To Re-districting Board:

I support the Option 2 Re-districting Map for new Senate Districts boundaries in the Anchorage area. I am adamantly opposed to any of the options that would combine parts of the Anchorage Hillside or South Anchorage with Eagle River.

Article VI, Section 6 of the Alaska Constitution requires that legislative districts be compact, contiguous, and represent areas that are socially and economically integrated. Those criteria are met by Option 2. Those criteria are not met by pairing any part of the Hillside or South Anchorage with Eagle River.

Hillside and Eagle River have entirely different infrastructure and community institutions. Eagle River has its own library, parks district, local road authority, schools, a community college, a central business district, etc. There is no social and economic integration. In addition, there is no way to call those two areas contiguous, because Chugach State Park is the only land linkage and it has only primitive, non-motorized trails through rugged terrain. Travel on the road system between Eagle River and the Hillside requires crossing intervening legislative districts. Hillside/South Anchorage and Eagle River are not contiguous, nor compact.

I am a long-time resident of the Rabbit Creek area of South Anchorage. Our community council works collaboratively with nearby councils on the Hillside and along Turnagain Arm. Please respect and support our communities by including us all in the District shown in Option 2.

Nancy Pease
Under Alaska law, there are requirements that districts be contiguous, compact, relatively socioeconomically integrated, and as near as possible to the ideal population.

The NE Anchorage pairing was rejected by the courts as being a wild overreach. Of those requirements. The board then listened to a proposed replacement which, if adopted, would repeat the very same egregious overreach, only worse!!!

This replacement proposal, which would attach SE Anchorage’s HD9 to Eagle River’s HD22, essentially accomplishing the same goal of capturing another Senate seat for Eagle River to replace half of the NE Anchorage plan.

Egregious, yes, but now even more so! Because if they did not know better the first time, they certainly do now.

And Ridiculous! That’s a good summation of pairing the farthest south in-town district with Eagle River. The argument that the two districts are contiguous is baloney. A high mountain might as well be a brick wall if there are no roads through. The only way to Eagle River is via the Glenn Highway.

Next, let’s talk numbers as they’d affect the two districts:

The driving distance between HD11 in Eagle River and HD9 in SE Anchorage is 27 miles.

The driving distance between HD11 in Eagle River and HD9’s Girdwood is 67 miles!

The driving distance between HD11 in Eagle River and HD9’s Portage is 78 miles!

The driving distance between HD11 in Eagle River and HD9’s Whittier is 87 miles! (and don’t forget to plan your travel schedule for tunnel closures! You may want to come prepared with a sleeping bag and a tent!)

An insanely long distance to get to the opposite end of one’s mostly urban House District 87 miles!! Let that sink in for a moment.

And that’s not all! There’s more!

Depending on the route taken, one must cross through 6-8 unrelated House Districts to get from Eagle River to SE Anchorage.

An impassable mountain is not contiguous and neither is the necessity to traverse 6-8 other House Districts.
If the pairing in NE Anchorage was found to be unfair and in violation of state Redistricting rules, then how would it be fair to pair Eagle River with SE Anchorage? This is a brazen assault to the people of both HD22 & HD9!

This is not about politics for those testifying. This is about fairness and a fight against gerrymandering and potential disenfranchisement. This is a demand to respect election law and to do so in an honest and reasonable way. Alaska’s election laws, have long been respected as amongst the most fair in the country. They should not be under assault!

We know why you’re doing this. And we see you, Randy and Tuckerman, peeping out of that closet. You’re not on the board, so go home. And let this board conduct its business.

I urge the Redistricting Board to do its job fairly and correctly, as outlined by law. And I leave you with one last thought. 87 miles. And that danged mountain!
Lanet Spence

Thu 4/7/2022 5:00 AM

I am emailing you to provide testimony regarding the current redistricting situation.

As a lifelong Alaskan I feel like Eagle River barely matches the demographics in any of the choices presented.

Please accept my testimony as requesting you listen to an Alaska resident that prefers Option 3 as the only choice left that is suitable for our demographic.

Thank you,

Lanet Spence

Financial Security Professional
Alaska Team Leader

www.cohofinancialgroup.com
Dear Committee

This is a note to support Senate district K which included districts 9 and 22 South Anchorage and Eagle River

They do have a continuous boundary. One of the largest of any Senate seats. There is a community that looks to overlap both 9 and 22. Stuckagain. Someone said that South Anchorage was a well-off community and Eagle River not so much. Another one of your Rich person’s bad progressive stories. There are many connections between these areas as raised by the testimony. Fire, water systems, lot size, roads, or lack of roads, and recreation. Income, come on.

The reasons presented for not using these combinations was exactly what you did with the old District 8 now 30. A fast growing area around Big Lake is attached with included areas not linked by roads. Large distances between communities. The district has one of the largest population rankings in the state. Areas without a common cultural link. Some subsistence, some commuters, and clearly no connections between most of the communities in the new District 30. Blatant gerrymandering by the committee for District 30.

There seems to be a do only as the Big Ol lawyer Scott Kendal tells you to do. He has an agenda that he uses the threat of expensive lawsuits to include his whims.

I ask that you relook at this pairing before final submission.

Thanks for your time. Steve
Jonathan Lang <[redacted]>
Thu 4/7/2022 7:36 AM

The Court’s decisions have been clear. Unlike the other options, Option 2 clearly meets what the Courts have ordered with the fewest amounts of districts disturbed.

Please support Option 2.

Respectfully.

