

Public Comments: I - L

Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission
Comments received between 5 p.m. on October 20 and 5 p.m. on October
27, 2021

Distributed electronically October 27, 2021

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Emmy Ibison
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 1:35:59 PM

From: Emmy Ibison emmyndave@gmail.com
Residence: Florence

Message:

My name is Emmy Ibison, Ive lived in Florence, MT since 1998.

I support map #11. Map #11 does not divide Gallatin county and it keeps the community intact. Splitting it might unduly favor one political party as well.

Map #10 splits Gallatin county, which contradicts one of the Commissions agreed upon criteria (minimize dividing cities, towns, counties). The entire county should be in one district.

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])

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Gail Iglitz
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:00:41 PM

From: Gail Iglitz gailiglitz@mac.com
Residence: Corvallis, MT

Message:

I am strongly supporting Proposal 11 for the new congressional district . Please include me in supporting the new district .-proposal 11.

Thank you

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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: Phillip Iglitz
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:10:55 PM

From: Phillip Iglitz philiglitz@gmail.com
Residence: Corvallis, MT

Message:
I strongly support Congressional Proposal 11.

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

From: [Kay Izlar](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; joe.lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair redistricting
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 1:24:31 PM

All MONTANA residents need the chance and motivation to engage in the political process.
Please insure one competitive district.
Map 11 is fair. Please select Map 11.
Kay Izlar

Get [Outlook for Android \[aka.ms\]](#)

From: [Doug James](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Map 11 (Corrected)
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:54:32 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-dwupr2ih.png](#)

I write as a former Republican and now Independent. I support the Democratic map - map 11.

I was a Republican most of my life. I come from good Republican stock. My great great grandfather Preston Leslie was a Whig Governor of Kentucky and was the next to last Territorial Governor of Montana. My grandfather, Sam C. Ford, served as Montana's Republican Governor for two terms in the 1940's. My father, Ted James, served as a Republican Lt. Governor and at times Acting Governor in the 1960's.

I am a conservative.

I am repelled by the extremes of both political parties. I find little in common with most candidates. Sadly, today, nothing seems too extreme. Now we vote, not for the best candidate, but for the lesser to two evils. Good people with common sense refuse to run for political office knowing that unless they take one extreme or the other, they will not get elected.

In my opinion, our best weapon against extremism is to have competitive districts. Only then, when either party can win, will candidates be pulled back towards the center. I long for those days when whoever captured the most voters in the middle would be elected. I believe that map 11 is our best hope for a competitive district where either party can win.

Our democracy is at risk. I urge you to support the map proposed by the Democratic members. I believe that it is the only map that will give those of us in the middle an opportunity to participate in our elections for the next ten years.

Thank you.

Doug
Cell: (406) 696-3784

Doug James
MOULTON BELLINGHAM PC
27 North 27th Street, Suite 1900
PO Box 2559
Billings, MT 59103-2559
Direct Office Phone: (406) 238-1565
Office Telephone: (406) 248-7731

[vCards](#) | [Bio](#) | [Website](#)
[\[moultonbellingham.com\]](#) | [\[moultonbellingham.com\]](#) | [\[moultonbellingham.com\]](#)



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From: [Kris's Jeresek](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:14:04 PM

Dear Commission,

I am in support of District 11 because I feel this one better meets the standards that you have set to meet. It only divides one county, Flathead. The native populations are better represented in this choice. I trust that you will keep this as non-political. I realize how important this is. Thank you for taking on this challenge.

Sincerely,
Kris Jeresek

Sent from my iPad

From: [Tony Jewett](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Support Map #11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:09:18 PM

Honorable Commissioners:

I have reviewed the final two maps presented to the public for redistricting Montana and am asking that the Commission support Map #11. Map #11 closely follows the historical precedent of Montana's 2 Congressional districts in the 1980's and achieves virtual perfect parity in population equality.

Additionally Map#11 provides a number of additional important and compelling strengths that underscore the purpose and spirit of fairness in redistricting. For example, it does far better than Map #10 in keeping communities of interest intact. Helena remains with Jefferson County -- keeping the two communities integrated as they are economically and culturally. Similarly, Bozeman maintains its multiple commuter connections and economic ties with the adjacent communities of Belgrade, Gallatin Gateway and Livingston. Furthermore it keeps the Rocky Mountain Front, Golden Triangle and parts of the Hi Line intact, maintaining an integrated rural, agricultural presence and profile for the district.

Importantly this map also provides for a modestly competitive Congressional District as opposed to the two solidly Republican, entrenched and partisan-slanted districts offered by Map #10. This is especially important for keeping a fair exchange of ideas and thoughts among district citizens and additionally moderating the views and decisions of the future elected Representative - of whatever party, who must answer to and fairly represent the diverse views of the electorate.

For these and other reasons, I hope the Commission unanimously adopts Map #11 as the clearly more fair alternative for balanced and open Montana over the next decade.

Sincerely,

Tony Jewett
Helena, Montana

--

Tony Jewett
tonyjewett1@gmail.com

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Aloha Johnson
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 9:48:15 AM

From: Aloha Johnson alohajohnson499@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Please adopt map CP11 in the Montana redistricting effort. It is a far cry and disappointment from the previous map choices (CP8, CP2 and CP6) which would have allowed for more competitive races, but it is the best choice at this point to allow the voices of all Montanans to be heard.

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

From: [Hjordis Johnson](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional Map
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:59:25 AM

Commission:

I'm in favor of Proposal 11 for Montana's redistricting.

Thanks for your work,

Hjordis Johnson

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Kyle W Johnson
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 7:15:15 PM

From: Kyle W Johnson kylewjohnson89@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

CP10 is by far the most logical option. It is geographically sound and will remain even with growth.

I urge you to approve this map over CP11, which will be out of sync with the other district very soon. Bozeman and Missoula are growing at unprecedented rates.

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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: Liane Johnson
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:11:20 AM

From: Liane Johnson lsjohn58@pm.me
Residence: Cut Bank, MT

Message:

Commissioners,

When you were appointed to this extremely important commission it was with the trust that you would represent the people of this state. Please notice...I wrote people, not parties. I have pored over all eleven maps, mostly with disappointment in my heart. I know there are pressures from all sides, but your job takes strength to do what is right. It doesn't matter about race. Indians, Hispanics, Asians and Blacks are just as involved in the area and jobs of their locations as Caucasian peoples. It is very important to remember that as you define lines of representation. We are all people trying to live as best we can. Be fair and define the representation by proper boundaries and industries and needs and concerns of each area. Something has dragged all of you off in the direction of "parties" representation. Let the people be concerned about that. Do what is best for Montana. We need strong people back there in the Swamp who will be concerned for the people of the state of Montana. Thank you for serving on this commission.

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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: sam johnson
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 10:18:51 AM

From: sam johnson sam.elliott.johnson@gmail.com
Residence: Montana

Message:

Commission- I think that constraining one of the fastest growing cities in the state (Bozeman) to one map (CP10) will unduly advantage one politically party and the commission should move to approve CP11 which KEEPS the other growing areas (Kalispell & Whitefish) intact.

