

**Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission
Round 3 Public Meeting
October 6, 2021**

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Professor.

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I Professor Persily.

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Are you good how are you doing good as I understand that I don't have I don't, you don't need anything prepared for me today right this is I'm here to answer questions and that's, that's right?

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Okay, good.

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That doesn't mean by the night Sam we won't have something for you I'm sure we will. I also just gonna say if you think you're getting off that easy. I don't know, but the question is whether I whether I could sleep tonight or not we'll see, you know,

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Right now I'm in the middle of all these Facebook controversies I don't know if you've been seeing this but, yeah, not in the middle of it I'm throwing myself in the middle of them so.

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Are you sure you want to do that? Mm hmm.

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Well I wrote a piece of legislation which would compel the social media companies to turn over

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data to indifferent independent research, and so I've been, you know, I had a piece in The Washington Post yesterday on that and then there was the lead I released the legislation yesterday during Francis Huggins testimony and then been doing, you know,

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just some media stuff on that. So that's what I'm not doing redistricting those the issues that are those, those are the kind of gentle issues that I deal with, so I was just gonna say Wait, are you trying to tell us that you have a life outside of Maryland

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redistricting so hard to believe.

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I was dealing with some interesting other interesting cases yesterday too and some other states but, yeah, they're dealing with some interesting butting rack Rights Act issues elsewhere to

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see where we are, time, guys. One minute.

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Professor.

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I think I was just reading that the US Department of Justice put out some new guidelines on the Voting Rights Act which did not address, several of the things that people will most hoping for clarification about this ring a bell or.

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I did not know anything about that, let me just I will, I will notice a tweet from Nick Stephanopoulos at Harvard, maybe I misunderstood it I went by very quickly.

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So, you know, he's my former students so I feel.

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I tried to taught it is a funny story sided, but he met his wife in my redistricting class 10 years.

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And then I actually performed the wedding for them at University of Chicago, and it, and it was a redistricting themed wedding, I kid you not, so that the cake it's famous now because John Oliver actually covered it on his show, and each, each the

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tables were identified by a particular district. It was full on nerd them, you know, I would agree, I would agree that shows you how much fun you can have in life that you would never expect.

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This shows you how much fun you can have in life that you would never expect. Alright, we are at the six o'clock hour, and I believe we're ready to begin, I don't see everyone but I want to call everyone's names.

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I'll start with the introductions and then I'm going to hand it over to Kristin who will talk about the process. And then I'll do a review of what has happened today.

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Then we'll get into public testimony and following that the Commission will have a work session. So we'll begin with introductions. I'm Dr. Kate Hetherington, the newly retired president of our community college in Columbia, Maryland, Maryland, and I'm

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a resident of Howard County and Walter you're next. And my name is Walter awesome I'm tech Trello and, and I live in Frederick County.

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Right. and our third co-chair, Judge Williams.

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Good you're on mute.

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Mute sorry.

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Alex Williams, retired judge, and I'm a resident Prince George's County coach here.

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Right, thank you. Now I asked the members of the commission to introduce themselves. Jamie.

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Okay here yet.

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Yes, Good evening, Jay Amin, mineral County.

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Right. And next we have Cheryl Brooks Cheryl.

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Cheryl is not with us yet, but when she comes on board, we'll ask her to introduce herself.

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Marriages Fisher Oh, Cheryl Go ahead please introduce yourself.

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I am sure Roxy Commissioner from Baltimore County and a proud principal of a Baltimore County Elementary School.

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Thank you. And Mary, I think might have had an issue with tonight's attendance because she

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mentioned that at the last work session I don't see her yet.

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Married Clawson.

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She is one of our commissioners from an Arundel County.

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Next, we should have Kimberly Rose Cummings.

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You have Kim yet.

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Right. Yeah.

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right again will introduce her if she appears.

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And then Jonathan.

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Kim's here so go ahead. Oh hey cam There you go. Sorry.

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Done hi Dorchester county is where I am currently reside longtime resident of the Eastern Shore, the work for the Dorchester County Circuit Court specializing name records and licensing Thank you.

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All right, thank you.

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Good to see Jonathan.

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I am Jonathan first field I'm a communications manager for a research firm and I live in Montgomery county.

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Right.

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Thank you. And last but not least, William.

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And then we're going to put Thomas any possible system.

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And also, grassroots organizer residing in Baltimore City.

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All right, Good to see everyone tonight.

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With that, I'm going to ask. Kristin, to talk about the meeting process and policies.

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Good evening and welcome again to the first public meeting of round three of the Maryland citizens redistricting commission. This meeting is being recorded.

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As we begin, there are a few matters to share regarding the rules and policies for this evening's meeting, as well as some tips for how to use the platform more easily.

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This meeting does offer Spanish interpretation to listen in Spanish, you will note that there is a box, either at the bottom or the top of your screen on your zoom control panel, and it would indicate that there is an area for interpretation.

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If you click on that box and select Spanish, you should be able to listen to a live Spanish interpreter. There will be a three-minute allotment for our speakers this evening, so that everyone who wants to speak may speak when there's about 20 seconds

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left, you should see a screen with a timer come on to count down your time and we ask that you wrap up your remarks inappropriate speaking attire behavior or background will result in removal from the meeting, without the option to rejoin anyone registering

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to speak after 2pm today might want to register it or request to speak in the chat section as well because your name may not have made it to the pre-registered speakers list, although we did update that again at two o'clock so those of you

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who did request to speak today should already be on the list? If you register and ask to speak in the chat section, and your name is not on this list, you won't be able to share your screen, and we likely won't be able to pull up any maps that you're

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requesting to speak. So our suggestion would be to register for next week's meeting. If you'd like to do those things.

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If you did not register but you do want to speak again you can do so in the chat box. We ask that you not use the raise hand feature as you need to request to speak in the chat box, provide your name, as it appears on your zoom as your zoom name on this

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meeting, and the county in which you reside.

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The reason we want you to make sure that your name is correct, as it is, as how you asked to speak in the chat box, and how your name is listed on your as an attendee, is that we have to move you from an attendee section to a panelist section.

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During that time, while we do that, you will see a spinning wheel once you go, when it's your turn to speak, you'll see a spinning wheel saying that you're joining the meeting, and that the, that you're being requested to be made a panelist, and we just

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ask that you request that it might take about five to 10 seconds, and we make, and we want to make sure that if you would like to be on camera that you turn your video on.

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And of course, we ask that you unmute, there might be a short delay, don't worry about that will give about five to 10 seconds, and just make sure you hit that except by join as a panelist button for you to join.

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When you're finished speaking will simply move you back to an attendee, you may see again, a spinning wheel that says rejoining the meeting, don't worry about that you're just being moved from one section to another.

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We know this is a lot of information but want to assist you in understanding how this meeting will operate so it can go as smoothly as possible. With that, I would like to introduce you to our host for this evening's meeting, Dr.

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Kate Hetherington who serves as one of the CO chairs of the Maryland citizens redistricting commission, Dr Hetherington.

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Thank you, Kristin and thank you for all the work and administrative support that you've provided as well as members of your team. I don't think we could do the work that we're doing without the support that we're receiving from you.

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So thank you. And so, so many details so we're going to do. Just a brief PowerPoint presentation about what round three is about but we're also going to give you a summary of what has occurred since we are group started to have public hearings back on

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5. So, Kristin Are we going to share the screen, we are, I am. For some reason it just went down on my screen and it's not opening but I am just opening up right now if you'll bear with me but for sure.

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Just a moment.

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I have many windows open, and it appears to be not liking that on my computer, bear with me for just one moment please take your time.

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All right, here we go.

