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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SUE E. GARCIA, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, residing at Tacoma, authorized to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to RCW 5.28.010, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me on the 29th of December, 2011, and thereafter transcribed by me by means of computer-aided transcription, that the transcript is a full, true, and complete transcript of said proceedings;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any party to this action or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this February 10, 2012.


SUE E. GARCIA, CCR, RPR
WA Lic. No. 2781

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WASHINGTON STATE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING

December 29, 2011

Cherberg Building
Olympia, Washington

Taken Before:

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of
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APPEARANCES

- LURA POWELL - CHAIRWOMAN
- TOM HUFF - COMMISSIONER
- TIM CEIS - COMMISSIONER
- SLADE GORTON - COMMISSIONER
- DEAN FOSTER - COMMISSIONER
- GENEVIEVE O'SULLIVAN - COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
- NICK PHARRIS - PROJECT ANALYST
- HEATHER BOE - EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

NOTE: (As read) - paraphrased quote
(Indiscernible) = words heard but not understood
(phonetic) = phonetic spelling of name

1	<u>INDEX</u>	
2		<u>PAGE</u>
3	Review of progress and constitutional requirements	6
4	MATTERS PERTAINING TO REDISTRICTING	
5		
6	Proposed eastern WA leg. map by Comm. Huff	8
7	Proposed eastern WA leg. map by Comm. Foster	10
8	Proposed eastern WA leg. map by Comm. Ceis	12
9	Discussion of House team negotiations by Comm. Huff	16
10	PUBLIC COMMENT	
11		
12	Mr. Ryan (first name only)	24
13	Ms. Sue Lani Madsen	25
14	Mr. Ryan Eckhardt	25
15	Mr. Matt Watkins	27
16	Ms. Sue Lani Madsen	27
17	Ms. Patti Ensor	27
18	Mr. Ryan Grant	28
19	Mr. Douglas Kerley	28
20	Mr. John Milem	29
21	Mr. Ross Gallagher	36
22	Mr. Douglas Kerley	38
23	Mr. Collin Jergens	39
24	Mr. Brian Goss	40
25		

INDEX
(continued)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Richard Champion	40
Mr. Tim Burns	42
Ms. Amanda Taub	44
Mr. Geoffery McAnallooy	45
Mr. David Anderson	47
Mr. Matt Watkins	49
Mr. George Cheung	49
Ms. Lorena Gonzalez	52
Mr. Tino Gallegos	55
Ms. Fe Lopez	56
Mr. John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas	58
Ms. Sue Lani Madsen	60
Ms. Karen Martin	60
Ms. Cherry Cayabyab	60
Mr. David Bain	62
Mr. Ryan Grant	64

1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Thursday, December 29, 2011,
2 at 10:39 a.m., at 304 15th Avenue, Olympia, Washington,
3 the following proceedings were had, to wit:
4

5 * * * * *

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. There we are.

8 Good morning and welcome to this special meeting
9 of the Washington State Redistricting Commission.

10 My name is Lura Powell, and I am chair of the
11 Commission. And I'd like to ask the rest of the people
12 up here at the dais to introduce themselves.

13 Bonnie?

14 MS. BUNNING: I'm Bonnie Bunning. I'm the
15 executive director to the Redistricting Commission.

16 COMM. GORTON: Slade Gorton, the appointee of
17 the Senate Republicans.

18 COMM. CEIS: Tim Ceis appointed by Senate
19 Democrats.

20 MS. O'SULLIVAN: Genevieve O'Sullivan,
21 communications director.

22 COMM. FOSTER: Dean Foster appointed by the
23 House Democrats.

24 COMM. HUFF: Tom Huff appointed by the House
25 Republicans.

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

2 And before we get into our Matters Pertaining to
3 Redistricting, I wanted to just back up and review the
4 criteria with -- with the audience and sort of give you
5 an idea of where we are right now 'cause I -- I noted
6 in reading some of the comments that have come in
7 online that there's a little bit of confusion and
8 questions.

9 Just to state what we have done so far and
10 produced as proposals within the month of December,
11 leading up towards the end, is we do have proposals on
12 western Washington legislative groups. We are working
13 in two teams. Our two Senate appointees are working on
14 one team, our two House appointees working on the
15 other. And on the western Washington legislative
16 districts, the two -- the members of the Senate team
17 worked from the Canadian border down; those from the
18 House team started from the Oregon border up on western
19 Washington. We do still have some work to be done on
20 that, and, of course, it will need to join eastern
21 Washington piece, which is our primary task today.

22 Yesterday we did have -- the Senate team proposed
23 a congressional map, and so that we -- congressional
24 district map. And we are -- we still need to come to
25 full closure on that. The House member teams had not

1 seen that map prior to yesterday. And we're awaiting
2 comment from the public and from the auditors before we
3 go final on that map.

4 There -- it's just a brief rundown of the criteria
5 'cause I think sometimes I get -- I get questions about
6 what we have to balance. And I'm just going to read
7 down what the law and the constitution require.

8 The plan should have a population as nearly equal
9 as practicable. Insofar as practical, lines should be
10 drawn to coincide with the boundaries of local
11 political subdivisions and communities of interest.

12 The number of counties and municipalities divided
13 should be as small as possible, should be composed of
14 contiguous, convenient, and compact territory.
15 wherever practicable a precinct share be wholly within
16 a single legislative district. The Commission shall
17 exercise its powers to provide fair and effective
18 representation and encourage electoral competition.
19 And the Commission's plan shall not be drawn
20 purposefully to favor or discriminate against any
21 political party or group.

22 So there are a lot of things that need to be
23 balanced when we are putting together these plans.
24 It's not a simple process. And a very important part
25 of that process is the communities -- understanding

1 communities of interest. And to that end, that's why
2 we went throughout the state, 18 different stops, and
3 have been receiving a lot of very good public comment
4 from the citizens of Washington.

5 So now I'd like to -- I think we can move into our
6 agenda item on Matters Pertaining to Redistricting and
7 begin our work today on the eastern Washington
8 legislative maps. And I'd like to first ask if members
9 of our House team have any additional comments to make
10 on the maps that they provided yesterday.

11 COMM. HUFF: Well, repeat the question.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yeah. I just -- in
13 starting on the eastern Washington part of the
14 legislative map, I just wanted to see if you or
15 Commissioner Foster had anything you wanted to add on
16 the maps that you provided yesterday.

17 COMM. HUFF: Well, we can present a map that
18 we will that shows basically exactly what we showed
19 yesterday and then replaced the Foster portion of it
20 that he had drawn on 9/13 -- replaced that with -- with
21 where we were on our most recent negotiation.

22 And if you have that map, you can put it up.

23 MR. PHARRIS: Oh.

24 COMM. HUFF: Nick?

25 MR. PHARRIS: Yes.

1 COMM. HUFF: Basically the same configuration
2 as yesterday's map.

3 You have the numbers there, also?

4 MR. PHARRIS: Yes.

5 COMM. HUFF: And I think for the help of
6 the --

7 You have copies of those maps now? No.

8 COMM. FOSTER: I don't think so.

9 COMM. HUFF: I think that copies of this map
10 and statistics that come to these commissioners. Do we
11 have it?

12 MS. GAY: I don't have it.

13 COMM. HUFF: Don't

14 MR. SKILLMAN: Yes, sir.

15 COMM. HUFF: The maps and the statistics for
16 we're showing up here, you have that for the
17 commissioners?

18 COMM. CEIS: I don't have -- the 14th and
19 15th are dropping off.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. He's giving out
21 new.

22 COMM. CEIS: Okay. Great.

23 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

24 COMM. CEIS: All right. Thanks, Don. So
25 much paper in here.

1 COMM. HUFF: I'm referring to there is --
2 basically what you see there are through -- up until 14
3 and 15, those are the numbers that weren't in your map
4 that was distributed yesterday. And what we've put in
5 there right now is where we were when Dean decided that
6 he wanted to go public. And so that's basically where
7 we're at.

8 I feel strongly that we had good negotiations
9 and -- on all the other districts. We had many
10 discussions. Made some changes to Dean -- Dean's
11 benefit. Same with ours. But the contentious one, of
12 course, were 14 and 15. We've been at a majority
13 hispanic level for a period of time. We have no
14 problem with -- with having 15 as a Hispanic majority.
15 It was agreed.

16 And then when you stop and consider that, right
17 now you have 47.61, based on the formulas that we've
18 been using, are Hispanic in the 15th, and this would
19 take it up 3 percent. And 3 percent is a considerable
20 number based on what the population is in that
21 district.

22 COMM. FOSTER: I -- this is a new map to me.
23 So I'll -- we'll all be taking a look at it.

24 I just wanted to point out in the data with regard
25 to my map, which I consider still on the table, that I

1 gave to the Commission yesterday, the printed material
2 that was passed out -- and I don't know if the audience
3 has this or not -- the page that has all of the county
4 names on it should be county splits rather than city
5 splits. The city splits are on the next page, and
6 they're -- I think it's just a typo.

