

Jodi Wood

From: Melanie Wesslock <mwphotonyc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:26 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: New Senate and Congressional Maps

Dear Steuben Superior Court,

I'm messaging in support of the court-appointed special master's drawing of New York's new Congressional and state Senate maps.

Many New Yorkers approve and are thankful that the previous attempt at gerrymandering was stopped.

Sincerely,

Melanie Wesslock

--

Best,
Melanie

Melanie T. Wesslock

Melanie Wesslock Photography

251 West 72nd Street, 2R

New York, NY 10023

917.428.2680

www.melaniewesslock.com

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as seen on BravoTV, in OK! Magazine,

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and in too many wedding albums, photo frames & FB pages to possibly list!

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Janet Roth <jroth185@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:19 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Redistricting Map

Dear Judge

As a long time NYC resident, I am horrified with the results of the Masters suggested redistricting map The current map was approved by the last master and wasn't even take in to consideration by this new Master when creating this new prejudicial map It's not important for the map to look good but eliminate minority seats unnecessarily Why combine districts that eliminate senior NY representatives? Absurd.

I'm my opinion, this new map is penalizing New York's diverse communities and I beg you to throw this out and go back to an approved map that has worked for all.

Respectfully

Janet Roth

185 e 85th Street

7m

New York City 10028

917-225-4722

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lizzie Scott <lizzierosescott@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:20 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Draft Redistricting Maps

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my deep concerns about the proposed redistricting maps. These districts do not protect the coherence and representation of many minority communities in New York, including my own district in Crown Heights Brooklyn.

Not only do the new maps essentially disenfranchise Black and Jewish voters in Brooklyn, they also will create new races very close to the elections, creating enormous confusion and depressing turnout.

These maps are not in the interest of the voters, and they seem to have been drawn without any knowledge or regard for New York City's diverse communities.

I hope these maps will not be used. It would be better to delay redistricting completely than to use these confusing, disenfranchising maps.

Elizabeth Scott
Brooklyn, New York

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joshua Lyon <jklyon74@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:20 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Don't divide Kingston

Your redrawn congressional districts in Kingston are a thinly veiled attempt to divide us and cause voter confusion. This frankly racist and classist attempt at redistricting is not going unseen. Please reconsider.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Tanya O'Debra <tanyaodebra@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:21 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Redistricting Public Comment

To whom it may concern;

I'm writing to express my deep frustrations with the proposed congressional maps. The redistricting efforts by the special master totally disregard long-standing communities, and they break up minority voting blocks which, to my understanding, is unconstitutional. In this time of enormous political unrest and distrust of the courts, it is truly outrageous to implement a system that would disenfranchise so many underrepresented voices. We need districts that represent the realities of communities on the ground, not just how they look on a map.

Sincerely,
Tanya Ritchie
204 W 111th St Apt 4B
New York, NY 10026

--

www.tanyaodebra.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joan Taylor <jmtaydvm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:22 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: No change on district

>> As a resident of the city of Saratoga Springs, NY, and someone who is intimately involved in the thoroughbred horse business, 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, tourism 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.

Joan Taylor
46 Union Ave
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Sent from my iPhone

Joan Taylor

Please note my new email address is jmtaydvm@gmail.com.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: ntmpromark@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Reconsideration of Congressional maps

Special Master,

I'm requesting you reconsider how the US Congressional districts were redrawn for the Mid Hudson Valley. I specifically must speak out against splitting the City of Kingston between NY 18 and NY 19. Such a drawing of the map is counter-productive to good government. It deters local involvement and negatively impacts the residents by diluting their voice. It also unnecessarily complicates local government by dividing City streets and neighborhoods, multiplying the number of representatives, and causing confusion for constituents in need of services and assistance.

Please reconsider and reevaluate what's in the best interests of the citizens of New York and revise your drawing.

Respectfully,

Neil Millens

Sent from the all new AOL app for Android

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joseph Moyse <joemoyse@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: new district maps

I'm in favor of the new maps. As a member of the Conservative Party I often feel left out of consideration. The original maps were partisan.

Sincerely,
joemoyse

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Avi Glickstein <avi.glickstein@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Comment on redistricting maps

I live in Flatbush, Brooklyn, and am writing to comment on the special master's proposed district maps for NY state released on Monday. These maps do not take the individual communities of specific NYC neighborhoods into account when creating districts -- for instance dividing a predominantly Black neighborhood like Bedford Stuyvesant into 3 separate Congressional districts. The result will be a disenfranchisement of these communities in violation of state law. Furthermore, having two separate primaries, and one in late August, is going to SEVERELY depress already low primary turnout. It is too close to the election for the original maps to have been overturned so I would ask that those maps be reinstated and all primaries moved back to their original date in June. If not possible, previous districts and the legislature's redistricting map should be used as a basis for the creation of the new map rather than the chaos that has been created by this one.

