

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

## Verbal Testimony Summaries

### Ketchikan Public Hearing 10/6/2021

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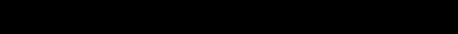
**ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD  
COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING  
VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY**

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Keolani Booth**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Council Metlakatla Indian Comm.**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Public Comment: **Mr. Booth expressed opposition of the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map as it takes Metlakatla away from the region it is currently a part of. Many Metlakatla residents go to Ketchikan for groceries and other economic opportunities. Any redistricting that removes communities from the Ketchikan area would not make sense.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Janalee Gage**

Public Comment: **Ms. Gage noted that Metlakatla and Prince of Wales are tied to Ketchikan through similar needs and economic drivers. Ms. Gage opposes the separation of these communities from Ketchikan. Ms. Gage wants to ensure everyone is equally represented and that they are not making it hard for some districts to get the representation they deserve.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Dan Ortiz**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **State Rep. District 36**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

**Public Comment: Mr. Ortiz echoed the comments given from all speakers during the 10/6 Ketchikan public hearing about keeping Ketchikan, Saxman, and Metlakatla together in the same district as it currently is. Additionally, Hyder should remain in the same district as it is important that they have representation by remaining with Ketchikan.**

**Mr. Ortiz spoke in favor of Board Maps v. 3 and v.4 and recommended that the board give more consideration to the Senate Minority Caucus map as it gives District 1 the southern parts of the Prince of Wales Island, including communities such as Craig, but at the expense of Wrangell. Ketchikan and Wrangell have strong ties to one another.**

**Mr. Ortiz noted that because Wrangell also has strong ties to Petersburg and that the Wrangell community may feel better being connected to Petersburg rather than Ketchikan.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Lori Ortiz**

Email or Phone Contact: 

**Public Comment: Ms. Ortiz noted that as an educator in Ketchikan, she supports a plan that keeps Ketchikan, Saxman, and Metlakatla in the same district. These three places are very bound together as there are many students who have various family members between Ketchikan and Metlakatla. Additionally, Ms. Ortiz drives through Saxman to go back and forth between Ketchikan and Metlakatla.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Katie Jo Parrott**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: **Ms. Parrott stated that she lives at [REDACTED] which is on the south bend of Ketchikan that would be separated from its current district under the proposed Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map, specifically District 1-A. Ms. Parrott echoed the comments of Mr. Smith and Mr. Booth from Metlakatla. From the conversation she has had in the community and conversations seen on social media, many people oppose breaking out any part of Ketchikan, including Saxman. Ketchikan is truly one community due to its geographic nature where it is spread out along the coastline. Ms. Parrott noted that Ketchikan also feels connected to Metlakatla and Wrangell as those communities do to Ketchikan.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

**Ketchikan 10/6 Verbal Testimony**

Transcription date: October 17, 2021

Name: **Albert Smith**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Acting Mayor Metlakatla Indian Comm.**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: **Mr. Smith noted that Metlakatla works closely with Ketchikan in many industries including commercial fishing. Residents travel to Ketchikan for groceries and recreational activities such as fishing. Mr. Smith is interested in hearing feedback from other communities as well. Metlakatla strongly opposes the Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) map.**

**After board member Budd Simpson asked if Metlakatla would oppose the other map variations that bring in Wrangell or bring in the south end of the Prince of Wales Island, Mr. Smith answered that it would be hard to choose either one. Metlakatla spends much time in Wrangell as there is a fishing fleet there where residents prepare for the fishing season. Metlakatla also has strong ties with the Prince of Wales.**

**Mr. Smith invited the board to visit Metlakatla on their public outreach tour.**