

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

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From: Sergio Acuña <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 4:15 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Fwd: personal testimony

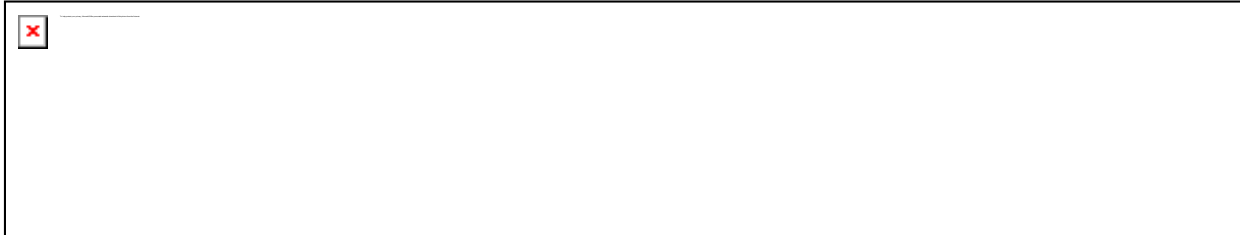
To whom may concern,

I live near Lake Otis and Tudor, and am writing to ask that the Board reject what appear to be partisan-driven attempts to draw Chris Tuck and Andy Josephson into the same district. The map-drawing process should be driven by Constitutional requirements, not partisan goals. Reviewing the different map options, Alaskans for Fair Redistricting's map has the most equal population across districts, a key requirement of the Constitution. Alaskans for Fair Redistricting also has compact and logical lines that recognize established neighborhoods in Midtown, East Anchorage, South Anchorage, and Downtown. No other map being advertised is as compact or equal in population as Alaskans for Fair Redistricting, and it should be used for Anchorage.

Sergio Acuña

[REDACTED]
Anchorage, Ak 99508

From: Judy Andree [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:58 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Comments on redistricting maps from League of Women Voters of Alaska



P.O. Box 101345, Anchorage, Alaska 99510
September 27, 2021

Dear Alaska Redistricting Board Members:

The League of Women Voters of Alaska, in their position on Election Processes and Procedures, states the following about the act of redistricting: LWVAK supports a process that is independent from the legislature and other elected and appointed persons, that is non-partisan, favors no incumbents or political parties, and promotes electoral competition.”

In addition, the Alaska State Constitution says the following about the redistricting effort:

“Each house district shall be formed of contiguous and compact territory containing as nearly as practicable a relatively integrated socio-economic area. . . . Each senate district shall be composed as near as practicable of two contiguous house districts. Consideration may be given to local government boundaries.”

Some of the maps currently under scrutiny by the Alaska Redistricting Board follow the spirit of the Constitution better than others. If we look at Southeast Alaska as an example, we can find examples of maps that do consider the Constitutional parameters as well as other map sets that don't follow best practices. Southeast Alaska is a unique territory with the Pacific Ocean lapping at its shores on one side and the coastal mountain range shared with Canada on the other side. This results in a long strip of area that provides some challenges to redistricting efforts.

The Alaska Constitution mandates contiguous territory with integrated socio-economic areas. Unfortunately several maps that have been proposed for the Southeast area ignore the socio-economic ties that exist in the Mendenhall Valley area of Juneau and place part of that Valley's population in District 4, an area with no road connection to the Valley. Maps that ignore the socio-economic ties that exist in the Mendenhall Valley include the Board Proposed Maps v. 3 and v.4 and the AFFER map. These maps also ignore Borough and City boundaries. In contrast, proposed maps that do recognize these socio-economic ties as well as local government boundaries include the Doyon Coalition maps, the Senate Minority maps, and the AFFR maps, making these maps preferable to the others.

In addition to these items, there has been much media coverage of the strange situation in which some elected members of the Legislature find that in some proposed maps their district has been changed in a manner that will require them to run against a colleague for reelection. Since this is happening to many more in one party than the other, an observer might suspect gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is the bane of democracy. It is one of the factors that can lead to minority control which tends then to ignore the wishes of the majority of voters and the needs of the state as a whole. This is not a situation that should be encouraged by any political party; unfortunately, it has a certain low place in our political activity, one which we should work to eradicate.

We appreciate the work of the Alaska Redistricting Board and the other interested parties who have taken on the difficult task of redistricting a state as unique as Alaska. If you do your best work, we may find a new map that does not require a lawsuit to solve a dilemma, one that will serve all of us well during the next ten years. Thank you all.

Judy Andree, President
League of Women Voters of Alaska

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Melissa Aronson

Affiliation (if any): _____

Email or Phone: [REDACTED] Zip Code: 99827

Area/Map Title/Keywords: Senate minority proposed Southeast

Public Comment: This is the map I favor. It makes the most sense in terms of geography and common interests within each district.

Some of the other maps are too strung out geographically & don't have common interests.

Overall, as this is decided, please remember that we have a democracy. And currently two parties which provide a good discussion and debate. Redistricting is an important time to defend our system which is under serious threat at the national level.

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



- Jim Ayers lived here better part of 40 years.. I've lived in
12th street Downtown Quad
Douglas Nowell Ave
Downtown Distin Ave.
Twin Lakes
Auke Bay Condo
Now at Lena on Island View

- We all know, "The Valley" "Out the Road", "Auke Bay", are together! And all are part of Community – stores; parishes, schools, and "Out the road neighborhoods... the connectedness of these three areas

And "Downtown area is Downtown area out to the Freddie/Airport

THE OPTIONS: MY RECOMMENDATION

Out the Road, and Auke Bay is a single contiguous district. Three proposals reflect that The first is the design submitted by Coalition of Doyon, Ltd. The second is by Alaskans For Fair Redistricting (AFFR). The last map that keeps the district together is the proposal submitted by the Senate Minority Caucus,

Three maps or proposals seem formed to Gerry mander and simply target moving Andi Story *out of way.* Like many others, I'm concerned about the Board's Map 3 and Map 4, and the proposed third party map from Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER). *These maps vastly change the shape of our district. They all cut the Mendenhall Valley up and separate out parts of Auke Bay and Out the Road so they are no longer a single district.*

My Plea:

Please, don't fall into this political nonsense of using your role and responsibility to bring divisiveness to Juneau. You know using your authority and role drawing lines to make a political points with political operatives is wrong- plain and simple!!

Gerrymandering your lines busting our community and cohesiveness to simply satisfy some obvious political ploy cooked up someplace -likely outside of Juneau to target our Legislator is: SHAMEFUL, PLEASE, DON'T DISHONOR YOURSELVES AND DISRUPT OUR COMMUNITY

Juneau is struggling some right now but we are a Town functioning together- don't blow it up with Gerrymandering Monkey Business!

There are 3 good proposals for Juneau...

Coalition of Doyon, Ltd./ Alaskans For Fair Redistricting (AFFR)/ Senate Minority Caucus

From: Robert Banghart <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 11:44 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response


A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 11:43 am

First Name: **Robert**

Last Name: **Banghart**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **None**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: **99824**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Plan v.3 District 3 and 4**

Public Comment: **The proposed redrawing of District 3 and 4 in plan v.3 appears to be a clumsy attempt to eliminate the House Majority Coalition by pitting two incumbents to run against each other.**

In reviewing the overall approach to statewide redistricting I feel the Senate Minority Plan is a more balanced, thoughtful and less partisan approach. I urge the members of the Reapportionment Board to consider their obligation to the people of Alaska and not to a specific political party.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: New redistricting maps

Hi, I have many concerns about the board's new maps.

- The board map in the Juneau area blatantly cuts out the existing Rep. Andi Story.
- The board's map fails to respect Borough and City boundaries. (e.g. *Anchorage Municipality, City of Fairbanks, Matsu Borough, Kenai Borough, Ketchikan*)
- The Board's map overrepresented Anchorage & Matsu at the expense of Fairbanks & the Interior.
 - The 22 Anchorage and Matsu districts all have less than ideal population (meaning each voter's vote has a greater impact).
 - All Fairbanks districts are overpopulated by over 4% and thus significantly underrepresented.
- Both of the Board options overpopulate each Fairbanks district. The ideal district size is 18,335 - each Fairbanks house district is above 19,000 people

Thanks,

Julie Bednarski

[REDACTED]
Juneau, Alaska 99801
[REDACTED]

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD WEBSITE RESPONSE

Date/Time: 9/30/2021

Name: Steve Beilgard

Email or Phone: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: Stay with the law. No re-districting!

From: Charles Berray <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 9:14 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 9:13 am

First Name: **Charles**

Last Name: **Berray**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **none**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99516**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **AFFER**

Public Comment: **I strongly urge the board to strongly reject the AFFER proposal. This is nothing more than a completely partisan attempt to elect Republicans. Blatant political gerrymandering is causing terrible problems across the United States. It's time for Alaska to show a better way.**

The AFFR proposal seems fairly balanced.

The Board 3 and 4 versions have far too much population deviation.

The Senate Minority proposal is the best to date and I urge the Board to support it.

From: Douglas Blanc <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 11:00 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 10:59 am

First Name: **Douglas**

Last Name: **Blanc**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **What is supposed to be an apolitical process looks very politically motivated**

Public Comment: **I oppose map versions 3 & 4. I favor the senate minority map. I am disappointed that some members of the redistributing board are obviously politically motivated. I also can't believe that a former state politician found guilty and fined for ethics violations would be allowed (as an outside party) to "steer" this process in any way. Thank you.**

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 5:17 pm

First Name: **Kathy** Last Name: **Blanc**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Improper division of Mendenhall Valley**

Public Comment: **Alaskans for Fair Redistricting's map is the most representative of Southeast Alaska's distinct communities**

- **The AFFR map reflects the natural downtown Juneau/Mendenhall Valley divide in the Fred Meyer/ Juneau Airport area.**
- **AFFR's Juneau districts best respect Juneau's existing neighborhoods with Auke Bay and Mendenhall Valley in one district and Downtown, Lemon Creek, and Douglas Island in the other. Other maps unnecessarily divide these neighborhoods.**
- **By including Haines, Skagway, and Klukwan in the rural southeast district the AFFR map better reflects the socioeconomic integration of these communities. Additionally this keeps all of the U.S/Canada border crossings in one district.**
- **The AFFR plan keeps Ketchikan, Saxman and Metlakatla in the same district.**

Talking Points Opposing AFFER - Alaskans for Fair and Equitable Redistricting (Reidrich) Plan

- **The AFFER plan unnaturally splits the Mendenhall Valley into two different districts**
- **The AFFER map unnecessarily places the communities and neighborhood out the road past Auke bay into a district with Skagway and Haines. These residents are connected to Juneau on the road system and should be included in a Juneau district**
- **The AFFER map blatantly gerrymanders Saxman out of Ketchikan Borough – Randy Reidrich admitted on the record this decision was based on race.**
- **The AFFER map would place the Metlakatla reservation in a separate district from Ketchikan, Metlakatla is not within the Ketchikan Gateway Borough but has strong ties to Ketchikan.**

From: Hugh Brown <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 8:30 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 8:30 pm

First Name: **Hugh**

Last Name: **Brown**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Concerned Voter**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99501**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Gerrymandering is Wrong**

Public Comment: **The AFFR Map is the fairest.**

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 2:13 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Comments regarding redistricting for TONIGHT

Members of the Redistricting Board,

I am a registered voter in Mendenhall Valley #2 Precinct 34-440. Andi Story is my representative. I am outraged by the board's proposed redistricting maps and the possibility of putting Rep. Hanan and Rep. Story in the same district. I am not in favor of **any** of the maps proposed by the board. **I support the map that the Alaskans for Fair Redistricting proposes.**

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Greg Burger

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
[REDACTED]

From: Wes Canfield <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 7:55 AM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting

Dear Redistricting Board, Thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments on redistricting. As a lifelong Alaskan, I support drawing lines based on guidance in the Constitution. With technology we have today, it is fairly easy to compare how the different maps perform. AFFR has lower population deviation, and more compact lines than any other map for Anchorage, including the Board maps V3 and V4. No other map comes close to meeting Constitutional requirements for compactness, equitable population, contiguity, and socioeconomic integration. If we're just following constitutional guidance, it seems like a straightforward choice to use AFFR's map.