Additionally, given Helena's geography and economy, it should be within the Western district (including Missoula, and Bozeman), as opposed to the Eastern district.

Finally, the process of redistricting is designed to MINIMIZE partisan lean. For this reason creating as competitive as possible districts should be paramount to the map selection. We do not want a gerrymandering.

For all of these reasons I encourage you to advance CP11.

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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: KATHRYN L L JOHNSON
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:34:11 PM

From: KATHRYN L L JOHNSON kljohnson_22@yahoo.com
Residence: POLSON

Message:

Map 10 – I like this map because it complies with Montana law and the Constitution

- Both districts are compact, contiguous and nearly equal population
- It includes both the CSKT and Blackfeet Reservations in the Western District, allowing for a stronger voice for the tribes in the new western district
- It keeps the communities of interest together in the West that are predominantly forest production and tourism

Map 11 – I dislike this map because

- This map splits a county West of the Continental Divide (Flathead) and puts it in an Eastern District
- It isolates one tribal community from all other tribal communities
- The representative for the Eastern District would have to travel vast distances to campaign and hold town halls in the Eastern District

Please consider my comments in making your decision. Sincerely, Kathryn Johnson

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

From: [Mike Joyce](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:53:00 PM

I wish to express our support for this plan. It keeps our population equal and does not split counties. Our forefathers were right on in the 1980s and this one resembles the quality of this fair proposal. It seems fair and equitable and I hope it is the chosen plan. We are residence of Billings Montana and thank you for your time and efforts.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Elizabeth C. Judd
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:04:23 AM

From: Elizabeth C. Judd betzcyj@comcast.net
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I support map #11. My support of CP 11 most fairly represents the east and west counties in the state of Montana. The compact and contiguous requirement is best expressed in this map. The logical geographic boundaries ensure a fairer representation of Montana's population in future elections.

Because Montana is such a large geographic area, I believe this map keeps the cities of Livingston and Bozeman together better represents those communities and their common interests. Bozeman and Park County together also share in similar interests. This map keeps resort towns of Big Sky, Whitefish and West Yellowstone together, since these resort/tourist communities have very common concerns and mutual understanding which are unique and differ in many ways for example, to more oil and gas driven economies found in the east. Montana's Native-American communities are also better represented by this map. I strongly support Map 11 for the Congressional redistricting in Montana.

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

From: [jennifer.kaplan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting map
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:45:00 PM

Hello, I live in Arlee, lake county Mt. I am writing this to let you know my preference for the new district maps. As a mom with 2 adult children, one living in whitefish and one in Bozeman my vote is to keep gallatin county intact and to let Kalispell go with the eastern district and whitefish to stay with the western. This would be a yes vote for congressional proposal 11. Thank you. Jennifer Kaplan

From: [Mary Kay](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 7:33:19 PM

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are terrible maps as they are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

Please throw out these two new maps and select map CP-1 as it's the best map that adheres to the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mrs. Mary Kay

Kalispell, MT

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary Kay
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 7:36:16 PM

From: Mary Kay mcnk49@hotmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:
Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are terrible maps as they are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

Please throw out these two new maps and select map CP-1 as it's the best map that adheres to the law.

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: [Jason Kechely](#)
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: Saturday, October 23, 2021 9:00:36 PM

Of the remaining choices, I support CP 11.

Jason Kechely
Jason@JasonKechely.com
(406) 209-3241

From: [Patti Prinkki Keebler](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:01:58 PM

Dear Presiding Officer Smith and Commissioners,

Thank you for taking on the daunting task to draw district boundaries for our state's new congressional seat.

I am writing this evening to ask your support of Map 11. Creating a competitive district would help lessen the sharp political divisions our state is sadly becoming known for. If candidates have to appeal to all voters rather than just voters of one party, civil discourse can return to our beloved state.

Thank you for considering my support for Map 11.

Sincerely,
Patti Prinkki Keebler
406-431-1554 cell/text

From: MDAC
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Grant Kelly
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 10:01:43 AM

From: Grant Kelly grantrobert.kelly@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls, Montana

Message:

I strongly support Congressional Proposal 11 to be adopted as the Montana's congressional district map.

Representative government requires fair, competitive races to keep elected officials accountable to voters. A map that too strongly favors one party hurts all Montanans, allowing officials to hide behind party affiliation to avoid acting in Montana's best interest.

Competitive districts mean accountability, which is why I urge the adoption of Proposal 11.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on MDAC (<https://mtredistricting.gov> [mtredistricting.gov]
<[https://urldefense.com/v3/___https://mtredistricting.gov___;!!GaaboA!_7Ju3SOQFk7b-f5htc5EN0BIWloequ0m3vzb_0IJ2ChQ5rOi9bmCiBto_LqXtWHHHg\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/___https://mtredistricting.gov___;!!GaaboA!_7Ju3SOQFk7b-f5htc5EN0BIWloequ0m3vzb_0IJ2ChQ5rOi9bmCiBto_LqXtWHHHg$)>)

From: cathykendall@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cathy Kendall](#)
To: joe.lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [spam]Helena should NOT be included in an eastern district.
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:20:25 AM

Dear Commissioner Joe Lamson,

Keeping Helena in the western district, not splitting communities and keeping all areas competitive are important goals. Please vote for Map 11 and remove excessive polarization out of the process.

Sincerely,
Cathy Kendall
1230 Stuart St Helena, MT 59601-2139
cathykendall@live.gov

From: [Beth & Dan/ Kennedy/Adcock](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] map proposals
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:34:35 PM

I support proposal # 11. It would be more fair to have the *potential* of a representative who may support similar legislation as I and as many others in my area support. It has felt hopeless to write the current Representative with my views, and that breeds apathy. To have a competitive district will enliven the political process, perhaps motivating more people to be involved in some way even if just to vote.

Thank you,
Beth Kennedy

From: [SYLVIE KERN](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New district
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:19:17 PM

Please support Map 11. It follows historical precedent and makes the most sense.

Sylvie Kern
Bozeman

Sent from my iPad

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Ita Killeen MD
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 7:15:27 PM

From: Ita Killeen MD ikilleen@bridgegeoplan.com
Residence: Bozeman

Message:

Thank you for the work that you have done in giving careful consideration to and narrowing the possible re-districting maps to a choice between #10 and #11.

I urge you to support Map #11.

I have heard comments that Missoula and Bozeman share the similarities of latte shops downtown and people wearing "water repellent microfiber". I am offended by an attitude that seems to dismiss the serious issues that occur in communities with rapid growth and affordable housing in Missoula and Bozeman. Likewise I believe that rural communities have serious issues and both deserve representation that will be responsive to the range of problems faced by our very different communities. Please support Map #11 that keeps the larger western cities together.

--

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: Phyllis Kindelman
Date: Thursday, October 21, 2021 10:48:56 PM

From: Phyllis Kindelman pkindelman@gmail.com
Residence: Billings

Message:

I feel redistricting map 11 would be a fairer version for our state. Both favor republicans But this Map at least Seems to offer New opportunities In that it seems to offer a larger western district.