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So I'm not going to read everything that's on the slides but as you can see, we're a diverse group of Commissioners representing Democrats, Republicans and independents and are charged was to create new district boundaries, free from political influence

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and offer the opportunity for fair elections in Maryland.

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We have, I think, are very should be very proud of the process that we have which is very transparent. So Marylanders are able to observe not only the work sessions that we've had.

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But of course, all the hearings are broadcast as well. So we began meeting back on May 5, and we've had not only the hearings but also working sessions.

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Among the commission members, and I want to thank the commission members for their dedication to this process. It is at times tedious and more fun to come.

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But there is dedication to doing the best that we possibly can for the citizens of Maryland. And I will say for myself I'm very proud to be part of this group and have enjoyed working with you and maybe look forward to the day when we actually meet in

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person because everything has been conducted via zoom. So I appreciate everyone's commitment to this process. So during round one we're starting around three tonight but during round one.

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We had eight regional meetings where the members of the public were able to share what they thought should happen with redistricting and advance the release of the 2020 census data and it was very helpful to get that verbal and written testimony from

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the public and helped us as we were on this pathway to creating maps that you'll be seeing and have been seeing they've been posted. When we did round to that was comprised of for statewide virtual meetings during which Marylanders could submit their

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own maps and then give them to us with testimony and.

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So far, we've received 70 citizen maps we've had 30 public hearings This is public hearing number 31.

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We have worked diligently to make sure that the public sees the final propose and I add proposed draft to these maps, and currently we have completed proposed final drafts of congressional and state senate maps and then tonight we'll have more discussion

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on the legislative maps. Next slide.

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So, we've had an amazing participation of Marylanders over 3100 attendees have been at our public meetings, social media post resulted in over 42,000 impressions.

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I think we just lost the.

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I'm seeing mail.

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I think we lost your presentation.

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I'm pulling up the I'm pulling up the new one that has the additional slides you need if you could just bear with me one second. Sure. Okay.

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There we go.

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So on slide two. Okay.

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So, um, anyway, over 42,000 impressions on Twitter, reached over 50,000 and Facebook.

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And every time we've had a meeting, we sent out notifications via press release to more than 46,000 contacts so I would commend the staff for making sure that the word was sprayed.

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I also want to thank Gloria parse your Blackwell who has done a tremendous job with the Spanish Latino community and spreading the word, she's been absolutely amazing so thank you for for your work.

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You'll see here where the, the communications have been sent. And then of course we offer live Spanish translation and closed captioning for anyone who's hearing impaired.

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So the next slide is, you know, what the methodology is. So, just so you know that the amount of people in each congressional state senate and legislative district isn't a random number that we just pick out of a hat that we had to look at the census

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data because that dictates how many people should be in each of those categories, and the Senate and legislative districts may have a very small percentage deviation, in terms of percentage, but the congressional districts are different, they have to

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have the exact same amount of people.

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So the single versus multi member legislative districts has been a topic that we've been talking about during our work session, and the governor's executive order created the citizens commission, which role members of and Nicole's for various consideration,

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including single member districts to the extent possible, that are nearly equal in population as is feasible given to record for natural boundaries and boundaries of political subdivision so when we're drawing these districts, we also have to take into

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consideration the voter rights act which protects racial and language minority groups from the solution.

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So, just a little bit more about single book versus small team member because we have been getting a lot of communication about that.

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So within that 47 senate districts, there are 141 house and delicate seats. And then we are drafting these boundary lines with consideration of the voter Voting Rights Act and its impact on communities, and all of Maryland, Maryland Drew's in them, and that's

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critically important to us. So that's why we're taking this extra time to make sure that the legislative lines we draw for districts with the best possible outcomes.

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And I would say to a person every single member of the commission is taking this very seriously and giving it a lot of thought and I would say open to the pros and cons of single versus multi member, keeping in mind course the executive order that we've

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received in with this commission.

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So you'll see that we have. And you can go online at the website redistricting.maryland.gov. For this is again I'll emphasize It's the final proposed draft maps because we're going to have these hearings.

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During the month of October every Wednesday evening at six o'clock. But then we will have another meeting falling on the hearings to see if we want to make some adjustments, and they're more than likely will be some adjustments but just want people to

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know that that we have come up with congressional and the next one is the senate one, we have come up with that as well.

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And so the ones. This is slide seven.

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Once that we're still discussing and we'll spend some time on the work session, you're more than welcome to stay tuned for that following the public testimony is that the maps that are still under discussion, but the commission is, that's the next slide,

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which is the legislative maps next slides.

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These are the ones that are still under discussion by the Commission.

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So if we go to the final slide.

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We continue to ask the public for your input it's really important for us we want to hear as many voices as possible.

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And you can submit maps on the end provide suggestions for what you think we could do to improve the final proposed maps at redistricting.maryland.gov.

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The written testimony is also very, very helpful, and it gives us time to when we, when we see that, do a comparison so if you don't have time for.

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To take time and the evening on Wednesday evening, please submit the written testimony, and the, if you haven't spent time looking at the website, please do that allows that includes an application allowing for members of the public to determine which

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district has specific address balls and all draft maps have been posted.

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So as we get them, we post them to the website.

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And as I mentioned will hold these public sessions every Wednesday evening and October starting at six. So please sign up. If you're interested in giving public testimony.

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And then, again, just one more time saying these are not final maps that will be sent to the governor.

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That's what the purpose of round three is to listen to public comment and look for your input and suggestions so hopefully that provides some input as to where we are at this point in time.

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And with that, I'm going to turn it back over to Kristin, who will welcome the folks who have signed up for this evening. Yes. Our first speaker this evening is Lee Davis, or habits.

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He was from Prince George's County and going to be discussing map number 1032.

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Lee I am I've promoted you to a panelist.

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This is Lee Marius. Oh, okay.

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I'm not hearing or seeing anything. let me

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start my video.

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I am trying to do here.

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Okay, there you go. All right, Mr. habits welcome. Well thank you, number one in line.

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I am Lee Davis, I'm a resident of College Park.

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Prince George's County.

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Recently I was a candidate for public office in Prince George's County two times, and a citizen activist, developing and improving government through citizen involvement so I'm very committed to and very interested involved in what you're doing.

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I'm focusing my attention on the 12 maps that I presented in compliance there you go there's my district 21 my old district have broken down, you can see that the, the line March, would be eliminating those presets for example the ones you see on the

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right are in Arundel County, those have no business in District 21, I've campaigned in that area to just, it's a different demographic, different County, respecting the county political boundary is just logical.

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So, notice the hash marks in this new district 21 that I've conceived of. I'm very strongly in favor of single member districts in Prince George's County.

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We have essentially one party control the Democratic Party has all the, the seats in the legislature. If we don't have local accountability for single member districts, we're not going to have competitive elections.

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People will not run in primaries if they have to go against three people who are running together as a slate with 45 precincts to cover.

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So I broke it down into logical areas, every legislative district has three definable population areas, you'll see that I broke down 21 into Laurel, which is in the north Beltsville, which is in the middle I know this district very well because I've

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campaign throughout it and then of course my area of College Park. Now you do need to do some fine tuning on equal option the population, but I focused on the, the political boundaries for each of the different maps in the, in the southern area.

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I included maps for Southern Maryland, which are contiguous with Prince George's County. In the past, we've had Calvert county broken down into three legislative districts.

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I think it's very important that that old district 27 which includes part of Prince George's County be reconstituted constituted so that Calvert county is in one single district.