Thank you for listening,

Wes

From: Adrian Celewycz <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 7:07 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 7:06 am

First Name: **Adrian**

Last Name: **Celewycz**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99821**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Redistricting**

Public Comment: **I have reviewed the 6 maps presented by the board and wish to express my support for the maps produced by the Doyon Coalition, Alaskans for Fair Redistricting and the Senate minority. I believe that any subdivision of Juneau needs to be made in the location identified on these three maps. The "out the road" and Auke Bay areas of the Juneau Borough should be incorporated with the "Valley" . The "Valley" is where Auke Bay and out the road residents conduct most business and where their children attend school. Consequently it does not make sense to include portions of those areas in with downtown Juneau.**

From: Brian Charlton <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 9:57 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 9:57 am

First Name: **Brian**

Last Name: **Charlton**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99709**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Redistricting Maps around Fairbanks**

Public Comment: **The only Map of those presented that seems to almost accurately depict the Fairbanks communities alliances is Board Map 4. By no means should the Ester area be lumped with the Salcha and Moose Creek areas. Nor should Nenana be part of any Fairbanks areas. Thank you.**

From: Gershon Cohen <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 9:36 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 9:35 am

First Name: **Gershon**

Last Name: **Cohen**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99827**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable):

Public Comment: **I understand that redistricting is always (unfortunately) a partisan process. That said, any map that by any common sense analysis clearly targets an individual legislator should be immediately rejected as an insult to the notion that we truly believe in a just and democratic political system. Please demonstrate respect for the intent of our State constitution.**

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

First Name: **Stuart**

Last Name: **Cohen**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Date: September 27, 2021, 3:33 pm

Public Comment: **Putting both our representatives in the same district is a dirty trick, and for that reason, entirely expected. Likewise, creating a new "conservative" district by cutting out two areas from the Mendenhall Valley and Lemon Creek and lumping them together is another dirty trick that should not be allowed.**

Last time the Republicans redistricted, they got rid of a few Democrats and bipartisans and ushered in a massive tax break for the oil companies that wrecked our budget and left us paying oil companies massive subsidies without increasing production a dime. This is more of the same. For goodness sake, no!

Date: September 27, 2021, 3:40 pm

Public Comment: **I support the AFFR map**

From: Callie Conerton <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:23 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 10:23 pm

First Name: **Callie**

Last Name: **Conerton**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Gerrymandering - Andi Story - Valley district.**

Public Comment: **Cutting Andi Story out of her district by 6 houses is gerrymandering. Please adjust the districts so that you are not purposely cutting out a person from where they are currently serving.**

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

Haines: 9/28

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Carol Davis

Affiliation (if any): —

Email or Phone: [REDACTED] Zip Code: 99827

Area/Map Title/Keywords: Senate Minority 33-Q

Public Comment: I prefer the option above. It protects the current Sitka guy who previously worked so hard as a Haines representative. I also like Ketchikan and POW being united as a district. This plan also clumps the "marine" villages together.

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



From: Lin Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 7:08 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Juneau comments on the Board's redistricting options

Dear Board:

Thank you for taking public comments.

1) I'm seeing Juneau options that are not compact and contiguous. All the Board proposals give almost laughable political advantage to the people who want to diminish Reps Story and Hannan. I'm seeing doughnut holes and sidewalks carved to force Rep Story to run against Rep Hannan. Undemocratic maneuver here.

I'm seeing rigging on unconscionable scale and an inability to follow Alaska Constitution which calls for socioeconomic and cultural neighborhoods to remain as intact districts and not be sliced and diminished.

The Senate Minority Proposal gets my vote. Fair, follows constitutional rules, avoids blatant gerrymandering. This plan keeps our democracy afloat.

Thank you for considering.

Lin Davis

[REDACTED]
Juneau 99801

29 year resident and faithful voter

From: Steve Dennis <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2021 3:08 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 26, 2021, 3:07 pm

First Name: **Steve**

Last Name: **Dennis**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **No mail delivery**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **AFFR Plan**

Public Comment: **I live in Millersreach, this plan is like the current jerrymander. Previously I voted in Big Lake, which was on my way home. With this plan and the current one, I drive past The Big Lake polling station, past the Houston polling station to the Willow polling station. A jerrymander for sure and extremely out of my way.**

From: fullcircle [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 1:14 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Comments regarding redistricting for TONIGHT

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a registered voter in Mendenhall Valley #2 Precinct 34-440. Rep. Andi Story is my representative. I am deeply concerned about the redistricting maps and the possibility of putting Rep. Hanan and Rep. Story in the same district. I wish to make my comments known. I support the maps the the Alaskans for Fair Redistricting, a coalition of Native Corporations and the Senate Minority who support preserving the current valley district which I also believe reflects the economic, geographic, cultural and historic boundaries that differentiate Downtown from the Valley.

Sincerely,
Mary DeSmet

[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2021 2:27 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Proposed Redistricting Plan v.3 District 3 Gerrymandering

From: J. Alan and Ann Doty
[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear members of the board,

The board's adoption of a proposed redistricting plan which obviously gerrymanders an incumbent out of her current district seriously undermines public confidence in the integrity of the board, especially since there has already been substantial public comment adverse to this action. Is the board listening to the public, or simply kowtowing to partisan interests?

The subject map departs from the putative boundary (Glacier Highway) at Bayview Ave., runs north along a short block to Cross St., westward along a short block to Seaview Ave. and south on Seaview Ave., rejoining Glacier Hwy. This appendix contains four single-family homes (one of which we own and one of which is the residence of the incumbent Representative) and an eight-unit apartment/condo structure. This action also excises the four single-family homes from their nine neighboring homes in the coherent Tanner Terrace Subdivision. This action certainly cannot be justified by population dynamics, compactness or socio-economic connectedness.

Sincerely,
J. Alan and Ann Doty

[REDACTED]

From: Nathan Duval <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 5:59 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 5:59 pm

First Name: **Nathan**

Last Name: **Duval**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99686**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Proposed version 3**

Public Comment: **Valdez has strong historical connections to the Richardson highway corridor as the gold rush gateway to the interior. Additional ties between Valdez and the interior include the connection to the pipeline and corresponding labor force. Additionally, the Valdez Port serves to supply the military and mining supplies and resources to the interior.**

There is very little socioeconomic tie to the matsu and our representation from that area has been poor in the past.

I am from Fairbanks and my travel, recreation, and hunting and fishing all are connected to the Richardson highway headed North.

Any district that can include the communities north of Valdez on the Richardson highway and Cordova would would be the best mix of fishing and waterfront and pipeline interests for our community. Of the maps presented the board proposal 3 would be the best. The AFFR proposal wouldn't be bad either. However a new map with Cordova, Valdez, and communities north not in the Matsu would be great for historical, socioeconomic, and recreational reasons.

From: Ase Elliott <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 1:10 PM
To: Testimony <testimony@akredistrict.org>
Subject: Map Idea for Anchorage

Redistricting Board

Hello, my name is Andrew and I live in Muldoon, house district 15. I'm reaching out today to make a suggestion to the redistricting board based on some testimony I heard after the draft maps came out. I heard several complaints from Anchorage residents about part of the Muldoon area being paired with the upper Eagle River Valley/Highland Rd area. I currently live in this area of Muldoon.

I personally believe that it is not a big deal to pair these two areas together. However, I believe there is a good compromise that makes more sense. The area in the Anchorage Bowl that is most like Eagle River (currently house district 14), is Upper Hillside (currently district 28).

I came to this conclusion based on a study done by the Business Enterprise institute Center for Economic Development at UAA. (Link Below) This study has a great deal of economic and demographic data for all Alaska House and Senate districts. Eagle river and Upper Hillside have very similar household income levels, high school in college graduation rates, poverty levels, and racial demographics.

I believe that a house district encompassing Upper Hillside and then coming across Chugach State Park to include the Upper Eagle River Valley/Highland Rd area would be a better fit than Muldoon and Eagle River.

[2021 Legislative Fact Sheets — Center for Economic Development \(ua-ced.org\)](https://ua-ced.org/2021-legislative-fact-sheets)

I apologize for not remembering this study and sharing it with you earlier.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Andrew Elliott

From: Trenton English <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:33 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 4:32 pm

First Name: **Trenton**

Last Name: **English**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99803**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Southeast**

Public Comment: **As I look through the proposed maps of southeast, I am disheartened to see the two drafts submitted by this Board and the AFFER. The Boards plan v.3, v.4 and AFFER's all reek of partisan gerrymandering. I strongly feel the AFFR's version to be the best representation of Southeast as a whole. AFFER's district lines better reflect the socio-economic ties amongst our diverse communities and lacks any of the partisan carve outs found amongst some of the other proposals. I would urge the Board to let Alaskans choose who and how they're represented. I would urge the Board to reject the maps that clearly look to manipulate district lines in order to achieve those political outcomes. I would urge the Board to accept the AFFR's proposed map of southeast.**

October 1, 2021

Submitted via Email

Alaska Redistricting Board
P.O. Box 240147
Anchorage, AK 99524
testimony@akredistrict.org

Dear Chairman Binkley and members of the Alaska Redistricting Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the Alaska Redistricting Board's ("Board") public meetings. We are submitting this testimony to share our concerns about the open house format and to respectfully provide suggestions for improving the accessibility and transparency of upcoming meetings. We welcome the Board's recent decision to incorporate time for on-record public testimony during open house meetings, as requested by meeting attendees. However, instead of relying upon a vote of in-person attendees, the Board should establish the time for public testimony in advance to facilitate the involvement of all community members. In addition, the Board should make the public testimony it receives, both oral and written, available on its website as soon as practicable, and should have a virtual or teleconference option for participation at all public meetings.

First Alaskans Institute is a statewide Alaska Native nonprofit that works to educate key decision makers about our peoples, amplify the voices of our communities, and advance our ways of life. Alaska Natives have a vested interest in the well-being of this state because these are our homelands, and our intergenerational connections, skills, hard work, and capacity come from these lands. Our diverse knowledge systems exemplify over 10,000 years of best practices.

The Native American Rights Fund is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that focuses on applying existing laws and treaties to guarantee that national and state governments live up to their legal obligations to tribes.

I. The open house format, without a pre-determined time for public testimony, limits public participation and is inconsistent with the spirit of an open and transparent redistricting process.

