

Public Comments: N - Z

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between 5 p.m. on October 16, 2021,
and 11:59 p.m. on October 18

Distributed electronically October 19, 2021

From: [Joe Nangle](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote for map # 9
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 1:28:46 PM

To Whom it may concern,

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. At this writing we are still enormously impacted by the Covid 19 healthcare crisis in our small town, and the lack of state leadership backed by science. For the public health of ALL MONTANANS, we need leadership that listens to and responds to the people *as problems arise, rather than someone who arrives with ears and eyes blindfolded by political will. Fair and balanced representation can provide a dialogue and a solution for the good of our health not the career of a politician.*

After reviewing the criteria and goals proposed and accepted by your commission, it seems that only maps number 6 and 9 meet the fairest criteria. Importantly, they both keep all our Native American Indian Reservations intact and in one voting bloc to assure solidarity and effectiveness in representation on Native issues.

Further, I am in favor of map number 9 as it keeps Gallatin and Park counties together. For two very important reasons we must be able to vote with solidarity with our Gallatin county neighbors:

1. The Greater Yellowstone ecosystem is within the boundaries of both counties. By voting together we can help drive critical management policies that positively affect biodiversity, climate change, tourism, and recreation in this unique natural area surrounding us. Quite simply, If we blow it it's gone forever. We need a representative that understands the science behind irreversible climate changes that occur with oil and gas drilling, and mining and who will stand up to the industry to change where the jobs are generated in our state. We have plenty of opportunity in Montana to develop jobs in alternative energy, sustainable agriculture and forestry, jobs in trades and tech, and rural healthcare jobs if we can work together to transition to them.

2. Gallatin and Park counties together form a regional healthcare service area, and we are both greatly impacted by the seasonal influx of tourism and a recent surge in immigration (and currently COVID) into our towns and small hospitals. We interact on a daily basis with hospitals and clinics in both counties, and are desperate for representation that will provide leadership and bring state and federal guidelines and funding for our healthcare needs. If we had a current representative to convince Governor Gianforte that just like every other state that has provided funding for their current short term staffing shortage, that we in Park County Montana need a representative who recognizes the urgent need for that funding, we would not be in such a critical daily healthcare crisis. Instead he has denied us funding, and we are told we should find it elsewhere. This kind of absurdity is purely political and not serving the healthcare needs of any Montanans —Republicans or Democrats.

It is absolutely imperative logic and facts make a balance in our state for the good of everyone. Fair Representation and districting are the only way to accomplish that. Please don't let political will sway your vote; please be a "profile in courage" in the words of JFK, and vote for what is best for the people of Montana. This is what the people are asking for. I am asking for map number 9 to be accepted and implemented.

Your kind attention to this critical issue is appreciated.

Joseph P Nangle
Livingston, MT resident

From: [Sharon Nason](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re-districting
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 2:29:00 PM

I'm sure there are a lot of factors I'm not aware of that go into determining where the final districting lines will be drawn, but the most logical divider to me is along the Continental Divide in some fashion. The western part of the state is much different than the eastern part of the state, and so it makes sense to me that they would want to be represented differently. It seems to me that either map 1 or 7 most effectively accomplishes that goal. Thank you for taking input from the citizens of Montana before making a final decision. Respectfully, Sharon Nason

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

From: apskneid@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Paul Neidhardt](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:14:26 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello,

I would like to voice my support for maps # cp4 and cp9. I think those have the best balance for the population, don't needlessly split towns or counties, the only splits are to keep reservations intact and balance the population.

These will ensure fair representation for all Montanans and protect voting rights for minorities. There is no distinct favoritism of political parties, ensuring parties run on platform rather than relying on gerrymandered boundaries.

Thank you for your time and the hard, necessary work you are doing.

Regards,

Paul Neidhardt

Sincerely,
Paul Neidhardt
2244 Sturnella Ln Belgrade, MT 59714-7721
apskneid@msn.com

From: [Terri Nelson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District Preference
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 2:43:34 PM

Dear Commissioners,

I prefer Maps 2, 6, and 8.

Those maps meet the criteria of population equality and the goal of a competitive district. They also keep Cascade County intact.

I believe an elected official in a competitive district will be more responsive to the needs of all the citizens of the district.

Thank you for your consideration,

Terri Nelson
1821 Central Ave
Great Falls, MT

From: feldbruggee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Emilie Neuwerth](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Maps 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 meet the goals of the Commission, the others do not.
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 1:28:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.First, I want to thank you for your work on behalf of the People of Montana. Let me say that the map that is chosen needs to be a fair and honest representation of the People of Montana. Districts should not be based on politics. If you draw lines that favor one party over the other you are being disingenuous. Let not power or ambition color your choice. The People of Montana deserve that from you. Your choice should be for the good of All, not just a Few. When you place your vote, please realize what you do now either helps create or destroy the future for all Montanans. Maps 2, 4, 6, 8 and 9 meet the goals set by your Commission the others do not. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. Emilie Neuwerth Great Falls, MT

Sincerely,
Emilie Neuwerth
225 26th St NW Great Falls, MT 59404-2036
feldbruggee@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Meta Newhouse
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:28:51 PM

From: Meta Newhouse meta@newhousedesign.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

My name is Meta Newhouse, I live in Bozeman. I've lived here for over 15 years.

All of these goals are important, but most important is to avoid a gerrymandered process that overly favors one political party.

Maps 6 and 9 Not unduly favor a political party; Minimize splitting of counties, towns, and reservations; Keep communities of interest intact; and Competitive districts

Thank you for your time and consideration.

--

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

From: Kimniday@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kim Niday](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 10:41:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please choose Map 8. Montana needs 2 districts that are competitive to each political party. Make sure that Montana is better than other states that have gerrymandered political districts so that much of the population is not represented. That is not the the way to keep the United States a democracy or a republic. We may not all agree but we all need an equal voice. This map is unique in that it is the only north/south split. That makes sure that ALL of the voices are heard: urban, rural, and Indian. This map also does not split up Indian Reservations and contains at least 1 entire reservation is in each district. That makes the sense.

Montana has achieved this second congressional district because of its growing population. Please, let ALL voices of this population be heard.

Sincerely,
Kim Niday
832 Burlington Ave Billings, MT 59101-5836
Kimniday@yahoo.com



-WOHEHIV-
The Morning Star

**NORTHERN CHEYENNE TRIBE
ADMINISTRATION**

P.O. Box 128
LAME DEER, MONTANA 59043
(406) 477-6284
FAX (406) 477-6210



-WOHEHIV-
The Morning Star

Via email
October 18, 2021

Maylinn Smith
Presiding Officer
Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
districting@mt.gov

Dear Ms. Smith,

I am the President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. I am writing to express the Tribe's support for Map CP8.

The Commission has received hundreds of maps that propose boundaries for the two new Congressional districts. Many of these maps do not create a competitive Congressional district, and many place all American Indian communities in a non-competitive district or include only one American Indian community in the competitive district.

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe highly values competitiveness in Congressional maps. Competitive congressional districts mean that politicians need to engage with us and other Tribal Nations to secure our votes. We believe that competition leads to a healthier democracy and more favorable outcomes for our people. A competitive district would mean more engagement by candidates and politicians, which means that the issues that matter to our community are more likely to be addressed.

The Tribe is strongly opposed to any map that does not include any American Indian community in the competitive district, as this will lead to the exclusion of Indian voices and even less engagement by politicians.

CP 8 is the only map proposed to the commission that includes the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in the competitive district and meets both the mandatory criteria and goals adopted by the Commission. I call upon the Commission to adopt Map CP 8 as it creates a new competitive Congressional district with significant representation of our voters and issues.

Sincerely,

Donna Fisher
President, Northern Cheyenne Tribe

LITTLE WOLF AND MORNING STAR – Out of defeat and exile they led us back to Montana and won our Cheyenne homeland that we will keep forever.

From: [Chany Reon Ockert](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #CP 5
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:07:22 AM

I prefer map 5 because it has the fewest counties that are split into two congressional districts and the most like the previous 2 congressional district map.

Chany Ockert
Bigfork, Montana
406-260-3221

From: [suzanne oehler](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment Submission - Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission Meeting 10/19
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 5:33:28 PM

Dear Commissioners Essmann, Lamson, Miller, Smith, and Stusek,

Please consider my comments as you debate the important decision ahead at the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission Meeting on October 19th.

The Commission must adopt a redistricting map that complies with Montana law and allows for fair representation of the votes of Montanans according to the criteria set by the Montana State Constitution and Montana State Legislature.

Map CP1 is the best option and should be adopted, as it fully meets the legislative intent of HB506 . The number of residents is even, it minimizes the division of counties (only 2 counties are divided), and it is the most compact of the 9 proposed maps with the North/South and East/West dimensions being the most equal.

Alternatively, Map CP7 is the second best option to meet the legislative intent of HB506, as it divides into a nearly even population, minimizes county split, and is fairly compact.

Thank you for your service to our great state and for including my opinion in your review.

Best regards,
Suzanne

Suzanne Oehler
406-772-2229

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [John Oetinger](#)
Cc: [Spencer, Nadine](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:27:14 PM

Hello Mr. Oetinger,

I've sent your additional comments to the comments email so they will be included in the packet the commissioners receive tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Rachel

From: John Oetinger <johnoetinger@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:51 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Cc: Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>; Spencer, Nadine <NSpencer@mt.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hi Rachel,

Now that I've had some more time to review the maps and see that Bozeman is in the east in CP7, I want to change my feedback: CP9 is my preferred map.