- Jon

Jonathan "Bearded Jon" Lang, Muldooner
--
[redacted] - always on; not always answered
Date: April 7, 2022, 8:36 am

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Tavoliero

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment: I support the Alaska Senate District Option 3B.
Date: April 7, 2022, 8:59 am

First Name: Sherri

Last Name: Jackson

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99502

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

Public Comment: Please support Option 3 b

It makes the most sense for everyone
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:28 am

First Name: Paul

Last Name: Berger

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Public Testimony on Redistricting

Public Comment: Option 3B is our choice. I'll keep this brief. Thank you for your consideration.
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:34 am

First Name: **Laura**

Last Name: **Bonner**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: **99516**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Eagle River districts**

Public Comment: I live in South Anchorage. The most logical and fairest map to comply with the Supreme Court's decision is to pair the two House districts for Eagle River area into the same Senate district. Keep Girdwood in the south Anchorage district since the only proximity to to Eagle River Valley is through a mountain pass that can only to crossed by foot weather permitting. Pairing Eagle River with Anchorage Hillside is illogical when Eklutna is closer and should be the same district as the Eagle River area district. Keep Eagle River with Eagle River area, East Anchorage with East Anchorage, Hillside Anchorage and Girdwood with South Anchorage, and Anchorage downtown with Anchorage downtown. This is the fairest mapping for the residents of those areas.
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:37 am

First Name: Charles

Last Name: Jolin

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: I support map 3b
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:37 am

First Name: Chris

Last Name: Twiford

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: Na

Your ZIP Code: 99504

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

Public Comment: I have reviewed the maps and am aware of the current redistricting situation. I SUPPORT MAP 3B please.
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:38 am

First Name: Tawana

Last Name: Jolin

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact:

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:39 am

First Name: Dwight

Last Name: Hill

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

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

Public Comment: I support Map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:39 am

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Hill

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

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

Public Comment: I support Map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:49 am

First Name: Tim

Last Name: Toth

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

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

Public Comment: I support 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:49 am

First Name: Lois

Last Name: Turinsky

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99517

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:49 am

First Name: Laura

Last Name: Bonner

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: I live in South Anchorage. The most logical and fairest map to comply with the Supreme Court's decision is to pair the two House districts for Eagle River area into the same Senate district. Keep Girdwood in the south Anchorage district since the only proximity to Eagle River Valley is through a mountain pass that can only be crossed by foot weather permitting. Pairing Eagle River with Anchorage Hillside is illogical when Eklutna is connected by the highway and should be in the same district as the Eagle River area district. Keep Eagle River with Eagle River area, East Anchorage with East Anchorage, Anchorage Hillside and Girdwood with South Anchorage, and Anchorage downtown with Anchorage downtown. This is the fairest mapping for the residents of those areas.
Dear Alaska Redistricting Board Members,

I support the 2022 proposed pairings that are shown on the Option 2 map. It contains the most logical, fair, and equitable pairings.

I’ve watched the board meetings and have reviewed the two proposed Senate district revision maps that were unanimously adopted by the Board yesterday. Here are just a few of the reasons why I support Option 2 and oppose Option 3B.

- I live in Eagle River, and I support pairing Eagle River with Eagle River. I also support keeping downtown Anchorage paired together and keeping the Hillside paired together. These pairings make the most sense. The pairings in Option 3B do not make sense to me and appear to be more of the same political gerrymandering that got us to the point we find ourselves in today.

- I’ve heard and read many testimonies from those not wanting to be paired with Eagle River; and frankly, I don’t blame them. A small, vocal group in my community wishes to secede from Anchorage and has made some very disparaging remarks about the rest of Anchorage. That small, vocal group does NOT represent the view of everyone in our community; but they certainly are the ones being heard. It’s no wonder that people in Anchorage don’t want to be paired together with another community in the Municipality that appears to have little to no respect for them.

- Chugiak/Eagle River doesn’t have a reasonable claim to JBER either. Military members and their families, who do not live on JBER, live in various areas throughout the Municipality of Anchorage. People who live on JBER frequent businesses throughout Anchorage, too.

For these reasons and others, I urge you to adopt and approve the Option 2 pairings. Please show that the Board is committed to providing fair, equitable, non-gerrymandered Senate pairings.

Respectfully,

Jo Ann Gruber
Eagle River is only minutes away from JBER. As opposed to over an hour away Girdwood. Eagle River and JBER have been closely related via demographics with a substantial military population living in Eagle River and attending the school system. For these reasons, Eagle River and JBER should be grouped together instead of Eagle River and Girdwood as the former pairing makes the most sense geographically and demographically, which is the entire purpose of organizing the districts to begin with.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:21 am

First Name: Christopher

Last Name: Constant

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Self (also an Anchorage Assembly member)

Email or Phone Contact: N/A

Your ZIP Code: Anchorage

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Anchorage (New House District 23)

Public Comment: Looking closely at the map, there is a small residential section on the west southern portion of House District 23 with a couple of thousand residents. On the far east southern corner of the same district, there is a tiny neighborhood on Muldoon with a few hundred residents. That population borders Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson and now these residents are suddenly part of South Eklutna. To get from one end of the southern portion of the district, you have to move through three Senate districts to get there - this division is harmful.

The North Anchorage district should include Districts 17, 18, 20, and 23. The House districts work well, but the board was asked the consider how the narrow populations of the district in the two corners mentioned are in any way associated with the Chugiak-Eagle River community.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:23 am

First Name: **Cliff**

Last Name: **Grove**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **N/A**

Email or Phone Contact: **N/A**

Your ZIP Code: **Anchorage**

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

Public Comment: The board has heard some incisive and well-thought-out comments that Chris agrees with. The board's action items, in Chris's opinion, are short and simple.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:31 am

First Name: Jacky

Last Name: Graham

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99587

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

Public Comment: As a 45 year resident of Girdwood community, I am writing to support option 2 to see a continued coherent district 9 and 11. Girdwood needs to stay paired with South Anchorage district 11. I strongly oppose pairing Girdwood with (too far away) Eagle River.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:33 am

First Name: Kenneth

Last Name: Graham

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: (Redacted)

Your ZIP Code: 99587

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

Public Comment: I wish to submit strong opposition to the idea of pairing the community of Goodwood with Eagle River. I strongly support option two which is keeping a coherent district 9 contiguous to district 11. I have lived in Girdwood since 1977.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:34 am

First Name: **Stephanie**

Last Name: **Williams**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: **99516**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): I **support map 3B**

Public Comment: I **support map 3B**
To the Redistricting Board:

My name is William Dougherty. I am a resident of Anchorage. My home is just off Upper DeArmoun Road in South Anchorage.

I’m taking time from a very busy day to write to oppose the ill-intentioned and unconstitutional redistricting proposal to pair Eagle River with South Anchorage. This is such a transparently partisan effort to increase Republican control of the Anchorage legislative delegation that you should be ashamed, but apparently that does not come naturally to you.

