

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE  
PUBLIC HEARING

THE SIDNEY AND PAULINE FRIEDMAN  
JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER  
KINGSTON, PA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021  
1:13 P.M.

PRESENTATION ON  
CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING  
NORTHEAST REGION

BEFORE:

HONORABLE SETH M. GROVE, MAJORITY CHAIRMAN  
HONORABLE RUSS DIAMOND  
HONORABLE DAWN KEEFER  
HONORABLE ANDREW LEWIS  
HONORABLE RYAN E. MACKENZIE  
HONORABLE BRETT R. MILLER  
HONORABLE ERIC R. NELSON  
HONORABLE CLINT OWLETT  
HONORABLE FRANCIS X. RYAN  
HONORABLE PAUL SCHEMEL  
HONORABLE LOUIS C. SCHMITT, JR.  
HONORABLE SCOTT CONKLIN, DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN  
HONORABLE ISABELLA V. FITZGERALD  
HONORABLE BENJAMIN V. SANCHEZ  
HONORABLE JARED G. SOLOMON  
HONORABLE JOE WEBSTER

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

HONORABLE DOYLE HEFFLEY

\* \* \* \* \*

*Debra B. Miller*

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## I N D E X

## TESTIFIERS

\* \* \*

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## SUBMITTED WRITTEN TESTIMONY

\* \* \*

See submitted written testimony and handouts online  
under "Show:" at:

[https://www.legis.State.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/TR/Public/tr\\_finder\\_public\\_action.cfm?tr\\_doc\\_typ=T&billBody=&billTyp=&billNbr=&hearing\\_month=&hearing\\_day=&hearing\\_year=&NewCommittee=State+Government&subcommittee=&subject=&bill=&new\\_title=&new\\_salutation=&new\\_first\\_name=&new\\_middle\\_name=&new\\_last\\_name=&new\\_suffix=&hearing\\_loc=](https://www.legis.State.pa.us/cfdocs/Legis/TR/Public/tr_finder_public_action.cfm?tr_doc_typ=T&billBody=&billTyp=&billNbr=&hearing_month=&hearing_day=&hearing_year=&NewCommittee=State+Government&subcommittee=&subject=&bill=&new_title=&new_salutation=&new_first_name=&new_middle_name=&new_last_name=&new_suffix=&hearing_loc=)

## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 \* \* \*

3 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Good afternoon,  
4 everyone. Sorry for the bit of a delay. We were waiting  
5 for some testifiers to arrive. Hopefully they will arrive,  
6 and we'll just continue down the agenda. Hopefully they do  
7 make it in time.

8 Today, the House State Government Committee will  
9 convene the sixth of eight regional hearings across  
10 Pennsylvania on congressional redistricting. Today we'll  
11 be hearing testimony from the northeast region of our  
12 Commonwealth.

13 Thank you to the Sidney and Pauline Friedman  
14 Jewish Community Center and Representative Aaron Kaufer for  
15 hosting us today. Unfortunately, Aaron couldn't be here.  
16 They just gave birth to a little girl, so he is enjoying  
17 time. And I got three kids. The youngest is 3 years old,  
18 so I know how quickly that goes, so I hope he enjoys it.  
19 It is their first child.

20 As a matter of housekeeping before we get  
21 started, a reminder that each testifier will be given  
22 10 minutes to present their testimony before the Members of  
23 the Committee. We'll be keeping firmly to those time  
24 limits. We're here to listen. No questions will be asked  
25 of testifiers. We were joking with Representative Heffley,

1 but no questions. You don't get any questions, bud.

2 Also, testifiers, please keep your comments  
3 relative to the topic at hand. We are here to learn about  
4 this region of the State -- its industries, its values, and  
5 its unique communities of interest. And due to recent  
6 changes to the Sunshine Law, the subject matter of  
7 testimony must be confined to the hearing topic only.  
8 Testimony outside the scope of this hearing will not be  
9 permitted.

10 We are here to learn from you and to take your  
11 input on congressional districts that will be in effect for  
12 the next decade. It's an important task, so if a testifier  
13 begins to stray from relevant testimony, I will ask you to  
14 refocus on the testimony, the topic before us. If you  
15 cannot, I will move on to the next listed speaker.

16 We also ask testifiers speak clearly into the  
17 microphone and that attendees here in the room with us  
18 today remain quiet and respectful. Today's public input  
19 hearing is livestreamed at [www.paredistricting.com](http://www.paredistricting.com), and it  
20 also will be recorded. Please help us ensure that those  
21 who are watching at home can easily hear all testimony.  
22 Additionally, under the Sunshine Law, if the video stream  
23 stops, we will recess the hearing until the issues are  
24 fixed.

25 For the Members attending virtually, please

1 ensure your microphones are off, and recognize that if your  
2 video is on, we can see you.

3 I would be remiss if I did not also mention that  
4 in addition to the testifiers who are present today, the  
5 Committee has also received testimony from people all  
6 across the Commonwealth who have submitted their written  
7 comments online.

8 For the northeast regional hearing, we have  
9 received testimony from Clayton B. from Montrose,  
10 Pennsylvania; Sharon N. from Brackney, Pennsylvania; the  
11 Pike County Commissioners from Milford, Pennsylvania;  
12 Bintou F. from Meadville; Brooklynn J. from Cheltenham,  
13 Pennsylvania; Laurie M. from Stevensville, Pennsylvania;  
14 and also Darrin Woodruff from the Ali Group North America.  
15 That written testimony is before each Member of the House  
16 State Government Committee for today's hearing and will be  
17 posted online shortly after we conclude.

18 And finally, before we go to our testifiers, both  
19 in-person and whose testimony will be held in our hands,  
20 thank you for taking an interest in redistricting and for  
21 participating in this once-in-a-decade process.

22 With that, I'll turn it over to Chairman Conklin  
23 for opening comments.

24 MINORITY CHAIRMAN CONKLIN: Just as always, I  
25 want to thank the Chairman and the individuals for coming

1 out. I think you have covered everything, and I'm ready to  
2 go.

3 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: All right.

4 With that, we'll go to introduction of Members,  
5 starting with Members present and then Members attending  
6 virtually. For the Members attending virtually, I will  
7 just announce you, and please just turn on your microphone  
8 and, if you can, your video and just introduce yourself.

