

**Testimony type: Written-only**

**From: Garrett Pepper**

To: The House Committee on Redistricting  
Re: Fair & Equitable Representation in Kansas Congressional Maps  
Position: Opponent

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to supply testimony in support of transparent and fair redistricting.

I am asking for a bipartisan commission of non-political stakeholders to determine the redistricting for all Kansans and to understand the regionalization of our proud state.

As a proud son of Kansas, and holding an iron-clad belief in the values this state was settled on I believe the over politicalization of something as basic as regional congressional representation to be a grave failure to our states long-term success. Voting is a right. So is representation, they play equally. The needs of Kansans are different and to think that it on a 1-party line is frankly playing the game as a loser. Play fair or go home; don't you dare take the ball with you if you do.

The 2nd congressional district has already been Gerrymandered to the point that there is little representation of the values we hold in these communities. Further dividing and parceling will only weaken our communal bond and strengthen hate rhetoric.

It was not written or approved by any independent body of non-political affiliation. Make it fair.

Current Congressional maps were created by the courts and should be altered as little as necessary to accommodate population shifts. The Kansas City Metro is currently whole within Kansas' Third congressional district and should remain in a single district as residents have shared interests in representation. The Committees on Redistricting should make their maps, agendas, and deadlines available to the public with at least a full week's notice to allow enough time to review maps, and prepare and submit testimony.

Again, this decision is ultimately up to you, but the way you go about deciding will always be recorded and it will be remembered at the polls. Prove to Kansans that you are larger than personal vendettas and politics. Cheating is no way to win, and if you do follow through with this power grab we are paying attention. You won't get away with it, not with this generation. Follow data, realize the importance of fairness and how a party that admits it's vulnerabilities is not

weaker for it, but instead has a point of emphasis to build better solutions. Thank you for your consideration today and everyday.

-Garrett

Respectfully,

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