Stated goals:

1. Lines not to be drawn to favor a political party
2. Minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and reservations.
3. Keep communities of interest intact (further definition of what that means in the link above)

Problem with both maps, particularly CP11, it is drawn to favor a political party, the Democrats, which is clear in the removal of Kalispell and inclusion of Whitefish in order to draw in a more liberal leaning area in the SE and carve out more conservative voters in Kalispell to offset the population gained pulling in the SE. That's a violation of all three goals above. Communities of interest DOES NOT include political leanings. Keeping political leanings together is a violation of goal #1. I noticed many/most of the comments in favor on the map use this excuse to favor the map – keep like minded areas together – what the means is keep liberal voting areas together – a violation of goal #1 and called gerrymandering. All things in goal 3 are everything BUT politics. Montana is a diverse state with all opinions spread around. The logical divide of items in #3 are the east and west sides of the mountain range. Eastern MT is largely farmland with fewer populations centers where Western MT is largely wilderness with more population centers. Eastern side should have representation as should Western – the line should be the mountain range with the population adjustment to equalize done where they meet – which is in the southern portion of the state where the population is – the northern is Glacier National park where it would be too difficult to make the population differences and be in alignment with state law. This probably means dividing a county in the southern part of the state where East and West divides which is much more in alignment than dividing Flathead county which is completely west of the mountain range. This is the only logical solution and approach which satisfies both the goals set forth by the committee and state law. Fact is, Montana, at large, does favor more conservative candidates as we can see by our elected officials currently – manipulating the geographic lines to try and force representation of the minority is not right. Lets divide the state per state law and goals set forth and let folks win elections by debating ideas that those communities agree with.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Sheila Bell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP-12. VOTE NO
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:32:44 PM

CP-12 is unfair & does not allow true representation of regular folks, the Tribes or collective union voices.

VOTE #11 which represents your own original criteria!

Sheila M Bell
41619 Pine Hill
Polson, MT 59860

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Berglund
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 3:50:20 PM

From: Deborah Berglund bearcanyonllamas@hotmail.com
Residence: bozeman

Message:

It appears that the Republicans are trying to pull a fast one. An 80 acre Religious school will turn the population in Gallatin County into a more Republican ideology. Please take this into consideration. Adding Helena into the W district may balance the future changes in the Bozeman population. Left alone this school will turn the tide on the whole map you have worked so hard to balance.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Norbert Madshus](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP-12
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:28:37 AM

I live in Park County, Montana and I disapprove of CP-12
“ KEEP PARK COUNTY in the Western District “
LISTEN to the VOTERS who overwhelmingly disapprove of Republicans
attempt to rig our fair Elections !!!

Steve Bickwermert
512 South 12th Street
Livingston, Montana 59047

From: cbicreek@stignatius.net
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Meeting on Nov.9
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:05:45 AM
Importance: High

Like Flathead Reservation Human Rights Coalition,Inc. on Facebook.com/frhrc2 and follow our blog at https://urldefense.com/v3/_http://frhrc2.wordpress.com_!!GaaboA!4C30IH2FNOqsPDR7bxf3yPfN1oZ4whN1EWObM8ClwpJmkhuvqPZPX1ylmiuwPEqLXogS

Dear Commission Members:

My husband Robert and I do not believe Map 12 fulfills the goals you set for yourselves to design a competitive map where all candidates would have a chance to compete and win.

Republicans are favored heavily in both districts, all but ensuring a 2 Republican congressional delegation for the next decade. The plan is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it passed its criteria.

The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it. That's wrong for this state.

This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard. It also handicaps Native voices to be heard as well!
We live on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Lake County.

This Commission should reconsider this tentative plan and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals.

Thank you for your consideration in choosing a more competitive map like Map 11.

Sincerely,

Cathy & Robert Billie
61938 Telcostair Lane
St. Ignatius MT

From: [Kim Birck](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New maps
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:04:08 AM

Hello,

While I tend to have a preference for either of the maps that would give the Dems a fighting chance to be competitive in ONE district, my real preference would be TWO AT-LARGE SEATS, as Montana had when Jeannette Rankin was elected to Congress.

The State of Montana would be best represented by the two top vote getters chosen by ALL THE VOTERS in the state.

Is this legally feasible? I think it would be the most fair way to elect our representatives, and would eliminate any possibility of gerrymandering the districts.

Thank you,
Kim Birck
Missoula
406-543-4452

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lara Birkes](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Park County in the Western District
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:04:32 PM

Dear Districting Commission,

As a Park County resident I was very disappointed to see CP 12 move forward.

Montanans, including tribes, overwhelmingly preferred CP 11. The Commission asked the public to weigh in on CP 12, and Montanans overwhelmingly disapproved of it. The Commission ignored the voices of Tribes in moving an uncompetitive map forward. CP 12 gives Republicans a massive electoral advantage and all but ensures that no Democrat has a chance to hold either seat for the next decade. Please find a compromise on Tuesday to make CP 12 more competitive so everyone has a voice in our democracy.

Thank you for your time and public service,

Lara Birkes

Deep Creek Rd
Livingston, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Thomas Black
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:42:22 PM

From: Thomas Black tommb_2000@yahoo.com
Residence: Missoula Mt

Message:
I vote for plan 11 for voting redistricting.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Janet Blackler, EA](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I oppose Proposal 12
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 6:05:26 PM

- Members of the Commission:
- I urge the Commission to reject Proposal 12 for the following reasons:
 -
 -
 - The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it. That's wrong for this state.
 - This plan separates Butte from Helena and Jefferson County, which has the effect of kneecapping the voices of organized labor in this state. This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard.
 - The greater Gallatin economy is severed under this plan. Townsend and Livingston belong with Gallatin County in a Congressional district. Our state's future will be increasingly driven by growth in the greater Gallatin economy. Intentionally chopping it up is the wrong decision for Montana.
 - This Commission should reconsider this tentative plan and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commission members, and for your careful consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,
Janet S. Blackler
Bigfork, MT 59911

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:Mail[go.microsoft.com]) for Windows

From: [Randy Blackwell](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Monday, November 1, 2021 6:37:39 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Randy Blackwell and I live in Ravalli County in Florence. I was raised in western MT and moved back after living in WA state and have been a resident since 2007.

I support map 11 because it does not favor a political party.

I believe that map 11 makes a competitive district and is best for ALL of us.

Thank you so much for your public service and I truly appreciate your reviewing my comments. Have a good day.

Regards,
Randy Blackwell
326 Bullrun Rd
Florence, MT 59833

From: [Carol Blake](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New district....
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:35:49 AM

I am writing to urge you to support Proposal 11 in your re-districting efforts. #11 has the most support throughout the state and altho favors Republicans, it at least gives Democrats a fighting chance. #12 does NOT do that. Please vote for Proposal 11 that most of folks in Montana want.