9 Representative Schemel.

10 REPRESENTATIVE SCHEMEL: Good morning.

11 I'm Paul Schemel. I represent portions of  
12 Franklin County.

13 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative  
14 Seth Grove, the 196<sup>th</sup> District, York County.

15 MINORITY CHAIRMAN CONKLIN: Scott Conklin, the  
16 77<sup>th</sup> District, Centre County.

17 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Lewis.

18 REPRESENTATIVE LEWIS: Representative Lewis, the  
19 105<sup>th</sup> District in beautiful Dauphin County.

20 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Miller.

21 REPRESENTATIVE MILLER: Good afternoon.

22 Brett Miller, the 41<sup>st</sup> District, Lancaster County.

23 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Owlett.

24 REPRESENTATIVE OWLETT: Representative Owlett,  
25 the 68<sup>th</sup> District, all of Tioga and part of Bradford and

Potter Counties. Thank you.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Keefer.

REPRESENTATIVE KEEFER: Good afternoon.

Representative Dawn Keefer, the 92<sup>nd</sup> District,  
York and Cumberland Counties.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Nelson.

REPRESENTATIVE NELSON: Good afternoon.

Representative Nelson, Westmoreland County.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative  
Fitzgerald.

REPRESENTATIVE FITZGERALD: Good afternoon.

I'm Isabella Fitzgerald representing the  
203<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District -- West Oak Lane, East Oak Lane,  
and the Lower Northeast in Philadelphia.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Ryan.

REPRESENTATIVE RYAN: Representative Frank Ryan,  
representing the 101<sup>st</sup> District in Lebanon County,  
Pennsylvania.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Schmitt.

REPRESENTATIVE SCHMITT: Good afternoon,  
Mr. Chairman.

Lou Schmitt, the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, the  
city of Altoona, Logan Township, Allegheny Township, all in  
the county of Blair.

MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Diamond.

1           REPRESENTATIVE DIAMOND: Good afternoon,  
2 everyone.

3           Russ Diamond. I represent the 102<sup>nd</sup> District in  
4 Lebanon County.

5           MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative  
6 Mackenzie.

7           REPRESENTATIVE MACKENZIE: Good afternoon.

8           Representative Ryan Mackenzie from the  
9 134<sup>th</sup> District in portions of Lehigh and Berks Counties.

10          MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Sanchez.

11          REPRESENTATIVE SANCHEZ: Good afternoon,  
12 everybody.

13          It's Ben Sanchez from the 153<sup>rd</sup> District in  
14 Montgomery County.

15          MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative Solomon.

16          REPRESENTATIVE SOLOMON: Hi, everybody.

17          Jared Solomon, the 202<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District in  
18 Northeast Philadelphia.

19          Thank you.

20          MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: And the catchall: Did  
21 I miss anybody?

22          All right. Hearing none, we will move on to  
23 testifiers, and first up is Representative Doyle Heffley  
24 from the 122<sup>nd</sup> District, State Representative, Carbon  
25 County. And when you are comfortable and ready,



1 Representative, the floor is yours, and just make sure that  
2 little green light is on.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HEFFLEY: Thank you, and good  
4 afternoon, Chairman Grove and Minority Chairman Conklin and  
5 Members of the House State Government Committee, both here  
6 in person and attending virtually.

7 As a State Representative, I represent the  
8 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District in Carbon County. Thank you for  
9 this opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the  
10 upcoming congressional redistricting plan for Pennsylvania.

11 I commend the Chairman and this committee for  
12 holding these hearings and providing for a transparent  
13 process that includes public input.

14 My testimony will focus on ensuring we have a  
15 redistricting process that adheres to our Constitution and  
16 allows for meaningful public participation in a process  
17 that is not influenced by special interests, unelected  
18 bureaucrats, or activist judges. This occurred in other  
19 States like California where partisan organizations and  
20 local groups influenced the redistricting process for  
21 partisan gain. We are also seeing groups like this  
22 actively influencing the redistricting process here in  
23 Pennsylvania, with one national group even filing a lawsuit  
24 and asked the courts to draw congressional maps. We've  
25 seen this happen before, and there is really no evidence

1 that courts can transparently draw congressional maps.

2 As in the past, in 2018 when the courts drew  
3 maps, they barred the Stanford professor who drew the maps  
4 from discussing the process with the public. The authority  
5 to draw congressional districts was given to the  
6 Commonwealth's elected State Representatives, Senators, and  
7 Governor, who have the responsibility to enact legislation  
8 that will redraw the boundaries of our State's  
9 congressional districts.

10 Every resident of the Commonwealth has a stake in  
11 this process. No voices should be denied, nor should any  
12 be elevated. I have spoken to residents throughout the  
13 122<sup>nd</sup> District, many of whom work full time and weren't able  
14 to be here today, and I am testifying on their behalf.

15 Our guidance is "one person, one vote." My focus  
16 is to keep Carbon County whole, in one congressional  
17 district, so that my constituents will have a voice in  
18 selecting who represents them in Congress. Historical  
19 ties and voter turnout in recent elections has confirmed  
20 that the residents of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District  
21 support their representation and their position in the  
22 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. It is my hope that we will  
23 continue to reside in a district that reflects our  
24 communities and our values. Smaller counties like ours  
25 should not be carved up further, reducing our influence in

1 national matters.

2 I have serious concerns that special interest  
3 groups will have more influence in the process than the  
4 voters of Pennsylvania on how boundaries will be drawn.  
5 With that in mind, I believe it would be shortsighted for  
6 anyone to think that prison inmates should not be counted  
7 in the district where they are incarcerated. After all,  
8 they use the local infrastructure for water, sewer,  
9 broadband, and more.

10 Rural communities often rely on congressional  
11 support for funding of infrastructure projects and could be  
12 left out if they are underrepresented. The Committee needs  
13 to address the blatant partisan attempt to gerrymander,  
14 because it will result in differing populations between  
15 Pennsylvania's legislative districts and congressional  
16 districts, which could conflict with the Uniformity Clause  
17 in our Constitution.

18 We need an open and transparent, bipartisan  
19 redistricting process that does not unnecessarily split  
20 counties like mine, which I hope will result in legislation  
21 that the General Assembly can support and enact in a timely  
22 manner so we can attract worthy candidates to run for  
23 office. At the end of the day, it is our responsibility to  
24 listen to the voters who elect us and not the special  
25 interest groups.