Allow me to state, as many already have, the blindingly obvious:

Eagle River voters should be with Eagle River voters. There is no legitimate justification for splitting them except to try to increase their political power by suppressing the political influence of other voters with entirely different interests and needs. If you attach Eagle River voters to South Anchorage, using the specious argument that they are “contiguous” – contiguous except for the huge wilderness between them – you will effectively disenfranchise myself and my neighbors. A politician who depends on majority support in Eagle River is not going to represent my interests. This would be an act of political sabotage done without any concern for the rights to which I am entitled under both the state and federal constitutions. Does that mean nothing to you?
So, I oppose Option 3B (the "Reudrich/Marcum plan") and support Option 2.

I understand you’ve received some testimony arguing that South Anchorage and Eagle River north are “similar” because we have limited road service areas. This is ludicrously irrelevant, but it’s also a distortion. Both Eagle River house districts have the same service area -- called Chugiak, Birchwood, Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRRSA). South Anchorage has completely different road service areas -- multiple Limited Road Service Areas -- with no connections between South Anchorage and Eagle River.

I’ve also heard the absolutely asinine argument that because there is a moose hunt in the Ship Creek valley, that constitutes common ground for residents of Eagle River and South Anchorage. Are you kidding? That is a contention so dumb the only consideration it deserves is ridicule.

If you are familiar with Anchorage, you know that people in Eagle River and South Anchorage do not regularly work, shop or play together. People from Eagle River do work and shop in Midtown and downtown. People from Anchorage – downtown, midtown or South Anchorage – do not work or shop in Eagle River. I personally haven’t been to Eagle River for any purpose, except to drive through on my way north, in the last 20 years. Eagle River does not have anything I want or need that I can’t get far closer to home.

Similarly, the people of Eagle River seem to view themselves as Eagle River residents, as much or more than as Anchorage residents. Some ER residents are proposing to completely separate
Eagle River from the municipality. I’m not sure how I feel about that in general, but it would be irrelevant to South Anchorage in particular.

I resent the three obviously partisan Republicans on the redistricting board for their relentless effort to gerrymander, to disenfranchise, to cheat – and that’s what it is: cheating. It’s anti-democratic, unpatriotic and purposely hurts real, live, human beings. Why can’t you just straighten up and do the right thing?

Keep Downtown together, Hillside together and Eagle River together. Don't split apart communities for partisan purposes. The obviously rational pairings are 20/21 and 17/23 and 22/24 (Eagle River).

I can see that you’re trying to use a map drawn by a professional partisan using partisan data. I’ve been watching Randy Ruedrich do this for 30 years. His plans are your plans. His plans were the pairings the court threw out as an unconstitutional gerrymander. Don't replace one of his gerrymanders with another.

Before moving to South Anchorage, I lived on Government Hill for 20 years, then I became the landlord for a rental property there for another 20 years. I have had a wide variety of tenants, from newspaper reporters to lawyers to soldiers. Government Hill should not have an Eagle River senator. An Eagle River senator cannot adequately represent an affluent rural district and an urban, commercial and industrial district. To split downtown along 4th Avenue with the north half effectively under the political thumb of an entirely different kind of community 30 miles away would be, in my judgment, a form of civic vandalism.

Instead of these cockamamie plans, you should follow the direction of the court. Only change the affected districts and those touching them. Making major, unconnected or controversial changes such as pairing Eagle River and South Anchorage only invites additional lawsuits.

I could go on, but I need to get on to my other responsibilities.

Sincerely,

William Dougherty
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:54 am

First Name: Cecelia
Last Name: Donelson

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map B3

Public Comment: I support map B3
As a concerned resident of East Anchorage I see only one reasonable pairing for East Anchorage, Eagle River, Hillside and Downtown and that is Option 2.

The Eagle River Comprehensive plan is for Eagle River and does not include either Downtown or Hillside. Hillside has its own unique interest group - HALO and breaking that up to pair part of it with Eagle River does not make sense.

Please vote to pair the following house districts in one senate district 20/21 and 17/23 and 22/24.

Susan

Susan Klein
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:13 am

First Name: Nicholas

Last Name: Romeijn-Stout

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: 99587

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Senate Map 2 Support

Public Comment: I am a Girdwood resident. The proposal to pair us with Eagle River for a Senate district makes NO SENSE. It is a ridiculous and clearly partisan proposal. Stop it.

Option 2 makes sense. It is simple. Vote for option 2.

Duh. We all see what you are trying to do. Stop it.
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:14 am

First Name: Tim

Last Name: Delarm

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99523

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:18 am

First Name: Robin

Last Name: Brewster

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): MAP 3B

Public Comment: I support Map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:21 am

First Name: Margaret

Last Name: Kircher

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:24 am

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Johnson

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99502

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
A website response from the Map Comment form as been received with the following submission details.

Date: April 7, 2022, 11:26 am

First Name: Mary
Last Name: Berger

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment:
Good Morning Redistricting Board,

I am writing today to OPPOSE map 3B and SUPPORT map option 2. As a South Anchorage resident for the past 28 years, and as someone whose family lived in Peters Creek for over 30 years, CER (Chugiak Eagle River) and the Hillside of Anchorage are socioeconomically diametrically opposite. Not only are they dramatically different socioeconomically but we are also not contiguous in any shape or form.

CER (Chugiak Eagle River) and its representatives have spent the past two years stating how dark and disgusting Anchorage is, CER campaigns CER regularly on “not Inheriting Anchorages problems”

How can they effectively represent a part of Anchorage they loathe?

Jamie Allard a representative of CER is on record stating that she does not represent anyone that does not vote for her. Another reason we are not compatible, South Anchorage has a traditional history of transparency and integrity in its representatives, something Jamie Allard and Lora Reinbold have proven they are incapable of.

Also CER does not have a good friendly history with Anchorage, CER has tried many times to succeed from Anchorage, including currently at this time there is a push to succeed. The representatives in CER have made it clear, we are not compatible.

Do not continue gerrymandering this process in an attempt to gain more conservative control. It is obvious based on current litigation decisions that this board has a biased agenda, there will be more lawsuits should this board continue to go down this path. Which is not fiscally conservative. Do not waste any more tax payers money or time. Choose map 2.