--

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

From: [Wade King](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:23:56 PM

I support option 11

Wade King Billings

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Rebecca Schaer (Kingman) and Russell Kingman
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:58:53 PM

From: Rebecca Schaer (Kingman) and Russell Kingman rschaer626@gmail.com
Residence: Whitefish, MT

Message:

We have a few different comments along with what we put on the interactive map commenting site. It appears to us that you , the Commission, are, in the end, going to choose a map that will be based on competitiveness, which as you know, is illegal. Therefore, it seems to us and we ask therefore that the Commission define and agree on a standard that will be used to determine competitiveness. And in measuring competitiveness, since this map is going to determine 2 US congressional districts, we would suggest that the Commission consider using the US House races as the best way to measure competitiveness. Thank you for your time.

--

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

From: [Crystal Kingston](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair map
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 12:10:44 PM

Please make the maps fair! Support map 11 equality!

From: [dlkinney65](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:42:35 PM

I am totally in favor of map 11(eleven).
Don L. Kinney
45 Red Lodge Creek Ranch Rd.
Red Lodge, MT
406 446 1670.
dlkinney65@gmail.com

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy Tablet

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Steve Kirchhoff
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:25:29 AM

From: Steve Kirchhoff skirchhoff3@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Dear Districting and Apportionment Commission:

The issue of redistricting our growing state is one of great importance. I thank you for stepping-up to the challenge of finding an equitable districting solution. Particularly in these contentious political days, your job is more important than ever. I hope you will make a decision that strengthens people's sagging belief in local democracy and elected and appointed officials.

Again, thank you for your service.

Simply put, I encourage you fine-tune Map 11 to achieve 5% or less Republican dominance.

Thank you very much for your kind attention,

Steve Kirchhoff
Bozeman, MT

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

From: [Gina Klempel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map number 10
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:21:33 PM

Hope to be there on Saturday to testify but if I cannot make it I favor map number 10. Leave the Flathead where it is. I have read through all the other maps and favored map number 7 no longer in play.

Thank you for your service,
Gina Klempel

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Joseph F Knapp Jr
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:31:01 AM

From: Joseph F Knapp Jr jknapp@bigsky.net
Residence: Missoula, Montana

Message:

I have just seen the two maps that seem to be the final options. First, thank you to all 5 of the individuals who have worked on them. They seem to be two very reasonable and representative options.

My recommendation: allow a flip of a coin to decide which one should be implemented.

Regards,

Joseph F Knapp Jr

--

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: Alaina Lammer Knight
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:15:58 PM

From: Alaina Lammer Knight alk205@hotmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Thank you for all your work involved in the redistricting process.

As disparity in Gallatin County increases with Bozeman's rapid growth and gentrification, I think it is very important NOT to divide our county into separate districts. Gallatin County needs to pull together, not apart.

Please choose Map 11 and keep Gallatin County undivided.

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])

From: [rknoell](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 8:32:12 AM

The republican redistricting map looks way more equitable, especially in area. Having two representatives should mean less travel but it looks like the Democrat map still wants a lot of travel. Also if you look at large city/towns the Democrat map does not make sense.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Randall Knowles
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 10:51:37 AM

From: Randall Knowles knowlesMontana@juno.com
Residence: great falls, mt

Message:

The Democratic Map, as reported in the Montanan Standard, appears to be cleaner and easier for candidates to follow and voters to understand.

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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: andrew knutson, Cdr, USN, ret
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:13:15 AM

From: andrew knutson, Cdr, USN, ret aknutson@sagepointadvisor.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

The nation is watching to see if the leadership of this commission can put together a congressional map that is not gerrymandered.

In my opinion:

* Communities of Interest should have equal representation in each district (reservations and historical republican/democrat strongholds)

*Should comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

*Should be NO county splits (splitting a county up reeks of gerrymandering)

* Both districts should border Canada (DC reps should have an equal interest in supporting Montana border concerns).

* Putting Flathead county into an Eastern Montana district reeks of gerrymandering and political bias on the part of commissions leadership; Shame on all of you.

I am Ok with including Butte/Helena in a western Montana district.

Else I strongly support CP-10

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

From: eric.knutson
To: [Dan Stusek](#); [Districting](#); [Jeff Essmann](#); [Joe Lamson](#); [Kendra Miller](#); [Maylinn Smith](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: CALL TO ACTION - 2020 DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 6:12:57 AM

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

From: **eric knutson** <ericknutson007@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 6:04 AM
Subject: Re: CALL TO ACTION - 2020 DISTRICTING AND APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
To: <tom@flatheadliberty.com>

Thanks, forwarded

On Wed, Oct 27, 2021 at 12:09 AM <tom@flatheadliberty.com> wrote:

*****THIS IS TOO IMPORTANT TO NOT SEND OUT AGAIN*****

Patriots,

Action Time: 30 minutes

Please help **STOP THE STEAL** of elections in Montana by making your voice heard!

The Districting & Apportionment Commission voided the 9 previous maps and came up with 2 new maps.

The map favored by the Democrats splits Flathead County in half and effectively neuters the most conservative county in the state.

Derek and Ronalee Skees spoke at length at our last meeting regarding the importance of sending our comments to the commission AND our presence in Helena next Saturday October 30, 2021.

There are several ways you can help:

1. Attend the next Districting and Apportionment Commission meeting “In-Person” on **Saturday, October 30, 2021 @ 9:30 AM in the State Capitol, Room 102** and deliver your short (30 second) testimony to the Commissioners. (Talking points will be provided for you)

A bus has been chartered for Helena and the cost is FREE.

There are only 55 seats available on a “first call first served” basis but we need firm confirmation from each person.

Call John O’Neil at (406) 755-5714 or Lauralee O’Neil at (406) 407-5639 to reserve your seat and get more details.

Meet @ the Red Lion Inn parking lot in Kalispell at 4 AM on Saturday October 30, 2021 for the “ride of your life”.

2. Send an email to the Chair and Commissioners here: districting@mt.gov

(suggested comments below)

3. Send the same e-mail directly to the Chair and Commissioners:

Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov, Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov, Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov, Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov,
Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov

(suggested comments below)

4. Send the same comments directly to the Commissioners through their website:

<https://mtredistricting.gov/contact/> [mtredistricting.gov]

(suggested comments below)

Subject: Congressional Redistricting Map

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are terrible maps as they are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

Please throw out these two new maps and select map CP-1 as it's the best map that adheres to the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Your Name, Address, Phone Number & d Email Address (this is required information)

5. Provide comments on the interactive maps for CP-10 or CP-11 by clicking below and following the directions:

<https://mtredistricting.gov/congressional-maps-proposed-by-the-commission/> [mtredistricting.gov]

6. Attend the meeting virtually and provide your comments. Click below and follow the directions:

<https://mtredistricting.gov/remote-participation-request/> [mtredistricting.gov]

You **MUST** request remote participation online by 5 pm on Friday October 29, 2021 @ 5 PM.