1           Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2           MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much,  
3 and we appreciate your time.

4           Next on the list is Alan Hall, Vice-Chair of the  
5 Susquehanna County Board of Commissioners, Hallstead,  
6 Pennsylvania.

7           Commissioner Hall, thank you so much for taking  
8 time out of your busy schedule and participating in these  
9 regional hearings. As long as there is still a green light  
10 there and you're comfortable and ready, the floor is yours  
11 and begin.

12          MR. HALL: Thank you.

13          Thank you for the opportunity to come today  
14 before you and share the concerns that Susquehanna County  
15 has with redistricting.

16          As a third-term county commissioner, I can  
17 strongly say that one shoe does not fit all and that one  
18 shoe can be very devastating to many, and let me explain.

19          Size does matter. When you look at the northeast  
20 region of 12 counties, the population comparison is  
21 staggering. Susquehanna County has a population of  
22 approximately 40,000, Luzerne County has approximately  
23 317,000, and Lackawanna has around 210,000. Either of  
24 those counties have more population than six of the other  
25 counties combined.

1           If we're talking about fair districting, that  
2       also applies to the ability of each of the 12 counties to  
3       have the opportunity in a fair market to put forth a  
4       qualified candidate for an office and that candidate having  
5       a level playing field to succeed. A six-to-one  
6       disadvantage does not give rural counties a fair  
7       opportunity.

8           We have seen it before. Susquehanna County being  
9       incorporated into Lackawanna County for congressional  
10      redistricting will be disastrous because of the social and  
11      economic demographics, as each county is unique and  
12      different. This example already exists, because  
13      Susquehanna County is part of region 4 of PennDOT,  
14      headquartered out of Dunmore in Lackawanna County. Over  
15      the years, we have seen much needed resources reprioritized  
16      to the larger metropolitan areas of Scranton and  
17      Wilkes-Barre. The roads in Susquehanna County have  
18      suffered greatly and are very subpar. And actually, if it  
19      was not for the gas companies, more of our roads would be  
20      impassable.

21           Our neighbors to the west -- Bradford, Tioga,  
22      Sullivan, and Lycoming -- are all grouped in region 3.  
23      This group does not have the large metropolitan areas  
24      absorbing all the resources and are performing very well.

25           Economic development:

1           Susquehanna County is with the northern tier as  
2 part of the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development  
3 Commission, representing Tioga, Bradford, Sullivan,  
4 Wyoming, and Susquehanna Counties. NTRPD provides  
5 resources to help businesses and entrepreneurs, local  
6 governments, nonprofits, and job seekers to meet the  
7 challenges to be successful in Pennsylvania. In addition,  
8 Susquehanna County contracts with the Progress Authority,  
9 which is an economic development company that services  
10 Susquehanna and Bradford Counties.

11           The Progress Authority focuses on projects that  
12 involve industrial development, small business development,  
13 business financing, public infrastructure, site prep, and  
14 marketing. Redistricting our county with a large  
15 metropolitan area would jeopardize all of these programs.

16           The gas industry:

17           On any given day, Susquehanna County is the  
18 number-one producing dry gas county in Pennsylvania, if not  
19 in the country. Susquehanna County, along with Tioga,  
20 Bradford, Sullivan, Wyoming, and Lycoming represent the  
21 entire northeast Marcellus region and are all very rural  
22 counties with no large metropolitan areas. It's important  
23 for these counties to stay together, as they understand the  
24 hardships and requirements for the gas industry. This  
25 industry is like no other and is very unique in nature.

1 Understanding this industry goes far beyond what most can  
2 imagine. Even the industry when it came to our area had to  
3 learn a lot about our county from our road construction to  
4 even the ground formation.

5 As Susquehanna County knows little about the  
6 coal mines in Lackawanna County, the same is true with  
7 Lackawanna County understanding the gas industry in  
8 Susquehanna County. This is why rural counties with the  
9 gas industries need to stay together with other rural  
10 counties, as only they can understand their needs.

11 To summarize:

12 Again, thank you for the opportunity to come  
13 before you today and provide this testimony. Your job with  
14 redistricting in a good year is difficult, and the task  
15 ahead is very difficult.

16 As I stated with size matters, one needs to  
17 question the census. In our county, they showed up  
18 3 months late to start the process, and at the last count,  
19 we had a county average response of around 60 percent. Now  
20 we are told that it was up in the upper 90s with a  
21 declining population.

22 Real estate sales were high during the end of  
23 2020 with very low market inventory. The numbers don't add  
24 up. Combining with large counties with metropolitan areas  
25 provides a disservice not only to the rural counties but

1 also to the large metropolitan areas. Each have different  
2 needs for social and economic programs, and only they  
3 understand their needs. The differences go down even to  
4 parks, trails, stormwater, manure management, roads,  
5 schools, senior services, and housing, to mention a few.

6 We always look at how we can best provide  
7 services to our regions. When all of the areas that we  
8 represent have commonality, we become very well educated in  
9 the needs and represent well. It's important to focus on  
10 the commonalities such as rural counties and those with the  
11 natural gas development to be together. In addition, large  
12 counties with metropolitan areas can best be represented by  
13 someone focusing on their issues and concerns.

14 And I thank you for the opportunity.

15 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much,  
16 Commissioner Hall, for your time today and your testimony.  
17 We greatly appreciate it. Thank you.

18 Our next testifier, Harry Haas, Luzerne County  
19 Council, Kingston, Pennsylvania, unfortunately couldn't  
20 make it due to a death in the family. We do have his  
21 testimony, and our wishes are out for him and his family at  
22 this time.

23 So we'll move on to our next testifier,  
24 John Moyer, Vice-Chair of the Monroe County Board of  
25 Commissioners from Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.



1 Commissioner Moyer, come on up, and when you're  
2 comfortable and ready, please feel free to begin. And just  
3 make sure that little green light is on. Yep. Thank you  
4 very much for your time today.

5 MR. MOYER: Thank you.

6 You have had the opportunity to review my written  
7 testimony. I'll just make a few comments on it, if you  
8 please.