Thank you for your time

--
Chelsea Foster
Alaskan Activist

Dena'inaq ełnen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshdu. (Dena'ina)
I live and work on Dena'ina land.
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:33 am

First Name: Kelley

Last Name: Russell

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

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

Public Comment: I want to share my thoughts on senate pairings within Anchorage. I currently live in proposed House District 12 in the Abbott Loop area and have been in this district over two decades. I work off of Muldoon, doing therapy with Veterans. My patients live all over Anchorage, Eagle River, JBER and the Matâ€™ Su valley and so I get to see socioeconomic variances in patients from specific areas.

I support Option 2 for the following reasons:

1. Districts 20 and 21 in Muldoon make sense together due to their shared shopping, Bartlett High School, recreation areas.

2. Districts 24 and 22 both in Eagle River make sense together due to their shared shopping and recreation areas. They are buffered from the City of Anchorage from many miles of nonresidential land along the Glenn. In my work with former service members, while there are some service members who live in Eagle River, the same can be said for many areas of Anchorage. It isn’t enough to warrant pairing districts 23 and 24 over pairing Eagle River with itself.

3. District 9 (Hillside) should never be combined with an Eagle River district. They share no common roads or schools. They merely share an uninhabited mountain range, a tenuous connection at best.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:36 am

First Name: michelle

Last Name: hough

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99518

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

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:42 am

First Name: Heidi

Last Name: Jolin

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 11:53 am

First Name: Shannon

Last Name: Wileman

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: I support Map 3b! Thanks so much!
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:00 pm

First Name: Marie

Last Name: Boyd

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 95404

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

Public Comment: I support Map B
Jodi Taylor

Thu 4/7/2022 12:17 PM

Redistricting Board,

Let's get a balanced, fair shake on the senate seats, plan 3B offers that. Let's move forward in a common sense fashion, ER should be paired w South Anchorage (zoning similarities, demographics, and like minded on issues).

Thanks,

Jodi
ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD
WEBSITE RESPONSE

Date: April 7, 2022, 12:19 pm

First Name: Alex

Last Name: Baker

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Self

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Option 2 support

Public Comment: I support option 2. As a resident of HD 17, the best senate pairing from my community is HD 23. Additionally, pairing South Anchorage (and Girdwood and Whittier!) with Eagle River makes little to no logical sense. It has the appearance of a partisan gerrymander and its adoption would compromise the integrity of the redistricting process.
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:28 pm

First Name: Cindy
Last Name: Lelake

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]
Your ZIP Code: 99507

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): In support of map 2

Public Comment: I urge the Redistricting Board to adopt current Map 2 Senate pairings, and reject Map 3b. South Anchorage should not be paired with Eagle River.
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:30 pm

First Name: Deanne

Last Name: Warburton

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map B3

Public Comment: I support map3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:37 pm

First Name: Sandra

Last Name: Graham

Group Affiliation, if applicable: 62 year resident

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

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

Public Comment: Please consider Option B as the most workable plan!
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:38 pm

First Name: Alice

Last Name: Sullivan

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99567

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

Public Comment: I URGE you to accept Option #2 which KEEPS Eagle River together and KEEPS Girdwood with their closest neighbors in South Anchorage. Pairing Eagle River with Girdwood--two communities that, geographically, could not be further apart, and a pairing is NOT LIKELY to be successful, primarily for communication and common concerns specific to each area.
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:41 pm

First Name: Sandra

Last Name: Graham

Group Affiliation, if applicable: 62 year resident

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

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

Public Comment: Please adopt option 3B!
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:52 pm

First Name: Matt

Last Name: Davis

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3b

Public Comment: I support map 3b. Thank you
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:57 pm

First Name: Elizabeth

Last Name: Hersh

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99518

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

Public Comment: Please option B

Thank you
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:57 pm

First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Hays

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Self

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99502

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Support V2

Public Comment: I support version 2 as it keeps South Anchorage with South Anchorage, Downtown with Downtown, and Eagle River with Eagle River. Let's move this map and get everything settled.
Date: April 7, 2022, 12:59 pm

First Name: Aaron

Last Name: Hersh

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: 99518

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

Public Comment: Please adopt option B
Date: April 7, 2022, 1:07 pm

First Name: Sarah

Last Name: Crosswhite

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B.
Date: April 7, 2022, 1:25 pm

First Name: Adam

Last Name: Hays

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99502

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

Public Comment: I support map version 2 because it keeps neighborhoods together. As someone who grew up in Eagle River and then spent my young adult years in Girdwood, I can't fathom connecting any part of Eagle River with Girdwood. These are two very disparate communities. Map 2 keeps Eagle River with Eagle River and South Anchorage with Girdwood, which makes sense. Please adopt this map.
Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of approving and using Map 2 as this map pairs districts with similar interests and goals together. Map 3 is not representative of the city nor does it make an effort to ensure citizen’s voices and goals are well met. Option is a very obviously gerrymandered to overshadow the voices of people of color and give higher credence to Eagle River.

Please move forward with these comments in mind and approve map 2.

Thank you,

Courtney Weaver
Date: April 7, 2022, 1:49 pm

First Name: Rebecca

Last Name: Berger

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: Keep map 3B
Hi Peter, here is my testimony from today with citations to the quotes.
Thank you

Yarrow Silvers
99504

I want to start off by thanking the board for your responsiveness in proposing maps that re-unite Muldoon. I also would like to thank the board for outlining a clear process with set dates, deadlines and expectations.

Now let's talk about the rest of the map. I just want to say that, if I was a board member, I would proceed with extreme caution to avoid the appearance or action of replacing what was found to be one unconstitutional gerrymander with another. The court order makes one thing very clear. Senate District K was unconstitutional because it split Eagle River into two separate senate districts for the purpose of increasing majority party representation and at the expense of East Anchorage voters.

If Plan 3B is adopted, the Board will once again split Eagle River into two separate senate districts for the purpose of increasing majority party representation at the expense of voters outside Eagle River. The Board’s refusal to correct the gerrymander and its willingness to jeopardize everything to hold onto this gerrymander would not only be irrational, it blatantly and directly violates the court order.

Plan 3B does not correct the gerrymander, it only swaps out the voters who will be muffled. It also continues to tear Eagle River in two, despite consistent testimony from many in Eagle River who put their Eagle River community above their party and have asked that Eagle River remain united.

