

Brenda A. Wise

From: Omarra Hannibal-Williams <ohannibalwilliams@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:17 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master - Proposed Congressional Maps

Dear Dr. Cervas and the court,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed NY Congressional District 20.

The proposed map would cut off Montgomery County and put it in another district. This is a horrible move in terms of representation because the citizens of Montgomery County were just alerted that the Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) would expand to their area, and if this map is implemented, would cut off Montgomery County from their Capital District alignment in Congress.

Additionally, the map would cut out Saratoga, yet another area served by CDTA.

Putting these two areas into the North Country district unfairly splits the common interests and shared transportation network citizens from the current 20th district use. I beg you to please reconsider the proposed map based on this reasoning.

Sincerely,
Omarra Hannibal-Williams
3 Meadowbrook Place
Voorheesville, NY 12186

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Ellen A <nelle1234@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:22 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New Congressional Districts #18 f #19

I read today about the re- districting of the 18th and 19th Congressional District. It makes absolutely no sense to me that you are not putting counties together that share common problems. Ulster and Dutchess counties should be one congressional district. These two counties are very much alike. . To split these counties and put one with Rockland and another with Sullivan and the Ithaca area is absurd. They have nothing in common. Government works best when the area shares common issues and goals and the congressman or congressswoman works towards these goals for the area. But putting together so many different counties (as well as splitting counties) is not in the best interest of the counties as the elected representative cannot focus on just a few items but is spread thin as each area has different needs. A COUNTY SHOULD NOT BE SPLIT IN A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT BUT KEPT TOGETHER . IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COUNTY TO DO SO.

I sincerely hope you will revise your plan and keep counties whole in congressional districts.
Thank you.

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Shari Ascher <sharirascher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:23 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise; STEUBEN_SUPERIOR
Subject: Redistricting= Misrepresentation and Voter Suppression

Dear Justice McAllister:

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

Greenburgh and White Plains are inextricably intertwined communities and should not be in separate congressional districts. We worked hard to elect the best possible people and now the map has pitted some of our best and brightest against one another.

Duchess County is not connected to Westchester County socially, politically or economically and should not be included in CD 17. Its as if you bent over backwards to try and make the minority in NY have a majority voice. New York is a Blue State with some red areas. Trying to reconfigure the map to bolster the minority, is bad politics and bad government.

Sincerely,
Shari Rosen Ascher
Dobbs Ferry NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: XPG <amcarbo007@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Special Master- New York Congressional Redistricting

Dear: Special Master

As a resident of NY-11 I find connecting the district to Sunset Park and Red Hock a bit silly as those communities have very little in common with ours and they would not get adequate representation under the draft map. Rather the neighborhoods of Bensonhurst, Bath Beach, and Gravesend, should be moved back into NY-11, these communities have strong cultural and familial with Staten Island and have hsitrocailly been part of the 11th district including in the current congressional map.

I would also strongly suggest you reconsider making a first of it's kind Jewish Orthodox Opportunity district in Central/Southern Brooklyn. The New York State Constiution requires Linguistic and Ethic Communities be kept together and the draft map does not do this, instead it splits Jewish Orthodox neighborhoods into multiple districts, which in my opinion unfairly deludes the Jewish Orthodox community's voting power.

I hope my suggestions are duly noted, Thank You for your good work.

Al Carbonella
38 Sampson AV.
Staten Island, NY 10308

Sent from Mail for Windows

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Maryrose Behan <mrbehan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:28 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Redistrict Saratoga Springs

My name is Maryrose Behan 30 Lexington Road NY I oppose the plan to separate Saratoga Springs from the Capital District Our economy and representatives must be kept together to ensure the long term viability of our area Please do not implement the proposed change Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Ben Mirling <bjmirling@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: redistricting

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. Thank you for your consideration, Bernard & Jennifer Mirling 121 Nelson Ave. Saratoga Springs, NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Alice Holohean <aholohean@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:37 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Oppose Changing Saratoga Congressional District

We belong in the 20th District. Many of our residents work in the Capital Region. We are similar to cities like Troy, Schenectady and especially Albany. Changing the map to a Congressional District that goes to to the Canadian Border (3 hours away) would be a horrible treatment to the citizens of Saratoga. We are a growing city with the same needs of the 20th Congressional District and have little relationship to the needs of the northern counties. When I travel north, I feel like I am on a different planet. Please do not hurt us by changing our district. Our community is an asset to NY and would be seriously damaged by cutting off our needs, similar to the Capital District, and completely different from the much more rural Northern District.