7 COMM. HUFF: This is on your map?

8 COMM. FOSTER: That is -- in the maps that
9 were passed out earlier today in a packet, and my map
10 is dated December 28th. And then there's -- there's
11 data behind it, including population and demographics,
12 eastern Washington city splits, Kennewick, Richland,
13 West Richland, Orville. Some of these are zero splits.
14 I explained that couple weeks ago sometimes the city
15 isn't contiguous in itself.

16 And then the other page says "City Splits," but it
17 really should be "County Splits." And all those
18 counties are delineated there.

19 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Are we able to hear
20 Commissioner Foster?

21 'Cause it's -- you might need to pull that down a
22 little bit. Some people are --

23 COMM. FOSTER: Okay.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: -- having a little
25 trouble.

1 COMM. FOSTER: Sorry.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Anything else?

3 COMM. FOSTER: No. I pretty much explained
4 my map yesterday.

5 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay.

6 Commissioner Ceis, you mentioned that you had a
7 few things you wanted to bring forward today.

8 COMM. CEIS: Yes. Thank you.

9 So I am going to pass out to commissioners -- pass
10 those down there. I'm going to pass out to
11 commissioners a proposal. This will look very familiar
12 to you because this is actually the same proposal that
13 was the joint Democratic proposal of 10/14. It's now
14 being called "The Ceis Proposal of December 29th."

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Excuse me just one
16 moment. Do you -- is there something electronic for --
17 Oh, do you have it?

18 COMM. CEIS: Yeah. Emily's taking care of
19 that.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Great. Thank you.

21 COMM. CEIS: And she's handing out --
22 Thank you, Emily.

23 So a couple reasons for putting this out again.
24 We are reopening a discussion on eastern Washington,
25 first, and central Washington. I want to illustrate

1 here that with the 15th and 9th Districts we were
2 able to create compact, contiguous boundaries that
3 respected communities of interest, respected the public
4 testimony we heard, particularly from the Tri-Cities,
5 and also resulted -- in addition to that, resulted in
6 two majority-latino districts, legislative districts.

7 And the reason I put this back on the table is to
8 illustrate that it is both possible to create logical,
9 contiguous, compact boundaries and recognize the growth
10 in latino population in central Washington, where in
11 many cases latinos are no longer the minority, they are
12 the majority. And our changes in our political
13 subdivisions should recognize that and not strive to
14 disperse the majority population among multiple
15 districts.

16 Now, this map has some other challenges to it
17 that -- you know, it may not end up with two districts
18 exactly like this. But it is clearly possible to
19 create a district that is compact, contiguous, has
20 communities of interest, and does result in a
21 significant majority-latino district, at least one.

22 Then if we go up to Spokane County, this proposal
23 again, I think, demonstrates that we are able to
24 create, again, compact and contiguous districts in
25 Spokane County that respect communities of interest,

1 have logical boundaries along major highways or
2 existing municipal and county boundaries that -- I
3 mean, obviously Spokane -- and in all our previous
4 maps, Spokane County was split four ways.

5 In the map that Commissioner Huff has presented
6 us, Spokane County's now split five ways. And I -- you
7 know, we had worked hard to avoid unnecessary splits,
8 and where we have made them, they've been made for
9 reasons of community of interest or other more logical
10 boundaries.

11 But in the proposal before us with five splits, we
12 have one split that puts the 9th District up into
13 Spokane County to take only 3 -- just a little over
14 3 percent of the population of Spokane County, just
15 14,000 people, and I don't think that's necessary. And
16 I don't -- and I think we should take a look at that as
17 we're proceeding through our deliberations here.

18 I'm also really concerned with the boundaries of
19 the 6th. When you look at it as compared to the other
20 proposal, the boundary seems irregular, very irregular,
21 and one would wonder why. This has been -- the 6th has
22 been one of the only competitive districts in eastern
23 Washington. There -- and -- and this to me appears to
24 take that out of the category of competitive and put it
25 into the category of a strong Republican district. It

1 has been represented alternately by Republicans and
2 Democrats in the past. I think it makes sense to
3 maintain at least one competitive district in eastern
4 Washington that's not strongly Democrat, like the 3rd
5 is, or strongly like Republican, like every other
6 district in eastern Washington has become.

7 So I -- I'd like to have this issue on the table
8 as we continue our deliberations on what to do with
9 eastern Washington.

10 COMM. HUFF: I just want to remind Mr. Ceis
11 that currently as we -- just today that there are five
12 different districts in Spokane County, number one.

13 Number two, I suspect we could go back to Senator
14 Gorton's map and make that -- make the 3rd a lot more
15 Republican. And we could do a lot of those things, as
16 you brought up.

17 However, Dean Foster and I spent a good deal of
18 time negotiating it. We negotiated the entire state,
19 except when we got to the 14th and 15th. And for
20 some odd reason those wheels came off without further
21 discussion of the differences that we had. So having
22 five different districts in Spokane County is nothing
23 new.

24 COMM. CEIS: That's not my point. My point
25 is, I don't believe it's necessary.

1 COMM. HUFF: Okay. Point well taken.

2 COMM. GORTON: Well, obviously it's not
3 necessary. It's not necessary to have four.

4 But the area of Spokane County that's in the 9th
5 District is, I think, mostly there now. It's a farming
6 area, and it's an area that prefers to be in the 9th.
7 And that community of interest probably overrides the
8 difference between parts of four districts and parts of
9 five.

10 COMM. HUFF: Well, I think the whole
11 discussion that we're having, taking the course that
12 we're currently on since yesterday about noon, is that
13 I think we need more background to it.

14 So I would like you to put the PowerPoint up for
15 me.

16 MR. PHARRIS: I don't have that. Don't

17 MR. SKILLMAN: Oh, sorry.

18 COMM. HUFF: Okay. Basically, as the screen
19 shows, I think we were very close to finishing an
20 important job. Needless to say, the 1st of January is
21 the deadline. We've got a few days left.

22 We had agreed to create a majority Hispanic 15th
23 Legislative District, and we were within one percentage
24 point of reaching a final agreement. Commissioner
25 Foster's decision to walk away from the negotiations on

1 December 28th was a surprise and could jeopardize a lot
2 of Commission efforts.

3 You know, we've been working at this for a long
4 time. We originally had a deadline established as
5 November 15th. Well, needless to say, we're far past
6 that. I think the tactic is a major setback at the
7 11th hour, but that's, of course, my opinion. And --
8 and let's move on.

9 Out eleven eastern legislative districts, nine
10 were agreed upon. And I know Mr. Foster says
11 tentatively, and I guess everything's tentative.
12 Certainly the congressional maps out there are
13 tentative now, also.

14 14, 15 districts are the ones that are undecided.
15 Commissioner Foster offered 50.49 Hispanic index on
16 the -- for the 15th on December 21st. We responded
17 and took that to 50.61 on December 23rd. Under
18 Commissioner Foster's latest plan, his 15th
19 Legislative District has gone up to 61.46. And that's
20 a tremendous increase. The 14th Legislative District
21 is reduced to 20.09, and that's swapping Hispanic
22 population between two districts.

23 Next.

24 In the initial rollout, Commissioner Huff proposed
25 five majority-minority legislative districts, the 11th,

1 15th, 29th, 33rd, and 37th, and Commissioner Foster
2 proposed only four majority-minority legislative
3 districts, 9th, 11th, 15th, and 37th. I would
4 definitely support bringing the 29th Legislative
5 District back to the majority -- as a minority
6 district.

7 This is where we've been on proposed Hispanic
8 indexes. Going back to its initial rollout on the
9 13th at -- at 47 percent, and then on the 20th we
10 were up to 61 percent, and then by December 21st we
11 were down to 51 percent, and then on the 23rd we went
12 up to the 23rd, and yesterday we went up to the
13 61 percent. And that's a lot of movement of people and
14 one district to the other, and it's basically a swap
15 between the 14th and 15th.

16 Next.

17 This is what we originally proposed. We were up
18 to 49 percent on the 13th. Don't forget the existing
19 is under 48 percent. Then on October 14th we were
20 back down to 47 percent. 22nd we -- we went up to a
21 little over 50 percent. The 26th we were at 58.31 --
22 61 rather. And then -- then we had taken it up to
23 about 52 percent on the 28th. And that's
24 basically -- we're right on that issue.

25 Continue.

1 You can't read those. I think everybody has those
2 figures in front of them, so you know what the current
3 percentages would be from each district.

4 Next.

5 I guess that's the end of the slide stuff.

6 So that sort of puts us where we're at. I
7 proposed a congressional map that we had a
8 majority-minority district with open seat. It's now
9 proposed as a majority-minority with Smith representing
10 that area. The area that's open now in the
11 congressional, of course, is down in the Olympia area
12 and the one up north.