I would be cautious about adopting pairings that were introduced by an individual who not only chaired the republican party and uses political data to map, but also sent this board a chart that showed how that political data relates to proposed pairings, who the incumbents are, and even a column that appeared to indicate whether certain incumbents were electable or not, a chart which was referenced by at least two board members during the process, and whose initial suggested Eagle River pairings were found to be unconstitutional.

I believe that the most simple fix is the best; Keep Eagle River with Eagle River and Muldoon with Muldoon. Do not undo senate and house districts the Board already adopted unless necessary to keep Muldoon as one and Eagle River as one.

Please reject politically motivated pairings that circle all around the map, pairings that continue splitting apart communities and that continue to give Eagle River more representation at the expense of other communities of interest and please stop utilizing contiguity of a type that has been described by Supreme Court Justice Mathews as “second rate contiguity”, and what has been described by Bud Simpson as basically a fiction. I will give you the full quotes here for context:

Located in the Feb 3, 2022 trial transcript at lines 1850-1851 is the following statement by Bud Simpson:
“And so I could not ever describe 33 as compact. It’s barely contiguous. And by barely I mean the part that connects the northern part of that to the southern part basically has almost no people in it, so it’s just—it’s basically a fiction, in my mind.”

And in the Friday 3/18 video of Supreme Court arguments at 11:23 is the following conversion:

"Supreme Court Justice Matthews: I do like your concept of false contiguity when you said for example linking Girdwood with downtown Anchorage [inaudible] would be contiguous maybe if you went out into the salt water but would be false contiguity, doesn't that imply there would be a sort of natural scheme of things when you look at a map and when you instead use links that are unpopulated wilderness, use saltwater [inaudible] that really is 2nd rate in a way."

Singer: "that really was the board's perspective that it's 2nd rate."

So I think that if this board wanted to continue this trend of splitting apart communities and giving Eagle River more representation than they have population for, that they would need to have pretty good justification for why doing so was necessary. But I have read the testimony and listened to the testimony and the board members and I have not heard any rational justification for doing this, much less good justification.

I’ve heard Bethany Marcum state concerns that a section of JBER is in North Eagle and so they need to be paired so that all of JBER is represented together. I would like to assure Ms. Marcum, that, having looked at a map of this section, this area is a swath of trees with no infrastructure and likely no to few people living in it. Having the consistent representation for a swath of trees is not justification for breaking apart Downtown, Eagle River and South Anchorage using second rate contiguity.

I’ve heard concerns about service members living in Eagle River and the type of representation they receive. I want to point out that service members live all over Anchorage and that they are represented in accordance with their place of residence, not their work place. Military service members living in Eagle River are already represented by an Eagle River representative.

I want to push back on this idea that the gated and inaccessible community of JBER that includes service members who both work and live on base can only be represented by Eagle River, when there is not even an Eagle River gate. There is a Government Hill Gate and a Muldoon gate however, as well as other Anchorage gates, where residents of JBER are closely integrated with the surrounding communities included in the North Anchorage district 17.

My point being that the connection between JBER service members who already live and receive representation in Eagle River is not adequate justification for splitting downtown, Eagle River, and South Anchorage neighborhoods, as well as splitting residents of JBER from their communities outside of the gates.

I’ve heard remarks about historical connections and how maps have looked in the past. I really just want to remind you that there is a reason that maps are changed every 10 years and that we are not mapping for the past, we are mapping for the people that are living here now. Also, in the past Eagle River’s population was vastly different, requiring Eagle River to be split between two senate districts when now it finally has the opportunity to be in a single district.
Now let's move to the justifications for splitting South Anchorage apart. I've heard people talk about how South Anchorage and Eagle River both have limited road service areas and independent snow removal and thus should be paired. I would like to support the many Eagle River residents who have testified for the preservation of their Eagle River community, and encourage the board to listen to them as they have pointed out the obvious: North Eagle River also has limited road service areas and independent snow removal and not only that but they have the same independent LSRA as South Eagle River, not a completely different LSRA which is not connected in any way physically or in implementation or funding.

I've heard that the two areas share a hunting route over Ship Creek. I would like to point out that there are 100 permits issued per year for the ship Creek moose hunt. So this idea that people mingling over hunting routes creates a justification for this pairing when these people do not work, shop, eat or play in the same area is tenuous at best and this pairing absolutely opens up the board for further lawsuits from negatively affected South Anchorage residents as well as Eagle River residents and proponents of Eagle exit.

I've also heard this idea that basic contiguity and the barest of a fix is all that matters and I'd like to remind the board that this idea of we will do it because we can has been said before and look where it got us.

Finally I want to discuss a rather more cynical thing that is happening in the background that I hope this board can, as professional public servants to the community in this mapping process, rise above. This involves political blogs that are urging people to testify based on politically motivated reasons such as saving a certain number of Republican senate seats.

This involves people calling from outside of Anchorage and quoting these statements and then hanging up because they do not have actual knowledge of the senate pairings they are calling in to support and are unable to respond to even the most basic clarifying questions, like “why do you support this district.”

This involves people sending the same form letter each day and completely changing their testimony from what they said just one month ago in the municipal process, testimony that the Assembly listened to and that in doing so resulted in a built in 3.6% deviation in the municipal maps. In contrast, the Anchorage pairings under consideration here do not practicably change deviations.

So while this is inherently a political process, our constitution does not allow for political gerrymandering, which was recently reaffirmed by the courts. I hope that you can rise above the political noise and employ rational, logical justification for your actions while looking at communities and not parties in your final map.
Date: April 7, 2022, 2:07 pm

First Name: Mari

Last Name: Wood

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99688

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): I support map 3B

Public Comment:
Date: April 7, 2022, 2:18 pm

First Name: Bruce

Last Name: Graham

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

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

Public Comment: Please adopt option 3B
Hi, thanks for the updates.

It looks like Option 1 has been eliminated so I now would like to state that I favor Option 2. Whatever the conclusion, it would be unfair and inconsistent to give Eagle River two Senate Seats.

Eagle River may be within the larger Anchorage municipality but they resemble many other contiguous communities in Alaska which you have not and would not considered splitting with a straight face. It's inconsistent and unfair to split Eagle River.