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Also St Mary's County ought to be in one single district there's no logical citizen-oriented purpose to break those down so that each one of the districts has oriented to three of those single member house districts, which would be very compatible with

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citizen accountability, local control, and representation fair representation of people that, that the citizens can actually access. I hope that I know that there is some discussion on the single member House District and I really strongly recommend

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that that that be constituted to help us get competitive elections and accountability particularly where we needed the most. Where we were problematic in Prince George's County, let me say that I'm working at the grassroots level to get support among

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the, the local groups in Prince George's County and frankly, so far, nobody has objected to the single member House District, because it's logical it's logical for the citizens.

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Now obviously, you know I'm not speaking for elected officials, but if we, if we're looking for help with better government more citizen accountability, I really hope you will you will embrace the concept of single member house districts.

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So if there is no questions, I'm just going to command you to looking at the match and giving it your giving your careful attention and including, including my careful thought, because I think I'm working in line with what you're doing, which is the

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constitution the Maryland constitution, respecting compactness equalizing population. I know you're. You've got the same kind of work that I was involved with so I will be watching closely, and I appreciate your the opportunity to make the input.

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All right, thank you so much for your testimony. Mr habits.

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Our next speaker, Christian.

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So Christian screen just froze, and I'm going to promote the next one, or that. Thank you, Maria. And then our next speaker is delegate Susan Krebs from Carroll County.

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Delegate Krebs. You should now be a panelist.

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Alright wg system you.

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Do you have video on her? There we go. Can you see, okay, dokey Krebs we can see you and hear you and thank you for your written testimony as well, and welcome.

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Thank you. Thank you again a delegate Susan Krebs representing Carroll County District five Marilyn has been a leader in so many areas by redistricting is one where we like woefully behind all of the other states with regards to reforms.

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And I want to thank this entire commission for your sincere efforts as you move forward in this challenging process.

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I did give you written testimony, more detailed in writing but a little focus on two main areas. First of all, I want to tell you that I support the standards with which this commission has adopted in drawing both the congressional and legislative maps.

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The Congressional maps I think are such a huge improvement for citizens having compact districts I won't get into that but I support your congressional maps.

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Second thing is the legislative maps, I support the Commission's current draft legislative math that you just put out tonight and this is your math and I'll tell you I was drawing a map and it's like looks just like this.

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So for the very reasons of, it keeps our community all within our means, or boundaries. A respects our communities of interest how this has been drawn I think for the professor for understanding our communities of interest.

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It few tweaks might make it a little better but for the most part it's very good. And it keeps the four single member legislative districts, all within the boundaries of Carol of Carroll County.

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The Senate map that is already proposed will need to be adjusted to conform with this legislative district map that you all are considering tonight but I fully support this legislative district map.

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Secondly, I strongly support single member house districts contained to the extent possible in a single county nationwide the use of multi member districts has declined over the last several decades and this is in part because they've been found to be

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discriminatory single member districts support the basic premise of one person, one vote. And I've decided some case law in my written testimony, I will not get into that, but you can have it there to read.

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Maryland is one of only two remaining states that will have multi member districts have different sizes. In other words, some have two and some three member districts the other status New Hampshire, which is a whole nother animal currently in Maryland,

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some people have one vote some f two and some have three with arbitrarily undisclosed reasons for those splits and I believe that that is unfair and has been unfair for many, many years and the public doesn't understand it, little if any testimonies supports

00:32:59.000 --> 00:33:13.000

the current practice in which different methods are arbitrarily imposed on different areas around the states with the inconsistency of practice creating a strong suspicion that the discretion has been abused for tactical political ends, don't let judging

00:33:13.000 --> 00:33:25.000

anybody's motives but that's what seems all single member districts will help do is create a better government in Maryland and you asked me how many reasons number one would allow delegates to better represent their constituents and provide constituent

00:33:25.000 --> 00:33:40.000

service would allow constituents to hold their delegates accountable will maximize voter input or accurately reflect the composition of the States population, and make it easier for grassroots candidates to challenge sleepy incumbents currently running

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on a multi members late.

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It will up in the past usage of single member districts and dual member districts to protect particular incumbents.

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It would take credits. sorry. Your time is up, but thank you for your written testimony and I think some of what you're saying tonight has been covered in that so people want to see that you that we have that available and also the commissioners, but

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that along with the maps are appreciate your input so thank you so much I want to thank you for helping us to restore faith and not in our, in our congressional and legislative districts and thank you for all your efforts.

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All right, thank you.

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Alright, our next speaker, Maria. Yeah. So our next speaker, I know Chris is trying to get on but our next speaker is Edward Johnson from Baltimore County and word You should now be a panelists.

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We have him.

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Say,

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we need to have Krebs.

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Yep. Okay.

00:34:45.000 --> 00:34:58.000

Miss Mr you there yes we can hear you and we can see your ceiling, very clearly so I'm using my cell phone because the mic, my Chromebook tends to cut out as you've heard from me in the past so.

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All right.

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So there's new anyone ready.

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Thank you.

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Good evening commissioners I have several points I want to make. Having lived in Baltimore City Baltimore County all my life. In fact, my family's been here since 1700 but that's a different story.

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The first is dividing up a county so that they have multiple congressmen, it's actually a beneficial for the county. Congressman have been represent all the entire county with a large portion of their land is in that county.

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For example, Baltimore City currently has three.

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And you are now making with just one guys Coby little of the n double A CP said recently, the hat bomber city will go from three congressman rock representative in Congress only one.

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So, just keep in mind that dividing up the county and inviting him and Eric is actually beneficial not an end in gerrymandered way, but in a way that keeps the county's keeps them.

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So, the next point is in redistricting the Baltimore area you have missed the importance of roads, play in defining civic communities in Baltimore, the Beltway plays a major factor, any of the communities inside but we have no similarity to those out

00:36:21.000 --> 00:36:40.000

on the other side. For example towels and on north side of Baltimore has much more in common is made up of close-knit communities, and close housing and work in common with Baltimore City, then it has with the communities north of the Beltway which is

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made up of half acre homes.

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Another example is 83 splits Baltimore and half.

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And its split different communities if you ever consider spending Baltimore, you have to us at three busy season was that a TV or community different news on the other side, at least until you get down the North Avenue.

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Then. Another example is northern Parkway in the north part of Baltimore. It splits the communities on one side of Northern part from those on the other side.

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I will come back to Northern Parkway.

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If I have time.

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But so all the maps that you put out need to have the streets delineated so people can actually see what their communities are, What have because the streets play a very important.

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My next point is district 11 was created to be, to keep the Jewish community whole. It stretches from falls road to Pikeville to all the way up to, Owings Mills, a current as in the current format they currently have a Jewish senator, and to injuries

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they to Jewish delegates. So it's a three-member district.

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appears that we lost, Mr. Johnson. but yeah, because, at a time.

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to. All right.

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All right, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Johnson for your testimony. Tonight we appreciate it. And thank you for taking the time for being here tonight.

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Right. Okay.

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All right, Maria.

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Christian Are you back yet. I am.

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It looks like our next speaker is delegate Neil Parrott who is not has not been able to join us as of yet, so we will move on to Katie still have Charles county.

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Katie you are now a panelist, please be sure to accept that and turn on your audio and video if you'd like to be screen and audio is fine. Can you hear me.

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Yes we can.

00:39:03.000 --> 00:39:24.000

Okay, thank you. And first off, I want to thank the commission for all the work you've done on this, and I can only imagine how hard it has been to try and straighten out our districts, but I am testifying this this evening in favor of single member districts

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for Charles county.

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Morning Maryland, and it's a very rural area.

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And then, Charles County we have an urban area called Waldorf, which had been the rest of the county it's green space very agriculture and get broadband into areas.

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You know some basic services, versus our urban area which has lots of services. So, what I would say is I heard you speaking about the census and trying to divide the population up so that everything is balanced.

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And I understand that, but sometimes by doing that we may end up giving bodies equal representation for account, but that doesn't necessarily give the residents, an equal representation as far as their vote.