ADDITIONAL INFO

Agenda for the commission meeting on Saturday is attached.

Pictures of the proposed new maps are attached and are posted below.

Please forward to friends, family, etc. who may be interested in this issue.

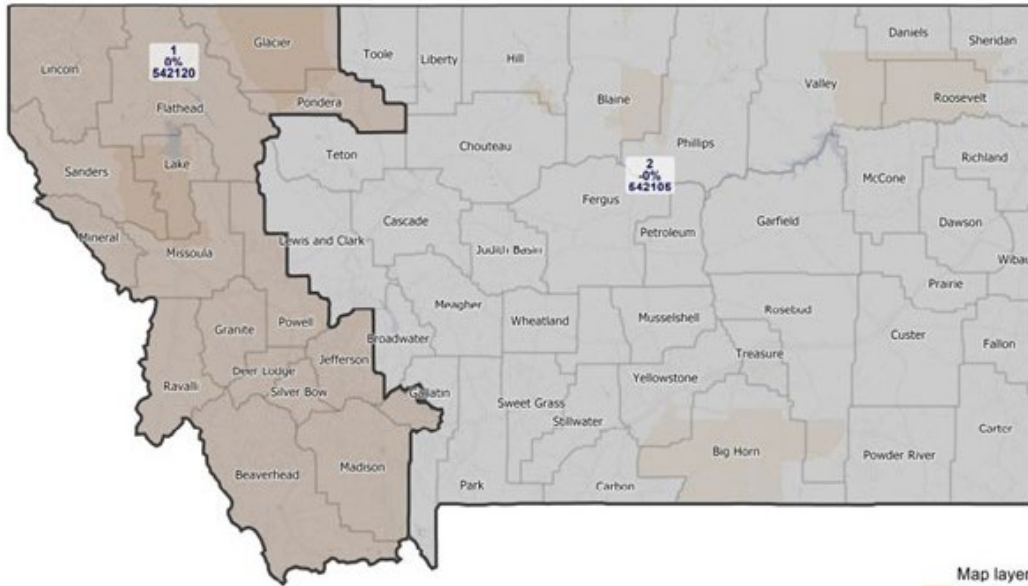
For Truth, Freedom and Health,

Flathead Liberty Coalition

(If you desire to be removed from this e-mail list please respond with REMOVE.)

Congressional District Commission Proposal 10 - CP 10

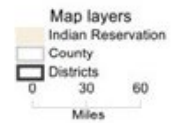
For October 30, 2021, Public Hearing



Ideal district size for 2020 Congressional District is 542,113 people.

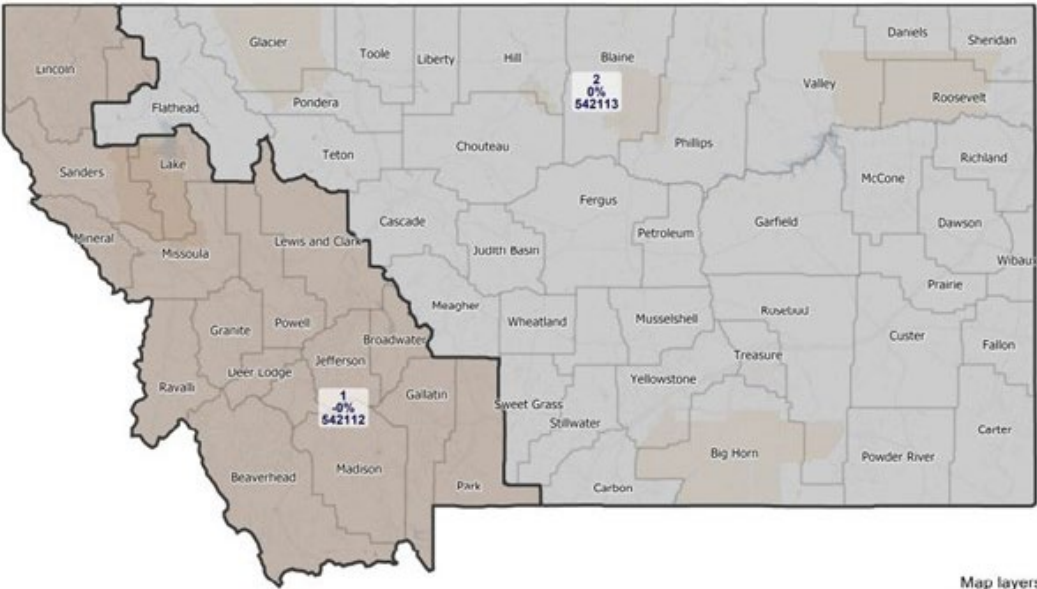
**Legislative
Services
Division**

©2021 CALIPER



Congressional District Commission Proposal 11 - CP 11

For October 30, 2021, Public Hearing



Ideal district size for 2020 Congressional District is 542,113 people.



From: eric.knutson
To: [Eric Knutson](mailto:Eric.Knutson); tom@flatheadliberty.com; [Carrey Hirt](mailto:Carrey.Hirt); [Laura Lee Flathead Liberty](mailto:Laura.Lee.Flathead.Liberty); [Dan Stusek](mailto:Dan.Stusek); Districting; [Jeff Essmann](mailto:Jeff.Essmann); [Joe Lamson](mailto:Joe.Lamson); [Kendra Miller](mailto:Kendra.Miller); [Maylinn Smith](mailto:Maylinn.Smith)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd:
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 6:41:37 AM

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

From: **eric knutson** <ericknutson007@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 25, 2021 at 8:49 AM
Subject:
To: <districting@mt.gov>, Eric Knutson <ericknutson007@gmail.com>

Subject: Congressional Redistricting Map

Chair Smith and Commissioners,

The two newly proposed maps (CP-10 and CP-11) are terrible maps as they are based on trying to carve out specific party districts and do not comply with Montana statutes and constitutional requirements.

Please throw out these two new maps and select map CP-1 as it's the best map that adheres to the law.

Thank you for your consideration.

Your Name, Address, Phone Number & d Email Address (this is required information)

Eric Knutson
PO Box 143 Dayton, MT 59914
ericknutson007@gmail.com

5. Provide comments on the interactive maps for CP-10 or CP-11 by clicking below and following the directions:

CP-1 is the best map that follows Montana statutes, and CP-10 and CP-11 are obvious partisan attempts by the Democrats to further drive Montana into Democrat control of the people. Anyone who likes that is probably a communist. Not me.

<https://mtredistricting.gov/congressional-maps-proposed-by-the-commission/>
[\[mtredistricting.gov\]](https://mtredistricting.gov)

From: [John Kochis](#)
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 25, 2021 2:42:55 PM

To all-
I urge the Commission to favor Proposal 11 in opposition to Proposal 10.

Respectfully

John kochis

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Edward S. Kohler
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 10:06:47 AM

From: Edward S. Kohler mouse62_us@yahoo.com
Residence: Libby Mt.

Message:

Don't split Flathead county or any other county's for the benefit of Democrats.