The Board has adopted six proposed redistricting plans and will host public meetings across the state using an "open house" format. These meetings are opportunities for the Board to "present

and receive feedback” on the proposed redistricting plans.¹ The public notices for the upcoming meetings state that, “Alaskans are invited to review the proposed plans, discuss the plans with board members, and leave public comments.”² During the open house meetings, large printed maps will be displayed on the walls and members of the public will have the opportunity to talk informally with the Board member(s) who are present, but no time is pre-determined for Alaskans to formally and publicly submit oral testimony regarding the maps. Instead, Alaskans are instructed to submit written testimony via email or an online portal on the Board’s website.

During the September 27 open house meeting in Juneau, members of the public requested a conventional testimony format to facilitate community dialogue.³ Following that meeting, on September 29, the Board announced via email that it would continue this “‘hybrid’ Open House format” at upcoming meetings as requested by meeting attendees.⁴ This is a welcomed change to the open house format. Without a designated time for public testimony, the open house format limits the opportunity for Alaskans to hear from other members of their community and engage in a dialogue about the merits and shortcomings in the proposed plans. During previous redistricting meetings, members of the public were able to listen to other community members’ testimony and then respond, on the record. This dialogue is essential for Alaskans to understand the proposed redistricting plans and the potential impacts of each plan on their communities.

II. The Board should take public testimony on the record at a pre-determined time during each meeting.

While the Board’s decision to accept public testimony on an ad hoc basis is an improvement on the open house format, the Board should include a pre-determined time for public testimony to be taken on the record at all future open house meetings. This will allow Alaskans to anticipate when they can publicly participate in the meetings. The Board should also provide a call-in number during this portion of the meeting so that all members of the public have an opportunity to participate.⁵

Having a portion of the meeting on the record facilitates a more transparent process. Without a formal record, there is no way for Alaskans who cannot attend the open house in person to know how Board members responded to questions or explained the Board’s decision-making process. In

¹ *E.g.*, Alaska Redistricting Board Public Hearing – Wrangell – October 7, 2021, (Sept. 28, 2021), <http://notice.alaska.gov/203925>.

² *Id.*

³ Jeremy Hsieh, *Redistricting Board met with skepticism at first public meeting in Juneau*, KTOO (Sept. 29, 2021), <https://www.ktoo.org/2021/09/29/alaska-redistricting-skepticism-juneau/>.

⁴ Email from Juli Lucky, Alaska Redistricting Board staff member to email subscribers (Sept. 29, 2021).

⁵ *Hickel v. Se. Conf.*, 868 P.2d 919, 929 (Alaska 1994) (commending the Board for providing a teleconference option that allowed “any citizen to call in and provide testimony by telephone” because it “expanded public access to the reapportionment process” and was consistent with Open Meeting Act requirements).

the interest of a fair and open redistricting process, a formalized and more structured public comment process will increase the public's confidence in the Board and its decisions.

III. The Board should make the recordings of the public testimony and any written testimony available to the public as soon as is practicable.

It is important for the Board to make the testimony it receives available to the public so Alaskans are able to stay up-to-date on the redistricting process. The short timeline for redistricting necessitates that this information be disclosed to the public in a timely manner. The Board made written testimony available as part of its meeting materials for previous meetings but has not indicated if or when it will make the testimony received during its upcoming meetings available to the public. The Board is traveling across the state and holding multiple public meetings each week. In order for Alaskans to stay informed about the proposed maps and the input of other Alaskans, the Board should endeavor to make public testimony available as soon as possible.

IV. The Board should provide a virtual or teleconference option for participation in all meetings.

The Board's public meetings should include an option for virtual or teleconference attendance and participation. Currently, the Board's open house format provides no option for community members to participate in the public hearings, unless they attend in person. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and Alaska's soaring and unprecedented COVID-19 infection rates,⁶ it is essential that the Board provide a virtual or teleconference option for attendance to ensure that all Alaskans have the opportunity to participate. Merely accepting written testimony online is not an adequate alternative for participation in public meetings. The current open house format prevents community members who are unable to attend in person from hearing directly from the Board about the proposed districts in the area. While the virtual "Meet the Maps" sessions are a welcomed addition to the schedule, the opportunity for Alaskans to hear from the Board and other members of their community is critical to the redistricting process. A virtual or teleconference option for attending community-specific open houses should also be provided.

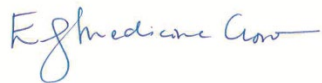
In addition to adopting a scheduled time for public testimony during each meeting, the Board should begin each public meeting with a livestreamed and/or recorded presentation of the proposed plans followed by a question and answer period. This would ensure that all Alaskans receive the same information about the proposed plans and share an understanding about the redistricting process. The Board's deliberations and actions must be conducted in accordance with the Open

⁶ E.g., Lex Treinen, *1,251 new COVID-19 cases reported in Alaska, breaking daily record*, Alaska Public Media (Sept. 22, 2021), <https://www.alaskapublic.org/2021/09/22/1251-new-covid-19-cases-reported-in-alaska-breaking-daily-record/>.

Meetings Act.⁷ Providing this information would further the Act's policy of protecting Alaskans' right to remain informed and engaged throughout the redistricting process.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the redistricting process. We recognize the many challenges posed by the redistricting process and appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth La quen náay Medicine Crow
President/& CEO
First Alaskans Institute



Megan Condon
Staff Attorney
Native American Rights Fund



⁷ Alaska Stat. § 44.62.310; *Hickel v. Se. Conf.*, 846 P.2d 38, 57 (Alaska 1992) (holding that the Open Meetings and Public Records Acts generally apply to the Board's activities).

From: Susi Gregg Fowler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 4:33 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting Districts 33/34

Thank you for the chance to submit testimony on redistricting proposals.

Redistricting is always tricky, and tinkering with neighborhoods is not unusual in the aftermath of new population numbers. But if the exercise is simply an attempt to squeeze out an incumbent member of one party, I think democracy loses something. It's hard to discern another reason to alter the current valley district with its clear, defined borders. Its boundaries appear to accurately reflect a politically and culturally diverse community of people. That diversity in the district may well be a strength of those neighborhoods. There doesn't seem to be any reason except political to create a less cohesive or coherent district.

I hope the Board will look carefully at alternative maps that preserve the current Valley district along with the so-called Downtown district - (which of course actually isn't just "downtown" since it includes our neighbors including Haines, Skagway, Gustavus and Klukwan).

Thank you.

Susan (Susi) Gregg Fowler
[REDACTED]
Juneau, Alaska. 99801

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD WEBSITE RESPONSE

Date/Time: 9/28/2021

Name: Beth Fread

Email or Phone: [REDACTED]

Public Comment: Stick to geographic and economic similarities between areas to develop districts.

From: Anne Fuller <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2021 10:21 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 26, 2021, 10:20 pm

First Name: **Anne**

Last Name: **Fuller**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Board Maps 3 and 4, district 2 and 3**

Public Comment: **The folks who live beyond the ferry terminal are citizens and students of Juneau. It seems to me that the current house districts are contiguous and reasonable. Please consider keeping communities whole when you are choosing maps. I see that the maps by AFFR, Doyon, and the Senate Minority Caucus do this. Politics is the way we respectfully settle differences. Let's make the maps fair.**

From: timothy Gavin Jr <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 8:00 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 7:59 am

First Name: **timothy**

Last Name: **Gavin Jr**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99727**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable):

Public Comment: **There`s no way we want to be part of District 39. We have been part of District 40 since 1986. I am form Buckland Alaska and we All feel the same way even Deering will Fight this if it comes.**

From: John Gerrish <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:32 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 9:32 pm

First Name: **John**

Last Name: **Gerrish**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Gerrymandering within Board ver. 3 and ver 4. maps**

Public Comment: **I think that the attempts to draw lines for our representation districts in a manner to favor a particular political party is an egregious violation of the Alaska Constitution's attempt to ensure equal representation and fair play. The Alaska Redistricting Boards maps versions three and four both have highly questionable districting that other presented versions seem to be able to avoid. Specifically Board versions 3 and 4 both have greater population variability among the districts than either the AFFR or Senate Minority maps while creating more compact districts with high population density areas.**

Basically, I would like to see a map adopted that pays more attention to population, commonalities in economic, ethnic and social make up and accessibility within the district for being basically fair to the constituents to be represented. When the process is complete, no one should be able to look at the maps and say "Well I can see who planned that!" with a load of cynicism in their voice.

From: Kisha Guillen <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 4:29 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response


A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 4:28 pm

First Name: **Kisha**

Last Name: **Guillen**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: **99507**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable):

Public Comment: **I live on the lower Hillside and appreciate the opportunity to comment on the six maps being considered by the Redistricting Board. I do not support Alaskans for Fair and Equitable (AFFER)â€™s map, which seems designed to target certain incumbent legislators based on party, and has clear legal flaws like highly unequal population and gerrymandered lines. The Redistricting Boardâ€™s maps lines are more compact than AFFERâ€™s, but still have fairly large differences in population across districts. Alaskans for Fair Redistricting (AFFR) has both equitable population distribution and compact lines, and I support it being used for Anchorage.**

From: Aren Gunderson <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 4:39 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 4:38 pm

First Name: **Aren**

Last Name: **Gunderson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99709**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Version 4 is better than 3**

Public Comment: **Of the 2 versions available for viewing on this website, version 4 is far superior in meeting the constitutional requirements for contiguity and compactness. See district 35 as an example. In version 3 it wraps south of Fairbanks in uninhabited land south of the Tanana River to link North Pole to western Fairbanks. That is clearly an effort to dilute the democrat leaning western Fairbanks area. Districts are required by the constitution to make sense geographically and socioeconomically to prevent gerrymandering. Partisan gerrymandering is cheating.**

From: Ron Heintz <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 10:00 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 10:00 am

First Name: **Ron**

Last Name: **Heintz**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99821**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable):

Public Comment: **I have reviewed the 6 maps presented by the board and wish to express my support for the maps produced by the Doyon Coalition, Alaskans for Fair Redistricting and the Senate minority. I believe that any subdivision of Juneau needs to be made in the location identified on these three maps. The "out the road" and Auke Bay areas of the Juneau Borough should be incorporated with the "Valley" . The "Valley" is where Auke Bay and out the road residents conduct most business and where their children attend school. Consequently it does not make sense to include portions of those areas in with downtown Juneau.**

I would also like to comment on the structure of the public meeting. The meeting consisted of a series of maps posted on the wall and opportunities to comment. No presentations were made of the maps, the maps labeled the districts with different conventions, and blown-up sections were at different scales. For a naive citizen this made comparison extremely difficult. I was lucky enough to interact with some knowledgeable people who could orient me to the maps. I appreciate that constructing these maps is difficult and that the required trade-offs result in subtle differences. Asking citizens to blindly comment on maps with subtle differences without any orientation does not engender a spirit of transparency. I suggest that you have each author briefly introduce their map and identify it's main features.

From: Deborah Hemenway <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 7:55 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 7:55 am

First Name: **Deborah**

Last Name: **Hemenway**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99826**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **District 2**

Public Comment: **I do not believe that Gustavus should be lumped in with the outside coast. We are not associated with the outside waters of Southeast. The community of Gustavus has no contact with Sitka or other outside communities. All of our transportation options take us to Juneau. Ferry and airplanes only lead to Juneau. There are no flights for us to Sitka and no ferries to Sitka. All shopping and medical issues evolve in Juneau. Our radio station is Juneau. This makes no sense to take our community out of Sara Hannah and Jessie Kiehl's district.**

Thank you for the opportunity to make public comments.

