

**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Michael Schell Sr. <michaelschellsr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:35 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY20

As a resident of the town 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.

Respectfully,  
Michael Schell

Sent from my iPad

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** MaryAnne Mangano <mmangano@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:35 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Arthur Meltzer <arthurmeltzer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:36 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Senatorial district

Good afternoon,

My name is Arthur Meltzer, 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 legislature's 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 have 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,

Arthur Meltzer  
Kew Gardens Hills, NY

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** sharon bryant <shillbryant@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:38 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Cc:** Cervas@CMU.edu  
**Subject:** 16th Congressional District

Please take note that I advocate for the Northeast Bronx district 16 that includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester, needs to be retained in the 16th Congressional District, For the voting population of our communities of color must not be diluted.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** dpbr7 <dpbr7@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:39 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistricting for NYS state senate seats

My name is Rebecca Steinmetz. 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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,  
Rebecca Steinmetz  
150-06 77th Ave  
Flushing, NY 11367

Sent from my MetroPCS 4G LTE Android Device

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Andrew Perricone-Dazzo <aperriconedazzo@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:39 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Comment on the proposed state senate districts

Dear Special Master Jonathan Cervas & Justice Patrick McAllister,

I am writing to share my comment on the newly proposed State Senate district lines. I was dismayed to learn that my neighborhood is going to split between three different districts. I have been a lifelong resident of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn and understand that our community deserves a unified voice representing us in the State Senate. Reviewing the proposed maps it is obvious that the new districts will dilute the power we have to advocate for our community-specific, shared needs and goals. Further, it seems as though minority groups within our neighborhood will be further marginalized by having their voters split between multiple districts. I urge you to reconsider the proposal and keep all of Bay Ridge in one Senate district.

Thank you,

Andrew Perricone-Dazzo

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Pesach Porush <pesachp74@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:40 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Email/public Comment Regarding NYS Senate Maps - Jewish Community in Queens

Pesach Porush

My name is Pesach Porush , 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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,

Pesach Porush

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Jennifer Kennedy <ifer37@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:40 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 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.

Thank you  
Jennifer Kennedy  
Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Shayna Porush <shaynaporush@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:41 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Email/public Comment Regarding NYS Senate Maps - Jewish Community in Queens

My name is Shayna Porush , 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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,

Shayna Porush

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Margaret Coleman <mdfcoleman46@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Fairer Maps

Greetings:

NY-16 must retain the northeast Bronx communities of Co-Op City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge with lower Westchester. The special master's proposed map decreases the Black voter population by about 17%, this dilutes the voting power of Black people in NY-16, further marginalizing them and making it difficult for them to elect candidates that best represent their interests.

The northeast Bronx's predominantly Black community was splintered into three congressional districts: Co-Op City is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester into NY-15 and Edenwald kept in NY-16.

As a Black woman and resident of NY-16 this directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities of interest. Our community has been heavily impacted by multiple systems and the pandemic has helped highlight all the problems. By splitting our district into 3 different districts and removing it from NY-16 does not help and it puts our Black community in a vulnerable position. We need a fairer map that will continue to best represent the Black community.

Regards-

Honorable Rev. Margaret Fountain Coleman Westchester Black Women's Political Caucus- Chaplain Yonkers Political Caucus NAACP Unit 2188- Chair Education Ctm.

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Gillian Foster <gfoster92597@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

Good evening,

As a resident 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.

After leaving NY for a short time to attend college in Massachusetts, my friends and colleagues would always ask me where I was from in New York. I would always tell them that I live in the Capital Region just west of Albany. This region is rich in so much history from the Mohawk Carpet Mills that lines the river to the Broom factories and the historic Sanford Farms. We do not identify with the large district just north of us. It would be wrong for Amsterdam to be thrown into that large district and be under represented. NY 20 is proud to be represented as part of the Capital Region and to know our representative. Our representative attends every event possible and knows us by name!

Thank you,  
Gillian Foster  
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Gillian Foster

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Daniel Mandelbaum <dmandelbaumcpa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:42 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Redistributing

My name is Daniel, 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.