13 So I know the majority-minority contingency are
14 here today. I recognize the fact that you guys very
15 much wanted an open seat; you want representation.
16 That's not there. I'm not getting into that because
17 we've haven't even discussed the Senate plan yet.
18 we -- we've been muddled up with -- with this situation
19 that is absolutely necessary, in my book.

20 Now, and I -- I've -- I've made it very, very
21 abundantly clear that we -- we -- we endorse the
22 Hispanic issue. And certainly the -- the major -- the
23 majority-minority issue. As it stands now you've got
24 probably about 58 percent, as we proposed it, majority-
25 minority. For some odd reason decided to take 29 out

1 of that area. There was no negotiation on the other
2 side of the mountains.

3 So I'll end my comments at this point.

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Senator Gorton,
5 did you have any . . . ?

6 COMM. GORTON: Well, I made my comment on the
7 9th District in Spokane. And --

8 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Did you have anything
9 else that you wanted to . . . ?

10 COMM. GORTON: Do I have a map right now?
11 No.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Well, A map or any other
13 comments or . . .

14 COMM. GORTON: No.

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

16 COMM. GORTON: Not at this point.

17 COMM. CEIS: I want to make one more comment,
18 which I --

19 No one here is questioning anybody's commitment to
20 social justice and equal representation. Not a single
21 member of this Commission should be questioned on that
22 front.

23 However, the issue cannot be relegated to simple
24 graphs and numbers about what has transpired over the
25 last couple of months in discussions. The issue is

1 about people, and it's about communities of interest,
2 and it's about how people will be represented for the
3 next ten years. And I do not want to have this result
4 in a numbers game of one high point, one low point on a
5 graph.

6 So I'm going to come back to and continue to come
7 back to the issue of the communities in central
8 Washington, their relationships -- their relationships,
9 both socially, economically, racially, ethically,
10 culturally, and how we recognize those in a map.

11 COMM. HUFF: Well, I think that's been fairly
12 done, and it's been done in western Washington as well
13 as eastern Washington. And the record speaks for
14 itself.

15 COMM. FOSTER: I just like to point out,
16 there's a lot of ways to go about doing this. In the
17 Commissioner Ceis map of today or in October, there's a
18 very compact 15th District, which is wholly contained
19 within Yakima County. But some parts of the 9th
20 District go into Yakima County and include Sunnyside
21 and Grandview. Those are two districts that both have
22 Hispanic-majority populations, but both are quite
23 con- -- convenient, contiguous, and compact.

24 My map that I put on the table yesterday, my map
25 looks approximately the same; although, it includes

1 Sunnyside and Grandview but does not go into Prosser.
2 Another way to go about doing this is to go across the
3 county line and continue to keep a -- a -- a -- a
4 district in the 15th District that is within the
5 Yakima Valley and down Highway 82 and doesn't take a
6 lot of stretch.

7 The Huff map that's on the table today goes into
8 Klickitat County and -- and also goes into Benton
9 County. I just don't know that we have to stretch that
10 far in order to make a 15th District.

11 with regard to the Yak- -- the Spokane districts,
12 the districts that -- I don't know if we have one
13 that -- that shows the Foster-Ceis districts, but
14 essentially what we have is three complete districts.
15 I don't think you can do all of Spokane County without
16 having a fourth district. And the Huff proposal has
17 five districts, and that's not necessary either.

18 COMM. HUFF: That was negotiated and agreed
19 to pretty much so until yesterday, the map that you saw
20 that I had up a little while ago.

21 COMM. FOSTER: I consider all of eastern
22 Washington what our assignment was, and there were a
23 variety of things we talked about. And I don't believe
24 that either one of us would use the word "agreed" on
25 where we were.

1 COMM. HUFF: well, I guess it's all
2 interpretation of English.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So we -- I'd like
4 to sort of get some views about the best way to move
5 forward with this. We do have some other options on
6 the table. There may be some additional ones that come
7 forward.

8 One thought would be to get some public comment.
9 We do have some comments that came in yesterday that we
10 did not read, and I'd like to put those on the table
11 during a public-comment period, and we probably likely
12 have some folks today that want to make some comments.

13 But I wanted -- like to get -- and then we have
14 the option of -- or I have a question as to whether you
15 all feel it might work better to work in your -- your
16 current teams to consider some of these and bring
17 something back. Sometimes that's a little bit easier
18 than trying to sort through the papers on these little,
19 small desks and -- and try to figure out what's best.
20 I myself am getting confused with all this paper.

21 So does that sound like a reasonable approach, to
22 sort of have some public comment --

23 COMM. GORTON: Yes.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: -- and break into our
25 teams and move forward?

1 COMM. HUFF: Fine.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So let's -- let's
3 move on to our public-comment period. And I would like
4 to -- I'm going to start by reading some of the ones
5 that did come in yesterday.

6 And then one of the things that was suggested, I
7 think, by Commissioner Ceis yesterday is that we try to
8 sort some of the comment by -- on the comment on the
9 congressional plan versus comment on the legislative
10 plans. And so we have asked people here to sign in
11 based on that, and I'm going to try to sort some of
12 the -- the comment that we've got yesterday and today
13 online that same way.

14 So let me start with yesterday's special-meeting
15 comments. And we do have one -- unfortunate -- we --
16 today we've changed the online a little bit and gotten
17 very specific in making sure people understand that
18 they need to submit their entire, full name for the
19 record. We had that on there yesterday. We have a few
20 comments I would just like to read. We don't have full
21 names.

22 We do have one from Ryan, R-y-a-n. And, Ryan, if
23 you are on with us today, if you would send your last
24 name in for us for the record. And his comment is --
25 this is on the congressional districts:

1 "That tiny piece of Douglas county in the 8th
2 Congressional District seems out of place."

3 We then had a comment from Sue Lani Madsen where
4 she just expressed that she appreciated "the reduction
5 of split cities," an "excellent goal met."

6 And then Ryan echoed that same positive comment
7 about the fewer split cities.

8 We had a comment from Matt Watkins. Oh, excuse
9 me. That's a legislative. Let me see if another
10 congressional.

11 We did have a congressional comment from Amanda
12 Taub of Douglas County and -- from the congressional,
13 and she says, (as read) "In today's proposal, Douglas
14 County will be split between Congressional Districts 4
15 and 8. In a quick review of the proposal I notice the
16 following issues: The proposal uses the road
17 centerline of South and North Kentucky Avenue for the
18 boundary between Districts 4 and 8; this boundary is
19 also the boundary of the City of East Wenatchee.
20 However, the City boundary is not the road centerline,
21 but the eastern right of way boundary. Please update
22 this boundary to reflect the legal boundary of the City
23 of East Wenatchee."

24 Her second comment, (as read) "In the vicinity of
25 19th Street NE and Sand Canyon Court, the Commission

1 is not using the best boundary for the City of East
2 Wenatchee. This is a confusing area. Currently, the
3 boundaries between Districts 4 and 8 split two houses
4 in half and incorporate three houses in District 8 that
5 were probably intended to be located in District 4."

6 (As read) "There are other issues with the
7 placement of boundary between District 4 and 8 along
8 the City of East Wenatchee's northern boundary. And we
9 ask that the Commission uses our GIS boundary for the
10 City of East Wenatchee."

11 (As read) "Douglas County adopted new voting
12 precinct boundaries earlier this month. The new
13 Congressional District boundaries for District 4 and 8
14 will split 3 of our new precincts, thus creating
15 precincts that will have few or no voters. And this
16 affects privacy in the issuance of election results by
17 precinct. We ask that the Commission consider moving
18 boundaries of Districts 4 and 8 to match our precinct
19 boundaries."

20 And then I believe these comments --

21 Nick, are these going to be incorporated in your
22 summary of input from the auditors? Have you received
23 some from Ms. Taub, or . . . ?

24 MR. PHARRIS: Oh, I had not received them at
25 the time I compiled that --

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay.

2 MR. PHARRIS: -- presentation.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: But they can -- they will
4 be incorporated ultimately?

5 MR. PHARRIS: Yes.

6 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

7 And let's see. The -- as far as legislative
8 comments, we have one from -- yesterday from Matt
9 Watkins. And he -- he basically -- he -- this is in
10 response to Commissioner Foster's map. And he says:

11 (As read) "Yes. We understand you can't put the
12 whole Tri-Cities in one district -- the 8th with
13 Kennewick and Richland makes sense. But there doesn't
14 appear to be a need to split Pasco. Please keep Pasco
15 in one district."

16 Sue Lani Madsen writes in, (as read) "For months,
17 I've been testifying on how splitting up a low density
18 rural county disenfranchises a true minority. Lincoln
19 County is fine with joining the 6th, 7th, 9th or 13th,
20 but splitting us in two along Highway 2 splits four
21 small towns in half and effectively dilutes our
22 county's ability to participate and be represented.
23 Please don't."