The logic is:

I don't approve of gerrymandering, regardless of who benefits, and 2, 4, 6 and 8 are gerrymandering.

However, I do approve of districts including likeminded voters so that their representative can do a good job of representing their constituents, if that can be done without blatant gerrymandering.

1, 3, 5 and 7 divide the state roughly along a north south line, so minimal to no gerrymandering, but too much of a mix of contradictory constituents.

Therefore, CP9 is the best choice (too bad there are no native American tribes in the west in CP9, but you can't have everything).

Thanks

From: Weiss, Rachel [<mailto:RWeiss@mt.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 1:17 PM
To: johnoetinger@outlook.com
Cc: Kolman, Joe; Spencer, Nadine
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

Hello Mr. Oetinger,

Thank you for your comments. They will be distributed to the commissioners after an October 16 deadline. PDF maps of the prior Congressional districts are available at:

<https://mtredistricting.gov/districting-maps/> [mtredistricting.gov]. If you scroll down to the Maps for Reference section, you'll see those map links.

Also, the interactive maps for the Commission Proposals should allow you to Zoom in to specific areas of the state, including towns. You can also change the view to see a regular map view or satellite images.

I hope this information helps.
Sincerely,

Rachel Weiss
Legislative Research Analyst
Montana Legislative Services Division

406-444-5367
Post Office Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706

From: MDAC <donotreply@mtredistricting.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 7, 2021 10:21 AM
To: Districting <districting@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Oetinger

From: John Oetinger
Residence: Missoula MT

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

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

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

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

From: [Daniel O'Hara](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #CP2
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:08:21 PM

Dear Commission,

While this map is termed “competitive” that is NOT a valid objective for the congressional districts. Making a district more competitive or more likely to win the “western district” is not fair and does not reflect the conservative character of the people of Montana.

This map is also painfully gerrymandered which reflects manipulation in order to try to get one of the two districts to be reliably Democratic when the at-large Congressional seat has not had a non-incumbent Democrat elected since 1992.

Please pursue a reasonable map that is more like Map #CP1.

Thanks

Daniel O'Hara

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Connie Olsen
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 5:41:55 PM

From: Connie Olsen connieolsen5@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

I am in favor of Map CP 1. It appears very balanced and easy to understand. Population is divided in half.

Thank you for this site that allows us to give you our opinion.

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rae Olsen
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:28:19 AM

From: Rae Olsen hybridblg@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I thank you for your service. This is a difficult and important task. My father, Arnold Olsen, was in Congress when Montana had two districts and I remember the challenging work load then. I can't believe that one person can adequately represent the entire state.

I applaud your list of considerations.

I think either 8 or 9 would best achieve your goals. After studying the maps you have put forth, I think several should be rejected because they defy many of those considerations.

Specifically, Maps 1, 1,3,5 and 7 are manipulated to favor one political party.

Any of the others could work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rae Olsen
Missoula

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

From: Grizmom4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karin Olsen-Billings](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 1:29:49 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Thank you for this opportunity to weigh in on this important event.

I would support the plans that minimally split counties. It is my belief that it would be confusing and unfair to folks in those communities. After working for many years with our small rural counties, I know they already feel their concerns are minimized.

Balancing the political ideology would also support the effort to communicate with all the citizens and not just the people that agree with one thought or another.

I personally

write all of our representatives. Only one of them answers my question, one never responds and one only sends form letters. It is very discouraging. It is no wonder I only vote for John Tester. I don't always agree with him, but I receive a thoughtful response every time. This was how our representatives, Democrats' and Republicans used to work for their constituents, but no longer. We cannot continue to encourage this disconnect.

As a Montana native, I would support returning to decision making the way we used to. Therefore proposals 2, 6 and 8 are my suggestions to meet a balanced, Montana made process for congressional representation.

Sincerely,

Karin Olsen-Billings
912 Stuart Street
Helena, Montana
406-439-5187

Sincerely,

Karin Olsen-Billings
912 Stuart St Helena, MT 59601-2425
Grizmom4@gmail.com

From: [Carol Olson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:10:49 PM

I approve of district map #6 because it looks popularion equal and competitive.

From: [Carol Olson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:08:57 PM

I approve of redistricting map #8 because it looks competitive and the population looks equal.

From: [Kathrin Olson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 2 rep districts
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:19:27 PM

Hello,

When we learned we were to get another Representative, I asked a few political offices why we need to split the state into 2 districts rather than select the top 2 vote receivers in a statewide election. I never received an answer.

If in district 1, the candidate from party A gets 49% of votes and the one from party B gets 51%, then B represents district 1.

If in district 2, the candidate from party A gets 48% of votes and the one from party B gets 52%, then B represents district 2.

The outcome is party B has 100% of the power, but really is only supported by 48.5% of the voters. This seems very wrong to me.

Kathrin Olson
Bozeman

From: lucretia.o@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting comment
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 2:07:02 PM

Hello,

I submitted a comment through the online form but I'm not sure if it sent. I support maps 2, 6, and 8 of the redistricting options. These maps fairly split the population and give both parties a competitive chance. Thank you.

-Lucretia Olson

From: MDAC
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Albert D Olszewski MD
Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 9:19:09 AM

From: Albert D Olszewski MD
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

I support those maps that follow Montana law that requires equal distribution of our population east to west, and north to south. Furthermore, I disagree with any map that places Flathead county into the eastern district.

As a candidate for the Western congressional district and from Flathead county, placing the Flathead county into the eastern district is ELECTION MANIPULATION in order to remove the only two republican candidates in the district 2 republican primary from that district.

Therefore, I support the following maps in this order: 1) map 5; 2) map 1; 3) map 3; and, 4) map 7.

Respectfully,
Dr. Al Olszewski

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov]
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From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Alisa Opar
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 2:06:08 PM

From: Alisa Opar alisaopar@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Im a Missoula resident who was born and raised in Montana.

I believe that keeping communities of interest and minimizing splitting are essential, as is not unduly favoring a political party and ensuring that districts are competitive.

I support map 6. It keeps reservations intact, keeps the vast majority of counties intact, equally splits the population, and does not favor a political party. I believe that map 6 best exemplifies the fair representation of our state.

Thank you for considering my input.

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cara Orban
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:17:08 PM

From: Cara Orban cara.orban@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
Hello,

My name is Cara Orban and I live in Helena with my family.

I think it is very important that we keep our districts competitive in order to maintain fair representation and encourage the very best candidates to run.

For this reason, I support map 9. Map 9 seems to be a good combination of different kinds of counties and the right population distribution.

Thank you for your work and your consideration.

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Taylor Orr
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:44:57 PM

From: Taylor Orr taylororr8@gmail.com
Residence: Stevensville

Message:

My name is Taylor Orr and I live in Ravalli County. Prior to moving to western Montana I ranched in Sweet Grass County.

It is most important for redistricting to not unduly favor a political party. The districts should be based on a fair process that represents Montana justly.

I support maps 6 and 9 because they best meet the criteria for fairness. The maps I chose best exemplify the goal of not unduly favoring a political party.

Thank you for your consideration.

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

October 18, 2021

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

Dear Honorable Commission Chair and Members,

Thank you all for your service on this important Commission. I have listened with interest to the broadcasts of the hearings you have held and appreciate the challenging work that has gone into creating nine options to consider in developing two new Congressional districts.

After reviewing each of the maps, as well as the legal criteria and non-mandatory goals that the Commission is to follow, I have concerns that none of the nine proposed maps truly creates two competitive districts state-wide. It appears that the maps that have been drawn continue to politically divide this state, instead of finding a way to represent the interests and common goals of all its citizens equitably and fairly, regardless of political party. Montana has been an independent state that has valued voices from all sides. The proposed nine maps however, in my view, continue to deepen the political divide instead of bringing us all together.

Instead of a vertical and traditional "boundary" where there is a western district and an eastern district, I would like the Commission to consider another option: that of a "north" district and a "south" district. My reasoning for this is that both districts would then equitably encompass urban and rural interests, timber, agriculture, recreation, tribal, mining, education, water rights, wildfire threats, etc. Our two new representatives need to represent what is important to the entire state - and all these communities of interest are a part of who we all are - not just a "west" side nor an "east" side. I am just as concerned about my neighbors in Malta, Fort Peck, Billings and Bozeman as I am about my neighbors in Missoula, Pablo, Libby, and Kalispell. The issues facing this state touch all of us - and I would like to see two districts created in such a way that neither political party has an "edge" or advantage over another - we need to use this process to bring us together, not further divide our beloved state.

Please consider and evaluate this new option against national and state Constitutional requirements as well as the non-mandatory goals the Commission has adopted. I do not know if it truly would "equalize" the competing interests between the two political parties

and be more representative of the people - however, the current proposed maps I believe do not create the fairness in the political process I would want this Commission to achieve.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

/s/ Joni Packard

Joni Packard
PO Box 1716
Lolo, MT 59847

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Suzi Kimzey Parsons
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 7:37:01 PM

From: Suzi Kimzey Parsons suzi@parsonsonies.com
Residence: Florence

Message:
Suzi Kimzey Parsons
retired teacher and owner at Parsons Pony Farm
Florence, MT resident for 27 years

It is most important to me not unduly favor a political party

After studying the maps, I support map 9.