9 My logic for my recommendations really breaks  
10 down into fracturing the counties, which has already been  
11 mentioned. We have 20 municipalities in Monroe County.  
12 Twelve of them happen to fall in District 8 and seven of  
13 them fall in District 7. That leaves one that is split  
14 between District 7 and District 8. So on one side of the  
15 street, people are represented by District 7, on the  
16 opposite side of the street, perhaps by District 8. And I  
17 think it's highly unlikely that a person living in what  
18 happens to be Smithfield Township knows the census tract in  
19 which he resides. So clarity is one of the important  
20 things. People should know who represents them, and it  
21 should be certainly constant across the county, but there  
22 should be no splitting of particular municipalities.

23 The other thing is, the political strength, if  
24 Monroe County has any, is split by approximately 9 percent  
25 in District 7 and 15 percent in District 8. With our

1 population of approximately 168,000, we're never going to  
2 be the big dog in the room in terms of representation if we  
3 still are looking at something in the neighborhood of  
4 706,000 souls being represented, but if we were in one  
5 particular congressional district, we'd be at 24 percent of  
6 the overall population. And I'm not suggesting that we  
7 don't get recognition from both of our representatives, but  
8 it stands to reason as an elected official, a little bit  
9 more attention is going to be given to those places that  
10 field a few more votes. So for clarity and for political  
11 clout, I would suggest keeping Monroe County together.

12           The perhaps more important aspect of it is that  
13 we are now split with I'll call it the northern counties  
14 and the southern counties, although it's not exactly that  
15 way. But District 8 represents or encompasses some of the  
16 counties to the north, whereas District 7 takes into  
17 account two big counties to our south.

18           We are much more like the counties to our north  
19 in District 8 than we are like those in District 7. And I  
20 think in the old days when boundaries were set on the basis  
21 of mountain ranges, lakes, rivers, et cetera, et cetera,  
22 perhaps that made some sense, but I think now the logic  
23 should be based more on what counties experience the same  
24 kinds of problems, growth, opportunities, as the county  
25 that we are focusing on, which in my case is Monroe County.

1           We have been impacted with sudden growth as a  
2 result of COVID for the second time in 20 years. Pike  
3 County and some of the surrounding counties have hit the  
4 same thing. But we have got alliances already built up  
5 with some of the counties that I'm recommending we be  
6 combined with. For instance, Monroe County, Carbon County,  
7 and Pike County all make up a joinder board for servicing  
8 mental health developmental services, so we work well with  
9 those counties now.

10           Secondly, PMVB, our Pocono Mountains Visitors  
11 Bureau, which is our prime economic driver in Monroe County  
12 by virtue of our county being highly reliant upon  
13 recreation and hospitality, they are representing Monroe,  
14 Carbon, Pike, and Wayne. So we have already been put in a  
15 box with those other three counties.

16           When it comes to the Northeastern Pennsylvania  
17 Alliance, which is an economic development organization,  
18 again, Monroe, Carbon, Pike, Wayne, Luzerne, Lackawanna,  
19 and Schuylkill Counties make it up, and I have to presume  
20 there was some logic in how that division was made,  
21 primarily based on economic need.

22           Finally, Monroe, Carbon, Pike, and Wayne make up  
23 the Pocono Counties Workforce Development Board. So my  
24 recommendation is that Monroe County, Pike County, Carbon  
25 County, Wayne County, Schuylkill County, and Lackawanna

1 County go together, because the needs are similar, the  
2 interest of its population is similar, and I believe this  
3 makes all the sense in the world.

4 Now, by my rough calculation, putting those  
5 counties together would still net us about 4,000 people  
6 short of the 706,000, plus or minus a few, and I am simply  
7 promising, give me a couple of weeks and I can get  
8 4,000 people to move from another county into the new  
9 district.

10 But my recommendations are, don't fracture the  
11 counties. I think you've heard that before. And secondly,  
12 try to keep counties together that have similar interests,  
13 economic needs, et cetera, et cetera.

14 So I thank you for your willingness to listen to  
15 mine and other people's testimony. Thank you.

16 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much for  
17 your time, Commissioner. And I'll take note that while you  
18 have notes, written testimony, you talked to us and didn't  
19 look down at your paper the entire time. So I'm very  
20 impressed with your testimony. Thank you very much.

21 Next, we have Michael Waxenberg, Lords Valley,  
22 Pennsylvania. Thank you for your time. We appreciate your  
23 willingness to come testify. And as long as that little  
24 green light is on and you're ready and comfortable, feel  
25 free to begin when you're ready.

1           MR. WAXENBERG: Chair Grove, Chair Conklin,  
2 Members and staff of the Committee, thank you for making  
3 the trip up to northeastern Pennsylvania. Thanks for the  
4 opportunity to address you today.

5           You do have my written remarks, so I'll probably  
6 paraphrase. I promise not to break into song, and I  
7 promise to stay pretty close to the script.

8           I'll start with a brief word about myself, then  
9 I'll discuss the northeastern corner of the congressional  
10 map, and lastly, I'll address the map as a whole and  
11 suggest a starting point for your deliberations. I will  
12 try to tie it all back to northeastern Pennsylvania, so I  
13 hope you won't cut me off for straying too far.

14           My name is Michael Waxenberg. I have been a  
15 proud Pike County homeowner for 32 years. My profession, I  
16 manage technology risk, but in my spare time, I draw maps,  
17 lots and lots of maps. I have drawn prize-winning maps for  
18 congressional districts and for the State Senate. I have  
19 done it for Draw the Lines Pennsylvania, Fair Districts  
20 Pennsylvania, the Princeton Gerrymandering Project, Common  
21 Cause. They are all great organizations. I love them all,  
22 but today I'm representing only myself.

23           Since I drew my first congressional map 5 years  
24 ago, I have become part of a community that brings together  
25 activists, lawyers, cartographers, geographers, computer

1 scientists, many more. I'm proud to call many of them  
2 friends, and I learn from them every day.

3 One takeaway from my mapping experience has been  
4 that none of this is easy. I appreciate the difficulty of  
5 the task before the Committee, and I also understand that  
6 you face political considerations that we may not fully  
7 take into account. I will try to address that aspect as  
8 well to the extent I'm able.