Carol Blake
Eureka, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mark Bolt
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:02:45 PM

From: Mark Bolt mbolt948@bresnan.net
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

I think map 12 might be the all around best one proposed so far. It doesn't have everything that either side originally wanted, but it keeps the districts compact and it keeps all of the counties together instead of splitting up a couple to pull certain voters into or out of a district. I think map 13 is a terrible option. For one it breaks up 2 important counties. And it puts Belgrade in the East and Bozeman in the West. I think that is the very definition of gerrymandering.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Districting and Apportionment Commission
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:05:12 PM

From: Barbara Bonifas <barbarabonifas@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:51 AM
To: Vande-Sandt, Heather <Heather.Vande-Sandt@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Districting and Apportionment Commission

Heather Vande-Sandt
Montana Districting Commission

I regret that I am unable to provide oral testimony today due to a medical appointment. I would appreciate your confirming the Commissioners received my comments below submitted November 2, 2021.
Thank you.

Tue, Nov 2, 7:37 PM (2 days ago)

Support CP Map 13 and CP Map 11.
Commissioners

Thank you for your work over these many months to consider and create fair boundaries for Montana Congressional Districts. I am writing to express my support for CP Map 13 and CP Map 11. These two maps provide the best opportunity for an equal playing field for all candidates; they honor historical political boundaries of unified counties and cities and respect communities' common concerns for the dominant natural resources within each district.

I have lived and owned my home in Helena, Montana since 1970. Along with working in public service for 50 years, I have voted in EVERY election to date and was honored to serve as an Election Judge in statewide and national elections. Maintaining Montana's rich history of citizen involvement and participation is vital to our way of life and reaps great benefits to the State.

I am reassured by the Law's clear call for creation of competitive Congressional districts where all qualified candidates have the opportunity to meet citizens, express their opinions, and earn or not earn support from voters. Equal playing fields.

CP Maps 10 and 12 are crystal-clear examples of one-party Gerrymandering. They seem solely intended to benefit the Montana Republican Party and its candidates in future elections. I am deeply concerned CP Maps 10 and 12 purposefully divide current and historically-joined communities of like interests. Example: the slicing of Park to the East and Gallatin to the West -- and dividing Jefferson County from Butte despite the many Jefferson County residents who work and attend school in Butte. These illogical and unfair boundaries should be rejected.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this important process; and to express my support for CP Maps 11 and 13.

Regards,
Barbara Bonifas
421 Monroe Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
406.431.4268

From: [Faye Boom](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:26:52 AM

Montanans overwhelmingly approved of Map 11 but the Commission ignored them and produced the Republican favored Map 12. Map 12 gives Republicans a certain advantage and almost guarantees that Democrats will not be able to win a seat in the state. Even the Tribes do not approve of Map 12 but would prefer Map 11. This was supposed to be a bi-partisan, competitive map. Map 12 is not that. Map 11 is not perfect either but it is the better choice.

From: [charmaine bora](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] new district
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:10:56 PM

Please consider making changes to Map #12 to better reflect the population of Montana. Native tribes' views have not been fully considered. The two districts should be more competitive. The current map favors one political party over another - not the intent stated when this process started.

thank you in advance for your consideration.

c bora
bozeman mt

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting—Congressional
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:57:38 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Bonnie Bowler <bowler@bresnan.net>
Sent: Thursday, November 4, 2021 3:57 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting—Congressional

Redistricting Committee: Please put your power behind Map#11 for the creation of two congressional districts in Montana. It just makes sense. Thank you.

Bonnie Bowler
807 E 6th
Helena. MT. 59601

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Boychuck
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:41:08 AM

From: Anne Boychuck aboychuck@me.com
Residence: Bigfork Montana

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
- I don't like CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- Keep Lewis and Clark county whole

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Daniel Boychuck
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:07:34 AM

From: Daniel Boychuck dboychuck@me.com
Residence: Bigfork, MT

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
- I don't like CP11 because it puts most of Flathead county in the east.
- CP11 is not in the best interest of Montanans. I don't support it
- CP13 splits too many counties
- Keep Lewis and Clark county whole

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pamela Boyd
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 6:26:22 AM

From: Pamela Boyd pamboyd123@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

How could you pick 12? I thought you wanted a map that would not favor one party over the other? This map s clearly a Republican district. This leaves no fair chance of electing anyone but a Republican. I am outraged.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pamela Boyd
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:45:43 PM

From: Pamela Boyd pamboyd123@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

I am in favor of
proposals 11 or 13.

I am against Proposal 12:

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. That's not competitive and intentionally drawing both districts to heavily favor the Republican party violates this Commission's goal of not unduly favoring a political party.

Republicans won every single statewide election in both of these districts in the most recent election. There were 8 statewide races in 2020 and Republicans won all of them in both districts. That is clearly not meeting any basic definition of competitiveness that this Commission unanimously adopted as a goal.

This plan separates Butte from Jefferson County. People commute from Jefferson County into Butte every single day, and it makes no sense at all to separate the two communities.

This plan intentionally cracks the union vote to separate workers who have banded together for more equitable workplace standards. Separating Helena union workers from their brothers and sisters in Butte, Anaconda, and Deer Lodge isn't just bad policy. It's immoral.

This plan slices Park County off from Gallatin. Livingston is a vital part of the greater Galaltin regional economy, and their interests will be ignored in District 2.

This plan 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.

This plan 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 Congressional representative.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: boylej@bresnan.net
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Proposed Congressional Districting
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 11:17:37 AM

How disappointed I was to read about your preference of Map proposal 12 in the 2022 election. Anyone in their right mind could figure out that Jesus Christ himself could not win, running as a Democrat, in the Eastern District of Montana it doesn't matter what Jeff Eastman says about the quality of the candidate superseding political bias. Therefore your only reasonable choice would be to select a Map Proposal that gave the Democrats a better chance of securing one of our Congressional seats instead of Map Proposal 12 which gives the Republicans a better chance of winning both Congressional seats. Please for us Montanans who are looking for some equity in our political balance, reconsider Proposals 11 or 13 as your choice on November 14th, PLEASE!!!

Jim Boyle , Missoula

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 27, 2021, at 8:51 PM, boylej@bresnan.net wrote:

>

> Any government works better with a balanced political assembly. At this time the state of Montana is terribly unbalanced with one party leading both the legislative and executive branch. Will we survive this political imbalance , time will tell.