Thanks for putting this project together to help us have a say in this important redistricting

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anthony Pavkovich
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:29:35 PM

From: Anthony Pavkovich as.pavkovich@gmail.com
Residence: Mc Leod

Message:
Hello,

My name is Anthony Pavkovich, of McLeod, and Montana has been home for most of my adult life.

I want to see competitive districts in the state. Having competitiveness keeps ideas flowing, neighbors talking and solutions being offered. As an independent, I want to hear as many good ideas as possible.

I support maps 6 and 9. I support these maps because they don't outright favor a particular party and keep districts complete.

Thank you for your time and for considering my comment.

--

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

From: [Susan Penner](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 10:19:30 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Susan Penner** <susangpenner60@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Oct 17, 2021 at 10:17 AM
Subject: redistricting maps
To: <districting@mt.gov>

I support the adoption of Map 8 because of its compliance with the constitution in creating competitive districts. Map 6 receives my second place endorsement.

I oppose any map that would split Gallatin County, as that would seem to be intentionally outside the constitutional mandate.

Sincerely,
Susan Penner
Bozeman, MT

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Nancy Pernigotti
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:30:47 AM

From: Nancy Pernigotti nmp@frontiermet.net
Residence: Libby

Message:

To whom it may concern:

I have reviewed the proposed redistricting maps, and I would encourage the committee to adopt Map 6. This proposal groups most of the large communities together, and keeps Libby and Troy connected to the other Hi-line communities. Libby may be located in western Montana but we have much more in common with places like Great Falls than we do with Missoula. I also like that this map seems to be drawn around already existing county lines and does not split communities and respects the boundaries of Montana's tribes.

--

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

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 8:45:00 AM

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

From: Aldrich, Ginger <KVAldrich@mt.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 8:30 AM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps

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

From: pamela Peterson <boydnp@icloud.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 16, 2021 7:19 PM
To: Aldrich, Ginger <KVAldrich@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps

I believe the new district must be competitive. The maps I think are best are(in descending order):
8,6,2,9,4.

Pamela Boyd
Missoula, Mt

Sent from my iPhone

From: brittybee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Britten Postma](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map That Meets Your Goals As a Commission
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 9:12:33 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Commissioners,

I'm writing to indicate that Map #2 should be reviewed the most and hopefully selected! This map keeps the population equal between the 2 districts and will be competitive. I like that it's the only proposal that doesn't split counties. I think this would be less confusing for folks and for campaigning. It also allows for one urban seat and one more rural seat that would be a great representation for Montana in the House of Representatives. Thanks so much for your time and hard work. Please make your decision wisely!

Sincerely,
Britten Postma
619 Hickory St Missoula, MT 59801-2643
brittybee@aol.com

From: scottprinzing@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Scott Prinzing](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: Please Choose Montana"s Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:58:25 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I strongly believe that only options 2, 4, 6, 7 and 8 meet all of the criteria. Options 1, 3, 5 and 7 clearly do not. I personally prefer option 4; with option 8 in a close second.

Sincerely,
Scott Prinzing
925 Delphinium Dr Billings, MT 59102-3411
scottprinzing@gmail.com

From: [The Rappleyes](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting MT
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 9:20:56 AM

My name is Courtney Paige Rappleye and I have been a working voter in the Flathead Valley since 2008.

I've been closely watching and reviewing as much information as I'm able about this redrawing of the district lines.

After reviewing each of the 8 maps, it seems that MAP #CP 8 is the most logical given that it is both competitive and it will allow for an equal population in both groupings.

Paige Rappleye
Kalispell, Montana

excuse my typos, sending this email from my mobile. ♀

From: ljmmc406@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lindsey Ratliff](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]You know what to do, Vote for 2!
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:34:06 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please choose map #2! It doesn't split up counties and keeps similar areas together.

Sincerely, Lindsey Ratliff
History Teacher and City Council Member

Sincerely,
Lindsey Ratliff
736 1st Ave Havre, MT 59501-4402
ljmmc406@gmail.com

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Comments from a voter and Montana citizen regarding the redistricting of Montana for two Congressional Districts
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:57:39 PM

From: Jane L Rectenwald <jrectenwald@me.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:25 PM
To: Susan Reneau <bluemountain@montana.com>
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtlet.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>; Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>; Aldrich, Ginger <KVAldrich@mt.gov>; Sherley, Laura <LSherley@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Comments from a voter and Montana citizen regarding the redistricting of Montana for two Congressional Districts

Using election results is meaningless because of ongoing machine manipulation. Using actual population residence is not only lawful, it's more accurate than anything to do with election results.
Jane

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 18, 2021, at 4:17 PM, Susan Reneau <bluemountain@montana.com> wrote:

Dear Appointed Officials Tasked with Drawing the Boundary Lines for two Montana Congressional Districts:

Since the deadline to submit written comments for the redistricting of our two Congressional districts is Oct. 19, I'm rushing to send this email to you. I hope others will use your emails to contact you today and tomorrow. Anyone in Montana can submit comments.

Logically, the highest population areas of Missoula, Kalispell Butte, Bozeman, Great Falls, Bozeman and Billings should be evenly divided between the two congressional districts along with the rural areas so all people in Montana are properly represented.

In that regard, as I look at the various map options, I prefer options CP1, CP3 and CP7 but seem to prefer CP3 the best because it looks like the most balanced. Some of the maps seem to have included all the cities or most of the cities in one of the districts and not the other, which will not be fair to the population. I looked at all the maps at <http://mtredistricting.gov>

[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](http://mtredistricting.gov) and reviewed that website. Several of the maps looked like commissioners were capturing how they thought voters voted in previous elections and not where voters lived, which violates law.

How certain areas of the state voted should not determine where you draw the map. The population distribution should determine the districts so that the most number of people in the state are properly represented.

I welcome comments to me from you. I am attending a funeral tomorrow so will not be able to attend your meeting in person in Helena that begins at 10 a.m. at State Capitol Room 102, but I hope the media will attend.

Please send me the connections so I can “attend” via ZOOM or telephone.

Susan Campbell Reneau
4 Martha’s Court
Missoula, MT 59803

bluemountain@montana.com

From: [Bonnie](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting MT Congressional Maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:26:21 PM

Dear Committee Members:

After reading through your goals which were set with the help of public input, I would like to see Map #2 become the redistricting map. It has one competitive district which would not unduly favor a certain political party. Also it does not divide counties. Unfortunately there are no simple solutions as it does divide the Flathead Reservation. Due to this, my second choice would be to use Map #8 which keeps a competitive district and does not divide the reservation. My biggest concern is maintaining a competitive district so we have fair elections.

Bonita Reishus
PO Box 123
14 Country Rd
Noxon, MT 59853
406-847-0109

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

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Comments from a voter and Montana citizen regarding the redistricting of Montana for two Congressional Districts
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:19:12 PM

From: Susan Reneau <bluemountain@montana.com>
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:16 PM
To: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtlet.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>; Kolman, Joe <jkolman@mt.gov>; Aldrich, Ginger <KVAldrich@mt.gov>; Sherley, Laura <LSherley@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments from a voter and Montana citizen regarding the redistricting of Montana for two Congressional Districts

Dear Appointed Officials Tasked with Drawing the Boundary Lines for two Montana Congressional Districts:

Since the deadline to submit written comments for the redistricting of our two Congressional districts is Oct. 19, I'm rushing to send this email to you. I hope others will use your emails to contact you today and tomorrow. Anyone in Montana can submit comments.

Logically, the highest population areas of Missoula, Kalispell Butte, Bozeman, Great Falls, Bozeman and Billings should be evenly divided between the two congressional districts along with the rural areas so all people in Montana are properly represented.

In that regard, as I look at the various map options, I prefer options CP1, CP3 and CP7 but seem to prefer CP3 the best because it looks like the most balanced. Some of the maps seem to have included all the cities or most of the cities in one of the districts and not the other, which will not be fair to the population. I looked at all the maps at <http://mtredistricting.gov> and reviewed that website. Several of the maps looked like commissioners were capturing how they thought voters voted in previous elections and not where voters lived, which violates law.

How certain areas of the state voted should not determine where you draw the map. The population distribution should determine the districts so that the most number of people in the state are properly represented.

I welcome comments to me from you. I am attending a funeral tomorrow so will not be able to attend your meeting in person in Helena that begins at 10 a.m. at State Capitol Room 102, but I hope the media will attend.

Please send me the connections so I can "attend" via ZOOM or telephone.

Susan Campbell Reneau
4 Martha's Court
Missoula, MT 59803

bluemountain@montana.com

From: youdancegirl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Riitano](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Map #CP 6
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:55:50 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello Districting and Apportionment Commission,

Thank you for conducting such important work to Montana as it'll be laying groundwork for our future and how our voice is heard and represented. I'm Mary Riitano, resident of East Helena, Montana for 30 years.

In reviewing the mapping available to choose, I selected Map #CP 6. What I appreciated about this mapping choice is that I feel it accomplishes good goals of population distribution whilst being sure that urban and rural Montana's are both covered in representation + keeps our Indian reservations in a whole piece to ensure their voice is heard.

All the best in your work!

