

Public Comments: L-R

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between 11:59 p.m. on October 4, 2021,
and 5 p.m. on October 16

Distributed electronically October 16, 2021

From: [Paul Laisy](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 12:34:54 PM

>

> Members of the Districting Commission:

>

> I am a citizen of the State of Montana, having lived in far Eastern Montana for 20 plus years and now Western Montana for 50 plus years. I am submitting this e-mail as my written testimony and to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission on the proposed Congressional Districts. I request that it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations .

>

> I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 is the most appropriate choice for Montana and our diverse citizenship. It follows the law established in House Bill 506 that was passed during the most recent session of our Legislature. Map CP-1 has the best configuration in which the length and width of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts and it divides the fewest number of counties. CP-1 is the map the BEST follows the intent of HB 506 and the will of the citizens of Montana.

>

> There is an attempt by member of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Let us not end up like Washington State and Oregon State, trying to split parts of their States in other States or new States. Map CP_1 BEST meets the criteria set out in law. Of the maps submitted to or created,

> five clearly violate HB 506 and purposely favor the Democratic party and disadvantage the Republicans of our State. This partisan gerrymandering is obvious and completely unacceptable . This type of politics is offensive to Montana citizens that believe in fair, above board play and the rule of law.

>

> I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries of Map CP-1 for our proposed congressional Districts, following our existing laws of Montana.

>

> Thank you for your time and commitment and allowing me to voice my concerns .

>

> Paul Laisy
> 41621 Sunny Slope Dr.
> Polson, Mt. 59860
> 406 883 1621
> laisy@centurytel.net

From: [Lake Farms, Inc.](#)
To: [Districting](#); Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 10:15:12 AM

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I live in a gerrymandered district that goes from Lake County to the Canadian Border. We never see our representatives and they show no interest in participating at our local level. I am extremely concerned with some of the possible proposed congressional district maps that show unfair representation to folks in Western Montana.

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Susan Lake

Address 590969 Hwy 93, Ronan, Montana 59864

Email address Jlake@ronan.net

Telephone number 406-676-4297

From: [Lake Farms, Inc.](#)
To: [Districting](#); Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
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Your name Susan Lake

Address 590969 Hwy 93, Ronan, Montana 59864

Email address Jlake@ronan.net

Telephone number 406-676-4297

From: [Lake Farms, Inc.](#)
To: [Districting](#); Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 10:15:37 AM

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

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I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1

<https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

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In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Susan Lake

Address 590969 Hwy 93, Ronan, Montana 59864

Email address Jlake@ronan.net

Telephone number 406-676-4297

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Shuddhabha Lannen
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 6:28:22 PM

From: Shuddhabha Lannen shuddhabha@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

My name is Shuddhabha Lannen and I live in Franklin to the Fort in Missoula.

It is important to me that every voice in Montana is heard, and some votes do not carry more weight than others. I also do not want to see community interest groups diluted by splitting their voting areas. For these reasons I support a fair maps system.

I have looked at all the proposed maps side by side and I would like to support maps 6 and 9. I chose these because they looked to be the most fairly competitive maps. I am very much against creating districts that favor one political party over another

Thanks for reading my comment and taking my views into account

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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: Amanda K. Larrinaga
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 12:16:27 PM

From: Amanda K. Larrinaga
Residence: Polson, MT

Message:

Looking at how gerrymandering and redistricting have been used to redraw districts in a way that benefits a specific party is a foundational way that democracy has been and will continue to be destroyed.

As you are looking at Montana's updated districts I would encourage you to remember that voting needs to reflect that population and its community needs. The new districts need to be based on similar interests and common demography, culture, and class. And while compactness may appear a way to make it easier, the difference between communities in just a few miles from urban to rural can and are radically different – as are their concerns and needs. Cutting these communities in half can and will shift representative representation for years to come with consequences we can only begin to imagine. As Montana grows and changes, we need to allow for all voices to be heard and to be represented locally and federally. The commission's focus should be on fairness and representation.

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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: Ardis M. Larsen
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:08:13 PM

From: Ardis M. Larsen jlarsen@centurytel.net
Residence: Lakeside

Message:

Map 5 – I like this map because

- it is an attempt to get three tribes in the western district as its primary goal, and falls just under the requirement of .75%, with 7551 population deviation (.7%). It could be argued to fall just under our requirements for compact and contiguous in the effort to get three tribes in the west, splitting the Rocky Boy Reservation components in Hill and Choteau counties off.
- it also closely resembles the historical divide Montana had for 80 years when we had two districts before, adjusting for population and tribe inclusion.
- It allows for an even divide of the 4 fastest growing counties in Montana, 2 on each side, thus insuring the population growth in both seats would keep things even as we grow in the next decade.
- it definitely keeps communities of interest intact and doesn't split any reservations. Again, if we consider the illegal requirement of competitiveness adopted by the commission, both of these districts are very competitive based upon 2016 Governor and 2018 US Senate race results, allowing for either major party in Montana a chance for victory. This map could easily be "the great compromise map of the lot."

Thank you Ardis Larsen

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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: Jeff Larsen
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:03:01 PM

From: Jeff Larsen jlarsen@montanasky.net
Residence: Lakeside, MT 59922

Message:

I urge the adoption of map 5 for the following reasons:

- it is an attempt to get three tribes in the western district as its primary goal, and falls just under the requirement of .75%, with 7551 population deviation (.7%). It could be argued to fall just under our requirements for compact and contiguous in the effort to get three tribes in the west, splitting the Rocky Boy Reservation components in Hill and Choteau counties off.
- it also closely resembles the historical divide Montana had for 80 years when we had two districts before, adjusting for population and tribe inclusion.
- It allows for an even divide of the 4 fastest growing counties in Montana, 2 on each side, thus insuring the population growth in both seats would keep things even as we grow in the next decade.
- it definitely keeps communities of interest intact and doesn't split any reservations. Again, if we consider the illegal requirement of competitiveness adopted by the commission, both of these districts are very competitive based upon 2016 Governor and 2018 US Senate race results, allowing for either major party in Montana a chance for victory. This map could easily be "the great compromise map of the lot."

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

From: michaeldlarsen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Larsen](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 8:54:00 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello,

I want to extend my sincere thanks to you for being on the committee. I know that it can be hard and frustrating work, but also rewarding.

With that said, it is also highly important to make sure the next map is drawn fairly. I feel that map #2 is a great example of valuing the different voices in our great state.

Even if #2 is not your first choice, please make sure you do everything to keep them fair and competitive.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Michael Larsen

920 Eaton St Missoula, MT 59801-3235

michaeldlarsen@gmail.com

From: [k.larson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Support for Congressional District map CP #2
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:28:14 AM

I would also support CP maps 4, 6, 8, and 9. At least the populations are equal and the districts are competitive.

Congressional District map CP 2 remains my top choice.

Thank you -
Kris Larson

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "k.larson" <k.larson@q.com>
Date: 10/13/21 10:55 AM (GMT-07:00)
To: districting@mt.gov
Subject: Support for Congressional District map CP #2

I am asking you to support congressional district commission proposal 2. It's competitive, it's population equal, and it's the ONLY alternative that follows county lines.

This is the one alternative that really makes clear the 2 areas. Following county lines will lead to less disagreements and more understanding by the populace.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kris Larson
560 Sparta Street
Helena, MT 59601

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting map #CP 1
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:30:32 PM

This map is not competitive and I do not support it. Although the population is equal, it sets up a classic east vs. west dynamic that could be very divisive for Montana.

Please reject this map.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 2
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:40:35 PM

I could support this map, as the population is equal and one district is competitive. I am not clear about whether it is advantageous to follow county lines, but if it makes setting up the election and running the polling places easier, then it seems like a good idea.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 3
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:54:01 PM

The population in this map is not equal in the 2 proposed districts and neither district is competitive. This is unacceptable.

Please reject this map.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 4
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:56:48 PM

I approve that this map has equal populations in each proposed district and that one is competitive, but again I think it sets up an east-west division that could be problematical.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 5
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:41:59 PM

This map does not have equal population, nor is it competitive.

Please reject this map.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 6
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 8:59:26 PM

I see this proposal has portions of equal population and one is competitive, which is positive. I could support this map. I appreciate that it is not strictly east-west or north-south divisive.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 7
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:02:12 PM

I do not support this map. The populations are equal, but there is neither district is competitive and it sets up an east-west divide which I think is dangerous.

As a resident of Gallatin County, I strong object to this map.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 8
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:04:48 PM

This map presents 2 districts of equal population with one being competitive, of which I approve. I am a little uncomfortable with the almost completely north-south division, which could create problems.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [Robyn Lauster](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #CP 9
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:08:00 PM

I can support this map, as it proposes 2 districts with equal population and one competitive. It is definitely preferable to those which do not have equal population and/or no competitive district.

Robyn Lauster
410 W Story St
Bozeman MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Monika Lawrence
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:20:16 PM

From: Monika Lawrence monikal.inbox@gmail.com
Residence: Hamilton, MT

Message:

In accordance with the Commission's stated goal that no map may unduly favor a political party, I support the following proposed maps of Montana congressional districts, in ranking order:

Map #CP 6
Map #CP 2
Map #CP 8
Map #CP 9
Map #CP 4

I do not support the other maps because they fail to satisfy this goal.

--

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

From: Leachk78@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kial Leach](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 2:25:12 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello,

Please consider maps 2 or 9 for the district split. Equal population and competitive districts are very important to me.

Sincerely,

Kial Leach

5 Spring Hollow Ct Helena, MT 59601-3749

Leachk78@gmail.com

From: [rnr](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oct. 19 Comments from Montana League of Women Voters
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 12:32:24 PM
Attachments: [Oct 19 Comments of the League of Women Voters Montana.docx](#)

I've attached comments for the Oct. 19 meeting from the Montana League of Women Voters.

Rosanne Nash

Comments from the League of Women Voters of Montana
Montana Districting and Apportionment Meeting October 19
Presented by Rosanne Nash, League of Women Voters Montana Board Member

Montana's 1972 Constitution envisioned a strong role for Montana citizens in governing the state. Creation of an independent districting commission that would free the state from partisan loggerheads was part of that vision. Nine members of the League of Women Voters were delegates to the Constitutional Convention and contributed to the creation of Montana's independent districting commission, one of the first independent commissions in the nation.

Today, the League of Women Voters of Montana urges this Commission to center its decision about where to draw the line on one concept: what will most effectively and fairly represent and engage voters for the next ten years. The League is a non-partisan organization that has stood on the side of Republicans in Maryland and Democrats in Pennsylvania to push for maps that are fair to voters, not politicians.

There is a fundamental principle at stake: the dividing line should be drawn so that voters can choose their representatives, not so that politicians can choose their voters!

The League raises the following concerns about the nine maps in fairly representing and engaging voters.

- a. Communities of interest are, by definition, defined by those in the community, not by outsiders looking in. The League recognizes that people within communities of interest speak for themselves. Others cannot speak for them. Montana's Native American communities of interest have weighed in with their concerns about redistricting. Their expressed concern is to have at least two reservations in each District. Maps numbered Two, Six, Seven, and Nine lack at least two reservations in each district.
- b. Communities of interest also encompass trade areas and city and county boundaries. Splitting an urban area down the middle makes no sense. Maps numbered One, Three, Four, Seven, Eight, and Nine split urban counties.
- c. Voters are more engaged in districts that are competitive. Representatives elected from competitive districts are more likely to be responsive to all their constituents' concerns. Competitive districts also encourage voter participation in elections. Maps numbered One, Three, Five, and Seven have no competitive districts. Maps numbered Four and Nine have one district that is slightly competitive. Only Maps numbered two, six, and eight each have one fairly competitive district.

- d. To maintain political parity, those elected should mirror the political makeup of the voters statewide. Analysis of the likely political impact of a proposed map requires mathematical analysis that is within the capability of staff resources already available to the Commission through the Montana Census and Economic Information Center. Some of the proposed maps propose two majority party districts which effectively disenfranchises nearly half of the voters statewide that are in the minority party. Having a district with essentially equal numbers of voters from each party that would regularly flip between the parties would allow more equal representation over time. Lack of opportunity for political parity occurs in maps numbered One, Three, Five, and Seven. Maps numbered Four and Nine have one district that is slightly competitive. Only maps numbered two, six, and eight each offer the opportunity for political parity.

Montana's discretionary criteria are co-equal to allow maximum flexibility in balancing competing concerns. None of the maps meet all the goals. The Commission will have to balance these goals. Montana independent commissions have done a good job in the past and this Commission can succeed in drawing a map fair to all Montana voters.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. The League commends the Commission for its efforts to seek public comment and allow public maps to be submitted. Thank you for tackling this challenging responsibility.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Robert Ledbetter
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 1:45:20 PM

From: Robert Ledbetter doddranch@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Hello, I am Dr. Robert LedBetter. I live in Missoula and teach at the University of Montana. I am writing to comment on the new districting guidelines being proposed. I strongly support the goal not to unduly favor a political party – in order to keep fairness in Montanas voting system. Every voter in Montana should have the right for their vote to count equally.

I strongly support maps 6 and 9. These maps do not appear to favor any political party and seem fair for Montanans. They also minimize splitting up counties, towns and reservations and keep healthy competition on districts. Thank you very much for considering my comments in your decisions.

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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: Karole Lee
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:59:55 PM

From: Karole Lee karole.lee59634@gmail.com
Residence: Clancy

Message:

Hello,

I am Karole Lee and have lived in Clancy, Montana for over 30 years.