--

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: Janet Kosnik
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:46:56 PM

From: Janet Kosnik mtblackandtans@gmail.com
Residence: Helena MT

Message:
I'm in support of CP11

--

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: Michelle Kozlow
Date: Thursday, October 21, 2021 6:07:27 PM

From: Michelle Kozlow michellekozlow@gmail.com
Residence: Livingston MT

Message:

As I understand it, we are down to two choices: Proposals 11-CP11 and 10-CP10.

10-CP10 apparently splits Gallatin County in two.

11-CP 11 apparently splits Flathead county in two.

Tough to choose. It's unfortunate all counties could not remain undivided.

So, because I live in Park County, which shares much with neighboring Gallatin County, I favor keeping Gallatin County whole and Park county with it. Proposal 11-CP11 does that.

I urge you to adopt Proposal 11-CP11.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the discussion.

--

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

From: [Jim Kraenzel](#)

To: [Districting](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commissioners: Maintaining a focus on keeping the districts equal in population and splitting any county to do that is a bit of a fools errand. You are dealing with population numbers that were sketchy at best in the beginning and now are ou...

Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 10:09:43 AM

From: [Robin Kratschmer](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] redistricting maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:41:34 PM

I am in support of map #11 and oppose map #10.

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Justin Kraus
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 7:04:48 AM

From: Justin Kraus jusk@yahoo.com
Residence: Bozeman Montana

Message:

Please consider CP-11 as it's most considerate to both parties.

--

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

From: [Weiss, Rachel](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 3:55:04 PM

From: Susan Krauss <suek2610985@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 24, 2021 3:53 PM
To: Weiss, Rachel <RWeiss@mt.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]

I am commenting on the 2 redistricting maps. My husband are opposed to map cp11. We do not want to be in the eastern district of the state. Kalispell has never been in the Eastern district and we are opposed to being put in that district. We are part of western montana and would like to remain so. Thank you. Roger and Susan Krauss

From: [Heather Labbe](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] In Favor of Map #11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:25:53 AM

Dear Members of the Committee,

Please choose a map that will produce a competitive race amongst political parties. I urge you to vote in favor of Map #11.

Thank you,
Heather Labbe
1427 Van Buren St.
Missoula, MT
59802

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: William LaFond
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:17:09 AM

From: William LaFond wmlafond@midrivers.com
Residence: Glendive, MT

Message:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Redistricting Maps. I'm NOT in favor of splitting Counties up, and believe County Lines should be followed – even if that means a slight tilt in population numbers to one side or the other.

To make the case even further, you could in theory split counties up by an Intersection of streets but that would only be splitting them up to one parties (or the others) advantage. Let's make this fair to both sides, split the Maps up into County Lines and let the chips fall where they may.

Bill LaFond
Glendive, 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: Elizabeth B Lamb
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 1:58:27 PM

From: Elizabeth B Lamb Libbie4fun@aol.com
Residence: Butte

Message:

If you have to pick one pick map 10. Map 11 is unfair and terrible. We must keep these two districts similar.

--

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

From: [Russ Lamson](#)
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: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:26:06 PM

Attn: Montana Redistricting Commission

I moved from North Idaho to Montana in 1994. I first lived in Missoula (10 years) and now in Kalispell. I have always been proud of Montana as a place where people put the value of place way above politics. It seems that has changed recently. I don't want MT to be victim of the partisan gerrymandering that has plagued so many other states (by both parties). That's not what Montana is about! I therefore support Map 11 and I encourage you to as well.

Thank you for your time and service to Montana.

Russ Lamson

From: lindajohnsonlane@aol.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Choice of Congressional Map
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 4:43:26 PM

I am writing in favour of Proposal 11 and in opposition to Proposal 10.

Proposal 10 separates several communities of interest in order to have two Republican districts. There are deep economic and business connections between Livingston and Bozeman which may weaken if they are in different districts, Similarly Park and Gallatin County have flourished with their connection. Native voters are separated so their voices may get lost, Traditionally union towns Helena and Butte have been in the same district and the union voice could be heard but Proposal 10 blocks that. Also agricultural areas like Rocky Mountain, Golden Triangle, and Hi Line are split so farmers interests may not be voiced. Jefferson and Broadwater are separated from Helena which means commuters live outwith their district. So it goes on. These separations make it hard for economic and social concerns getting voiced. Non-competitive districts don't elevate voices and ensure accountability in the same way.

Proposal 11 advocates tend to remember that one of the earlier criteria was some possibility of the two parties each winning a district. A fair map should include one competitive district. Geographical separation and splitting existing ties make it harder for a more disparate group to be heard. Proposal 11 seems to focus more on enabling a wide range of Montana residents to join others they agree with and vote so voices of particular Counties, Cities, Communities can be represented.

Linda Lane
1160C Pine Street
Hamilton, Montana
59840

From: [Catherine Lane](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] District map
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 12:00:16 PM

To Whom it May Concern:

I throw my vote for the CP11 map for the 2nd district of Montana. It makes no sense to be splitting up a county.

Thank you.

Mary Catherine Lane
Livingston, MT 59047

From: [Mark Lannen](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; [Districting](#); jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for map CP #11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:43:56 AM

Dear Commission

I am a registered voter in Montana. Please note that I strongly favor map CP #11 as it is the only one that does not unduly favor one political party over another.

Sincerely

Mark Lannen
1724 Schilling Street
Missoula, MT 59801
832-326-8669

From: [John Lapka](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistributing
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:27:03 AM

I am for common sense in drawing these districts. We have been in a district that includes an area on the other side of the continental divide. We don't know and are not able to connect with the candidates from over there without driving a hundred plus miles. We still can't know much about them.

To put far away geographically areas together is insane.

Thank you.

John Lapka

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Mary LaPorte
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:18:23 AM

From: Mary LaPorte marylaporte53@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

I have reviewed maps 10 and 11. Neither of the maps offer a truly competitive district. Map 10 has two Republican dominant maps by 28% and 11%. Map 11 has two Republican dominant maps by 34% and 7%. A truly competitive district would have a 5% or less dominant party.

I urge the Commission to fine-tune Map 11 to achieve one 5% or less Republican dominant district.

Thank you for your work.

--

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

From: [Aldrich, Ginger](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:45:13 PM

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

From: Grace Larson <lyleforever36@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:44 PM
To: Aldrich, Ginger <KVAlldrich@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting

How about going with the plan that fits the Constitution? If it is unconstitutional there will be legal challenges. Hopefully, this can be avoided.

Sincerely,
Grace Larson
520 14th St E
Kalispell 59901

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Grace Larson
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 3:19:37 PM

From: Grace Larson lyleforever36@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, Montana 59901

Message:

It is ludicrous to place part of Flathead County with Ekalaka !! One is in the Western part of Montana and the other in the far Eastern part. How about a CONSTITUTIONAL DIVIDE ??? This will save many legal actions because Republicans are not going to stand for a division as stated above !

