

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ines De Biase <inesdb2010@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Columbia County & Redistricting

To Court-Appointed  
Special Master

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am a resident of Columbia County and would like to take the opportunity to address these very concerning issues of redistricting for Columbia County.

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.

Please take our requests into consideration during your final decision.

Regards,  
Ines De Biase  
Canaan, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Lois Gundrum <legundrum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Hello,

I have just been able to look at the proposed NYS Senatorial Districts. I live in Watervliet and my senator is Neil Breslin. I live about 4 miles from Albany and have always felt that Watervliet has much more in common with Albany than it does the rural areas east of the Hudson River. I don't think that the carving out of the area that includes Latham, Cohoes, Watervliet, all on the west side of the Hudson, to be included in the proposed senatorial district 43 works very well.

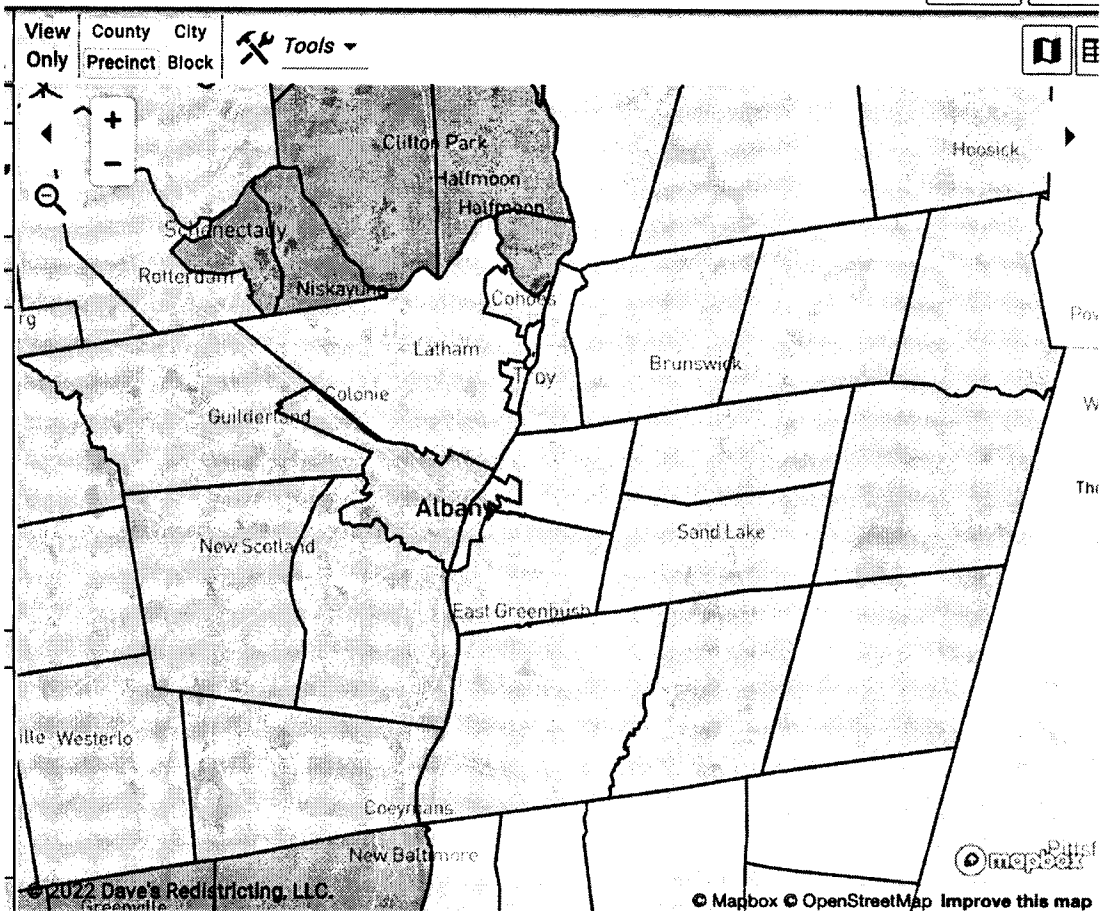
I was president of the Capital Region Audubon Society for two years and one of the things I learned from that is that people on the west side of the Hudson River view everything on the east of the Hudson as a sort of foreign territory. Yes, Troy and Rensselaer have a lot in common with Watervliet and Cohoes because they are located along the banks of the Hudson. But the east side of the Hudson is far more rural than the west side.