9 But first, let's take a look at the northeast, or  
10 NEPA. The last time you all tackled this process, the  
11 result in our region was not ideal. Strange shapes aside,  
12 and I think you have got that map, the composition of our  
13 districts in NEPA really didn't make a lot of sense to the  
14 people in them.

15 The other end of our district, the old  
16 10<sup>th</sup> District, lay west of Harrisburg at the border of  
17 Franklin County. No disrespect, sir. That's about 3 hours  
18 away from my home on a good day when I-81 isn't dug up or  
19 flooded or jammed. In Pike, we were separated from  
20 Representative Marino's home by two big pieces of  
21 intervening districts, and that meant we didn't see much of  
22 our Congressman and our impression was that he wasn't  
23 paying a lot of attention to us, but that's all history.

24 In 2018, the Supreme Court struck down that map.  
25 They replaced it with one of their own, which, by most of

1 the measures we use as mappers, is a good map. It's also  
2 fairly fresh, and importantly, it has the court's blessing.  
3 And if Pennsylvania still had 18 districts, I would  
4 probably tell you to leave well enough alone, tweak  
5 population, and just stick with it as it is.

6 It's particularly good for us in northeastern  
7 Pennsylvania, by the way, because we have a district that  
8 is compact and coherent and it's competitive, so our  
9 Congressman really needs to listen to us. But we're down  
10 to 17 districts. The population has shifted a lot, so  
11 there are some hard choices to make all over the State.  
12 And I'll focus first on the choices in NEPA and then I'll  
13 move on to the statewide picture.

14 Now, depending on whom you ask, northeastern  
15 Pennsylvania can extend pretty far west -- Northumberland,  
16 Tioga, even farther. I don't know anything about those  
17 areas, so I'm going to stick to the two places I know.  
18 That's the Wyoming Valley and the Poconos where I am. And  
19 actually, the Wyoming Valley has a census name. It's the  
20 Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Hazleton Metropolitan Area. Those  
21 two communities resemble the core of the current  
22 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. That combination makes sense  
23 for some reasons you have heard today and many others make  
24 sense geographically, historically, culturally,  
25 economically. And in addition to all that, there are

1 transportation options that I'm sure you are familiar with  
2 that are going to tie those two communities together even  
3 more tightly.

4 Now, I have redrawn this corner of the  
5 congressional map probably hundreds of times. I always end  
6 up with something very, very similar to that core. The  
7 lines change sometimes. I apologize to the commission,  
8 sometimes Monroe does get split, but I always end up with  
9 something that's based on that core.

10 Now, conveniently for mappers, those two core  
11 communities get us very close to the target population for  
12 a congressional district. There are about 500,000 people  
13 in the Wyoming Valley; there are about 200,000 in the  
14 Poconos, so we're left working the margins to reach the  
15 target, which I believe is actually 765,000 this time.

16 Now, the first direction we tend to look is  
17 north, because we're kind of trapped in a corner of the  
18 State, and that goes to Wayne County. The southeastern  
19 part of Wayne around Hawley and Lake Wallenpaupack, it has  
20 a very much Poconos flavor. Our commuter bus route  
21 actually terminates there, so we're pretty tightly tied  
22 together.

23 The southwestern part of Wayne is tightly linked  
24 to Scranton by two major arteries. We have got I-84  
25 running that way, and then the extension to Route 6 -- I



1 think it's called the Casey Highway -- goes that way as  
2 well.

3           The big question about Wayne is the northern  
4 part. It's very rural. It's kind of Susquehanna-ish. But  
5 you're talking about 15,000 people, so the simplest answer  
6 is the one the Supreme Court reached in 2018, keep Wayne  
7 whole, because we're not supposed to divide counties if we  
8 don't have to.

9           So with Wayne, we're up close to 750,000 people  
10 and we have a nice compact district. I should mention in  
11 deference to Carbon, you could go to Carbon, but then  
12 you're stuck with Wayne hanging out there in the  
13 northeastern corner. You have to figure out what to do  
14 with it. You end up with a very non-compact district above  
15 us.

16           So where do we go to reach that population  
17 target? We're boxed in to the east. In the northeast,  
18 there's a river there, and then New York and New Jersey.  
19 Heading south, you're into the Lehigh Valley. It's the  
20 core of CD 7. It has got its own regional identity. So  
21 mostly your options are to the west and maybe the  
22 southwest, and that brings us to the bigger picture,  
23 because what you do at the margins of CD 8 sends ripples  
24 across the State.

25           Outside the core of CD 8 -- actually, even within

1 the core of CD 8 -- I rely heavily on the knowledge of the  
2 community that I described earlier. I urge you to draw on  
3 that knowledge, too, and I can recommend a pretty good way  
4 to tap into it.

5 As you know, the Draw the Lines project team  
6 recently unveiled their Citizens' Map. Their goal was to  
7 capture the collective wisdom of 1500 contest participants  
8 and the wider community of observers into a single map. I  
9 was one of those 1500. I had the privilege of contributing  
10 to what I believe was a robust and scrupulously fair  
11 process. If you have any doubts about the fairness, I can  
12 explain the metrics we used. It really was.

13 In the northeastern corner of the Citizens' Map,  
14 CD 8 pretty much is what I described -- Lackawanna, Pike,  
15 Wayne, nearly all of Monroe, and the Luzerne County part of  
16 the Wyoming Valley. A little bit of Monroe gets shaved  
17 off, and along with Carbon, it goes into CD 7 to balance  
18 the numbers. I know Representative Heffley might have  
19 thoughts about that. But CD 8, to fill it out, gets a  
20 little bit more of Luzerne across the valley. Luckily, it  
21 does steer clear of Representative Meuser's home, which is  
22 just up the road from here in Shavertown.

23 But it's not that way because of where the  
24 incumbents are, and it's not that way because of my opinion  
25 or any other individual's opinion. It's that way because

1 1500 mappers and commenters converged toward the same basic  
2 result, just with small variations around the edges, and  
3 that's largely true of the whole map. The detailed  
4 Citizens' Map is uncontroversial. It's crowdsourced.  
5 Crowdsourcing produces boring results, and in my opinion,  
6 boring is good.

7 Now, there are some tough decisions reflected in  
8 that map. You'll have to face them, but they were the  
9 preferred solutions to challenges that confront any  
10 17-district map. There are no big surprises, no  
11 controversial choices that you can't easily undo, and there  
12 are no dramatic departures from the 2018 map except what's  
13 necessary to compress 18 districts into 17.

