

Brenda A. Wise

From: Roberta Jeracka <rsjeracka2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:29 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Keep our Capital Region together.
Roberta Jeracka

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joan Disare <disareco@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:30 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Upstate New York Congressional Districts

As a 70 year old, lifelong resident of upstate New York, I am writing to express my deep dismay with the radically changed Congressional District map which has been proposed by the Special Master, Jonathan Cervas.

The draft map divides the Capital Region by placing the cities of Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs within a sprawling rural district by expanding CD21. This change would virtually silence voices in these smaller, yet critical parts of the Capital District community. Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs, together with Albany, Schenectady, and Troy, have deep roots binding us on a range of issues. We share common interests and services such as transportation, education and cultural activities. Approval of this redistricting map would be a severe blow to our shared future and ruin the Capital Region’s ability to speak with a unified voice in Washington DC. I strongly implore you to reconsider this onerous and short-sighted proposal in favor of keeping our Capital Region community united.

Thank you.

Joan Disare

Ballston Lake NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joanne Yepsen <joannedittesyepsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Dear NY Courts,

As a resident and former Mayor of the city of Saratoga Springs, NY, I am strongly opposed to the draft Congressional map that would remove my community from a Congressional district centered in New York's Capital Region. I know first-hand Saratoga Springs strongly identifies with, and relies on, the greater Capital Region collaboration for our success.

The Capital Region historically has been kept together in the same Congressional District for good reason – the shared communities and cities of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy have deep roots binding them together. We share common services through the CDTA and SUNY systems and now, it's more important than ever, due to the Infrastructure applications and funds available for collaboration with similar communities.

We have strong economic and transportation shared systems with communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Amsterdam. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities. Placing Saratoga Springs into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs and systems than our own will ultimately be detrimental to our community. If we end up in Congressional District 21 as suggested by the Special Masters, it will be a hammer blow to our shared future and ruin the Capital Region's ability to speak with a unified voice to benefit residents.

I urge you to include Saratoga Springs in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Joanne D. Yepsen
Saratoga Springs Mayor (2014-2018)

Joanne Dittes Yepsen
Public Affairs Consulting
Former Mayor, Saratoga Springs, NY
joannedittesyepsen@gmail.com
518-526-5272

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Brenda A. Wise

From: John Bulgaro <JBulgaro@teamsterslocal294.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

The capital city has a long-standing relationship with the surrounding cities of Troy Schenectady Saratoga and Amsterdam. Breaking up this congressional district would be a disservice to our entire community. Please reconsider this change that is not in the best interest of our community.

Sent from my iPad

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Brenda A. Wise

From: dolorest@nycap.rr.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New York's 20th Congressional District

It is fair and appropriate to keep New York's Capital District cities together in the 20th Congressional District. They share common services and have common needs. I recognize that the court is trying to avoid gerrymandered districts, but the handling of the Capital District in the re-drawn map appears gerrymandered to stifle the representation of voters in Amsterdam and Saratoga.

Respectfully submitted,
Dolores Tuohy
833 Greenthorne Blvd.
Schenectady, NY 12303

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Linda Glansberg <linda.glansberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep Saratoga Springs in the 20th ED!!!

As a resident of the city of Saratoga Springs, NY, I am strongly opposed to the draft Congressional map that would remove my community from a Congressional district centered in New York's Capital Region. Saratoga Springs strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Amsterdam. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities. Placing Saratoga Springs into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs than our own will ultimately be detrimental to our community. I urge you to include Saratoga Springs in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kathleen Wilson <kmd.wils0406@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:31 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

I am deeply concerned with the proposed new congressional districts. As a long time resident of Saratoga Springs, I find that this area has much more in common with the capital district than the "North" country. We work and shop in the capital district, we share many of the same services, our children attend SUNY schools or many of the private schools in the area, our everyday lives are fully interwoven with the other cities, towns and villages here. Our concerns, interests and goals are shared among the other areas in this district.

To remove Saratoga Springs from this district and put it into the huge, sparsely populated 21st district is a disservice and really a "slap" in the face of all of the hard working, concerned citizens in my city. Our city has more in common with the cities in the capital region than any of the places in the 21st district. Please reconsider this decision, there is more to a district than just the population, those are just numbers, what we have with the capital district is community.