Deborah Hemenway

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

WEBSITE RESPONSE

Date: September 30, 2021, 6:54 pm

First Name: **Bart**

Last Name: **Hinkle**

Your ZIP Code: **99686**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **City of Valdez employee - commenting as an individual**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Oral Testimony given in Valdez on 9.30**

Public Comment: **As I mentioned in my oral comments, I am supportive of AFFR Proposed District 36-R (preferred option) and the Board proposed v3 District 36. This is largely due to the Richardson Hwy. corridor and corresponding communities represented in each of these proposals.**

I was born and raised in the Fairbanks area, attended Eielson High School, and have lived and worked in Valdez since 1999. My personal, professional, and recreational life consists of the Richardson Highway communities. Sure, I go to Anchorage (Mat Su) out of necessity - but only out of necessity.

The history and established socioeconomic ties that Valdez and the Fairbanks region share are undeniable. Alternatively, there is no socioeconomic link between Valdez and the Mat Su Borough.

Freight, ammunition, TAPS, and utilities are but a few of the ties that bind Valdez to the Richardson Hwy. options. So much so that the AK DOT has us in the North region â€” with Fairbanks and all the Rich Hwy. communities.

Growing up outside of Salcha, many weekends were spent in the Valdez area. Primarily fishing, but also because High School sports were (and still are) in the same conference. I certainly was not alone in that regard, and it remains to this day that I routinely see many Fairbanks people in Valdez. Over 160 permanent slips in our boat harbor are registered to Fairbanks and North Pole personnel. Over 560 transients slips sport that same characteristic.

I can go on and on, but the crux of the statement is “no MatSu” and “yes” to Richardson Hwy. options.

From: Tim Hinterberger [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 4:34 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: District map proposals

Dear members of the redistricting board,

I wish to submit my comments on the six maps currently available, based on what Alaska's Constitution lays out as very clear criteria for drawing maps. Here are the criteria that are supposed to drive map making:

- Low population deviation: Ideally, every district would have the exact same number of people.
- Compactness: Shorter total circumference of a district is more compact.
- Socioeconomic integration: Consistency in types of communities in a district; consideration may be given to local government boundaries and geographic features.
- Contiguity: House districts must also be contiguous:

That said, here are my thoughts on the maps:

- AFFR's map is a blatant gerrymander that ignores compactness and socioeconomic integration.
- AFFR's map has a population deviation of 4.79%, which is much less deviation than the Board's V3 or V4 maps, while achieving equal or greater compactness and integration. AFFR (unlike Board V4) keeps Eagle River House seats contiguous, rather than pairing Anchorage/Eagle River House seats. AFFR's Eagle River seats are also more compact. Having Homer and Seward in a House district is logical and more socioeconomically integrated than the Board maps, given the nature of size, economies, and culture of these coastal towns.
- Board Version 3 has extremely high population deviation throughout the state, which should disqualify it. It includes a bizarre gerrymander of the Mendenhall Valley. A map that follows the Constitutional guidance of socioeconomic integration, and lines following geographic features, would keep the Mendenhall Valley together (as multiple other maps like AFFR and Senate Minority do). Fairbanks districts have huge population deviations (are overpopulated), which discounts votes from Fairbanks.
- Board Version 4 has the highest population deviations of any map being advertised for public comment, for districts in Anchorage. This high level of population deviation is unnecessary and should be rejected.
- This map pairs Anchorage House seats in Government Hill and East Anchorage with Eagle River House seats in a transparent attempt to create another Republican senate seat. It is more logical to pair the two Eagle River House seats, which more closely matches the Constitutional mandate to pair contiguous seats to the greatest extent practical. This is particularly important since Eagle River may well become a separate local government with an active succession movement underway. Board Version 4 creates a strange Mendenhall Valley gerrymander.
- The Senate Minority map achieves the lowest population deviations, and along with other maps such as AFFR demonstrates that the high population deviations in Board V3 and V4 are not necessary. Applying the multi-factor balancing test of compactness, contiguity, integration, and minimal population deviation, the Senate Minority has the strongest Southeast map.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Tim Hinterberger
Anchorage

From: David Hooper <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 4:28 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 4:28 pm

First Name: **David**

Last Name: **Hooper**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99709**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **High Population Deviation of map v3 in Fairbanks**

Public Comment: **Under v3's map the five Fairbanks Districts (31, 32, 33, 34 , 35) have a population deviation above 4%. This is map groups all of the high deviation districts in Fairbanks and diminished the power of a Fairbanks vote compared to other districts in the State.**

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Kirsa Hughes-Skandis

Affiliation (if any): N/A

Email or Phone: [REDACTED] Zip Code: 99801

Area/Map Title/Keywords: 33/34 gerrymandering

Public Comment: The inclusion of both current representatives from 33 and 34 in a single district in multiple proposed maps is unacceptable, particularly given the ~~map~~ extrusion on V.3's districting that ~~includes~~ crosses a road which otherwise forms the boundary in order to include a current representative. It is indeed illegal and gerrymandering to use representative addresses in creating new districts - it beggars belief that of all configurations that happened by random chance, it also smells of purpose that such bizarre configurations as the V.4 "donut" achieve that same end. Please listen to the Senate minority's well researched map or the AFFR group's work.

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



From: John Jensen <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 7:38 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 7:37 pm

First Name: **John**

Last Name: **Jensen**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99516**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **AFFR and Board Version 4**

Public Comment: **AFFR keeps eagle River House seats contiguous which makes sense. They are also more compact.**

Board Version 4 has a high population deviation. It also makes no sense by pairing Government Hill and East Anchorage with Eagle River House seats.

I support the basic criteria to make redistricting maps.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Loeen Jones

Affiliation (if any): _____

Email or Phone: _____ Zip Code: 99824

Area/Map Title/Keywords: _____

Public Comment: Board Proposed v 3 is Gerrymander -
Should be rejected or the portion that splits a
neighborhood should be corrected.

Senate Minority Proposed District 33 - g
Seems a better alternative

Devon Coalition Proposed District 3 - B
Seems a good distribution

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



From: Debbie Joslin <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 7:07 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 7:06 am

First Name: **Debbie**

Last Name: **Joslin**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **na**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99737**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **missing precinct**

Public Comment: **The Delta Junction area has 3 precincts. Big Delta, Delta Junction, and Deltana. The census numbers on the excel file do not show Deltana precinct. Unless the name has been changed it is missing. Please let me know where the population numbers are listed for that precinct or if they have been inadvertently left off.**

From: Emily Kane <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 3:26 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 3:26 pm

First Name: **Emily**

Last Name: **Kane**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **redistricting**

Public Comment: **As you know, but such knowledge is not evident by some of the current proposed maps, our state constitution requires that district boundaries:**

be contiguous and compact; be socio-economically integrated; consider boundaries of local governments, and use drainage and other geographic features whenever possible.

Unfortunately, several of the maps currently being considered by the Redistricting Board include elements are are clearly unconstitutional. For example, the AFFER map includes Nikiski and South Anchorage in the same district, which is neither compact nor contiguous and ignores local government boundaries. Adopting district maps that don't meet constitutional requirements not only risk being challenged in court, but also fail to provide Alaskans with a representative government "of the people" as intended. Both Board Version 3 and Board Version 4 should be rejected because of extremely high population density. Board Version 3 specifically affects my district and seems to aim to gerrymandering Representative Story out of a seat. There is no sane reason to split the Mendenhall Valley. How could "out the road" in Juneau (which is actually connected by road to downtown Juneau) be paired with Skagway and Haines which can only be reached by boat or plane from Juneau. Jacking around with constitutional due process to create the most representative maps possible WILL BE CHALLENGED. I, being one of "we the people," demand fair r epresentation.

From: Andrew Keller <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:31 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 10:30 pm

First Name: **Andrew**

Last Name: **Keller**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **None**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99708**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Senate Minority-I like this map the most**

Public Comment: **Fairbanks should have a house seat for city core, one for UAF/ Ester/Farmers Loop/Goldstream, one for Chena Ridge/College/Ester, one for South Fairbanks/Ft. Wainright and one for North Pole/Badger Road/Eielson. Juneau should have house seat for City proper and one for Mendenhall Valley. Ketchikan should be one house district and Sitka/Baranof Island should be another one. Homer and Seward seem like a good paring as they have similar geographies and socioeconomic compositions. Compact, keeping cities and towns from being divided as much as possible and representing geographical/cultural/socioeconomic regions intact-that is the guiding principle.**

From: Macy Kenworthy <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 11:28 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 11:28 am

First Name: **Macy**

Last Name: **Kenworthy**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99752**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Redistricting Buckland and Deering**

Public Comment: **Keep Buckland and Deering in District 40.**

From: Lisa Kramer <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 11:57 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 11:57 am

First Name: **Lisa**

Last Name: **Kramer**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Juneau redistricting**

Public Comment: **I finally really know what gerrymandering is....**

I hope you will correct the tentacle that puts Andi Story's home in the downtown district.

From: Ray Kreig <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 11:25 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 11:25 am

First Name: **Ray**

Last Name: **Kreig**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99501**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Downtown Anchorage and Elmendorf Gate**

Public Comment: **My office is in Boardwalk Condominiums located in downtown Anchorage at 2nd & Barrow Street just south of Ship Creek and the ARR Yards. I have been here for 30 years and on the building Condo Board for that period. There are 7 commercial units and 26 residential units in the building.**

We are definitely part of the JBER/Elmendorf economic and social "ecosystem". I have hired base spouses as employees; there are always many unit owners in our building that are active duty and continue as owners after separation; same comment as to renters here.

I speak in favor of no particular map but more directly to the concept that it makes sense to associate our location with the redistricting the Board does for JBER. It's obvious Government Hill should be associated w/JBER. We are south of there and it makes sense to include us also and even go further south if necessary.

[These are my personal experience comments and not an official comment of the Boardwalk Condo Association Board]

From: Will Kronick [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 7:53 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting Testimony

I spoke last night and would like to reiterate that I am in favor of the Doyon map. Downtown Juneau, Klukwan, Skagway, and Haines share economic and social interests. When people come here from the communities it is for medical, shopping at Costco and services at Tlingit and Haida. All of these are in the Downtown district.

Petersburg and Sitka are linked through fishing interests and it doesn't make sense to link Petersburg with downtown Juneau.

Gunalchéesh for your time in reading this and taking testimony. It means a lot for our voices to be heard as much as citizens up North.

Will Kronick, Downtown Juneau

From: Eric Kueffner <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 5:43 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 5:43 pm

First Name: **Eric**

Last Name: **Kueffner**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Doyon Coalition Proposal**

Public Comment: **The Doyon map seems like a very good proposal that resolves a lot of issues throughout the state in a in a fair manner. You should adopt it.**

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

From: John Lamont [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:33 AM

To: Testimony <testimony@akredistrict.org>

Subject: District 39

I am tired of the Yukon River Delta not being appropriately represented in Juneau! The up North Legislators only show up when there is competition for their respective seats! Bethel and Nome have no concern for the Yukon Delta Villages! We need our own representation! We have been left out for years! Do your job and listen to our PEOPLE!