We need a commission that does not favor any political party and who believes that keeping communities intact will give us the most democratic way of keeping counties and reservations intact.

I believe that maps 6 and 9 best meet our needs and I support these maps over the others. These maps fairly view the needs of communities and districts, and do not favor any political party.

Thank you for your unbiased consideration.

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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: Kristine Lee
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:40:49 AM

From: Kristine Lee krismlee1971@gmail.com
Residence: Florence

Message:

Thank you for your work on this important process. I am in favor of those district boundaries that are close in population in comparison to each other; follow county boundaries as much as possible and have at least two tribal nations in each district. Also very important is the concept of "competitive" where the population in a district is diverse enough to have all voices critical to be heard not just an overwhelming majority. Of the current maps, here are the order that I support: Map 8, map 6, map 2, map 9, and map 4.

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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: Thomas Lee
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 10:23:42 AM

From: Thomas Lee dtleeburnermail@gmail.com
Residence: MT

Message:

Do NOT gerrymander our state. Do your job and do what is right and fair for all Montanans.

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

From: [Cat L](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Map Districting
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 1:41:28 PM

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you so much for your hard work.

My choice is Map #8 as it is the best representation for Montana. Given the vastness and uneven population dispersment, maps that “look” evenly split often aren’t in the ways that matter.

A map that increases the polarization in our politics also increases the silencing of our most vulnerable populations. This is unacceptable.

Map 8 is the most equitable choice if true representation of the realities of our population and our perspectives is our goal.

Please support Map #8.

Thank You for your consideration.

Cat Leedom
Missoula, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Larry A Le Feuvre
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 6:56:19 PM

From: Larry A Le Feuvre Residence: Kalispell

Message:

Best solution is strictly West/East separation along the continental divide, use maps 1, 3, or 7.
Anything else is Gerrymandering!!!

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

From: [claudia leonard](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional districts
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:34:19 AM

I'm writing my support for either district map 8 or 4. With input from our Native American tribes, these two maps are the most equitable.

Dr. Claudia Leonard
Anaconda, MT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [David Leslie](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: Comments on Redistricting Proposals
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:52:56 AM

Ladies and Gentleman;

I write to strongly recommend that you adopt Proposal #8.

Sometimes leaders are put in the position of needing to "protect the game" in lieu of always trying to win a game. Professional baseball is a good example. Regularly the owners adopt some policies and reject others in order to keep the "industry" healthy and revenue producing for all of them. It is not in their collective interests to allow one team to dominate over all the others, a condition that could easily arise without management "of the game."

We are in such a window with our political "game." No matter that one team may have played better, invested more wisely, sold their view more effectively. For our political system (aka democracy) to work, the game must remain competitive.

Option 8 is the only proposal that has any chance of being competitive. You can't change other states; but can demonstrate a Montana wisdom and an America first goal.

Thank you for your attention.

Very respectfully,

David Leslie

456 Weber Hts

Corvallis, MT 59828

david@schmittleslie.com

M: 202-641-1000

From: [Jerilyn Lessley](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:18:42 PM

I live in Belgrade. I am Jerilyn Lessley and a registered voter.
My choice is map #8. Thanks.

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: [J Lewis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on New Congressional districts
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:51:11 AM

I am in favor of adopting CP2 for the following reasons:

-There are no county splits in this map

-The populations are equal between districts

-It groups communities of interest together, and reflects a district which includes the new areas of population growth. This map makes a competitive district where either political party has a chance at winning an election.

-I feel many of the other maps presented are not competitive and do not reflect the new population area's concerns.

-I want to see Park County and Gallatin county in the same district. We have shared interests, concerns, and ties.

Thank you
Judy Lewis
95 Buffalo Trail Rd, Livingston, MT 59047

From: [Roxann lincoln](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:22:12 AM

All of these maps favor the Republicans over the Democrats. I do not support any of them and I ask you to develop a map that is equal between the two parties. That is the only fair way to get an unbiased election.

Roxann Lincoln
Helena MT

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

From: chandralind@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chandra Lind](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Montana's Congressional Map
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 2:52:06 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commission Members,

Thank you for your time and service on behalf of the people of Montana. I wish to add my two cents regarding the proposed maps. Montanans believe in equal political representation of our population, while also ensuring the protected rights of minority populations. We also require two equally representative political parties--no gerrymandering for our state because 'what goes around comes around.' We also want to keep communities together; there is no logical reason to divide cities. For these reasons, I support map C4. Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,

Chandra Lind

535 Oxford Dr Bozeman, MT 59715-1788

chandralind@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elise Lininger
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:34:44 PM

From: Elise Lininger elise.lininger@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman Mt

Message:

Commission Proposal Map CP-1 as it follows precedent with an east/west division and divides the least amount of counties.

--

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

From: flonghart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Fred Longhart](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Map #8
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:01:53 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I prefer map #8 because it has two nearly equal populations and it seems to be a better way to divide the Native American Reservations. This way each representative will have to take into account of the needs of the Native Americans living in Montana. Also, this configuration seems to make a least one of the districts competitive. As things are currently, Rosendale does not represent the needs of non-Republicans whatsoever! If at least one district is competitive the non-Republicans in our state might at least have a chance at being represented in Congress or have the opportunity to elect a moderate Republican (if they aren't all extinct)!

If this map is not chosen my next choices are map#2 or map#6. My reasoning for those maps are the same as I mentioned above with the exception of the division of the Native American Reservations. Both representatives would not have as much responsibility to represent our Native American population.

Sincerely,
Fred Longhart
90 Konley Dr Kalispell, MT 59901-3310
flonghart@gmail.com

From: [Pamela](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment on districting
Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 8:25:01 AM

Good day,

I hope my comments are not too late. When it comes to choosing districts, whether federal or state my husband and I feel strongly that there should be no political gaming. This should be non-partisan with clean county lines, keeping counties together and no "creative" lines to benefit one party over the other. We, the American people are tired of the constant games and fighting. It is time to represent the majority, not those with the largest pocket books or biggest mouth.

Thank you,
Dennis and Pamela Longmire

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: K. Bradley Lotton
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 1:03:37 PM

From: K. Bradley Lotton bradlotton@yahoo.com
Residence: Havre, Mt. 59501

Message:

I favor map CP 1. Clear North to South division and it keeps counties mostly undivided. Most importantly it does not divide communities and it will allow the differences in industry between the east and west sides of the state to be represented more fairly. CP3 would be my second choice and the rest have too many problems to ever allow fair representation of any voter

--

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: Tony Loya
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:53:52 PM

From: Tony Loya TL350H@gmail.com
Residence: BOZEMAN MT

Message:

Montana is a unique state, large in mass, with several larger and growing cities, but with large areas of rural farm and ranch land; a beautiful State that we are very fortunate to live in and experience. I feel the Commission's responsibility is to protect the voice of the people in a fair and equitable manner in order to preserve our state and it's way of life; and without any political influence to give any party an advantage, or to give the several population centers an unfair voice over the large but less populated rural areas. As such, I feel that Map CP-1 best exemplifies these points and should be enacted. The People trust that you will carry forth your charge in a fair manner and will do what is best for our 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: Claire Lucas
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:25:27 AM

From: Claire Lucas cmlucas4@gmail.com

Residence: Ashland, Montana

Message:

As a voter in what would be the eastern district who works with Northern Cheyenne elders, for their representation and best interest, I strongly prefer map Proosal 8.

--

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

From: [Joy LUKES](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:22:51 PM

”YES” on maps 2, 4, and 6. Let’s have competitive districts. NO on maps 1, 3, 5, 7 and 8.
Joy Luke’s

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Deborah Lyman
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:23:09 PM

From: Deborah Lyman lastlyman@blackfoot.net
Residence: Heron

Message:

My name is Deborah Lyman and I live in Heron, MT 59844. I have lived on our property for 47 years and feel a strong connection to Montana. We built our home, raised our children and owned a small business in Heron.

I have been an active volunteer in our community and in our school for many years. I worked closely with Montana Shakespeare in the Parks for over two decades. I helped start our local library and am the president of the Heron Rural Fire District Auxiliary.

I want Montana to be fairly represented in congress which will strengthen our democracy.

The first goal is of utmost importance. One political party must not be favored over another. Partisan politics is destroying our democracy and working together is critical. If the district map favors one over the other, distrust is immediately suspect and will only hurt our state.

I support two maps.

They are number 6 and number 9. I believe the maps I selected best represent the goal I listed earlier. I do not want to see a political party given any advantage. I want towns and reservations to be kept intact.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions. We all must work together for the best outcome for our democracy.

--

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

From: klyncoln@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #2
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:53:59 AM

Please select this scenario. Not only is it population equal and complete, it also follows County lines which will make voting simpler in rural counties which may only have polling places in a few locations.

Karen Lyncoln
1736 Songbird Dr.
Billings MT 59101

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

From: klyncoln@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Map #1
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:51:45 AM

Please do not approve this scenario – it is not competitive.

Karen Lyncoln
1736 Songbird Dr
Billings Mt 59101

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

From: [Rod Maclean](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map choice
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 1:08:47 PM

If I could choose, I would select map 4. It appears to meet most of the criteria.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Beth Madden](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Redistricting Maps
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 12:26:59 PM

To the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission:

Thank you for the difficult work you are doing to help us determine our two legislative districts. I respectfully submit these comments as to which maps best follow the criteria of complying with the voting rights act, having equal populations, are fair and competitive, and keep communities of interest together. It is important - and possible - for us to have one district that is competitive. It is also imperative that we in Montana consider the voice of our tribal communities by not placing all the tribes/reservations in one district.

1) Poor Maps - Maps 3 and 5 are NOT population equal and should be disqualified. They also are NOT competitive, as they have both districts favoring the same party. Please eliminate these from consideration. Maps 1 and 7, while population equal, do not draw competitive districts - Republicans are highly favored to win both districts with these maps.

2) Good Maps - I favor Maps 4 and 8 as both are population equal, are competitive, and keep communities of interest together. These two maps are also the only ones that allow us to have at least two tribes/reservations in each district - which is vital to giving voice to our tribal communities. Map 8 appears to be superior to Map 4 in terms of competitiveness.

3) Acceptable (?) Maps - Although they don't properly consider the needs of our tribes, Maps 2 and 6 are also pretty good maps - being very fair and competitive as far as political parties are concerned.

In summary, Map 8 is my top choice as the best for Montanans.

Thanks again for your important work in this process.

Elizabeth Madden
408 Overbrook Drive
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 224-1012
bethmadden64@gmail.com

From: [David Madison](#)
To: [Districting](#); [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 2:57:32 PM

Commissioners and Committee Members,

Respectfully, I reject Maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 as they do not create at least one competitive district in the state.

I strongly support Map 8 to create at least one competitive district. Let's make competition and real-world connection between communities matter.

Thank you for your hard to work to ensure Montana's diverse population and perspectives are represented in congress.

David Madison

Bozeman, MT

From: [Kathleen Gaines Madison](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 2:47:01 PM

Commissioners and Committee Members,

Respectfully, I reject Maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 as they do not create at least one competitive district in the state.

I strongly support Map 8 to create at least one competitive district. This map is compact and contiguous, is endorsed by Montana's tribes, and it is population equal. As such it adheres to documented mandatory criteria. It also meets the stated goals of the commission by not favoring a political party, minimizing divisions, keeping communities of interest intact, and considering competitiveness.

I believe maps 4, 6, and 9 would also offer a chance for a competitive district and diverse representation.

Thank you for your hard to work to ensure Montana's diverse population and perspectives are represented in congress.

Kathleen Gaines Madison

Bozeman, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Linda Rae Madsen
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 1:52:24 PM

From: Linda Rae Madsen lmadsen613@gmail.com

Residence: great falls

Message:

Please find below my comments regarding the maps for redistricting.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Linda Madsen

Map 1

I like this map because it includes 2 reservations in the western district which will allow a stronger voice for the tribes in this new district.

This map divides the 4 counties that are experiencing the fastest growth evenly between the east and west districts.

After taking into consideration adjustments for population changes and Native American tribe inclusion, this map most closely resembles the division Montana had for many decades, when the state had 2 districts.

Map 2

I dislike this map because it is a contiguous nightmare. A candidate would have to travel over 700 miles to get from one end to the other. And the different perspectives between Libby and Miles City are huge.

This map also doesn't even vaguely resemble the historical east/west division that worked well for decades.

Map 4

I don't like this map because it clearly favors the western district when future population growth is taken into consideration.

Map 6

This map is a bad idea. It creates a super democrat and a super republican district.

Map 8

This map is not a good idea. It is the most radical departure from the historical division, which worked well for 80 years.

Map 9

This map is possibly the worst idea presented. It clearly violates the interests of compact, contiguous and communities of interest. Additionally, it allows only one district close proximity to Canada.

--

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

From: [David Madsen](mailto:David.Madsen@mtleg.gov)
To: [David Madsen](mailto:David.Madsen@mtleg.gov)
Cc: [Dan Stusek@mtleg.gov](mailto:Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov); [Jeff Essmann@mtleg.gov](mailto:Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov); [Joe Lamson@mtleg.gov](mailto:Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov); [Kendra Miller@mtleg.gov](mailto:Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov); [Maylinn Smith@mtleg.gov](mailto:Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional Map
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:31:02 PM

"TO: Montana Districting Commission ("districting@mt.gov")

CC: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov, Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov, Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov, Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov, Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-

1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 (https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf) passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanan's who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to the proposed map.

