

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES, REDISTRICTING, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

April 12, 2001
6:00 PM

PORTLAND
Tapes 73 - 74

HOUSE MEMBERS

PRESENT: **Rep. Carl Wilson, Chair**
 Rep. Richard Devlin
 Rep. Dan Gardner
 Rep. Steve March

VISITING MEMBERS: **Sen. Peter Courtney**
 Sen. Avel Gordly
 Rep. Jackie Dingfelder
 Rep. Gary Hansen
 Rep. Deborah Kafoury
 Rep. Diane Rosenbaum

STAFF PRESENT: **Cara Filsinger, Administrator**
 Marjorie Taylor, Redistricting Coordinator
 Linda Gatto, Committee Assistant

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: **REDISTRICTING**

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

<u>TAPE/#</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
TAPE 73, A		
004	Chair Wilson	Calls the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and opens a public hearing on redistricting.
<u>REDISTRICTING - PUBLIC HEARING</u>		
006	Chair Wilson	Explains what redistricting entails. Refers to the statute in (EXHIBIT A) .
031	Peg Snider	Explains to the audience that she is available to translate testimony in Spanish.
044		Members introduce themselves.
071	Walt Ellis	Associate Dean of Urban and Public Affairs, Portland State University (PSU). Discusses what they do at the Population Research Center (PRC). States two points regarding the district lines: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflect diversity.• Role of PSU in the region.
124	Ellis	Explains why Multnomah County needs more than one representative. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead agencies are located in Multnomah County.• PSU is located in Multnomah County. Believes that Portland should have clout in Congressional representation.
150	Meredith Wood	Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT B) . Hopes that the

	Smith	district lines will reflect the diversity in the communities. Explains that House District 19 is diverse in culture and business. Asks that local high schools be used as centers of community interest. Believes that diversity teaches about a world outside of ourselves.
220	Barbara Disciascio	Resident of House District 16. Testifies in support of keeping Senate District 9 and House Districts 16 and 21 intact. Explains concerns of residents regarding “new” Portland. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate education systems comprised of multiple school districts, not just Portland public schools. • Independent utility board. • Transportation infrastructure including unpaved and substandard roads. • Mass transit.
278	Annette Mattson	Believes that old Portland and new Portland should remain separate. 23 year resident of Portland. Testifies and emphasizes the differences between east and west Portland. Believes that east Portland is unique because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School districts are outside the Portland Public School District. • In need of parks and recreational facilities. • Community of great socio-economic, racial, and ethnic diversity. • Inadequate infrastructure regarding sewers, sidewalks, roads, north to west public transportation.
326	Ron Clemenson	Centennial Communication Association. States his support for House Districts 16 and 21 remaining as they are. States his support for previous testimony. Submits (EXHIBIT C) .
401	Senator Frank Shields	Senate District 9. Believes that House Districts 16 and 21 and Senate District 9 are unique in that they are comprised of people that have in the last 15 years become residents of the City of Portland. States that there has never been a member of city council elected from east of 82 nd Street. States that new Portland feels disenfranchised and underrepresented. Explains that they are so far to the east that the city council does not acknowledge them. States that they are not within the Portland School District. Believes that schools usually form a community of interest and asks the committee to remember this. States that I-205 is a natural boundary that could be the western boundary of Senate District 9 with the Columbia River to the north.
TAPE 74, A		
043	Representative Jeff Merkley	House District 16. Submits and testifies from (EXHIBIT D) . Discusses the community of mid-Multnomah County.
091	Rep. Merkley	Testifies that people identify where they live by the high school boundaries and not the name of the neighborhood.
106	Rep. Merkley	Discusses the combined sewer overflow cost put on mid-Multnomah County, the vote scheme, and the elimination of the program. States that there is no city commissioner elected east

		of 42 nd Avenue.
161	Rep. March	Asks that he look at the city boundaries as existed in 1970, from Dolores to Division. States that the city lines ran along 92 nd , 94 th , and 96 th . Believes that 82 nd was not the perfect dividing line.
173	Rep. Merkley	Responds that 82 nd was the dividing line between Park Rose and the city. Explains that 82 nd was the highway for this part of the city and was thought of as a geographic divide.
186	Sen. Shields	Explains that mid-Multnomah tried to form its own city of about 139,000 people when annexation was first debated.
216	Herb Brown	Resident of House District 16. Discusses the mid-Multnomah attempt at cityhood. Submits (EXHIBIT E) and testifies in support of Senate District 9, House District 16, and House District 21 remaining intact.
262	George Starr	Resident of House District 16 and former State Representative. Testifies in support of preserving the districts of mid-Multnomah County as much as possible. States that about 45 years ago this area was rural. Concurs with previous testimony about sewage and schools.
316	John Dean Toran	Resident of District 18. Reads prepared testimony (EXHIBIT F) . Suggests expanding District 18.
390	Robert Phillips	Reads prepared testimony (EXHIBIT G) . Refers to the map in (EXHIBIT A) and District 19.
TAPE 73, B 028	Chair Wilson	Adjourns the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted By,

Reviewed By,

Jennifer Goodman,
Committee Assistant

Cara Filsinger,
Committee Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A – Redistricting, redistricting explanation, Staff, 4 pp.**
- B – Redistricting, written testimony, Meredith Wood Smith, 1 p.**
- C – Redistricting, signed petition, Ron Clemenson, 1 p.**
- D – Redistricting, written testimony, Rep. Merkley, 5 pp.**
- E – Redistricting, written testimony, Herb Brown, 1 p.**
- F – Redistricting, written testimony, John Dean Toran, 1 p.**
- G – Redistricting, written testimony, Robert Phillips, 1 p.**