Regards, Daniel

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Elizabeth John <evj203@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:44 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Comment on Proposed State Senate Districts

Dear Special Master Jonathan Cervas & Justice Patrick McAllister,

I am writing to share my comment on the newly proposed State Senate district lines. I was dismayed to learn that my neighborhood is going to split between three different state senate districts. I lived in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn and know that our community deserves a unified voice representing us. Our Congressional district is combined with Staten Island, limiting our voice, and State Assembly Districts have cut the neighborhood in half for years, so we have relied on the State Senate seat to represent our neighborhood. Reviewing the proposed maps it is obvious that the new districts will dilute the power we have to advocate for our community-specific, shared needs and goals. Further, it seems as though underrepresented minority groups within our neighborhood will be further marginalized by having their voters split between multiple districts. I urge you to reconsider the proposal and keep all of Bay Ridge in one State Senate district.

Thank you,

Elizabeth John

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Linda Roberson <lindaroberson85@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:44 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Remapping of Congressional District in Co-op City

Dear Sir:

Current events to remap our congressional district will diminish the voting strength of Co-op City, a potential loss of 17% of the voting population for our community of color. The Northeast predominant community of color will be divided into three congressional districts. Please reconsider this remapping.

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Moshe Muratov <moshe.muratov@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:45 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Testimony

The Honorable Patrick McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

As a born and bred Brooklynite, I am submitting this testimony to request that you right a historical wrong during this independent redistricting process. The orthodox Jewish community in Brooklyn has for years been gerrymandered into multiple congressional districts and had our voices diluted as a result. The primarily orthodox Jewish neighborhoods of Borough Park, Midwood, Kensington and others should be united into one Congressional district and represented by the same Congressperson; the same way these orthodox neighborhoods are drawn into the same State Senate District in the proposed SM map released on Monday. The community of interest here is compelling and would mean alot to our growing constituency. These communities have a shared history with deep ties to each other to this day. Examples include some of the largest non profit organizations, Yeshivas, community centers, cultural centers and others.

Communities of interest should be drawn together to allow their voices to be heard in the most effective manner. This historical wrong should be corrected today.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,

Moshe Muratov

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Dovid & Shaindel T Markowitz <dymarkowitz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:45 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** The New NYS Senate Maps

My name is Dovid Markowitz, 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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,

Dovid Markowitz

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Carmen Nelson <cadanja@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:45 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Fwd: Changing tge 16th voting district.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Carmen Nelson <cadanja@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, May 17, 2022, 6:22 PM  
**Subject:** Changing tge 16th voting district.  
**To:** <[bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:bewise@nycourts.gov)>

I am writing in protest of the up coming vote to change or split the 16th voting district to the 14th voting district. Marginalizing the vote of people of color, in an attempt to take away our voting rights. CoOp City and the Northeast Bronx are vital areas in this city, we need our voice heard and the way we can do that is through our votes. This is another way to evidently take our voice and vote away. I stand in protects of this upcoming vote!!!  
Thank you  
Carmen Nelson  
A concern resident of Co Op City

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Shaindel Markowitz <shaindel.markowitz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:46 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** The New NYS Senate Maps

My name is Shaindel Markowitz, 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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,

Shaindel Markowitz

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Betsy Todd <betsytoddrn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:46 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** new Congressional map significantly dilutes black voter population

NY-16 needs to retain northeast Bronx communities within the district - specifically, Co-Op City, Edenwald, and Williamsbridge. It makes no sense to split these THREE northeast Bronx communities of interest into three separate districts. And I understand that the special master's proposed map decreases the Black voter population in NY-16 by about 17 percent.

NY-16 has long married the northern Bronx with lower Westchester county. This has kept these communities with many overlapping interests in one district. To separate out a large segment of the black population - not simply out of the district, but now divided up among three different districts - seems a baldly political move. Please don't allow this proposal to go forward.

Respectfully,

Mary E. Todd

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Larry Fine <crly52@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:49 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** District Distribution

Saratoga Springs in the town of Greenfield I'm very much a part of the capital District. Therefore I believe the above mentioned should be in district 20 which includes the capital District. Thank you, Lawrence Fine 12833

Larry crly52@yahoo.com

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Andrew Heller <rabbiheller@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:52 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Nys senate mapping

My name is Andrew Heller,

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 legislature's 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 have been split off into a Flushing centered district. This is splitting our communities up. Communities of interest must be together in one district.