> If this committee selects map proposal 10 it would only add to the danger of one political party in the state of Montana in complete dominance. Would selecting map proposal 11 give our state at least a chance of rebalancing Absolutely!!!For the sake of Democracy please give Montana the chance to rebalance ,select map proposal 11

> Thank You

> Jim Boyle, Missoula

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: jacqueline_brazil@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jacqueline Brazil](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Requesting adherence to the agreement
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 6:22:45 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I respectfully ask that you reject Maps 10 and 12 (especially 12!) and go with Map 11; it is clearly the only one still being considered that meets the agreed-upon criteria. Montana has been a bastion of political fairness for so many years, it's hard to watch this process extended with the consideration of new proposals that are less fair and fitting than some of the ones originally offered. The work you're doing will have long consequences, and will set the tone for our ability to work together for the good of Montanans. Thank you for listening and hearing my concerns.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Brazil
218 Canyon Creek Rd Hamilton, MT 59840-9313
jacqueline_brazil@hotmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Noreen Breeding
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:20:13 AM

From: Noreen Breeding rog7nor@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

The best choice for the new Congressional districts is Map 11. It meets all the criteria set forth in state law and all of the goals agreed on by the Districting Commission in July. It is supported by Native American organizations. The districts it outlines are more compact than those in Map 12.

Map 12 is the wrong choice for the new congressional districts for many reasons.

- It fails to achieve most of the goals set by the Districting Commission in July.
- It is opposed by Native Americans. Jacqueline DeLeon of the Native American Rights Fund said, "Our expert found that map 12 was not competitive except in exceptional instances." (November 4, 2021 Montana Public Radio) "Keaton Sunchild, political director for the group Western Native Voice, said although they were initially neutral about it, his organization prefers map number 11..." (October 26, 2021 Public News Service)
- It favors the Republican Party.
- It separates communities of interest. Park County is tightly connected geographically, socially and economically to Gallatin County. Lewis and Clark, Missoula, and Gallatin counties all host universities and share "demographics, communication and transportation networks, social, cultural, historic, and economic interests and connections, or occupations and lifestyles."
- The inclusion of two Indian reservations is more window dressing than actual advantage as Native Americans have realized. They want to be included in a competitive district not a partisan district which Map 12 creates.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Paula Jean Breithaupt
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:49:19 AM

From: Paula Jean Breithaupt pjb2kjb@gmail.com
Residence: Philipsburg, Montana

Message:

Please use common sense in Montana's redistricting

Please don't divide counties between the two districts

As a independent voter I am tired of the party bickering – your job is easy – stop thinking of your political party and start thinking of Montana

Divide the state by population East/West and go home you are wasting Montana's time and money

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michael Breslow
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 4:14:22 PM

From: Michael Breslow mbreslow@msn.com
Residence: Noxon, MT

Message:

I don't agree with using map 12. I believe map 11 does a better job at ensuring fair elections

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Ken Heather Britton](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 9:49:20 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the four proposed Montana redistricting map alternatives. Dividing counties is not a preferred choice of action. It would lead to too much confusion among voters. The selected alternative should reflect this whenever possible. My preferred alternative is Map #11, though I would also support alternatives #13 and #12 (in that order). Alternative #10 is the weakest alternative because it divides counties too radically.

Thank you.

Ken Britton

Pray, Montana

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Douglas Broadie
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 1:54:31 PM

From: Douglas Broadie dbroadie@isomedia.com
Residence: McAllister, MT

Message:

I cannot believe that you would bow to political pressure rather than the will of the people by choosing Map 12. Please revise this to Map 11 (I believe) which does not bow to political pressure from either party.

Thank You,
Doug Broadie

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Ana Brown](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please reconsider district map
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:19:38 PM

I was disappointed to hear that the commission pushed forward Map #12 as the option for the 2 MT districts. Both of the districts in the map lean heavily Republican. Our state is 40-45% Democratic, and this map doesn't reflect that breakdown.

Some additional points:

1. Our tribes' concerns were ignored when Map #12 was put forward.
2. Map 12 gives the GOP a serious electoral advantage and makes it so a Democrat will probably not hold either seat for at least 10 years.
3. 45% of Montanans shouldn't be ignored by the redistricting commission.

When you review the map, please consider changing it so that the two districts are competitive and that our tribes and 45% of Montanans aren't ignored in the process. Our representatives should be chosen by the people in Montana which means that our district lines shouldn't play a part in deciding an election. Montanans used to be termed the most independent voters in the country since we have, in the past, voted split tickets based on the person running for the office (not party affiliation). It would be a shame to lose that freedom of choosing the best option for us because of a district line.

Thank you for all of your hard work on this project, and I hope that you reconsider approving Map #12 for the sake of all Montanans.

Ana Brown
Bozeman, MT

From: [Jeannie Brown](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map CP12
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:46:01 PM

I am deeply saddened that the commission has chosen CP12 when so many Montanans were against it. If this is not changed to be more competitive, you have guaranteed two Republican representatives for the next ten years.

Virjeana Brown

From: [Yvonne Brutger](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:45:39 AM

I would like to express my strong disapproval of the proposed CP 12 Map for redistricting Montana. I live in the city of Livingston. We are a community that relies heavily on tourism and are closely tied economically to Gallatin County. The interests of our citizens are very different from those of the rural, agricultural eastern parts of the state. If our community is included in the eastern district, our US Representative would have very little motivation to listen to the concerns of our citizenry.

I request that you include Livingston, MT in the western US House District.

Yvonne Brutger
612-327-6151
ybrutger@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Roxanne Bryant
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:03:57 PM

From: Roxanne Bryant bryantr1960@gmail.com
Residence: Lima, MT

Message:

Both of the proposed maps divide counties between the two districts. That was a requirement of the task force and commission. I would prefer a different proposal that leaves Gallatin county intact as well as Pondera county. The districts may not be equal in size. Dividing counties makes for election difficulties as these divisions are in paper only and there is nothing relating that division to the real world. Montana looks the same on both sides of this dividing line. Be careful you do not split the state even more dividing neighbor against neighbor. Thanks for your time.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carol Buchanan
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 2:14:20 PM

From: Carol Buchanan carol@carol-buchanan.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT 59901

Message:

The Districting and Apportionment map, CP12, is the best of all the maps submitted for public comment by the Districting and Apportionment committee. It keeps the Blackfeet and CKST (Kutenai/Salish) reservations intact, which gives them more unifying power during elections. Further, it minimizes any damage done by splitting counties, particularly Flathead County. It balances the populations of Western and Eastern Montana by giving Eastern Montana a near-equal population with Western Montana, with only a one-citizen difference.

This has been a difficult process for the Committee, but this map gives voters confidence in the process. Thank you to the Committee!

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Carol Buchheit](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Against CP12...FOR CP11
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:12:04 PM

I believed, perhaps naively, it would be possible for a bipartisan commission to redistrict our State fairly. Particularly after I saw the goals adopted by the Committee.

However, I am most disappointed at CP12 being the Committee's current favored proposal. I must STRENUOUSLY OBJECT to a redistricting plan that is blatantly not in keeping with the goals the committee itself adopted. What would be the reason for adopting something that will render votes meaningless if not to promote single-party power? None of the rationales I have seen make sense.