14 So, why this map rather than 100 equally good  
15 maps? That's where the process matters: their process at  
16 Draw the Lines; your process here going forward.

17 Draw the Lines has already sorted through the  
18 input from many of your most engaged constituents. They  
19 have assembled it for you into a single map. If you take  
20 this map as a starting point, just a starting point for  
21 your deliberations, you are already halfway to meeting the  
22 demand for citizen involvement in the reapportionment  
23 process -- a great shortcut.

24 Starting with the Citizens' Map should also put  
25 you well on your way to worthy approval of Governor Wolf's

1 panel of experts -- they use the same metrics we do -- and  
2 ultimately toward his signature, and you'll have the  
3 beginnings of a defense against any legal challenges that  
4 make their way to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court because  
5 they already imposed a map very much like this one. In  
6 fact, the maps don't just look similar. By the metrics we  
7 used, our map -- the DTL map, rather -- is basically a  
8 17-district version of the scope of map. Well, without  
9 some conspicuously strange lines in their map in Allegheny  
10 and Berks Counties, but that's another story.

11 Now, I understand there are political obstacles  
12 to the course that I'm suggesting. Every line involves a  
13 clash of interests, and some of you may think your parties  
14 will do better if the Supreme Court draws the map or that  
15 political conflict may somehow be beneficial. I'm not  
16 going to comment on that. If that's where we are, then the  
17 cynics are right and the Supreme Court is going to draw our  
18 congressional map, and that would be a shame.

19 If you want this constitutionally mandated  
20 process to succeed, and I know you do, the Draw the Lines  
21 Citizens' Map offers a head start, and for this corner of  
22 northeastern Pennsylvania and for this voter, I think it  
23 offers as good a final answer as any.

24 I thank you for your attention. I'll look  
25 forward to watching your process with interest.

1           MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much for  
2 your testimony. And honestly, this is kind of why we want  
3 to do this, for that input from individuals like yourselves  
4 who love to draw maps. And it did remind me, we will have  
5 that map-drawing option available hopefully soon on our  
6 website so we can see maps come in. But I just wanted to  
7 applaud you for your willingness to testify and being so  
8 engaged in this system for so long, so thank you very much.

9           MR. WAXENBERG: Thank you.

10          MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: The next testifier is  
11 Kenneth Lee from Clarks Summit. Ken, come on up, and as  
12 long as that green light is on and you're comfortable and  
13 ready, the floor is yours, sir.

14          MR. LEE: Very good.

15               Thank you very much for allowing me to speak to  
16 the State Government Committee today about redrawing  
17 northeast Pennsylvania's congressional district lines. I  
18 come before you today merely as a private citizen from  
19 Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, speaking on my own behalf.

20               However, 30 years ago from 1989 to 1994, I had  
21 the honor of being a member of this same State House  
22 Government Committee, having been at that time the  
23 Republican State Representative for the 111<sup>th</sup> Legislative  
24 District, consisting of all of Sullivan, Wyoming -- all or  
25 parts of Wyoming, Sullivan, Bradford, and Susquehanna

1 Counties. Given this experience, I know how drudgerous it  
2 can be to listen to hours upon hours of repetitive  
3 committee testimony. With this in mind, I will keep my  
4 comments as brief as possible.

5 I come before you today to request that this  
6 committee adopt a congressional redistricting plan for  
7 northeastern Pennsylvania which is based upon fairness and  
8 common sense rather than upon partisan political  
9 considerations. I believe it is unfortunate that the  
10 Pennsylvania Supreme Court felt compelled to take over the  
11 congressional redistricting process a decade ago. However,  
12 it is hard to argue that the maps originally proposed and  
13 adopted by the Pennsylvania Legislature were not blatant  
14 attempts to redraw district lines solely to favor one  
15 political party over the other rather than an honest  
16 attempt to draw district lines in a commonsense and  
17 equitable fashion.

18 One might argue that the Supreme Court was also  
19 acting in a partisan manner by rejecting the Legislature's  
20 district maps. However, when one compares the two maps,  
21 even a school child with a cursory knowledge of  
22 northeastern Pennsylvania would quickly recognize the more  
23 logical of the two.

24 I do not pretend to believe that politics will  
25 not play a part in the congressional redistricting process.

1 I also do not believe the Republicans have the monopoly on  
2 politicizing this process. For proof of this, one need  
3 only to look to our bordering State of New York where a  
4 democratically controlled Legislature is doing its best to  
5 overturn a voter-authorized nonpartisan redistricting  
6 process in order to force through a redistricting map that  
7 will heavily favor Democrats in the Empire State.

8           However, despite these facts, I believe that at  
9 this crucial moment in America's democracy, we can no  
10 longer afford to throw up our hands and surrender this  
11 process solely to partisan map manipulators. I therefore  
12 urge this committee to redraw its northeast Pennsylvania  
13 congressional district maps based upon commonsense  
14 principles rather than upon partisan political  
15 prerogatives. I do this for two main reasons.

16           First, I believe that the Pennsylvania Supreme  
17 Court's entry into the redistricting process represented a  
18 dangerous usurpation of the power of the legislative branch  
19 of government by the judicial branch. Denying the court  
20 grounds upon which to do so again by adopting an  
21 objectively reasonable redistricting map would put an end  
22 to the court's meddling in such legislative matters.

23           Secondly, if a commonsense redistricting plan  
24 rather than a gerrymandered one is adopted, northeast  
25 Pennsylvania will be less likely to have congressional

1 districts which strongly favor one political party or the  
2 other and, in so doing, will provide centrist candidates  
3 with a greater opportunity to win congressional seats in  
4 our area.

5           It is undeniable that our State and Federal  
6 Government systems have broken down due largely to the  
7 intensely partisan makeup of the U.S. Congress and the  
8 Pennsylvania State Legislature. It is also undeniable that  
9 part of the reason for this partisanship is the fact that  
10 for too long, in order to favor one party or the other,  
11 congressional districts have been redrawn in order to pack  
12 each district with members of one party or the other, a  
13 problem which has only been exacerbated by the introduction  
14 of sophisticated computer algorithms into the process.  
15 There is also congressional districts with Congressmen and  
16 women who have no fear of being defeated in a general  
17 election and must instead appeal solely to the members of  
18 their own political parties in order to be reelected.