Please keep us in the 20th Congressional District.

Thank you for you attention,

Alice Holohean
2364 Route 50 S
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
CIVIL SERVICE AND PENSIONS
CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME AND
CORRECTION

COMMITTEES

ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
CODES
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
LABOR

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE



SENATOR
FREDERICK J. AKSHAR II
52ND SENATE DISTRICT

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

ALBANY OFFICE:
ROOM 608
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
518-455-2677

DISTRICT OFFICE:
BINGHAMTON STATE OFFICE BLDG.
44 HAWLEY STREET STE 1607
BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901
607-773-8771

May 17, 2022

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister
Steuben County Supreme & County Court
3 East Pulteney Square
Bath, NY 14810

Dr. Jonathan Cervas, Special Master
Posner Hall 386, 5000 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Judge McAllister & Dr. Cervas:

I'm writing to lend my voice to the growing calls for the fair and equitable redrawing of our state legislative maps.

First, thank you for your work in ensuring that every voice is taken into consideration when drafting new legislative boundaries. Please accept this as my public comment in relation to the maps that were released yesterday.

Unfortunately, the map that was presented to the court shows a disregard for our communities of interest, dilutes our higher education institutions' positions of strength and attempts to combine three Regional Economic Development Council areas, the Southern Tier, Central New York and the Finger Lakes, into Senate District 52.

For decades, the Southern Tier has had strong representation due to the contiguous boundaries that allow one united voice to bring our needs to the halls of the State Capital, as I have proudly done for the past seven years.

My constituents have argued passionately that our Southern Tier border community has distinct challenges from our northwestern neighbors. For instance, communities in the current district on our southern border struggle to compete with businesses only a few miles away due to the lighter tax burden and a more friendly business climate in Pennsylvania.



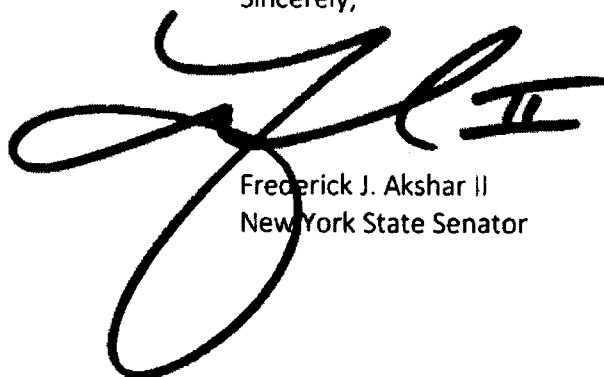
Another area that I'd like to highlight is that Broome and Tioga counties have consistently shared one representative for decades, joined together by common economic and cultural bonds. Most importantly, they are bordering counties united by Broome-Tioga BOCES, which plays a critical role in our local school districts and school programming. They equally deserve a consistent advocate to ensure state resources continue to flow to our schools and serve our kids.

Lastly, Senate District 52 as it's currently drawn would include a half dozen higher education systems (Cornell, Ithaca College, TCCC, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Broome and Binghamton University). My constituents have expressed concerns given the multitude of competing interests and vastly different needs among these institutions, especially if they were to be addressed by a single Senate member.

We have a unique opportunity to get this right for the people, businesses and institutions so badly needing appropriate representation during these troubling times in our state and nation.

While it's important to note that I'm not seeking re-election to my position as State Senator, I recognize the urgency of this moment to the future of our area and I'm respectfully asking that you heed the calls of our communities of interest in the Southern Tier and make this right once and for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Akshar II', with a large, stylized flourish extending downwards and to the left.

