## Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission September 27, 2021 Meeting Public Comment

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**Date of Submission:** Thursday, September 23, 2021 10:05 AM **Method of Submission:** Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Haljee

Subject: comments on redistricting

To: Michigan Redistricting Commission

Re: Michigan mapping Date: September 24, 2021

After studying the version of the redistricting map I reviewed, I am concerned. It looks to me like the gerrymandering of the current map is alive and well in the proposed replacement. Once again, minority populations seem to be marginalized by being placed in districts that contain large white majorities. The goal must be to prioritize partisan fairness when mapping. The commission needs to draw districts with as close to zero political bias as possible; favoring neither democrats nor republicans. Partisan data needs to be included as members consider options so they can evaluate fairness throughout the process. Competitive districts should be the goal.

I am from Genesee County and my perception of the proposed new district is an example of negating minority power. The map joins the high concentration of Black, Hispanic and Asian communities of interest in the Flint urban area with the almost totally white Lapeer and Tuscola and Livingston and northern Oakland counties reducing the strength of the minority voters.

Although not from the northern part of Michigan, I can see that those voters must be upset that the entire upper peninsula is joined with northeastern and Lansing areas which must reduce their representation and the power of their votes.

When I voted for establishing a non-political redistricting commission, I expected representation with balanced opportunities for each political party to compete fairly across the state. Please, don't let me down.

Jeanette Keim

Swartz Creek MI 48473

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**Date of Submission:** Thursday, September 23, 2021 9:53 AM **Method of Submission:** Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Kelli Evans Subject: Midland

I'm writing to request that Midland County be included in a Mid-Michigan congregational district with Saginaw, Bay City, and Flint.

We are the hub of Mid-Michigan, for years have been included in the tri-cities. Our needs are more closely mirrored to these cities than to our up north counties, it just makes practical sense that our district would comprise of these communities of interest.

Sincerely, Kelli Evans

Midland, MI 48640