Sent from my iPhone

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

Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:45 AM

To: Testimony <testimony@akredistrict.org>

Subject: District 39

I am very concerned about why we are not represented by Nome or Bethel Legislators. They only show up to our villages when they have competition on election years. The Lower Yukon River Delta needs our own representation in Juneau. Please understand! We in the Kusilvak Recording District are not only the poorest in the region but we are also left to fend for ourselves, for example: in 2020 and 2021 we who depend on our small commercial fishery could not make any money because Alaska's commitment to the Pacific Salmon Commission's Yukon River Salmon Agreement with Canada! We did not even get recognized by the Governor who should have declared a Salmon disaster in both years, but nothing! Where was our representation? We depend on our small commercial fishery to maintain our subsistence way of life.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Andrea Lang <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 7:13 AM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting 2021

Redistricting Board:

I am incredibly appalled by the blatant attempts by the Redistricting Board to manipulate district lines to ensure Republican control of our state. I have heard denials from the Republican controlled board that this was not the case....that no one ever spoke of where incumbents reside. Yet, several progressive legislators' seats are now compromised by these new borders.

I ask you to consider the alternative proposals that offer a more fair opportunity for political representation, rather than the rendition offered to ensure Republican domination of our legislature.

Andrea Lang
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: Ellen Mannion <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 8:16 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 8:16 pm

First Name: **Ellen**

Last Name: **Mannion**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99707**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **AFFR Plan**

Public Comment: **This looks like the fairest map to me. It keeps districts contiguous and people with similar interests seem to be within the same areas.**

From: Kathrin McCarthy <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 10:18 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 10:17 am

First Name: **Kathrin**

Last Name: **McCarthy**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **citizen**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **combining Rep. Andi Story and Rep. Sara Hannan**

Public Comment: **I strongly object to the map the ties and combines where Rep. Andi Story live in a subdivison along the Spaulding Meadows trail with Rep. Sara Hannan, who now represents the district I live in that includes downtown Juneau. This new map makes**

absolutely no sense. I also request that a public hearing be held in Juneau on the new maps. The hearing must share the 2020 census information in any discussion redistricting and creating of Juneau area maps.

Juneau population historically has been divided between the Mendenhall valley and downtown and Douglas with the Mendenhall Valley having more Republican voters. My own anecdotal information and my own gut feelings are that this is no long the case. The areas have both lost population and on the other hand gained more diversity.

I also object to Chair John Binkley's and Mr. Simpson's comments that the map combining Rep.Story and Rep. Story was unintentional. If a mistake was make why not just say so.

I am looking forward to seeing a corrected map concerning Story and Hannan. Iam also looking forward to a public meeting on the Juneau redistricting maps. The public must have the opportunity to have their views heard on the record.

Sincerely, Kathrin McCarthy, [REDACTED], Ak. [REDACTED]

From: Gary Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 25, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting

I live “out the road” at mile 20.5 Glacier Highway. I think my area, Auke Bay and the valley should remain together. We have much in common.

Thanks.

Gary Miller
[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801-8211
[REDACTED]

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD
PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

Valdez
9/30

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Dawson Moore

Affiliation (if any): VALDEZ CITY COUNCIL

Email or Phone: [REDACTED] Zip Code: 99686

Area/Map Title/Keywords: _____

Public Comment: VALDEZ HAS BEEN ESSENTIALLY

UNREPRESENTED FOR THE PAST DECADE ON A

STATE LEVEL BECAUSE OF DISTRICTING, AND WE

HAVE NO INTEREST IN CONTINUING TO BE LUMPED

TOGETHER WITH MAT-SU. VERSION THREE SEEMS

LIKE IT CONNECTS VALDEZ WITH OTHER END-OF-THE-ROAD

COMMUNITIES. BEST. THERE IS ALSO A GOOD CASE TO

HAVE US GROUPED WITH THE OTHER COMMUNITIES

IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 2:58 pm

First Name: **Ben**

Last Name: **Muse**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Doyon Plan**

Public Comment: **Dear Redistricting Board Members,**

I urge you to adopt the Doyon Coalition District map.

I am a resident of Juneau and live in House District 33. My recommendation of the Doyon map is based on my understanding of its impact on the areas near my home.

The district maps should, so far as possible, not break up communities and should keep related communities in the same district. I think it would also be desirable to keep existing districts intact, so far as possible, so that relationships between communities which have worked together for common objects in the past can be maintained.

I believe the Doyon plan does this best for northern Southeast.

The Board's Map 3 and Map 4, and the Alaska's for Fair and Equitable Redistricting maps, all break up the Mendenhall Valley, Auke Bay, and Lynn Canal roadside community complex. These maps break up contiguous and related residential and commercial areas.

The Alaskan's for Fair Redistricting map reorients the current House and Senate districts that include the downtown Juneau area from north (currently including Haines and Skagway) to south (which would include Petersburg). This radical change in the communities grouped into a district seems unnecessary given the existence of a reasonable alternative.

The Senate Minority proposal meets the criteria I listed above and would be a reasonable alternative to the Doyon proposal.

**Sincerely,
Ben Muse**

Juneau

Alaska House District 33

From: Bonita Nelson <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 11:43 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 11:43 am

First Name: **Bonita**

Last Name: **Nelson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Juneau Area Districting**

Public Comment: **I want to express my support for the maps submitted by the Doyon Coalition, Alaskans for Fair Redistricting & Senate minority for the Juneau area. These maps divide the area into logical subdivisions that include people residing in the areas where they most frequently shop, visit medical professionals and whose children attend schools there. The maps I support contain boundaries where the majority of residents meet the criteria in the previous sentence. I live 20 miles out of town and 90 percent of my travel time and obligations are from the Mendenhall Valley out towards my home. The valley area should be combined with all of the area North as a district, and the Valley towards downtown Juneau and Douglas should be another district. I don't feel it is logical to carve up the districts in other ways. It defeats the purpose of a representative having knowledge for a specific sector of the Borough.**

Thank you.

From: Dawn Nixon <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 9:27 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 9:27 am

First Name: **Dawn**

Last Name: **Nixon**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99661**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **District 6 v. 3**

Public Comment: **I have lived for the past 12 years at 47181 Denali St. (formerly known as Lincoln Lane) I am located just off Skyline Drive. I am troubled by the fact my Representative for State House is located out of Homer. I like visiting Homer but I do not live in Homer. I am closer to Kenai and/or Soldotna. It seems it would be more appropriate to be considered for District 7. Alaska Constitution states districts must be contiguous and compact. District 6 is NOT COMPACT. It is contiguous by arbitrarily drawn lines. Please consider including the area I live in District 7 or at least in a District closure to Kenai and/ or Soldotna. Thank you.**

Sincerely,

Dawn Nixon

From: Lynda Paquette <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 10:40 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 10:40 am

First Name: **Lynda**

Last Name: **Paquette**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99664**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **kenai maps**

Public Comment: **It doesn't even look like you are trying not to gerrymander. It would be best if you looked at splitting the Peninsula differently ~ to create more homogeneous districts. Homer, Seward, Cordova are more similar than the towns of Kenai, Sterling, or Soldotna. Please stop trying to dilute our voices. Please do the right thing and keep your politics out of it!**

From: Art Petersen <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 1:55 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 1:54 pm

First Name: **Art**

Last Name: **Petersen**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Juneau resident of 47 years**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Irrational mapping**

Public Comment: **I have lived in Juneau since 1975, and from that time at least, there has been and still is Juneau proper and the Juneau Valley, which includes "out the road." Now you want to split a good number of us from the Juneau Valley, "out the road," and Douglas Island and align us with such up-&-down-canal locales as Skagway, Klukwan, and Haines, communities with which we have no social, economic (including taxes & utilities), or geographic connection. Why? Also we "out the road" and in half the Valley are mapped with Douglas Island, which has always been associated with Juneau proper, including West Juneau. Why? Your maps split communities down the middle, even down the middle of a street! Why? All of this is antithetical to forming coherent voting districts. You need to go back to the maps and consider long-recognized connections. You appear to have manufactured population numbers with map lines, ignoring where people with shared interests live side by side. Please take the high road in your work and be thoughtful and apolitical. We count on you to recognize Juneau's and Southeast's historical and current social, economic, and community connections. Redraw the maps to reflect long-standing, sensible communities whose identities and interests are shared. Art Petersen, University of Alaska Prof. of English, Emeritus**

From: Arthur Peterson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 11:59 AM
To: Testimony <testimony@akredistrict.org>
Subject: The plan

Hello,

Adding my voice to the great majority who oppose the plan that would put Rep. Story and Rep. Hannan in the same district, I have to point out that the current district arrangement properly reflects the Juneau population. If your board really is attempting to draw the lines to reflect the economic, geographic, cultural, and historic factors of this area, as it is charged with doing, it makes no sense at all to jiggle those lines to meet someone's gerrymandered notion of what the districts ought to look like.

Thank you.

Art Peterson
(55-year resident of Juneau)

From: Charles Procknow <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 7:06 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response


A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 7:06 am

First Name: **Charles**

Last Name: **Procknow**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **None, general citizen**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: **99507**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **BV4**

Public Comment: **This map has very high population deviation in Anchorage area. Furthermore it perplexingly pairs Government Hill and East Anchorage with Eagle River (very culturally and geographically distinct areas). Eagle River deserves it's reps to not he chosen in part by citizens from Gov Hill and East Anchorage, and vica versa. Thank you for considering my comments! I think there are more constitutionally sound maps available to consider.**

From: Pat Race <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 8:31 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Testimony 9/27/2021

To the Redistricting Board,

Thank you for adjusting the meeting today and hearing our public comments. You're doing difficult work under quite a bit of public scrutiny so I wanted to thank you for being willing to take that on and for adapting to the public's desire to comment in that way.

I just wanted to put down some follow-up comments in writing in case the adjustments in today's meeting made note taking difficult:

I think the big picture problem with Juneau is a decision to lump Auke Bay in with Downtown Juneau and Douglas. Auke Bay shares much more in common with the Mendenhall Valley than with downtown. The people of Auke Bay aren't driving 12+ miles to shop at Foodland or pick up a snack from Douglas Breeze-In. They're using services and businesses that are easily accessible in the Mendenhall Valley. The clear and contiguous economic grouping for Juneau includes Auke Bay with the Mendenhall Valley and Out-The-Road.

Lumping Auke Bay in with downtown makes about as much sense as arguing that Douglas is part of the Mendenhall Valley. It just isn't.

The people who live Out-the-Road past Auke Bay use services in Auke Bay. And while parents do get to make choices about school attendance, the most logical and likely occurrence is that people will attend a school in their close geographic area.

The simplest and most sensible solution for Juneau is to draw a division line somewhere along Egan Drive at one of the natural pinch points. The intersections are generally good joints to carve along. Creating a simple North / South divide is the best path here and I think we see that on the Senate Minority and AFFR maps.

Douglas is part of Downtown and Auke Bay is part of the Mendenhall Valley.

Outlying areas such as Gustavus, Hoonah, Funter Bay, Tenakee, Haines, Skagway and Angoon, should then be prioritized to fill in any remaining population gaps rather than creating unnatural geographic splits within the community of Juneau.

I would also point out that your current map v3 bisects the Auke Bay R/V Park. A small clump of trailer park dwellers on the same lot would be in an entirely separate district than their neighbors. That should be fixed.

Thank you again for your work on this,
Pat Race

From: George Reifenstein [REDACTED] >
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2021 12:25 PM
To: testimony@akredistrict.org.
Subject: Redistricting Plans Should Be Community Inclusive

I have lived in Auke Bay for 48 years and am dismayed to see the total disregard of reason and fairness as reflected in the Board's plan version 3 and version 4 proposals. It appears that common sense has been supplanted by partisan desires. Having been a volunteer firefighter for over 40 years serving the citizens of what, prior to CCF/R encompassing the whole borough, were the Auke Bay and Lynn Canal Districts with mutual aid to Mendenhall Valley; I have a strong understanding of what makes for homogeneous districts and plan versions 3 & 4 don't do that.