Frederick J. Akshar II
New York State Senator

FJA/blf

Brenda A. Wise

From: Michelle Pettica <michelle.pettica@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:43 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

As a resident of the city of Amsterdam, NY, I am strongly opposed to the draft Congressional map that would remove my community from a Congressional district centered in New York's Capital Region. Amsterdam strongly identifies with the greater Capital Region and has strong economic and transportation ties to communities like Schenectady, Albany, Troy, and Saratoga Springs. Many of our residents work and have families in these communities, and just this month it was announced that the Capital District Transportation Authority would be expanding it's service into Amsterdam.

The community of Amsterdam made Amsterdam into a beautiful spot on the map. We have many new places to visit such as the bridge, our parks; especially Amsterdam Mohawks at Shuttleworth park where Capital Region teams also play and use the field. There are many concerts that play at our Riverfront center. Performances with many Capital Region members.

Thinking that Amsterdam belongs in another district is ridiculous. Amsterdam earned its place to be apart of the Capital Region. #Amsterdamstrong.

Placing Amsterdam into a district that stretches to the Canadian border with communities that have much different needs than our own will ultimately be detrimental to our community. I urge you to include Amsterdam in the proposed 20th Congressional District when you finalize the Congressional maps.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: David M <davidm.team@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Legislative maps

My name is David Moskowitz, 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

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: yssirhc <yssirhc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: New Voter District Maps

Dear Honorable McAllister:

Please be advised that I support the newly redrawn NYS voter district maps in order to provide a better distribution of fair representation of both the Democratic and Republican parties. The gerrymandered maps are completely unacceptable, regardless of favored party affiliation.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the representation of all New York State voters as the Empire State encompasses a vast majority of values and views that need to be uniquely addressed in each individual region.

Sincerely,

Chrissy Vacinek

***What you read and study is what you become.
As your thinking goes, so goes your entire being.***

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Sarah Duemler <sjduemler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:49 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Keep Amsterdam in NY 20

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

Sincerely, Sarah Gennett
16 Oakland Ave
Amsterdam, NY

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

Brenda A. Wise

From: Leslie Lieman <llieman02@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 11:49 AM
To: Brenda A. Wise
Subject: Don't dilute minority representation (re CD16 proposed map)

Dear Justice McAllister:

I am a longtime resident of Hastings on Hudson, NY, which is currently in the 16th congressional district. I am writing to offer my input about the proposed congressional district lines just released by your court. Since you have placed this process on an intensely fast track, there is little time for you to gather and hear community input but I'm hoping that you will take these concerns seriously.

The revised lines for NY16 do real damage to two important communities of interest. First, by removing the northeast Bronx communities of Co-Op City, Edenwald and Williamsbridge, the special master's proposed map cuts deeply into minority representation, reducing the Black population by about 17%, and needless weakening these long marginalized areas from being able to elect candidates that best represent them. Worse, the proposed maps splinters the northeast Bronx's Black community into three congressional districts, which makes no sense at all if the goal is to retain the capacity of neighboring communities with common interests to gain common representation.

Second, by cutting the northeast Bronx part of CD16 away, the map breaks a vital community of interest that bridges lines of race and class. As I noted in my testimony before the state's redistricting commission last fall, there are many strong ties between people who live in the northern Bronx and lower Westchester. We have more in common with our neighbors there than we have with people who live in the more rural parts of Westchester north of us. We all brave the traffic on the Cross County Parkway. Unlike the more rural towns to our north, we like density and think it makes our lives better. We have shared interests in things like improved transportation options, more affordable housing, and more spending on climate mitigation.

I am against the idea that a goal of redistricting should be to make districts more homogenous, clumping suburbanites more closely and city-dwellers more closely, and arbitrarily using county lines as de facto borders. Also, given the historic disenfranchisement and disempowerment of communities of color, I don't think we should be indifferent when the votes of communities of color get diluted, as your current proposed map would do.

Please take these concerns into account as you oversee the process of revising the final maps. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Leslie Lieman
Hastings on Hudson

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