24 And we have a comment from Patti Ensor, who says,
25 (as read) "I respectfully request that Lincoln County

1 be kept together in the same legislative district.
2 Four communities would be split roughly in half. Their
3 voters, chambers of customers, should have an
4 opportunity to participate in this specific
5 discussion."

6 And then we have a comment from Ryan Grant of
7 Medical Lake, who says, (as read) "Echoing what Sue
8 Lani said, using Highway 2 as a dividing line would
9 split towns like Reardan, Davenport, Wilbur, and
10 Creston cleanly in two. And that's not healthy for our
11 rural communities."

12 So that's -- that's the comment from yesterday.

13 And we do have two people who wished to make
14 comment on the congressional maps. Oh, one person.
15 Excuse me. And that's Douglas Kerley, K-e-r-l-e-y.

16 If you would please come forward and state your
17 name, spell it for the record.

18 MR. KERLEY: Hello. I'm Douglas Kerley,
19 Lynnwood.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And then just -- just go
21 ahead and spell your whole name officially.

22 MR. KERLEY: I'm Douglas Kerley, K-e-r-l-e-y.

23 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Please go ahead
24 whenever you're ready.

25 MR. KERLEY: Okay.

1 I was quite disappointed with the 2nd
2 Congressional District. It seems as though every
3 Democrat in Snohomish, Skagit, and Whatcom County had
4 been gathered up and segregated into a district. I
5 would think a more east-west split between the 1st and
6 the 2nd District would make more sense.

7 As it is now the 2nd District is a cutting out the
8 Democrat heart of the old 1st District, and now the --
9 the 1st District is extended from Point Roberts to Fall
10 City and beyond. It's -- it doesn't make a lot of
11 sense to me.

12 And I think it opens us up to legal challenge.
13 And it's easy to fix now, but subsequently it's going
14 to be very difficult and very expensive to fix in the
15 courts. Thank you.

16 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you very
17 much for your comment.

18 Okay. Now, Mr. Milem. Did --

19 MR. MILEM: I'm John Milem, J-o-h-n
20 M-i-l-e-m. I live in Vancouver, and I'm an advocate
21 for redistricting in the public interest.

22 I signed in on automatic, and I didn't realize I
23 need to make some extra note. I'm going to speak both
24 on congressional and legislative.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: You do so.

1 MR. MILEM: So I'll speak about the
2 congressional now, and then you'll call later for
3 legislative?

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: well, you know, since
5 you're up there and we're ready to move on to the
6 legislative, and go ahead and start with the
7 congressional --

8 MR. MILEM: Right.

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: -- and move into the
10 legislative.

11 MR. SKILLMAN: Okay.

12 On congressional, my examination of the map that
13 was made available yesterday indicates to me that there
14 are more cities split than we were told yesterday. The
15 City of Burien is split, and Lynnwood also is. with
16 Lynnwood there's nothing can be done about it as long
17 as you separate Edmonds and Lynnwood into separate
18 districts because there's a part of Lynnwood with four
19 people in it, which is entirely enclosed within the
20 City of Everett.

21 In Burien the issue is in the North Highline
22 annexation at the extreme northeast corner of -- yes.
23 well, you can see it right there. It shows up -- the
24 black to the left of the white line Nick's indicating,
25 there are 34 people up there in Burien that have been

1 separated from the City of Burien.

2 I -- I -- last night I sent the staff an e-mail on
3 the congressional -- and congressional-district-
4 boundary problems that I saw, not these, but -- but you
5 know, the zero-population kind of things that don't
6 make any sense and are easy to fix. So I assume
7 that -- that that's been received and is been passed
8 on. Thank you.

9 This morning I -- I struggled last night with
10 Skagit County. You have a number of situations in
11 Skagit County in the congressional plan where you've
12 isolated populations between a municipal boundary and a
13 district boundary. In one case it's one person, in one
14 case it's three persons, in another case -- in two
15 other cases it's 34 persons. And I worked for a while
16 last night, and I just said, "I can't do this tonight,
17 so I quit."

18 Fortunately this morning I was able to see a
19 solution to it. So this morning I've sent the staff an
20 e-mail proposing to move about 135 people each way
21 between those two districts to -- to follow the
22 municipal boundaries and avoid isolating those people
23 between municipal boundaries and district boundaries.
24 So those are the comments that I have on the
25 congressional plan.

1 COMM. FOSTER: Did you --

2 John, did you use the word "annexation" when you
3 were talking about the 34 people in Burien?

4 MR. MILEM: That's part of the North Highline
5 annexation.

6 COMM. CEIS: That's an annexation that just
7 occurred last year, I believe.

8 MR. MILEM: It's -- it's about a year ago, I
9 think. Uh-huh.

10 COMM. CEIS: Yeah. No. Those are very
11 helpful comments and --

12 COMM. GORTON: Thank you.

13 COMM. CEIS: -- corrections. I want to thank
14 you for taking the time to --

15 MR. MILEM: Sure.

16 COMM. CEIS: -- point those out to us.

17 MR. MILEM: You're welcome.

18 COMM. CEIS: Yeah.

19 MR. MILEM: Legislative?

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes, please.

21 MR. MILEM: I'm going to tread on some
22 people's toes in what I say now.

23 The -- I feel personally hurt and I feel deeply
24 offended on behalf of the voters of the state of
25 Washington that the superficiality of skin color is

1 made to be an issue which has to be dealt with by this
2 Commission because the voters cannot be depended upon
3 to make wise selections without being blinded by issues
4 of skin color.

5 I think that the history of the State of
6 Washington clearly shows that that is not the case.
7 And as I have listened multiple times and you have,
8 too, to presentations from the people who -- who seem
9 to want us to descend into racial and tribal politics
10 in this state, my heart just sinks because that's not
11 one America; that's tribal America.

12 The problems in Afghanistan and Iraq and Libya and
13 a lot of other places today are an emphasis on "You're
14 different from me, and my tribe has to have its
15 recognition." In America we have birth-right
16 citizenship. We have endorse and encourage diversity.
17 And we should all be able to look at anyone and say,
18 "He can represent me." And I just don't think that
19 that's the spirit in which this whole issue's being
20 presented to you.

21 Now, the problem is that it's -- and there's a
22 deep irony for me in the fact that the issue that
23 you're hung up over is the very issue that is being
24 raised, in my view, improperly, imprudently, and
25 improvidently, and now you're stuck on it.

1 A partial solution to this would be to stop
2 dragging history into the future. One of you today
3 said that these are the districts from which people are
4 going to elect representatives for the next ten years.
5 It's been probably 20, 30 years -- 30 years since the
6 Tri-Cities was entitled by population to dominate two
7 legislative districts.

8 But it has been very important to protect the
9 history, which is that walla walla used to have a
10 district of its own; whitman County used to have a
11 district of its own. walla walla and whitman Counties
12 provide representation today that their populations
13 don't justify, and those populations are found by
14 dividing Franklin County.

15 When you divide Franklin County what you're doing
16 is you're dividing an Hispanic population, which as
17 Commissioner Ceis has very rightly said, if Franklin
18 County's united, it's easy to give a good recognition
19 to the population there. Swamping them in a
20 district -- in one district that's dominated by
21 walla walla and another district's dominated by whitman
22 County doesn't rep- -- doesn't represent at all the
23 interests of Franklin County.

24 So I think that a lot of the problems that are
25 being -- that -- that you're stuck over can be solved

1 if you're willing to move into the future, if you're
2 willing to say walla walla and whitman County no longer
3 are entitled to each have their own representatives in
4 the legislature at the expense of the Tri-Cities and
5 Franklin County.

6 with respect to Spokane County, there's discussion
7 as to how many districts that should be split into.
8 The more important question, as the commenters have
9 indicated today, is it's the small counties that
10 shouldn't be split. And if -- if you're going to have
11 to split counties, much better to make an additional
12 split in a large county than it is to split a small
13 county. So I would encourage you to get off the idea
14 that you need to minimize the number of districts that
15 you put Spokane County into.

16 And I would like to speak about the issue of south
17 Spokane County being with whitman County. And that is
18 that basically that's just an extension of the Palouse.
19 You have that small-town characteristic of south
20 Spokane County that is really more like whitman County
21 than it is like the rest of Spokane County. So I think
22 that's a very, very justifiable way of dealing with
23 that.

24 I think that's all I have. Thank you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

1 Okay. Yes.

2 MR. GALLAGHER: I wanted to speak on
3 congressional.

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: You wanted to speak on --
5 Please come forward. And then state and spell
6 your name for the record, please.

7 MR. GALLAGHER: Okay. My name is Ross
8 Gallagher. I reside in Shelton and Mason County. I'm
9 a former Mason County commissioner. And I would like
10 to thank the Commission for this opportunity.