I would urge you to adopt either the Senate Minority Plan or the AFFR Plan which each recognize traditional district makeup, at least make an effort to keep neighborhood representation intact and recognize our shared interests in having representation that advocates for capitol projects and other issues not relevant to partisan politics.

Thank You for considering these thoughts.

George H Reifenstein Jr.
[REDACTED]
Juneau, AK 99801

From: Jane Reilly <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 5:10 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 5:09 pm

First Name: **Jane**

Last Name: **Reilly**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99709**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **improvement**

Public Comment: **District 35 looks much more compliant with the need to be contiguous. Before we in Goldsteam Valley were lumped in with North Pole.**

From: Patricia Relay <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 8:57 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 8:56 pm

First Name: **Patricia**

Last Name: **Relay**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **Self**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99686**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Testimony to support AFFR Proposed Map 36 R**

Public Comment: **As a community member of Valdez, Alaska I urge you to support the AFFR Proposed District 36 R map. Valdez has been under represented over the last ten years by elected officials from the Matsu Valley. We have little in common with the Valley. Valdez is the gateway to the interior. The Richardson Highway, the oldest highway in the state links Valdez to the Copper River Basin, Fairbanks and east to the Canadian Boarder. We are not only socio economically connected through our port, we are connected through our shared history and culture. We share the gold rush, early and current tourism, oil and gas, the burden of high costs of living, native heritage, transportation, and athletics. Valdez needs to be represented by elected officials that understand our way of life. We cannot be an afterthought.**

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

WEBSITE RESPONSE

Date: September 29, 2021, 1:50 pm

First Name: **Kate** Last Name: **Ripley**

Your ZIP Code: **99709**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Board proposal V3 for Interior/Fairbanks violates constitutional requirements**

Public Comment: **Dear Board Members:**

My comment is specific to Board Proposed plan V3. This map breaks communities of interest and doesn't consider socio-economic integration of communities within the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

Chena Ridge, Ester and Goldstream Valley are socio-economically integrated through the University of Alaska Fairbanks, a major economic driver and employer in Fairbanks. Further, schools in these neighborhoods all feed into West Valley High School. They are served by two primary fire service areas, Chena-Goldstream and Ester volunteer fire departments. Everyone in this area shops on the "west" side of Fairbanks, including Fred Meyer West.

Likewise the communities of North Pole, Salcha and Two Rivers are closely socioeconomically related, primarily through Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base, which are major economic drivers of northeast and southeast Fairbanks. These areas tend to shop at the North Pole Safeway or, if they come to "town," Fred Meyer East.

In the V3 map, you have Chena Ridge and Salcha grouped together in the same district. Students living in Salcha attend high school either at Ben Eielson Jr/Sr High or North Pole High. Driving from Chena Ridge to Salcha, one would have to pass through every single other district on your map, and vice versa. This is not contiguous as required by the state Constitution. There are no roads or a road system through the Tanana Flats. These areas are not socio-economically linked.

I believe the maps presented by Alaskans For Fair Redistricting specific to the Fairbanks and Interior region are more aligned with the state Constitutional requirements for compactness, socio-economic integration and contiguity.

Thank you

Kate Ripley

Fairbanks resident and lifelong Alaskan

Date: 9/27/2021 (Follow-up to verbal testimony in Juneau)

First Name: **Miguel**

Last Name: **Rohrbacher**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable):

Public Comment: **I believe that the AFFR process is better because it started with community consultation first and building maps subsequently, versus the board process which started with map building then shopping the maps out. I believe AFFR maps best divide Southeast Alaska by keeping Auke Bay, "out the road" and valley together, and dividing DT/valley at around lemon creek. I argued Petersburg has close economic and social affinity to Downtown Juneau as an affluent community that has a diversified economy. Haines, Skagway, Klukwan and Gustavus belong in the "rural southeast district" because of shared social and economic factors. I think Wrangell should be grouped in Ketchikan district.**

From: Eden Romeo <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 5:15 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 5:15 pm

First Name: **Eden**

Last Name: **Romeo**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99508**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Support for the Alaskans For Fair Redistricting (AFFR) Map**

Public Comment: **Dear Alaska Redistricting Board,**

I am writing to you to share my support for the Alaskans For Fair Redistricting (AFFR) Proposed Plan. As a resident of Anchorage, I believe it is essential that all residents are equally and justly represented in local, state, and federal affairs. This means the adoption of a redistricting plan that has low population deviations, does not divide diverse communities to mute minority voices, respects the unique perspectives of each Anchorage community, and respects already established governing bodies, such as community councils. The AFFR Plan is the only proposed plan that accomplishes all of these things.

I urge you to please de-politicize the redistricting process, and instead focus on maintaining the integrity and power of local communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Eden Romeo

From: Randy Ruedrich <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 6:08 AM
To: TJ Presley <TJ.Presley@akredistrict.org>; Jessica Tonseth <jessica.tonseth@akredistrict.org>; Testimony <testimony@akredistrict.org>
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 6:08 am

First Name: **Randy** Last Name: **Ruedrich**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **AFFER**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99501**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Written Version of AFFER Map Presentation on 9/17/2021**

Public Comment: **The Alaskans For Fair and Equitable Redistricting (AFFER) are presenting an Alaska State House Map for your consideration. AFFER's map is designed to comply with the Alaska Constitution:**

Article IV, 6. District Boundaries –“ The Redistricting Board shall establish the size and area of house districts, subject to the limitations of this article. Each house district shall be formed of contiguous and compact territory containing as nearly as practicable a relatively integrated socio-economic area. Each shall contain a population as near as practicable to the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the state by forty. Each senate district shall be composed as near as practicable of two contiguous house districts. Consideration may be given to local government boundaries. Drainage and other geographic features shall be used in describing boundaries wherever possible.

Currently the AFFER map has a 3.36% Maximum deviation. 29 are under 1.00%. With additional work we plan to improve on this with addition work that will be shared with the Board

Alaska Supreme Court decisions including the 2011 Riley Decision describe the importance of local governmental boundaries in drawing house seats and even a Senate Seat for the City of Fairbanks within the Fairbanks North Star Borough. As already submitted to this body, the Alaskan Boroughs have the privilege to control 37 house seats. Since Alaskan Boroughs are socio-economically integrated areas, any District drawn within any Borough is a relatively integrated socio-economic area.

The primary district boundaries follow streams, roads, state boundaries and coast lines.

Southeast Alaska Districts

Four State House Districts cover Southeast Alaska from the Yakutat Borough to Hyder for the 72,286 people counted in the 2020 Census

In the Board Record on 9/7/21 Ruedrich

Southeast Alaska Region is combined due to the unique Southeast panhandle geography as the fourth entry.

The average Southeast District is 98.6% of ideal size population or 263 people short. The Cordova River Census Area has been frequently included in a Southeast Alaskan House Seat.

If the Copper River Census Area with its 0.143 Representative is added, the average Southeast Alaska district is 102.1% of ideal population. The people of Southeast Alaska become 2.1% underrepresented by adding Copper River Census Area (Cordova) to the SE Region.

An ideal deviation solution is to put less than half of Cordova into a Southeast Alaska district which is clearly unacceptable representation for Cordova.

The preferred option allows Southeast Districts to be 1.4% overrepresented (-263 people) rather underrepresented by 2.1%.

The resultant underrepresentation for other 36 Alaskan House districts is only 0.16% (29 people) per district.

In terms of population impact, the 4 SE districts have 263 less people than ideal and the other 36 districts have 29 more people than ideal.

To achieve four equal populations, the more population is needed south of Juneau Borough which requires a district that by-passes the Juneau Borough.

D 1 contains the Peterburg Borough, the Wrangell Borough and the northern part of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough which all lie along the Canadian Border. The boroughs are served by the Alaska Marine Hwy. The communities have been represented by a senator in past decades. As the state population has grown, this area now contains an adequate population for an Alaskan House seat.

D 2 covers the western side of the entire Southeast Alaska panhandle from Hyder to the Yakutat Borough. These communities rely on fishing and timber harvest. The Alaska Marine Hwy serves these communities. The large Southeastern Alaska Native Community is served by resources located in Sitka in D 2.

A very compact D 3 lies totally within the Juneau Borough. The district contains the State Capitol and the Juneau Airport which creates Capital access for all Alaskans and lies along the Canadian Border. Southern Juneau including Douglas has been a House District for decades

An upper Lynn Canal District D 4 includes the northern Juneau borough population, Haines, Skagway and Klukwan. This compact district is bounded on the north and east by the Canadian Border. The communities are connected by the Alaska Marine Hwy. This district shares significant mining and tourist interests. Further, the northern Lynn Canal provides recreational opportunities to the Juneau population.

Interior Districts

D 5 Rural Interior is the 40th District in AFFER's District Development information previously provided to the Redistricting Board. The assembled populations are the Doyon villages not assigned to D39, Cordova Census Area, Big Delta and Delta Junction Precincts and parts of Ester, Goldstream #1 & #2 and University Hills. The Big Delta/Delta Junction rural population is some what larger than the FNSB urban population. These offsetting populations will allow the Doyon villages to have an overwhelming influence on next decade of District elections. The Doyon Villages will have achieved their objective of having significant election influence.

D 6 Chena/Geist occupies the Southern FNSB including population west of the City of Fairbanks. Old D 5 in 2013 map is 2200 people under populated. In 2013 this District picked up population along the Tanana River. Expanding on that process, the Salcha precinct and other populations along the Tanana River have included in D 6.

D 7 Fairbanks contains the western Fairbanks precincts plus half of Fairbanks# 8 to achieve an adequate population. The adjacent Fairbanks #8 is the only population source without diluting the City of Fairbanks population since Fairbanks is already open on its east side.

D 8 Fairbanks/Ft Wainwright need more Badger area voters to build an adequate size district after assigning 1100 people to D 7. These added people live in D 3 west of Badger Road or southwest of Chena Slough & north of Badger Rd. This action complies with the Alaska Supreme Court's 2011 Riley decision.

D 9 North Pole returns to its traditional combination of North Pole, Moose Creek, Eliason AFB and adjacent population. As a city, North Pole's vote may not be diluted. The population north of the Chena River and east of the Alyeska Pipeline have been released to D 10 Northern Fairbanks.

D 10 North FNSB assembled Northern Badger #1, Two Rivers, Steele Creek and Fox Precincts into the District 4 on 2013 map. The parts of Ester, Goldstream #1 & #2 and University Hills precincts assigned to D 5. Due to FNSB population decline since 2010, the population in excess of 5 districts declines from 8800 in 2013 to less than 4000.

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Districts

The MSB population increased 18,086 or 20.3% in the past decade. That growth increases the ideal MSB house delegation from 5.01 in 2011 to 5.84. Therefore, MSB for 6 districts needs extra population FROM its neighbors. The Anchorage Municipality with nearly 16 house districts for the 2021 map can not provide surplus population. The Denali Borough is adjacent to the MSB on the north with population for 0.08 8 of a house district. The MSB boundary may be breached once to include the Glennallen area along the Richardson Hwy. The Glennallen area is tied directly to the MSB via its principal transportation link the Glenn Hwy.