Mary Riitano
PO Box 1708
E Helena MT 59635

Sincerely,
Mary Riitano
PO Box 1708 East Helena, MT 59635-1708
youdancegirl@hotmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mark Roberts
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:44:34 PM

From: Mark Roberts roberts@unb.ca
Residence: Superior

Message:

I am a Montana native, registered to vote in Montana (Mineral Co.), and lived the first 33 years of my life in Montana before becoming a permanent resident in Canada. I have family in Montana and close connections to friends there. In short, my heart is there and I maintain a keen interest in the well-being of the state.

I fully support the four goals that the redistricting commission agreed upon: not favoring any political party; minimizing splitting counties, towns and reservations; keeping communities of interest intact; and maintaining competitive districts. Certainly, all of these goals are important and must be taken seriously in any redistricting effort. I would not favor any effort to split counties, towns, reservations and communities of interest apart because that would signal be contrary to fair play and would invalidate the process.

I support maps 6 and 9 in this redistricting effort. I support maps 6 and 9 because they best fulfill the goals of minimizing political gerrymandering (attempting to create noncompetitive districts) in the process and logically connected geographic units (counties, towns, reservations, communities of interest) are maintained to the greatest degree.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment on the redistricting process and for your time in reviewing my comments and those of other Montanans.

--

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

From: [Nancy Rockwell](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:22:24 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hello, my name is Nancy Rockwell. My husband and I live in Dixon Montana, where we've lived for almost thirty years.

My biggest priority is minimizing splitting counties, towns, and reservations and I think maps 4, 6, 8, and 9 best achieves this.

Please choose map 4, 6, 8, or 9 to best support the fairness Montanans deserve.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to Montanans on this important topic.

Regards,
Nancy Rockwell
125 2nd St
Dixon, MT 59831

From: prosenleaf1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Rosenleaf](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:40:31 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Commissioners: I am asking you to vote for Proposed Map 2. It seems the most equitable of the 9 maps. It does not split counties, and by welcoming both a rural and urban member it would seem to represent most people. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Patricia Rosenleaf
618 30th St S Great Falls, MT 59405-3317
prosenleaf1@gmail.com

From: [Curt](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Districts
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 8:36:34 PM

You Have a difficult task. Population densities vary greatly across a large area. However, after much consideration I vote for Map 6 as the best way to represent all voters. Curtis Rosman, Charlo MT

From: caitlinsager@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Caitlin Sager](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 6:19:56 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear MT Districting and Apportionment Commission,

I am writing to support maps CP 2, CP 6, and CP 4 for the new congressional districting map. I think these maps represent a fair districting of the State because they represent roughly equal populations, give multiple economic interests (such as agriculture vs tourism and rural vs urban) the opportunity for representation, and reduce potential confusion by minimizing the number of counties that are split between districts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Caitlin Sager
2500 Clark Fork Ln Apt 312 Missoula, MT 59808-5467
caitlinsager@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Erica Sandiland
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:37 PM

From: Erica Sandiland emsandiland@hotmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Im Erica Sandiland and I live in Missoula MT. I was born, raised and continue to live in MT.

I think its important to have competitive districts in MT.

I support maps 6 and 8. These maps best meet the goals of the commission.

Thank you for your time and service!

--

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

From: [Linda Sauer](mailto:Linda.Sauer@mtleg.gov)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional District Maps
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 5:58:09 PM

Dear Committee Members:

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

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

CP-1 is the only map that best follows the intent of HB 506, which is the express will of the citizens of Montana. I believe that our Congressional districts must be formulated in accordance with HB 506. There appears to be an intention by members of the Commission to ignore the law and gerrymander the boundaries of the two Congressional districts. Map CP-1 best meets the criteria set out in law by HB506 Section 1, as noted above. Of the nine (9) maps submitted/created, five clearly violate HB 506 and favor the Democrats and disadvantage Republicans. This is blatant partisan gerrymandering and completely unacceptable. These maps are offensive to all Montanans who believe in fair play and the rule of law.

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

William Sauer

PO Box 264

Dayton, MT 59914

dcrwls@inetmt.com

406-849-5167

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gary Saurey
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 9:23:24 AM

From: Gary Saurey gsaurey@gmail.com
Residence: Rural Flathead County, Montana

Message:

Chairman and Members Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission:

I am a lifetime resident of Montana whose Great Grandparents settled in the Flathead Valley in 1891.

I have voted in every election over the last 55 years, except one or two missed while I was serving overseas in the US Navy. I consider myself an independent voter, and have split my vote, rarely voting along party lines. The idea that you can analyze a bunch of data and predict how a bunch of independent voters such as myself will vote based on past elections is crazy. So this notion of considering “competitiveness” as a criteria for drafting either Congressional or Legislative districts is nothing but partisan political nonsense and should be rejected.

I would also like reject the apparent notion of the Democrat appointees that they operate above the law, and answer to no one, including the legislature and people whom they serve and are accountable to. There should be no question that the Commission needs to act in accordance with Montana law unless and until such law is deemed unconstitutional.

Following are my comments on the nine proposals recently put forth by the Commission:

All maps submitted by Commissioners Lamson and Miller (CP 2, CP 4, CP 6, CP 8, and CP 9) should be rejected outright as clearly not meeting the mandatory criteria of compactness. While CP 9 seems to meet the criteria for the Western District, it is far from meeting it for the Eastern District.

Of the maps submitted by Commissioners Essmann and Stusek, CP 1 seems to me closest to the ideal map, best meeting all mandatory criteria. My only suggestion would be that all of Gallatin County should be placed in the Eastern District. As the fastest growing area in the state, placing it in the more sparsely populated Eastern District could avoid more drastic boundary adjustments in the future. Perhaps Liberty County and more of the western part of Cascade County could be included in the Western District, or the requirement of population deviation could be adjusted slightly with the expectation that the growth in Gallatin County would cause the Eastern District to catch up in population in a relatively short time. The second best map is CP 7, following more accurately the traditional view of Western and Eastern Montana. The other two maps, CP 3 and CP 5 are less preferable, but still vastly superior to all the maps submitted by Lamson and Miller.

--

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

From: [Mark Savinski](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed redistricting maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:10:55 PM

I have reviewed all of the proposed maps for Montana's new 2nd Congressional District and am supportive of the following maps: Numbers 8, 6, 2, 9 and 4. The two proposals I support the most are: Numbers 8 and 4. Thank you for your consideration with this extremely important matter. I believe the proposed maps I personally favor would make for a competitive and fair Congressional District for both of the major political parties. Thank you again for your consideration of my opinion. Mark Savinski, 25 Sundowner Road, Sheridan, MT 59749.

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

From: [Norma Scheidecker](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Congressional Districts
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 8:35:47 PM

For the record I would like to see implementation of Proposal 8 map. I feel it important to include the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Reservations. The size and delineation as shown in the map encompasses several communities of sizeable population; includes land use areas of timber and farm land; so is representative of what Montana has to offer.

Thank you.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ruth Schelin
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 9:53:10 AM

From: Ruth Schelin ruthschelin@yahoo.com
Residence: Butte MT

Message:

I have read the requirements that each district must meet and my choice would be map #8. It meets the requirements of the Montana code. It meets the population requirement, The districts are contiguous and compact. It does the best job of keeping communities of interest together. It is also the most competitive map and the only competitive North/South map.

Thank you for your time.

Ruth Schelin
Butte, MT

--

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

From: [DIANNA SCHMID](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:49:03 PM

Fellow Montanans,

We would like to express our support for Map #CP4 of the nine under consideration.

Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,
Dianna Schmid & Kel Snyder
223 Mansion Heights Drive
Missoula, MT 59803

From: [Kathy Schmidt](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map choices
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:24:37 AM

I appreciate that your districting project is a hard one. My choices for districts to represent all Montana voices and ones that split reservations and counties the least, are competitive, and equal in populations are:

Maps 6, 8, 9

From: pschmidt1604@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Margaret Schmidt](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Choose Our Congressional Map With Care
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 7:54:51 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Commissioners,

I urge you to vote for map # CP 9. Here's why. The two districts have equal population, no Indian reservations would be split, there would be one rural and one urban district for better balance and the two districts would be competitive.

Thank you for reading this.

Sincerely,
Margaret Schmidt
806 W Hallmark Ln Missoula, MT 59801-8678
pschmidt1604@gmail.com

From: behapp2@hotmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP2
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 8:16:02 PM

My name is Andy Shott and I have lived in Montana since 1978. I looked at all the proposed maps and i believe that CP2 is the one that works best for all Montanans. By including all the reservations in one district it gives them a good opportunity to have influence. This is something that they have never had and I believe it is time for them to have a stronger voice in MT and National politics.

This district also splits no counties which is also a good idea.

Thank you,
Andy Shott
Missoula, MT

From: boxcanyon15@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jeff Schultz](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]I support district map CP #8
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:45:00 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I would like to voice my support for district map CP#8. I believe this map would help guarantee that all elected representatives would be accountable to a wide range of Montanans.

Thank you for your time.

Jeff Schultz,
Belgrade, Montana

Sincerely,
Jeff Schultz
211 N Davis St Belgrade, MT 59714-3820
boxcanyon15@aol.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Anne Schumacher
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:45:03 PM

From: Anne Schumacher annebenschumacher@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

I am Anne Schumacher from Bozeman, MT.

I agree with all four goals agreed upon by the Commission. I believe not unduly favoring a political party is the most important of the goals.

I support either map 6 or 9. Both of those maps best achieve the goals of the Commission compared with the others.