Please consider putting Watervliet, Cohoes and Latham back in Albany's senatorial district ... which would be in the newly proposed district 46.

Thank you,  
Lois Gundrum

### NY Senate - Cervas SM Proposal

LOG IN SIGN I



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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Marc <mpz324@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

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.

Shame on you to try to split us up.

Marc Zylberberg  
Rensselaer, NY 12144

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Mike Winn <michaelbwinn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:56 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting appeal of proposed 20th and 21st Congressional Districts

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.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Regards,

Michael Winn

--  
Michael B. Winn, Esq.  
(518) 350-3133  
[michaelbwinn@gmail.com](mailto:michaelbwinn@gmail.com)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/winnmichael/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/winnmichael/)

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Lauren Simon <laurensimon00@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:57 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** New maps for New York State

My name is Lauren Simon, I am submitting this testimony in protest of the new maps that were released for the New York Senate. The Jewish communities of Kew Gardens Hills and Hillcrest were heavily involved in asking the Independent Redistricting Commission to keep these neighborhoods together. Furthermore, Pomonok Houses, and Electchester cooperative have always been part of our district, they are our neighbors, and many of our families originate from these public housing entities.

In the state legislatures plan, they took into account our testimony and made a district that combined most of the Jewish community in Central Queens. Kew Gardens Hills has been gerrymandered into a South East Queens State Senate District. Pomonok, Electchester and Hillcrest has been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

We ask that in your final draft you put the neighborhoods of Kew Gardens Hills, Pomonok, Electchester, and Hillcrest into the district you drew of central Queens with Forest Hills, Rego Park, Middle Village, and Glendale. Please remove Ozone Park and Richmond Hill as they are not the same communities of interest as we are to the neighborhoods mentioned above.

Sincerely  
Lauren Simon

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Lisa Bates <lisa.bates@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:58 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Appeal

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.



Lisa Bates  
[lisa.bates@mac.com](mailto:lisa.bates@mac.com)

[www.lisabatesdesign.com](http://www.lisabatesdesign.com)

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** MacGuire Benton <macguirebenton98@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:05 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Cervas Congressional Maps: NY19/NY21/Otsego County

Hi,

I'm a resident of Cooperstown New York. Cooperstown has absolutely nothing geographically in common with the North Country. Neither does Otsego County. Do not split Cooperstown and Oneonta up. We want to be heard in this process. Keep our communities together. Keep Cooperstown in NY19.

In addition, the way you've sliced the city of Kingston in half is terrible. I thought this person was a master? More like a complete amateur basing these lines strictly off census data. I've been getting calls all day. Please hear us.

All the best,

MacGuire Benton  
28 Delaware Street  
Cooperstown New York  
607-434-0990

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Gerald Skrocki <gskrocki@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:06 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

As a resident of the city of Amsterdam, 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. Amsterdam strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. Many of our residents' work and have families in these communities, and just this month it was announced that the Capital District Transportation Authority would be expanding its service into Amsterdam. Placing Amsterdam into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs than our own is not at all in the best interests of our community. I urge you to include Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps..

Gerald J Skrocki  
63 Grove Street  
Amsterdam, NY 12010

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** JULIE FRAAD <jfraad@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:09 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Columbia County & Redistricting

To B Wise,  
Keep the entire Columbia County as it was with the rest of the Hudson Valley.  
Julie Fraad

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Fox, Jennifer M <Jennifer.Fox@kraftheinz.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Congressional Redistricting - Proposal to move Saratoga Springs

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.