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So by giving single member districts.

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We will give the.

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green areas, the rights that their votes will be heard because I can tell you, having been in a multi member district for a while now I feel like support map, 2021, as a single member district, and I appreciate.

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Thank you mystical, We appreciate you testifying tonight.

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Okay, our next speaker is Zoe Harris,

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daily, you are now a panelist, Please be sure to unmute.

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Hello, Miss Harris, we can hear you. Great. I'm not going to belabor the point, I mean, everybody. Lee had this was eloquent in.

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in his stand-up position for protecting Prince George's County and continued with boundaries, which if his mouth proposal stands, then that would also support Charles county for which I live.

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I am a member of the Charles County Central Committee, Republican committee and I am seriously concerned about gerrymandering and multi, multi member districts.

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For

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several reasons and I'm not going to belabor the point, like I said, I just want you to look at Charles County, as a single member district, pull back the multi member disrupting that's taking place in Prince George's County, that's affecting Charles

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county and state within the contiguous area and the apportionment to the representation. That's my speech. Thank you.

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Alright, our next here is Harris. Sorry.

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Our next speaker is Stephen Mattingly from Charles County.

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Stephen you are now a panelist.

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Okay, I see the name, but I don't see Mr. Mattingly, we're here.

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Hello. Yes. Okay, we now can see you and hear you. Welcome. Thank you very much. Thank you for having this meeting this evening.

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First of all, Charles County is not a monolithic county. We are very culturally and economically diverse, and we deserve to be treated fairly and had the same level of representation as everyone else in the state.

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And the current system Waldorf the most populous community in our county dictates representation for the rest of our county.

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The system is decidedly unfair and all efforts to rectify this matter should be exhausted before considering maintain the current more time member system.

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We're not asking for special considerations rather we're seeking to be treated with the same consideration as the rest of the state.

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We want single man member districts so our voices can be heard at the statehouse, and I fully support to propose a single member delegate noted as 2021 0929 draft delegate map.

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It's the seems to me to be the most fair and provides equal representation for the counties communities across the state.

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Furthermore, Ward offers more than an urban areas some ways and mirrors Prince George's County.

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However Waldorf is just one of the communities and Charles County. When you look at the county as a whole, it's easy to see that there are still many rural areas in the community.

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These communities have their own very specific sets of needs and will likely continue to go on attended using the current multi member structure. Some communities and Charles County thrive on agritourism farming and a question activities.

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Matter of fact, Oliver across the street from the Charles County Equestrian Center.

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These communities deserve peer representation.

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They deserve delegates to represent your interest in Annapolis, though it a second hold accountability for their action or inaction.

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The goal should be to have more responsive government not less. These communities deserve fair representation delegates who will take their concerns and needs to Annapolis and bring home solutions.

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Why would the trolls. Why would the commissioners expect these Marylanders to settle for less? Again, I support the 2021 09 to nine draft delegate Matt.

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One more thing I like to say is that we're mannakkara the county where we live, we're very rule. I have a well on a septic Waldorf that controls the boat of the county, they're all gone public water and public sewer.

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My environmental leads are much different than those in Waldorf.

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And thank you very much for having me this evening.

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All right, Thank you Mr maddeningly Kristin.

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Our next speaker is Daniel Creighton from Charles County as well.

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Daniel, you've now been promoted to a panelist.

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I don't see him, and I don't hear him.

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Here he is.

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Daniel Are you there.

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I'm not saying, Oh, now I do see the name.

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Mr. Creighton.

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He's listed twice on the attendees list. I'm going to promote the other. Yeah, good I just in case there's an issue with

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Daniel is your mute your mute. It's not showing up that way. Can you hear me now I can hear you. Yes, we can't see you but we can hear you.

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Okay, good enough I'm so sorry for the delay there but I'm

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from Daniel Creighton from Charles County, Maryland, and I wanted to specifically address the single delegate versus multiple delegates district issue, and come out very much in favor of the single member districts, and opposing multiple member districts

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for several reasons.

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The first of those is really simplicity in our voting system, I think, you know, having voter confidence comes from having a, you know, a system that everybody can understand.

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And when you have a single district, and you have one delegate for that district. I think that makes sense to just about every, every person out there.

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When you start parsing things up, and having multiple delegates in a district, I think, you know, very quickly the thoughts go to impropriety, and I think that erodes voter confidence in the system.

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And, and people quickly kind of don't understand what's going on so I think just the single district single delegate and the simplicity of that is very useful for the average voter.

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The second reason our question is, you know, the multiple person districts you know what was this creative for in the first place. And I think that question should be answered and when you kind of talk about it Look around you come up with a lot of a

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lot of varied answers but I tend to think a lot of it stems back to you know racial disparities from for many decades ago, that we're certainly very real.

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And if that's the case, you know, do those, those conditions that level of conditions still exist today and I think, you know, from my perspective, if that's you know one of the, one of the issues for multiple person districts I don't think we're anywhere

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close where we were you know 40 5060 years ago, and that today's condition should be you know kind of should be considered.

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You know, in that decision making process.

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Historically in America, the, the train line on multiple person districts has been steadily going down the federal level I think it disappeared in 1842 or so, and then since then states that have steadily you know disappeared from having multiple

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person districts in favor of single person district I think there's eight or 10 left today. But you know that trend line you know does not support, you know, sticking with multiple person districts I mean clearly at the federal level and all the states

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that are reviewed it reviewed the policy for their own voters have decided against it, and I know there's been several legal cases to at a pretty high level that largely sided against the multiple person districts in favor of single so

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those reasons the last one was mentioned earlier when the meeting started but the voters Rights Act of 1965. I tend to think the multiple person district process and some of the rationale behind it probably runs afoul of the voters Rights Act of 1965.

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I think that should be considered also so I very much work single delegate districts, is the best path forward for Maryland and Charles County, and I thank you for the time tonight, and I'm you're, you're working the commission.

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Thank you.

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Thank you, Mr. Creighton.

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Kristin.

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Our next speaker is kind of Schmidt, of Charles County, who will be speaking as to map number 1016

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met as a citizens submitted map.

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Hi, I guess I should start. Yes, Mr. Schmidt, we can hear you. We can't see. Okay, sorry Thank you. Appreciate that.

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So I, I guess I supported this this map of the citizen map. And, and I just before I get into the map, a little bit. I just want to say that.

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I also support the single member district initiative here from Charles County, as well.

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And I do so for, perhaps, somewhat simple, simple reason that, you know, it's hard enough to hold one politician accountable. Right.

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But if I've got to figure out, you know, between the dancing have everything here.

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How am I districts represented and you know who to go to who to petition, and you know the relationship and how that's working between them.

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I think it just it's easier for the voter to operate with that single member representative.

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And then, as it pertains to the map here.

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I know you know so the objective right I like this map in terms of its simplicity.

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And one of the things that I would, you know, I think, you know, we're far down the road so it's just you know, going back is not really, you know, an option but I would say that we have the ability now to use very objective criteria for drawing this

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stuff, right.

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We can use, you know, randomized technology, we can use a you we can use ways to allow these districts to be created using advanced statistical models that merely look at or that don't even look at anything other than population.

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Right. And just drive the population.

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Let the population and let the randomize aspect of District drawing,

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create these districts and I would even support this on a regular basis because it would allow for some amount of movement in the districts, which, which also, I think, would create scenarios where there's always the potential that there's

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a new district or a way a district is shape could come up tomorrow and that would, you know also create kind of a competitive environment in the sense that our politicians are never quite sure what's going to pop up tomorrow.

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And so they do have to stay receptive to the voter base.