Thank you for your service to Montana in serving on the Commission.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Darien G Scott
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 2:19:53 PM

From: Darien G Scott darien637@msn.com

Residence: Helena

Message:

I really like Proposal 2 -CP 2 as the best choice for re-districting Montana. Its biggest advantage is that it doesn't split any counties. All of the other maps, split counties, which would make it very hard for the various precincts and election judges.

--

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

From: [Pat Scott](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] new districting
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:27:58 PM

Hello,

I have looked over the maps, and the only ones that look fair to me are number 6, and number 8. They both represent an equal population number, and are competitive. I am against gerry meandering of any form that favors one party over another in any form.

Thanks for all your hard work on this!

Sincerely,

Pat Scott

Glen Montana

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Stephen Seninger
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:05 PM

From: Stephen Seninger steve.seninger@business.umt.edu
Residence: Missoula

Message:

My name is Steve Seninger and I live at 9601 Cedar Ridge Road, Missoula, 59804. I have resided in Montana since 1995 when I moved here to live and raise my family in one of the best states in the United States. I have travelled throughout the state from Plentywood to Darby to Eureka to Ekalaka, Montana. I've have had the opportunity to talk and meet folks from different backgrounds, opinions, and means of livelihood. I think all of us fellow Montanans need fair representation of our diverse opinions and positions in every election—local, state, and national.

Fair and equal representation that does not unduly favor one political party over another is my top priority in creating a new Congressional District and for the important opportunity of Montana to have a second national voice in the U.S. House of Representatives. Minimizing geographic splitting of counties, towns and American Indian reservations is also an important part of my top priority.

I support Map 6. It will best ensure equal and fair representation of Montana voters, will keep important geographic areas intact, and provide a competitive electoral process. Map 6 will ensure an equal voice for all Montanans in the U.S. House of Representatives maintaining our tradition of free and competitive elections.

I thank the Commission for all the hard work you have done in providing Montanans with a set of choices for our new Congressional District and for taking time to review my comment along with other comments.

--

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

Jon C. Sesso
811 W. Galena St.
Butte, MT 59701

October 18, 2021

Maylinn Smith, Presiding Officer
Montana Districting and Apportionment Committee
Commissioners Essman, Lamson, Miller and Stusek

Presiding Officer Smith:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments on your arduous task of formulating the new Congressional districts for Montana. I am out of the state this week, hence will be unable to attend the October 19 hearing and present my comments in person.

First, let me commend you all for the collaborative effort to date, particularly in setting laudable goals and making commitments to follow the criteria set forth in the Montana Constitution. In preparing my comments, it was helpful to focus on both those mandatory criteria as well as the goals you set forth.

Getting right to it, I would recommend Map #9, with one concern regarding Tribal representation. It appears Map #6 can address my concern. In my opinion, the proposed districts presented in Map #9 best represent our State and meet the criteria and goals. The districts are equal in population, are compact and contiguous, do not favor a political party, minimize county splits (only one slight deviation in Missoula Co.), keep communities of interest intact, and would appear to allow for competitive elections.

Of keen interest to me is how well Map #9 sets geographic boundaries for two districts that include communities that share common socioeconomic concerns. Having served 16 years as a legislator from southwest Montana, and much of that time as a Leader in both the House and Senate, I know from direct experience how the cities and towns, and counties proposed for inclusion in District 1 of Map #9 have worked together to advance common objectives, i.e., how the trade areas, transportation and communication networks are linked, etc. I think the same can be said for the proposed District 2 as well.

My one concern with Map #9 is it does not include the Flathead Reservation. It is important for ensuring Tribal representation in both congressional districts. Toward that end, I'd support Map #6 which includes the Flathead Reservation in District 1. Map #6 also has almost all the attributes I discuss above regarding Map #9 and also includes the reservation.

Thank you for your consideration of my input. Stay the course, stick to your goals, and do us all proud by drawing the districts that best represent our great state.

Sincerely,

Jon C. Sesso

From: rachel.severson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rachel Severson](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Input on Montana's Congressional Map
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 11:06:00 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear commissioners,

Thank you for your thoughtful work on the congressional maps. I would like to lend my voice in support of Map 4, which appears to meet the goals of the commission.

Thanks for your consideration.

Best,
Rachel

Sincerely,
Rachel Severson
4870 Wornath Rd Missoula, MT 59804-9604
rachel.severson@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Joseph Seymour
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 6:22:01 PM

From: Joseph Seymour joseph.d.seymour@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

I urge you to choose redistricting map cp2 as it is geographically and population balanced and generates competitive districts. Do not poison our democracy with more gerrymandering and arbitrary splitting of counties. Do the right thing for our country and state, not your political party.

--

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

From: lizshoenslater@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Liz Shoen-Slater](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:38:51 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commissioners -

I am a Montana resident in Missoula County. I am asking you to support Map CP 2.

I want equal representation for our state in the US Congress and only Map CP 2 meets the following criteria:

CP 2 represents equal populations.

CP 2 maintains county boundaries.

CP 2 is contiguous.

CP 2 has a district that is competitive.

The other maps do not meet these criteria and do not create a fair opportunity for the citizens in those districts to have equal representation.

Thank you for carefully considering my request.

Sincerely,
Liz Shoen-Slater
205 Benton Ave Missoula, MT 59801-8725
lizshoenslater@gmail.com

From: [Jeannie Siegler](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Maps being considered for redistricting for Congressional seats
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:23:22 AM

Dear Commissioners,

I would support Maps 2,4,6,8,9 as they are equal in population and competitive in terms of Republican and Democrat representation. I realize this population dispersion may change over time, but the fact that a census is done every 10 years will allow for careful reconsideration should new population dispersion occur.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Chris Siegler

19475 Conifer Dr.

Huson, MT 59846

From: skillenrobison@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Glenda Skillen-Robison](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Montana's Congressional Map
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 12:16:44 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I write to let you know that I am in favor of Map #2 for congressional districting. Map #2 is competitive, it balances the population, it keeps reservations intact, and it is the only county that doesn't split a county -- this is important to voters. Please consider keeping our counties intact for congressional districting.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Glenda Skillen-Robison
Hysham

Sincerely,
Glenda Skillen-Robison
PO Box 213 Hysham, MT 59038-0213
skillenrobison@hotmail.com

From: martyvsmith13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Martha Smith](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Insure that Montana Has a Fair Representative Map
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 2:21:52 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Dear Commissioners,

I am a retired senior citizen living in Missoula and welcome this opportunity to, in a small way, contribute to the future of fair and competitive voting opportunities in our state. I strongly urge you to select option 2 as it meets your criteria. is compact, splitting no counties, and allows for a community of interest. I note that options 1, 3, 5, and 7 fail to meet your criteria and, on that basis alone, should be eliminated. I believe that having an urban seat and a rural seat will represent the diverse interests of Montana and contribute to voters feeling that our vote counts.

Sincerely,

Martha Smith

11575 Chumrau Loop Missoula, MT 59802-9542

martyvsmith13@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Paula L Smith
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:46 PM

From: Paula L Smith paulabobsmithmt@gmail.com
Residence: Bigfork

Message:

I am Paula L Smith. My husband, Robert E Smith, Jr and I have lived in Bigfork, MT since 2003. I am an alumnus of the University of Montana and have lived and worked in Montana at different stages of my life.

All 4 goals are very important. However, having districts that are competitive matters the most in maintaining and advancing our form of government.

I support, and my spouse supports, Map 6. We chose Map 6 because it best meets the criteria for Competitiveness.

We appreciate the consideration of the Redistricting Commission of our selected map.

--

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

From: southerg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Glen Southergill](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]In support of Map CP#9
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 5:15:37 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear Commission,

I write as a Montana Voter deeply appreciative of your work. Ultimately, the congressional map can help ensure our citizens are appropriately represented in Congress.

To that end, I wish to share that I am especially interested in Map CP#9. To the best of my knowledge, it meets the criterion established in July, and is competitive and population equal. But while there are other alternatives that meet those same general goals, Map CP#9 best represents urban and rural perspectives.

I live and work in Butte, a highly livable city that has been kind to my family and me. Many of my colleagues work or live in much more rural areas. Ensuring that our representatives to Congress must speak to and respond to each setting is very important to me.

Again, thank you for your work and for considering my perspective.

Sincerely,
Glen Southergill
1200 Steele St Butte, MT 59701-2138
southerg@gmail.com

From: [S.O. SPEER](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 1:04:03 PM

I support map number CP 4
Sally Speer

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:Mail [go.microsoft.com]) for Windows 10

From: [Susie Spindler](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re-districting map
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:40:51 PM

The maps are really confusing and there are several that are so biased or unbalanced with population or toward one party that it is ridiculous

#2 might be the easiest and most likely the least confusing and expensive due to maintaining county lines but #8 is more fair partly because this seems to be where the population is moving, it splits all ethnic groups evenly- especially native americans and it seems fair and competitive even though it splits up some counties. In this case I support #8 over ease.

Thank you-
Susie Spindler

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kristi Stacy
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:47:18 AM

From: Kristi Stacy krististacy04@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

I think you should adopt map 2. Having reviewed all of the maps I think this is the best choice because it will keep Montana balanced and competitive. Eastern and western Montana are very different places. Under this map the larger cities in Montana like Missoula and Bozeman would share one district, and the small rural communities would share one district. This divide seems like it would lead to more fair representation where both people in rural and urban areas of the state will have a strong voice in Congress.