Sincerely,
Kathleen M Wilson
Saratoga Springs

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Margaret Kinosian <margaretkinosian@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep 20th District Intact

I love New York. New Yorkers are proud, sensible, and resilient. We need to keep the majority of clear-thinking people together in the 20th Congressional District by including Saratoga and Amsterdam.

Isolated, rural, mostly white, impoverished and poorly educated communities in the rest of the Adirondacks are easily manipulated by the likes of Tucker Carlson and other sick perpetrators of racist, anti-government unrest. It is well known that ignorant, rural populations routinely vote against their own interests, for without critical thinking skills, they reflexively buy into grievance politics that only divide, and do not build up their communities.

Please save the poorer communities in upstate New York from themselves, and keep the 20th Congressional District intact.

Thank you,

Margaret Kinosian

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Erica Bersin <ericabersin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:32 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NYS redistricting

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Ms. Wise,

I would like my comment included in the public record.

It's clear to me that Jonathan Cervas has absolutely no clue about NY given how he's carved up our state. Moreover, republicans have admitted that they can't win without cheating. So is the court going to help them do it?

This is no way to engage in democracy given this has been done under cover of darkness, knowing that people from downstate can't get to a courtroom five hours from where they live during a work day. And with no time or easy way to provide input.

The map needs to be returned to what the state approved after the census prior to this 11th hour sham attack on our state. Anything more is criminal.

Sincerely,
Erica Bersin
311 East 71st Street
NY, NY 10021

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Eileen Mack <leenie151@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:35 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Dear NY Courts:

You have been assigned an important task to set up voting districts. Your decisions will be impactful for years to come. You can make these impacts work for the people. One way to work for the citizenry would be to keep the 20th Congressional District as nearly intact as possible. The communities of Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Troy and Amsterdam are connected economically and culturally. In addition, our present congressperson has been undefeated and for good reason. He has known how to take care of his constituents and watchout for the welfare of our nation. There are enough divisions in this country. You can help us work together and be united or you can sow more feelings of uncertainty. I entreat you to carefully evaluate your decision and be mindful of the consequences of your actions.

Respectfully,
Eileen Egan Mack

--

Eileen C. Egan Mack

"The secret to life is enjoying the passage of time." J. Taylor

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kevin O'Dell <kevinodell66@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:36 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in the Capital District, specifically Saratoga County, for more than 35 years. I am now 73 years old. The economic, business, social, educational and recreational needs and interests of the citizens throughout these areas have been intertwined and interdependent for all the years I have resided here. It would be a disservice and damaging to the great majority of citizens in the surrounding areas if the courts divide Saratoga from Albany, Schenectady and Troy. Please reconsider the proposed Congressional map and restore the Capital Region Congressional District to its current configuration. Thank you.

Kevin O'Dell
2022 Rowley Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
518-587-2435

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Brenda A. Wise

From: maria speranza <mars_stars1215@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:36 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep AMSTERDAM IN NY20

To Whom it may concern

Kepp in Amsterdam in NY20!

Respectfully,
Maria Speranza Nielsen

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kathleen Digan <kathleendigan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:37 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Hi -

As a Capital Region resident since 2006, I am reaching out to advocate for keeping the Capital Region communities together in redistricting. Separating Saratoga & Amsterdam from the rest of the region just doesn't make sense. Those cities have so much more in common with the Capital District than they do with the Adirondacks/North Country.

Best,

Kathleen Digan
21 Edinburgh Court
Slingerlands, NY 12159

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lynn Moffat <lynn.m.moffat@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:37 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Redistricting NYS CD 16/17

Dear Justice McAllister and Dr. Cervas:

I am writing specifically about the proposed Congressional Districts 16 and 17.

I participated in numerous community meetings set by the Independent Redistricting Committee. My husband, an elected official, was asked to speak at a hearing. I cannot sit quietly now and see these newly proposed districts enacted. This latest iteration in redistricting violates two principle concepts that we were told to prioritize.

One: The public's voice is nowhere to be found here. Were you given time to read even a summary of the testimony provided to the Independent Redistricting Committee? A lot of time and effort was spent by Chairman Imamura and the committee to ensure the public participated in the process (although there were a number of committee members absent from many meetings).

