

Submission of Eleni Koenka

Received: 9/20/21

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Eleni Koenka <elenikoenka@gmail.com>

I would like to know what is the thinking behind clumping the town of Penobscot from the Blue Hill Peninsula with towns like Dedham & Otis, fine towns in their own right, which have little connection whether geographical, historical, etc.

Eleni Koenka

Submission of Pamela Person, Orland

Received: 9/20/21

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phppwp@aol.com

September 19, 2021

RE: Comment on Proposed State Senate Districts in 2021 for **Orland**

Maine Apportionment Commission Members,

I agree with the Democratic caucus proposal for **Orland** to be in the new State Senate District 8, keeping our town with most of western and southern Hancock County which shares more Communities of Interest within Hancock County.

The other proposal to maintain **Orland** in a State Senate District - a proposed SD 30 - still in a narrow band of towns extending farther north into Penobscot County and skirting only western Hancock County does not aid representation for Communities of Interest.

Thank you for your consideration for placing **Orland** with its Hancock County Communities of Interest in the new State Senate District 8,

Pamela Person

Orland, ME

Submission of George Schelling, Orland

Received: 9/20/21

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George Schelling <georgecschelling@gmail.com>

Maine Apportionment Commission Members,

I am writing to support the Democratic caucus proposal for Orland to be in the new State Senate District 8. We in Orland have far more in common with the other towns in the western and southern sections of Hancock County, and very little in common with the towns in the proposed Senate District 30, particularly those extending far up into Penobscot County.

This change would enable the new senator to more effectively represent the interests of all of her or his constituency.

Very truly yours,  
George Schelling  
Orland

Submission of Rep. Colleen Madigan, Waterville  
Received: 9/20/21

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Hi –

Attached please find the testimony of Rep. Colleen Madigan concerning the reapportionment process.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best,  
Dan Shagoury

Dan Shagoury  
House Democratic Office  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1430 office

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## **Colleen M. Madigan**

13 Gilman Street

Waterville, ME 04901

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[colleen.madigan@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:colleen.madigan@legislature.maine.gov)

September 20, 2021

To the Members of the Apportionment Commission,

Good morning Mr. Chair and other members of the Apportionment Commission. I am Representative Colleen Madigan and I live in Waterville. I represent House District 110, which includes about half of Waterville and a small portion of Oakland. I am here this morning to voice my opinion that Waterville belongs in the Second Congressional District. I want to thank the members of this Commission for serving the people of Maine in this process. I am grateful that although this is an inherently political process, our state has historically had less of a problem than other states in this process.

Waterville is a small city in northern Kennebec County. Here in Waterville we have much more in common with communities in the Second Congressional District, communities like our neighbors in Fairfield and Skowhegan or even Old Town. We have a hot real estate market, but not the high paying jobs of the southern Maine area or the commuter rail to get to the greater Boston area. We are dwarfed by the population of the Portland area.

The city serves as a service center primarily for towns that are in the Second District. We are a city undergoing revitalization efforts with much work by those in our community. We are quite different from communities in southern Maine. We are surrounded by forests, lakes and farmland. Our downtown is smaller. Our neighboring towns are smaller.

In the past when Waterville was in the second congressional district, our small businesses benefitted from it. As a small city in a large district, candidates and campaigns spent a lot of time and money in our town. They rented rooms and apartments. They shopped in our local stores. They ate in local restaurants and coffee shops. They talked with local people and heard their concerns. And not just in an election year. In a small city like Waterville, this makes a big difference. I ask this Commission to consider the needs of Waterville. We are a small city, but I feel we fit better in the Second Congressional District

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Colleen M. Madigan".

Rep. Colleen M. Madigan

Kate Carpenter <kcmcarpenter@gmail.com>

Dear Apportionment Committee Members --

First, thank you so much for listening to my comments and considering their concepts and related map at the public hearing today. I certainly appreciate how difficult it is to pull together the maps, especially this year, and this month.

I have a followup request just to ask for some clarification on the Commission's website on 2 matters that may help typical voters understand the considerations that go into these maps:

1) The exactness required for division of population across districts at various levels was hard to find. Senator Jackson opened with the Apportionment legislation text today, which guided my comments and design. That text seems to focus on compactness and contiguousness, and limits on crossing other political subdivisions. The text, nor the Commission site, is not clear about the extent that the exact population split has more power than those community-focused factors. If there is additional interpretation / consideration factors -- *and resources discussing them (court cases, precedence, usability or not of Census margin-of-errors, etc.)* -- that would be a big help giving the ordinary voter clarity into the process, and inform their participation.

Just to make a point on this, Jessica Piper of the BDN published an article on 11/23/2020 ("Maine's 2nd District could become more blue after 2021"), where she noted, "*Under the Maine Constitution, districts must be contiguous, compact and cross as few political subdivisions as possible. **They are also supposed to be as close as possible in terms of total population. There is no formal cutoff for what counts as close enough, but a noticeable differential could provoke a court challenge.***" -- If Ms. Piper had no clear definition to offer the public, it could well be worth visiting if that clarity can be provided on the Commission's website -- especially if the result of these exact population splits will cause visually-apparent though accidental gerrymanders.

2) Secondly, while I understand that party representation can be manipulated in purposeful corruptive gerrymandering (distinct from the accidental gerrymanders caused by evening-out populations), I heard it discussed as a factor in balancing districts today, during public comments. Is there legislation or court decisions that inform how party representation should be reflected in the redistricting process? If so -- or, if not -- at some later date, it would be informative to the public if that could be addressed in some manner on the Apportionment Commission's webpages.

Again, many thanks to all the hard work put in by the Commission members, associates, and participants. And thank you for the opportunity to address the group today.

With kind regards, and best of health to all,  
Katherine Carpenter  
Bath, Maine

Submission of Douglas Kimmel, Hancock  
Received: 9/20/21

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Douglas Kimmel <dougkimmel@myfairpoint.net>

I would suggest making District 136 more coastal by including Lamoine and removing Mariaville, Osborn, and Waltham.

The interests of the coastal area, especially regarding aquaculture and development are very central to this district and emphasis should be placed on having a representative who is focused on these issue would be very helpful.

Douglas Kimmel  
Town of Hancock, Democrat Caucus Chair