--

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

From: lbcurlw@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Stadum](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map CP4 or CP8
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 6:11:17 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Please consider moving forward maps CP4 or 8 ONLY. These maps should be considered as they: do not unduly favor a political party; do minimize division of cities, towns, counties and federal reservations between two districts when possible; do keep communities of interest intact; and they do take into account competitiveness of districts. Maps CP1,3,5, and 7 DO NOT meet the aforementioned criteria stated above.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Stadum
1718 Walnut St Helena, MT 59601-1156
lbcurlw@gmail.com

From: [Joan Steelquist](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:48:24 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Joan Bessac Steelquist. I grew up in Missoula, left for college and settled in Seattle. I've recently returned (2017) to be the circle of safety around my elderly mother. My husband and I built a house next to her's, engaging with local architects and builders. My husband has become active with the BSA and I have become active with musical groups. We are looking forward to becoming more active in conserving our public lands, our diverse communities and our independent outlooks.

My biggest priority is ensuring competitive districts

I support 4,6,8 and 9.

Thank you. I appreciate your service.

Regards,
Joan Steelquist
501 Alvina Dr
Missoula, MT 59802

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patti Steinmuller
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:35 PM

From: Patti Steinmuller psteinmul@msn.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

I have lived in Bozeman for 6 years and in Gallatin County for 30 years. I moved from rural Gallatin Gateway to Bozeman 6 years ago. My husband and I chose to move here for the high quality of life including multiple recreational, educational, medical, and social opportunities of Montana.

I think it's very important to chose a map that is drawn with at least one district that is competitive politically. Constituents and elected officials are most likely to listen to and consider the varied interests within the district when making decisions when districts are competitive politically.

When possible tribes should not be split since their share common interests. Tribal interests will be better served if tribal interests are represented in both districts.

Large counties such as Gallatin should not be split since county residents share common interests, especially in their County government and other issues that affect the entire county.

Since Missoula and Bozeman share the commonality of having large population of college age students, presentation of Missoula and Bozeman in the same district would enhance their ability to bring common interests to the attention of legislators.

I support maps 9, 8, 6, and 4. I think these maps are the best at keeping communities of interest in the same district, split counties and towns less, and are most competitive politically.

Thanks you for considering my comments.

--

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

From: [Tim Stevens](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 9:15:38 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Tim Stevens. I've lived in MT for 30 yrs

My biggest priority is ensuring competitive districts

I support maps 4 6,8 and 9

Thank you for your consideration

Regards,
Tim Stevens
315 N 3rd St
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Donna K Stone
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 8:40:33 PM

From: Donna K Stone stonedb1@hotmail.com

Residence: KALISPELL

Message:

Why are all choices so similar? And why was not even one North/South division, i.e. East/West dividing line, considered?

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rosemary Stoudt
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:23:23 PM

From: Rosemary Stoudt ras120656@yahoo.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:
Hi

My name is Rosemary Stoudt and I have lived in Missoula since 1985.

Redistricting not to favor a political party is important for our representative democracy. Please make sure the commission is completely fair in this regard.

I don't want to see the splitting of counties, towns or reservations. Please keep communities intact and maintain competitive districts intact as well.

Please support maps 6 and 9 as I feel these represent the people and democracy the best. These maps don't favor a political party and they minimize the splitting of counties, town, and reservations, keeping communities of interest intact with competitive districts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Bonnie Streeter
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:07:43 PM

From: Bonnie Streeter streeterbonniej@gmail.com
Residence: Whitefish

Message:

I am Bonnie Streeter. I am a retired school teacher who was raised near West Glacier. I taught high school and junior high science in both eastern and western Montana for 34 years and now live between Whitefish and Kalispell

It is incredibly important when choosing our new congressional map that we select a choice which does not unduly favor a political party. Our politicians seem to spend too much time trying to get elected and criticizing opponents rather than considering what is best for the most people.

I support maps 6 and 9. Both of these maps represent divisions which do not unduly favor a political party. They both also minimize separating counties, towns and reservations.

Thank you for taking time to read and review my comments.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Judith Strom
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:43:00 PM

From: Judith Strom spanieltracker@gmail.com
Residence: Whitehall

Message:

I'm a 50+ year resident of Montana – 10 years in eastern Montana and currently in the SW part of the state. I'm an avid outdoorswoman – hunter and hiker.

I feel strongly that our districts must be competitive not favoring any group unduly and keeping our reservations and communities intact.

I find that maps 6 and 9 followed by 2 and 8 meet those goals. Maps 1,3,5 and 7 do NOT meet these goals. Maps 6 and 9 minimize the splitting of counties and reservations while keeping the districts competitive.

Thank you for considering my comments.

--

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

From: [Jan Strout](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of Redistricting Map #2
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 6:40:26 PM

Dear Montana Redistricting Commission Members,

I urge you to adopt this map because it has the criteria that our Montana Constitution set forth to ensure our elections are fair, equal and follow the integrity of County lines.

We hope this Map #2 can increase the diversity of inclusion and representation in our state and bring more voices and perspectives to the table of decision-making.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jan Strout, President,
Montana Chapter of the National Organization for Women
Bozeman, Montana
406/404-1198

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

From: [Michael Sugarman, MD](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:13:06 PM

Dear Commisioners,

Thank you for providing a list of finalists for the redistricting for the return of our second US Congressional seat. As a Montanan, I am happy to see that population and competitiveness are the headline variables. I would like to stress that district lines should attempt to honor both of these variables in such a way that contiguous county boundaries are maintained in a manner for the people of Montana to determine the outcome of any election and not the process of redistricting. Please recognize your duty to maintain our constitutional democracy by maintaining competitiveness in our process.

Best,

Michael Sugarman, MD
Kalispell

Sent from my iPhone

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From: [Paul Sullivan](#)
To: [Joe Lamson](#)
Subject: [spam]Redistricting Maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:34:35 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I am Paul D Sullivan, Sr., and have lived for 38 years at 144 Lake Hills Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911

My biggest priority is not unduly favoring a political party

I support maps 4, 6, 8 and 9.

Thank you so much for your service in working on these maps which is such a political "hot potato." I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Regards,
Paul Sullivan
144 Lake Hills Dr
Bigfork, MT 59911

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Roger Sullivan
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:26:39 PM

From: Roger Sullivan rsullivanmt@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

Dear Commissioners,

First, thank you for your service to the citizens of Montana. I have lived in the Flathead Valley for the last 44 years and have witnessed several cycles of reapportionment, from two congressional districts, to one, and now back to two. I have been following your proceedings and applaud your work to date.

I strongly support the Commission's 4 stated goals. A competitive two party system is essential to both fair representation of a range of views and to the maintenance of our system of checks and balances.

In my estimation, maps 6 and 9 best meet the goals the Commission is attempting to achieve. These two maps achieve minimize the splitting of counties, towns and reservations, keep communities of interest intact—and result in competitive districts.

Thank you for your service, and thank you for your consideration of my thoughts and concerns.

--

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

From: tsullivan2096@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tim Sullivan](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Support for CP 9
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:58:27 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear commissioners,

First, thank you for efforts with this undertaking and your commitment to public service. After carefully reviewing the nine proposed maps, I strongly urge you to consider CP 9. This map meets the goals established by the commission in that it takes into account equal population, competitive elections, compactness, and considers keeping communities of interest intact.

As a resident of Gallatin County, I specifically object to each of the proposed maps that split our county in an effort to create equal population between two congressional districts. Faced with unprecedented growth and development, Gallatin County will continue to navigate shared struggles and successes in the coming years. Needlessly disadvantaging our county politically will only impose further strain on our county's residents as we work to build a better future.

With this said, I recognize that CP 9 does in fact divide Missoula County. I believe, however, that this division makes more sense given that it better creates a compact district that contains an equal split of our state's population. Additionally, this district would include the cities of Missoula and Bozeman, which, in housing our state's two largest universities, have shared interests that are vital to our state's current and future economy.

Once again, I would like to voice my support for CP 9.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Tim Sullivan
4689 Bembrick St Apt 1A Bozeman, MT 59718-9230
tsullivan2096@gmail.com

From: boisejoyce@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joyce Swartzendruber](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 5:30:28 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the new district maps. I worked for the U.S. Census last year in order to ensure that Montana could be better represented in Congress. Now, help us ensure that we have at least one competitive district for Montanans to hear the proposals and ideas of different congressional candidates.

I support option 8 as the best choice for Montana. I would also support options 2 and 6.

Joyce Swartzendruber
Bozeman

Sincerely,
Joyce Swartzendruber
3015 Ritter Dr Bozeman, MT 59715-2002
boisejoyce@gmail.com

From: [Will Swearingen](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Proposed Congressional Redistricting Maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 9:24:21 PM

Honorable Commissioners:

I am writing to express my opinion on the nine "finalist" maps proposed for creating two Congressional Districts in Montana. I have lived in Gallatin County for over 30 years and have a strong interest in ensuring that this redistricting effort is fair and equitable. I have studied the proposed maps carefully.

-- Maps 1, 3, 5, and 7 should be eliminated from further consideration because they would create two solidly Republican or Republican-leaning districts, contradicting one of the key redistricting criteria: "considering the competitiveness of districts." Maps 2, 6, and 8 do the best job of creating one competitive district (with the other solidly Republican or Republican-leaning).