19           In the end, the question before this committee,  
20 as it was in my days in the Legislature, is what should  
21 take priority, the democratic process as a whole or the  
22 interests of one political party over the other. In  
23 answering this question, I know that Committee Members may  
24 justify their decision to favor a partisan political  
25 approach by reasoning that, well, it has always been done



1 that way; or, if the shoe were on the other foot, the other  
2 party would take the same approach; or, that the ends  
3 justify the means. However, at this crucial moment of an  
4 American republican form of government, I would argue that  
5 we cannot afford to allow political self-interests to  
6 jeopardize the very future of our democracy, and I  
7 therefore urge the Members of this committee to put  
8 partisan considerations aside when redrawing our northeast  
9 Pennsylvania congressional district lines.

10 Thanks again for allowing me to say a few words.

11 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Representative, thank  
12 you so much for your time and commitment, and I appreciate  
13 you coming back to testify with us today. Thank you so  
14 much.

15 Next up is Liz -- Terwilliger?

16 MS. TERWILLIGER: You got it.

17 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Whew. That's the only  
18 one I was kind of worried about.

19 ---from Warren Center, Pennsylvania. Thank you  
20 so much for taking the time out of your day to come in and  
21 testify. And as long as you got a green light and you're  
22 comfortable, please feel free to begin your testimony.

23 MS. TERWILLIGER: It's on.

24 I would have been happy to give you the  
25 pronunciation if you needed it.

1           I appreciate the opportunity to come and speak  
2 today. In the interests of full disclosure, I want to say  
3 that in the 2020 election, I was the Libertarian candidate  
4 for Congress in the 12<sup>th</sup> District. And while I intend to  
5 run again, I am speaking today as a resident of Bradford  
6 County from my personal experience in the county rather  
7 than as a candidate, although I have to say, of course, I  
8 do have an interest in how this map is drawn.

9           I'm anxious that you draw this map soon so that  
10 we can figure out what the district is going to look like.  
11 However, that is a sidebar. All right.

12           So as I said, I'm from Bradford County, which is  
13 in north-central Pennsylvania. In my opinion, it's  
14 north-central Pennsylvania. It's just on the edge of the  
15 northeast region that was determined for these hearings,  
16 which I understand is arbitrary in the sense that you had  
17 to draw the line somewhere for the hearings.

18           So Bradford County is extremely rural. It shares  
19 services with surrounding counties and with some counties  
20 that are not very close by. I would like to suggest to the  
21 Committee that these communities of interest are -- thep  
22 thep thep thep; yeah. So I'm a speech therapist. Let me  
23 just say that as I stutter my way through my presentation.

24           So I would like to suggest to the Committee that  
25 communities of interest are formed by their relationships

1 and shared services between these counties and that they  
2 should be preserved within a congressional district when  
3 they can be.

4 I work in early intervention. I work in the  
5 birth-to-3 program in Bradford and Sullivan Counties.  
6 That's a joinder that was created by the Commonwealth to  
7 meet the needs of two very rural counties. There's a lot  
8 of joinders in early intervention in birth-to-3 and in the  
9 IU system. These two counties were tied together for  
10 service coordination and for service provision for the  
11 families that we work with.

12 The families that I serve transition into the  
13 Blast program, which is IU 17's 3-to-5 program. That  
14 program serves Bradford, Sullivan, Lycoming, and Tioga  
15 Counties. So these educational communities -- I have to  
16 look out of my glasses, not under my glasses. These  
17 educational communities are currently all encompassed  
18 within the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, so the families and  
19 education programs have the benefit of having one  
20 representative to whom they can take their concerns, one  
21 representative to hear the voices for both sides, and one  
22 representative to understand their perspectives and  
23 advocate for their unique needs.

24 Many of the families that I work with have  
25 children with special needs that are beyond a developmental

1 delay, so they have significant medical needs as well, and  
2 because we're so rural, pediatric specialty services are  
3 not available in Bradford County. They're not available in  
4 Sullivan County. They're not available until you get to  
5 Geisinger Medical. So all of our kids are referred down to  
6 Geisinger because it's the closest service. It's 2 hours  
7 from us on a good day, but it's the closest pediatric  
8 services. The specialist for complex care, like if you  
9 need a cleft-palate team, or if you even just need a  
10 pediatric nutritional consultation, they are all at  
11 Geisinger in Danville.

12 Geisinger is in Montour County, which is outside  
13 the current 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Our families with  
14 young children rely on Geisinger for pediatric specialties.  
15 We had, and this is off of the script a little bit, but we  
16 had a significant incident -- time goes fast; I think it  
17 was a couple years ago -- with ENT services at Guthrie in  
18 Bradford County, and all of the ENT services now are  
19 shipped to Geisinger. So ear, nose, and throat specialists  
20 are at Geisinger. They do send people up to us sometimes  
21 to serve in the Guthrie system as a shared service, but for  
22 the most part, our families are driving.

23 And I would like to also make a plug -- I know  
24 this is off topic a little bit -- for the continuation of  
25 teleservices beyond March 31<sup>st</sup> for our rural, our families

1 that drive all the way to Geisinger for a 15-minute  
2 consultation.

3 As it stands right now, we have one  
4 representative for the families that receive services at  
5 Geisinger and one representative for Geisinger medical  
6 services in Danville, because the district, they're outside  
7 of the district. There is no single representative who  
8 hears the perspectives of the family and the medical  
9 community. There is no single advocate for the needs of  
10 both, because the needs of rural health care, we are  
11 combined with our service provider and our families.

12 I propose bringing Montour County where Geisinger  
13 lies into the same district as the families for whom we  
14 provide this critical service. And by the same logic and  
15 for the sake of keeping counties whole, it would really be  
16 nice if we could make Northumberland one whole county  
17 within the same district. So I would suggest bringing the  
18 adjacent Columbia County and the remainder of  
19 Northumberland that's not in the district into the same  
20 district as well.