David Madsen
31288 N. Finley Point RD
Polson, MT 59860
e-mail: dmdasen@att.net
Phone: 406-887-2478 Cell: 770-880-8537

-
-
-
-

From: [Bev M](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Districting Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 12:17:18 PM

To the Districting & Apportionment Commissioners:

Of most importance is that the selected boundaries draw fair districts that have essentially equal populations and competitive races so that voters have real opportunities to hear diverse opinions before casting their votes on the ballot.

Several of the maps offer equal populations and competitive political parties — Maps 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 — but Map 2 offers the additional benefit of following county lines, which makes it easier for voters to track their own districts. I urge you to select Map 2, or secondarily I urge you to select one from the Maps 2,4, 6, 8, or 9.

Sincerely,
Beverly Magley
805 S. Rodney St.
Helena, MT 59601

From: [Doug Mahugh](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: support for Map 8
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 6:27:09 AM

I am writing to express my preference for the MAP 8 proposal from the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission.

Map 8 is geographically balanced, population equal, and competitive in a way that reflects the political leanings of Montanans: a new R+3 1st district, and an R+37 2nd district led by incumbent Matt Rosendale. It is the only proposal currently under consideration which creates a new district with exactly the same partisan lean as the state as a whole (R+0), and it also provides the incumbent with a solid R+37 district that the Republican party should easily hold onto in future elections.

- Doug Mahugh, Butte, MT

From: [Doug Mahugh](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support for Map 8
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 6:26:18 AM

I am writing to express my preference for the MAP 8 proposal from the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission.

Map 8 is geographically balanced, population equal, and competitive in a way that reflects the political leanings of Montanans: a new R+3 1st district, and an R+37 2nd district led by incumbent Matt Rosendale. It is the only proposal currently under consideration which creates a new district with exactly the same partisan lean as the state as a whole (R+0), and it also provides the incumbent with a solid R+37 district that the Republican party should easily hold onto in future elections.

- Doug Mahugh, Butte, MT

October 16, 2021

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
Submitted via email

Dear Montana Districting and Apportionment Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments during this important redistricting process. As a Montanan, I feel proud that the Commission is independent and I commend the Commission for deciding to allocate incarcerated Montanans at their last known address. I encourage the Commission to work to ensure every voter has an equal voice by adopting the fairest map possible.

To ensure fairness, follow the mandatory criteria, and meet as many of the Commission's adopted goals as possible, the Commission should adopt Map #2. However, if the Commission does not select Map #2, then the Commission should choose either Map #6 or Map #8.

The Commission should adopt a map that splits the populations of the two districts as equally as possible.¹ Redistricting is subject to the Voting Rights Act and, as stated in the Montana State Code, the most important criterion for redistricting is making the districts as equal as practicable.² Map #6 and Map #8 maintain an almost equal population division, while Map #2 produces a de minimis deviation of only 0.02%. Other proposed maps create a relative deviation of as much as 0.7%. While the Commission would be within the constraints of the Montana State Code to adopt any of the proposed maps, none of which has more than a plus or minus 1% relative deviation,³ the Commission should attempt to make the districts as equal as practicable by choosing one that creates districts with a small difference in population size.

Additionally, the Commission must aim to split the fewest number of counties and cities.⁴ As stated in the Montana State Code, the second most important criterion in the development of legislative districts, which is subject to the Voting Rights Act, is matching district boundaries with the boundaries of political subdivisions of the state to the greatest extent possible.⁵ To meet its adopted goals, the Commission should also avoid drawing lines through reservations. Map #2 splits no counties, while all other proposed maps split at least one county. While Map #6 and Map #8 split three and four counties, respectively, they avoid drawing lines through reservations. Additionally, while Map #8 splits Yellowstone County, this division abides by the Montana State Code.⁶

The Commission must also choose a map that creates districts that are contiguous and compact.⁷ Each proposed map includes two contiguous districts and every map necessarily creates two districts that are smaller than the current at-large district. According to the Montana State Code, the compactness of a

¹ U.S. Const. art. I § 2; Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (1)–(2)(a).

² Voting Rights Act of 1965, Pub. L. 89-110, 79 Stat. 437; Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (2)(a).

³ Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (1)–(2)(a) (“plus or minus 1% relative deviation from the ideal population of a district as calculated from information provided by the federal decennial census”).

⁴ Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (2)(b).

⁵ Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (2)(b) (“District boundaries must coincide with the boundaries of political subdivisions of the state to the greatest extent possible. The number of counties and cities divided among more than one district must be as small as possible.”).

⁶ *Id.* (“When there is a choice between dividing local political subdivisions, the more populous subdivisions must be divided before the less populous, unless the boundary is drawn along a county line that passes through a city.”).

⁷ Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (2)(c–d).

district is greatest when the length of the district and the width of a district are equal and a district may not have an average length greater than three times the average width unless necessary to comply with the Voting Rights Act.⁸ While some of the proposed maps divide the state vertically down the middle, creating more compact districts, this criterion is last in order of importance, according to the Montana State Code. To comply with the Voting Rights Act, the Commission should first consider the criteria discussed above before considering compactness.

Finally, the Commission should adopt Map #2 to allow for the possibility of at least one competitive congressional seat and to ensure that no party is unduly favored.⁹ If the Commission does not select Map #2, the Commission should select either Map #6 or Map #8. All other proposed maps are likely to produce two noncompetitive seats.¹⁰ When elected officials must compete for votes, they are more likely to be engaged and interested in their constituents' opinions.

In sum, I encourage the Commission to select a map that creates two districts that are nearly equal in population, fosters political competition, and does not split counties (but if it does, it should not divide reservations). Map #2 goes the farthest toward abiding by the Montana State Code, complying with the Voting Rights Act, and meeting the Goals for Congressional Districts adopted by the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission in July 2021.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Megan Maier, esq.

⁸ Id., at (c).

⁹ Mont. Code Ann. § 5-1-115 (3) (“A district may not be drawn for the purposes of favoring a political party or an incumbent legislator or member of congress”).

¹⁰ “What Redistricting Looks Like In Every State,” FiveThirtyEight, available at <https://projects.fivethirtyeight.com/redistricting-2022-maps/montana/> (last visited October 16, 2021).

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: MARTY MALONE
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 11:11:21 PM

From: MARTY MALONE DOGROCKRANCH@GMAIL.COM
Residence: PRAY MONTANA

Message:

I PREFER CP-1 AS THE MOST FAIR FOR MONTANA AND WILL SPLIT THE LEAST
NUMBER OF COUNTIES

--

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

From: [Scott](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on Redistricting Proposals
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:30:59 AM

I would like to vote for a preference for Proposal 8 with a second choice of Proposal 2. Scott Mann,
Luther Montana

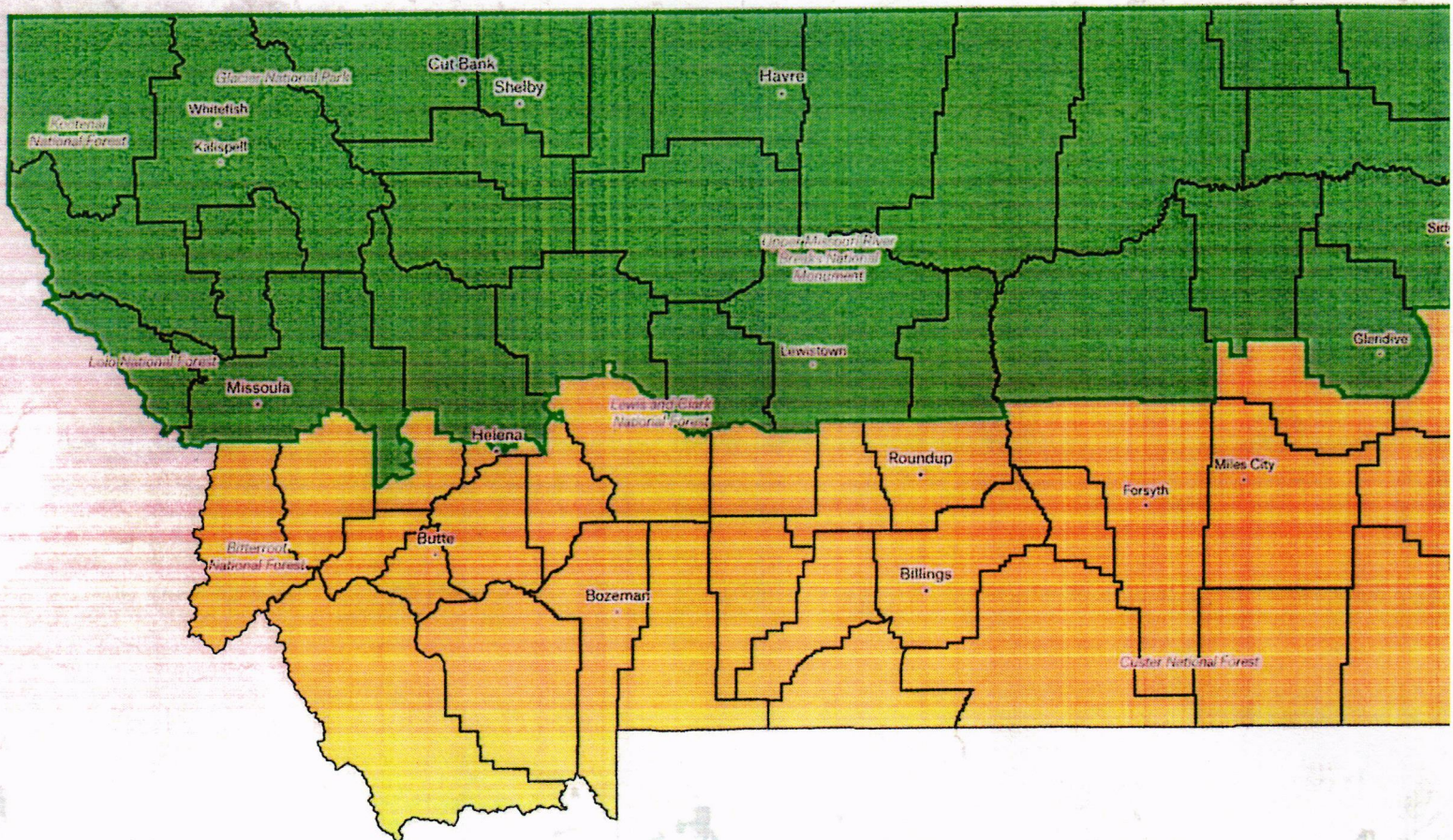
Spencer, Nadine

From: Amy Maracle <amaracle@ymail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 12:04 PM
To: Districting
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map Consideration

Please find a link to the map I would like to see used for redistricting here: <https://app.districtbuilder.org/projects/366f2052-fd7e-4190-bd54-55bf51874fd4> [app.districtbuilder.org].

I believe you will find the county splitting kept to a minimum (2 counties) and the population estimates almost equal. This suggestion differs from the official maps proposed in that the geographic areas are more equal so one representative would not have an advantage over the other in terms of compact districts. This suggestion also incorporates tribal lands into both districts, and both districts include some of the largest cities in the State. Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Maracle
1135 Yuri Rd
Helena, MT 59602
302-632-7771 (cell)
amaracle@ymail.com



From: [Chris Marchion](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Proposed Districting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:52:29 AM

I support Proposals 2 and 4.

Christian J Marchion
Anaconda

Registered voter in Deer Lodge County.

Sent from Windows Mail

From: megatravles@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Megan Maroney](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Importance of Montana's Congressional Map
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 1:47:21 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello my name is Megan Maroney, I live in Havre and teach in Box Elder both of Hill county. Box Elder is just off the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation. I believe it is very important to keep the districts equal, competitive and as undivided as possible. I believe #CP 2 is the best map for Fair Congressional Districts in Montana. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Megan Maroney
PO Box 252 Havre, MT 59501-0252
megatravles@yahoo.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Brian Marotz
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:51:45 PM

From: Brian Marotz bmarotz007@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

Im Brian Marotz, I retired after 35 years with Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks, and still work to conserve Montanas aquatic resources. I live in Kalispell.

Im in favor of the 4 Commissions goals, especially your goal to keep communities intact, and competitive districts.

After reviewing the maps, 6 and 9 meet the objectives better than the others. All citizens should have representation regardless of their political party.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment and hope the Commission will chose maps 6 or 9.

--

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: Phyllis Marshik
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 11:37:22 AM

From: Phyllis Marshik pdmjmm1500@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
Elect for no 1.

--

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: Phyllis Marshik
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 3:30:17 PM

From: Phyllis Marshik Residence: Helena

Message:

The commission map (no. 1) is our choice for the redistricting change. It is clear,, numbers are very much the same. Please consider this when you make your choice.

--

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

From: sjmartinson27@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: sjmartinson27@gmail.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:46:42 PM

Map 8 includes population from across the state east to west in each district rather than dividing east from west. It also appears to follow county lines which should be easier for managing elections. In these divisive times Map 8 appears to offer an inclusive opportunity as an example for other states to follow.

Sent from my iPhone

From: ematthews74@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eric Matthews](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:58:52 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Thank you all for your hard work on creating new district maps. I write to encourage you to carefully select a map. Having evaluated the maps that have been presented, there are a few that meet the criteria better than others. Without going into the criteria that you know well. In my opinion Map 2 looks best. It doesn't split any counties while splitting the state, has equal populations, and keeps communities of interest intact. I would also point out that any map that doesn't maintain equal populations in the districts should be thrown out. Every Montanan deserves equal strength of voice in our democracy. Maps 1,3, and 5 should be dismissed for this very reason. The only other map that looks out of whack is map 7. The splitting of towns like 4 corners and Bozeman give this map a very gerrymandered feeling. There is no reason to split communities like this unless the goal is something nefarious. I was born and raised in Bozeman and do not want my Montana town to be a pawn in a political game.