11 I re- -- I viewed the map.

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Excuse me. Can you just
13 spell your name.

14 MR. GALLAGHER: G-a-l-l-a-g-h-e-r.

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

16 MR. GALLAGHER: And I reviewed the maps that
17 was produced yesterday to the public. And with Shelton
18 included in the -- in the 10th District and also -- you
19 know, and the 10th District clear goes around, you
20 know, the south end of the Puget Sound. And some of us
21 feel that western-most boundary should be the
22 Thurston-Mason line. And -- and to compensate for the
23 loss of population, maybe the 10th District could move
24 down to the Lewis County line and -- so it encompass
25 all of Thurston County.

1 And I know you have, you know, a tremendous job of
2 juggling numbers and all that. But Mason County
3 traditionally has been represented as a whole. And 40
4 years ago there was -- the 6th was part of the Mason
5 County. But over the previous 30 years, we've
6 represented by the 2nd District and the 6th.

7 And personally I feel that our comm- -- or
8 Congressman Norm Dicks, has done a (indiscernible) job
9 representing all of Mason County. And I feel that all
10 of Mason County should be in the 6th District. And
11 also, align of the 6th District with the 35th. So
12 that might help you, or it might create more problems
13 for you.

14 But I appreciate the work you've done. I know
15 you're under a critical deadline. And I'd like to
16 thank you for this opportunity.

17 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you very much.

18 Does anyone else want to speak to the
19 congressional districts before we move to the
20 legislative?

21 Okay. Thank you.

22 The first person signed up --

23 Mr. Kerley, did you want to speak to the
24 legislative, as well?

25 MR. KERLEY: Yes.

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. I
2 wish I -- I didn't realize that when you came up
3 before. I hadn't looked. So . . .

4 MR. KERLEY: Hi, I'm Douglas Kerley. I'm a
5 current resident of the 21st District. On your new
6 map I was moved into the 32nd District.

7 You've joined Lynnwood with North Seattle in this
8 long district. The problem I see with this is that
9 both the 32nd and the 1st Districts are split between
10 King and Snohomish County. And so at the county level
11 both districts would not be able to have a full-
12 throated representation in both counties because of the
13 small numbers of the district members in both of the
14 counties.

15 It would be better, in my mind, in any case, to
16 split Bothell, as it has been forever, again and move
17 the 1st District entirely into Snohomish County, as
18 opposed to have this little lump of Kirkland down there
19 attached onto the 1st District. You know, this goes
20 way back to the Kiskaddon Pimple and all of that. I've
21 been involved in this for many, many years.

22 And to compensate, move the 1st District over to
23 Lynnwood-Montlake Terrace-Edmonds area, and then move
24 the 32nd District over into the 46th District area,
25 like to the Lake City way road there in Seattle. And

1 then move the 46th District over to take in southern
2 Bothell and Kirkland. That would leave only the
3 smallest portion of the 32nd District as it is now
4 with only a very small portion in Snohomish County but
5 the bulk of it in King County. So they would be
6 well-represented on the -- at the county level. And
7 the 1st District would be well-represented in Snohomish
8 County.

9 Thank you very much.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

11 And I did notice on -- I'm trying to cover the
12 online and the -- in the audience. And I'm not always
13 as efficient as I should be. So my apologies.

14 I do have a couple of comments on congressional
15 I'd like to read from online. One is from Colin
16 Jenkins. It's C-o-l-l-i-n last name J-e-r-g-e-n-s. I
17 guess it's not -- I said Jenkins. It's Jergens.
18 Excuse me. His comment is:

19 "I am frustrated that the commission is proposing
20 to divide the Eastside into multiple congressional
21 districts. Medina and Clyde hill have very little in
22 common with rural Whatcom and Skagit Counties.
23 Likewise, Sammamish and Issaquah have little in common
24 with Chelan and Wenatchee. Please do not divide these
25 communities that currently share so much in common."

1 And I think there was another one further up. Let
2 me get to that.

3 A comment from Brian Goss, B-r-i-a-n last name
4 G-o-s-s. And he said, "It's disappointing to see
5 racial gerrymandering come to Washington. Gary Locke
6 was elected governor twice, Ron Sims was elected King
7 County Executive three times, Norm Rice was elected
8 Seattle Mayor twice, and so on. It's unfortunate that
9 the congressional map in King County is illogical now
10 due to the unnecessary minority-majority district."

11 Okay. So that's it for congressional. I'd like
12 to move forward with the legislative.

13 And the next person is Richard Champion. Can you
14 please come forward.

15 And he'll be followed by Tim Burns. So,
16 Mr. Burns, if you could move forward.

17 And again, please remember to spell your name
18 because we are having all of this recorded. And we
19 also have -- you'll see little timers up in front, you
20 know, go green, yellow, to red. And because of the
21 number of people, we're sort of reverting to that to
22 try to sort of make sure everybody has a chance to make
23 their comments.

24 So, Mr. Champion, please --

25 MR. CHAMPION: R-i-c-h-a-r-d C-h-a-m-p-i-o-n.

1 I went with you last week to talk about the
2 30th and the 31st Districts along the King-Pierce
3 County line. I know you've been focused on eastern
4 Washington, but the -- that area still has to be
5 resolved.

6 As it stands now, you have the cities of Milton
7 and -- the Pierce County portion of the City of Milton
8 and the Pierce County City of -- of Pacific drawn into
9 the 30th District, according to the Ceis-Gorton map.
10 That puts the 30th District into Pierce County, in my
11 estimation, unnecessarily for a grand total of, I
12 believe, less than 7,000 people.

13 Commissioner Ceis mentioned that he thought it was
14 unnecessary, earlier this meeting, that the 9th be
15 drawn into Spokane County for a grand total of 14,000
16 people, and we're talking half that number being drawn
17 into the 30th District.

18 At the -- last week I proposed that since cities
19 of Milton and the City of Pacific are in both Pierce
20 and King Counties, that they could possibly be drawn
21 into the 31st District, which is already a
22 Pierce-King district. This one here. We're in the
23 purple. Would be drawn into the 31st District.
24 That's the City of Pacific. The City of Milton.

25 And to make up the loss of the 25th, you could

1 add some of these unincorporated areas. And to make up
2 the loss on the 30th, you add some of the blue area
3 in southwest of Auburn. This wouldn't displace any
4 legislators other than Katrina Asay, who's in the King
5 -- the single King County precinct in the
6 30th District.

7 Conversely, if you didn't want to displace Katrina
8 Asay, I propose that you put -- to keep the City of
9 Pacific intact and one -- into one legislative
10 district, you put it all into the 31st District,
11 drawn in purple, and -- but keep the King-Pierce County
12 line as it is now, not change the 25th. And, as I
13 said before, make up for this loss of population by
14 adding precincts in southwest King -- Auburn. This
15 wouldn't displace any legislators.

16 Or conversely, you could keep the line as is, keep
17 the King County portion of Pacific in the 30th, keep
18 the King County portion of Milton in the 30th, and
19 keep whole the county line, and have the loss of
20 Milton -- according to the Ceis-Gorton map, have that
21 added into some of the precincts in southwest Auburn.

22 Thanks.

23 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

24 Okay, Mr. Burns.

25 MR. BURNS: Yes. My name is Tim Burns, T-i-m

1 B-u-r-n-s.

2 And basically I'm reiterating what Mr. Champion
3 said and also Mr. Kerley in talking about the north end
4 of King County. The cities of Bothell and Lynnwood
5 were much larger in proportion. The changes being or
6 splits between King and Pierce County -- or King and
7 Snohomish County.

8 At the south end the splits of Milton and Pacific
9 are very, very minor. There's one precinct in Milton
10 that is in King County; the rest are in Pierce County.
11 There's one precinct of Pacific that's in Pierce
12 County; the rest is in King County.

13 So with the -- the difficulties that both parties
14 are going to have in representation in dual counties,
15 it doesn't make a whole lot of sense to me to have
16 another district split between counties when there is a
17 very reasonable solution in the already split district
18 of the 31st that crosses the border, maintaining the
19 additional splits of Milton and Pacific.

20 So I urge the commissioners to take another look
21 at the south King -- King County-Pierce County border
22 and maintain the 30th District within King County
23 exclusively. Thank you.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

25 And our next people lined up to speak, Geoffery,

1 it looks like, McAnallooy.

2 And then David Anderson has a checkmark and a
3 question mark.

4 Mr. Anderson, did you want to speak? You can move
5 forward.

6 And I would like to just read a comment or two
7 while you all are moving forward.

8 The first is for -- from Amanda Taub, Douglas
9 County, and that's A-m-a-n-d-a last name T-a-u-b, and
10 her comment is:

11 "Douglas County has reviewed the two proposed
12 plans for Legislative Districts in eastern Washington.
13 Here are our comments.