I very much appreciate your consideration of this request  
Jen Fox

Jen Fox  
Customer Business Lead - Northeast Geo Region  
The Kraft Heinz Company  
[jennifer.fox@KraftHeinzCompany.com](mailto:jennifer.fox@KraftHeinzCompany.com)  
ph:518-321-2952



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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Erlyn Madonia <emadonia@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Columbia county in the Mid -Hudson Region

Columbia County should be part of the 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 Green.

Please revisit your redistricting decision and make Columbia County part of the Mid-Hudson Valley counties!

Erlyn Madonia  
Town of Austerlitz  
Columbia County

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Leona Beck <leonawbeck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Appeal

To Whom it May Concern:

>> 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.

>

Sincerely,

Leona W Beck  
28 5th Avenue  
Saratoga Springs, NY. 12866

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ronald Blankenbaker <rb75@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY 20th

To Whom IT may Concern,

Amsterdam is trying very hard to associate itself as a bedroom community for the Capital District area. As a resident of the city of Amsterdam, 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.

Placing Amsterdam 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 Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Thank You,  
Ronald F. Blankenbaker Jr.  
309 Willow Ct.  
Amsterdam, NY 12010

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Cindy Dybas-Kondrat <cdybas.kondrat@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:11 PM  
**Cc:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

As a resident of the city of Amsterdam, 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. Amsterdam strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities, and just this month it was announced that the Capital District Transportation Authority would be expanding its service into Amsterdam. Placing Amsterdam 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 Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Thank you,  
Cindy Dybas-Kondrat  
Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** William T. Hodgetts Jr <gojirabill@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY20

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a Pastor in the city of Amsterdam, 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. Amsterdam strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities, and just this month it was announced that the Capital District Transportation Authority would be expanding it's service into Amsterdam. Placing Amsterdam 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 Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor William Hodgetts

The Rev. William T. Hodgetts, Jr.  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
42 Guy Park Ave. Amsterdam, NY 10210  
347-225-4905  
gojirabill@yahoo.com

*"Ave, ave verum corpus natum de Maria virgine.  
Verę passum immolatum In cruce pro homine."*

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Chris Tr <cctraskos@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:10 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

I am a native of Amsterdam, New York who now resides in Rensselaer County. I am opposed to the moving of the City of Amsterdam from the 20th Congressional District to Stefanik's District. Amsterdam is an old industrial city. Tonko was born and raised there and he knows what is needed to turn the district around. Stefanik has unwavering support in the North Country with their unique set of issues. Amsterdam's issues are more akin to Schenectady and the Capital Region. This adjustment ignores the needs of each community. Stefanik would better serve northern and parts of eastern Rensselaer County which are more rural. Please take this into consideration before finalizing your decision. Thank You.  
Christine Traskos  
Rensselaer, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Martha Harausz <mharausz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

I am outraged at the Congressional map for NY20 that has been presented as a "solution" to the previously certified redistricting maps.

Albany, Schenectady, Troy, Saratoga and Amsterdam have always considered themselves to be a unit, the Capital District. Our roads, our public transportation system, our shopping districts, our hospitals, our recreation centers, even our rivers, are intertwined and dependent on one another.

You must put Amsterdam and Saratoga back in the district with Albany, Schenectady and Troy. I suggest you move the hill areas of Rensselaer County to NY-21 to compensate for this move. They are surely more aligned with the North Country than with the Capital District.

In the fall of 2021 I attended and spoke at the Redistricting Committee's meeting that was held at the downtown campus of SUNY Albany. I spoke at length about the need to keep the Capital District together as a Congressional unit. To make sure my point was heard I also wrote letters to the comment sections of the IRDC's website.

As citizens we worked giving input into this process for months. Now we are being restricted to a matter of hours to try and save our what has been our political neighborhood from destruction.

It looks as if the goal of your map is simply to divide the state into neat little population squares, regardless of the human associations and needs of the population. It appears that a computer was given the total population number and told to divide it by 27. Then that number of souls were herded together into as neat squares as possible.

It is important that NY-20 remain the Capital District.

Martha Harausz  
1445 Western Ave  
Guilderland, NY 12203  
518-512-1924

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Greg Clary <clary1982@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:15 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Redistricting plan

To whom it may concern:

We'd like to add our voices to the opposition to the election redistricting plan as it pertains to the Lower Hudson Valley, where we live in Sleepy Hollow.