Thank you for reading my comment and for all you do.

Sincerely,
Eric Matthews
613 W Babcock St Bozeman, MT 59715-4448
ematthews74@gmail.com

From: [Grumpy Oldfart](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing map
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 10:51:05 AM

It appears the only map meeting state law is CP1. Any other choice will be considered gerrymandering and met with legal proceedings.

Ken Matthiesen, Plains, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Maxwell Mauch
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 10:37:57 AM

From: Maxwell Mauch maxwellmauch1@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls, MT

Message:
Hello,

The best map to use would be option 6 or 9. They each are population equal and competitive, which are requirements for drawing district lines. I implore you to choose either map option 6 or 9.

Thank you,

Max Mauch
732 34th ave NE
Great falls, MT 59404

--

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: Diana McCallum
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:01:05 PM

From: Diana McCallum diana_mccallum@hotmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

Hello. My name is Diana McCallum and I have lived in Great Falls, MT all my life.

I believe the Congressional Districts map should favor no political party and should avoid splitting up counties, towns and reservations and their interests.

Therefore I support maps 6 or 9 as the most fair to all Montanans. These maps, 6 and 9, minimize splitting of communities, leaving their interests intact and do not favor any political party.

Thank you for your time and for considering my comments in this important matter to all Montanans.

--

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

From: mccamley278@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Mccamley](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 5:40:24 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Congressional districts should be competitive. If they're not competitive, politicians will have little incentive to represent their constituents.

The current House of Representatives is awful! Everyone is from safe/gerrymandered districts so once elected they cannot lose. I'm sick of pandering and no action.

Sincerely,
Mary Mccamley
278 Arbour Dr W Kalispell, MT 59901-2110
mccamley278@charter.net

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sharon McCarter
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 8:55:24 AM

From: Sharon McCarter
Residence: Shalby, MT

Message:

I would like to let you know that I prefer redistricting map #1.

--

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

From: Randy_wendymc@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy McCarty](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]CP8 preference
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:14:51 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I like the n/s division especially.

Sincerely,
Wendy McCarty
514 Greenway Ave Bozeman, MT 59718-1823
Randy_wendymc@yahoo.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Velma A McClain
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 6:17:22 PM

From: Velma A McClain
Residence: Helena, MT

Message:

Stop this gerrymandering that the republicans are trying to achieve. Are they afraid to win on their own merits if they have any!!

--

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

From: [Ronald McClellan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 10:24:35 PM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1

<https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Ronald McClellan
32442 Masumola Lane Attn #39
mccllellan@montanasky.net
406-883-1080

From: [Ronald McClellan](mailto:Ronald.McClellan)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 10:25:03 PM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1

<https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

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CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Ronald McClellan
32442 Masumola Lane Attn #39
mccllellan@montanasky.net
406-883-1080

From: [Ronald McClellan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#);
[Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 10:24:35 PM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1

<https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Ronald McClellan
32442 Masumola Lane Attn #39
mccllellan@montanasky.net
406-883-1080

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Leslie McCormick
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 1:33:29 PM

From: Leslie McCormick
Residence: Billings

Message:

I support Proposal 8, feeling that it's the one redistricting map which actually allows for the Representatives' positions to be in play, as opposed to the foregone conclusions of "safe seats".

Thank you for reading my input.

--

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

From: [Joe Lamson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:44:21 AM

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Carol McCracken" <cjm1950@everyactioncustom.com>
To: "joe lamson" <joe.lamson@mtleg.gov>
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:40:41 AM
Subject: Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I believe Map number 7 is fair and equal. Unlike the MFPE directive to vote or comment on those maps that protect their liberal views, I do not let myself be led as a sheep by the communist leaning leadership of MFPE. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol McCracken
3828 Swallow Ln Billings, MT 59102-7716
cjm1950@live.com

Legislators are publicly elected officials. Legislator emails sent or received involving legislative business may be subject to the Right to Know provisions of the Montana Constitution and may be considered a "public record" pursuant to Montana law. As such, email, sent or received, its sender and receiver, and the email contents, may be subject to public disclosure, except as otherwise provided by Montana law.

From: jmcdanielj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John McDaniel](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 7:20:34 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.number 9 is best

Sincerely,
John McDaniel
10 Crossbuck Trl Bigfork, MT 59911-3794
jmcdanielj@msn.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Austin McDowell
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 3:52:47 PM

From: Austin McDowell
Residence: Joliet Montana

Message:

Montana's more urban, technology and tourism-driven, upcoming cities (Bozeman, Missoula, Butte, and Helena) and their surrounding areas have different needs from Montana's predominantly rural areas and agricultural service based cities. These areas deserve to have their similar interests represented by a member of congress elected from a district encompassing all of them. Splitting up any of these counties into two districts (particularly Gallatin County, which should not be split in any case) or separating them from one another defeats this purpose.

I oppose map proposals One, Three, Five and Seven.

I support map proposals Two, Four, Six, and Nine.

--

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: Susan McFarland
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:25:13 PM

From: Susan McFarland ashramwomen2@yahoo.com
Residence: Trout Creek

Message:

Susan McFarland – Trout Creek, MT for 9 1/2 yrs. I am retired and enjoy a rural lifestyle, including horses. I have participated with Back Country Horsemen clearing trails, etc.. I am 67 yrs old.

Susan McFarland – they are all equally important in different ways. Montanans should be represented by persons who are committed to representing the needs and values of their particular constituents, not party dogma or special interests.

I support map 9. Map 9 minimizes the splitting of reservations and counties, thus keeping communities of interest intact. The reservations must be protected as one entity, and counties must also be protected by their representative as decisions are made about mining, logging, public lands, and receiving resources.

Commission members – thank you for reading and considering my comments.

--

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

From: [Rick McGarvey](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MAP
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 8:41:04 PM

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

Proposal 3 makes the most sense. All other proposals except for #1 are not good.

Richard McGarvey

Joliet, Mt

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Colleen McHugh
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:57:53 PM

From: Colleen McHugh wazzumcq@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, Mt

Message:

I am asking for your support of maps #2, 6 and #8.
Thank you for your time and hard work.

--

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: Andrew McKean
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 11:53:53 AM

From: Andrew McKean
Residence: Glasgow

Message:

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute my thoughts to this vital public process. First, I don't think any of the 9 maps precisely capture ALL criteria and my wish for geographically and culturally coherent districting, but I also appreciate all the thoughtfulness and work that went into the 9 maps presented, and therefore I will base my comments on what's before us, rather than making my own submission.

I have based nearly all my preconceptions around the idea that the state should be split into an eastern and a western district, largely because that's the way it's been, and that's the way we think about Montana generally. However, there's a lot of merit captured in the Map #8, which generally splits Montana into a southern and northern district. However, I'd like to propose some tweaks to your current #8 in hopes that it maintains the criteria you are charged with delivering.

* Include Ravalli, Sanders, and Mineral counties with District 1, and include Rosebud, Treasure, and Bighorn with District 2. I recognize this splits the Crow and Northern Cheyenne reservations.

* Alternatively, include Yellowstone County entirely within District 1, and move Flathead County entirely to District 2.

Lastly, I recognize your orders are to use 2010 Census information for the basis of your decisions, but I hope you are mindful of demographic trends as you approach some of these jurisdiction splits and lumps. We in eastern Montana are nearly universally older, poorer, more in need of infrastructure investment, and conservative. And, if the past 50 years have shown us anything, all those factors are intensifying in the eastern half of Montana, no matter whether you split it into Eastern vs Western Montana or Northern vs Southern Montana.

Thanks for all your work. – Andrew McKean, Glasgow

--

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

From: [Poody McLaughlin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on redistricting Congressional districts
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:37:20 PM

To the district committee members:

Thank you for accepting my comments regarding Montana's new congressional districts. I prefer maps 2 and 6 for these reasons:

Map 2: is population equal, adheres to county lines, is compact and contiguous, and keeps communities of interest together. Elections will be competitive. Candidates will need to campaign and get to know their constituents and will be held accountable if they don't.

Map 6: is compact and contiguous with equal populations. Elections would be competitive. Candidates will need to campaign and get to know their constituents and will be held accountable if they don't.

After considering the other maps, I discarded them as options for these reasons:

Map 1: population equal but NOT competitive. Divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map 3: NOT population equal and NOT competitive. Divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map 5: NOT population equal and NOT competitive. Divides Gallatin County to the east.

Map 7: population equal but NOT competitive. Divides Gallatin County.

Map 8: is contiguous but not compact.

Map 9: is contiguous but not as competitive.

There are seven maps that are population equal, a main criteria selected by the commission in developing a map. Those that are not population equal should be discarded. Missoula and Bozeman contain the flagship universities for the state and have similar interests; thus it makes sense that they share a congressional district.

Thank you again and also for your work for all Montanans.
Kathleen P McLaughlin
923 Elm St
Missoula MT 59802

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pat McLeod
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:11:52 PM

From: Pat McLeod pat.mcleod48@gmail.com

Residence: Troy

Message:

My name is Pat McLeod. I live in the home I was raised in on Savage Lake, Troy in Lincoln County.

Following already established boundaries during the redistricting process is very important to me. Please do not favor one political party. No gerrymandering. Also important is keeping the districts competitive.

I support map 6 or 9. These two maps have rural Lincoln County connected to much of the rest of the rural part of the state. Map 6 and 9 keep allow for competitive districts,

Thank you for allowing me as a voter an opportunity to comment before a final decision is made.

--

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: Lorraine McNamer
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:31:40 AM

From: Lorraine McNamer lmcnamer2002@yahoo.com

Residence: Missoula Montana

Message:

#2, #6, #8 all look fair. The rest look totally partisan and are not acceptable for the Native American population. Lawsuits could ensue if they are not fair and leave out certain populations.

--

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: Kyle Meakins
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 8:21:29 AM

From: Kyle Meakins
Residence: Livingston Montana

Message:

Montana has long been a competitive political state and it should be a priority to ensure that competitive nature continues with the addition of a second congressional district. Furthermore, places like Livingston and the Paradise Valley are closely tied to Bozeman, and should be put together in the same district, as well as the same district as Missoula and Butte. It would be a great disservice to our state and our country if we let partisan politics split the state into two districts in which one party has a 10+ point advantage in each. We deserve to have competitive districts with the possibility of having diverse representation for our state.

--

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: Cynthia Mealy
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:40:55 PM

From: Cynthia Mealy cynthiamealy@icloud.com
Residence: Stevensville

Message:
Hello,

My name is Cynthia Mealy, I have lived in the Bitterroot Valley since 2015. My parents lived in Hamilton before I was born and always told stories about Montana. It was my dream to live here. I made it!

I have been doing research on the redistricting project so that I could make an informed comment. I understand that the commission agreed on 4 goals. The goals that are the most important to me are "not unduly favoring a political party" and competitive districts because Montana should be fair. I don't have a personal agenda for "keeping communities of interest and location intact", but I strongly support that those communities be heard.

I have reviewed the 9 maps that the commission will choose from. I favor maps 4, 6 and 9. The criteria behind my choices are "not unduly favoring a political party" and competitive districts. All 3 maps fit these criteria, I advocate for 6 and 9 as the best.

Some of the top maps fitting the fairness criteria have the issue of splitting of communities, towns, and interests. I strongly support listening to those communities such as Gallatin Cty and reservation lands (i.e. Flathead) to ensure that they would see it in their interests to be split. If not, please do not split them and choose from highly competitive and fair maps.

Thank you for your hard work on this project, and for your consideration of my comment.

--

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

From: [Bob Kathe Mensik](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:33:44 PM

Dear Commission Members:

Our 1st Choice is Map #5. All counties are intact with the exception of about a third of Hill and about 5% of Chouteau in different districts.

2nd choice is Map #1. Counties are intact with the exception of Cascade and Gallatin. Great Falls and Bozeman are intact and in the Eastern District.

3rd choice is Map #3. Like Map 2, Gallatin and Cascade are split. Gallatin is more divided and the line gets closer to Bozeman and Great Falls, threatening to divide the greater Bozeman and Great Falls area.

4th choice is Map #7. Counties are intact with the exception of Gallatin. Bozeman is in the Eastern District but part of the Greater Bozeman area is in the Western District.

Sincerely,

Bob and Kathe Mensik

Fox MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Christine Michaels
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 7:48:11 PM

From: Christine Michaels cmichaels3@blackfoot.net
Residence: Trout Creek

Message:
Christine L Michaels, Trout Creek

I do NOT want to favor one group over another without giving each a chance to voice their opinion

Map 9 More fair in its division

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: Sandra Micken
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 2:22:40 PM

From: Sandra Micken sandramicken@gmail.com

Residence: Helena

Message:

I am in favor of the maps that allow for close to a 50/50 chance that either party could win at least one of Congressional districts and that the districts have nearly the same populations. For that reason, I support Maps 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9. My favorite is Map #6.

--

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: Alice Millard
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 7:13:09 AM

From: Alice Millard alice.millard@icloud.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

I favor proposal 8 which meets your criteria, creates a competitive district, and provides better representation for the native communities. A North and South plan provides a more balanced option.

--

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: Marilyn Miller
Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 1:19:29 PM

From: Marilyn Miller
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Please do not divide Gallatin county. We should remain as one in voting just as we remain one in living. We really are one community.

I live in Gallatin County with my husband. My two children and their spouses, as well as 5 grandchildren live here.