Thank you.

Avi Glickstein
646.246.8464
Brooklyn, NY 11210

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Glenn Kelly <gtk.nyc@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing to express my concern about the likely result of the proposed plan to redistrict New York City specifically the 10th congressional district. I serve on our local community board and have been active in my community for more than 30 years. There are so many issues of great concern which require continuity in our elected officials tenure, particularly the cleanup of the Gowanus Canal, our horrific traffic snarl and resulting air pollution, and conditions in our local public housing. Spreading my congressional district across lower Manhattan and into Borough Park will dilute the attention these issues deserve and require. Please consider creating two seats in Manhattan rather than have three spill into other boroughs which will always result in those constituents being underserved.

Thank you
Glenn Kelly
257 Carroll Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Theresa Cerezola <tcerezola@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Theresa A. Cerezola
39 Lake Shore Drive
Copake, NY 12516

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Brent White <brent@brentelliottwhite.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:25 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New York Congressional Districts

To whom this may concern,

As a long time New York City resident, I strongly disagree with the special masters redrawn maps. There seems to be an emphasis on eye pleasing geometry as opposed to joining communities into logical districts. These new maps spilt neighborhoods into two, three and even four separate districts. Fort Green and Crown Heights Brooklyn for example. It's as if the special master has not ever visited these neighborhoods much less spent enough time there to appreciate what makes them communities.

Furthermore, the priority in these maps seem to be keeping conservative districts in tact (Staten Island) over keeping minority districts in tact. Not only does this seem politically biased (especially given our heavy democratic majority in NY) but also contrary to the State's Constitution.

Respectfully,

Brent White

519 47th rd
Long Island City, NY 11101

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Eva Nisanov <enisanov1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:25 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY state senate maps

My name is Eva Nisanov, 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,
Eva Nisanov

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Al & Noel Fair <alnoelfair@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:25 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Alicia Johnson <aj185@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:26 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

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Very truly yours,
Alicia Johnson



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Brenda A. Wise

From: Mayor <mayor@romecitygov.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:26 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: State Senate Draft Maps - New Senate District 49

Honorable Judge Patrick McCallister and Mr. Cervas:

As drafted, the map that has been created for new Senate District 49 fails to properly represent the area and its communities of interest. As the Mayor of the City of Rome, I feel that the district, as drawn, would have a negative impact on the region and the people we serve.

It is my sincere hope that the new Senate District 49 you have proposed is reconsidered in your final draft, in particular that the cities of Rome and Utica should be contained within the district, as they are certainly communities of interest – the region has long been referred to as the Utica-Rome area. We have taken great strides over the years as elected leaders to collaborate and govern as one county/one region. It is important that these relationships continue and our region has a partner in state government who is the sole representative in the state Senate for our area in Albany, especially someone who understands our region's shared values and needs. Our region, and Oneida County in particular, is finally beginning to turn the corner with population growth, job growth, residential housing, strengthening our position as a high technology corridor and it would not serve us well at this point to create two senatorial districts, effectively throwing away decades of work to regionalize our assets and more importantly create a situation where the county's two major cities will not be in sync accessing state resources given the proposed new Senate District 49.

It is also important to note that the congressional district that was drawn for our area (NY-22) contains all of Oneida County, which is why I am perplexed by the removal of the City of Utica and the Town of New Hartford from the rest of Senate District 49.

I respectfully submit this comment to you so that you may reconsider the map you have drawn for the new Senate District 49.

Jacqueline M. Izzo
Mayor
Rome City Hall
198 N. Washington Street
Rome, NY 13440
PHONE: 315.339.7676
FAX: 315.339.7667



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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lisa Siegman <lsiegman@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:26 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Congressional maps

Dear Special Master,

Thank you for your attention to the flood of public comments I expect you are receiving.

I live in the newly created district 10. Despite being sorry to lose my current Congressperson, I am not particularly worried about my interests being represented. However, I do have grave concern about the interests of many of my neighbors. The new configuration of the NYC Congressional districts appears to diminish the voices of several communities of color, including Latino, Black, and Asian, by splitting neighborhoods or contiguous communities among multiple districts. While the district lines may be straighter than they were previously, their likely effect is the dilution and disenfranchisement of non-White voters.