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So, that's a couple thoughts on this, and I just want to thank you all for your time, and obviously the work that you are doing here.

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Thank you for your testimony. Mr. Schmidt.

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Kristin, who do we have next? Our next speaker is Professor Marshall, with Monson from the Cecil County.

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Professor you are now a panelist.

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Okay.

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Professor you're on mute.

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Okay, thank you so much for inviting me to this group Commission's.

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But first, I think it. thanks for inviting me.

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I assume follow three or four Monaco, thank you very much and.

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And now I, I hope so what is this the third round, I think, maybe.

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It is a Florida.

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Since us on the 2020 I think is much more to agreement for the stand-up comedy stuff now.

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I think not delay to hope so far. Not tomorrow. Now look at know look at and tomorrow I think it possible a thing is for the agreement to compromise are much more relatable to, to, to agreement for, well for in it this time in this area.

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Thank you so much.

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Thank you, professor.

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Monson. Thank you.

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The next speaker is a senator, surely Pulliam of Baltimore City.

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Welcome.

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Senator pool, Hulu, Hulu Pulliam.

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I'm just trying to see, she wanted to get a sheet is listed twice. Okay.

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I'm trying to make sure that we get both women in.

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Not seeing either one just looks like it whenever there we go.

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Okay, center Pulliam.

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You're on mute.

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Okay, okay. I'm okay. Yeah, we can see we can hear you now.

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Now, I'm, I said, Good evening.

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I'm a former senator.

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Recent former senator.

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And I've served for 20, almost 25 years and in house in the senate of Maryland.

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I'm.

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I'm calling in two reasons. I hear a lot of testimonies out single member district.

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I'm not in support of single member.

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I strongly believe that.

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Remember district brings a lot to the, to the, to the individual districts, for all those years are even as a senator.

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They were. I am a registered nurse some health care professional.

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I have a have a, an attorney educator, and a business first.

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All of the three of us have bringing different expertise to that particular district. The window to issue and problems to be resolved, all of us can put our heads together we can work on those issues, and make sure that are continuing to well sir.

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I do not anytime. For that reason support single member district. And, and I could go on and on time.

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But I'm not the time to do. I also want to stay at the Baltimore City.

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I represented Baltimore County and Baltimore City, and many years, but as a resident now of Baltimore City. I want to make sure when those maps are drawn, that it's fair and equitable distribution of resources that would come to the city and Baltimore

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County and surrounding area.

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So I hope that you can keep that in mind as you continue to draw a map, and to listen to the different constituents and people that are calling.

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So I think that's about as much as I'd like to say, but I can emphasize again, the

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importance of of.

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Do not just put your blinders on and listen to everyone about single member district. Think about the amount of resources that you bring when you have three members on that on that team that have so many expertise in those areas.

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So with that, thank you very much.

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Hey, thank you Senator podium.

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Alright, Christian.

00:59:57.000 --> 01:00:02.000

And we now have Brian prayer, who is our last speaker.

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Thus far, he has registered in the chat section from Charles County, speaking to the draft delegate maps.

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Brian you'll just need to unmute and share your screen if you'd like.

01:00:24.000 --> 01:00:31.000

Brian please hit your unmute button.

01:00:31.000 --> 01:00:33.000

We can hear you.

01:00:33.000 --> 01:00:35.000

Or, See you.

01:00:35.000 --> 01:00:41.000

Okay. Can you hear me now. Now we can all right you're good to go out with your prayer. All right.

01:00:41.000 --> 01:01:00.000

Great, thank you. I thank you for taking the time to speak with me on this and I'm, you know I don't normally call them to these types of things but this is drawn my interest in them specifically speaking to map 2021 dash, nine to nine to draft delegate

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math.

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And I think it's time these with the times that we're in, in, in the time frame of history that we're in now that we want equal representation on resident Charles county.

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I'm resident Charles county. So, um, I don't understand why the multi representation, when we should be going with a single representation. I don't see any reasonable explanation for Charles county to remain multi-member.

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And so, I would expect that the commission and I and I respect that the work, the work that you are doing.

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And I expect the commission that would treat me, my family, and the community that I live in fairly. So I believe that it should be one person, one vote just like we would go boating person for our delegates.

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And I'm asking you to follow the governor's order and keep the single member across the state.

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And I post I fully support this 2929 dress elegant math, and I believe it's the most fair for Charles county.

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Thank you.

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Okay, thank you. Mr. Freier.

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Kristin did delegate pirate. Come on.

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I'm not as of yet.

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Alright, so we've gone through everyone who either came in via chat or pre-registered as far as Testament is that correct.

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Yes.

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Alright. Right. In that case, we're going to move from the public testimony part of the agenda into the Commission's working session. And tonight we wanted to continue our discussion from the work session about the delegates district, and we had a discussion

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about multi member and single member districts, and hopefully you've had a chance to take a look at information that was submitted to all of us earlier today by Walter about looking at criteria for multi member districts.

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And so I was wondering if we might want to begin with that and have a more of a discussion about that.

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Walter.

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you're on mute Walter.

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Walter your I'm sorry sorry I didn't realize you were asking me because I was of course curious to hear reactions from the other commissioners but the, for the sake of getting the ideas out there to the audience as well.

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We have been talking over the last couple of meetings about the differences on single member district versus multi-member district and the commission victim very much have multiple views on that, and the search for what might be an objective criteria

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by which to decide which counties or parts of the state might be getting multi member districts, and which not the there's been a lot of sentiment in the public testimony and from commissioners, for having multiple redistricting in places like Baltimore

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City.

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The Prince George's in Washington County, or perhaps Baltimore County. There has been a lot of strong testimony in many other parts of the state, that there is less enthusiasm from author member destruction and more support for single member district.

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And when this is written about.

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One of the things that the one of the generalizations people awesome dry is that multi member districts in Maryland at least seem to be more popular in more densely several areas, which describes the fourth jurisdictions that we talked about.

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And there are some logical reasons to think that that might make a lot of sense for example, if it's a matter of going to a constituent office to get constituent service.

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If you are in a place where 140,000 people live within a couple of miles anyway.

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There is going to be constituent office near you if you live in a much more spread-out area, then the.

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It might be really helpful to help a district it's only one third the population is more likely that the person will be near you with it the office and, and many other things at the same sort them in areas like Montgomery county particularly close me

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and Baltimore and it's immediately adjacent suburbs.

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It's easier to campaign in the larger population district.

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It is easier to for everyone to share the same media for everyone to share the same concerns about local issues than it is in, let's say Washington County or what comical County, with a population is spread out over a much bigger geographical area so

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with that in mind, I did a little research on two possible ways of using density as a criterion for which areas might be considered for multi member district and I will stop right here and say that for those tuning in for the first time for may not know

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my views I myself every single member district and for the entire state I've argued that week after week, and I'm not going to bore you by archaic medical because you've all heard this to commitment so instead, I'm talking about.

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If there were to be a compromise. could we come up with an objective principle that could put some counties on one side and the other countries and other side.

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So back to the answer there are two ways of doing it, it seems to me the rough and ready way is to look at the density of candidates. And if you do that there are three jurisdictions that are overwhelmingly more dense than any other part of the state

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there's been Baltimore City, Montgomery county and Prince George's County trailing behind them at some distance are Baltimore County and Howard County which are almost tied with each other I checked the Department of Planning site today.

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And as of last year Baltimore County was a little bit more jobs. So you could draw on there if you want, but by and large, Baltimore County on Howard are very similar in that respect.

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So, so that's one way of doing it, either choose the three densest, which would give you.

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Approximately 19 senate districts, worth of triple number districts.