Two: Communities of interest should be made as whole as possible. To that end, Westchester County in the Lower Hudson Valley should not be carved in half on an East/West axis. The villages, towns and hamlets are connected North and South by their intrinsic relationship to the eastern shore of the Hudson River. Commonality includes the Hudson River Floodway and Floodplain; Route 9/Broadway; Metro North's Hudson line and we now share the impact of the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.

Historical sites are numerous, dating to the 17th-century Dutch settlements, the Revolutionary War, and the Old Croton Aqueduct. Today, reclamation of the Hudson River and its tributaries are a shared concern. The villages are working together to rehabilitate the Hudson River Flyway.

Public education is extremely important here. It's why we pay high property tax rates to fund our schools. *Why split the Villages of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow? They share a school district, a library, recreational facilities and supervised youth activities. Why would CD 17 be stretched to include a portion of eastern Dutchess County? Or Putnam County? The Lower Hudson Valley does not share similar values with these counties. (See taxes for education.)*

We have to work together cohesively, with representation in Albany and Washington, to better our unique ecosystem, to improve pedestrian and traffic safety on federal and state roadways, to encourage economic development and tourism, and to retain a shared heritage among peoples of diverse means and backgrounds.

Thank You.

Lynn Moffat Wray
Sleepy Hollow NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Sandra Rosner <roselda8@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

I've lived in the Capital District for 40 years and Paul Tonko is my beloved Representative. Please don't divide us up! Saratoga is an extension of where we live. We go there for events and the State Park regularly. We have friends who we have worked with who live there. My daughter went to Albany Academy for Girls with ones who live there. They played hockey together.

We also cross country ski near Amsterdam and eat there.

We are a community!

Sent from my iPhone

Sandra Rosner
518-438-0911

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Tam Kistler <tamkistler3@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:38 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

**Leave the cities of Amsterdam and Saratoga in the 20th Congressional District.
They do not belong in another district.
Ann Kistler
Delmar NY**

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Brenda A. Wise

From: jjoyce26@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:40 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comment on the proposed NYS congressional district map

To whom it may concern,

In reviewing the newly released map of the proposed congressional districts of NYS, the Capital region's district has been ripped assunder by placing the cities of Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs in a separate district.

The Capital Region historically has been kept together in the same Congressional District for good reason – the shared communities and cities of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy have deep roots binding them together. We share common services through the CDTA and SUNY systems. If the final map splits apart the 20th Congressional District, it will be a hammer blow to our shared future and ruin the Capital Region's ability to speak with a unified voice in Washington DC.

Please do not allow this proposed map to be adopted. Reunite the capital region to include all our cities and restore our congressional district.

Sincerely,

Janice Joyce

Troy NY

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Brenda A. Wise

From: KZ <zierk1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:42 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

TO: The Special Master
FROM: Karen Zier, PhD

Columbia County should be part of a contiguous Congressional district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties when redistricted. We are neither urban nor suburban--we belong as a unified Columbia County community with neighboring counties--Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster and Greene.

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighboring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Greene Counties as part of a Mid-Hudson Valley Region. Dividing Columbia County or separating us from this region would impact the residents who want to share our rich heritage and build for the future.

Thank you.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Dustin Reidy <dustin@paultonko.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:42 PM
To: Eileen Mack
Cc: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Re: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Thank you Eileen!

On Tue, May 17, 2022 at 2:35 PM Eileen Mack <leenie151@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear NY Courts:

You have been assigned an important task to set up voting districts. Your decisions will be impactful for years to come. You can make these impacts work for the people. One way to work for the citizenry would be to keep the 20th Congressional District as nearly intact as possible. The communities of Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Troy and Amsterdam are connected economically and culturally. In addition, our present congressperson has been undefeated and for good reason. He has known how to take care of his constituents and watchout for the welfare of our nation. There are enough divisions in this country. You can help us work together and be united or you can sow more feelings of uncertainty. I entreat you to carefully evaluate your decision and be mindful of the consequences of your actions.

Respectfully,
Eileen Egan Mack

--

Eileen C. Egan Mack

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