Pat Race
Juneau, AK
Date: April 7, 2022, 2:31 pm

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Meyer

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

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

Public Comment: The result of the Republican-slanted redistricting board's earlier failed gerrymander was struck down by the Alaska Supreme Court. The court chastised the redistricting board for ignoring public comments supporting fair redistricting maps.

In this current round, they are still trying to cheat. Please support fair redistricting.
Date: April 7, 2022, 2:57 pm

First Name: John

Last Name: Gruber

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Anchorage Senate Pairings - Support for Option 2

Public Comment: I have lived in Eagle River for 46 years. I’m writing in support of the senate pairings shown in Option 2.

I support keeping the two Eagle River house districts together. It also keeps the Hillside communities together as well as the downtown Anchorage communities. Option 2 is the most reasonable, non-partisan option of the two options proposed.

Option 3B, which I do not support, appears to be another politically motivated gerrymander that was generated by someone utilizing partisan data along with information about incumbents.

I encourage you to adopt Option 2.

John B. Gruber
Dear Redistricting Board,

I SUPPORT Option 2 and OPPOSE Option 3B.

I am a resident of Stuckagain Heights in Anchorage. During the Assembly Reapportionment process, our Basher Community Council voted overwhelmingly in favor of our community remaining part East Anchorage District 5 and against our neighborhood being attached to Eagle River District 2.

For the same reasons, I support Option #2 which aligns our neighborhood with other Hillside neighborhoods in South Anchorage, and I oppose Option 3B which would join us and other South Anchorage Hillside neighborhoods with Eagle River. Stuckagain Heights is not connected to Eagle River except by an uninhabited mountain range, and we are separated by almost 20 miles and 30 minutes driving time. From South Anchorage Hillside neighborhoods, the time and distance to Eagle River is even greater. We are also socio-economically consistent with South Anchorage Hillside and have many similar neighborhood concerns including Hillside wildfire risk, public safety, education, development, roads, traffic, and land use. For example, Stuckagain Heights and many South Anchorage Hillside neighborhoods have uniquely operated LRSAs, none of which are physically connected to Eagle River. Both Eagle River House Districts share the same LRSA so it would seem obvious for them to remain together.

To have fair and balanced representation we need to keep contiguous communities with similar needs, objectives, and concerns together. Option 2 keeps the Anchorage Hillside together, Eagle River together, and Downtown together. Option 3B creates irrational boundaries to bias voting and consolidate political power rather than keeping physically connected communities with similar needs together. Any new plan should address the court's concerns and not invite additional lawsuits due to making major, disconnected, and controversial changes to neighborhood groupings. Eagle River is almost 20+ physical miles away from Downtown and even farther away from the Anchorage Hillside, and worlds apart in the basic and common understanding of the daily needs and issues of those communities.

I want representation that listens, understands our needs, advocates for us, and shows up when we need them to address issues in our communities, not people who simply drive by or bypass our neighborhoods altogether on their way to somewhere else. I also want representatives that treats us with respect rather than contempt, which is unfortunately consistent with statements made about Anchorage by currently serving representatives from Eagle River along with many community members there that want to secede from Anchorage altogether. I suspect if someone from South Anchorage was elected to represent Eagle River, residents there would share the same concerns about lack of understanding and representation.

Thank you for considering my testimony and feedback.

Respectfully,

LuAnn Piccard
Date: April 7, 2022, 3:22 pm

First Name: **Steve**

Last Name: **Carhart**

Group Affiliation, if applicable: **None**

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: **99670**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Senate district k. 3b**

Public Comment: I support map 3b. The one with 9 and 22. These are a contiguous connected and have people associated by fire issues, lot sizes, septic, road, and recreation.
Date: April 7, 2022, 3:39 pm

First Name: Angela

Last Name: Lopuhovsky

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99504

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

Public Comment: I support Map B3
Date: April 7, 2022, 3:43 pm

First Name: Andria

Last Name: Dolan

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Alaska Republican Party

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99508

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Public Comment: As a former resident of both Muldoon and Eagle River, I am not in favor of splitting these two districts for the sake of an additional Senator for Eagle River.
Date: April 7, 2022, 3:48 pm

First Name: brian

Last Name: evans

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99517

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): I support 3B

Public Comment: I support map 3 B
Date: April 7, 2022, 3:57 pm

First Name: Carolee

Last Name: Gause

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99516

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

Public Comment: I am in support of B3
Date: April 7, 2022, 4:20 pm

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Williams

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Map 3B

Public Comment: I SUPPORT MAP 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 4:53 pm

First Name: Jan Carolyn

Last Name: Hardy

Group Affiliation, if applicable: self

Email or Phone Contact: 

Your ZIP Code: 99502

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

Public Comment: The 2021 Board Proclamation for Anchorage was ratified on November 10, 2021. There has been a public hearing publicly presented with public input and testimony. This Board has the opportunity to be the first Redistricting Board in over 20 years to have a map that is viable for a full 10 years.

The Board did a good job with the overall house map and senate pairings in Southeast, Rural, Interior, and MatSu. Further delays would result in some candidates running three elections in a row. We have seen the chaos that creates both for the candidates and the voters. Some voters did not exercise the franchise because they did not know in which district they resided. This is unfair to the candidates and the voter.

We have a new system of voting: Rank Choice Voting. To complicate the matter further we will have special election to replace him. This is unprecedented. The voter needs time to reorient themselves to their new senate and house district. If questions surrounding our new Anchorage Municipality have not been resolved immediately the result could be voter disenfranchisement and failure of the system to protect one voter, one vote.

The Alaska Supreme Court has upheld the unconstitutional political gerrymander of Senate Seat K (Eagle River/East Anchorage) and remanded the pairing back to the Alaska Redistricting Board. Please act swiftly to adopt a map with final senate pairings. There is no time to waste.
Date: April 7, 2022, 5:22 pm

First Name: Kay

Last Name: Brown

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99508

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

Public Comment: I support Option 2. Option 2 keeps the neighborhoods and communities of interest together, and is the most logical and legally defensible. Option 2 keeps together Eagle River with Eagle River, Muldoon with Muldoon, Downtown with Downtown and southside with southside. Option 2 best complies with the court’s decision and direction. Option 3 is not legally sound as it continues to divide and over-represent Eagle River.
I’m writing to express my support for redistricting Option 2. It makes the most sense to keep Downtown together, Eagle River together and Hillside together. Each of those districts has its own character, its own general social and economic characteristics. Each district should have the right to elect representatives who best represent its citizens. To divide them, as Option 3b would do, is classic gerrymandering……creating illogical districts in order to increase the voting power of one party.

