

Jodi Wood

From: Yuezhen Zhou <yuezhengzhou@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:56 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support court's decision against gerrymandering

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,

Yuezhen Zhou

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

Jodi Wood

From: Lailing Yu <lailing_yu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:56 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR

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,

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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

Jodi Wood

From: Mandy W <mandyw.20@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:56 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Supporting the Proposed Redraws

Good afternoon,

I am writing in support of the court-appointed special master Mr. Cervas' drawing of New York's new Congressional and State Senate maps.

Myself included, many New Yorkers approve and are thankful that the previous attempt at gerrymandering was stopped by the Court.

Sincerely,
Mandy Wong.

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Jodi Wood

From: Sumayya Ahmad <sumayya.ahmad@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:02 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Supportive of new maps

Please keep the maps!!!!
I'm from Manhattan, will be voting
Please KEEP THEM AS IS

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

Jodi Wood

From: Kwok Chien <chien.kwok@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:02 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support the new maps

Importance: High

Dear Judge Steuben,

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

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

Sincerely,

Chien Kwok

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

Jodi Wood

From: Sumayya Ahmad <sumayya.ahmad@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:03 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Maps

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,

Sumayya ahmad

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

Jodi Wood

From: Muna Yu <munayu138@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:03 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Congressional and state Senate maps

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,

Muna Yu

Sent from my iPhone

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

Jodi Wood

From: James Thompson <jtainc2000@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:03 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: support of the court-appointed special master's drawing

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

Like many New Yorkers, I approve and are thankful that the previous attempt at gerrymandering was stopped.

James Thompson

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

Jodi Wood

From: Irene Raevsky <iraevsky@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 2:03 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support the new maps

I'm writing 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,
Irene Raevsky

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

Jodi Wood

From: Andrew Chen <drew.g.chen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:48 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Support of the court-appointed special master's drawing of New York's new Congressional and state Senate maps

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,

Andrew

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

Jodi Wood

From: Cristie Diamond <cjaffe42@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:48 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: NYC support

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,
Cristie Diamond

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

Jodi Wood

From: Ellen Shell <ellen5181@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:35 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: NYC districting

I'm in support of the new districts for NYC and glad that a neutral party stepped in to address what appeared to be gerrymandering. I think the changes make logical sense.

Thank you.

Regards,

Ellen Shell
ERSNY Consulting
ellen@ersnyconsulting.com
917-796-6150

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Jodi Wood

From: Janine Thomas Smith <psalm91jpa@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:40 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Bronx District 16

Good Afternoon

Thank you for your attention. My concern is with change comes, at times, ineffective methods of community care. In this season with so many outstanding issues, changing reliable partners comes with a sense of apathy. Our communities deserve attention that ensures quality of life and real attention. It is requested by many to reconsider this change.

Janine Thomas
Community Activist

Always ready to serve him.

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Jodi Wood

From: Nicole Palame <nicolepalame@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:44 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Support NEW MAPS

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,

Nicole Palamé

iPhone = typos on the go!

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

Jodi Wood

From: Anluo Chen <anluochen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:45 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support court's decision to remap

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,

Anluo Chen

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

Jodi Wood

From: Ralph Rivera <ralph155warren@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:45 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Re: court appointed special master's drawing

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,
Rivera Family

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

Jodi Wood

From: Shannon Fan <phanshannon@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:49 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Support for redistricting

To whom it may concern,

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,
Shannon Fan

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

Jodi Wood

From: Yiatin Chu <yiatin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:50 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support the new maps.

I'm writing 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,

Yiatin Chu

NYC Queens constituent

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

Jodi Wood

From: Rosa Chang <rosahchang@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:52 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Congressional and Senate Maps

Hello -

I am emailing in support of the court-appointed special master's drawing of New York's new congressional and state senate maps. I am grateful that the previous politically-driven attempt at gerrymandering was stopped.