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Sincerely,

Rabbi Avraham Moshe Heller  
Second Grade Rebbi  
Seventh Grade Science Teacher  
Yeshiva Darchei Torah

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Beth White Hernandez <bethwhitehernandez@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NY 21

Keep it as it is!!!!

Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** lynne horton <lilhoney54@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:53 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; StuebenSuperior@nycourts.gov  
**Cc:** lynne horton  
**Subject:** Congressional District 16

Please keep the Northeast Bronx district that includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester in the 16th Congressional District. The voting population of our communities of color must not be diluted. Do not diminish our voting power and representation that we choose.

Thank you,  
Lynne Horton  
Co Op City Resident  
Sent from my iPhone

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Shoshi Koz <shoshi.koz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:54 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Senate map redistricting

My name is Shana Koslowitz, 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.

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Sincerely,

Shana Koslowitz

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Carmen Nelson <cadanja@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:54 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; steubensuperior@nycourtd.gov  
**Subject:** Fwd: Changing the 16th congressional voting district.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Carmen Nelson <cadanja@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, May 17, 2022, 7:45 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Changing tge 16th voting district.  
**To:** <[Bwise@nycourts.gov](mailto:Bwise@nycourts.gov)>

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Carmen Nelson <cadanja@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, May 17, 2022, 6:22 PM  
**Subject:** Changing tge 16th voting district.  
**To:** <[bewise@nycourts.gov](mailto:bewise@nycourts.gov)>

I am writing in protest of the up coming vote to change or split the 16th voting district to the 14th voting district. Marginalizing the vote of people of color, in an attempt to take away our voting rights. CoOp City and the Northeast Bronx are vital areas in this city, we need our voice heard and the way we can do that is through our votes. This is another way to evidently take our voice and vote away. I stand in protects of this upcoming vote!!!  
Thank you  
Carmen Nelson  
A concern resident of Co Op City

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Ya'acov Granek <yaacovgranek@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:55 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Senate map redistricting

My name is Jacob Granek, 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.

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Sincerely,  
Jacob Granek

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[yaacovgranek@gmail.com](mailto:yaacovgranek@gmail.com)  
917-407-1001

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Linda Collins <lindab9apres@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:55 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** Retain NY 16 As It Is and As it Has Been

To the Special Master:

I wholeheartedly support retaining the current NY-16 District in tact with lower Westchester County as we are communities of common and shared interests from our houses of worship to our educational institutions to our cultural institutions.

It appears that the currently formulated and drawn re-districting map hints of gerrymandering with the express intent of diluting and laying vulnerable the voting power of the predominantly Black voting bloc of Co-Op City, Baychester, Williamsbridge, and Edenwald. It also tears at the fabric of our co-existence with our geographical backyard neighbor and community of shared interest, lower Westchester County.

I am a long time resident and, now, a senior citizen of NY-16 which trends heavily toward voting in its own best interest. This direct assault on the voting power of the Northeast Bronx as a voting bloc and as a black community and on the voting power of our alignment with lower Westchester County is an attack on voting rights and our democracy.

This re-districting map as drawn by the Special Master is not in line with our best interest and only serves to weaken the voting power of our communities making it difficult for them to elect candidates that best represent their interests. This current re-districting map for NY-16 must not stand.

There is a just demand for a fairer re-districting map that will promote and protect the voting bloc of the Black community in the Northeast Bronx of NY-16.

I ask that you to allow the power of the Black community's voting Bloc to prevail.

Respectfully,

Michael Collins  
Co-Op City

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Iris Hiskey Arno <hisk37@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:55 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN\_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu  
**Subject:** Comments on the new voting district maps (specifically CD16)

Good Evening,

I am writing to you regarding the new redistricting maps prepared by the Special Master, a draft of which was just released yesterday. Thank you for the chance to comment.