I understand that the time frame to draw the map was hideously short and that multiple factors must be taken into consideration. But given the impact and duration of the way the Congressional Districts are drawn, I do urge you to consider how these inequities might best be remedied, particularly at a time where our very best efforts at fairness are paramount.

Lisa Siegman
Brooklyn, NY 11204

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Fatimah Gilliam <fgilliam@theazaragroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:25 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: Fatimah Gilliam
Subject: Comment re Redistricting Strategically Cutting the Black Vote in NYC/Westchester - District #16

Hello –

I was reading [this article](#) today, hearing how my district will be chopped up and split the black vote. I live in New Rochelle and Jamaal Bowman is my congressman. I'm very bothered by the current plans that are diluting the black vote and disenfranchising people of color who need their voices represented in Congress.

I'm disgusted by the prospect that Jamaal Bowman will be pitted again Mondaire Jones – two men who diligently represent their constituencies. Their voices shouldn't be silenced by these new lines.

I'd like to see lines that facilitate a strong voting base for people of color in Westchester paired with the Bronx, and another district that enables Mondaire Jones to continue to represent his district.

At the end of the day, I see this current plan being intention in cutting out the minority vote.

Now is not the time to marginalize and disenfranchise people of color. Look at what happened this past weekend in Buffalo with the domestic terrorist channeling his hate to assassinate people of color. We need elected officials who not only understand these issues, but are represented in numbers to have actual impact in Congress to vote for legislation that will ensure the safety and security of people of color.

Again, I cannot stress enough my utter disgust with this racist redistricting. Is this 2022 or 1722? If we want to be a nation of progress, then we have to protect and ensure voices of color are in Congress and district lines don't cut them out of well-deserved representation.

Best regards,
Fatimah Gilliam, Esq.
Founder & CEO
The Azara Group
Telephone: (212) 234-4551
Email: fgilliam@theazaragroup.com
Website: www.theazaragroup.com

Author of the forthcoming book – “[Race Rules](#) – How to Avoid Offending People & Acting Racist for the Woke, Unwoke & Woke-n Up” – an innovative guidebook and practical manual of the unwritten “rules” as they relate to race being published by McGraw-Hill.

The Azara Group (TAG) is a consulting firm that promotes the development of leaders in an increasingly competitive and diverse marketplace – providing strategy consulting services and leadership training services to advance professional and life success. TAG leverages expertise in career strategy, diversity, negotiation skills, and business acumen to provide strategic advice and consulting services to help people and organizations get what they want, achieve their goals, and advance their business and career objectives. TAG also helps companies better attract, retain, and promote diverse talent, and develop robust diversity platforms and strategies to create a more inclusive workplace.

"Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate."

- John F. Kennedy

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Brenda A. Wise

From: connio <connio@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: No to the proposed districts redrawn by special master

Dear B Wise,

I am writing to register my objection to the new congressional districts proposed by the special master for NYC. I am a registered voter and full-time resident in NYC and find that the proposed districts do not reflect the communities that are supposed to be represented in the district. Communities do not self-align by county lines, and while the proposed districts might look "neater", they counter the constitutional requirement that voters be given a chance to be represented.

In my opinion, it would be better to revert to the districts in force before redistricting took place than to put in place these arbitrary ones that don't properly reflect voting communities.

Thank you,

Constance O'Dea
63 W 85th St #3B
New York, NY 10024

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Leah Hanlon <lhanlon@alumni.virginia.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:29 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write to express my dismay at the combination of Rep. Maloney's Congressional district on the East Side of Manhattan with Rep. Nadler's on the West Side.

I live in Yorkville on the Upper East Side, and I frequently travel up and down Manhattan from East Harlem to the Lower East Side, *because that's where the subways and buses go!* Only rarely do I cross the Park to the West Side, because there is no crosstown subway, and only a few, notoriously lame buses.

Moreover, as I spend my time riding up and down the East Side, I frequently encounter local situations that motivate me to write to my elected representatives – for example, a Covid safety issue in the East Village or a transportation issue in East Harlem. By contrast, I have never once been interested in or motivated by any issue on the West Side, because I hardly ever go there.

I hope you will recognize that square districts may be more compact, but they are as likely to divide communities of interest as they are to unite them – and this particular new district most definitely divides them.

Very truly yours,

Leah Hanlon
301 E. 79th St.
New York, NY 10075
lhanlon@alumni.virginia.edu

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Joseph Hartmann <jhartmann13@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:30 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments for Special Master

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. Separating Columbia and Greene Counties is very inefficient, and neglects the history of our twin counties working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. We are already a low income and high addiction county, historically in the low ranking numbers of the state in poverty. Though we are rapidly growing due to the increased influx into the Hudson Valley of Upstate NY, of which Greene County is a vital part. Please reconsider this map.