-- In addition, Maps 1, 3, and 7 should be eliminated from consideration because they would divide Gallatin County, which contradicts one of the key redistricting criteria: "keeping communities of interest intact." Map 5 also fails in terms of this criterion, because it would place Gallatin County in the eastern district, separating it from its logical home in the western district (for example, Bozeman and Missoula share many interests as the homes of the state's major universities).

In sum, in light of the above considerations, I urge you to adopt one of the following maps: 2, 6, or 8,

Sincerely,
Will Swearingen

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ruth Swenson
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:52:16 PM

From: Ruth Swenson ruthannaswenson@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:
Good Evening

My name is Ruth Swenson and I live in Helena, Montana. I graduated from MSU, Bozeman and have lived in Helena since 1974.

I support the four goals that the Commission has adopted: not favoring a political party; keeping city, towns and reservations in one district; keeping communities of interest intact; and competitive districts. Thank you for working for these goals.

Maps 6 and 9 meet the commissions four goals. Maps 6 and 9 meet the commission's four goals of not favoring a political party, keeping communities and interest groups together and competitive districts.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the congressional district maps.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Tauscher Debbie
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:34 PM

From: Tauscher Debbie debtauscher@gmail.com
Residence: Butte

Message:

My name is Debbie Tauscher

I lived in Butte, MT & was born & raised in Butte & raised my family of 4 here.

I want to keep the state I love free from the hazards that strip our state of its resources & leaves an enormous mess to clean forever. That defies party politics.

Have not seen any maps. No maps seen. Cannot answer.

Please provide me with the maps to review.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Claire Thornburgh
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:40:33 PM

From: Claire Thornburgh cthornburgh@live.com
Residence: Butte

Message:

Hello. My name is Claire Thornburgh. I live in uptown Butte. I am for a fair redistricting in Montana. Maps 2, 6 or 8 seem best with 6 as my choice. Please consider the citizens of Montana as you make your decision.

I am mostly concerned that one party will use this opportunity to double their voice in federal government and leave the rest voiceless.

I prefer map 6, please. I am against 1,3,5 and 7. My chosen maps do the best at not favoring one political party.

Thank you for your time and service to our state.

--

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

From: [John Thorson](#)
To: Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mt.leg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Congressional Redistricting - Map 6
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 10:12:54 AM

Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the congressional redistricting proposals.

We urge you to adopt Map 6 as it creates districts of equal population, respects political and reservation boundaries except in minor instances, and creates a competitive district.

Thank you for your diligent work.

Judge (ret.) John E. Thorson
Karen M. Thorson
376 River Road West
Plains, MT 59859

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: John Todd
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:56:30 PM

From: John Todd johnptodd03@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:
Dear Commissioners,

My name is John Todd and my family and I live in Gallatin County.

I support your agreed upon goals of not unduly favoring political parties and minimizing splitting counties, towns and reservation. I would encourage you to avoid splitting those communities of interest entirely to create a fair and equitable map

That's why I support maps 6 and 9. These maps support your goals while maintaining competitive districts and fair elections into the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kathleen Tonkovich
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 9:47:32 PM

From: Kathleen Tonkovich kathtk@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman MT

Message:

Do not split Gallatin County. Gallatin County should be in the Western division, as there are commonalities with growing mountain towns with universities, high tourist visitation, and significant tech jobs. Gallatin constituents have little in common with the eastern part of the state. Gallatin County (& Park County, for that matter) should be represented by the western part of the state.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gail Trenfield
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:38:31 PM

From: Gail Trenfield 57pogeno@gmail.com
Residence: Saint Ignatius

Message:

I am Gail Trenfield, from St. Ignatius, and I moved to Montana in 1982 because I loved the natural beauty, the Montana State Constitution, and the people – who, unlike anywhere I had ever lived, seemed to be able to think independently and discuss differences in a civil fashion.

Over the years I have lived in Montana, the amicable relationship between political parties has become wildly competitive, and this has greatly harmed our communities, public policies, and even our individual relationships. It will be a tragedy if redistricting is even perceived to favor one party. Please avoid this at all costs.

I support Redistricting Map 6. I am hopeful that this map will give us one representative from each party.

I want to thank all of you for the time and energy you have put into this.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Amber Truitt
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:38:30 PM

From: Amber Truitt ambertruitt@hotmail.com
Residence: Lolo

Message:

Hello, my name is Amber and I was born and raised in western Montana. I am a Blackfeet native and currently live in Lolo.

I think splitting towns would be hardest on a community but it would impact a reservation as well.

I support maps 2&6 My family is from Hot Springs originally so I know the issues in Sanders county well. The way these two maps are split would work well.

Thank you!

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Fran Tucker
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:38:31 PM

From: Fran Tucker fmtucker2@yahoo.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

My name is Fran Tucker. I live in Missoula Mt.

My main concern is making sure that these maps do not favor a political party. Montana needs to keep districts as balanced as possible

I believe that Maps 6 & P fulfill the Commissions criteria as closely as possible I think these 2 maps are the best applications of the goals I had not realized how splitting counties, towns, and reservations could influence voting rights

I am so grateful for the time and thought to Commission put into these considerations

--

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

From: ksevershoorz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karl Unterschuetz](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 11:05:09 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

I prefer map 4.
Thank you for the work.

Sincerely,
Karl Unterschuetz
4870 Wornath Rd Missoula, MT 59804-9604
ksevershoorz@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patricia Urie
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 7:40:42 PM

From: Patricia Urie pattyurie@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Please consider Map CP-1 as the logical, responsible choice in redistricting this beautiful State we live in. It should be done properly, responsibly, and not skewed toward any particular people or political party. It must be done with fairness to protect the voice of all people fairly and in an equitable manner. Map CP-1 is the best choice. Thank you.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mark Van Loon
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 9:02:03 PM

From: Mark Van Loon mark.inthewoods@gmail.com
Residence: Hamilton, MT

Message:
Comments to Redistricting Committee

As an Independent, I look for leadership that is focused on problem solving. The task of the Redistricting Committee is just that. It's a vast understatement to say that I am disappointed in the effort put forth by the Republicans on the Committee. Rather than try to solve the puzzle equitably, the Republicans chose to ignore the Committee's goals and to seek partisan advantage. In short, cheat to win. And why? Montana is already a majority Republican state so the advantage is already there. And there was no need to divide counties, towns and communities. The Democrat's 5 proposals didn't. It's because of this unacceptable blatant attempt by Republicans to not honor the process and to try to build in partisan advantage that I must reject all 4 Republican proposals – #1, #3, #5, #7.

Of the remaining proposals, I will give you my choices in ranked order – Most favored to Least favored:

#9 – Most favored
#8
#4
#2
#6 – Least favored

I imagine unravelling the favored choices of the engaged electorate to be a daunting task and therefore hope that by providing more information rather than less, it helps your tally.

Sincerely,

Mark Van Loon, Hamilton MT

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Alexis Van Pernis
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:07:25 PM

From: Alexis Van Pernis vanpernis.a@gmail.com

Residence: Livingston

Message:

My name is Alexis Van Pernis and I live in Livingston, Montana.

I'm writing today to emphasize how important it is that redistricting maps favor keeping together counties and not favoring one party over the other. It makes sense to me that we shouldn't split towns into multiple districts. Voting is already confusing enough without making neighbors have to choose from a different slate of candidates. And competitive districts hold candidates accountable by making sure that they're winning over voters with policies that really will work for the majority.

I think map number 9 best reflects my concerns as well as map 6 and map 2. They all prioritized keeping counties together to minimize voter confusion.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: April Verboven
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:50:09 PM

From: April Verboven jjverbqovwn@gmail.com
Residence: Condon

Message:

Im April Verboven and I live in Condon, I was born in MT and am now raising my daughter here, its a great state and Id like to see it continue to be for her. We have a lot of resources that are special and Id like to see them managed well.

The most important issue for me is keeping this fair, I do not want it to favor one party over another, we need to keep these seats competitive!

Maps 6 and 9 have my strong support. Like I said I do not want these districts to favor a political party, Id like to see counties and reservations stay intact. All of Montana does better when there are checks and balances, and when parties have to work to be elected and re-elected, this state is filled with folks with a wide range of priorities, lets reflect that in our re-districting!

Thank your for your time and consideration!

--

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

From: [Sjaan Vincent](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Last Chance To Weigh In On Redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 6:19:18 PM

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

CC: Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov, Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov, Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov, Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov,
Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
SUBJECT: Proposed Congressional District Maps

Dear Members of the Districting Commission:

I am a citizen of the state of Montana and I am submitting this email as my written testimony to express my opinion regarding the upcoming decision to be made by the Commission concerning the proposed Congressional Districts. I respectfully request it be made a part of the official record of the Commission and be considered during your deliberations. I have reviewed the various maps and believe that Map CP-1 <https://leg.mt.gov/content/Districting/2020/Maps/Congressional/Commission-Proposals/cp1-congressional-october-19.pdf> [na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com] is the most appropriate choice for Montana in that it follows the law established in House Bill 506 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/2021/HB0599/HB0506_X.pdf [na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com] passed during the most recent session of our Legislature.

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

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

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

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

Your name Sjaan Vincent

Address. 42964 Ridgeway Road Charl, MT 59824

Email address sjaanvincent@live.com

Telephone number 406 644 2863

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ross Vogelsberg
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:40:04 PM

From: Ross Vogelsberg timmm@mso.umt.edu
Residence: Alberton

Message:

Ross Vogelsberg, I live in Alberton, MT and have been here for 26 years,

I appreciate the 4 goals of the commission.