14 "Commissioner Tom Huff's plan would keep the whole
15 of Douglas county in the 12th Legislative District
16 with Chelan County and parts of Okanagan and Grant
17 Counties. This plan is preferred by Douglas County as
18 Douglas county is currently all in the 12th
19 Legislative District."

20 (As read) "Commissioner Dean Foster's plan would
21 split Douglas County between the 12th and the 13th
22 Legislative Districts. The map seems to show that the
23 majority of Douglas County would move from the 12th
24 into the 13th District. We are unclear as to whether
25 the Cities of East Wenatchee and Bridgeport and" --

1 excuse me -- "and our portion of Coulee Dam will be in
2 the District 12 or 13. The map does not show enough
3 detail to make this determination. Are there GS" --
4 "GIS files available for Commissioner Foster's plan, or
5 can we see a more detailed map centered on Douglas
6 County?"

7 And I don't know the answer to those last two
8 questions.

9 MR. PHARRIS: Yes, we will make those
10 available.

11 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

12 Okay. Mr. -- is it McAnallo?y?

13 MR. MCANALLOY: McAnallo?y.

14 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: McAnallo?y. Okay. would
15 you please spell your name for the record?

16 MR. MCANALLOY: Sure. Geoffery is
17 G-e-o-f-f-e-r-y, and McAnallo?y is M-c-A-n-a-l-l-o-y.
18 And I'm also commenting on what Mr. Champion and
19 Mr. Burns spoke about with the split between King and
20 Pierce County along with the congressional piece. But
21 it really is an LD impact.

22 So based on how the congressional maps came out
23 yesterday, if the legislative maps remain as have been
24 presented for the 30th, we will actually be in three
25 congressional districts, the 8th, the 9th, and

1 the 10th, within the 30th LD.

2 So it's clear that the decisions were made on
3 incumbents for both legislative and congressional that
4 are on our peripheries. Tracey Eide, who is in one of
5 the two now districts in Des Moines, has been left
6 within the 30th. Katrina Asay because she is in the
7 one single precinct within Milton that is in King. And
8 then Adam Smith, the one portion that he is in in
9 Tacoma has been added from the Pierce side on the
10 congress- -- on the congressional map to keep him in
11 seated, as well.

12 So I beg you to not make us split between King and
13 Pierce and be in three congressional districts, that
14 you leave us in no more than two congressional
15 districts and not split us between King and Pierce
16 County by what's been presented both in legislative and
17 congressional maps currently.

18 The congressional map is split by the county line,
19 leaving Milton and Pacific as it is today and leaving
20 what is in Pierce in Pierce. So I would hope that you
21 would look at that congressional split when you look at
22 the legislative decision and not make us be in three
23 different congressional districts.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

25 Mr. Anderson?

1 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. My
2 name is David Anderson, A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n.

3 And I want to thank you for bringing this
4 discussion to the public -- public record and open
5 meeting. I think it's really important that we as
6 citizens understand what are the ideas, what's the
7 nature of the discussion that is designing the actual
8 districts of our state. And I would encourage you to
9 not have recess today, or recess for -- for comfort but
10 not for discussion, and bring this discussion to the
11 public record and let us see what it is that is
12 designing our state political system.

13 There has been a lot of expectations in this
14 process whether or not you are a bipartisan or a
15 partisan or a nonpartisan commission, expectations of
16 what is a fair district. And it's -- I think having
17 the public record open and watching you discuss your
18 opinions on that and your -- your views on that really
19 helps us clarify what we should expect as citizens and
20 voters.

21 One expectation that you kind of put on yourselves
22 on, I think it was, September 12th, when you
23 initially released your maps, was that you have a
24 consensus of 4-0, that you -- that you would all agree
25 to the final maps of our -- of the state. And it kind

1 of -- it depends on whether you're going to be partisan
2 or nonpartisan because one component of partisanship is
3 that parties or partisanship helps develop dissent and
4 consent -- consent. If you were nonpartisan, I can
5 where the value of all of you consenting to the same
6 plan would be much more important. But as a partisan
7 commission, I think you should take comfort that it is
8 okay for one of you to dissent if you should need to.

9 I think there are differences. Clearly you
10 have -- you know, have all developed a very, very rich
11 point of view on how this state should be structured.
12 I think we can all agree that there is probably no way
13 that our elections are going to be decided unanimously,
14 that we voters are going to have differences, and we're
15 not -- nobody is going to be elected with 100 percent
16 of the vote.

17 And I think -- I can see where after the last
18 year -- where you've been designing majorities and
19 designing districts and working towards this goal of
20 consent of what -- behind the plan that you'd all want
21 to agree. But, you know, kumbaya's not always
22 happening in -- in politics.

23 And so I would encourage you to just take stock in
24 yourself and what you're thinking and allow yourself
25 the right to have dissent on the plan. And hopefully,

1 good luck, and I hope you have a good next couple days.
2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

4 Okay. Our next two speakers are George Cheung and
5 Lorena Gonzalez.

6 And while they're coming forward, I'll read a
7 couple of more comments. The first is from Matt
8 Watkins, and his comment is:

9 "Pasco is definitely a community of interest.
10 while I appreciate Mr. Huff's points I still have
11 difficulty with splitting Pasco up. If Mr. Foster's
12 plan could be slightly modified to include Pasco in one
13 district we would appreciate it."

14 And I need to sort of take a look at some other
15 ones. So why don't we just start with Mr. Cheung.

16 MR. CHEUNG: George Cheung, C-h-e-u-n-g. I'm
17 the director of the win/win Network, and I'm part of
18 the United for Fair Representation coalition. And I
19 just want to comment and respond to something that a
20 few of the speakers have said about the importance of
21 race and ethnicity in our society and politics.

22 My parents emigrated from Hong Kong in the late
23 '60s and really didn't naturalize, even though they had
24 lived here for about 20 years, because they didn't feel
25 like they had a place in our politics and they didn't

1 feel that they had a voice. And it really was only
2 until we as their children decided to naturalize
3 because we were encouraged through the public school
4 system to really express our views because that was
5 part of being a good citizen and participating in our
6 democracy.

7 So I do want to reiterate that communities of
8 interest do include people of color, that we have
9 experienced discrimination, segregation, and lots of
10 disproportionate impacts with regards to all of our
11 policy. So I think it's really important to hold that
12 up.

13 And to your credit, I'm really thankful to you all
14 as commissioners who have heard us, who have heard our
15 stories and have largely incorporated at least our
16 interests in -- in the first drafts of the maps that
17 you have produced.

18 with that said, I do want to say that where
19 possible, looking at concentrating people of color to
20 make sure that our voices are truly heard in the
21 political system is very important. And even though
22 the Voting Rights Act may not apply in central
23 Washington, though it seems very close, looking at
24 citizen-voting-age-population numbers is really crucial
25 because there's lots of people who are not naturalized

1 at this point. So looking at how to increase that type
2 of representation with citizen voting-age population is
3 really important.

4 The intent of the Voting Rights Act is very clear.
5 So in that way we definitely do support Commissioner
6 Ceis' map in -- as the one that comes closest to our
7 interests in encouraging particularly latinos in
8 central washington to participate. Those are some of
9 the lowest voter-turnout rates in communities in the
10 state. So I think that's important.

11 And with regards to Commissioner Huff's comments,
12 we certainly do -- given that this is highly important
13 and really sets the stage for the next ten years,
14 what's at stake is legitimacy of the our representative
15 democracy. I think it is important to review all the
16 districts where we can, increase percentages of people
17 of color.

18 I would also include the 29th District, which is
19 not majority, though there is lots of folks of color,
20 including African Americans and Asian Americans, in the
21 Tacoma area, and also the 10th Congressional, which,
22 though is majority people of color, certainly could be
23 increased. And not having an incumbent would be
24 incredibly valuable in increasing civic engagement and
25 the feeling of agency for people who live there.

1 We also want to just reserve time as these plans
2 are coming out very quickly so that we have time to
3 review them and adequately comment. So we definitely
4 reserve the right as a coalition to review maps as they
5 come out, do our analysis, and come back to you with
6 further commentary.

7 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

8 COMM. GORTON: Perfectly timed.

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes.

10 Okay. Ms. Gonzalez.

11 MS. GONZALEZ: Lorena, L-o-r-e-n-a, Gonzalez,
12 G-o-n-z-a-l-e-z.

13 Good morning. I wanted to thank you for the
14 opportunity to address the commissioners this morning.
15 And frankly, I'm not sure that I can say it any better
16 than George, but I'm going to impart some -- hopefully
17 something useful to you all this morning.