Palmer, Wasilla and Houston each have a district as local governments as recognized by Alaska Supreme Court in Riley in 2011.

D 11 – Houston/Denali adds the Denali Borough population to approach an adequate population for 6 house districts in the MSB. The four Meadow Lakes Precincts were combined in this District. The district become more compact by assigning the eastern panhandle to other districts.

D 12 - Big Lake/Knik-Goose Bay formed in 2011 map in the Southwest corner of the MSB core area needs to shed excess population. The Meadow Lakes #3 & #4 Precincts were combined with the other Meadow Lakes Precincts in the Houston District. The remaining precincts are the Big Lake and Knik-Goose Bay precincts to the southwest of Wasilla.

D 13 – Wasilla has become a compact district including the City of Wasilla with the northern addition of Church Precinct and southern portion of Tanaina Precinct. The District’s eastern precincts outside of the City of Wasilla have been assigned on District 14.

D 14 – Mid Valley comes from Southern MSB population that had shares a district with northern Anchorage Municipality population. Without that Muni population and the Butte Precinct; Seward Meridian Precinct, Trunk Precinct, Pioneer Peak Precinct, Wasilla Lakes and most of Schrock and Lakes #1 Precincts are added to the Mid Valley District in the MSB’s core area.

D 15 – Palmer with a higher population density becomes more compact without Lazy Mountain area to the east, Seward Meridian and Trunk Precincts on the west. To achieve proper population, the southern portion of Farm Loop Precinct is added to the north of Palmer.

D 16 – Eastern MSB adds the Butte Precinct, Lazy Mountain area, King Lake Precinct and Lakes #2 Precinct in the MSB and retains an enlarged Glennallen Precinct along the Richardson Hwy.

Anchorage Municipality Districts

Anchorage Bowl Districts utilize the local creeks, key roads and other natural and manmade features to shape the sixteen Districts.

Eagle River/Chugach

D17- Eagle River/Chugach combines the Chugach/Eklutna south of the MSB boundary with part of Downtown Eagle River and neighborhoods north of Meadow Creek.

D 18 – Eagle River/JBER -Richardson combines JBER-Richardson with most of Downtown Eagle River and neighborhoods south of Meadow Creek.

North Anchorage

D 19 “ Muldoon combines the traditional Muldoon community with southern Eagle River population. The northern boundary is the JBER perimeter. The western boundary is Edwards St, Donna Dr and Turpin St. The southern boundary is Debarr Rd in Muldoon. The northeastern boundary is the Eagle River to Eagle River Loop to Meadow Creek to the JBER Richardson perimeter.

D 20 “ Baxter is bounded by Debarr Rd. on the north, JBER- Richardson on the east, Tudor Road on the South and Baxter Rd on the west. Limited population west of Baxter added to reach the required population. These east Anchorage neighborhoods have mostly single family homes.

D 21 “ East Anchorage has JBER-Elmendorf and the residential communities along Boniface Blvd. The northwest boundary is the Cook Inlet. The southern boundary is the southern JBER perimeter to Pine Street, then south on Northern Lights. East on Northern Lights to Baxter Rd. The eastern boundary is Baxter Rd, Beaver Place, Edwards St, Donna Dr and Turpin St to JBER.

D 22- Mountain View is bounded by Chester Creek on the south to the Northern Lights Boulevard. Pine Street forms the eastern boundary to the northern boundary of JBER “ Elmendorf. The western boundary is Lake Otis, Merrill Field and Reeves Blvd. The residential areas are mostly multi-family.

D 23 “ Downtown is bounded by the Cook Inlet on the west, Chester Creek on the south, JEB-Elmendorf on the north and Lake Otis, Merrill Field and Reeves Blvd on the east side. To move excess population, a small area near to Alaska Regional Hospital is reassigned to D 22 Mountain View. D 23 is the original residential area surrounds the Anchorage Downtown.

D 24 “ Spenard remains the Anchorage Airport District bounded by the Minnesota Blvd on the east, Strawberry Rd and Raspberry on the south side, the Cook Inlet on the west & north side and south along Fish Creek to the Alaska Railroad to Northwood and the Minnesota Blvd. In addition to ANC, its related enterprises and typical retail facilities are surrounded by residential communities.

D 25 -University/Med is bounded by Seward Hwy & Lake Otis on the west, Northern Lights on the north, on the south by Tudor Rd, Dowling Rd and 72th Ave and on the east by Lake Otis, Elmore Rd and Baxter Rd. This district adds population from the north and south whilst transferring population west to the Spenard district.

South Anchorage Districts

D 26 - Middle Hillside is bounded on the west by the Seward Hwy, Lake Otis and Elmore Rd; on the east by the Municipality border, on the north by Tudor Rd, Dowling Rd and 72th Ave and on the south by Abbott Rd with an inset south on Birch RD to Oâ€™Malley Road to Hillside Rd back to Abbott Rd. Significant south Anchorage retail facilities are in the western part of the district.

D 27 “ Sand Lake/Lake Hood is bounded by the Cook Inlet on the west and north, Raspberry Rd & Strawberry Rd on the south, Minnesota Blvd, Northwood Dr, the Alaska Railroad and Fish Creek on the east. District 27 surrounds the Anchorage International Airport. ANC produces common economic and community activities for these citizens. Required population is taken for D 18-445 which is along the Alaska Railroad.

D 28 “ Sand Lake is bounded by Campbell Lake/Creek & Dimond Blvd on the south, Minnesota Blvd

on the east, Strawberry Rd & Raspberry Rd on the north, Kincaid Park on west and the Cook Inlet on the Southwest. Required population is taken from D 21- 615 which is on the south side of the Raspberry Rd. Significant shopping for the neighboring residential communities shaping this South Anchorage District.

D 29 " Taku Campbell is a rectangle bounded by Spenard Rd & Tudor Rd on the north and 92th and 100th on the south, the Seward Hwy on the east and Northwood Dr & Minnesota Blvd on the west. District 29 includes significant commercial, manufacturing and warehousing activities. Required population is taken from D 26- 835 which is on the west side of the Seward Hwy.

D30 " Oceanview Klatt Bayshore is bounded by the Seward Hwy on the east, the Cook Inlet on the southwest, Campbell Lake/Creek, Dimond Blvd and 92th Ave on the north. D 30 has an established residential population. Required population is taken from D 26- 835 which is on the west side of the Seward Hwy.

D 31 - Lower Huffman: The Seward Hwy forms the western boundary. The southern boundary is Huffman Rd, East to Birch Road, south along Birch to Upper de Armoun Rd, East to the Chugach Park. The eastern boundary is the Municipality's Eastern boundary. The northern boundary is Abbott Rd with an inset south on Birch Rd to Malley Road to Hillside Rd back to Abbott Rd. A small neighborhood is west of the Seward Hwy and north of Malley. Significant shopping for the neighboring residential communities shaping this South Anchorage District.

D32 " South Anchorage has been tied to the Nikiski precinct previously in the 1984 Alaska Map to achieve adequate Anchorage population. Its Anchorage population bounded by the southern Anchorage Municipality boundary north to the intersection of the Seward Hwy and Rabbit Creek Road, north along Seward Hwy to Huffman Rd. East on Huffman to Birch Road, south along Birch to Upper de Armoun Rd, East to the Chugach Park and the Municipality's eastern boundary. D 32 is a series of residential communities in the Southern Anchorage Municipality including Girdwood.

Kenai Peninsula Borough Districts

D 33 -Kenai/Soldotna grew enough to continue as an effective KPB district. The cities of Kenai and Soldotna make up more than 2/3 of the district.

D 34 " Northern KPB District adds population from D 31 on its southside and releases the Nikiski precinct to Anchorage in D 32. This district including Seward, Sterling and Ridgeway dates back to 2001 map. The south Anchorage District in 1984 map used a larger portion of the Northern Kenai Peninsula to create an acceptable district population.

D 35- Homer/Anchor Point added more population than required for an ideal district. The south side of Kachemak Bay is added to improve representation issues. Excess population southeast of Soldotna was transferred to the northern KPB District 29.

Kodiak Borough District

D 36 requires significant population outside of Kodiak Borough and southern KPB. Cordova is too small. The larger Community of Valdez which is closer to Kodiak is added to D 36 to approach ideal

size. The Prince William Sound and Kodiak Island coastal communities are served by the Alaska Marine Hwy. Two of the three largest Alaskan cargo shipping ports are Valdez and Kodiak. Whitter is a third significant port in District 36.

The Rural West

The combined census count for these four traditional districts is 1600 people or 2.018% less than the required 73,340.

District 40 is the combination of the North Slope Borough and Northwest Arctic Borough with a combined population of 18,824. District 40 would be 2.7% overpopulated.

This excess population in the Buckland and Deering Precincts has been assigned to D 39.

Since D 39 and D 40 share State Senator T, the Buckland and Deering voters will vote with all Northwest Arctic voters in the Senate T elections.

District 39 has historically covered the Nome Census Area and the Kusilvak Census Area on the Bering Sea Coast. The combined census area has a 2020 population of 18,414 or 0.4% excess population. Since Hooper Bay has requested assignment to the Bethel District, the Kusilvak Villages in District 39 have been realigned to build a compact district from north of Nome to the Lower Yukon.

District 38 has historically covered the Bethel Census Area on the Bering Sea Coast.

The Bethel census area has a 2020 population of 18,666 or 1.8% excess population. Since Hooper Bay has requested assignment to the Bethel District, the Villages in the 2013 version of District 38 have been realigned between D 37, D 38 and D 39. D 38 population is most of the Lower Koskokwin School District, the Hooper Bay villages and the Yupiit School District.

District 37 has historically covered the Aleutians East Borough, Aleutians West Census Area, Bristol Bay Borough, Lake and Peninsula Borough & Dillingham Census Area in Southwest Alaska. The Alaska Supreme Court in 2001 found that these borough populations may not be diluted into two districts. The combined census area has a 2020 population of 15,829 or 86.3% of population for District 37.

The only available populations, not in adjacent boroughs, are the Yukon & Koskokwin River Villages.

Rather than distribute these villages in D 37 & D39, AFFER adds these villages to D 39 to maximize their vote in one district.

D 37 population consists for the traditional 5 South West Alaska Boroughs and Census Areas plus C alista villages. In this sparsely populated region, D 37 is as relatively compact as geography and population density allow.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2021 6:18 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redirects Juneau

For the line that divides Juneau please select the Senate Minority plan (<https://www.akredistrict.org/files/9116/3244/3316/District-33Q-smc.pdf>), but I'd also be fine with the Doyon coalition (<https://www.akredistrict.org/files/5516/3244/3265/District-3B-doyon.pdf>), or the AFFR plan (<https://www.akredistrict.org/files/8116/3244/3233/District-4B-affr.pdf>).

Thank you

Tom Rutecki
[REDACTED]
Juneau, Ak
99801

From: John Schlichting [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: redistricting

Currently all of the maps put forward by the Redistricting Board are blatantly gerrymandered to place Sara Hannon and Andi Story in the same election district. This appears to be an attempt by an obviously partisan redistricting board to subvert the will of the Juneau electorate, which is largely Democratic by rendering the community essentially a Republican fiefdom!

To correct this obvious partisan attempt to subvert the will of Juneau's electorate, maps drawn by Alaskans for Fair Redistricting which reflect the economic, geographic, cultural and historical boundaries that separate downtown Juneau from the valley, should be adopted for future elections!