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The

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four add in Baltimore County which would give you an I believe another 5% of the or even add in our. So that's one way of doing it the other way is to look at how dense the districts themselves are now notice that this might be seen as being a little

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more refined because Baltimore cottage is a reasonably dense district and yet it has the northern part of the county, which is much more like the rural parts of the state.

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The same is true of the Northern most part of Montgomery what we have sometimes called the agricultural reserves concept of state senate district that isn't enough they're much less dense than the other southern Montgomery districts and there is in southeastern

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Prince George's County, there is one state senate district in Prince George's that is much, much less dense than the others. So if you went down to the district density level, you would get a somewhat different festivals still have most Sam districts

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in it, but it would miss a couple and it might add a couple of others.

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Frederick city central might possibly be added depending again on where you put the threshold, and we can talk about the threshold if people are interested in this idea but, again, I have been concerned as people have gone back and forth, but the commission

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might be headed toward not being able to articulate why it was making a decision in one way or the other. There may be other methods than this, but this is at least one possible way.

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All right. Thank you, Walter for that and for those of you who haven't had a chance to check your email.

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This is this email from Walter is into pretty much the same thing he's just discussed, but it might be easier to digest when you see it in writing.

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Although you stated very clearly Walter I'm not saying that but sometimes it's visual or is easier for folks.

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So I'd be curious to hear from the commissioners about what you think about this, you know we've been going back and forth with single member versus multi member districts, and we could probably talk about that until the end of October, but this is a

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proposal to provide justification for a compromise, and we've talked about either having a hybrid or compromise. And it's looking at the district density method or county density method and it provides justification for making that decision, so I'll open

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it up to the commissioners, who would like to talk about that

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anybody.

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Okay. Okay. Thanks. Yeah. Um, yeah reviewed a Walters email Sumerian and they were very well laid out and organize the thought process about the density approach and in general I like the am in favor of a density approach, regardless of whether you go

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by county or death, or district that I'm sure I've landed on one of those more favorably than another. But, but, uh, but the think the objective this of the density approach kind of appeals to me.

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There's a certain kind of reality in the numbers that then drives the accountability of our thought process and our transparency to the public as far as what is the rationale behind.

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Choosing areas where there might be multi member districts, driven by water Vra requirements, considerations, but at the same time single member districts where those are, you know, likely to be the case anyway and in the spirit of are charged with the

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governor so thank you all for sharing that summary and I like what's going.

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Right. Thank you, Jay.

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Anyone else like to comment.

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Anyone else have a chance to take a look at it.

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So, I haven't had a chance to really look at it yet but trying to digest what was articulated.

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It sounds like it's a good approach. I will have to look further into it.

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But in the same lines that Jay mentioned just from a numbers standpoint.

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It kind of makes sense based off what he said so I would have to look into it more but I'm open to exploring this option that want to propose right and Cheryl, I see you, unmuted.

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Thank you, William do appreciate you.

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Opening your mind and looking at criteria for consideration for that.

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Because I do feel that needs to be a hopper model, and I do agree, I'm not certain where I fall and is it.

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And, or is it both is FP one or the other. I just have to spend more time thinking is, I have my notes and highlighting you know what we do as educators, but

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we spend more time here.

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But I definitely do agree that where there's more dense population that that is something that needs to be considered strongly. And so I do appreciate the work that you put forward is clear, you did a lot here.

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And I think it makes sense. I just need to look into linear us paying one or the other county or density method. Is that what you were saying in your writing.

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Yeah, the two different methods and I don't think there's a way to combine or hybridize them easily, and each one has certain advantages and disadvantages so it's a, it does need to be thought about mother is perfect, and each has certain advantages.

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Okay.

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All right. Thank you, Cheryl.

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Anyone else have some insight that they like to share with us.

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I'm still adjusting Walter's email but I think it's definitely something we should investigate.

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As Jay and Cheryl and when mentioned.

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So I'm just reading the email now so I'm still digesting the idea.

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All right.

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All right, Ken, or judge Williams.

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Well that Kim go in and out, have some comments. Kim, you have anything?

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Well, I haven't had a chance to review the email yet, so I'd like to just absorb that a little bit longer before I weigh in. Thank you.

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All right, Kim Thank you.

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Judge Williams, yeah, we'll have Walter if you have a chance to look at it I think that can be certainly one of the factors that we can look at and making a decision on, I call the hybrid system but again.

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I do believe that there should be a hybrid system and not either or, all the way across the board I don't think there should be all single member across the board.

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I think disappear or multiple them across the board, and this is a difficult issue for all of us because, again, the arguments on both sides is to the merits of both the single and a multi and we've heard comments from citizens and day about their

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advocacy for single member, and we've heard the senator also talk about her advantage advantages and it mirrors what we've heard in the last several months from with citizens.

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And as I said before, again Don't you have two methods I think we can look at that I think that may be certainly of approach for some of the decisions that we make.

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But for me, Walter, as I said before, our job is to come up with fair and independent maps, obviously the lines are going to change.

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And we're not looking we have not looked at, who votes were all lives were that I have, I don't know that all the way anyone.

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And I don't care. At this point, our job is to move the map, the lines, and we've done that in the senatorial district, as well as a congressional district we've done that.

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The, the, the issue that most important to me when I say a fair. Is that the way the hybrid system has worked right now has resulted in.

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I call it fair minority and women representation, and there's a lot of political electro power by minorities and a Walter, you let us know last being that.

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How many women are in positions of power in Maryland job assembly has 74 women.

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Other 141 74 out of 141 that's over 50% of the General Assembly now would be represented by women.

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And then, In terms of African Americans there are 62, African Americans on 141, that's 44%.

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And then when you add the other minorities that probably close as close to 50 and so I bring up those stats to suggest that the multi member districts that had been in place, many of them have worked.

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They've worked and they've resulted in a fail of representation by minorities and I recognize that historically.

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Both of these methods both single and multi-members have been you lost so suppressed minorities, both up.

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Depends on what state you're in and what the year is and what have you, but here in Maryland, the mixed hybrid situation has work right now and it has resulted as I said, it failed weapons representation of minorities and so I certainly recognize there's

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there's got to be some changes. And I already mentioned that in Prince George's County, again, because of the rising bad Tino community, you've got to come up with some.

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I call it single number districts you have you have to eight folks may disagree on that but the point of matter is you have to promote Latino power where it is so Prince George's can have all a multi member districts, but it certainly should be there.

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We heard a lot from Charles County, this evening. Certainly comment. These, these are good arguments that number of decisions are made.

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But on the other side, not just bring up the other side. Charles County is presently represented by an African American senator, and then three delegates are African Americans, right now, and so the system in place has at least promoted in advance, African

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Americans and Charles County. So, you know, I have to weigh all that, and it's a very difficult situation, but I don't want to come up with maps that's going to send us back and retreat from what we have right now that that's my dilemma, and I like the

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idea of 50%, more than 50% women, and also close to a 4445 46 of minorities in that general seven so system that is reasonably fast that perfect, but it's reasonably fast so that's where I am with overtones.

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That's why I'm advocating for a hybrid system, and we can pick and choose. And I don't know what a Walter whether we can articulate

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a criteria or criteria, I just don't know whether it's going to satisfy everyone. But, again, density certainly is one way to look at it.

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But, but also, I've got to look at what has worked, what has worked.

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And as I said I got no government and I know he obviously a rotor what he wants to happen and as I say I don't read that older as respected as as others don't where necessary where appropriate again.

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I know, the governor quite well not know that he is in favor of advancing and promoting where appropriate, the minorities, I know that. That's all he's done I've worked with it.

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He's worked well with minorities in Judicial Court, and he's done that so I know that's what he wants and so I just want to make sure that whatever maps that we are proposing does not retreat or give rise or situation where we lose a fair minority representation.