Of the maps offered maps 6 and 9 appear to best meet the criteria. Maps 6 and 9 appear to minimize splitting counties, towns and reservations, and avoid favoring one political party.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gail Waldby
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:41:19 PM

From: Gail Waldby gwaldby@pat7.com
Residence: Livingston

Message:

Hello

My name is Gail Waldby. I live in Livingston Montana.

Our districts must not unduly favor a political party. They should keep communities of interest intact. They should be competitive.

I support maps 4 and 8. Maps 4 and 8 do not unduly favor a political party. They keep communities of interest intact. They are population equal. They produce competitive districts.

Thank you for considering my comment.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Shannon Walden
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:51:41 PM

From: Shannon Walden swaldenfb@gmail.com
Residence: Helena

Message:

Hello

I am Shannon Walden. I've lived my life in Montana. I have lived in Cascade, Great Falls, Bozeman, Judith Gap, Fort Benton and currently, Helena.

The distracting should be fair and allow representation of ALL Montanans

To this end I support maps 6 and 9. I would prefer no districts and ranked choice but since I don't rule the world, I support 6 and 9.

Thank you for your time.

Best wishes

--

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

From: nodrial47@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Donovan Walker](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]HCP 4 Apportionment map
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 7:42:30 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.I think map is best for Montana. It does not split towns or counties. I think most have similar interests.

Sincerely,
Donovan Walker
312 W 10th St Libby, MT 59923-1834
nodrial47@icloud.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jessie Walthers
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 7:00:43 PM

From: Jessie Walthers jessie.walthers@gmail.com
Residence: Bigfork, MT

Message:

I encourage the state to follow the mandatory criteria of the state construction in redistricting. Please follow these guidelines and not political views. Thank you!

-Jessie Walthers

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Patience Warchief
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:48:45 AM

From: Patience Warchief safire1031@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula MT

Message:

I think map #2 is best. I live in Missoula and to me it makes sense to keep the larger communities like Missoula and Bozeman together. We have many of the same issues like affordable housing. Also the tribal communities are consolidated into one district making sure that native peoples have a voice in Congress.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lizabeth Watson
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:41:18 PM

From: Lizabeth Watson liz@kinsites.com
Residence: East Glacier Park Village

Message:

My name is Liz Watson. I have lived in East Glacier Park, Montana, for 21 years.

The goal that matters most to me is not unduly favoring a political party.

I support map 9. It appears to me to be a fair, equitable and sensible split

Thank you for your consideration.

--

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

From: jlweigand@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jennifer Weigand](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Please Choose Montana's Congressional Map Carefully
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 8:41:37 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hi. My name is Jennifer Weigand. I am a resident of the City of Helena and have lived in Montana for nearly 40 years. Montana is my home and I am excited that the State of Montana will have another voice in Congress. I am requesting that the commission use careful consideration when choosing districting for our new Congressional Districts. I believe it's important to ensure that the districting divides the state into equal populations as well as keeping communities of interest intact. It's important to minimize dividing cities and towns and keeping reservations whole. I believe Map #CP 4 best meets these goals.

I ask that you ensure equal representation for the state when making your districting decision. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Weigand
592 Cypress Rd Helena, MT 59602-9442
jlweigand@yahoo.com

From: nwhearty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Niki Whearty](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Feedback on redistricting maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 4:37:18 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

My name is Niki Whearty. I was born and raised in Billings for the first 18 years of my life. I moved to Helena to attend Carroll College and have lived here ever since. Our state has distinct differences between the east and west portions of our state. I have lived in both areas and value both.

These criteria matter to me:

Each district represents at least one Indian Reservation.

There is as little splitting of cities and counties as possible.

Districts should have balanced populations and have diverse populations.

As I look at the proposed maps, I find Map #2 most in keeping with my priorities.

Map#4 is my second choice.

Sincerely,

Niki Whearty

29 S Alta St Helena, MT 59601-4475

nwhearty@gmail.com

From: [dmwheat](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 2:19:49 PM

Madam Chair and commission members: Having reviewed the redistricting maps in light of the criteria relied upon to develop the maps I favor the districts established by maps 6 and 9. Obviously, deciding which district the Flathead Reservation will be in will be the deciding factor as to which district best serves the State of Montana. Thank you all for your service. Mike Wheat, Bozeman, Gallatin County.

From: white_nadia@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Nadia White](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Choose CP4, please
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 5:43:29 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Dear MDA Commission, Thank you for your work defining the boundaries of Montana's new Congressional District. I hope your work in the end makes us a stronger state, better able to make sane political choices that bring us together as people with shared common issues. I strongly support the boundaries represented in Map #CP4. There is great political diversity in communities along the spine of the Bitterroot, but we share many challenges as well as expansive natural ecosystems. We need to remain politically joined so that we might work together conserving the natural spaces we love and depend on while finding new ways to stabilize the neediest among us and accommodate the flood of newcomers all of the communities in this district are seeing.

Please choose #4. And thanks again for your work on all of our behalf.
Sincerely, Nadia White, Missoula

Sincerely,
Nadia White
109 Westview Dr Missoula, MT 59803-1532
white_nadia@hotmail.com

From: brncmom54@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cheryl Whitney](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Congressional Maps
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 10:25:08 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

.Hello, This is the first time I have written to voice my choice in this very important issue. I remember when Montana had two districts and that is why I cast my vote for map #8! If memory serves me correctly, it is closest to the original map of the 80's. I also like the north south division and the fact that most counties, towns, and tribal land are intact. Thank you For the opportunity to have a voice in this important issue.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Whitney
745 Grantsdale Rd Hamilton, MT 59840-9109
brncmom54@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Cara Wilder
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 7:38:36 PM

From: Cara Wilder wilder1world@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Hello, My name is Cara Wilder and I live south of Bozeman. My family moved to Bozeman in 1973, and I've called Montana home for most of my life.

I believe Montanans should have equal representation in Washington, and some of the maps considered would highly favor the Republican party in upcoming elections.

I support maps #2, 6 and 8. These three maps best represent two fair and competitive districts, without favoring either political party.

Thank you for your time and consideration. All Montanans deserve equal representation.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Jazmyn Willis
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 3:51:10 PM

From: Jazmyn Willis daredevil1354@yahoo.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

This is a trash decision, redistricting cascade county.

I was born and raised in Great Falls, and I'm tired of greedy people making life harder for us wage slaves.

The in-line is separate from the falls in community, landscape, etc. Let each stay their own thing.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

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

From: [Laura Wood](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #8
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 4:11:44 PM

Please let the 5 commissioners know that my choice is the #8 redistricting map. I believe this will serve our state the best.

Thank you,
Laura Wood
Plains, Mt

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

From: willmwright1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Will Wright](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Against splitting counties
Date: Saturday, October 16, 2021 4:22:11 PM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Hi Commissioners:

I'm from Belgrade and would like to voice my opposition to the maps that split up Gallatin County where I live (or other counties for that matter). The maps 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 do just that.

My preference is for map 4 since it mirrors the 1980s congressional map when we had two reps.

Sincerely,

Will Wright

Sincerely,
Will Wright
110 Pebble Brook Ln Belgrade, MT 59714-9567
willmwright1@gmail.com

From: [Hannah Yang](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yes to maps #CP 4 and 8
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 7:56:52 PM

Hello Districting Commission,

I strongly urge you to vote for maps #CP 4 and 8. These maps are population equal and competitive. This means that there is a fair chance of either party winning a Congressional district. These competitive maps will encourage candidates to show up in the communities they're running to represent. These maps also represent Tribal Nations the best out of all the proposed maps. Maps #CP 4 and/or 8 contain fair and equitable districts.

Thank you!
Hannah Yang
406 465 4263
Hszmyang@gmail.com

--

Hannah Yang
Email: hszmyang@gmail.com
Mobile: +1 406-465-4263

From: [Beverly Yelczyn](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Cc: maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Re-districting maps
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 11:35:14 AM

Please consider my comments even though the deadline of October 16th has passed. It's taken me awhile to digest the maps and consequences of each.

Every voter in Montana deserves representation no matter what their political affiliation. With that said, Map 8 provides the most equitable representation of the minorities and Tribes based on population and geography. Map 4 affects the Tribes in Montana as best representation. I question the constitutionality of Maps 1, 3, 5 and 7. The rationale provided seems to repress the minority.

Thanks for this opportunity. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Bev Yelczyn
406-552-9560

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Lori Zahler
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 6:53:59 PM

From: Lori Zahler lorizahler@gmail.com
Residence: BOZEMAN

Message:
I believe CP-1 proposal is the best.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Carol Zimny
Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 1:55:51 PM

From: Carol Zimny cazimny@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls

Message:

Please do not dilute our county voices. Keep Cascade (and Havre) communities whole.

I have lived in Cascade county my whole life (37 years). And I feel like spitting up county open the door for "too many cooks in the kitchen" don't dilute our voice as a county.

all small rural populations are underserved and over looked.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kate Zoellner
Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021 10:16:55 PM

From: Kate Zoellner katezoellner@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

I am writing in reference to the nine redistricting proposals for the congressional districts in Montana. I support proposals eight, six, and two.

--

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