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD
PUBLIC TESTIMONY FORM

Valdez
9/30

CAUTION: What you write will become part of the public record attributed to you by name. Anonymous comments will not be included in the public record. Profane or inappropriate comments will be immediately deleted.

Name: Alan Sorum

Affiliation (if any): _____

Email or Phone: asorum@cviinternet.net Zip Code: 99686

Area/Map Title/Keywords: Valdez

Public Comment: Valdez is a coastal community, we have a strong commercial fishing fleet, a significant fish hatchery, two major fish processors and are served by the Alaska Marine Highway System. We have been poorly served by being placed into MatSu, Valdez does not have anything in common with MatSu and our legislators reflect this short coming. Valdez should be with Cordova Whittier and Seward, with other coastal communities.

AFFEK or Senate Minority

SCAN HERE TO OPEN THE MAP COMMENT PORTAL →



From: Larri Spengler <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 11:38 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 11:38 am

First Name: **Larri**

Last Name: **Spengler**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Juneau map re Story/Hannan**

Public Comment: **I am pretty appalled by the redistricting board jig-sawing the map that applies to Juneau in a way that puts the current two Democratic incumbent house members in the same district. As reported by KTOO public radio, Juneau resident Pat Race eloquently raised this point: "You said youâ€™re not thinking about where people live, incumbency, things like that... So maybe you could explain the tentacle that then incorporates Andi Storyâ€™s house into Sara Hannanâ€™s district?"** <https://www.ktoo.org/2021/09/29/alaska-redistricting-skepticism-juneau/>

The KTOO article went on to explain: "Story and Hannan are Juneauâ€™s Democratic incumbents in the Alaska House of Representatives. One board-authored map lumps some homes around Auke Bay and Auke Lake into a district anchored by downtown Juneau and Douglas Island, where Hannan lives. What Race called a "tentacle" is a feature that awkwardly pokes out along Glacier Highway for about one mile past the Auke Bay roundabout. That tentacle is on the waterfront side of the highway " with the exception of two peculiar nubs. Rep. Andi Storyâ€™s home is in one of those nubs."

This is an outrageous result, and must be corrected.

From: Carol Swartz <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 7:22 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response


A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 7:21 pm

First Name: **Carol**

Last Name: **Swartz**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: **99603**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **S. Kenai Peninsula**

Public Comment: **I am in support of District 6 district and not 5 . Removing areas east of Fritz Creek from the rest of the Homer area does not reflect the core mission of the reapportionate process. That area is fundamentally part of the culture, economy and demographic structure of this geographical area. Please retain that area with Homer and Anchor Point.**

From: Elizabeth Sydeman <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 3:19 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 3:18 pm

First Name: **Elizabeth**

Last Name: **Sydeman**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Juneau area**

Public Comment: **Please correct the shocking and shameful gerrymander of Juneau's House districts that lumps our two representatives together. I can not imagine that this unethical line-drawing would pass constitutional muster. And even if it did, it is so bold-faced as to bring disrepute to the Redistricting Board. You are better than this. Be Alaskans first and draw boundaries that are compact and contiguous, not designed to reduce one party's representation and favor another.**

From: Therese Thibodeau [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 9:16 AM
To: Testimony
Subject: Redistricting maps for SEA

Hello,

My name is Therese Thibodeau and I live in downtown Juneau. The map that looks the most fair to me is the Doyon proposed map. Dividing CBJ along north south lines is what we naturally do in town. The exception is the JDHS and DZ schools have students from the Auke Bay area in the north. I think having Haines, Skagway and Gustavus combined with downtown Juneau/Douglas is also logical.

Thank you for all your work on this difficult project. I appreciate that Alaska has many rules to build non partisan maps and that you are following those rules.

Therese

From: Kathleen Todd <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 6:58 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 2, 2021, 6:57 pm

First Name: **Kathleen**

Last Name: **Todd**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99686**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Valdez**

Public Comment: **In my opinion Valdez has more in common with Cordova and Tatitlek or the communities on the way north towards Fairbanks than we do with Mat-Su.**

Also, several of these plans seem to have boundaries that go along roads (it is extremely difficult to figure out exactly what is being proposed). It seems ridiculous to separate people who live forty miles from anywhere from their across the road neighbors. If one lives on the road system but away from the population centers it seems like the next community down the road or the communities that share school buses should be together.

In general any plan that puts current incumbents in districts together without a large relative drop in the population of that area should receive extra scrutiny as being a possible attempt to gerrymander.

From: John Wagner <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Friday, October 1, 2021 1:51 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: October 1, 2021, 1:51 pm

First Name: **John**

Last Name: **Wagner**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99504**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Doyon Plan**

Public Comment: **I like the Doyan Plan the best. It is by far the most fair and equitable.**

Trying to break up area's so they are aligned one way politically should be illegal.

This plan seems to be the only one that doesn't do this.

From: Nancy Waterman <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 5:07 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 5:06 pm

First Name: **Nancy**

Last Name: **Waterman**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99802**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Senate Minority Caucus: Map for Southeast Alaska**

Public Comment: **HD3 and HD4 retain most of their distinct characteristics in the Senate Minority Caucus proposal for 2021 redistricting of southeast Alaska.**

Thank you for full consideration of this map.

Thank you.

Nancy Waterman

From: Tyler Watson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 11:50 AM
To: Testimony
Subject: Follow Up Testimony - Proposed Plans

Dear Redistricting Board Members,

First off I want to thank you for hearing and responding to testimony that was given by me and my East Anchorage neighbors. The v.3 and v.4 maps are huge improvements for my community compared to v.1 and v.2. Your edits to these maps have greatly increased public confidence in this process. Thank you!

Given that you now have several proposed maps I'd like to offer my testimony on those.

Preferred Map: AFFR - Overall logical map, I appreciate the diversity of groups that worked together to produce this one.

Support: All of these maps make sense for my community.

- Senate Minority
- v.3
- v.4

Oppose:

- AFFER - Districts largely don't pass compactness or socioeconomic integration criteria
- Doyon Coalition - Maintains pairing of East Anchorage with Eagle River

Thanks again for all the work you're doing. Looking forward to your roadshow.

Regards,

Tyler Watson
Anchorage - HD27

--
Tyler Watson
Email: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]

From: Lisa Weissler <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 3:42 PM
To: Testimony
Subject: September 27 Juneau Public Hearing

I oppose the draft plans that pair Juneau's House incumbents in the same district. It appears the Board had to work hard to make sure the Democratic representatives would be paired against one another, including one proposal that draws a line through the middle of an RV park. Surely the Board can do better for the community and for the state. I am not affiliated with any group.

Thank you.
Lisa Weissler, Juneau

From: Alex Wertheimer <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 8:06 PM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 27, 2021, 8:06 pm

First Name: **Alex**

Last Name: **Wertheimer**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Configuration of Juneau Borough Districts**

Public Comment: **I attended the Public Hearing in Juneau tonight (September 27) and have reviewed the maps presented there and on-line. The hearing certainly helped me appreciate the scope and challenges the redistricting committee faces, and I thank you for your efforts. I have been an "out-the-road" resident of Juneau for 40 years. I think that contiguity and compactness in the districts should be maintained to the greatest degree possible. I think the V.3 and V.4 maps proposed by the Redistricting Board and the AFFER map fall considerably short in this regard. At the local level, they result in splitting neighborhoods and they result in poorer socioeconomic integration than do other alternatives. The maps proposed by Doyon, AFFR, and the Senate minority do a much better job of addressing these concerns. For these two districts, the best solution is a north/south divide on the mainland somewhere from Sunny Point to McNugget intersection. Where the line is drawn would depend on how you add outlying communities to the northern or southern Juneau Borough district. Currently Haines and Skagway are part of the Juneau "downtown", or southern district. Both Haines and Skagway are tightly linked to Juneau via ferry, air traffic, and fishing vessel traffic; I think they should be included in a Juneau District. A case can be made for including them in either of these two districts. There is a strong big-ship cruise tourism connection between downtown and Skagway. On the other hand, vessel and aircraft traffic comes into Auke Bay or the airport, so they could be considered contiguous to the northern Juneau Borough District. My own inclination would be to keep them in the Southern Juneau Borough District. Perhaps the best way to decide which district they should be included in is to look at how that decision affects the north/south line, choosing the option that best maintains contiguity and neighborhood cohesiveness on either side of the line.**

From: Brandon Wilks <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 12:02 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 28, 2021, 12:02 am

First Name: **Brandon**

Last Name: **Wilks**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99827**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Proposed Plan v.3**

Public Comment: **Having lived both in Auke Bay and Haines, I support Proposed Plan v.3. Drawing relatively simpler and more straightforward district lines would better serve the people of Southeast Alaska, rather than attempting to create a "subdistrict" in Mendenhall Valley just to keep Haines tied to downtown Juneau. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

WEBSITE RESPONSE

First Name: **Maria** Last Name: **Williams**

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99501**

Date: September 28, 2021, 1:36 pm

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **AFFER**

Public Comment: **The AFFER appears to be very republican-centric and proposes to eliminate more democratic senators and representatives - while not touching any republicans. This is absolutely not OKAY!**

Date: September 28, 2021, 1:43 pm

Public Comment: **Firstly, it's a bit confusing to have an 'AFFER' and an 'AFFR' - but the AFFR does have some positive elements. It does not represent radical changes - and has good suggestions for the Homer/Seward in a house district - which makes sense. It also keeps Eagle River contiguous - which also makes sense. This is my second choice in ranking the proposed maps. My first choice is the Senate' Minority's proposed map.**

Date: September 28, 2021, 1:45 pm

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Senate Minority proposal**

Public Comment: **I believe the Senate Minority proposal is the strongest. It has the least amount of 'radical' changes and makes southeast better represented, in my opinion. It also seems to fairly examine the existing population and representation in a fair and balance light. This proposal and the AFFR (NOT the AFFER!) are my two favorite proposals.**

From: Jeffrey Wilson <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 9:52 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response


A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 30, 2021, 9:51 am

First Name: **Jeffrey**

Last Name: **Wilson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Juneau redistricting**

Public Comment: **Never thought I'd see such blatant jigsaw gerrymandering in our town in combining Story and Hannah together by adding a dogleg to Story's house. This is unacceptable and wrong! Please stop the political BS!**

From: Michael Wilson <automated@akredistrict.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 8:03 AM
To: TJ Presley; Jessica Tonseth; Testimony
Subject: ++ Map Comment Response

A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: September 29, 2021, 8:02 am

First Name: **Michael**

Last Name: **Wilson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: **99801**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Support Senate Minority Plan, the Doyon Plan and the SFFR Plan**

Public Comment: **I am writing to you in support of the following three redistricting plans: Senate Minority Plan, the Doyon Plan and the SFFR Plan.**

As a lifelong Alaskan I have voted in almost every local and Statewide election in District #4 in Juneau over four decades. I believe it is critical for Juneau to retain to the highest degree possible, the historical voting boundaries in Juneau. I believe the Senate Minority Plan, the Doyon Plan and the SFFR Plan all provide the best voting boundaries for Juneau in order to maintain contiguous (connected and sharing a common border), compact, and socio-economically aligned areas. These three proposed maps all meet fair representation requirements, respect our historic, economic, and geographic boundaries, and keep the majority of the Mendenhall Valley together as a single district.