Greene County is also included in the description of the Capital Region - <https://esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews/capital/insideregion.html> - which includes Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington Counties. Multiple organizations exemplify this connection, including ACE Collective - Alliance for the Creative Economy (ACE), a project of the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). ACE is dedicated to promoting and growing the Creative Industries in the 8-county Capital Region - <https://www.upstatecreative.org>.

Our economic, social and tourist interaction with our longstanding partner, Columbia County, is exemplified by the name of our local Community College, Columbia-Greene Community College. This partnership is further emphasized by how many organizations are shared by the "Twin Counties", Columbia County and Greene County.

While we are divided by the Hudson River, we share the responsibility for the estuaries and other environmental aspects of the shores of the Hudson River, even though we may not be on the same side of the Hudson.

Separating Greene County from Columbia County, the Hudson River, and Capital Region, in any capacity, is unthinkable for Greene County residents. This is a community element, as well as something distinguished in many publications, now and throughout the past. The Hudson Valley is a part of the Catskill Mountains, which is the heart of Greene County.

We understand that this process to redraw maps has had to happen quickly, please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, nor our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Best Regards,

JJ Hartmann

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Michaela Dougherty <michaela.dougherty93@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Public Comment in opposition to the proposed map drawn by Jonathan Cervas

Good morning,

Frankly, I am horrified after listening to Susan Lerner of Common Cause New York describe to Brian Lehrer (WNYC radio) several issues with the proposed map, including many examples of splitting up districts that would result in marginalizing communities of color who currently share common interests and collective power, such as the re-mapping of congressional district 16.

Additionally, it is clear that there is a huge disconnect between the map and the on-the-ground reality of these areas and communities in NYC.

Lastly, the timing of this dramatic and problematic plan is confusing, and it hurts the voter more than helps.

I urge you not to approve this proposed map. Jonathan Cervas does not appear to be qualified to map the political district.

Thank you,
Michaela Dougherty (Astoria, NY)

--

Michaela Dougherty | Litigation Support Specialist

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jill Berman <berman.jill@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Columbia County I was dismayed to see the draft Congressional map that has been released this week. Your work was supposed to make the situation better, not worse for residents of NYS.

The proposed map would separate my county from Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene counties as well as the Capital District. This group of counties share history, agricultural, artistic and economic concerns and benefit by being part of the same mid-Hudson Valley Congressional district. The proposed map would combine us with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties with whom we share no commonality nor relationship. It would be disastrous for our county.

In addition, the five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tied economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north, south as well as Greene County to our west. The proposed map ignores these connections, and will prevent my county from having the kind of responsive, effective representation that will enable it to thrive. Moreover, dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. I urge you to rethink this proposal and again combine our county with our neighbors with whom we share common interests and challenges.

Sincerely,
Jill Berman, Ed. D.
301 Konig Road
Ghent, NY 12075

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Mary <mpjazz@optonline.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise; SteubenSuperior@nycourts.gov; Cervas@CMU.edu
Subject: PROTEST Redistricting Co-op City 10475 from CD16 to CD14

As you know, there is a law in place to prevent the "Vote Dilution" effect of this planned redistricting of Co-op City from CD16 to CD14 :

"Section 2 of the VRA, codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1973 prohibits drawing election districts in ways that improperly dilute minorities' voting power."

As a Co-op City resident, I urge you to rethink and redraw our district.

Thank you

Mary Pearson
100 Erdman Pl
Bronx NY 10475

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Rob Jacklosky <rjacklos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Gerrymander Redistricting

Dear Judge Patrick McCallister,

I wanted to register my dismay at that districts created by Special Master Cervas which pit long-standing incumbents against each other and create potentially safe seats for Republicans in Long Island by cutting out the sections of Democratic constituents in Westchester and Bronx (CD-3). This is in the name of eliminating safe seats for Democrats?

The disruption at this late date is unwise, but the map itself seems to go out of it's way to diminish Democratic electoral strength in an overwhelmingly Democratic state. This comes at a time when other Republican-controlled states like Florida are gerrymandering to hand large numbers of seats to Republicans and a universe where Congress in general is representing minority Republican interests in an outsized disproportionate way.

I hope you will re-consider and re-callibrate the map submitted by Special Master Cervas.