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So that's where I hope that I made some sense.

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But that's where I am.

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Thank you judge would Williams and thank you everyone.

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I think one of the things, it's, it's a challenging topic and there's so many different points of view and so many pros and cons.

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One of the things that I think we talked about the last time was coming up with the criteria, because that's what the public is going to want to know why you know why do some districts.

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Why are they multi member, why are some single.

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And I think if we can justify the criteria that we've come up with.

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Then, then that kind of aligns with the exceptions and the executive order talked about single member but of course there's exceptions. So I think this is a good first start and what why we would do something that is a combination of multi-member Plus,

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single member and judge I could be wrong but looking at all the districts in the state better multi-member. I you know this this definitely would have an impact because this is looking at district or county density and it's like a mixed bag across the

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state.

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And if I'm looking at the chart that we received it looks like majority are multi member either to member multi-member as opposed to single member. So it would have it definitely would have an impact.

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If no matter what we come up with but following the executive order, where, you know, the governor didn't say make them all multi member and Have you no exceptions for single member it was the other way around, so I do like the idea of having the criteria.

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I do think that it these are two approaches that we could think about and of course we still have an opportunity for additional work sessions over the next three weeks to think about it more and be interested if the public wanted to submit ideas about,

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you know, what criteria, could be used for determining multi member districts. And we can also among ourselves, think about what else we would like to add

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anything else that anybody. Professor Yes, I just make one comment here which is as you think about the answer to this question. Since the current delegate map was drawn with single member districts in mind at the edges of every border right there are

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lots of split precincts in the like, whether it's to respect municipalities or whether it was to, you know, bring it to equal population.

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When you consider whether you multi member districts, consider whether you merely want to combine the existing single member districts that have been drawn, or you basically want to do that in general and by that, I mean with me going through and then

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once they are combined.

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You know smoothing out the edges to deal with things like municipal boundaries and precinct splits. I don't think there's any problem with just combining them together if that's what you want to do, but that is something, you know, they were it's a lot

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of intentionality in the drawing of these single member districts. And so some of those, the reasons that those single member districts were drawn will evaporate.

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If you, if you combine them together, right. So if, for example, a particular district was drawn in order to respect account city. Right. And now that city is going to be in a larger multi member district.

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Well then, we just have to make sure the borders, you know that essentially the new philosophy by the multi member district is consistent with the way that the districts are drawn I was just looking right now at some districts, I don't think this is a

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big deal. But you could, for example limit the number of precincts let's by going in and editing the, the multi member districts and so I just want you to y'all.

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you want to achieve.

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All right. Do we have other comments on this approach, which

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sounds like it could be, what might be a workable solution.

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If it's a workable solution it's coming to, you know, decision, where there will be people on both sides who, some will prefer this some won't prefer it.

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But if there's other criteria that you think we should consider. We can give it some thought you have an opportunity we can email the professor with some any questions that we have our ideas that we have.

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Whatever criteria would come up with Professor, we still have to keep in mind what the Voting Rights Act.

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That's right. You said you cannot you multi member districts throughout the entire state and for reasons the judges said previously, because they sometimes will dilute the minority community so that the Latino districts in northwestern, the one let you

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know district in northwestern Prince George's County African American district in in Dorchester those I believe are required under section to the Vla.

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What we get into and I almost hesitate to raise this with you all, is that if you start going beyond that, then the your decision as to why you are granting single member districts in some other circumstances where the VR a requirement might not be clear,

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then, is up for legal scrutiny right so what I'm trying to say here is that once you once you decided to have essentially two philosophies for districts in Maryland, than the, particularly as it relates to the creation of majority minority districts,

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you have to be really sure that that is a principle that's required by law.

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And so, I'm going to leave it vague like that for now just, but I you know whatever we do, I will make sure that it is legally required compliant.

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But, but it may require some kind of discussion. When you start to depart from multi member districts in certain circumstances for certain communities.

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Okay, I. Does that make sense at that level of generality, I think that, you know, we want when we get when we get in into particular areas. We just have to be pretty sensitive to these, but more bluntly, which is that if you depart, if you say we are

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going to just do this single member district in this particular area but I'm not sure whether the Voting Rights Act requires it. Then if you are departing specifically to draw majority minority district and you may have a constitutional problem.

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And so and so that is just something that I want to, you know, put on your agenda as you think about it, but that's why you hired me is to prevent that problem.

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And so we'll make sure that that we don't run into that.

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One other thing is I do not want it, I do not want to be invested with discretion about where multi member districts will be I want I want the commission to direct me as to which districts would be combined, and which will be single.

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Let me appreciate those comments and obviously we want to make sure whenever we do can pass legal mustard, we certainly want that.

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Were you involved in the last decade or a decade before that, in drawing up Maryland maps? Yeah, that was in 2002 around.

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2002. Yes. And then of course Prince George's County in 2010, but the reason I asked you to do a bird for me with that, and it has been hybrid situations, both in 2002 as well as 2012.

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And my question is, since he was a hybrid, what was the criteria in place, then?

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So the reason I was appointed that was simply to deal with the constitutional infirmity, in the state passed map so what happened in 2002 is that they just broke up.

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Lots of counties. And basically the directive from the court to us was take this map, and remove the constitutional infirmity meaning, go in and push the districts inside the counties.

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And so, we stayed with the same number I believe a multi member and single member just because that had already been decided by the legislature. We've just sort of changed their location.

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so they didn't break county lines. Okay.

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Thank you.

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And

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I'll throw in one more point.

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A couple of people have suggested in our lives that we should do this that my memo that I sent to the commissioners this afternoon, they posted publicly so that, because it does have a little bit more information and examples in it so that the entire

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public can follow along. I wanted to point out one thing that I noticed Williams also pointed out separately, about the use of single member districts, which is that even in historical practice which has been very friendly to triple member districts,

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there was always a practice where a district crossed county lines that they tended to make that a single member district so that assuming there was a significant number of people on each side of the one if county would have a chance to elect to delegate

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it so if you had a district that was two thirds and Anna Rondell and one third and Baltimore County, for example, making that single member would actually conform to the usual practice that Marilyn has had for many years, is it would make it more likely

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that each county would get at least one of the three representatives so just something to bear in mind when looking at a map and trying to figure out how these principles to work.

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Yeah, it makes sense and Walter will post that memo underneath this meeting's information so it'll be in the past meeting section under this this week's meeting.

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So that will give the public to have a thorough review and then come up with any suggestions that they may have in terms of devising a criteria for multi-member district.

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All right.

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What else do we need to discuss tonight.

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Well a Cato we're going to continue to reflect on this in the next public sessions next Wednesday. Yes, it is.

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And we have a work session, right after that, again, yeah, we're, what we're doing is we're at this point planning to have them because we still have these discussions.

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And so we'll have the public hearing just using the same format we had tonight.

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Letting the public know where we are with round three having the public hearing and then following up with discussion, it's just easier for scheduling with pretty much everybody working.

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And in between that, of course, the members of the Commission, if they have ideas that come up, we can share that among each other prior to our meeting next Wednesday some ideas that you might have.

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Or if you have questions for Professor facility if there's an idea that you have for something that you like to be presented at next Wednesday's meeting, we can do that as well.

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Can I make a suggestion here also which is that, because just in my experience, we can, we're running, even though we have time we could be running out of time, especially when you're dealing, and this is by the way when mistake start getting made is

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at this point. So, so I want to.

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Between now and next week. If the commission would like, I will try to drive version of the delegate map that has multi member districts along the density criteria that that that Charles has Charlson set forth with certain with the VR a districts that

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that I think Jenny Williams mentioned last time.