Sincerely,

Rosa Chang

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

Jodi Wood

From: ALAN AND STEPHANIE CHIECO <brownsugre@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:52 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Gerrymandering

I'm reaching out 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,
Alan Chieco

Sent from my iPhone

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

Jodi Wood

From: Roberto W. Secemski <betows@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:53 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: In support of new district maps

Hello,

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,

Roberto

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

Jodi Wood

From: Lianne Weinberg <liannewein@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:52 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Re-Districting- in favor!

To Whom it may concern:

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,

Lianne Weinberg
Manhattan, West Side

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

Jodi Wood

From: Marjorie Sachs <ms4worldpeace@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Retaining the Northeast Bronx communities with Lower Westchester

I am a 33 year resident of New Rochelle, NY and I am writing to urge you to take action on the following:

o NY-16 MUST retain the northeast Bronx communities of Co-Op City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge with lower Westchester.

And this is why:

o 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.

o 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. This directly dropped the Black voter population in NY-16 and split these communities of interest.

It is your responsibility to make this right and to do whatever it takes to make sure that NY -16 retains the Bronx communities of Coop City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge with lower Westchester.

Wishing you all the best,

Marjorie Sachs

R

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

Jodi Wood

From: Lailing Yu <lailing_yu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:55 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: No gerrymandering

My whole family doesn't want to change the election map which is Gerrymandering and totally unfair to everyone.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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

Jodi Wood

From: Rocky Bonanno <rocky3370@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:55 PM
To: STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: I support the new maps

I'm writing 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,
Mr. Rocky Bonanno

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Mary Douglas <maregbd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:50 PM
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,
Mary B Douglas
199 Wolf Hill Rd
Hillsdale, NY 12529

Sent from my iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Phil Bruno <pjb0527@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise

The Special Master's plan is currently drafted, my community of (Massapequa, Massapequa Park, North Massapequa, Farmingdale, Levittown, Bethpage, etc) would be removed from its current South Shore Congressional District of NY-2 and placed in the North Shore Congressional District of NY-3. I urge you to reconsider this misguided plan and keep the South Shore communities of Long Island together as in the current 2nd Congressional District.

Long Island's North Shore and South Shore communities are different in almost every way. Residents of the South Shore experience the same flooding issues, share highways and public transportation infrastructure, and have a community connection that we do not share with North Shore residents. After our South Shore communities were devastated by Superstorm Sandy, we rebuilt them together and are stronger because of it. Please do not split us up. The interests of my community align with my South Shore neighbors in the 2nd Congressional District. We do not want to be part of a North Shore district.

I urge you to put my town back in the 2nd Congressional District and keep the South Shore communities together. This district was redrawn by a special master a decade ago, and it has had effective representation since. Please reverse the draft map so our communities can continue to work together.

PS-Please send me a copy of this Master plan.
Thanks

Regards,
Phil Bruno
Massapequa 11758

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Lisa Lewis <limoniq@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:52 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: MY COMMUNITY - LAKEVIEW

My name is Lisa M, Lewis. As a Member of the historic Lakeview, NY (11552/11570) community I am making a plea that Lakeview be kept in one district. We are a predominantly black community with a rich history that needs to be respected and maintained. I feel the newly drawn lines are intended to divide us and our votes. This will have catastrophic effects on our community during elections. I demand immediate action. Please reconsider the lines immediately

--
Kind Regards,
The Lakeview Civic Association

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Jeff Friedman <jeff@greenecountychamber.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:51 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master - Public Comment on Redistricting Maps
Attachments: Greene Co Chamber Position Letter on Redistricting 051822.pdf

Dear Ms. Wise,

Please see attached letter that we are submitting for public comment and consideration by the court on the recently submitted NYS Congressional and NYS Senate Redistricting Maps by the Special Counsel.

Thank you.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Have a great day,

Jeff

Jeff Friedman
President / Executive Director
Greene County Chamber of Commerce
518-943-4222
<http://greenecountychamber.com>



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May 18, 2022

Hon. Patrick McAllister
Acting Supreme Court Justice
Steuben County Supreme Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, New York 14810

RE: Redistricting Maps Submitted by Special Master

Dear Sir,

The Greene County Chamber of Commerce would like to strongly request that you reject the Special Master's redistricting maps that were submitted this week for your court's approval and consider making changes to them before ratification.