--

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

From: k.larson
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map CP 11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 2:49:14 PM

Dear commissioners:
The only fair map is number CP 11. Please do the right thing for Montana.
Thank you so much -
Kris Larson
560 Sparta Street
Helena, MT 59601
406-459-3437

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Diana Laughlin
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 9:58:09 AM

From: Diana Laughlin diana.laughlin56@gmail.com
Residence: Great Falls Mt

Message:

Why not cut the map parallel. That way Missoula would be in one part and Bozeman in a second part. You would not have two liberal towns in same district. Mix it up a bit. This way it would be fair for all.

Thank-you

--

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

From: [Russ Lawrence](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 2:30:51 PM

Commissioners:

I have reviewed the initial 9 maps, as well as the final two under consideration this week. I believe that Map 11 offers me the best chance of having my electoral voice heard.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Russ Lawrence
Hamilton MT 59840

From: [CARLEEN LAYNE](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please make it fair...
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 7:28:21 PM

Which political party is in power should not be determined by lines on a map. Please select the map that is fair to voters... #CP11, the only map that doesn't unduly favor one political party. Thank you for all your hard work and service to ALL Montanans.

Sent from my iPhone

From: rleach370@gmail.com
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 map
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 2:59:55 PM

Dear Commission,

Because 1 of your criteria is competitiveness, then you must please pick Map 11. While it is not a “Democratic-party” map, it is the lesser of 2 evils, because it is the most competitive of the 2-map option.

To pick otherwise would send the message that you really do not care about free and fair elections. I hope that you will not abuse your power and lock in a Republican advantage into the proposed map.

Please pick Map 11, and prove to the public that you believe in a level playing field, rather than the win-at-all-costs and cheat-your-way-to-victory that we see from so many Republicans.

Pick Map 11 and send a signal that you believe that every one’s vote should have equal power.

Sincerely, Rosemary Leach, East Missoula

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

Comments from the League of Women Voters of Montana
Montana Districting and Apportionment Meeting October 30
Presented by Rosanne Nash, League of Women Voters Montana Board Member

Throughout the process of districting for Montana's two Congressional seats, the League of Women Voters of Montana urged this Commission to center its decision about where to draw the line on one concept: what will most effectively and fairly represent and engage voters for the next ten years. The League is a non-partisan organization that has stood on the side of Republicans in Maryland and Democrats in Pennsylvania to push for maps that are fair to voters, not politicians.

The League has the following comments on Maps 10 and 11:

Map 10 honors the concerns of the Native American community to have at least two reservations in each district. To achieve this, Map 10 splits Gallatin County. Data analysis from 538.com indicates that Map 10 has two Republican dominate districts, one with a margin of 28% and the other with a margin of 11%.

Map 11 does not honor the concerns of the Native American community to have at least two reservations in each district. Map 11 splits Flathead County. Data analysis from 538.com indicates that the Map 11 creates two Republican dominant districts, one with a margin of 34% and the other with a margin of 7%.

Given a choice between Maps 10 and 11 as they are currently configured, the League supports the more competitive Map 11, though we encourage the Commission to verify that the Tribes are alright with there being only one reservation in one of the districts. However, both maps fail to offer a truly competitive district.

Montana voters will not be as engaged, and Montana's elected representatives will not be responsive to all of their constituents, if both districts are Republican dominate districts.

We ask the Commission to reconsider the configuration of Map 11, looking more carefully at how Flathead County is divided and whether there may be other fine-tuning potential to bring the balance for the western district to a 5% or less advantage for Republicans. This would make the western district truly competitive.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. The League commends the Commission for its efforts to seek public comment and for working to make Montana's districts fair for Montana voters.

From: [rnr](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Oct. 30 Comments from the League of Women Voters of Montana
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 4:49:10 PM
Attachments: [Oct 30 Comments of the League of Women Voters Montana.docx](#)

I've attached comments for the Oct. 30 meeting from the League of Women Voters of Montana.

Rosanne Nash

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Walter William Leaphart
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 12:10:10 PM

From: Walter William Leaphart wwleaphart@gmail.com

Residence: Helen, MT

Message:

I write in support of proposed Map 11. Map 11 creates 2 districts which are reasonably competitive- which is essential to keeping our citizens actively engaged in the democracy process.

--

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: Robert LedBettr
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 5:35:38 PM

From: Robert LedBettr doddranch@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

Hello. I am Dr. Robert LedBetter and I have taught at the University of Montana since 1990.

I support Map 11 which is the only map which does not favor a political party and does the best job of avoiding splitting up communities. It also does the best job of keeping communities of interest intact.

I do not support Map 10 which leans towards favoring one political party over the other and splits up multiple communities including within Gallatin County. It also separates communities of interest including Butte, Helena and Jefferson County which have a shared history and culture.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments in your decision making.

--

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: Heidi Noel Leishman
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:06:16 PM

From: Heidi Noel Leishman sweetp_davis@yahoo.com
Residence: Frenchtown Montana

Message:
Cp 10, is the way to go.

--

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: Kevin Leishman
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:09:24 AM

From: Kevin Leishman kevro50@hotmail.com
Residence: Saint Ignatius, MT

Message:

RECOMMEND CP10

it's self evident the two proposals benefit different political parties. That fact should NOT be part of the decision process. Accurate geographical POPULATION REPRESENTATION is the primary objective.

Flathead County and Yellowstone County, large population hubs, are essentially on different sides of the state With significantly different issues and concerns.

Missoula County and Flathead County would naturally share many of the same concerns, as would the Yellowstone and Gallatin Counties.

CP11 is nothing short of overt gerrymandering.

--

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

From: margaret@wheatonscycle.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:03:47 PM

My name is Margaret Lekander and I live in Kalispell. I have lived in the same house for 32 years. I have also ran a business in Kalispell for 45 years, a bicycle shop.

Regarding the two choices of redistricting maps, I favor Map #11. It splits populations evenly and it would be competitive because it doesn't favor or support one party over the other.

Thank you for your work on behalf of all Montanans.

Margaret Lekander

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Marcia Lennick
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 8:13:00 AM

From: Marcia Lennick marciaalennick@hotmail.com
Residence: GREAT FALLS

Message:

Please use CP1 with this variance -keep Cascade and Gallatin counties whole

--

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

From: [chuck leonard](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] districting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:11:41 PM

10/27/2021

Comment on Districting Maps

Priorities:

Link communities together that share similar needs/concerns.

Avoid gerrymandering or its appearance.

With the above in mind I would recommend:

Keeping Gallatin and Missoula counties together in the western district. Both are fast growing urban communities and contain the state's flagship universities. They therefore share similar issues.

Do not split flathead county. Both Kalispell and Whitefish should be in the western district.

Regarding the Blackfeet Reservation the main concern is that their voices are heard. Historically the Democratic Party has arguably addressed their needs better than the Republican Party so they should be placed in the Western District where they have a better chance of having their voices heard. In addition, there are more tribes in the Eastern district so this would balance their populations among the two districts.

The above scenario is sure to meet opposition from both parties (Democrats will favor keeping Missoula and Gallatin together and Republicans will favor keeping Kalispell and Whitefish together). A sign of a good compromise is that everyone finds something to be unhappy about.