Other than it just simply being wrong, four specific objections to CP12 are:

1. Again, the Commission's tentative final plan does not meet the goals the Commission set for itself.
2. Republicans are favored heavily in both districts, all but ensuring a 2 Republican congressional delegation for the next decade. The plan is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it passed its criteria. **WE NEED DIVERSITY IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE to make us stronger. One-party dominance, especially encoded in law, is a dangerous place to take us.**
3. All tribes who spoke up on this critical issue, spoke with one voice. They wanted as many reservations as possible in a competitive district, and now their words are being twisted and used as a justification for a plan that puts every reservation in the state in a district where their Representative can ignore their voices.
4. **The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it.**

Why?

Please do the right thing and adopt Proposal 11 which gives the OPPORTUNITY for someone other than a Republican to serve our State.

From: [Patricia Buck](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 10:34:07 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Patricia Buck

I have lived in Granite county for 45 years. I lived in Montana my whole life. My grandfather was homesteader in Montana.

I support map 11. It appears to be the most honest and sensible.

Map 11 doesn't unduly favor one political party and makes a competitive district.

Thanks for your and your consideration.

Regards,
Patricia Buck
38 Old Hwy 10A
Drummond, MT 59832

From: Anne Buckley
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please find a compromise to CP 12
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 9:55:33 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I testified before you on Thursday, November 4 about the importance of keeping Park County in the new western district as our needs will be ignored and our voices will be silenced in the eastern district. CP 12—the last-minute offering by the Republicans approved on Thursday—does just that. With CP 12, you have sentenced us to a decade in exile just as our needs are greatest as we face rapid growth and other challenges as part of the Greater Gallatin Economic Region.

Moreover, CP 12 unduly favors the Republican party by splitting voting areas that would have supported healthy political debate and well-contested elections. CP 12 effectively squashes political compromise and the ability for all Montanans to be fairly represented in Washington.

Please ensure that Park County and all Montanans have a say in who speaks for us in Washington, and please structure a compromise to CP 12. It's not too late!

Thank you again for all of your hard work and dedication.

Sincerely yours,
Anne Buckley
5 Fox Run
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Bukantis
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:04:14 AM

From: Robert Bukantis bob@bukantis.com
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I support Proposed Map 11 because it does not split counties, and from my perspective best meets fair and competitive redistricting goals. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Mary McGarry Burke](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting proposals
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:13:43 AM

Thank you for all the work you have done and continue to do. It has been a very involved and tedious process. With that in mind I find it ridiculous that you have now opened up another session of requesting input through written comment and testifying. I drove to Helena last weekend with a group of people who testified in room 102. It is time to make a decision!. You set the criteria for this adoption. Follow your own established criteria! Proposals 11 and 13 meet your criteria. They are fair and equitable. Proposals 11 and 13 give everyone a voice. I am not asking for my candidate to win. I am asking that candidates have to listen to ALL their constituents. Please don't take my voice away!

Sincerely,

Mary McGarry Burke

6455 Linda Vista Blvd.

Missoula, Montana 59803

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows

From: [Ann Marie Bushong](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Map 11
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 1:28:01 PM

Below are some of the reasons why CP 12 is a bad plan for Montana:

The Commission's tentative final plan does not meet the goals the Commission set for itself.

Republicans are favored heavily in both districts, all but ensuring a 2 Republican congressional delegation for the next decade. The plan is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it passed its criteria.

All tribes who spoke up on this critical issue, spoke with one voice. They wanted as many reservations as possible in a competitive district, and now their words are being twisted and used as a justification for a plan that puts every reservation in the state in a district where their Representative can ignore their voices. This is yet another example of Montana's government ignoring tribal voices.

The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support, yet this Commission is passing a plan with little to no public record behind it. That's wrong for this state.

This plan separates Butte from Helena and Jefferson County, which has the effect of kneecapping the voices of organized labor in this state. This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard.

The greater Gallatin economy is severed under this plan. Townsend and Livingston belong with Gallatin County in a Congressional district. Our state's future will be increasingly driven by growth in the greater Gallatin economy. Intentionally chopping it up is the wrong decision for Montana.

This Commission should reconsider this tentative plan and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and goals.

Please reconsider your choice. LISTEN to the people. Map 11 is the choice of Montanan's.

Ann Marie Bushong
Helena

From: [Maureen Byrne](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP12
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 11:29:54 AM

Dear Commissioners;

I'm from Park County and when I heard about the choice of CP12 going forward I felt like my voice in our democracy had been silenced. The reaction from the Tribes voices a similar complaint.

Cp11 is the map that best ensures the majority of Montanans' voices are heard and represented in Congress. Keep democracy strong and alive! Choose CP11 over CP12.

Thank you for your consideration.

Maureen Byrne
314 S. 9th St.
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [Mary Caferro](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] testimony
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:45:20 AM

Dear Madame Chair and member of the commission,

Thank-you for your time and work.

A competitive district is extremely important to Montanans as it provides the opportunity for honest and fair representation. Please reject Map 12.

I have served in the legislature for nine sessions. In the sessions that were a 50-50 split or close, collaboration and bipartisanship were the norm, and the people of Montana won the day. However, in the sessions with large majorities the work was partisan and prioritized the majority's agenda rather than the people's agenda.

Map 12 works against the best interest of the people of Montana and I respectfully request that you reject Map 12.

A competitive district is extremely important to Montanans as it provides the opportunity for accessible engagement in campaigns for all people. Please reject Map 12.

I have seen a lifetime of campaigns. Some were competitive and some were not. In the competitive campaigns the people of Montana, not just the voters, were engaged in their elections in an inclusive, and accessible manner. Candidates worked to meet people where they were at, to understand issues experienced by the people they sought to represent.

Map 12 sets up barriers to participation in our Democracy by favoring one party over another and has the inherent effect of excluding the dreams and hopes of those for whom politics is a luxury. Please prioritize all Montanans in your decision, please reject Map 12.

Sincerely,

Representative Mary Caferro HD 81

PO Box 668

Helena, MT 59624--

Representative Mary Caferro

HD 81

PO Box 668

Helena, MT 59624

406-461-2384

www.marycaferro.com [marycaferro.com]

From: [Maryanne Vollers](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No to 12!
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:36:45 AM

Dear Districting Commission,

In what universe is Map 12 a fair and competitive division of Montana? It splits Park County, where I live, from Gallatin, where I shop, eat, recreate, and where many of my neighbors in Livingston go to work every day. It carves Helena out of the rest of it's county to artificially place it in the East, disenfranchising its voters.

If Ms. Smith cannot accept 11, why not go for a true compromise, and quickly come up with an alternative that keeps counties together -- Lewis and Clark in the West, and Flathead in the East, where it belongs. With all the Republicans moving to Kalispell and environs, that should take care of the growth issues that seem to worry you. You slammed through Map 12. Why not an equally speedy Map 14?

Please don't make Montana more of a laughing stock and discourage business investment by adopting such a blatantly uneven and unfair map.