We are making this request as a matter of an economic and social imperative to ensure Greene County's continued growth and success as well as fair and responsive government representation. It is our position that these new Congressional and State Senate maps violate the New York State Constitution which requires that communities of interest be grouped together in districts and that the core of existing districts remain largely intact. These maps do not qualify under either provision for Greene County.

In every economic development, agricultural, creative, social or tourism region or program, New York State includes Greene County mostly in the Capital Region, and in other instances, the Hudson Valley. Placing us as the only Capital Region/ Hudson Valley County in districts that predominantly are in the Southern Tier places us at a representative and philosophical disadvantage within both Congress and the NYS Senate. Additionally, Greene County has a long history of close ties in these arenas with Columbia County of which it is now severed from in the Senate map. Greene and Columbia counties share a hospital and medical system, a community college, mental health association and far too numerous community organizations to mention whose names begin with the words 'Columbia-Greene'. Not including the two counties often referred to as the "Twin Counties" together in these districts does not serve either county's interests adequately.

Greene County's economy, tourism and social infrastructure have very little in common with the counties we have now been proposed to be joined with. How does putting us in these districts serve the best interest of our businesses and our communities? In addition to losing both of our sitting representatives under these new maps, we will be far removed from the core interest of the new representatives that would now serve us. How does severing us from being represented by members of these bodies who represent the Capital Region and/or Hudson Valley with whom we share all our connections serve Greene County's needs and future and meet the NYS Constitution's mandate?

We ask that you strongly consider making alterations to the Special Counsel's submitted plan and place Greene County in districts that more closely align it with its natural and long-standing regional partners. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeff Friedman
President / Executive Director

Brenda A. Wise

From: Camara McLaughlin <camara.mclaughlin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Bedford Stuyvesant Congressional Districts

Hello, I am writing in to express my concern about the breaking up of historically black election districts in Bedford Stuyvesant. It is my understanding that the voting rights act protects the core of this district and so it should not be split.

Thank you,

Camara McLaughlin

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Jeannie Aversa <jeannieaversa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:53 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Syracuse

To whom this may concern,
It will be in the best interest of Syracuse and Onondaga County to continue having two assembly representatives to support our city. As a sanctuary to many new immigrants and the high poverty rate, it would be best to have two to help us overcome these obstacles.

Thank you,

Jeannie Aversa

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Yusuf Nuruddin <professor_afst@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:55 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; cervas@cmu.edu
Subject: Registering complaint about the redrawn voting districts

I am a longtime voter and resident of Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn. I understand from reports on the Brian Lehrer Show (WNYC) and the online newspaper, *The Gothamist*, that the Bedford-Stuyvesant congressional district has been sliced into two, potentially pushing Reps. Hakeem Jeffries and Yvette Clarke into competition. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries has represented my district as an outspoken member of congress and is in regular communication with his constituents via telephoned "Town Hall" meetings. I understand Rep. Yvette Clarke is equally a champion for her Crown Heights community. Pitting the two against each other will have disastrous results including diluting the power of the Black vote as well as increasing ethnic animosity between a largely Caribbean population and an African American population. I understand that this is a preliminary re-districting map, and that you will take voter response into consideration when issuing the final map. I strongly urge you to repair the damage that the present version of the newly drawn map will do to the Black constituencies of Central Brooklyn.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Smith
191 Van Buren St
Brooklyn, NY 11221
(718) 455-6866

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Amy Serrago <amyserrago@athensvillageny.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:54 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Greene County Redistricting Map

Dear Jonathan Cervas,

I am the Mayor of the Village of Athens, as well as a resident and taxpayer of Greene County, NY. I urge you to reconsider the newly defined redistricting map.

Columbia and Greene Counties have a strong history of working together. Currently we share a hospital, community college, mental health resources, addiction recovery resources, and Cornell Cooperative Extension, to name a few. And Greene County is rapidly growing due to the pandemic fueled influx of new residents into our county and the Hudson Valley as a whole, of which we are a vital part.