18 So I'm here for similar reasons as George Cheung
19 is. And my story is very similar to his in that my
20 parents immigrated to this country from Mexico in the
21 early 1960s, and they landed square in Yakima County,
22 where they and our family, including myself, grew up as
23 migrant farmworkers working in the cherries, working in
24 apples, cutting asparagus, and just doing all of that
25 very intensive, hard-labor work all throughout Yakima

1 County and in Wenatchee, as well.

2 I was born in Benton County. I was born in
3 Prosser, Washington. I was raised in Yakima County. I
4 grew up in Grandview, Washington, graduate -- went
5 through the Grandview Public School District, graduated
6 from Grandview High School. I went to college at WSU
7 Tri-Cities. I transferred from there over to Pullman.

8 My mom currently lives and works in Grandview,
9 Washington. She does labor work in some of the food-
10 processing plants in Grandview and Sunnyside.

11 My brother is raising his family there; he works
12 for the Wal-Mart distribution center, which is by far
13 one of the largest employers in -- in the lower Yakima
14 Valley.

15 And even though I currently live in West Seattle,
16 I -- I frequently visit my family back home, and I
17 always say that, even though I live in Seattle, I'm
18 still -- home is still the Yakima Valley for me.

19 And so the issues that you all are discussing are
20 critically important to me, critically important to my
21 family, because they will really, really, really, truly
22 make an impact on them and make an impact on all the
23 other folks who live in that area.

24 So with that being said, I want to echo what --
25 what George's comments were in terms of the -- the type

1 of representation that we've received in Yakima County.

2 In my experience, you know, I had a similar story
3 where my mom didn't naturalize for many, many years.
4 She didn't naturalize until about 1998 and since then
5 has voted ever single day, mostly because of us telling
6 her that she needs to vote, that it's very, very
7 important.

8 But I will tell you that, even though we encourage
9 her to vote and she votes routinely, as does my
10 brother, I can't tell you how many times they're
11 disappointed with the fact that they feel that their
12 vote is empty, that -- that even though they vote for
13 people that they think really represents their
14 interests, the person who ends up being elected is the
15 person who does the exact opposite.

16 So I really want to encourage you to take into
17 consideration the community -- the largest community of
18 interest in both 15th and 9th, which are the latino
19 populations, to really take that into consideration as
20 you're looking at all these maps and looking at all
21 these different options. And we would certainly
22 encourage you to be very circumspect about those
23 numbers and to increase and get as close to our ideals
24 as possible, which is to increase the concentration of
25 communities of color within those districts.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

3 Next two people are -- it's -- it's Fe, I believe,
4 Lopez. And looks like Sharon Meida (phonetic) or
5 Meida.

6 And while they're coming forward, I would like to
7 read a comment from Tino, T-i-n-o, Gallegos,
8 G-a-l-l-e-g-o-s. The comment is:

9 I -- (as read) "it does not matter how evenly you
10 distribute the Latino community in districts in
11 Central/Eastern Washington, if any district does not
12 reach above 50 percent Latino population, our community
13 will be outvoted in every single election. The history
14 of Latinos in Central and Eastern Washington has been a
15 history of a group of people who work at the lowest
16 wage and most dangerous jobs in their communities.
17 Those needs have persisted to the present.

18 (As read) "The Latino community in Central and
19 Eastern Washington has a very distinct need from state
20 government that is not currently being met through
21 their current political representation. Failure to
22 guarantee the ability of that community to access state
23 government through the political process is to
24 foreclose the political process to them. That is why
25 Dean Foster's concerns should be given due

1 consideration." That's the end.

2 Having trouble with this computer a little bit.
3 Okay. Yes. That's the end of that comment. Thank you
4 for your comment.

5 Okay. Ms. Lopez?

6 MS. LOPEZ: Hello. My name is, Fe Lopez, F
7 as in Frank, -e, just two letters, L-o-p-e-z, Lopez.
8 Good morning, and I thank you for this opportunity.

9 I'm from the -- I grew up in the Yakima Valley,
10 and I'm here to urge the Commission to draw two latino-
11 majority citizen voting-age legislative districts in
12 the 15th and the in 9th. These regions comprise a
13 majority of people of color, particularly latinos. And
14 for too long our community has been divided and our
15 voters have been disempowered and marginalized through
16 the -- from the electoral process. In Yakima County
17 where people of color, mainly latino and Native
18 Americans, now compromise 50 percent of the population,
19 out voting power is diluted.

20 As I said, I grew up in Yakima Valley. I went to
21 Grandview High School. I went to WSU Tri-Cities. I was
22 a case manager at a domestic-violence shelter in
23 Kennewick, Washington. My sister is a nurse at
24 Sunnyside Hospital. My brother just graduated from
25 Grandview High School. My sister attends Y -- Yakima

1 valley Community College. And my stepfather is
2 farmworker.

3 I want to ask: where is our latino voice? There
4 are no latinos that are representing us. Race is still
5 an issue in politics. For instance, Nichols, who ran
6 for Kennewick city council, who actually made it
7 through the primaries, said that all immigrants should
8 be shot. Fifteen years ago there were problem kids in
9 Prosser that were being shipped out to whitstran
10 because they were problem kids. what ended up
11 happening was latino -- they were latino kids being
12 segregated from the Prosser School District. There are
13 no latino judges, no latino judges in eastern
14 washington. Again judges are elected.

15 we deserve the opportunity to elect
16 representatives who will be genuinely accountable to
17 the diversity needs and issues of our communities, such
18 as health, wealth, and education disparities, violence
19 and incarceration, as well as many other issues that
20 come up.

21 Two latino-majority legislative districts will
22 increase voter turnout, civic participation because we
23 will finally feel like we have a voice and an impact.
24 So I strongly encourage that in the 9th and 15th
25 district.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you.

3 And I understand Ms. Meida had left.

4 But I got a note that someone named John-Paul did
5 not check the box but would like to speak.

6 MR. CHAISSON-CARDENAS: Thank you very much,
7 Ms. Chair. My name is John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas.
8 Last name is C-h-a-i-s-s-o-n-C-a-r-d-e-n-a-s. And yes,
9 I'm sorry. It's very, very long. And I represent
10 Latino Community Fund and -- which -- we are part of
11 the Fair Alliance, also.

12 I wanted to bring up and reiterate something that
13 I testified to a few sessions back, which is, in the
14 state of Washington we still see severe
15 overrepresentation or underrepresentation,
16 disproportionality in almost every quality-of-life
17 indicator in the state, anything from poverty all the
18 way through overrepresentation in confinement
19 facilities and even in education.

20 For example, the state of Washington is ranked in
21 the bottom five of all states, all states, when it
22 comes to dealing with the over -- with the achievement
23 gap or the disproportion between test scores between
24 kids of color and kids who are white. It is
25 continuous, and so the effects are real. They are

1 continuous, and they continue to be affecting us.

2 This leads to the question of: where is our voice
3 in the system? As I look at the legislature, I can
4 see, for example, in the House, only three
5 representatives which are latinos. In the Senate there
6 is one. And this historic pattern has continued for a
7 very long time, and it's time to find voice in -- for
8 the communities to represent, especially a community
9 which has grown so -- has grown in the last ten years
10 and the community which in a sense has developed a
11 necessity to -- to be represented in our states. It is
12 the reason for growth in our state, is the latino and
13 the Asian community.

14 Second, I wanted to support -- I am also from
15 Federal way and wanted to support the previous solution
16 that was presented by some of the folks who came
17 onboard at the beginning of this, which is not to split
18 King County, especially with the City of Pacific. And
19 we would also like to see that not happening as a
20 community. We think that retaining that cohesion would
21 make a lot of sense.

22 And we also are in support of having especially a
23 minority district -- majority-minority district. But
24 we are also very interested in understanding the
25 demographics of our community, which -- we are a very

1 young community. In many ways, we're an immigrant
2 community, that -- when you look at the data, don't
3 only look at the data as all population in a particular
4 area, but we really have look for 18 and older because
5 of the youth curve of our community.

6 Thank you very much.

7 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Thank you for your
8 comment.

9 I have few more comments to read from the online.

10 First is from Sue Lani Madsen, S-u-e middle name
11 L-a-n-i M-a-d-s-e-n. And her comment is that, "Lincoln
12 County should not be split into two legislative
13 districts when it only has about 10,000 people."

14 The next comment is from Karen Martin, K-a-r-e-n
15 last name M-a-r-t-i-n. And her comment is that, (as
16 read) "Walla Walla County should not be split. We are
17 mostly rural and do not have a lot in common with
18 mostly metropolitan areas of Benton and Franklin
19 Counties."

20 And let's see. Is there anyone else present who
21 would like to speak to the legislative districts that
22 hasn't had a chance?

23 MS. CAYABYAB: Hi, there. Sorry. I didn't
24 get a chance to sign up. My name is Cherry Cayabyab,
25 C-h-e-r-r-y last name C-a-y-a-b-y-a-b.

1 I'm here with the Fair Representation Coalition
2 and the win/win Network. And I just want to reiterate
3 everything that my colleagues have said.