As others have written,

The Rivertowns of Westchester County, a community that includes the towns of Greenburgh, Mount Pleasant, Ossining, Cortlandt, and the villages and unincorporated areas therein, as well as the city of Peekskill, is a community of interest owing to its common exposure to the Hudson River floodplain and its shared infrastructure, which includes the Hudson Metro North Line, Route 9, and the Old Croton Aqueduct. A Village Consortium consists of Hastings-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, Tarrytown, and Sleepy Hollow that comes together to pursue improvements to public safety and transit use around the Mario Cuomo Bridge and Route 9.

Greenburgh and White Plains are inextricably intertwined communities and should not be in separate congressional districts.

Duchess County is not connected to Westchester County socially, politically or economically and should not be included in CD 17.

Thank you for your consideration,

Emily and Greg Clary  
40 Fremont Rd  
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Erminia Rasmussen <growthevalley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:51 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Columbia County & Redistricting

To Court-Appointed  
Special Master

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am a resident of Columbia County and would like to take the opportunity to address these very concerning issues of redistricting for Columbia County.

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.

Please take our requests into consideration during your final decision.

Regards,  
Grow The Valley  
New Lebanon, NY 12125

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Marcia Hermann <marcig714@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:20 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Capital Region Congressional District should be kept Together

I appreciate the work that went into the remapping of congressional districts in NYS , but am dismayed that somehow Saratoga Springs is no longer in same congressional district as the Capital District.

These entities have historically been kept together in the same Congressional District for good reason ; they have deep roots binding them together. Saratoga is a mere 38 miles from Albany, and many residents commute back and forth. Please reconsider.

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** E Rodriguez <erodriguez927@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:01 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Regarding Special Master Congressional Maps

Hello,

I am writing to share my displeasure with the congressional maps from the Special Master. The maps break up communities of color, especially down state. This reduces these communities voice and choice in regards to who represents them in Congress. I urge you to revise the maps to return communities of color s whose districts were cracked to their traditional bounds.

Regards,  
Esteban Rodriguez

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KEVIN A. CAHILL  
Assemblymember 103<sup>rd</sup> District  
CHAIR  
Assembly Insurance Committee

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

COMMITTEES

Ways and Means  
Economic Development, Job Creation,  
Commerce & Industry  
Health  
Higher Education

May 17, 2022

Hon. Patrick J. McAllister, Justice  
New York State Supreme Court, 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District  
3 East Pulteney Square  
Bath, New York 14810

Dear Justice McAllister:

I write regarding the proposed New York State reapportionment plan released by Special Master Dr. Jonathan R. Cervas on May 16, 2022 and the effect it will have in the communities I serve in the Mid-Hudson Valley, particularly related to the City of Kingston.

Under the proposed plan the City of Kingston is fractured between the 18th and 19th congressional districts, with some neighbors included in a constituency that spans from Massachusetts to the Finger Lakes while the remainder of the City is connected with Poughkeepsie and Newburgh, a drive of less than one hour. The bifurcation of this municipality and its separation from sister Hudson Valley cities will dilute voter effectiveness and the subsequent representation needed in our nation's capital. It is difficult to discern how our voice would not be drowned out by regional needs and concerns of residents of the Southern Tier and Central New York in the proposed 19th Congressional District, places with vastly different demographics, economic underpinnings and social concerns.

The City of Kingston is the most diverse community in Ulster County. Its population of almost 25,000 people draws from recent immigrants from Central America and the Caribbean, Black Americans as well as those who can trace their family story to the Dutch settlement of Wiltwyck in the 17th Century. Splitting Kingston up and then separating part of it from other nearby diverse municipalities such as Ellenville, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh and Middletown will in effect dilute minority voices throughout the Hudson Valley in direct violation of the 2014 constitutional amendment requiring districts to be mindful of disenfranchising minority populations and clearly represents a prohibited violation of voter and civil rights.