This valley, Gallatin County, is a single community to those of us who live here. Dividing us through redistricting would be wrong.

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: Melanie Miller
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 2:27:26 PM

From: Melanie Miller melaniemillermontana@gmail.com
Residence: Victor, MT

Message:

The intent of redistricting is to fairly apportion voters. It is not to ensure the election of certain political parties to office. I am very concerned that the Republican redistricting committee may choose to make a mockery of redistricting in order to obtain an additional Republican seat in Congress.

Please draw District boundaries In an equitable manner. I will be ashamed of our State if apportionment is done on a strictly partisan basis.

Sincerely,

Melanie Miller

--

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

From: [Tammie Milligan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 11:23:45 AM

Good morning,

I have reviewed the proposed maps and believe map #CP6 is the fairest of the maps.

Please pick this one for our 2 new districts.

Thank you,

Tammie Milligan
Ravalli County

To: District and Apportionment Committee
From: Mineral County Commissioners
Date: October 8, 2021
Subject: Drawing New Congressional District Map

We have seen the nine proposed maps that the commission is currently reviewing for final selection.

Some of the maps seem to make perfect sense to us given that East and West are so demographically and geographically different. And then some of the maps make absolutely no sense at all in terms of fully representing the population of Montana.

Mineral County is covered in mountains and forests in which only 7 percent of the land is privately owned. The remaining 93 percent is Federal and State-owned public land. Our population and resources are vastly different than our neighbors in Eastern Montana. Please do not select any maps that attempt to blur these obvious and distinct differences. The West deserves a separate and distinct Representative in Congress. We believe that maps like map #1 and map # 3 better represent the State of Montana as a whole due to the different industries, economics, lifestyles and geography. Timber and Recreation dominates the Western part, and Agriculture and Ranching dominates the East. Please select a Congressional map that does not disregard these apparent and important differences. And also; please do not divide or bi-sect individual counties, instead have an entire County be in a district. Any carving out of a county would be a nightmare for election administrators at the local level. I encourage that the Commission select either Map # 1 or Map #3.

Thanks in advance- Sincerely

Mineral County Montana Commissioners


Roman Zylawy- Commissioner


Duane Simons- Commissioner


Laurie Johnston- Commissioner

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cathy Mitchell
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:43:18 PM

From: Cathy Mitchell longlakenmf@msn.com
Residence: Kalispell

Message:
Redistricting commission,

I am Cathy Mitchell and I live in Flathead County. I have looked at the maps submitted for your review and have numerous concerns. It is my understanding that redistricting should follow the following rules:

Districts must be as equal in population as is practicable (Article 1, Section 2, U.S. Constitution).
(There should not be a difference more than 1% error).

Each district shall consist of compact territory. (Article 5, Section 14 of the Montana Constitution).

The Commission shall consider the districts functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography. Flathead County should remain in the west districting, not eastern Montana.

Each district shall be contiguous, meaning that a district must be in one piece. (Article 5, Section 14 of the Montana Constitution). Areas that meet only at points of adjoining corners shall not be considered contiguous. Why would you split Flathead County (map 4).

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 commissions adopted criteria and goals.

No plan may be drawn to unduly favor a political party. A few of the maps that have unusual lay out appear to be politically driven and should not be considered. Especially maps 2, 6, 8, & 9.

Thank you for taking public comments. This is an important task and I hope you will do the right thing for all of Montana.

Sincerely,

Cathy Mitchell

All of them as I stated earlier.

Definitely not map 6 or 9. They place Flathead county in with eastern Montana.

My first choice is map 5.

My second choice is map 3.

Map 5 has no competitive district, keeps communities of interest intact, keeps Flathead County whole, and Flathead County remains with the western portion of Montana. There is equal proportion of the population with a difference of 7551 (I believe).

Map 3 has no competitive district, keeps communities of interest intact, keeps Flathead County whole, and Flathead County remains with the western portion of Montana. There is equal proportion of the population with a difference of 1119 (I believe).

Thank you for seriously reviewing and considering my comments.

Cathy Mitchell
598 Prairie View Rd
Kalispell, MT
Flathead County

--

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

From: brendamoen691@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brenda Moen](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Use the agreed upon goals when selecting Congressional Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:02:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am writing to ask you to support Map # CP9 in the upcoming vote by Montana's Congressional Districting and Apportionate Commission to move forward in the process. I fully support the agreed upon goals unanimously accepted by the Commission from its genesis and believe those goals will result in fair and equitable maps that do not favor one political party over another. I do not think that some of the final maps meet that same criteria and ask that those goals be kept fully and foremost in mind. I do believe CP9 meets the agreed upon criteria and allows one urban and one rural seat to better represent both areas in Congress. I believe another goal that is vital and achieved by this map is that it would be competitive, thus ensuring that all voices are heard and elections are fair. Thank you for your work and everything you do to ensure that our elections maintain the high standards outlined in the beginning of this process.

Sincerely,
Brenda Moen
909 10th St Whitefish, MT 59937-2821
brendamoen691@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathryn Mohar
Date: Friday, October 8, 2021 9:15:23 AM

From: Kathryn Mohar
Residence: Troy, Montana

Message:

CP-4 makes the most sense. I'm in Lincoln County and don't feel it's appropriate to be represented in an Eastern District since we are in a recreation/forested zone. I also think Gallatin County fits more in a forested/recreation/populated western zone.

--

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: Melanie Moore
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:39:02 PM

From: Melanie Moore mountainmeadow@charter.net
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

Hi I am Melanie Moore, I live in Great Falls, MT and I am a 5th generation Montanan.

Keeping communities of interest intact. There is often a difference of opinion between the urban and rural districts of Montana. Like minded people tend to live and work in the same type of communities.

I support maps 6 and 9. Maps 6 and 9 most exemplify: Not unduly favoring a political party; Minimize splitting of counties, towns, and reservations; Keeping communities of interest intact; and Competitive districts.

Thank you for your time and effort on this most important matter. It will effect Montanan's for the next 10 years as we work together, from both sides of the aisle, to make Montana an even better place to live for future generations.

--

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: Susan Moore
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 3:59:03 PM

From: Susan Moore renmoore89@gmail.com
Residence: Stevensville MT

Message:

I have read the legally bound criteria; of course, I agree with all of them. In addition, I feel strongly that districts should be politically competitive. I also understand the reasons for NOT splitting communities of interest. It sounds like you have a difficult task ahead of you. I commend you all for your commitment to helping us transition back into two Congressional districts. 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: Susan E Moore
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:41:53 PM

From: Susan E Moore 2xthesusans@gmail.com

Residence: WHITEFISH

Message:

please use the map CP1. It makes the most sense to divide the state along the I-15 corridor.

--

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

From: [Mauri Morin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:56:19 AM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-

1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Mauri Morin

Address 42456 Canal Rd, Ronan MT, 59864

Email address maurv8@gmail.com

Telephone number 406 249 2250

From: [Mauri Morin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:49:23 AM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-

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In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Mauri Morin

Address 42456 Canal Rd, Ronan MT, 59864

Email address maurv8@gmail.com

Telephone number 406 249 2250

From: [Mauri Morin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:56:19 AM

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In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Mauri Morin

Address 42456 Canal Rd, Ronan MT, 59864

Email address maurv8@gmail.com

Telephone number 406 249 2250

From: [Mauri Morin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:49:54 AM

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-

1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

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CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Mauri Morin

Address 42456 Canal Rd, Ronan MT, 59864

Email address maurv8@gmail.com

Telephone number 406 249 2250

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kate Morris
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:27:30 AM

From: Kate Morris morriskate2@gmail.com
Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

I think the most important factor in mapping is to make the districts competitive. Without any competition the voter turnout will decrease and that would be a turn in the wrong direction.

We live in and want to keep our Democracy. Political competition provides for more cooperation between parties.

I believe the maps that represent a possibility of competition are best. 2,6,8.

End of story more participation in our government is good for all of us! We need balance.

--

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: Patty Morris
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:52:45 PM

From: Patty Morris okieraider123@gmail.com
Residence: Plains

Message:
Patricia L Morris

Not unduly favoring a political party

6 and 9 Not unduly favoring a political party

Thank you for asking input from the community and residents.

--

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: Sharon Morrison
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 6:50:56 PM

From: Sharon Morrison
Residence: Whitefish, MT

Message:

I favor a plan that allows the voters to pick their candidates and not the parties to pick their voters. I understand that plans 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 most match that objective. I also think it is important that districts be competitive to encourage bipartisan consideration of issues. If a district is "safe" for a party, there is incentive for candidates to be extreme in their views. That has become a near fatal ailment in American politics. Montana has a chance to avoid that. I hope we do.

--

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: BRENT MORROW
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 12:47:14 PM

From: BRENT MORROW hilemann@yahoo.com
Residence: Bigfork

Message:

BRENT MORROW, Salmon Prairie, Swan Valley. Current resident, with roots back over 120 years in Montana.

Do not set districts based on politics.

Maps 6 and 9 are the best. Maps 6 and 9 offer the best districts representation.

Thanks 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: Judith Mortensen
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:58:40 PM

From: Judith Mortensen jwmortensen@bresnan.net
Residence: Great Falls Montana

Message:

Map 1- yes This map breaks the least rules of redistrictin set by both the federal and state requirements.

The other maps are either politically motivated or just put in for laughs and gigles of how far the commissinor can subvert the process."

--

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: Mary Mulcaire-Jones
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:20:09 PM

From: Mary Mulcaire-Jones marymulcaire@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

I have lived in Montana for 30 years. My husband and I raised our 6 children in Butte and moved to Missoula four years ago to be close to our grandchildren. During all these years, we have enjoyed the great outdoors and public lands that Montana offers. We are devoted to protecting those lands and the Montana way of life.

The goal of not unduly favoring a political party is the goal that matters to me most because I believe having a fair playing field politically will best help protect Montana values, communities and Indigenous communities.

I support maps 6 and 9 as best meeting the Commission's goals. I believe Maps 6 and 9 best meet the criteria laid out by the Commission. They split counties and reservations the least. They both create at least one competitive district.

Thank you for your work and consideration of my comments.

--

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

From: [Chris Mullaney](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Redistricting
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 7:07:22 PM

Committee Members:

As a native Montanan, I remember when we had two Congressmen. It is very exciting that once again we will have two Montanan's representing our great state. Thank you for working on the Redistricting Committee. I reviewed the maps and it is apparent that 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are competitive in that the populations are a 50/50 split in parties in the past elections and their populations are equal. I do not believe that the state should be split on an east/west basis. That idea is arbitrary and just plain old school. \

Sincerely,
Christine Mullaney
Red Lodge, MT 59068
ph/txt 425-4295

Simplify, slow down, BE KIND and don't forget to have art in your life. Music, paintings, theater, dance and sunsets. Eric Carle

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Maddy Munson
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:06:31 PM

From: Maddy Munson mmunson@wildmontana.org
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

My name is Maddy Munson, and I currently reside in Bozeman. While I am relatively new to Montana, I grew up in Idaho and frequently visited Montana. I am grateful to live in a state with so many opportunities to get out into wild spaces.

The Commission did a great job of setting the four goals for redistricting. The goal of not unduly favoring a specific political party is the one that matters the most to me. Partisan politics can often get in the way of getting things done, and I was proud to see the neutral Commission prioritize competitiveness and fairness in the decisionmaking process.

I support maps 6 and 9. These two maps ensure we don't unduly favor one political party by creating one competitive district and limit how much the counties and reservations are split up. By creating a competitive district, these maps will reduce polarization and help elections reflect widely shared values.

Thank you for all of your careful consideration of this important issue. I hope you'll continue to be a neutral party by adopting a congressional map that prioritizes competition and does not unduly favor one political party over another.

--

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

From: [Janice Munzke-Deal](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:18:10 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Janice Munzke-Deal. I live at 3114 Augusta dr in Bozeman and have lived at this address for 18 years.

My biggest priority is not unduly favoring a political party

I support maps 4,6,8, and 9.

Thank you for your service.

Regards,
Janice Munzke-Deal
3114 Augusta Dr
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [Clint Nagel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My comments over Congressional District
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:45:21 PM

Dear Redistricting Commission:

From reviewing the proposed maps from CP1 to CP9, I believe CP2 is perhaps the better of them all. I say that because I feel this solution meets the criteria and goals as presented. I just don't like the idea of splitting up cities, towns or reservations one of the main goals of this effort. Some of the maps like CP9 come close to meeting the goals and criteria, but for the splitting of Missoula County, I feel it falls short.

I can't believe there aren't some better possibilities than this, but I'm sure the commission has done the best they could.

Thank you for the time and effort that has been put forth.

clint..

From: navydoctor3944@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep it fair and balanced
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 8:51:27 AM

Create a new district where the concepts of fairness and balance hold sway, not cronyism and one sidedness .
Everybody wants to win. But balance should hold sway

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Fred Nelson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:17:15 AM

Dear members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 passed during the most recent session of our legislature. Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts. It divides the fewest number of counties. CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Sherry Nelson

28785 Shady Lane

Polson, Mt 59860

flatheadpolson@centurytel.net

406-883-3063

From: [Mike Newton](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 3:19:05 PM

Personally I like Proposal 5 and feel it would be the fairest to all. Thank you.



Mike Newton
Operations Manager ~ Glendive
Fisher Sand and Gravel Co.
PO Box 1246 ~ Glendive, MT 59330

Office: (406) 687-3383
Cell: (406) 939-2188
Fax: (406) 687-3345
E- mail: mnewton@fisherind.com

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Disclaimer

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From: [Marisa Neyenhuis](#)
To: dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#); jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: CP 4
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 9:25:01 PM

Hello,
I'm writing today to ask you to please choose CP 4 as Montana's new congressional district map. All Montanans deserve the chance to have their voice heard and their vote mean something.