21 In a region of the Commonwealth that is as rural  
22 as ours, I know that it's unrealistic to expect a  
23 geographically compact district. The district, it will  
24 always be probably 2 or 3 hours to drive across our  
25 district, and that's just the way it is. And I know that

1 the Committee is going to work hard to maintain whole  
2 counties and communities within a single district as much  
3 as possible, but I'm here today to propose that while  
4 considering boundaries in redistricting, that our district  
5 be drawn in a manner that considers these important  
6 educational and medical communities that are communities of  
7 interest in our area.

8 Ba-da-bump. That's what I got.

9 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much.

10 And listen, your opening comments of get maps  
11 done because we're all interested, you got, well, now---

12 MS. TERWILLIGER: I know you guys are feeling  
13 that, too.

14 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: ---now 16 Members of  
15 Congress, 2-2 said that in the same boat, potential  
16 challengers and all of us. So we---

17 MS. TERWILLIGER: Right.

18 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: ---we all feel that  
19 same, but.

20 MS. TERWILLIGER: Like I said, that doesn't  
21 really influence my testimony. I know we're all feeling  
22 that, but (snapping fingers) let's go.

23 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Okay.

24 So thank you very much for your testimony.

25 MS. TERWILLIGER: Thank you.

1 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: We appreciate it. And  
2 thank you for your willingness to actually jump in and run  
3 for office, too. It's not the easiest thing to do, so  
4 thank you.

5 MS. TERWILLIGER: Thank you.

6 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: With that, we'll go to  
7 our last testifier, James Barbour, the Pennsylvania Farm  
8 Bureau State Board from Hallstead, Pennsylvania.

9 Mr. Barbour, thank you so much for your time and  
10 your willingness to testify today. And as long as that  
11 little green light is open and you are ready and  
12 comfortable, begin when you're ready.

13 MR. BARBOUR: Sure.

14 Thank you very much for the opportunity to be  
15 here and to be able to share today.

16 A little bit about me as a farmer. I'm the third  
17 generation on our farm. If you go up 81, we're the last  
18 exit before you go into New York State. You don't get much  
19 further north. Our water flows north into the Susquehanna  
20 while it's still in New York State, so we're only 4 miles  
21 from the State line.

22 I'm here to be able to share not only as a farmer  
23 but of the other things that I do. Mentioning the Farm  
24 Bureau, I'm the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Susquehanna County  
25 Farm Bureau. I actually am on the State Board for the

1 Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, representing not only Susquehanna  
2 but Wayne, Pike, Wyoming, and Lackawanna Counties. I serve  
3 on the executive committee as well. We have grass-fed beef  
4 and organically fed hogs and vegetables and herbs that we  
5 do CSAs with, so we're involved in a variety of things.  
6 I'm also the President of the North East Aberdeen  
7 Association, which covers the 11 States in the Northeast.  
8 I serve on a number of national committees.

9           With all that I do, I understand the differences  
10 in geography and economy and everything else and the  
11 challenges that that brings. But I'm here today with a  
12 passionate concern for the future of Susquehanna County, a  
13 rural, agricultural, gas-producing county. We need  
14 representation that understands who we are and what we  
15 do.

16           Population and politics seem to be the driving  
17 factors in redistricting. My concern is that Susquehanna  
18 County could, with our relatively low population compared  
19 to urban areas south of us, be redistricted in that  
20 direction and not have a voice that would be heard through  
21 the noise and needs of metropolitan areas. I'm also  
22 concerned with the possibility of being redistricted to the  
23 east with the DRBC counties. That would leave us as the  
24 only gas-producing county and again not be heard.

25           I strongly affirm that Susquehanna County needs



1 to stay connected in a district that includes the other  
2 northern tier rural, agricultural, gas-producing counties.  
3 I have been a proponent for the gas production from the  
4 beginning. In the early days, there was a lot of fear  
5 and hysteria from lack of understanding and a lot of  
6 misleading information. Sadly, many outside of our area  
7 still fall into that mindset. We have a mile of pipeline  
8 on our farm. It is very well maintained and monitored. We  
9 have a compressor station in one of our fields. Noise is  
10 not an issue. The gas industry has saved many farms from  
11 going out of business and greatly bolstered our local  
12 economy.

13           There is a commonality among the northern tier  
14 rural, gas-producing counties, a commonality of issues and  
15 interests that must be represented by someone who  
16 understands our uniqueness. With whatever redistricting  
17 that takes place, I believe that Susquehanna, Bradford,  
18 Tioga, Potter, Wyoming, Sullivan, Lycoming, and Clinton  
19 Counties must stay in the same district for these reasons  
20 given. Now, that is the northern part of the 12<sup>th</sup> District  
21 now, and I think that because of our commonality, we really  
22 do need to stay together to be represented for who we are  
23 and what we do.

24           Thank you.

25           MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you very much for

1 your time and your willingness to come out and testify.  
2 And that was our last testifier, so I'll throw it over to  
3 Chairman Conklin for any closing remarks.

4 MINORITY CHAIRMAN CONKLIN: As always, I just  
5 want to thank everyone for coming out. Again, this was  
6 another great meeting. I enjoy the backgrounds, the  
7 different areas that each individual comes from, and I want  
8 to thank you all so very much for coming out. I'm looking  
9 forward to getting to work on the maps soon.

10 MAJORITY CHAIRMAN GROVE: Thank you.

11 And thank you again to our testifiers for your  
12 input and impact of the redistricting process on your  
13 communities.

14 I also want to thank the Members in attendance  
15 today as well as our hosts, The Sidney and Pauline Friedman  
16 Jewish Center and, again, Representative Aaron Kaufer. And  
17 again, best wishes to him and his wife on the birth of  
18 their first daughter.

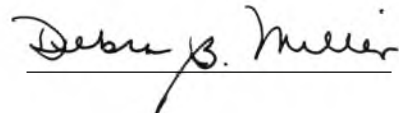
19 I hope it's evident that the House of  
20 Representatives is committed to undertaking the most open,  
21 transparent, and accountable redistricting process in  
22 Pennsylvania history. We believe that transparency and  
23 accountability form the bedrock of good governance, and  
24 public input through these hearings plays a central role in  
25 that.

1                   Thank you very much for your time, and we are  
2 adjourned.

3

4                   (At 2:01 p.m., the public hearing adjourned.)

1 I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings  
2 are a true and accurate transcription produced from  
3 audio/video on the said proceedings and that this is a  
4 correct transcript of the same.

5  
6  
7 

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