Sincerely,

Maryanne Vollers Campbell
724 West Lewis Street
Livingston, MT 59047
406-222-0589

From: [Mary Campbell](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 2:20:43 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Pam Fuqua, and I have lived in Yaak, Montana, since 1998.

I support map 11 because it is nonpartisan, and will lead to fair elections.

Map 11 will make the district more competitive.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this very important issue.

Regards,
Mary Campbell
34902 Yaak River Rd
Troy, MT 59935

From: [William Campbell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP-12 - Please Reconsider CP-11
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:57:29 AM

As a resident of Park County I feel that CP-12 is a deliberate attempt to disenfranchise democratic voting in the county. Park County is tied to Gallatin and western counties in all that we do. CP-12 removes any semblance of fairness or competition for the upcoming elections. It will reflect poorly in the eyes of the nation for years to come. Please reconsider CP-11.

William Campbell
724 W. Lewis St.
Livingston. MT 59047

From: [Jenna Caplette](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Input on maps
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 6:28:11 PM

I don't know why you requested public input on the proposed Congressional maps if you were going to ignore that input and approve a fairly partisan breakout. Many of us spent quite some time researching, trying to better understand options. The majority of Montanas favored map 11. So of course, you voted through map 12, which, of course, gives Republicans an electoral advantage.

Is there some hope that politics in Montana can still reflect citizen will? Please find a compromise to make CP12 competitive so Montana can be what it once was, a representative state, a democracy.

Virginia Caplette

From: [Bruce Carroll](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 7:39:46 PM

Apolitical??? Right...

Get [Outlook for Android \[aka.ms\]](#)

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donna Caruso-Hirst
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 3:36:15 PM

From: Donna Caruso-Hirst badger@3riversdbs.net
Residence: VALIER

Message:

I have been participating in the comment process and I wanted to make 1 final comment. In my previous comments, I applauded the Commission on the choice of their criteria. I was upset to see that you were recommending Map 12 which doesn't meet the most important criteria of having competitive districts not favoring one political party. Please reconsider Map 11 so that at least one district would be competitive giving an opportunity for all citizens of Montana to have a voice in choosing their elected official. Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

Dear Commissioners,

I believe that a state's prosperity has proven to be enhanced by a balanced political approach to the management of its elected government officials. That can only occur when the voting districts are set to make them as competitive as possible. Map CP11 does that best and splitting voting blocks as CP12 does dilutes their ability to get their ideas and positions heard. CP12 gives Republicans both districts for the next decade. Is that really what the Commission wants?

I do understand how difficult it is to be tasked with such difficult decisions in these polarized political environments, but it is for this reason that I believe this decision is even more important. Government works best when its elected officials are more evenly balanced.

Thank you for your hard work. It is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Duane Catlet

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Dean Center
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 8:34:45 PM

From: Dean Center garbage4me@ymail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Map 12 is already out of compliance with the districting requirement to have equal populations in each district. The Flathead and Gallatin Valleys are growing so fast, that the Western district is already a couple thousand people larger than the Eastern district. The inequality will get worse each year until the next districting commission corrects this error.

Map 12 is inconsistent with one person one vote.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Written In Stone](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: redistricting
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 7:08:14 PM

Please vote in favor of plan #11. This is a fair plan that truly represents Montana voters equitably.

On Wed, Nov 3, 2021 at 9:52 PM Written In Stone <proctor.mt@gmail.com> wrote:
Please do not vote in favor of plan #12. This is a biased plan that does not truly represent Montana voters equitably.

On Fri, Oct 29, 2021 at 9:27 PM Written In Stone <proctor.mt@gmail.com> wrote:
Please vote in favor of plan #13 as it appears to be the most fair proposal for all Montanans.

--

"I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

--

"I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

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"I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

From: [Written In Stone](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: new Congressional map
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 7:10:08 PM

I encourage you to vote for CP #11.

Thank you,
Barry Chandler
Proctor, MT

On Sat, Oct 30, 2021 at 1:50 PM Written In Stone <proctor.mt@gmail.com> wrote:

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

It's population equal
It only splits one area (Flathead County)
It's 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

--

"I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

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"I put my heart and my soul into my work, and have lost my mind in the process." - Vincent Van Gogh

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Julie Chapman
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 9:06:42 AM

From: Julie Chapman julie@JulieTChapman.com
Residence: Huson, MT

Message:

I am dismayed at the choice of Map 12, as this does NOT fulfill the commission's stated objective to create districts that do not unduly favor either party. Map 12 does NOT create a competitive district!

Politics in both our country and our state is full of divisiveness, anger, and outrage – and much of this is fueled by a lack of competitive Congressional seats, as politicians cater to the angry voices at the extreme fringes for fear of being "primaried out". I do not feel that my voice is heard, or that my concerns (about climate change, inequality, and so much more) matter, to Sen. Daines, Rep. Rosendale, or Gov. Gianforte.

Creating competitive districts means that politicians will need to listen to ALL voters in that district, and can help elect more moderate, centrist people — which our state and country desperately need. PLEASE, for the love of our country, go back to Map 11 and help ALL of us be heard!

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Katherine Chase
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:17:04 AM

From: Katherine Chase katherinejchase@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

I support maps 11 and 13.

I oppose map 12.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: ocjinmt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janet Childress](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Reject both Maps CP10 and CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 4:36:59 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I strongly oppose Map 10 (my preference was 11 when we were asked to consider 10 or 11) as I commented at that time>>This plan puts Helena (where I have lived for the last 36 years with the exception of 5 years in Billings) in the eastern district. Helena has much more in common with the western district than with the eastern district. During my time in Billings, I felt like I was a stranger in a strange land and moved back to Helena when I found employment here. Also, historically, when MT previously had two districts, Helena and Butte with their similar interests and culture were in the same district. What happened to the stated goal of keeping communities of interest intact??? Map 10 has no balance. It unduly favors a specific political party. It is a blatant power grab by one party apparently aiming for one party rule. This is classic gerrymandering-the manipulation of an electoral constituency's boundaries so as to favor one party or class, typically the one in power. Either party has a fair shot in District 1 in Map 11. Only one party counts in district 1 in Map 10. If you are not Republican, you are essentially disenfranchised with Map 10. What happened to the idea of a representative democracy? All votes should count. MT is not a monolith; we are a multi-faceted population. CP 10 is another map giving voice to only one segment of the population.

CP12 creates two incredibly noncompetitive congressional districts and violates the commission's own goals and criteria, which it adopted unanimously in July. It separates Helena and Jefferson County from Butte despite these communities sharing cultural, economic, and historical identities.

CP12 is a flagrant attempt to split the union vote in order to split workers (like us) who have banded together for better working conditions, wages, and benefits.

For the above reasons I strongly oppose Map 12. It is GOP gerrymandering and makes the Western District noncompetitive which means no voices but Republican voices will be heard. This map enables partisan politicians to ignore the views and needs at a minimum of approximately 44% of the voters in this state. This is not democracy, in any way, shape, or form. ALL the people in the state have a right to be heard.