I am disturbed about the newly drawn CD16, because the plan splinters northeast Bronx's predominantly Black community into three congressional districts: Co-Op City is mapped into NY-14, Williamsbridge and Baychester into NY-15 and Edenwald kept in NY-16. This would split these communities of interest (something that the plan is not supposed to do), reduce the Black voter population in NY-16 by 17%, and thus dilute the voting power of historically Black communities. As usual, the votes of white and wealthy communities to the north (including the one in which I live) would be strengthened. Frankly, this is a disgrace and must be changed.

It's important to me to be part of a multiracial district. In these times of terrible division, we must work together. I believe CD16 should include all the above mentioned Bronx communities as well as lower Westchester communities. Please make these adjustments to the final district maps.

Thank you for your time and attention,  
Iris Hiskey Arno  
37 Garland Drive  
Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** Carol Flamer <ceszpm613@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7:58 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise  
**Subject:** NYS Senate Maps Public Comment

My name is Carol Schwartz. 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 legislature's 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 have 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,  
Carol Schwartz

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**Brenda A. Wise**

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**From:** dcarabajal@roadrunner.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2022 8:01 PM  
**To:** Brenda A. Wise; 'cervas@cmu.edu'  
**Subject:** NY Maps - Comments NY24 and SD48  
**Attachments:** Letter Justic McAllister and Special Master Cervas.docx

Please find attached (Word DOC) and below (in text) my comments regarding NYS redistricting maps presented 5/16/2020.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Dia Carabajal

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May 17, 2022

Justice Patrick McAllister and Special Master Jonathan Cervas;

I am writing today out of concern for my community's future. I live and work in the City of Auburn in Cayuga County. The most recent proposal of redistricting has placed me, my family and my neighbors in the most gerrymandered Congressional district in NY State.

This is not new. Cayuga County and its residents have been the pawns of political gerrymandering by the NYS Senate for more than fifty years, but the latest round of maps represent the most egregious example yet. NY 24 has been a swing district switching every two years at times. Representative John Katko has been a relatively long serving Congressman. NY 24 voted for Joe Biden for President in the same election that Congressman Katko won. Anecdotally, this shows what happens in a swing district.

The changes in hard data show the extreme shift in NY 24. Data provided by the "Redistricting and You" website clearly shows this. It provides numbers that capture the gerrymandering. The Polsby-Popper values have changed from 43.7 to 20.7 an indication of the sprawling nature of the polygon created by this process. The change in Presidential voting provides further insight into the shift of representation. We have gone from being in a "Biden +9" district to a "Trump +18" district, a 27-point shift. We were in a four-county congressional district and are now in a twelve-county district that spans from Jefferson County to Erie County.

We have long held economic and cultural ties to Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. We thrive when they thrive. Splitting our voice from theirs clearly disenfranchises Cayuga County from our economic interests. It also dilutes and disenfranchises the votes of Cayuga County's non-white communities as they are split from similar voices in Onondaga county. The demographic shift for NY-24 is 10% points lower for communities of color. We have changed from a diverse district of 23.3% non-white to 12.5% non-white.

We are part of a regional community of interest. The people of Cayuga County work, shop and receive healthcare in Onondaga County. We share educational resources. Our Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) District is the Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES. It straddles both counties. Our regional healthcare hub is SUNY Upstate in Syracuse. We share community values as well as a long border. We are in the Central New York Community.

We are further separated by the changes in the NY Senate maps, where we are severed from Central New York and the Finger Lakes Regions of NYS. Both are part of the identity of Cayuga County. Cayuga County has been included in the newly formed SD NY-48 which connects us with Oswego county. While Cayuga County shares a border with Oswego county it is at our narrowest area of the county map and the most sparsely populated portion of the county. Our population is concentrated in the central part of the county. Most of the population of Cayuga County, the city of Auburn is 30 miles south of the Cayuga County panhandle. The City of Auburn is four miles from the Onondaga County line. Again, we travel west for and share a lifestyle with the Central New York.

The combined changes exacerbate the disenfranchisement and gerrymandering. This heavily lopsided district certainly does not reflect a fair and even distribution of the voices of my community or state. Please reconsider the proposed NY-24 and SD 48 as neither allow my community fair representation.

Respectfully,

Dia Carabajal, Chair

Civic Engagement Committee

Auburn/Cayuga County NAACP

dcarabajal@roadrunner.com

315-283-2146

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Auburn/Cayuga County NAACP  
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