Thank you for all your time and effort in this process.

Take care,
Marisa Tonon Neyenhuis

From: [Marisa Neyenhuis](#)
To: dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#); jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP 4
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 9:25:37 PM

Hello,
I'm writing today to ask you to please choose CP 4 as Montana's new congressional district map. All Montanans deserve the chance to have their voice heard and their vote mean something.

Thank you for all your time and effort in this process.

Take care,
Marisa Tonon Neyenhuis

From: [Judy Nielsen](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map preference
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 4:18:05 PM

Thank you for the fine work on describing the Commission's mapping choices for proposed House Districts. My preference is Map #2, as it is the only one that does not divide counties. However, Map Choice #8 would be an acceptable substitute, as it contains very similar percentages in terms of racial backgrounds.

Thank you for serving on this important committee.

Judy Nielsen
1170 Mendocino Dr.
Helena MT 59601

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gwendolyn Nix
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:48:02 AM

From: Gwendolyn Nix nix.gwendolyn@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

Montana native, born and raised here. Grew up in Great Falls and live in Missoula. I support maps #2, #6 #8 and believe the Tribal community is important in making these decisions. Also, I believe in having a fair split between parties.

--

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

From: [Rebecca Norton](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: Redistributing
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:03:55 AM

I am in favor of proposal 8 because it gives the many tribes in Montana more equitable representation and seems the least biased towards partisan politics. Please do the will of the people by finding the most equitable solution (8) vs entrenching is further in the ill will that dark partisan politics has brought to our state. We are all Montanans and we are all entitled to surety that our voice will be heard, and that our will matters in creating our future. Please keep this decision making honorable. Thank you. Rebecca Norton 530 Scott Avenue Whitefish

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Sam Nunnally
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:10:54 PM

From: Sam Nunnally sam.nunnally@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell Montana

Message:

Please don't make this a joke of gerrymandering! An east /west split can be done or at least most of an east / west then trying to grab some from the east and west and splitting counties. Needs of those on the west are slightly different then those of the east side and Vice versa. Montana needs representation of the needs of the area they serve NOT to one political party or the other!

--

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: Erin Nuzzo
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 8:21:11 AM

From: Erin Nuzzo
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Please choose options 2, 4, 6, 8, or 9 for redistricting our state in order that we have competitive and equally distributed districts for our next Congressional elections. The other options provide for majority-Republican districts and this is not fair. Please vote no gerrymandering in our state!

--

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

From: mindyobert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melinda Obert](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map #4Carefully
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 12:55:05 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am writing to ask that you choose Congressional Map #4. This map keeps population equal, yet will still be competitive. I like that it is similar to the 1980s congressional line. I also hope it will fairly represent rural areas and urban areas and give both groups an opportunity to pick a representative that will work to meet the needs of that group.

Sincerely,
Melinda Obert
402 E 6th Ave Big Timber, MT 59011-7933
mindyobert@gmail.com

From: [Tauni O Brian](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for map 8
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 6:07:15 AM

I am in support for redistricting map 8. It is the most logical solution.

Tauni OBrian

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Roger Joseph O'Brien
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 8:52:42 AM

From: Roger Joseph O'Brien
Residence: Billings, Montana

Message:

As an Independent it appears to me that map 1 drawn up by the commission has the potential to be the most representative for all taking all factors into consideration. Thank you for the work.

--

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

From: [Colleen Osgard](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair Districting in Montana
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:36:04 AM

Proposal 8 map has the fairest distribution of both parties. Here, the tribes have [ho.pe \[ho.pe\]](#) as well as voters in Billings. Please vote for The Proposal 8 map.

Sincerely,
Colleen O'Connor Osgard

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 10:21:27 AM

From: John Oetinger
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

CP 7 is my preference (assuming it has Bozeman in the west).

It is very difficult to tell which city is in which district, so adding at least the major cities, to the maps, would be helpful, especially Great Falls and Bozeman.

I'd like to know what the old 2 congressional districts were (I googled and could not find a map), so including a small history section and the old map to your webpage would be helpful. Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

--

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: Douglas A. Okland
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 7:44:50 PM

From: Douglas A. Okland doug22747@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

My name is Doug Okland. I moved to Montana in 1996 shortly after I retired from the Marine Corps. I reside at 77 Brookside Way in Missoula.

Not unduly favor a political party.

I support maps six (6) and nine (9). I believe maps six and nine best address the issues of competitiveness while not favoring a political party.

I wish to thank the commission for the opportunity to provide input to this very important decision.

--

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: Marsha Okland
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:45:59 PM

From: Marsha Okland alloverthepage@yahoo.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Marsha Okland. Ive lived in Montana for over twenty-five years, have paid taxes, voted, enjoyed the numerous outdoor activities that are available on the public lands, national and state parks, and have believed and supported the past values that have been associated with this state.

Unduly favor one political party. Im all about fairness.

I support 6 and 9 as best meeting the criteria. They dont unduly favor a political party, minimize splitting counties, towns, and reservations, keep communities of interest intact.

I appreciate your giving my comments consideration. Thank you.

--

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

From: [Elizabeth Oleson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments re: Districting Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 2:12:52 PM

Dear Districting Commissioners:

After reviewing the nine current congressional districting map proposals, I favor two of them, and for similar reasons:

Proposal 2 – This proposal splits zero counties and has minimal population deviation. It mostly groups the tribal nations together in a single district, maximizing their influence. (The exception is the southern portion of the Salish Kootenai Reservation in Missoula County.) It also combines Gallatin and Park counties, which share “commuting” populations with similar interests.

Proposal 9 – This proposal trims off a bit of Missoula County, ensuring the Salish Kootenai reservation is intact within a single congressional district. This proposal maximizes the tribal nations’ influence within a district. This proposal also keeps Gallatin and Park counties in a single district, of importance to those communities.

Here are some brief negative comments:

Proposal 5 has the largest population deviation. Proposal 8 splits four counties and “looks gerrymandered!”

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Oleson
9 Brookside Way
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [diane.olhoeft](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] State map
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 2:17:10 PM

I would like to encourage you to vote for choice 9. It seems to meet the goals the best. My second choice would be 4.

Thank you
Dlane Olhoeft
1249 Willow Crwwk Rd
Corvallis MT 59828

From: [Amy Olson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map Choice Comment
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 10:18:20 AM

Dear Districting Commission,

During these troubling times of extreme polarization that is definitely damaging our nation, it's easy to trace this back to widespread unequal and non-competitive state districting issues. The threat of being "primaried" in non-competitive districts has fostered races of who can out do who by being the most ideologically extreme. This serves a minority (and many times fringe), but not the common majority.

It's my ardent desire that Montana remain a fair election state; therefore, please consider the following proposed maps that represent both important aspects of Competitiveness and Equal Population.

CP: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9

I'm a Cascade County resident and see we are on the cusp of many of these map district lines. I have no intimate knowledge of what side of the districting line most impacts my area, but hope that we fall into an area that forces politicians of all stripes to listen and respond to every voter!

Thank you for your forthright work for all of us thus far.

Sincerely,
Amy Olson
33 Castner St
Belt MT 59412

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Stormy Olvera
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 9:40:41 PM

From: Stormy Olvera Residence: Helena Montana

Message:

I support map 1.

--

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: Keith Ori
Date: Saturday, October 9, 2021 7:41:14 AM

From: Keith Ori
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

It is so very obvious that the maps the democrats proposed are designed to lump all liberal counties into one district in an attempt to guarantee Democrat representation. This certainly does not meet the constitutional requirements both state and federal and defines the essence of gerrymandering. Placing Flathead County in the eastern district is a perfect example of keeping a conservative County away from liberal counties.

--

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

From: noelieo2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Noel Osterman](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Choose Proposed Montana Congressional Map 9
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 2:03:51 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please choose congressional map #9. This map only divides one county and does not divide a single reservation. I am a resident of Cascade county and do not wish to see a division here. We also have multiple reservations nearby and I think it is imperative to keep the reservations intact on the map. Maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 all divide both counties and towns, which I find illogical. Even if you cannot endorse map 9, maps 2, 4, 6, and 8 do not divide communities or counties. Please consider my sentiments when voting on a congressional district map.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Noel Osterman
PO Box 317 Belt, MT 59412-0317
noelieo2@yahoo.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Garrett G. Ouldhouse
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:20:21 AM

From: Garrett G. Ouldhouse oretgart@gmail.com
Residence: Anaconda Montana 59711

Message:

I choose proposal #4 because Kalispell has voted Republican for along time and so has Billings and it takes all of Bozeman and Missoula, Butte area to compete with Kalispell, Billings votes which are always republican

--

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

From: [Mary Owens](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for redistricting maps #2, 6 and 9
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 1:28:34 PM

These maps are competitive, have equal population and mostly keep county lines intact.

Thanks,
Mary Owens, Lolo, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Paul Pacini
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 5:02:46 PM

From: Paul Pacini ppacini47@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:

Paul Pacini, Helena, MT I am a private citizen feeling a need to contribute positively to our social and political environment.

Not unduly favor a political party.

I support map #6. The divisions of political boundaries is minimal and taken to keep other communities together.

Thank you for making a sincere effort to be fair.

--

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: Vicky Panasuk
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 3:39:03 PM

From: Vicky Panasuk vpanasuk@yahoo.com
Residence: Livingston

Message:

My name is Vicky Panasuk and I live in Park County.
My family is now 5 generations deep into Montana. We love the land and the opportunity to utilize the resources and recreational opportunities.

I'm writing in regards to the redistricting. As a person who lives in Park County it is necessary to keep our community intact as and not split according to political interests and agendas.

I support maps 6 and 9 because they minimize splitting communities. The maps I selected will help reduce political bias and minimize splitting of communities

Thanks for your time.
Vicky Panasuk

--

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: Robin Paone
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 2:12:16 PM

From: Robin Paone pbiz@att.net
Residence: Whitefish

Message:

Hi! I am Robin Paone. I live in Whitefish, Montana.

I believe you should stick to all of your stated goals for redistricting because doing otherwise would be unfair. I am mostly interested in creating competitive districts.

I support maps 9 and 6. These both show the new district will be competitive. And, it minimizes splitting of counties and reservations.

Please do your job fairly. It is important for our democracy in Montana. We have a chance to show the nation that we are a fair state.

--

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: Pat Parker
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:56:24 AM

From: Pat Parker montanahuntress@gmail.com
Residence: Helena Mt

Message:
CP 2
Fair

--

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

From: [Amy Pearson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on finalist district maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:19:12 AM

Dear Commissioners,

I would like to submit comments on the finalist maps under consideration to become Montana's new Congressional map:

Map #CP 1: This map favors one party unduly. The population is equal, but it is NOT competitive. It divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map #CP 2: One of the best maps. This is population equal, highly competitive, and follows county lines. It keeps communities of interest together. This map is also compact and contiguous.

Map #CP 3: This map favors one party unduly. It is NOT population equal and NOT competitive. It divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map #CP 4: This is a decent map. This map is population equal, competitive, contiguous and compact. It keeps communities of interest together by dividing along county lines and does not divide reservations.

Map #CP 5: This map favors one party unduly. It is NOT population equal and NOT competitive. It divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map #CP 6: One of the best maps. This is population equal, highly competitive, contiguous and compact. It keeps communities of interest together.

Map #CP 7: This map favors one party unduly. It is population equal, but NOT competitive. It divides Gallatin County and separates communities of interest.

Map #CP 8: One of the best maps. This is population equal, highly competitive, contiguous, and keeps communities of interest together.

Map #CP 9: This is a decent map. It is population equal, competitive, contiguous and very compact, mostly following county lines.

Thank you for your time,

Amy Pearson
1003 N. Davis St.
Helena, MT 59601

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Julianne Peden
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 7:03:10 PM

From: Julianne Peden
Residence: Billings Mt

Message:

I like proposal #7 because it divides the state in a simple easy way.

--

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: Lynn Pederson
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 3:24:39 PM

From: Lynn Pederson Enlpederson99@yahoo.com
Residence: Belgrade

Message:

The commission must adopt the proposed Map CP-1. Map CP-1 complies with Montana law and follows precedent with an east/west division and divides the least amount of counties.

--

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

From: risepelloni@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistrictingmap
Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 11:19:19 AM

I prefer map CP-2. I feel congressional districts should be based on population with no regard for political preferences. This map appears to meet my preferences.

Risë Pelloni
Cascade County

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rori Lynne Perin
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:45:52 PM

From: Rori Lynne Perin skimom45@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman Montana

Message:

Please adopt a map that complies with Montana law and rejects a gerrymandered district in the West.

--

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

From: [deb_perkins](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 11:47:51 AM

It is essential that both Districts are competitive and have equal population to ensure a fair and just election of our representatives in a representative democracy. Map 8 is listed as population equal and party competitive, at this time. I support Map 8.

Deborah Perkins

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Erica Perlman - Hensen
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 5:09:59 PM

From: Erica Perlman – Hensen ericaperlman@gmail.com
Residence: Gallatin Gateway, MT

Message:

As a voter of Montana, I ask you to please favor more competitive maps for redistricting. The point of districts is to represent the electorate and some maps will make it impossible for nearly-half of Montana's population to be represented in national politics. I kindly ask you to favor maps: 2, 6, and 8.

Thank you.