In addition, in my time as Athens Village Mayor I have forged relationships with local leaders that benefit our respective communities. This map may sever those relationships and bring us back to square one when it comes to building consensus to better serve our constituents.

Greene County should definitely join our neighbors across the Hudson River in Columbia County. We are referred to as the "Twin Counties", distinguished in many publications, now and throughout the past. There is also a community element at play. We are part of The Hudson Valley, and the Catskill Mountains are the heart of Greene County.

Greene County has a strong and ever-growing creative economy, which we share with our neighbors to the east in Columbia County and to the south in Ulster. The newly drawn map links us more to our western neighbors, with whom we do not share many services or organizations.

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. Not to mention the Hudson River Skywalk, a recently completed, multi-million dollar project which literally links our communities across the Rip Van Winkle Bridge through our shared history as the birthplace of the Hudson River School of Art.

I 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 geographic inclusion in the Hudson Valley which links us to Ulster and the Capital Region. I believe Greene County should stay part of this community by incorporating us into the same district as Columbia, Albany and Ulster Counties. We share so much with them already!

Best Regards,
Amy

Amy Serrago

Mayor, Village of Athens

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NO. 618
OF NASSAU COUNTY

PO Box 221 • Port Washington, NY 11050 • 516-431-1628 • www.lwvofnassaucounty.org



May 18, 2022

Hon. Patrick F. McCallister
 New York Supreme Court, Steuben County
 bwise@nycourts.gov

Special Master Jonathan Cervas
 New York Supreme Court, Steuben County
 cervas@cmu.edu

Sent via email

Re: Draft May 16, 2022 New York State Redistricting Plan

Dear Hon. McCallister and Mr. Cervas,

I serve as a board member of the League of Women Voters of New York State, the League of Women Voters of Nassau County Inter-League Organization and the League of Women Voters of South Nassau. The League of Women Voter (“League”) is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League is a strictly nonpartisan citizen activist organization that operates at the local, state, and national levels and has advocated for fair, nonpartisan redistricting over much of our 100+ year history.

I write to express our deep disappointment with the recently released May 16, 2022 draft New York State Congressional redistricting plan proposed by Special Master Cervas. We have concerns with the draft plan from both a process and substantive perspective and will briefly address both points in turn.

As an initial matter, we are deeply troubled by the lack of opportunity for robust public comment and participation in this phase of the redistricting process. Fair electoral districts are foundational to a meaningful franchise and the exercise of democracy. While the Independent Redistricting Commission and New York State Legislature failed in their efforts to create fair, nonpartisan electoral districts, the process employed by the Court has not provided a fair or adequate opportunity for public input and participation. We understand the difficult time constraints the Court faced, but two days for public input on the proposed redistricting plans that will affect NYS residents for the next 10 years is facially insufficient. There has been no opportunity for in-person public comment unless New Yorkers were able to travel to Bath, New York during a work week on a single day. The vast majority of New Yorkers live downstate and absolutely no accommodation was made to ensure that their voices could be heard directly by the Special Master and the Court.

While many advocacy organizations, such as the League, are familiar with the nuances of redistricting, most New Yorkers are not, and little thought was given to their ability to participate in the two day public comment process. Computer access was necessary to even view the proposed districts - access that many New Yorkers lack.

Additionally, while the New York Congressional districts during the last redistricting cycle in 2012 were drafted by a Magistrate Judge appointed by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and the Eastern District of New York, entities intrinsically part of our New York and federal government and familiar with New York State, this Court instead appointed a postdoctoral fellow who may have limited ties and knowledge of New York State as a Special Master in this case.

On a substantive basis, I will limit my comments to proposed Congressional districts in Nassau County on Long Island. We take particular issue with the Special Master's proposed Congressional Districts 2 and 3 on Long Island. These are districts that I am intimately familiar with as a long standing resident of Nassau County. Contrary to the Congressional redistricting plan drawn by the Magistrate Judge in the last redistricting cycle, the Special Master's proposed redistricting plan for Nassau County reconfigures Congressional District 2 and Congressional District 3 from an east-west configuration to a north-south configuration. This proposed new configuration is inconsistent with communities of interest within our county and fails to recognize the shared interests of south shore Long Island communities and north shore Long Island communities. Both Congressional District 2 and 3 cut across Long Island geography to pick up population from vastly different communities with little in common other than they both happen to be on Long Island.