Gerrymandering undermines democracy. Do the right thing, the thing that best supports our democratic system. Support Option 2.

Susan Soule
Anchorage
Charlie & Jamie Rodriguez

Thu 4/7/2022 5:31 PM

To: The Alaska Redistricting Board
From: Jamie Rodriguez, Anchorage, HD9

Re: Driving Distances between Eagle River’s HD22 & SE Anchorage’s HD9. Watch the Numbers!

As people debate an Anchorage HD9/HD22 House District pairing with Eagle River, it appears that many or most testifiers are not aware of HD9’s actual size and makeup. So, I’d like to enter that information into the record:

We are more than just SE Anchorage. We are SE Anchorage (inc Stuckagain Heights) + the Turnagain Arm Communities all the way to Portage and with a side of Whittier. So just popping over to NE Anchorage to catch the Glen Highway is no little thing. It’s a trek for most.

The driving distance between Eagle River’s HD22 and SE Anchorage is 27 miles.

The driving distance between River’s HD22 and HD9’s Girdwood is 67 miles.

The driving distance between River’s HD22 and HD9’s Portage is 78 miles.

The driving distance between River’s HD22 and HD9’s Whittier is 87 miles, (including the need to schedule one’s time to get back & forth through the tunnel w/o being locked out or in)

ADDITIONALLY…

Depending on the route taken, one must cross through 6-8 unrelated House Districts to get from Eagle River’s HD22 to SE Anchorage’s HD9.

Please keep that in mind that an HD22/HD9 Senate pairing, especially where there are other possibilities available, 87 miles long urban district disenfranchises communities and makes no sense.

87 Miles!

Thank you for keeping this in mind
Date: April 7, 2022, 5:36 pm

First Name: Julie

Last Name: Barrow

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99504

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Support Map B3

Public Comment: I have lived in Anchorage for 38 years, I believe map B3 would be the most appropriate option.
Date: April 7, 2022, 5:36 pm

First Name: DeLynn

Last Name: James

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

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

Public Comment: As a 28 year Anchorage resident who has lived most of that time in the Abbott area (district 12), I am writing to support Option 2. Option 2 is the best map because communities of interest remain together. It is illogical to attempt to pair districts in Eagle River and the Hillside/Girdwood into a single senate district. While they touch on the maps presented because all land must be accounted when creating house districts, the areas that touch are through an unpopulated state park. How can anyone legally justify that as bordering when the border they share does not have anyone living in it? Please keep communities together in Anchorage when creating Senate districts.
Joclyn Reilly

Thu 4/7/2022 5:49 PM

Dear Redistricting Board,
I am a homeowner in South Anchorage, and I support Option 2. Eagle River should be paired with Eagle River, not South Anchorage.

I don't appreciate the delay tactics, which wastes taxpayer money and time. The sooner this is done, the sooner candidates and voters can prepare for a fair election.

Thank you,

Joclyn Reilly
Dear esteemed members of the Alaska Redistricting Board,

To start, I'd like to thank you all for the extensive work you have done on the current house district map and your continued efforts to find a fair and constitutional plan for Anchorage's senate pairings. I know this is a herculean task and I am deeply grateful for your service to our state.

I am writing today regarding the proposed senate pairings adopted by the board. I'd like to start by saying I celebrated my first Birthday in Eagle River and have called it home for nearly 28 years. From personal experience, I can say that the idea that Eagle River should be paired with South Anchorage seems outrageous to ordinary Eagle River - Chugiak residents, including myself.

As can be noted in the Anchorage Municipal redistricting process, there was broad opposition to pairing these communities together with overwhelming testimony that these communities have little in common, do not live, work, or play in the same areas, and are not logical pairings. In fact, the few members in Eagle River who recently have called in to testify whose name's I recognize were among the loudest champions against these pairings during the municipal redistricting process. It seems that the only justification for such a pairing is to benefit a specific political interest at the expense of the Alaskans, which is antithetical to the duties of the Alaska Redistricting Board and why the Alaska Supreme Court threw out the prior Eagle River - Muldoon district.

The most logical, and I believe what the Alaska Supreme Court indicated would be more constitutionally sound, would be pairing the two Eagle River house districts, #22 and #24, together (as has been the case since 2013 with great success and no complaints from community members.) Of the current maps, Option 2 seems to be the best and I strongly encourage members to adopt this or another map that keeps Eagle River - Chugiak intact as one Senate District.

Respectfully,
Erik Gunderson
Date: April 7, 2022, 8:05 pm

First Name: **Penny**

Last Name: **Johnson**

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [Redacted]

Your ZIP Code: **99515**

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): **Map 3B**

Public Comment: **In order to conform with fair redistricting reqs, map 3B is my choice. Far more equitable than the others.**
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:21 pm

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Anderson

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99502

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): 3b

Public Comment: I support map 3b
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:24 pm

First Name: Sean

Last Name: Murphy

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Eaglexit

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99577

Issue of Concern: pairing of Eagle River communities with Anchorage

Public Comment: I am a resident of House District 22-Eagle River Valley under the promulgated 2021 redistricting plan.

I came to Alaska while serving in the Army. I met my wife in 1989 and we started a family in East Anchorage. We moved to Eagle River with two daughters 22 years ago. I am a retired Anchorage School District educator and administrator. We enjoy our time with two grandchildren who live in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough with their parents.

I am testifying on behalf of Eaglexit because I feel very strongly, as an Eagle River resident and an active volunteer in promoting the interests of Eagle River, that Eagle River districts should be paired with one another and our unified and very independent community preserved.

The Eagle River community is a unique unified community with interests and priorities that do not align with the other districts in Anchorage.