Also, Helena and Lewis and Clark County belong in the Western District where we residents share similar economic/labor interests. I support Map 11, but, if you are only considering Maps 12 and 13 then Map 13 is fairer than 12 since 13 lets ALL voices have a chance to be heard and ALL voters are represented.

Sincerely,
Janet Childress
2461 Sunlight Cir Helena, MT 59601-5855
ocjinmt@aol.com

From: [Terry Chute](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:00:31 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Terry Chute. I currently live in Helena, MT and have been here for the past 11 years. I first moved to Montana in 1981 in Lincoln County, and have spent most of the past 40 years there, in Flathead County and in the Helena area.

I support map 11. It closely resembles the districts we had when we previously had two representatives, and it does not favor any one political party.

Montana needs districts that do not favor one party or the other and are politically competitive.

Thank you for your time and service to the people of Montana and for considering my comment.

Regards,
Terry Chute
2440 LeGrande Cannon Blvd
Helena, MT 59601

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gilda Clancy
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:03:03 AM

From: Gilda Clancy g-clancy@peoplepc.com
Residence: Helena Montana

Message:

I support map Cp12. Please don't split Lewis and Clark County!!!

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Nicholas Clark](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] From Nicholas Clark, Emigrant, MT
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 3:27:57 PM

Commission Members:

I was greatly disappointed in your action to chose CP12.

1. CP 12 does not create a competitive district. It greatly favors Republicans.
2. CP 12 as it is does not have the support of the majority of Montanans from what I've read.
3. Montana Native American Tribes are opposed to CP12 as it is and consider it not to be a competitive district.
4. Montana is already an extremely "red" state and needs a map that at least provides a competitive opportunity for a Democratic candidate to win a well fought election campaign in the new district.
5. I live adjacent to Gallatin County in Park County. The two counties have a great deal in common and should be allowed to be in the same congressional district.

Thank you for your careful consideration.

Nick Clark

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Duane Claypool
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 10:27:49 AM

From: Duane Claypool claypool@midrivers.com
Residence: Miles City, Montana

Message:

Please do not select Map 12 for redistricting as it does not meet the criteria you agreed upon for selection. I urge you to select Map 11. It is the only map that meets all of the criteria agreed upon by you to select a map as is the best for all Montanans.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Justin Cleveland
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:32:06 PM

From: Justin Cleveland huskers@3rivers.net
Residence: Fairfield, Mt

Message:

Chairperson Smith
Commissioners,

Thank you for serving this great state of Montana and the effort, thought and time you put into your decisions. Thank you for all the emails read and public input that you read or listened to make those decisions.

Thanks,
Justin Cleveland.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Matthew Cloninger](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 11:34:52 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello. My name is Matthew Cloninger and I moved to Bozeman in 1995 to attend MSU and have lived here 16 of the last 21 years.

I support Map #CP 11.

Map CP #11 has the whole of Gallatin County in the same Congressional district.

Thank you for reviewing my comment.

Regards,
Matthew Cloninger
412 Mineral Ave
Bozeman, MT 59718

From: [Sarah Cobler](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 6:28:06 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hi, my name is Sarah, and I live in Missoula and grew up west of Kalispell.

I strongly support map 11 because it allows fair representation for all Montanans.

This map, as required, does not favor one party over the other, and is competitive. That is good for all of us and creates an environment where all Montanans can be heard in DC.

I appreciate your hard work to date.

Regards,
Sarah Cobler
3930 Fox Farm Rd
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [Karen Cochran](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Montanas new Congress's District
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 8:19:32 AM

To Whom It May Concern

I live and vote in Park County. I would like to ask the Committee to take another run at the Congressional District map...at this reading, the Map is very, very non-competitive...and Districts are suppose to be equally divided!! Please compromise with CP12 and give Tribal communities a voice! And give the many citizens of Park County a fair chance to have a voice in their Federal Government!

Thank you,

Karen Cochran

40 Cutthroat Lane, Jumping Rainbow Ranch, Livingston

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Arnold Cohen
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 3:44:37 PM

From: Arnold Cohen texacohen@yahoo.com

Residence: Missoula

Message:

If you guys are genuine about being fair Map 12 doesn't cut it...but I believe you know that.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Evan H Comella
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 9:37:51 PM

From: Evan H Comella livebythebook@yahoo.com
Residence: Troy Montana 59935

Message:

I support Map 12 because it is a reasonable compromise. Flathead County is more like the other counties in the Western District than like the counties in the Eastern District. Map 12 only splits one county.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [john conlan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Proposals
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 1:29:34 PM

Dear Chairwoman Smith,

Thank you and the commission for all the hard work you all have done concerning the districting proposals. I have been following since the beginning of your work and would like to comment now that four proposals are being presented.

I feel that Congressional Proposal #13 is the best way to fairly divide the state. In my opinion, this proposal keeps the Blackfeet and Flathead Reservations intact. I taught on the Blackfeet Reservation and the tribe deserves the same representative, no matter the Political Party. Both tribes are recognized sovereign nations and should not be divided. As you know, even though we are all Montanans, there are issues specific to rural and urban areas in the state, as well as issues specific to eastern and western Montana. I have lived in both rural and urban areas in Montana and grouping some of our western Montana cities in one district would best address the issues that are specific to urban areas. The same could be said about keeping the eastern rural areas in one district. Potential candidates would have to address these issues specific in their districts to be successful.

As mentioned in the Missoulian this morning, both political parties have had success in this proposed district #13. Having a competitive district would hopefully encourage voting, which is the foundation of a democracy.

Thank you for reading this.

Regards,
John Conlan
1405 S 7th St. W
Missoula 59801

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Camille Consolvo
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 6:32:43 AM

From: Camille Consolvo caconsolvo@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

I do not believe that Map 12 best meets the criteria the Commission unanimously agreed upon. Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party. The competitiveness of districts is not ensured by this map. I would hope that this is considered more seriously before a final decision is made. Thank you.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Gmail\(crestain\)](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT redistricting decision
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 6:22:05 PM

Members of the commission:

I am so disappointed in your tentative decision to select CP12 knowing, as you do, it's impact on Montanans for the next decade. I know you have been at this for awhile, but your work is not done until you have done right by all Montanan's whose voices under CP 12 will be sliced and diced into political silence for at least the next 10 years!

The Commission's tentative final plan does not meet the goals the Commission set for itself. Those of us who have followed this process know this to be true.

For example:

Almost every map we have seen at least slightly favors a republican rep the new district but, CP12 goes above and beyond to ensure republican domination over a diverse range of community voices. CP11, by comparison, gives NON-republicans a chance to get their voices heard.

CP12 is acknowledged, by external statistical evaluators, to create a second noncompetitive district (see Politico's statistical analysis of all the proposed maps). The ONLY rationale to pick such a biased map is political ideology and this commission was entrusted to lift itself above politics and gerrymandering. CP12 is drawn to unduly favor a political party, and this Commission is going back on the promise it made when it announces its criteria.