Many thanks to everyone for their hard work on this difficult issue.

Sincerely,

Charles T Leonard

From: [Angie Leprohon](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Congressional Districts
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:17:19 AM

Dear Ms. Smith,

I would like to express my view about the two Congressional districts that have been proposed by the redistricting committee.

In my opinion, the committee should adopt the congressional district map proposed by the Democrats. I would agree with Pat Williams that “it would give western Montana the opportunity to continue to be politically moderate to moderately liberal in its politics. And give eastern Montana the same opportunity to follow its natural course, which is to be moderately conservative in its politics.” Montana is a diverse state, and this would allow all of the citizens of Montana potentially to have a voice.

It also makes sense to place Lewis and Clark County in the western district. Helena is an urban area so it seems reasonable for it to be in the same district as Bozeman and Missoula, whereas eastern Montana is mainly agricultural. I would say the same thing about Gallatin and Park counties. I see no reason why Gallatin County should be divided, and, in my opinion, Livingston in Park County should be in the same district as Bozeman.

Thank you this opportunity to express my opinion.

Angie Leprohon
1802 Dry Gulch
Helena, MT 59601

From: [David Leslie](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Suoppert Congressional Map 11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 3:09:33 PM

I write asking you to support Map 11.

Like the ways in which Major League Baseball owners regularly make rules and policy to ensure the game itself continues to be a viable and successful American activity (as well as profitable for each of them). This is done over their suppressed personal wishes to press every advantage, maximize any year's revenue and to become a dynasty of their own. Similarly, it is now time for leaders to be wise stewards of our political "game". To exercise such courage means accept Map 11 to ensure some competitiveness remains in Montana's political system. Competitiveness demands any party present a slate of ideas and policy to voters, that is to win their vote.

If Montana's two districts are incontestably Republican, then Montana loses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very respectfully,
David Leslie
456 Weber Hts
Corvallis, MT 59828

david@schmittleslie.com

From: [Gordon G. Levin](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on New Congressional Districting Map for Montana
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:35:59 PM

After pairing down the many proposed maps to either Map #CP 10 or Map #CP 11 it is obvious that map #CP 11 should be the chosen map to advance to the new Montana Congressional Districting Map. It best meets the Congressional Map Goals laid out by the Independent Districting & Apportionment Commission and the State Constitution.

As the apportionment must avoid favoring any political party, having competitive districts is an important qualification. Map #CP 11 is the closest to meeting that requirement.

Thank you,

Gordon Levin
6200 Copper Rose Drive
Helena, MT 59602

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

From: [J Lewis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP10 NO
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:24:49 AM

CP 10 splits communities like Butte/Helena, Livingston/Bozeman, Big Sky/Gallatin Gateway. It does not reflect a competitive chance for a Democrat to win in either district. It does not take into account where most of the new population growth has occurred and does not reflect the changing political views of this new population. Please vote NO on CP10.

Thank you

Judy Lewis
Livingston, MT

From: [J Lewis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YES CP 11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 9:14:00 AM

CP 11 does not split communities of interest, like Livingston and Bozeman, Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway. It is a more competitive district reflecting the changes that are happening in Montana growth patterns. It does not favor one political party over another. This map tries to give more of an equal voice to all residents of Montana.

Thank you

Judy Lewis
Livingston

From: [J Lewis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP 11 YES
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 9:17:44 AM

CP 11 does not split communities of interest, like Livingston and Bozeman, Big Sky and Gallatin Gateway. It is a more competitive district reflecting the changes that are happening in Montana growth patterns. It does not favor one political party over another. This map tries to give more of an equal voice to all residents of Montana.

Thank you

Thomas Lewis
Livingston, MT

From: [J Lewis](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No on CP 10
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:56:19 AM

CP 10 splits communities like Butte/Helena, Livingston/Bozeman, Big Sky/Gallatin Gateway. It does not reflect a competitive chance for a Democrat to win in either district. It does not take into account where most of the new population growth has occurred and does not reflect the changing political views of this new population. Please vote NO on CP10.

Thank you

Thomas Lewis
Livingston, MT

From: [Roxann lincoln](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CP#11
Date: Sunday, October 24, 2021 3:56:05 PM

Dear Commission,

I support map CP#11 for the redistricting map.

Roxann Lincoln
Helena MT

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

From: [Jon Lindburg](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Congressional districts
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 12:46:22 PM

I vote for proposal 10, it makes the most since, geographically and population wise.

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

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Barb Lipp
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:34:02 AM

From: Barb Lipp jerry315@centurytel.net
Residence: Kalispell

Message:

Flathead Valley is a WESTERN District, not EASTERN! We need to be in the Western District. MT law is not supposed to go by political parties, keep the map to East/West, do NOT divided our valley, get a grip!

--

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: Chris Lipp
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:38:19 AM

From: Chris Lipp jerry315@centurytel.net

Residence: Somers

Message:

Redistricting needs to keep Flathead Valley in the west where we are! Divide the redistricting by east/west per Republican map

--

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: Angela Listug-Vap
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 4:00:44 PM

From: Angela Listug-Vap alistug@gmail.com
Residence: Missoula

Message:

My name is Angela Listug-Vap. I live in Missoula, MT. I am a business owner, my husband is a business owner, we have two elementary aged children and live to spend time in the outdoors that make up our beautiful state all year round.

I support Map 11 as it does the best of keeping counties and communities in tact and stays competitive. Map 11 only splits one county but not cities while still keeping districts competitive.

Map 10 is not competitive and splits more counties.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

--

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

From: [BARBARA LODMAN](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:25:54 PM

I am writing to support Proposal 11 for the creation of our second congressional district. Let's not gerrymander Montana so the republicans always win.

Thank-you,
Barbara Lodman
Registered Voter
139 Mt. Pleasant St.
Lewistown, MT 59457

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: J
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:07:25 PM

From: J lodmell@bigsky.net
Residence: Missoula, MT

Message:

I have studied both of the Commission recommended maps and I strongly advocate for CP11. While the split Flathead county in CP11 actually separates distinct voting blocks into their 'natural habitats', the split Gallatin county in CP10 simply dilutes voters with more similar outlooks- this does not make sense.

Thank you for your hard work and careful consideration.

Please adopt CP11

JSL

--

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

From: [Jesse Logan](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for redistricting Map 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 9:54:06 AM

I support Map 11 because it is fairly drawn along existing county boundaries. I oppose Map 10 because it splits important counties and disenfranchises indiginious populations. Map 10 is drawn for obvious political reasons in a blatant attempt at gerrymandering. Please oppose Map 10 because it is an insult to the concept of a free democracy.

Sincerely,

Jesse A. Logan

Jesse A. Logan
P.O. Box 482
9c Avalon Ct.
Emigrant, MT 59027
406.333.4850

From: [Bill Long](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Recommended House Districts
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 6:17:47 AM

Dear Commission Members,

First, let me thank you for the challenging task of searching for consensus to create two house districts in Montana. Not a small task in these fractured times.