Yours Respectfully,
Rob Jacklosky
3235 Cambridge Avenue (5B)
Bronx, New York 10463

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Lisa Filippi <Lisa.Z.Filippi@hofstra.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:33 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting lines

To Whom It May Concern,

I urge you to ensure that the spirit and word of the New York State constitution are upheld in the decision about redistricting for New York State congressional districts. The constitution declares that all minorities and all people of the state have a right to a voice that should be guaranteed by their choice of congressional leader. Redistricting lines should take into consideration first and foremost the will of the people and not that of politicians and people in power. Please do your job and ensure that our constitutional guidelines are upheld. Fair redistricting!

Regards,

Lisa Filippi, PhD

Professor of Biology at Hofstra University

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: KBPhillips <kristen@kbphillips.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:33 AM
Cc: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting maps do not meet NYC needs of Voters

Dear Mr. Cervas,

Recognizing you have undoubtedly worked very hard to re draw voting district maps for New York City, I respectfully submit they do not meet the needs of many voters in our City. I am a member of a mixed race family and live in Bed Stuy Brooklyn. This is one area that would see representatives- strong, ethical, well-respected leaders- potentially pitted against each other in future elections, with the maps as currently redrawn. This would weaken the voices of the voting constituencies they work so hard to represent.

Please seek further revision of these maps before they are presented again to the Courts.

Sincerely,
Kristen Phillips
Ocean Hill Brooklyn

Sent from my iPad

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Sara Murphy <queserasara@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:33 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: District 12 Resident

To Whom It May Concern,

As a long-time resident of District 12 represented by Carolyn Maloney, I am deeply concerned at the proposed redistricting map which will force my respected Rep. Carolyn Maloney to run against one of our other respected leaders Rep. Jerrold Nadler. Both Reps. Maloney and Nadler have effectively represented their districts with dedication and compassion for years and should not have to compete with one another to continue to serve their constituents based on one map proposed by a non-New York resident with no familiarity with the specific needs of the constituents of these two long-serving public servants. I respectfully request that this proposed map be rejected.

Yours,

Sara Murphy, Esq.

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kathy Martin <herbladyca@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:34 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources.

Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district.

Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power.

Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State.

The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns.

Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation.

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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson

Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake.

Very truly yours,

Kathy Martin
Lifelong resident of Columbia County

Please be CAREFUL when clicking links or opening attachments from external senders.

Brenda A. Wise

From: Monica Byrne <monica@atelierroquette.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:34 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: NY Redistricting

To Whom it May Concern:

I am very concerned with the newly drawn redistricting map.

It would appear that the new map now errs in the other direction from the originally proposed map, rather than striking a fair balance.

I'm of the opinion that districts should be drawn to keep contiguous counties and communities that share common regional or community concerns together.

Cutting Columbia County off from the rest of the Hudson Valley, and all the districts directly adjacent does not make sense, and does not allow our representation to address our shared overlapping concerns.

Splitting Columbia from Ulster, Dutchess, and the rest of the Hudson Valley is unfair to the constituents as we are directly impacted by the same issues, whereas the counties much further west that are now part of the district have very different issues. We deserve adequate representation that is not divided amongst such disparate districts that no one's needs are fully addressed.

Thank you,
Monica Byrne
Columbia County

Monica Byrne
Creative Director
Food Flowers Events

HomeMadeHudson.com
AtelierRoquette.com
Farmette Roquette
@homemadehudson
@atelierroquette
@farmetteroquette

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Gail Botta <gailbotta@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:34 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Please keep all cities in the Capital District together, as they represent a unified geographic area that depend on each other for services and programs. It makes no sense to remove Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs, except to fulfill a politically expedient directive. I hope the Court will see the wisdom and practicality in keeping Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs as part of the greater Capital District.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Gail Botta
61 Fairway Ave
Delmar NY 12054

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Marybeth Ourlicht <ourlicht@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:35 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Gerrymandering

The New York State Constitution requires that the core of existing congressional districts be maintained. The re-drawing of the maps does not keep this under consideration, and disrupts illegally whole communities; putting them against each other while making the prospect of voting very much diminished.

As a New York City resident, I am appalled and offended by special master Jonathan Cervas in his attempt to deny proper and legal and moral voting.

This must not be approved and we must maintain to the letter of the law what falls under New York State constitution.

Marybeth Ourlicht
74 5th Avenue 2B
New York, Ny 10011

--

Marybeth Faith Ourlicht

Cell 917 584-6502
Fax 646-368-1631
ourlicht@gmail.com

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cheryl Mervine <CMervine@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:36 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Illogical and unfair redistricting in NYC

Importance: High

I am writing to express my deep concern over the Special Master's bizarre reworking of New York City's districts.