Additionally, all tribes who spoke up on this critical issue, spoke with one voice. They wanted as many reservations as possible in a competitive district, and now their words are being twisted and used as a justification for a plan that puts every reservation in the state in a district where their Representative can ignore their voices. This is yet another example of Montana's government ignoring tribal voices.

The public record is clear. Proposal 11 had the most public support AND met the commission/MT constitutional requirements. Yet this Commission is planning to pass CP12 with little to no public record behind it. On what basis are you empowered to ignore a map that meets the criteria before you and that also holds the majority of public support?!

CP12 separates Butte from Helena and Jefferson County, which has the effect of kneecapping the voices of organized labor in this state. This plan makes it harder than ever for the voices of working families to be heard. This concern has been raise repeatedly by Montana's and appears to have been pushed aside by politics.

The greater Gallatin economy is severed under this plan. Townsend and Livingston belong with Gallatin County in a Congressional district.

These towns are an intertwined community being torn apart under CP12. The state's future will be increasingly driven by growth in the greater Gallatin economy but the commission's plan seems intent on diluting its collective voice.

I implore you to reconsider CP 12 and adopt a map that meets all of the adopted Commission criteria and which has strong public support. CP11 meets this criteria, is competitive, is fair and you all know this. Let's adopt CP11 and have a free and competitive election for the new representative.

Nancy C. Cornwell
9000 Sandy Creek Lane
Bozeman

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ron Cox
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 9:07:10 AM

From: Ron Cox ronandelva@yahoo.com
Residence: Seeley Lake, MT

Message:

One of the criteria is not to favor political parties. The district map proposed by Republicans, deals a blow to Democrats who hoped to craft a western district that would give them a better chance of winning. The proposed map favors republicans in both districts.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Frank Craighead
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 11:04:39 AM

From: Frank Craighead taojonez1@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Gallatin

Message:
I support map 11 for redistricting.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: eddy a crowley
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 3:48:31 PM

From: eddy a crowley maleecrowley@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:

Chair person Smith:

I implore the impartial Chair person to adhere to the rules the committee adopted for choosing a redistricting map. Map #11 met all the requirements. It was submitted on time. It was the most competitive. The majority of the public support it. Map #12 meets none of these requirements, And the Chair person was required to be neutral(seemly this requirement not being met either).

It therefore appears Map #12 should be out and #11 and #13 in.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [Scarlett Daley](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana redistricting comment
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:12:06 AM

Dear Redistricting Committee,

As a long-time Livingston resident and consistent voter, I, in the strongest possible terms, urge you to reconsider CP 12 and work to make at least one district more competitive between the parties. My understanding is that your committee was entrusted with ensuring that outcome, and yet the CP 12 map does not create anything close to a competitive district. Please use the power of your office to right this consequential mistake. I know I am far, far from alone in making this legitimate request.

Thank you,
Kathryn Daley
Livingston, MT

From: 3dallings@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tamara Dalling](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Reject CP10 and CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 8:38:40 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

. CP12 is especially egregious because it's being sold as a "last minute compromise." While it sure is "last minute," it's anything but a "compromise."

CP12 creates two incredibly uncompetitive congressional districts and violates the commission's own goals and criteria, which it adopted unanimously in July.

CP12 separates Helena and Jefferson County from Butte despite these communities sharing cultural, economic, and historical identities.

CP12 is an unabashed attempt to "split the union vote" in order to split workers (like us) who have banded together for better working conditions, wages, and benefits. (You even said so in the testimony!)

Sincerely,
Tamara Dalling
7 Gardiner View Rd Gardiner, MT 59030-7701
3dallings@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Maureen Davey
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:33:24 PM

From: Maureen Davey mdstirrup@gmail.com
Residence: Columbus, MT

Message:

I support Map CP12 because: 1) it keeps Flathead County in the Western District, 2) includes both the CSKT and Blackfoot 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.

CP12 is in the best interest of the whole state.

Thank you.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathie Daviau
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 2:42:46 PM

From: Kathie Daviau daviauk@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

I believe that Map 12 does not best meet the criteria the Commission unanimously adopted at the start of the redistricting process. The criteria are as follows:

Maps should not be drawn to unduly favor a political party.

The commission shall attempt to minimize dividing cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible.

(Maps should) consider keeping communities of interest intact.

(Maps should) consider ensuring the competitiveness of districts.

Please do not accept Map 12.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patricia Delauter
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 12:13:59 PM

From: Patricia Delauter kakes1949@gmail.com
Residence: Helena, Mt 59601

Message:

I am wholeheartedly for Map 11. Helena SHOULD NOT be included in eastern the eastern Montana district.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Debbie Dent
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 11:23:40 AM

From: Debbie Dent ddent0116@yahoo.com
Residence: Ringling, MT

Message:

I still believe map 11 is our best choice. It meets all the requirements set by the committee. It is extremely important that we show no political bias and have competitive districts. I have always been proud of living in Montana and the neighborhood spirit we inspire. Thank you for your work on this very important project. Respectfully, Debbie Dent

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jack Denton
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:02:18 PM

From: Jack Denton jackdenton3@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

Thank you for all the important work this commission is doing. I strongly believe the commission should choose the proposed map #11. I believe any option that puts all of Lewis and Clark county into the eastern district and cracks Gallatin county is clearly motivated by partisan desires. In addition, if we are to consider the partisan implications-using current trends one would assume with map 11 that the western district would tend to be Democratic and the eastern district would tend to be Republican. That leaves 1 for each. By all accounts map 11 seems to be the fairest option.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cathy Deschamps
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 6:35:03 PM

From: Cathy Deschamps cdayshaw@aol.com
Residence: Missoula,MT

Message:
Map 11 will be the most fair district. We need better balance in MT.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patricia Deveny
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 8:35:51 AM

From: Patricia Deveny devenypat@hotmail.com
Residence: Arlington, Virginia

Message:

I was born in Montana, and although I have not lived in the state for fifteen years, I still have family there and consider Montana my home. I have observed the antics of redistricting and am distressed enough to write these comments.

Gerrymandering is wrong. Both Democratic and Republican proposals are gerrymandered. Over the last 30 years a lone Montana Congressman represented the most people per capita in the nation. Now that Montana qualifies for a second congressional seat, proposals for the new districts parse votes by dividing counties into rural and urban areas that are designed to pre-calculate a balance between red and blue voters between the districts with less than a four count voter difference between the two districts. This manipulation is more egregious than permitting one district to represent a few hundred more voters and keep the counties intact within a district – especially since for the last 30 years Montana citizens were the least represented population per capita in the U.S. House of Representatives in the entire nation.