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I This will require me to talk to you afterwards to make sure I understand which, you know, which areas you're talking about. but just so that we have something that's available.

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And and then it would allow me to analyze it to make sure that in doing so I'm aware of the potential problems would be really helpful.

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I appreciate that too. I, you know I'm, I'm a visual person so if I can see Dawson. It just is really helpful. But what he would do it for both you would do the district density method in the county dense density method.

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I'm sure you know what whatever you just give me the numbers and I can do it. So, that is not going to take me off long, wanting a long time to draw, because it's just combining the actual districts.

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But what I'm, what I want to do though is make sure that as I go through it once you do the combinations that there aren't additional problems that show us that there is a bit of input that is important.

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Before the professor can make a single mouth of the search. I spoke about thresholds and.

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So for example, if you're talking about district density, you could set the threshold at several different levels and get several different

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hybrids depending on how exactly you want to be you could have one okay I'm sorry could certainly you were saying, but again, that's, you're going to get different mouse depending on where you set that threshold, Shawn sorry Cheryl you were saying.

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I was going to mention the same family as well if he's making the met the threshold makes the most sense.

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If he's making the map, the threshold makes the most sense. He wouldn't know in terms of what he looks but I think he should look at 1500 per square mile to see what that actually looks like so that if we at some point decided to scale back we would know.

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So that would be my recommendation.

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If you're surely.

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What's your specified to me the districts that need to be combined, as opposed to me doing the.

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And we can do this obviously offline as to where the districts should be that are multi member. I'm just so I don't make a mistake on the, and so we're clear about which districts will be the exceptions to that rule did what is district seven see in the

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Montgomery county district 33, a, and maybe 33 C and 35 be where the other ones that would be single member in the in the large counties.

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And, and maybe also seven.

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The, the 13 A which is in the Wheaton area.

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As once it would be exceptions to the, to the general rule but that again come up with the with the general rule for me to

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give it up. I haven't given up my.

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I'd like to still explore, again, Charles County, I keep bringing it up. I want to explore that as a possible.

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Again I'm at your service if you all did make that decision. So then the question is, you know, you just tell me whether it were using the density method or something else.

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Tell me what math, it's not hard for me to, you know, just to depict multi versions of different multi member districts, you're going to get a little overwhelmed by the, you know, the number of maps you get but you know you just tell me where to draw

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the lines and I were to combine the districts and I'll do something yeah and then understand on their own the Walters approach on density. It wouldn't qualify, understand that, but as I said, I just think there are other considerations in my mind when

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I want to at least look at it.

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And I do want I have mentioned Western Baltimore County as a place where you do need to think about it. Significantly, and I'm just going to leave that out there and for you all to think about whether that is an area that would get multi member districts

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as well.

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Same Professor just to delineate what this, I don't know if you had a chance to see Walter's email because it does break down those districts, and it does reference material was talking about the two, the two approaches one would be under the district

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density 2000 plus per square mile.

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Also, another map would be a Cheryl just said the 1500 square mile. So there's two, and then if we looked at the county density.

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That would be to maps there as well.

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I'm referencing again.

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Walter's email.

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That's for and then a fifth one to throw in would be with the judge's reference with Charles County, so that that's five maps from what I'm hearing.

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Okay. Thank you.

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All right. Is there anything else I just got a judge will make it clear cut it out no would all agree that what the public has given us a way of testimony, as well as written testimony is so helpful.

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And I have not made up my mind, yet I continue to say that I'm just trying to get everything in perspective. And what I'm hearing from the public is very, very important.

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Yes, it has been very helpful and the written testimony, I just want to comment as well it's been extremely enlightening and very thoughtful, so we're very pleased to hear from the public.

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Is there anything else that we need to discuss this evening.

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I just have two housekeeping items, but it looks like Cheryl has something. Oh, sorry, Cheryl, I do appreciate when people from the county and, you know, barber counties, typically mentioned areas because, as I have to work with progressive, really, to

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really look at how the western Baltimore County districts are configured.

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It is a VR a issue he discussed before, so I have been looking closely at them, and that includes some of the districts that Walter Minton and his information he said, and so I was looking closely at those knowing that like the original despicable nothing

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was broken up, and it's a community's interest there, what does that look like when they separate will people still have represented patient when they're split across different ones so it is complex, and that's something I will be talking to Professor

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facility about just some options in terms of looking at how Western Baltimore County is divided so I just wanted to make that comment and I do appreciate you know seeing what water head as well as vasopressin.

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All right, thank you. I'm sorry I can't see everybody at the same time so Does anybody else have something before Kristin talks.

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Alright, so Kristin, go ahead please quick housekeeping items, one of the things that we discussed at a couple of past meetings that you guys haven't voted on or revisited, I don't think is the numbering of the Congressional maps, there was a discussion

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about the fact that we've kind of changed the numbering system on the maps, almost to kind of an opposite way as they have been in the past and there was discussion and it seemed to be some agreement of there wanting to be a kind of a remembering of those

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congressional districts that you all voted upon. Yeah, and I think we revisit that I think we should because we're hearing that from well, I see Cheryl's thumbs up but I also say we've got like thumbs up here and, Yeah, the public.

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I think what we were hearing was is, we could get it as close to the numbering that we had previously because it will be too confusing for the public if we change it dramatically.

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That's what I was reading and hearing, so I don't know if anyone else thinks differently about that.

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And I think the rationale on it originally as we did it was kind of it kind of follows the methodology on the legislative district numbering and kind of going from the west to the east, where that is, is primarily representative of how numbering should

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be for legislative districts not necessarily congressional so I think that that was what, how it how it kind of occurred that way. But I think that you all have had discussions about the fact that you kind of want to switch it back to that methodology

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of how it's been in the past so as to avoid that confusion. but I guess you guys would have to redo the numbers and then vote on that so that we could have, we could put that new map.

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So could we have that ready for next week for a vote then if everybody's in agreement that we should go back up and you'd be less confusion. Okay.

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So, all right, let's put it in for x. All right. Okay, we'll do that.

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Take a look at that.

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And the second housekeeping item, Kristin, the second one is I just want to encourage you all to, I know you guys are so incredibly busy. And we just value the work that you've done so much, but if you do have time between now and next Wednesday to kind

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of do that homework that that Cheryl and some of the other commissioners have been talking about.

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We're kind of running out of time we only have after next week two more meetings, and we have to present these maps and allow the public to provide some commentary on them, so that you guys can at the end, adjust them accordingly if you.

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So, if you see fit. And so, I just want to encourage everyone to remember that you have us as a support team for you if you need us to do, assist with any research.

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If you need us to connect you all on a quick working meeting, whatever it might be. Reach out to the professor, reach out to each other. You don't have to wait for these meetings to reach out to each other to kind of talk something through with another

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member of the Commission. And if you need me to set up a zoom, if there's a group of you that wants to get together, I'm happy to do it. Just wanted to put that out there because you know we have three more meetings three more Wednesdays.

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In October, so voting on making a final decision coming up.

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And thank you for responding to the inquiry I had about the distribution on the multi member versus single versus to member, and the demographic representation mean I just asked for that today and we got it right away so thank you for that very welcome.

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Thank you to Maria for putting that together. She did a lot today. Thank you, Maria.

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All right. Anything else for the good of the cause and GLORIA Thank you to.

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We appreciate everything you're doing and the communication that you're doing is just unparalleled. Thank you so much.

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Alright everybody sing. Try see, if I see everybody here. I don't see any hands raised. So with that, can I have a motion to adjourn.

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Second.

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Second.

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Right on favor.

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Right.

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I think we are done for this evening. Thank you everyone and thank you, Kristin, Maria and the rest of the team and of course, Professor facility for your patience, and your willingness to keep on keeping on.