

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD

Verbal Testimony Summaries

Kodiak Public Hearing 10/15/2021


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

Seward 10/12/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 26, 2021

Name: **Patty Linville**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Ms. Linville agreed with everything that Mr. Plush stated regarding Seward not being economically aligned with the northern part of Kenai Peninsula. Ms. Linville would like to see Seward connected with coastal communities that have similar interests.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Seward 10/12/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 26, 2021

Name: David Paperman

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Paperman acknowledged the difficulty in meeting all of the constitutional requirements while redistricting and noted that past redistricting cycles have been a disservice to Seward because the communities they have been grouped with have nothing in common with Seward once you leave the Cooper Landing area. The northern Kenai Peninsula and Cooper Landing areas are related to the oil industry whereas on the Seward side of the peninsula, there is almost no contact with that end of the district. Mr. Paperman noted that Seward has more in common with Girdwood. In the past, a senate district was shared with Girdwood and this did underrepresent Seward, but they were underrepresented with a voice that was similar to Seward. Mr. Paperman spoke in favor of grouping Seward with Homer as there are similar socio-economic statuses and Mr. Paperman would rather have Seward with Kodiak than Nikiski and Kenai.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Seward 10/12/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 26, 2021

Name: **Denise Plush**

Email or Phone Contact: 

Ms. Plush would like Seward to stay with Homer, Kodiak, or other coastal communities as they all have similar economic interest, such as fishing. The northern peninsula has different economic drivers and thus should not be grouped with Seward. Additionally, Seward should be able to elect someone who represents their interests.

Ms. Plush spoke in favor of the AFFR map.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Seward 10/12/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 26, 2021

Name: Griffin Plush

Email or Phone Contact: [REDACTED]

Mr. Plush is a lifelong Seward resident who currently lives in the Forest Acres area. When Seward was placed in the same district as Nikiski and Sterling in 2013, Mr. Plush did not feel a connection with the district's representative and has not felt represented well. Mr. Plush noted that there are distinct differences between the northwest and east sides of the Kenai Peninsula.

Mr. Plush spoke in favor of the AFFR map as it represents his community well. Seward fits best with Homer in terms of representation. Additionally, Mr. Plush noted that whether Seward is with Homer or Nikiski, it comes down to socio-economic integration which means Homer is the best fit for Seward.

Additionally, Mr. Plush noted that he appreciates the connection of more Sugpiaq communities and continual representation of communities that maintain strong Sugpiaq traditions in the AFFR map.

ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEARING VERBAL TESTIMONY SUMMARY

Seward 10/12/21 Verbal Testimony

Summary Date: October 26, 2021

Name: Tom Touges

Email or Phone Contact: 

Mr. Touges noted that people in Crown Point, Primrose, and Moose Pass shop, attend school, and go to the hospital in Seward. There are some maps that do not include these communities which are in the "Y South." Seward is "Seward Highway oriented" and having a representative that represents Seward is also important. Mr. Touges is in favor of Seward being connected to Homer as opposed to being connected to Kodiak. Kodiak is 4-5 times as big as Seward which means that Seward would likely have a representative from Kodiak. Mr. Touges would rather see Seward being connected with the communities on the peninsula that you can drive to.