Counties are usually considered to be the lowest political subdivision for elections. Montana's counties should not be split to attain a near zero population equality. This is gerrymandering between rural and urban areas. Perhaps consider using Montana's six tourism regions as a starting point for defining the two districts. Try to keep the tourism regions intact as much as possible and see how the populations fall between the regions. It is acceptable to divide the tourism regions to attain equity, but it is not reasonable to divide the counties between rural and urban areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Valerie Dewey
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 10:07:37 AM

From: Valerie Dewey valdewey@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

I am writing in support of either CP-11 or CP-13 – neither of which is as good as CP-2. But in contrast to maps 10 and 12 they do a better job of providing a district that represents the ultimate community of interest in Montana – those of us who are moderate, FREEDOM-loving people who value our NEIGHBORS, our LAND, the wide variety that makes Montana unique. We are Republicans, we are Democrats, we are constructive people who want to get things done, with LIBERTY and JUSTICE for all. THANK YOU very much for your work on this.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Christine Dickinson
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 2:31:43 PM

From: Christine Dickinson quietpaths@gmail.com
Residence: St. Ignatius, MT 59865

Message:

I object to the proposed map in that it excludes Lewis and Clark county: Lewis and Clark has demographics very similar to Missoula and other western Montana cities in the state. Balance things out fairly.

St Ignatius was gerrymandered to pair with Cut Bank and Browning in the last gerrymandered redistricting. We have no meaningful representation. Let's not make things worse.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Edward Dickman
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 5:23:58 PM

From: Edward Dickman edward.dickman@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell Montana

Message:

Regarding CP12: while CP10 was a better map, CP12 is acceptable.
Please approve CP12. Many of the other maps (e.g. CP11, CP13) attempted to give undue favor to one political party by making one district much less competitive than the other – in effect trying to move all the competitiveness into just one of the districts in violation of the criteria and goals laid out.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Michele Dieterich
Date: Saturday, November 6, 2021 10:08:25 AM

From: Michele Dieterich telechele@hotmail.com
Residence: Hamilton

Message:

Map 12 does not fulfill the guidelines you agreed to in the beginning. Map 11 seems to fulfill those agreed upon obligations.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Nicholas Dobbel
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 7:16:52 AM

From: Nicholas Dobbel njdobbel@gmail.com
Residence: Roberts MT

Message:

Please choose map CP12 it's the most fair split of the state.
Map CP11 is NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF MONTANANS!
Map 13 splits too many counties
As I've stated map CP12 is the most fair split of Montana.

Thank you,
Nicholas Dobbel

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov))

From: [June Doolittle](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote on the maps.
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:55:20 AM

Hello. I am a resident of Park County in Montana. Following is my take on the vote held last week, approving CP 12:

-- Montanans overwhelmingly disapproved of CP 12 and overwhelmingly approved of CP 11.

-- CP 12 basically makes it impossible for a Democrat to hold either seat FOR THE NEXT DECADE. This is absurd!

-- Are you listening to the voters?

-- Are you listening to the voices of the tribes?

-- DO YOU CARE ABOUT THE CITIZENS OF MONTANA AND WHAT THEY ARE TELLING YOU??

Most sincerely,

June K. Doolittle
PO Box 86
Pray, MT 59065

From: misseyd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Missey Dore](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Whaaatttt? CP10 and CP12 are terrible
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 9:05:08 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commission,

I'm at a loss. This new development in the proposed maps is surprising, confusing and so disappointing. You narrowed the two final proposals, Map 10 and Map 11, but now there are these 2 "compromises"? I see that CP 12 separates Jefferson County and splits Butte and Helena where strong union participation is. Further, Livingston is separated from the rest of Gallatin. Neither district of these two new maps is deemed competitive which is incredibly depressing. That reads gerrymandering and complacent politicians to me. Ugh. Please reject these "compromises" and choose Map 11. It was the closest to the previous congressional districts and best represents the independent, purple spirit of Montana. Thank you for reading and making the right decision, Missey Dore

Sincerely,
Missey Dore
64 Hitching Post Rd Bozeman, MT 59715-9241
misseyd@q.com

From: [Patricia Dowd](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 10:54:13 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Patricia Dowd
12 West Hayes, G3
Bozeman, Montana
Homeowner since 2009
Montana resident since 2004

Map 11

I support keeping Gallatin County in the same district and ensuring Native American votes and voices are fairly represented and heard.

Thank you for your time,
Patricia

Regards,
Patricia Dowd
12 W Hayes St
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sherri Downing
Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021 10:57:09 AM

From: Sherri Downing SherriDowning@charter.net
Residence: Helena, Montana

Message:

I strongly oppose the adoption of congressional districting map CP12, which deliberately skews the way votes are counted in Montana and gives unfair advantage to what is — at present — an extremist group that does not reflect the will of the people. I strongly urge you NOT to adopt this map.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: pkdoyle10@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Doyle](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Necessity to reject CP10 and CP12
Date: Wednesday, November 3, 2021 10:23:35 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.CP 10 and 12 maps are hardly competitive Congressional districts.

They attempt to split communities from uniting around their particular interests and attempt to deny rural as well as union voters their just representation at the ballot box.

Your support these 2 maps would be a travesty, violating your own stated criteria.

I urge you to support equitable map CP11.

Sincerely,

Patricia Doyle

395 Tie Chute Ln Florence, MT 59833-6536

pkdoyle10@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sandra Doyle
Date: Thursday, November 4, 2021 5:24:24 AM

From: Sandra Doyle sandidoyle0@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

Do not split Flathead county in the redistricting our state. I am a lifetime Montanan and can't imagine why Flathead County should be split into 2 different districts other than for political purposes. This is not how Montana should operate. It makes much more sense to make a more regional split than dividing communities and add even more divisiveness to our already fractured country.

--

This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Vance Drain
Date: Friday, November 5, 2021 7:14:55 PM

From: Vance Drain vance.drain@yahoo.com
Residence: Absarokee, MT

Message:

Map12 is very unfair in that it places Livingston and Helen in the eastern district thereby nullifying their populations' centrist leanings. My hope is that you will reconsider the line dividing the Eastern and Western districts in this political landscape, otherwise future elections will not represent the will of the majority of Montanans.

Respectfully,
Vance Drain

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov])

From: [Jane Duncan](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Public Comment for Final Maps
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 5:48:39 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Jane Duncan of Missoula. I have lived in Missoula since 1975.

Please select the most competitive map—Map 11

It's healthier for the state to at least have a shot at bipartisan representation both at the state level and the federal level.

You have a difficult job to do—both in the decision itself and in dealing with any blowback. Thank you for the commitment you've made for Montana

Regards,
Jane Duncan
20 Russell Ct S
Missoula, MT 59801

From: dwyw@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [William Dwyer](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Reject CP10 and CP12
Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021 11:48:23 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please use the criteria that you developed earlier this year and reject these two unfair, uncompetitive maps.

Thank You,

William Dwyer

Sincerely,
William Dwyer
801 S Pacific St Dillon, MT 59725-3528
dwyw@aol.com