In its 250 year history, Kingston has been well represented wholly by New Yorkers of both parties who recognized the unique needs and voice of our community and brought that advocacy to Washington. Among them include names such as Charles DeWitt, George Clinton, Hamilton



Hon. Patrick J. McAllister

-2-

May 17, 2022

Fish, Jr., Matthew F. McHugh, Maurice D. Hinchey, Christopher Gibson and Antonio Delgado. These individuals, some of whom lived far from this community, were strong voices for Kingston. However, that representation balanced distance against the concentration of residents in and near this County Seat. If Kingston's congressional representation is divided and diluted into separate districts, it significantly diminishes that balance and it is a real possibility that neither will adequately bring needed national services, resources and attention to our community.

Kingston is a diverse and dynamic place that is constantly evolving and welcoming new families and neighbors. This draft plan disregards this most basic aspect of the American Experience, its diversity, balance and opportunity for all. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the proposed reapportionment plan be modified to include the City of Kingston in a single congressional district that uplifts, and does not suppress, our voices, adequately representing our regional, ethnic and historic character. Please do not hesitate to contact my office should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Cahill  
Member of Assembly

KAC:mt

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Erlyn Madonia <emadonia@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:22 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Columbia County with the Capital District/Hudson Valley

Please preserve Columbia County as a unified community of interest with our neighbouring counties. We share similar agricultural, historic, artistic and economic challenges and opportunities with Dutchess, Ulster, Rensselaer, and Green 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.

Erlyn Madonia  
Town of Austerlitz  
Columbia County

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Greg Lubow <gdlubow@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:22 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

I live in what is now proposed to be the 19th. For more than the past decade the 19th encompassed related and growing communities along the mid- Hudson River valley region, and parts of the NY Farm country. The new expanded proposed 19th will extend some 3 hours west of Tannersville - beyond Binghamton, beyond Ithaca, encompassing the entire Southern Tier, while moving nearly an hour East to the Mass. border.

This feels like a forced marriage.

Concerned citizens and voters have worked hard to form alliances, and suddenly we need to build new friendships with people some 3-4 hours away.

These proposed new upstate districts undermine the progress we have made

--

Greg D. Lubow, Esq.  
6026 Main St. PO Box 839  
Tannersville, NY 12485  
518-589-5723 -ph  
518-589-6015 - fx

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Adam Cherson <adam.cherson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:25 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Letter to Court

To the Honorable Court,

I am a retired attorney who lives on West 66<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan.

In my humble opinion, the utmost concern of a redistricting process is to secure the nearly equivalent value of every vote. Resolving other substantial demographic factors without substantially unbalancing basic voting fairness is permissible, but I would draw the line at about a 1.5% divergence from voter equality within any district.

I have reviewed the Special Master's two proposed maps and make these comments:

- 1) The Special Master Federal Congressional Plan fairly represents the people of New York since no district deviates from the state district average.
- 2) The Special Master New York Senate Plan has problems. There are many districts in the downstate area (mainly the five boroughs) that have populations well over the state district average, one as high as 17.9% higher. The failure to more equitably distribute the Senate voting districts leaves many New Yorkers downstate unfairly represented. Actually, the two plans presented to the NY Legislature, Plans A and B, are both better than the Special Master's plan. However, since the Legislature rejected these, and in the spirit of completion without further litigation I respectfully suggest the Court should opt instead for the Names Plan of September 15, 2021 which achieved deviations of nearly zero in every downstate district and no more than 1.37% deviations upstate, and has not been rejected by the Legislature. Since there is a viable plan available, the Court should select a Senate Plan that has not been rejected by the Legislature and represents the People of New York more fairly than the Special Master's Plan: the Names Plan of September 15, 2021.
- 3) The same rationale applied in (2) applies to the Assembly Map if that one is placed at issue before the Court: the Court is free to select from any of the Map plans on the table that have not been rejected by the Legislature and should go with the one that achieves maximum voter equality.