This new redistricting effectively disenfranchises many local ethnic and racial communities and *effectively nullifies* their votes by making them minorities in their own neighborhoods/districts so they will lose representation of their views.

If he had a more intimate knowledge of local ethnic and racial communities within the city, he would NOT have redrawn the districts this way.

It is outrageous that so many citizens voices and views will be silenced. This is a terrible move of repression, one that takes sets the city back and prevents the proper representation of its voters.

Please make this right before it becomes set in stone for a decade.

Thank you,
Chery Mervine
Upper West Side resident

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Ellen Schorsch <elschorsch@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:36 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting NY19

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

As a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY, I am very upset about the newly defined redistricting map. Separating Columbia and Greene Counties is very inefficient, and neglects the history of our twin counties working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. We are already a low income and high addiction county, historically in the low ranking numbers of the state in poverty. Though we are rapidly growing due to the increased influx into the Hudson Valley of Upstate NY, of which Greene County is a vital part. Please reconsider this map.

Greene County is also included in the description of the Capital Region
- <https://esd.ny.gov/regionaloverviews/capital/insideregion.html> - which includes Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, and Washington Counties. Multiple organizations exemplify this connection, including ACE Collective - Alliance for the Creative Economy (ACE), a project of the Center for Economic Growth (CEG). ACE is dedicated to promoting and growing the Creative Industries in the 8-county Capital Region
- <https://www.upstatecreative.org>.

Our economic, social and tourist interaction with our longstanding partner, Columbia County, is exemplified by the name of our local Community College, Columbia-Greene Community College. This partnership is further emphasized by how many organizations are shared by the "Twin Counties", Columbia County and Greene County.

While we are divided by the Hudson River, we share the responsibility for the estuaries and other environmental aspects of the shores of the Hudson River, even though we may not be on the same side of the Hudson.

Separating Greene County from Columbia County, the Hudson River, and Capital Region, in any capacity, is unthinkable for Greene County residents. This is a community element, as well as something distinguished in many publications, now and throughout the past. The Hudson Valley is a part of the Catskill Mountains, which is the heart of Greene County.

We understand that this process to redraw maps has had to happen quickly, please do not discount the vital relationship between Columbia and Greene County, nor our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Best Regards,

Ellen Schorsch
PO Box 146
Hensonville, NY 12439

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Rachelle Fredette <rachelle.fredette@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed NY redistricting map

The five areas of Albany, Amsterdam, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, and Troy have deep roots through shared educational and cultural institutions and transportation systems. Putting these cities in different Congressional Districts will decrease the Capital Region's ability to share its voice in Congress. It does not make sense to move Saratoga Springs and Amsterdam into a new and

***different district. Please do not
redistrict these cities!***

**Rachelle Fredette
7 Peachtree Lane
Albany, NY 12205**

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cecilia Santana <proudgramie2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:38 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: STOP Redistricting NY-16of color

To Whom it May Concern:

Please do not allow the redistricting of district NY-16. This will take away the voting power of our people of color. We need to be effectively represented by our leaders. The chances of that happening if redistricting occurs will be greatly diminished.

Please do not allow blatant attempts to silence people of color and further tip scales against our favor.

Thank you for your role in ensuring the fair representation of all Americans.

Sincerely
Cecilia Santana

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Brenda A. Wise

From: simona bares <simona.bares@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:39 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Please do not split nyc neighborhoods

The Bedford-Stuyvesant & Sunset Park neighborhoods should not be split up.
Thank you.

Simona Bares-Lemmon

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Charlotte DeMarco <queechylake@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:40 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern: I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources. Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district. Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power. Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State. The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns. Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation. 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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake. Very truly yours,

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Tony DeMarco <tonydemarcoski@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:40 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern: I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources. Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district. Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power. Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State. The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns. Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation. 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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake. Very truly yours,