For example, Congressional District 2 takes in large portions of the north shore of Suffolk County combining communities that differ greatly in terms of language, racial and ethnic diversity as well as socio-economic diversity. Congressional District 2 should be configured to keep south shore Long Island communities together. These communities share similar economic and environmental concerns, common commuter train lines and Long Island's renown Fire Island National Seashore.

Similarly, Congressional District 3 shares the same defects. Proposed Congressional District 3 is principally a north shore Long Island Congressional district that then dives south at the Suffolk/Nassau border to pick up population from the greater Massapequa community. The greater Massapequa community has over 75,000 residents and is well over 90% white and does not reflect the racial and ethnic demographics of Nassau County or the other communities with which it is joined in a Congressional District. The greater Massapequa area faces different economic and environmental challenges, utilizes different public transportation routes and is less diverse than the communities with which it is currently grouped by the Special Master. This area shares a common identity and issues with its neighboring south shore Long Island communities to both its east and west and could easily be included in Congressional District 2 or Congressional District 4. By including the eastern and southern finger of the proposed district in Congressional District 3, the proposed plan unnecessarily divides Fire Island National Seashore between three Congressional districts while it could easily be contained in two Congressional districts. As drawn, proposed Congressional District 3 also pushes further south into former Congressional District 4, removing and dividing Flushing communities in Queens. Proposed Congressional Districts 2 and 3 are also significantly less compact than the current configurations of those districts.

The residents of proposed Congressional District 2 and Congressional District 3 would be better represented if they were grouped with communities that shared similar interests. The best and most prudent configuration to meet this end is to exchange population from the greater Massapequa area south of the Long Island expressway to Congressional District 2 and move Huntington and Syosset from proposed Congressional District 2 to Congressional District 3

We hope that significant changes are made to the draft Congressional redistricting plan to better represent Nassau County's residents and ensure that their voices are heard in our electoral process.

Sincerely,

Nancy Rosenthal
President, League of Women Voters of Nassau County

Brenda A. Wise

From: mmaugenest <mmaugenest@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:56 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Please let Gowanus keep Ms Velazquez!

Margaret Maugenest
280 Nevins St.
Gowanus
Brooklyn

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Phil Bruno <pjb0527@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:56 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master's Plan

I omitted the subject.!!
Phil Bruno
Massapequa 11758

-----Original Message-----

From: Phil Bruno <pjb0527@verizon.net>
To: bwise@nycourts.gov <bwise@nycourts.gov>
Sent: Wed, May 18, 2022 12:51 pm

The Special Master's plan is currently drafted, my community of (Massapequa, Massapequa Park, North Massapequa, Farmingdale, Levittown, Bethpage, etc) would be removed from its current South Shore Congressional District of NY-2 and placed in the North Shore Congressional District of NY-3. I urge you to reconsider this misguided plan and keep the South Shore communities of Long Island together as in the current 2nd Congressional District.

Long Island's North Shore and South Shore communities are different in almost every way. Residents of the South Shore experience the same flooding issues, share highways and public transportation infrastructure, and have a community connection that we do not share with North Shore residents. After our South Shore communities were devastated by Superstorm Sandy, we rebuilt them together and are stronger because of it. Please do not split us up. The interests of my community align with my South Shore neighbors in the 2nd Congressional District. We do not want to be part of a North Shore district.

I urge you to put my town back in the 2nd Congressional District and keep the South Shore communities together. This district was redrawn by a special master a decade ago, and it has had effective representation since. Please reverse the draft map so our communities can continue to work together.

PS-Please send me a copy of this Master plan.
Thanks

Regards,
Phil Bruno
Massapequa 11758

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Rosemarie Romano <rosemarie.romano@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:57 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Protest regarding proposal for Cayuga County Congressional District

To the New York State Supreme Court:

As a nearly life-long resident of the City of Auburn in Cayuga County, New York, I was appalled to read in our local newspaper this morning the redistricting proposal that the special master has made for our county. My family first settled here more than a century ago, and I have lived in Auburn for most of my nearly 70 years. As a professional law librarian, archivist and researcher in local history, I assert that this new district map is historically, culturally, and economically a mistake.