Respectfully,  
Adam Cherson  
MPA-JD  
NY, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Amelia Sydlosky <ameliasholisticfacials@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:25 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Columbia County & Redistricting

Please keep Columbia County as it was. Please do not remove  
Columbia County from the Hudson Valley/ Albany congressional district.  
We belong together.  
Florence Amelia Sydlosky  
Hillsdale, NY 12529

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Murtari for Congress  
34 Franklin Street  
Lyons, NY 14489  
May 17, 2022

The Honorable Patrick McAllister, Supreme Court Justice  
Steuben County, New York

Dear Judge McAllister,

I'm a Republican candidate for US Congress: registered with the Federal Election Commission, live in Wayne County, and running in the 24<sup>th</sup> District since last September. I hope you and Mr. Cervas will consider my comments and revise the draft maps released Monday.

I'm a Cum Laude graduate of the Air Force Academy with a Bachelors in Astronautical Engineering and also have a Masters in Computer Science. I've been active in social/justice issues my entire life → <https://VoteCitizenJohn.Com/about-john> In many ways I'm the classic 'little guy' facing huge obstacles. I don't ask for any special advantage, but just a level playing field.

The 24<sup>th</sup> District was transformed from it's compact form into a snake that extended from the Thousand Island to Niagara Falls. In the draft map, I still feel the district does not meet the requirements of our State Constitution, "Each district shall be as compact in form as practicable."

I'm familiar with computer analysis algorithms. The programmer and management have to decide which factors are most important, and how items are weighted. It appears the draft placed a high priority on keeping entire counties within the same district. This may have caused the 24<sup>th</sup> to still be one of the most distorted districts. I hope that can be adjusted.

While County integrity is a valid goal, I also feel Congressional Districts don't benefit from this co-identity. The result is a very rural, Republican district, with a one-sided general election in November. Perhaps the factors can be tuned to reduce county integrity, but still keep individual towns and cities intact. I hope that would generate more compact districts.

As a small candidate, extended geographic areas are difficult to overcome. The result of metro-focused and rural districts allows for one-sided elections. It also reduces the opportunity for real dialog with both sides of an issue during a campaign. We need more civil discourse.

Lastly, those candidates that prospered with the unconstitutional maps and received enough signatures to be on the ballot, can now run in any district. I could not meet the signature goal and now face a reduced time threshold. It gives those folks a large boost. I'd like a level playing field.

Sincerely yours,  
SIGNED  
John Murtari  
[jmurtari@VoteCitizenJohn.Com](mailto:jmurtari@VoteCitizenJohn.Com)  
cell: 315-430-2702

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Annette Botsford <abotsfor@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:29 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** keep the capital district together

Please keep all of the capital district region together as it has been in the past. This is very disruptive with the changes that have been made.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** MacGuire Benton <macguirebenton98@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:31 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Special Master

Hi,

I'm a resident of Cooperstown New York. Cooperstown has absolutely nothing geographically in common with the North Country. Neither does Otsego County. Do not split Cooperstown and Oneonta up. We want to be heard in this process. Keep our communities together. Keep Cooperstown in NY19.

In addition, the way you've sliced the city of Kingston in half is terrible. I thought this person was a master? More like a complete amateur basing these lines strictly off census data. I've been getting calls all day. Please hear us.

All the best,

MacGuire Benton  
28 Delaware Street  
Cooperstown New York  
607-434-0990

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Annette Botsford <abotsfor@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:32 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** keep Captial District unified

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.

Please do what is best for our area by redoing the map to keep these cities in the same district.

Annette Botsford

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ellen T <ellen.tanner001@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:32 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

As you finalize the district maps for NYS, I am writing that you reconsider the lines for Congressional District 20.

The Capital Region historically has been kept together in the same Congressional District for a good reason - the shared communities and cities of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy have deep roots binding them. We share common services through the CDTA and SUNY systems. If the 'Special Master's' final map gerrymanders its way to split apart the 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

Please keep the 20th together.

Respectfully,

Ellen Tanner  
42 Meadow Lane  
Albany, NY 12208

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Patrick Adams <patrick.adams354@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:03 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NY 20th Congressional District

Please keep the Capitol Region intact. Leave Saratoga Springs and Amsterdam with Albany, Schenectady and Troy, where they logically belong.

Thank You,  
Patrick B. Adams

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