--

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

From: [MARGARET PERRYMAN](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Maps for Montana
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:33:32 PM

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you very much for your service to our state. Your's is an important and challenging job and has significant impact on our state's future.

I am writing to tell you which map I would like you to consider when drawing Montana's congressional district map. I have studied all maps side by side with the criteria that were established. I believe the best map for Montana is Number 8.

Map Number 8 has balanced populations, provides for one district to be republican while the other district is competitive for both parties and assures that the voices of native Americans will be heard by each of our two members of Congress. Map 8 places three reservations in District 2 and four reservations in District 1.

The downside is that Yellowstone County and Missoula County are split as is Sanders County (to avoid splitting the Flathead Indian Reservation) but I believe that the value of having Indian Reservations in each district outweighs the disadvantages. Its also fair to say that large metropolitan areas across the country are very often split into more than one district as Missoula and Billings would be.

Sincerely yours,
Margaret Perryman
1456 Post Drive
Bozeman 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Tia Persson
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 11:44:45 AM

From: Tia Persson apersson@bresnan.net
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

The Commission should should select Map #2. The urban areas with colleges should be together, because they have different problems than the rural and agricultural counties of the state. It is also good because it doesn't split counties.

--

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: Adrienna Peterson
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 1:06:09 PM

From: Adrienna Peterson adriennapeterson@gmail.com
Residence: Stevensville

Message:

Hello, I am a Montana native and current resident. I would like my Montanan citizenship to be represented in regards to the vote on the Congressional Maps proposed. Commissioner, please vote for map #5 as first choice.

map #3 as second choice.

map #5 as third choice.

It is my opinion that Maps #2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 are gerrymandering.

--

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

From: [Caroline Pharr](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feedback on Redistricting Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:30:38 AM

Dear Districting and & Apportionment Commission Members,

Thank you for taking the time to ensure that Montana has fair districts that represent all Montanans. I am very appreciative of the criteria and guidelines you laid out for map selection, and I am proud to be part of a state that has a nonpartisan commission that determines electoral maps. I strongly advocate for the selection of maps 2, 6, and 8 as they are all population equal, contiguous, competitive (do not favor one party unduly), and keep communities of interest together. In particular map 2 even adheres to county lines. Maps 4 and 9 are also population equal, compact and contiguous, are somewhat competitive, and keep communities of interest together. **Maps 2,6, 8, and to a lesser extent 4 and 9 meet the criteria and guidelines adopted by the commission.**

Maps 3 and 5 are not population equal and should be removed from consideration when there are seven maps that are population equal. Maps 1 and 7 slice through Gallatin county and divide up a community, which is against the guidelines of the commission and also a disservice to the community. Lastly, maps 1,3,5, and 7 all unduly favor one party, and all but guarantee wins for those candidates. We want our elected officials to work hard for our votes and represent our best interests. If a candidate is a shoe in no matter what they do they won't be held accountable. Montana has a proud history of keeping unfair influences out of politics. Let's continue this tradition by removing maps 1,3,5, and 7 from consideration. **Maps 1,3, 5, and 7 do not meet the criteria and guidelines adopted by the commission.**

Thank you for your time and consideration. Best,

Caroline

From: isotes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Loren Pinski](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Map # CP2
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:21:53 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Greetings

I endorse Map #2 because it is population equal, it does not split a county thus keeping local communities in tact, as required by our constitution, it is competitive, and it allows for quality representation for each district.

Thanks

Loren Pinski

Sincerely,
Loren Pinski
807 Pattee Creek Dr Apt A Missoula, MT 59801-7101
isotes@yahoo.com

From: ppipal@charter.net
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana US House re-districting
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 4:21:46 PM

-- It doesn't seem right to divide counties, or cities. For that reason Proposal 3, 8, and 9 which would divide either a county or a city, should be rejected.

-- Including Kalispell in Proposal 4 goes against the guideline of "compactness".

-- In general, any proposal that extremely favors 1 political party over another should be disqualified (termed "gerrymandering" in the guidelines for re-districting).

Thank You for the opportunity to comment!

Pam Pipal
610 Indian Trl
Billings, MT 59105

From: leapittenger@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Districts
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7:44:44 AM

I think Proposal 4 is the most fair idea, giving both parties a fair shake in the West.
Thank you,
Leea Pittenger
Missoula

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Arthur L Plowman
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 9:34:10 PM

From: Arthur L Plowman partplowman@hotmail.com
Residence: Boyd MT

Message:

Any of the proposals with a nearly straight North to South line, such as proposal one, three, five, or seven. Any one of the aforementioned would be acceptable. 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: Pat Plowman
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:04:09 PM

From: Pat Plowman partplowman@hotmail.com

Residence: Boyd, Montana

Message:

Blessings.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the nine maps.

Maps 1, 3, 5, 7, are acceptable though none are great. Map 5 is my preference but why must Hill County be split.

My county, Carbon, was torn three ways in the Montana House district 2000 to 2010. What a disaster!

--

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

From: wmaratita@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wendy Plumage-Maratita](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]New District CP8
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 11:29:19 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I like that there is both rural and urban and allows for diversity. Hopefully , less chance of thinking they are in a elitist district and does what is best for Montana not outside interest groups.

Sincerely,
Wendy Plumage-Maratita
PO Box 1103 Harlem, MT 59526-1103
wmaratita@hotmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Dawn Poindexter
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 7:10:05 AM

From: Dawn Poindexter dawnp718@gmail.com
Residence: Scottsdale

Message:
Cp1 seems to be the most logical.

--

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: Paul Meredith Poindexter
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 6:38:53 AM

From: Paul Meredith Poindexter pmpswa@aol.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

I prefer CP-1. It seems to be the most fair and legal redistricting map.

--

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: Paul Policastro
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 9:43:36 PM

From: Paul Policastro Residence: Hamilton

Message:

Plans 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 are the only way forward for fully democratic, non-plutocratic representation for Montana. We need voices in DC that represent the people of this state, not the fat cats who think they know what they can get away with by wrapping it in the American flag.

--

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

From: [Samsquantch](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 2:29:06 PM

I pick number 6
Thank you

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: jesse Pritchard
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 7:24:43 AM

From: jesse Pritchard
Residence: Billings Montana

Message:
Make sure the new congressional district is competitive

--

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: Gretchen E. Probst
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 11:44:56 AM

From: Gretchen E. Probst
Residence: Twin Bridges, Montana

Message:

I am excited about the idea of a new of a new Congressional District in the state of Montana. I am hopeful that this district will be one that will NOT be designed to assure that only one party benefits, but one that will allow equal representation for each voter in that district. It is my researched understanding that maps 2,4,6,8,9 which are being considered are the most likely to provide equal representation for each Montana voter in that new district. I am hopeful that you will consider choosing one of them. Thank you, Gretchen E. Probst

--

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

From: [Cheri](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District proposal
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 10:23:23 AM

To Whom it may concern:

I appreciate the work behind defining new districts for Montana's additional congressional seat.

I've reviewed each and prefer proposal #5.

Thank you
Cheri Purnell
Helena

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Pat Purvis
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 10:27:37 AM

From: Pat Purvis wichitapurvis@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Message:

After reviewing the 9 chosen maps and comments already provided to the commission, in my opinion splitting counties goes against the prospect of keeping business communities of interest together. This is especially important for representation at the federal level if one part of the county has to appeal to a different representative than the other part for federal support. Hopefully by listening to Native American concerns, the commission is eliminating those maps that don't consider placing at least 2 reservations in each district. Maps 2 and 9 don't even consider this point.

With our growing population, creating at least one competitive district is most important. The commission has the information from voter records and technology to create a balanced district that encourages voter participation and allows for an honest competition to occur keeping candidates engaged in representing their constituents and voters feeling they are actually picking the person who represents them.

The commission has a daunting chore ahead of them. It does not appear that any of the proposed choices actually address many go the primary issues. Creating an original map using voter input may be your responsibility.

--

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: Sonya Skelton Quackenbush
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:36:16 PM

From: Sonya Skelton Quackenbush sonyaquack@yahoo.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

In looking at all the proposed maps. it appears that CP 1 most closely follows the requirements of HB 506 and keeps the state divided most evenly regarding population. Please settle on CP 1 as the final dividing line for the new congressional 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: Derrick Quandt
Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 7:57:09 PM

From: Derrick Quandt
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Hello, I would like to voice support for the 2nd, 6th and 8th proposed maps for the upcoming redistricting.

Thank you!

--

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

From: [srahrer](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 1:34:10 PM

Please take into consideration the following when drawing the redistricting maps:

Maintain natural boundaries of cities, tribal communities, and counties

Have as equal population as possible in the districts

Make the districts competitive so that one political party does not dominate the district

Thank you.

Sandra Rahrer
Colstrip, MT

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® E

From: [K Rakela](#)
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: redistricting
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:54:48 PM

Putting all the counties with the big towns: Bozeman, Missoula, Butte and Helena all in one group is gerrymandering!

Joining the two Universities, Montana State University and University of Montana, in one district is gerrymandering and is NOT competitive.

Missoula County and Gallatin County should not be in the same district.

The most fair maps are CP1, CP3 and CP5.

Thank you for taking my observations into consideration.

Kathleen Rakela
109 S B St.
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [K Rakela](#)
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
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:55:21 PM

Putting all the counties with the big towns: Bozeman, Missoula, Butte and Helena all in one group is gerrymandering!

Joining the two Universities, Montana State University and University of Montana, in one district is gerrymandering and is NOT competitive.

Missoula County and Gallatin County should not be in the same district.

The most fair maps are CP1, CP3 and CP5.

Thank you for taking my observations into consideration.

Kathleen Rakela
109 S B St.
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathleen Ralph
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:24:21 AM

From: Kathleen Ralph k.a.ralph@gmail.com
Residence: Columbus, MT

Message:

I urge the commission to select one of these three maps: 2, 6, and 8 because they have one competitive district. Competition is important as it will make those elected more responsive to the needs of their constituents. Voters are also more likely to be engaged when there is true competition. Political fairness also will be ensured by maps 2, 6, and 8 and this is a very important goal of redistricting. Do not disenfranchise large segments of Montana's population by creating two districts with the same political majority! We are not uniform and the redistricting map should reflect our diversity.

--

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

From: mvrasor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Melanie Rasor](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Divide each into equal parts population
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:23:31 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Political party division SHOULD NOT even be considered here. The division should be equal parts population....period!!! What happened to fair competition as it should be?

Sincerely,
Melanie Rasor
870 Middlemas Rd Helena, MT 59602-7580
mvrasor@yahoo.com

From: joshuaaaron1978@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Josh Rassi](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 12:56:21 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Hello and thanks for your work on this commission! After carefully studying the nine map finalists, I believe that map #6 will best represent Montana in dividing the state into two districts. This division ensures a relative equal population, does not split any towns, counties, districts, or reservations. In addition, it allows both districts a mix of urban and rural voters. Reservations are also found in both districts as are significant elements of agriculture and tourism- two of Montana's biggest industries.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,
Josh Rassi
1123 Woodland Dr Bozeman, MT 59718-2767
joshuaaaron1978@gmail.com

COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-375-6500 commissioners@rc.mt.gov

To: Districting and Apportionment Commission

October 14th, 2021

Dear Commissioners,

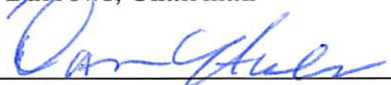
On October 14th, 2021, we held a public meeting to discuss the nine maps put forth by your commission. We determined that Map CP1 most closely meets the constitutional requirements of population deviation and being compact and contiguous. It also most closely meets other criteria such as Protecting Voting Rights, not being drawn for the purpose of favoring or disfavoring a political party, keeping communities of interest intact, and competitiveness. Although past elections and political data is not allowed to be used under Montana Law, it appears that several of the maps are drawn using that data for the sole purpose of creating a “competitive” map. Our analysis of using the most competitive recent races in Montana, the 2016 Governor and 2018 Senate races, show that CP1 also is the most competitive of all the maps. The only criteria, which is discretionary, in which this is not the best is “minimizing dividing political subdivisions”. While there are other maps which do not split any counties, they do not meet the mandatory criteria of compact, contiguous or population deviation as well as CP1 does. CP1 only splits Gallatin and Cascade Counties and only splits off about 7% of each of them in the West to meet the US Constitutional criteria of population equality. We believe that any map which places Western Montana forested counties in the East can only be explained by political gerrymandering and we soundly reject map CP8 which for some crazy reason has Ravalli County in with all of the North and East counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed maps.

Ravalli County Commissioners



Jeff Burrows, Chairman



Dan Huls, Member

-Absent-

Greg Chilcott, Member

From: jamesrichardreavis@yahoo.com
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essman@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Commission Public Comment
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:52:21 PM

Redistricting Commission,

Thank you for hearing from the citizens of Montana as you consider new district lines. I am an attorney and have resided in Montana for most of my life. I have lived in Butte, Missoula, Helena, and now Billings. I believe that maps 6 and 8 best meet the commission's criteria and goals.

I am opposed to any map that does not keep the cities of Missoula and Bozeman together and intact. These are urbanizing, growing, and thriving communities who are both struggling with the rising cost of housing. Both communities are college towns and connected by I-90. Splitting Missoula and Bozeman would diminish the voices of college students and urban Montanans, who have different interests, demographics, and economic interests than the more rural eastern portion of the state.

