

From: [Dennis & Kris McElroy Weber](#)
To: [zzRedistricting Commission Voicemail](#)
Subject: Congressional Redistricting
Date: Sunday, June 26, 2011 10:40:38 PM
Attachments: [Reapportionment Draft \(Weber\)](#)

Dear Commissioners:

I am a retired high school civics teacher with many years of experience in local government. I am a former mayor and am currently in my 6th term on the Longview City Council. I also chaired the 1998 Board of Cowlitz County Freeholders. I have prepared a draft redistricting plan for Washington's Ten Congressional Districts and had planned to attend a public forum to share it with you. Unfortunately, I have a family member in ill-health and cannot attend your sessions.

While not as precise as your staff will present to you, my plan recognizes the tremendous population growth in eastern Washington which has more than 170,000 folks beyond that of the two districts traditionally centered there. When the population of Clark County is considered, there is considerable logic on creating a "new" congressional district along the Columbia River. What I identify as the new 10th District would stretch from Longview to Kennewick, including White Pass and a big chunk of Yakima County. I place Vancouver and Kennewick in the same district because of their urban similarities. But I recognize the significant historic schism that this would create in dividing the Tri-Cities. However, if you consider the economics, tying Pasco, Walla Walla, Yakima, and Wenatchee in the revised 4th District makes a lot of sense. Consider the technology centers in Vancouver and Tri-Cities, and a link with Vancouver and Kennewick also makes sense.

When I shared my ideas with Prof. Morrill of the UW he basically agreed with my outline but recommended relabeling the 10th and the 3rd in deference to incumbent Congresswoman Herrera-Beutler.

I hope the attachment is helpful.

Dennis Weber,
Longview