After following the discussions and reading all the available information, I would like to recommend option 11. It seems fairest to all citizens of Montana.

Thanks for allowing me to weight in.

Yours,

Bill

Bill Long

Solid Ground Consulting

(406)-437-2938

www.solidgroundconsulting.com [solidgroundconsulting.com]

From: [Denece Lord](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Partisan or Not
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 4:27:53 PM

Commission Members,

Everyone - and that includes each of you - knows the “talking points” for Maps 10 and 11. One look makes clear that as a state we will have to move forward with the best part of our history intact or drop farther into self-serving partisanship. Your decision determines which path we follow and recent political history provides little if any confidence to every “reasonable, independent-minded Montanan” (which used to be our proud self-definition!).

ALL of the original maps were clearly “slanted” at best - just as every “reasonable, independent-minded Montanan” knew would happen! Now two become “finalists” and I suppose one has to become “law.”

At least Map 11 doesn’t go so far as to split asunder intact counties to serve political bias. Come on!

Without much confidence,
Russell Lord
Red Lodge

From: [Chris Love](#)
To: Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; Districting; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov; maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New congressional districts mspl
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 5:09:41 PM

I urge you to choose Map 11 as the best option for fair House elections in the future.
Thank you.
Chris Love
Corvallis MT

From: [Helena Lovick](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting Proposals 11 and 10
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 7:40:37 PM

Dear Districting and Apportionment Commission,

Thank you for your hard work on the challenging task of drawing our new congressional districts.

I live in Cascade County, and it is confusing and unfair to voters to needlessly split counties and communities for districting. We don't have to do that in Montana to draw a fair map. I urge you to vote for a map with the least splitting of communities with common challenges. Between 11 and 10, I support 11 because it appears to keep all?, or at least most, counties intact and recognizes common interests between SW Montana versus Eastern Montana.

Thank you very much,
Helena Lovick
Great Falls, MT

From: [Joanne Gardner Lowell](#)
To: [Districting](#); maylinn.smith@mtleg.gov; jeff.essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; dan.stusek@mtleg.gov; kendra.miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please choose #11
Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021 11:52:33 AM

I urge you to consider map #11. It feels fair and equitable.

Joanne G Lowell
523 N 3rd St.
Livingston, MT 59047

Sent from my iPhone

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Phyllis Lucht
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 2:43:57 PM

From: Phyllis Lucht pssaz2mt@gmail.com
Residence: Kalispell, MT

Message:

I vote for 10. It has a more fair distribution of reservations. I think that #1 was the best divided & fairr even, but I guess i am too late for that one. Did u put the infomation about this 8n the paper?

--

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

From: lucretia.o@gmail.com
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting comment
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 9:48:17 PM

I support map 11. This map provides a somewhat competitive district and a district that will definitely stay republican. This still doesn't seem super fair, but at least both parties will have a chance of competing in this version, rather than knowing that the committee chose a rigged map. It also does not seem fair to split Gallatin County, this seems a blatant attempt to gerrymander. Please support map 11 and give me faith in our government once more.

Thank you,
-Lucretia

From: [MDAC](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MDAC Comment from: Caleb Lucy
Date: Friday, October 22, 2021 9:17:51 AM

From: Caleb Lucy caleblucy@gmail.com
Residence: Bozeman, MT

Message:

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for your hard work on the districting process. Please accept the “Democratic Map” CP11 as final. This map does the best job of representing Montanans and is in line with our state’s historical congressional districts.

Appreciate it,
Caleb Lucy

--

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

From: [John Lui](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:48:59 PM

Dear Commission Members,

My name is John Lui from Missoula. I am writing to voice my support for Proposal 11 which, in my humble opinion, offers a fair and competitive Congressional District.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

John Lui
875 Wyoming Street
Missoula, MT 59801

From: [Kat Welch Lui](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal 11
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 3:27:56 PM

To Whom it May Concern,
I am writing to express my support for Proposal 11 which creates a competitive district for Montana.

I oppose Proposal 10 which would manipulate the boundaries of our beloved state.

Thank you,

Katherine W Lui
875 Wyoming St
Missoula

From: [Alexandre Lussier](#)
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for redistricting map 11
Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 11:07:07 AM

To Maylinn Smith, Jeff Essmann, Joe Lamson, Dan Stusek, and Kendra Miller,

I am writing to thank you for your work and to express my support for redistricting map 11.

While every option is a compromise, proposed map 11 does the best job of keeping together as many counties, communities, and economic trade areas together as possible.

Thank you,

Alexandre Lussier
1116 S Spruce Dr
Bozeman, MT 59715

From: lastlyman@blackfoot.net
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Map #11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:54:40 PM

From: lastlyman@blackfoot.net <lastlyman@blackfoot.net>
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:21 PM
To: 'districting@mt.gov' <districting@mt.gov>; 'Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov' <Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov>; 'Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov' <Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov>; 'Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov' <Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov>; 'Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov' <Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov>; 'Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov' <Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov>
Subject: Map #11

Map # 11 allows the two districts to be competitive and representative for all Montanans. Montana is very diverse and Map #11 will give voters a choice and push candidates to address the needs of all groups. It is very evident to me that Map #11 is the most fair and the most logical solution for establishing the boundaries for Montana's two Congressional districts.

Best regards and thank you for considering my opinion.

Dave Lyman

34 Beaver Peak Road

Heron, MT 59844

406-847-3388

From: lastlyman@blackfoot.net
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov;
Dan.Stusek@mtleg.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Map #11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:21:28 PM

We want Map 11 adopted.

Thank you,

Dave Lyman

34 Beaver Peak Road

Heron, MT 59844

406-847-2388

From: lastlyman@blackfoot.net
To: [Districting](#); Maylinn.Smith@mtleg.gov; Jeff.Essmann@mtleg.gov; Joe.Lamson@mtleg.gov; Dan.Stusek@mt.gov; Kendra.Miller@mtleg.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Districting Map Supporting #11
Date: Monday, October 25, 2021 8:03:37 PM

Committee Folks,

Choosing the best map for our new Congressional district is critically important.

I strongly urge you to support MAP #11.

This map allows for the most competitive race in the state and does not play partisan politics with our citizens.

This map gives the strongest voice to Native Americans and keeps large counties intact.

We need to trust that your selection does not favor either party and we are fairly represented for the next decade.

Please support MAP #11. It does the best job for Montana's citizens.

Thank you.

Deborah Lyman

34 Beaver Peak Rd.

Heron, MT 59844

406-847-2388

lastlyman@blackfoot.net

From: [myra lynch](#)
To: [Districting](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] maps
Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021 4:23:12 PM

Hello,

I am writing in support of Proposal 11 for our new congressional district in MT. I am a new resident who came from a "purple" state where races were always close, which I think is a positive thing. MT seems to be leaning farther and farther into a GOP stronghold, which I do not think is good for anyone. If Proposal 11 gives at least a fighting chance for more moderate voices to be heard, then I am all for it.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Myra Lynch
825 Grand Ave #100
Missoula MT 59802