4 And I think overall to continue advocating for
5 maximizing as many majority-minority districts as
6 possible on the congressional level and the
7 legislative-districts level. And so we advocate for
8 the need to create two majority-latino legislative
9 districts; again that's the 9th and the 15th.

10 As my colleagues have mentioned, for too long
11 these communities have been oppressed and marginalized,
12 and their voting power has been diluted, and it is
13 about time -- it is more than deserving of the latino
14 communities of these areas to receive and get the
15 opportunity to elect someone that reflects that
16 community's diversity.

17 I also appreciate Tom Huff and his interest in
18 revisiting the 29th Legislative District and
19 increasing the minority population there so that there
20 is a majority-minority 29th Legislative District in
21 the Tacoma area, which again has a significant
22 population of minorities, especially African Americans
23 and Asian Americans.

24 And I also very much would welcome revisiting the
25 idea of increasing the minority percentage population

1 of the 9th Congressional District and still with no
2 incumbent.

3 So thank you very much.

4 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you.

5 We have another online comment from David Bain,
6 D-a-v-i-d, last name Bain, B-a-i-n. His comment is:

7 "I trust that the Gorton and Ceis legislative and
8 congressional maps are as" -- "fair as far as
9 Republican-Democrat balance is concerned. However,
10 they do a poor job of respecting community boundaries.
11 I suggest a final scrub in which maps are adjusted to
12 respect community boundaries and checking whether those
13 adjustments will affect the balance sufficiently to
14 disrupt bipartisan support.

15 "There are many small cities in the Seattle area.
16 Rather than splitting many of these, I would encourage
17 the commission to respect city boundaries, and use
18 populations from Seattle, Bellevue, and unincorporated
19 areas to balance district" -- "districts. For example,
20 I see no justification for splitting Kirkland among
21 three legislative districts. I would take Kirkland out
22 of the first" -- "take Kirkland out of the first. To
23 make up for that loss in population I would put the
24 remainder of Mountlake Terrace in the first."

25 I have to -- just scrolling down here.

1 (As read) "I would also include the unincorporated
2 areas southeast of Lynnwood in the first. I would
3 extend the 32nd to include all of Edmonds. The
4 21st could extend through Everett. The 38th extend
5 through Arlington. The 48th could include all the
6 Kirkland. All of Redmond could be placed in the 35th
7 with Woodinville.

8 (As read) "With respect to boundaries between the
9 first and second congressional district, I would have
10 preferred to see the second be in the north, consisting
11 of all of San Juan, Whatcom, Skagit, and Island
12 counties. The balance of the required population I
13 would make up from Snohomish County."

14 Is that it?

15 MS. O'SULLIVAN: (Indiscernible).

16 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay.

17 Okay. Then I believe we are done with all the
18 public comment.

19 COMM. CEIS: Madam Chair, with that, I'd move
20 for recess. I think the Commission needs lunch.

21 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: I think that --

22 You mean you don't want to work through lunch?

23 COMM. CEIS: I did that yesterday.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Yes, we did. Okay.

25 So --

1 COMM. HUFF: I would like to make one
2 comment --

3 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Sure.

4 COMM. HUFF: -- before the people leave.

5 I know that the senators -- or Mr. Ceis, Tim,
6 indicated that the -- we should have the 9th District.
7 And I hear some people here. And interesting, as you
8 can back and look at the October 14th joint map --

9 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: would you just move your
10 mike down a little bit so we can catch your voice.

11 COMM. HUFF: I'm sorry.

12 Interesting to note that the Foster-Ceis
13 November 14th map is -- at that time the 9th
14 Legislative District had four counties in it with the
15 split Yakima Valley. And the 14th legislative five
16 counties. And we displaced all the 9th legislative
17 incumbents.

18 Now, I think that is very unfair to the
19 constituents who elected those people to that office.
20 And that's why I'm concerned about going in that
21 direction at this point. Thank you:

22 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. And while you were
23 speaking, we got a brief comment from Ryan Grant of
24 Medical Lake, and he said:

25 (As read) "I'd like to echo what others have said

1 about not splitting Lincoln County. And I'd like to
2 say a word about keeping the western portion of Spokane
3 County in the 7th Legislative District; we're real
4 rural out here, and wouldn't really be a great fit for
5 the suburban 6th Legislative District."

6 Okay. So you -- when -- yeah. Do you have any
7 thoughts about time? You want to say 2:00 o'clock,
8 or . . . ?

9 COMM. CEIS: Yeah, 2:00 o'clock.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: 2:00 o'clock sound good?

11 Okay. Well, we stand in recess until 2:00 p.m.
12 today. Thank you.

13 (Lunch recess.)

14
15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Hi. I'd like to
16 reconvene the special meeting of the Washington State
17 Restricting Commission.

18 MS. BOE: Hold on.

19 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Oh, we're getting some
20 feedback. Is that -- the speakerphone is on?

21 MS. BUNNING: Excuse me.

22 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Testing. Testing. I'm
23 not --

24 MR. PHARRIS: Mikes are off.

25 MS. BOE: Try it again.

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Testing. Testing.

2 All right. Okay. Try again.

3 we're going to reconvene this meeting -- special
4 meeting of the Washington State Redistricting
5 Commission. And I'd like to see if -- reports from any
6 of the teams or individuals.

7 COMM. CEIS: We're working.

8 COMM. GORTON: Tim and I have had some good
9 discussions, but we don't have anything to recommend at
10 this point.

11 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. So do you think
12 tomorrow?

13 COMM. GORTON: We hope so.

14 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: You hope so.
15 How about the House members?

16 COMM. FOSTER: Tom and I have had some
17 clarifying discussions, and we don't have anything
18 either. But I'll let Tom speak for himself.

19 COMM. HUFF: Well, I guess I can go back a
20 little bit to yesterday when Dean and I met. And Dean
21 had a plan, and I had a plan. And they were different
22 plans because we had run into some problems with 14 and
23 15, particularly from a contiguous standpoint we
24 thought no longer a problem. Unfortunately we
25 unraveled for whatever reason.

1 And as I looked at the plan that Dean had given me
2 and I've looked at it, I could live with the 53.76
3 Hispanic figure, realizing that the existing number is
4 for the 47.61 percent Hispanic in the 15th District.
5 That's a pickup of 6.15 percent.

6 I have offered to agree to this figure, but, I
7 think, apparently at this point Dean's had a change of
8 mind. And so consequently we're talking and we're not
9 acting.

10 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Any other comments
11 from anyone?

12 Then, I think at this point it sounds like we need
13 to just wait -- you know, adjourn for today and come
14 back into session tomorrow.

15 COMM. GORTON: Well, I think now you've got
16 to deal with Saturday. Don't you?

17 COMM. CEIS: Yes, we need to call a
18 meeting --

19 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Oh, okay. Yes.

20 COMM. CEIS: -- Saturday.

21 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Saturday and Sunday.
22 Okay.

23 COMM. GORTON: Yeah.

24 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: So from --

25 COMM. GORTON: So we probably should set

1 special meetings for both of those days.

2 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. That's a good
3 idea.

4 So on Saturday, I mean, we can -- we can try the
5 10:30, unless someone would like it later.

6 On Sunday I do have an event I'd love to attend,
7 like an ice hockey game on Saturday night. So if could
8 do it a little bit later 'cause I can't get a flight
9 over until 9:00 on Sunday morning.

10 COMM. GORTON: Want to make it noon on
11 Sunday?

12 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Noon on Sunday would
13 work.

14 COMM. GORTON: Okay.

15 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And, then, do you want to
16 do 10:30 Saturday or later? Any opinions?

17 COMM. CEIS: 10:30's fine.

18 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: 10:30? Okay. So we'll.

19 COMM. HUFF: whatever's agreeable.

20 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: we'll set meetings for
21 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning and noon on Sunday.

22 COMM. HUFF: 10:30?

23 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Ten -- 10:30 on Saturday.

24 COMM. HUFF: Saturday.

25 COMM. FOSTER: 10:30 tomorrow.

1 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: And noon on Sunday.
2 10:30 tomorrow.

3 COMM. HUFF: The record is straight, 10:30
4 tomorrow, 10:30 on Friday, and 12:00 o'clock on
5 Saturday -- no. I'm --

6 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: 12:00 noon.

7 COMM. HUFF: I'm off.

8 COMM. FOSTER: Tomorrow's Friday.

9 COMM. HUFF: Right. Tomorrow's Friday.

10 COMM. FOSTER: Got that.

11 COMM. HUFF: (Indiscernible) great deal of
12 fun, time goes fast.

13 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Anything else
14 needs to be brought before the group today?

15 MS. BUNNING: I don't think so.

16 CHAIRWOMAN POWELL: Okay. Thank you. We'll
17 see you all tomorrow at -- as many of you want to come,
18 all of you up here, at 10:30 tomorrow.

19 COMM. CEIS: (Indiscernible).

20 (Proceedings concluded at 3:09 p.m.)

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