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Charlotte Demarco <charlottedemarci@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:40 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Columbia County & Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern: I am writing in response to the draft Congressional map released earlier this week. I am a resident of Columbia County, and the proposed changes would have disastrous consequences for our county. If allowed to stand, Columbia County would be separated from both the Capital District and the Mid-Hudson Valley regions, as well as its county neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map groups our county with Southern Tier and Finger Lakes counties, with which it has no commonality or relationship. This is unprecedented and would result in a poor outcome for our county when it comes to identity, representation, and allocation of resources. Columbia County is located along the Hudson River in the Mid-Hudson Valley, and the Department of Economic Development has placed Columbia County in the Capital District. Under the proposed map, Columbia County would be isolated from both regions and be the only county in CD19 on the east side of the Hudson River. Columbia County should be part of a contiguous district of adjoining Mid-Hudson Valley counties. Based on current 2020 Census data, the combined populations of Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties would be 748,393 people, which is within the range of +/- 10 percent of the average congressional district. Columbia County has been excised from its peers and placed in a congressional district that shares little in common administratively. Our judicial, assembly, and senate districts have little, if any, overlap with other counties included in the proposed CD19. Effective government requires coordination and collaboration. The proposed map diminishes Columbia County's political power. Columbia, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Ulster, and Greene Counties have a common history, developing major agricultural and industrial centers because of their proximity to the Hudson River. There is no such common history with counties located in the middle and western portions of New York State. The five County Seat Cities of Hudson, Poughkeepsie, Troy, Kingston, and Catskill had a similar rise as major industrial cities that suffered steep economic declines in the first half of the 20th century but are now experiencing a great resurgence. These small to medium sized cities have diverse racial, ethnic, religious, cultural, socio-economic, and gender/sexual orientation populations. These cities have higher poverty levels than the surrounding countryside and have similar challenges to meet the need for infrastructure, broadband, workforce housing, and healthcare throughout the counties. Columbia County should be in a congressional district with its neighbors who face the same challenges and concerns. Our proximity to New York City has created a rich, year-round arts community, with many artists, painters, dancers, musicians, actors, galleries, and antique stores that all create a destination for tourism. There is a significant and growing population of New York City dual homeowners. Newer residents are starting local small businesses, adding to the economic diversity in our county. Columbia County is also home to many exurban communities of Albany, not Ithaca or Binghamton. Columbia County is tethered economically, culturally and socially to its neighbors to the north and south. The proposed map ignores these connections, and in doing so, denied our county of effective representation. 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 the Mid-Hudson Valley region. Dividing Columbia County, or separating us from the Mid-Hudson Valley region, would seriously impact the residents who want to build for the future and be fairly represented in Congress. It would be a gross miscarriage of justice that will have long-term adverse consequences for our residents and our region if these district lines are allowed to stand. We urge you to correct this grave mistake. Very truly yours,

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Brenda A. Wise

From: jr1151@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:41 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Proposed NYS redistricting maps

As a NYC resident I would to request Judge McAllister to void the redistricting maps proposed by Mr Cervas and returning to the current maps for this election cycle to avoid chaos
J. Rochon
Jamaica NY

Sent from the all new AOL app for Android

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cari Gardner <cariyogi@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:42 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New proposed Senate District 51

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

I live and pay taxes in Greene County, NY. The newly defined redistricting map for State Senate doesn't make sense. Columbia and Greene Counties should not be in separate Senate districts as the two counties share so much. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. This is a low income and high addiction county, and is a very poor area. Please reconsider this map.

Greene Co. and Columbia Co. have a long standing partnership. While we are divided by the Hudson River, we share the responsibility for the estuaries and other environmental aspects of the shores of the Hudson River, even though we may not be on the same side of the Hudson.

Separating Greene County from Columbia County, the Hudson River, and Capital Region, in any capacity, is unthinkable for Greene County residents. This is a community element, as well as something distinguished in many publications, now and throughout the past. The Hudson Valley is a part of the Catskill Mountains, which is the heart of Greene County.

Please consider redrawing this Senate district taking into consideration our "twin" counties and our relationship to the Hudson Valley and the Capital Region. This is our home.

Best Regards,
Cari Gardner
26 S. Greenwood Ln. #2236
Athens, NY 12015
518-444-4593

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Elaine Handley <elainehandley54@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:43 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting Saratoga Springs NY

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.

Please do not let this happen. -Elaine Handley

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Beth Kneller <bethgail16@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:43 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Kingston

Please keep Kingston whole on voting maps! We are one community!!!

Thank you
Beth Kneller
Kingston Resident

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Cathryn Thurston <cathrynthurston@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:44 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep the Capital Region Congressional District Together!

Judge McAllister,

I strongly urge you to reconsider breaking apart the Capital Region congressional district by placing the cities of Amsterdam and Saratoga Springs in Elise Stefanik's district. It makes more sense to keep these cities together with the Capital District so that they can work on important regional economic issues. Cities and towns to the north have different issues and should be together as well so they can leverage their representative for what they need. This new map will pit the needs of the Capital District among three separate districts. It would be better to leave the map alone.

