

Testimony type: Written-only

From: Sheila Sonnenschein

To: The House Committee on Redistricting
Re: Fair & Equitable Representation in Kansas Congressional Maps
Position: Opponent

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to supply testimony in support of transparent and fair redistricting.

I am requesting that the borders of the 3rd congressional district remain the same as they are now. Johnson and Wyandotte counties are part of one large metro community that should have the same representation in Washington D.C. It has worked well for many years.

We are one congruous community. The two counties share a lot in common including mental health care needs, other health needs, and commerce. These commonalities are not shared between Wyandotte and the proposed maps. Nor are these commonalities shared between Johnson County and the proposed maps.

I live in the 3rd Congressional district and believe we should not change something that's not broken. If this district were to be chopped up, we would not have the representation we need in Washington. I believe we must retain the cohesiveness among people of different ethnicities, races, faiths and backgrounds who live in the 3rd Congressional district. Wyandotte should not be split up and neither should Wyandotte be taken away from the same Congressional district as Johnson County.

Current Congressional maps were created by the courts and should be altered as little as necessary to accommodate population shifts. The Kansas City Metro is currently whole within Kansas' Third congressional district and should remain in a single district as residents have shared interests in representation. The Committees on Redistricting should make their maps, agendas, and deadlines available to the public with at least a full week's notice to allow enough time to review maps, and prepare and submit testimony.

Once again, I encourage you to keep the boundaries of the 3rd Congressional district the same as they are now, as much as possible. Please do not separate Johnson and Wyandotte Counties from each other. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Sheila Sonnenschein

OVERLAND PARK, KS 66209-4022
913-205-5961
ksonshine6@gmail.com