I support Map 6 because it does a great job of creating compact districts that largely follow county lines and also keep the Indian reservations intact. The western district contains the urban population centers of Bozeman, Butte, Helena, Great Falls, and Missoula, while the eastern district will contain most of the Indian reservations, the rural counties, and the cities of Kalispell and Billings. Joining Kalispell with eastern Montana makes sense to me because Kalispell is connected by the Hi-line and shares agrarian interests with the eastern part of the state. Kalispell's inclusion also means that a representative cannot solely run on being a favorite son of Billings and expect to be elected, rather, the candidate will need to reach out to city residents, farmers, and Native Americans to win.

I support Map 8 because it breaks us out of the "West-East" paradigm and creates two districts that reflect the Montana most of us actually see when we travel. The southern district is connected by I-90, while the northern district is connected by the Hi-line. Reservations are kept intact and Native Americans get a strong voice in both districts. It is true this map splits up the city of Billings, however, as a resident of Billings I am in support of this. Billings is by far the largest city in Montana, and it deserves the voices of two representatives. The line dividing Billings is also reasonable because the line separates the neighborhoods of West End and Central-Terry, which makes sense to Billings residents. The line also separates the downtown from Billings Heights, which have been historically separated by distance and culture anyway. Map 8 will create at least one competitive district, which is good for Billings. As the largest city in Montana, Billings has too often been ignored by candidates who have assumed winning it as a given. Giving Billings two representatives who have to fight for every vote would be beneficial to the city and the state.

Sincerely,

James Reavis

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lawrence Alan Redfield
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 12:50:54 PM

From: Lawrence Alan Redfield redfield4mt@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston Mt

Message:

After looking at the maps and listening to the meetings I feel map CT 1 is most objective map meeting all the criteria set forth by the committee before they started drawing the maps
Alan

--

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: Emmy Reed
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:00:59 AM

From: Emmy Reed emmyreed07@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

I support maps CP4 and CP8. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

--

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: John Reeves
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 6:29:27 PM

From: John Reeves ramhunter406@gmail.com

Residence: Butte

Message:

John "Timmer" Reeves

Book author, Giant Rams Of Montana, Volume.I

I live in Butte, Mt.

MONTANA

9. Wild Montana is doing good job. No problem in Butte.

Welcome. No problem. My cell phone number is 406-438-1828

--

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

From: [Lisa Rehard](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Written Comment on the Proposed Redistricting Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 1:59:00 PM

To the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission:

Re: Written Comment on the Proposed Redistricting Maps

I am a Montana voter residing in Polson. I prefer the map designated CP8. Unlike the maps that simply divide the state into an eastern district and a western district, this map creates at least one competitive district. In most cases, communities with similar needs and interests are kept intact. The populations in each district are equal. Both districts contain population centers experiencing growth so that the populations should remain similar going forward. Further, this map is the best one proposed to give tribal communities a voice in both districts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Rehard
26 Bayshore Lane
Polson, Montana 59860
lkrehard@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Eric Reinhardt
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 12:08:48 PM

From: Eric Reinhardt xmarshall25@gmail.com
Residence: Belgrade Mt.

Message:

After reviewing maps for redistricting I believe Map CP 1 is best for Montana.

--

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

From: [Ron Reynolds](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:36:50 PM

I would prefer # 8

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Philip Adkins Rhodes
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:44:53 PM

From: Philip Adkins Rhodes philiprhodes99@gmail.com
Residence: Kila, MT

Message:
Proposed Map 1 is the most fair option

--

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: Laura Rhodes
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:36:29 PM

From: Laura Rhodes laurapointearbor@live.com
Residence: Kila, MT

Message:

I favor map number one because it most appropriately reflects Montana's populace.

--

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

From: bstnrad1987@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bev Richardson](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:24:29 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Bev Richardson from Bozeman. I am a public school teacher and a military (retired) spouse. Please choose option map #8. It is important to have Native voices in BOTH Montana districts. With reservations in both districts this option is the fairest one to the people who have been, and are still, struggling even though they deserve so much better. This option would force any representative to keep listening to our Native voices and considering their needs.

Thank you,
Bev Richardson
Bozeman

Sincerely,
Bev Richardson
329 N Hunters Way Bozeman, MT 59718-1813
bstnrad1987@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary N Ristau
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 7:18:29 AM

From: Mary N Ristau
Residence: MISSOULA

Message:

Please be fair and open when redistricting our state. We are so fortunate to have additional federal representation, but it should represent all Montanans. Please don't let this be a partisan conflict. Let it be a decision we can all be proud of.

Thank you.

--

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

From: [Dale Roach](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional districting
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 3:16:00 PM

"TO: Montana Districting Commission ("districting@mt.gov")

CC: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov, Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov, Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov,
Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov, Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf>) is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 (https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf) passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanan's who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Your name Warren D Roach

Address 14815 Romain Drive, Bigfork, MT. 59911

Email address wdronline@icloud.com

Telephone number 406 837-6796

“Voting for Biden because you hated Trump is like eating a turd because you dislike broccoli”
- Unkown

From: freestyle05
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our Choice for New National Congressional Districts
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:36:09 PM

Dear Montana Districting Commission,

We are citizens of the state of Montana and are submitting this email as our written testimony to express our opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. We respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. We have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

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In light of the foregoing, We most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana.

Thank you for your time and attention to our concerns.

Freeman and Mary Jane Robinson

P O Box 185, Big Arm, MT 59910

freestyle05@prodigy.net

406 883-2201

From: freestyle05
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: Our Choice for New National Congressional Districts
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 8:35:47 PM

Dear Montana Districting Commission,

We are citizens of the state of Montana and are submitting this email as our written testimony to express our opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. We respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. We have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It also divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. We believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

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In light of the foregoing, We most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana.

Thank you for your time and attention to our concerns.

Freeman and Mary Jane Robinson

P O Box 185, Big Arm, MT 59910

freestyle05@prodigy.net

406 883-2201

From: blogtana@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Brad Robinson](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Montana's Congressional map should look like it used to
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 10:03:17 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I strongly support either map 2 or map 4.

Map 2 allows for a natural and appropriate divide between rural and urban needs and interests. I believe that both sets of interests are extremely important and both sets of interests should be heard at the federal level by a representative.

Map 4 is very similar to the districting we had before we lost our second seat. It also, generally, follows a rural/urban distribution. I understand that this has become hyper-politicized, but focusing on the people of the state, not the parties that serve only themselves, will be the best way forward for Montana.

Sincerely,
Brad Robinson
1414 Flowerree St Helena, MT 59601-6024
blogtana@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Brian and Kris Rogers Rogers Ranch
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 11:10:27 AM

From: Brian and Kris Rogers Rogers Ranch brianrogersrdc@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Dear Redistricting Commission Members:

Please fight to have maps 6 or 9 be the choices for our second House seat redistricting. In my opinion these are the two options which best represent a cross section of Montanans and our shared values.

Sincerely yours,

Brian and Kris Rogers
Bozeman

--

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

From: mtvickie@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Vickie A Roller](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Thursday, October 14, 2021 9:15:46 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

To who it concerns;

I choose Map # 8 - as it considers Indian Reservations in Both Districts and I would hope ensure that the Representatives

"Listen" to the various diverse voices.

We have a large diverse state with small communities, not just rich tourism towns where small wage earners could only dream to live. Making them drive the length of the state to visit the vast and varied areas and ways people try and scratch out a living WITHOUT Government Farm FSA and NRCS loans would help educate them.

Especially now with energy prices increasing and the lack of insight in so many Montana people understanding the importance of Climate change. Representatives should Represent the Entire state!

Thank You for listening.

Sincerely,

Vickie A Roller

835 Ahoy Ave Billings, MT 59105-2523

mtvickie@yahoo.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Thomas Romine
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:58:35 PM

From: Thomas Romine thedrom@outlook.com

Residence: Billings

Message:

Thomas Romine, have lived in Billings since 1955 with absences during college and a handful of years after graduate school.

Having both districts competitive is most important. With districts safe for one party, the extreme faction of the particular party holds too much sway with politicians catering to those on the fringe.

I support maps 6 & 9 as they best create at least one competitive district. I believe they offer a chance for both rural and urban input and provide the best option for competitive districts.

I appreciate the hard work the commission has put into providing the alternatives. Thanks 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: Rob Romsa
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 1:46:18 PM

From: Rob Romsa rob_romsa@yahoo.com
Residence: Billings, MT

Message:

In researching HB506, I believe Map CP1 is the only map that fully meets the legislative intent of HB506.

It is your duty to follow the law that was passed.

Thank you for allowing my input.

--

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: Peter Ropp
Date: Friday, October 15, 2021 4:04:12 PM

From: Peter Ropp peter.ropp@libertymutual.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

This is Peter Ropp. I have lived and worked in m
Missoula since 1988. My current address is 1000 council way in missoula.
Wildmt@bresnan.net

..

A new congressional district should represent communities interest. A new representative should reflect the interests of the majority of people in the district and consequently the district should keep communities of interest together

I support map proposal cp 9 Map cp 9 would keep communities of interest together, minimize splitting up countries towns and reservations and maintain competitive districts.

Thank you for your consideration.
Peter Ropp

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

From: [Gabrielle Eklund Rowley](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Legislative Districts - Prefer maps 2, 6, 8
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7:00:51 PM

Dear Districting and & Apportionment Commission Members,

As you consider how to determine Montana's new legislative districts, I would like to advocate for maps 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 for these reasons:

- Map 2 has equal populations in each district, adheres to county lines, is compact and contiguous, and keeps communities of interest together.
- Maps 2, 4, 6, and 9 are compact and contiguous with equal populations.
- Maps 2, 6, 8, and to a lesser extent 4 and 9 are competitive and give the people of Montana true power in electing officials that will work for them. Candidates in these districts will have to campaign and get to know their constituents and they will be held accountable if they don't.
- Maps 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 are all population equal.

I would like maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 to be removed from consideration for these reasons:

- Maps 3 and 5 are not population equal and should be thrown out. We have seven maps that are population equal, and this is a main criteria selected by the commission in selecting a map.
- Maps that slice through populous counties and divide communities should be thrown out. Missoula and Bozeman contain the flagship universities for the state and have similar interests. Maps 1 and 7 divide up Gallatin county and aim to separate communities with similar needs.
- Maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 favor one party unduly, as both districts are deemed uncompetitive and are disproportionately likely to elect the same party.

Thank you,
Gabrielle Eklund Rowley

From: [Sid & Lynette](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 3:47:14 PM

TO: Montana Districting Commission ("districting@mt.gov")

CC: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#), [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#), [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#), [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#), [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1

<https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

Map CP-1 has the best configuration for compactness where the width and length of both districts are most equal. It has the minimal difference in populations between the two districts (plus or minus one). It divides the fewest number of counties (2).

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506.

There is an attempt by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

In light of the foregoing, I most strongly urge you to adopt the boundaries for our proposed Congressional Districts as outlined in Map CP-1 and in accordance with the existing laws of Montana. Thank you for your time and attention to my concerns.

Sidney & Lynette Rundell
107 Long Lake Drive
Polson, Montana 59860
sprljr@centurytel.net
406-883-1763

From: [Sid & Lynette](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)
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To: [Districting](#)
Cc: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#); [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#); [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#); [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#); [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 3:47:41 PM

TO: Montana Districting Commission ("districting@mt.gov")

CC: [Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov](#), [Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov](#), [Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov](#), [Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov](#), [Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov](#)

SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

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406-883-1763

From: [Kate Ryan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] map redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:08:22 PM

Map 1: I don't like this map because (1) it creates two Republican super districts and (2). splits Gallatin and Cascade counties.

Map 2: I like this map because it creates competitive districts. It doesn't look like illegal gerry mandering to me, and it's the only map that doesn't split counties. This is my preferred map.

Map 3: I. don't like this map because it (1) creates two Republican super districts and (2) splits 2 counties.

Map 4: I don't like this map because it splits 3 counties, especially that weird split to the Flathead.

Map 5: I don't like this map. This map is not competitive, and it splits counties.

Map 6: This map is competitive, so that is good. I prefer map 2. But this is ok.

Map 7: This map splits Bozeman, which makes no sense. I don't think adherence to the historical districting is an argument for a map. This does not create competitive voting.

Map 8 This map allows for competitive districts, It splits a lot of counties but seems to try to have reservations in both districts which I like. That seems to be the tradeoff.

Map 9: Why divide Missoula County? This map is compact, but not competitive.

From: kiki.rydell
To: districting@montana.gov
Cc: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: redistricting map comment
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 9:56:54 AM

Dear Members of the Redistricting Commission:

We wish to provide feedback on the maps you're considering for redistricting Montana to form two congressional districts. It is our hope that the districts created by the process are competitive and fairly drawn. It has come to our attention, after reading about the maps that versions 1, 3, 5, and 7 do not result in even one competitive district. Competitive districts are essential because they meet the requirements set up by your commission. Furthermore, they require the candidates to pay attention to every voter since they need votes to win. The best chances for competitive districts are found in maps 8, 6, 2, 9, and 4. We would like to advocate for map 8. What we appreciate about map 8 is that one of the districts is quite competitive, both districts include tribes, both districts include rural voters, meaning both congressional representatives would have to consider, follow, and support rural issues. We encourage you all to support a map that is competitive and thus gives all Montanans a chance to be represented in Congress. Thank you for your work on this important issue. Future Montanans will benefit from your decision to have all Montanans represented in Congress.

Respectfully yours,

Carol and Robert Rydell,
622 S Grand Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carol Leigh Rydell and Robert William Rydell
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:05:32 AM

From: Carol Leigh Rydell and Robert William Rydell kiki.leigh.rydell@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, Montana

Message:

Dear Members of the Redistricting Commission:

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