Cathryn Thurston
120 Catherine St
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Amy Fradon <afradon@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:44 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting comments

Hello,

I am from Woodstock in Ulster county. I am very dismayed to see our county carved into two congressional districts. Over the past 6 years, our county has come together in a powerful way and we have become a vibrant electoral organization with success after success. Our towns support each other in our efforts and mentor each other, as well. We have such diverse areas from Woodstock to Wawarsing and Plattekill. But we are a close and energized county. Dividing us up has the feel of draining the life-force and splitting up the family. There is no human consideration in this carve up. It is data on a page and does not take into consideration the actual people who live and work and elect together.

Much as we are trying to bring communities together for sustainability, I believe we have to make every effort to do this for our Civics communities. We are a beacon of bringing people together and working together to bring Civic engagement back into our citizen's homes. I think it destructive and unfair to carve this county up with no recognition of the people being separated and how it will effect them.

Thank you for considering my thoughts,

Amy Fradon
Ulster County

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Adrienne Mcallister <msamcallister@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:45 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Re: Congressional Redistricting

Good day,

I writing to oppose the plan to remap Co-op City's congressional district from the 16th congressional district to the 14th Congressional district.

As you know, this position will seriously diminish Co-op City's voting strength for the next 10 years. This remapping will cause a 17% loss of the voting population for Co-op City's, a community of color, and will further marginalize Co-op City and diminish it's ability to elect candidates who best represent the community.

I am asking that you refrain from remapping the 16th district, which includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester.

Thank you for taking the time to reconsider your decision.

Adrienne Mcallister

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Tue, May 17, 2022 at 5:38 PM, River Bay Corporation
<noreply@everbridge.net> wrote:

This is an important message from the RiverBay Corporation

Please click here to acknowledge receipt of this message

This is an important call to action for all Co-op City residents.

The current attempts to remap our congressional district will seriously diminish the voting strength of Co-op City for the next 10 years. Should this plan go through, Co-op City will move from the 16th congressional district into the 14th congressional district. A potential loss of 17% of the voting population for our community of color.

Normally, Riverbay Corporation would stay away from these political matters; however, we cannot stand idly by while Co-op City's voting power, and that of our Northeast Bronx neighbors, is deliberately diminished. If this plan is approved, the northeast Bronx's predominant community of color will be splintered into three congressional districts. This will further marginalize our communities and diminish our ability to elect candidates who best represent our interests.

The map will be finalized by the court this Thursday, May 19, and the court is allowing comments by email up until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 18.

As such, we are urging all residents and friends to email the court and advocate that the Northeast Bronx district that includes Co-op City, Edenwald, Williamsbridge and lower Westchester, needs to be retained in the 16th Congressional District, and the voting population of our communities of color must not be diluted.

Please address your emails to:

B Wise@n y courts.gov

Steuben Superior@n y courts.gov

And

Cervas@C M U.e d u

In recent years, we have managed to elect government representatives who have stood up for Co-op City and we need to maintain that relationship to affectively address the challenges we will face as we enter the post pandemic future.

This is a battle we need to win, so please send your emails out tonight. Thank you for your attention and prompt action.

Thanks!

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Brenda A. Wise

From: William Avery Hudson <avery@williamaveryhudson.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:46 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: cervas@cmu.edu; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Comment on Newly Drawn Congressional and State Senate District Maps

Dear County Clerk, Steuben County Supreme Court:

I am writing to register my strong opposition to the redrawn New York State congressional and state senate district maps proposed by Special Master Jonathan Cervas and Overseer Patrick F. McAllister.

I heartedly agree with Representative Hakeem Jeffries, who said, "The draft map released by a judicial overseer in Steuben County and unelected, out-of-town special master, both of whom happen to be white men, is part of a vicious national pattern targeting districts represented by members of the Congressional Black Caucus."

I was born and raised in Georgia during Jim Crow, and man, this sure brings back bad memories - complete with the titles "Master" and "Overseer." This is not the New York I expected to find.

Please withdraw these destructive and hateful maps.

Sincerely,

William Avery Hudson
300 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10025
+1-917-364-8980

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Paul Frank <pmf2957@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 11:46 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting Maps

To Whom May Concern,

It is obvious that Special Master Jonathan Cervas has little knowledge, nor seems to care much about the genuine "communities of interests" in New York City and the State as a whole. Nor does he appear to be too concerned with upholding the Voting Rights Act and the New York State Constitution.

Many of us agree with Rep. Jeffries' characterization of the maps as "racial gerrymandering" in what seems to be, at the very least, a silly academic exercise to have the maps appear "neat", or worse, an attempt to disenfranchise large chunks of the electorate. It's gerrymandering to solve gerrymandering !

You must reconsider and alter the maps as per the Unity Map Coalition proposals.

Regards,
Paul Frank
Brooklyn, NY

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