Based upon my personal experience and knowledge, the physical separation between Eagle River Valley and South Muldoon Road is very real. Not only are these two areas separated by about 15 miles and a stretch of highway, two bodies of water (a creek and Eagle River) and a sizeable valley, there is no way to get from here to there, or vice versa, without going through another district. Eagle River is our own community, boxed in between JBER and the Chugach Range and separated from Anchorage with the only bridge on the highway system that connects North Alaska and South Alaska. This connection is part of Eagle River’s culture and commerce, but not at all a part of Anchorage.

Eagle River Valley and South Muldoon are very different places socially. It is my opinion that Eagle River residents are generally more affluent and educated per capita than East Anchorage and that Eagle River residents have the same or very similar religious beliefs, which can be seen in Eagle River’s many long-standing churches.

Eagle River has its own commercial and cultural center. The store owners rely upon Eagle River resident shoppers, out-of-state tourists, and customers traveling from Anchorage to
the Valley. Eagle River businesses do not rely upon Anchorage customers.

Unlike Anchorage, Eagle River commerce continued to grow and thrive.

I am also very proud of the clubs, organizations, festivals, and activities that Eagle River sponsors and maintains. We have an Eagle River Elks Club, a VFW, and a Lions Club. It is Eagle River residents that support and rely on these clubs, not residents of Anchorage.

Culturally our community is different with its own Chamber of Commerce. We have the Bear Paw Festival during the summer. Boy Scouts still put up USA flags on our downtown strip. We are on the Iditarod historic trail, where the original dogs ran serum to Nome over the Crow Creek Pass from Girdwood to the Eagle River Science Center at the end of Eagle River Valley, almost. The holidays bring us the Merry Merchant Munch which has a long history of highlighting our local Eagle River businesses.

Economically, we have more land to develop than Anchorage. We have a separate Parks and Rec Department with its own budget separate from Anchorage. We have a private partnership with a local company to maintain roads. Most of our communities are covered by a volunteer fire department. Our homeowners love their larger properties. While Eagle River residents live in housing that includes large lots, zero lot lines, and apartments, Eagle River does not have many trailer parks or homeless camps.

We have six Eagle River area Community Councils, the majority of which are very active in promoting and preserving the interests and needs of Eagle River residents.

I thought Anchorage and Eagle River were separated and different before I even realized it. I would explain to family and friends visiting from all over, who voiced their disbelief when I explained our communities out here are all under the Municipality of Anchorage.

Our school's communities have different needs. I saw first hand as an educator in Eagle River then as an administrator on the east side of Anchorage. Take a walk-through Chugiak or Eagle River high schools, then walk through Bartlett High School. The needs are different.

As an administrator on the east side and a resident in Eagle River, I saw road maintenance was different. My personal neighborhood in Eagle River is plowed and clean within a day or two at most. The streets around our walking only school on the east side would be a week or more before they were cleared. We have different needs than Anchorage.

Our communities of Eagle River, Chugiak, Birchwood, Peters Creek, and Eklutna are a community of interest. Why join with another district outside our communities? We are different and deserve our own representation, independence and self-governance.
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:46 pm

First Name: Tamera

Last Name: English

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

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

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:48 pm

First Name: Scott

Last Name: English

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99507

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

Public Comment: I support map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 9:50 pm

First Name: Brian

Last Name: Ashley

Group Affiliation, if applicable: Self

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99515

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

Public Comment: I Support Map 3B
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:00 pm

First Name: William

Last Name: Sola

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [redacted]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): Anchorage Senate District K Options 4/7/22

Public Comment: Thanks to all for going back to the drawing board! Plan 2 looks great overall, and as a resident of Government Hill this makes a lot of sense to be a part of the downtown area, and JBER. As previously stated, being a part of North Eagle River and beyond would make no sense at all, so Plan 3B would be ill-advised and minimize any of our neighborhood’s issues or needs.

Thank you once again for allowing us to comment.
Date: April 7, 2022, 10:56 pm

First Name: Mary

Last Name: Andrus

Group Affiliation, if applicable:

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Your ZIP Code: 99501

Issue of Concern (Please provide map name if applicable): I support map 3b

Public Comment: I support map 3b
At an April 5th Special Meeting, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors passed a unanimous resolution opposing option 3 / 3b and supporting options 1 or 2 for the Anchorage area Senate pairings.

The resolution is attached as a PDF

Thank you,

Mike Edgington
Co-Chair, Girdwood Board of Supervisors
Resolution 2022-08

Of the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD SENATE PAIRING MAPS 1 OR 2, AND OPPOSITION TO SENATE PAIRING MAP 3 OR ANY SIMILAR PROPOSED PAIRINGS WHICH COMBINE EAGLE RIVER AND GIRDWOOD

WHEREAS, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors (GBOS) is the duly elected Anchorage municipal board representing the residents and tax payers of Girdwood Valley Service Area in the provision of multiple local services, and is also recognized under AMC 22.40.035 as representing the Girdwood community in an equivalent capacity to a Community Council; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Redistricting Board issued a 2021 Proclamation of Redistricting on November 10, 2021; and

WHEREAS, several legal challenges were filed to the 2021 Proclamation and, after rulings by the Superior and Supreme Courts, the Alaska Redistricting Board is now reconsidering senate pairings for the Anchorage area; and

WHEREAS, GBOS reviewed the proposed senate pairing plans (Maps 1, 2 & 3), which were the Alaska Redistricting Board’s adopted draft senate pairing plans as of April 5th 2022; and

WHEREAS, maps 1 & 2 maps combine the geographically contiguous and culturally & socio-economically coherent communities of the Hillside, South Anchorage and Turnagain Arm/Girdwood/Whittier into senate seats; and

WHEREAS, map 3, or any similar map which combines Turnagain Arm/Girdwood with Eagle River, does not combine communities of similar interests, nor in any meaningful sense are the house districts contiguous, requiring traversing the width of the roadless Chugach Mountain Range to get from the northern to southern communities.

THEREFORE, the Girdwood Board of Supervisors supports the senate pairings represented by maps 1 or 2, and opposes the senate pairings represented by map 3, or any similar proposal that combines Eagle River with South Anchorage/Hillside/Turnagain Arm/Girdwood.

Passed and approved by a vote of 5 in favor to 0 against this 5th day of April 2022.

Mike Edgington, GBOS Co-Chair

Briana Sullivan, GBOS Co-Chair