Auburn and Cayuga County have always been considered both a part of Central New York and of the Finger Lakes Region. Geographically, the city is actually situated at the northern end of one of the Finger Lakes, Owasco Lake, which covers much of the length of Cayuga County. Like a great many of my neighbors, past and present, I have throughout my life commuted to work and school in Onondaga County. A large number of Cayuga County residents work in Syracuse and Rochester, attend community colleges, business schools and universities in both of those cities, and make use of the hospitals and nursing facilities in those two cities. Our BOCES district encompasses school districts in both Onondaga and Cayuga Counties, and even our churches are part of Syracuse and Rochester dioceses and districts. Our economic development, environmental initiatives, and transportation infrastructures are deeply entwined with the regions and cities to our east and west, much less so to our north.

I implore the Court to ask the special master to reconsider, look more deeply to inform himself about our region, and to adjust the redistricting map accordingly.

Respectfully,

Rosemarie Romano
155 Ross Street Ext.
Auburn, NY 13021
Phone: 315-253-2181

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Kathy Stackhouse <kathy.stackhouse@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:58 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistricting

I currently live in Rep. Maloney's district, and am very disappointed the district map has been redrawn to a square that takes in a large piece of Rep. Nadler's district on the West Side.

I have two concerns about the shape of this district. First, the East Side and the West Side have very different cultures, concerns and perspectives. Secondly, the map pits two experienced and capable representatives against each other. How is that useful for voters?

I am appalled at the new maps, especially now that I know that the current districts were created by an impartial body and, while ungainly looking, were not gerrymandered.

The new districts break up ethnic constituencies and cohesive neighborhoods, diminishing their voices. The map is not going to increase public trust in our political process, already low after the 2020 election. And, if held in August, they will reduce already-dismal voting turnout. This process has diminished my trust in the system.

The person who created this map obviously knows nothing about New York and for some reason seems to be fixated on neat tidy shapes to the detriment of our communities.

Kathy Stackhouse
750 Park Ave., 3C
New York, NY 10021

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Brenda A. Wise

From: William Wilmot <williambwilmot@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 12:59 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Cc: William Wilmot
Subject: Opposition to pending redistricting of Saratoga Springs from ED 20 to ED 21

>> 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.

William B. Wilmot
46 Union Ave., Unit 204
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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Brenda A. Wise

From: Katharine Wood <katharine_wood@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:00 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@CMU.edu; SteubenSuperior@nycourts.gov
Subject: Fw: IMPORTANT: PROTEST Redistricting Co-op City 10475 out of CD16 into CD14 !

PLEASE....

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.

This is so important for our democracy.

Thank you!

Katharine Wood

4200 Hutchinson River Parkway East

Bronx, NY 10475

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Brenda A. Wise

From: J Wilson <jarasiaw@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:01 PM
To: SteubenSuperior@nycourts.gov; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: 16th Congressional District,

Please leave the 16th Congressional District "as is" under Jamal Bowman.

Do you change the district maps.

Thank you.
Jarasia Wilson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Thalia Roach <ladybug27b@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:01 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise; Cervas@CMU.edu; SteubenSuperior@nycourts.gov
Subject: Redistricting

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 2 U.S.C. Section 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

Thalia E Roach
120 Erdman Pl - 15E
Bronx, NY 10475

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Brenda A. Wise

From: y@therickies.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:02 PM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: 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,
 Ricky Lark

Ricky Lark, PhD (he/him)
 469.358.7030, iPhone

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Brenda A. Wise

From: John Doyle <doylejc1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:00 PM
To: cervas@cmu.edu; Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Comments on the Special Master's Proposed Congressional and State Senate Districts.
Attachments: May 2022 Redistricting Letter.pdf

To Whom It May Concern:

Please review the attached document including my comments on the proposed legislative lines.

Thank you,
JD

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John C. Doyle
646-469-8339

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JOHN DOYLE

DISTRICT LEADER

May 18th 2022

Dear Judge Patrick F. McAllister and Mr. Jonathan Cervas:

I write today concerning the new Special Master Maps that were released for New York's Congressional and State Senate Districts with particular concern to the proposed 14th Congressional District and the 34th State Senatorial District, where I live and work.

I want to start by saying I appreciate that these districts are centered in the Bronx and not using our Borough as a chopping block to extend or create other districts, such as the recently proposed NY-03 District that ran from Smithtown, Long Island to the eastern end of Westchester County. The proposed district would have severely diluted the voting power of the Bronx and I am glad your court and the Court of Appeals overturned it.

That being said, in the interest of preserving whole communities in single districts and keeping communities of interest together, I am respectfully requesting for the following minor modifications:

The Proposed 34th State Senate District-

- **I strongly urge you to keep the entire Throggs Neck community together.** In your current proposal, the community is divided via the Cross Bronx Expressway. This removes the areas of Silver Beach, Locust Point, NYCHA's Throggs Neck Houses and Ferry Point from our district. I believe this is a tremendous mistake. In no other district, be it the New York City Council (13), New York State Assembly (82), or Congressional (14) is this community divided. In fact, Throggs Neck serves as the anchor of each of these districts, as it is a diverse community that shares a great deal in common with its fellow coastal communities. In recent years, we have tried to build and organize between these communities to address our resiliency needs and to divide these communities would set us back. Furthermore, we are all in the same school board, community board, and police precinct and have many shared interests and, as such, I urge you to keep the community whole in District 34.
- **Historically the communities of Pelham Gardens, Allerton, and Van Nest have all been a part of this Senatorial District.** They have also been joined together as communities of shared interests through the Congressional District for the last twenty years, the past State Senate district for decades, and the City Council District for equally as long. These communities are all part of the 49th Precinct and Community Board 11 and share much in common with the existing communities you have placed into the 34th District.
- The previously drawn versions of this district, drawn by Republicans for decades and the recently proposed Democratic proposal, all kept these communities together because there was *bipartisan agreement* that they were communities of shared interest. I ask that you reconsider your proposal to follow suit.




 @JohnDoyle4NYC
 Visit my website- www.johndoyle.nyc

JOHN DOYLE

DISTRICT LEADER

- To offset these changes, I suggest reducing portions of the Western Bronx, which have historically not been part of this district and have minimal existing ties to the eastern portion of our Borough.

The Proposed 14th Congressional District-

While I greatly appreciate that the Bronx is minimally divided in your proposal, I would urge you to consider minor modifications to keep different regions of the Bronx united .

- **Currently, the Eastern Bronx is divided with half of Morris Park in the 14th District and the other half in the 15th. Furthermore, portions of Allerton, Van Nest and Bronx Park East are divided as well.** These are communities of shared interests, all being in School District 11, the 49th Precinct, and Community Board 11. They are all largely in the 80th Assembly District and the 13th Council District and have historically been in the same congressional district as the rest of the East Bronx for the last 20 years. For these reasons, I ask that you strongly consider their inclusion into the 14th District.
- While I cannot pretend to speak for the South Bronx, I imagine they too would want the same regional unification I have proposed for my area. As such, I would suggest you offset my proposal by placing Hunts Point and West Farms back into the 15th District. This would allow the South Bronx to be able to build the same regional power that the East Bronx should also be able to enjoy. The South Bronx has made tremendous strides in recent years and keeping the region unified would serve to increase their political power.
- The currently proposed 14th District includes Co-op City, which is a neighboring community of interest in the East Bronx, and currently a part of our 82nd Assembly District. While I believe we have much in common, I am very aware of their struggle to build political power for the African American Community in the neighboring 16th District. As a result, I ask that you respect their wishes for whichever district they want to be a part of.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If there is a way I can ever be of help to you, feel free to contact me at 646.469.8339 or via email at john@johndoyle.nyc.

Sincerely Yours,

John Doyle




 @JohnDoyle4NYC
 Visit my website- www.johndoyle.nyc