

Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission
April 15th, 2021 Meeting Public Comment

Date of Submission: Monday, April 12, 2021 8:47 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Samir George
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

Listen to Both Sides equally!

Date of Submission: Monday, April 12, 2021 6:11 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: linda jachimowicz
Subject: Shame

Watching you all the way out here in Arizona. What kind of American won't say the Pledge of Allegiance? Are you not representing Americans? Shame on you all.

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Date of Submission: Monday, April 12, 2021 8:50 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: James C. Capehart
Subject: Pledge of Allegiance

This is unbelievable. Citing the Pledge of Allegiance will be to devisive? What could be more devisive? If they can't do that then they are not Americans and do not belong on the commission. You are either an American or you are not, and if you refuse to recite the Pledge of Allegiance then you are not an American.

James C Capehart

Gregory, Mi

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Date of Submission: Sunday, April 11, 2021 6:54 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Vergin Email
Subject: No Pledge of Allegiance?

Dear Redistricting Committee

I've read in the news about your decision not to start your meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance.

If that is true, then I am quite disappointed in your decision. It's not a pledge to the Republican Party or the Democrat Party. It's a pledge to our Flag, our Republic, One Nation, Under God, Indivisible, Liberty, Justice for All. None of those points should be an issue for your meetings.

It's the same pledge we teach our children and it's a poor example to them when the adults won't say it.

Bill Vergin

Sent from my iPad

Date of Submission: Saturday, April 10, 2021 5:11 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dave Deal
Subject: Townhall Meeting Request

Dear MICRC Commission Members,

I am writing to you today regarding the upcoming Town Hall meetings that are being considered for this year. I request that you do whatever is fair and reasonable to ensure that the residents of rural Michigan are able to have their voices heard in equal part to those living in urban areas of our state.

If not already on the schedule, please add Town Hall meetings in rural areas of Livingston, Shiawassee, Eaton, etc. counties throughout the already scheduled regional meetings.

Additionally, I understand that this commission has committed to being fully transparent and request that every Town Hall meeting be live-streamed for others to view at home.

Sincerely,
Dave Deal

Date of Submission: Saturday, April 10, 2021 2:46 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Sherry Holmes
Subject: Pledge

Shame, shame on you for declining to recite our Pledge of Allegiance before committee meetings. You were selected to participate in this very important endeavor to make decisions for citizens of our great state. Please reconsider.

Signed Sherry Holmes a citizen and a patriot.

Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Saturday, April 10, 2021 11:01 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Karen Orofino
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

I am opposed to Mr. Adelson having anything to do with Michigan Redistricting Committee.
We the people of Michigan are tired of the leftist agenda.
Mr. Adelson is NOT what we need now.

Respectfully,

A Michigan Voter

Karen A Orofino

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Karen Orofino

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Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 7:53 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dave Deal
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

To Whom It May Concern,

I understand that I may be too late for this (I hope not), but I am writing to ask this commission to not formally offer Mr. Adelson a VRA contract. I strongly urge you to consider interviewing and making offers to other VRA proposals from bi-partisan legal firms. If Mr. Adelson is, eventually, offered the contract I ask that fairness is exercised and a known Republican is also given the same treatment.

Sincerely,
Dave Deal

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 6:23 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: William & Deena Turner

Subject: The Pledge of Allegiance

It has come to my attention that several members of the Michigan Citizens Redistricting Commission have indicated that they oppose the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance at their public meeting.

It is called “divisive” by some members of the commission.

Anybody with a seat on a public governmental advisory board who thinks that the Pledge of Allegiance is “divisive” and who refuses to recite that pledge should immediately resign.

If that is what you think then you are unfit for public office and because of your demonstrated lack of loyalty to the United States, you should either resign or be removed as quickly as possible.

This is NOT a political issue, it is not leftist or rightist, it has nothing to do with anything but a simple statement of loyalty to the United States, and its aspirations of “liberty and justice for all.”

I will not place in writing my emotional reaction for the members of the commission that refuse to recite the pledge.

In the end you are entitled to your opinion. I will fight for your right to that opinion. Trust me when I tell you that I and others have sacrificed much to give you the right to decline that pledge.

However, please have the courage of your convictions and don't dishonor yourself by continuing to serve on a governmental board, especially one with the important function of the one you are serving on now.

If you cannot bring yourself to say the Pledge of Allegiance, then you must in good conscience resign.

Respectfully submitted,

William H. Turner

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 5:22 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Michael Blondeau

Subject: Pledge of Allegiance

I have read some Commissioners don't believe in opening the meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance stating it wastes time or their opposed to pledging to the federal government. The pledge is to the Country of which they are citizens, not the government and if they don't have the 15 seconds to pledge their allegiance to their country, while getting paid for it, then I personally would question their allegiance to the process to which they have been appointed. Sincerely, Michael E. Blondeau

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 5:21 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dave Felicijan
Subject: Pledge of Allegiance

Good evening,

Please understand that this board represents everyone in the State of Michigan, it's not meant to be self serving. How each of you personally feels about the Pledge of Allegiance has no bearing on the decisiveness nor how contentious it is. It's our pledge to serve the United States of America of which Michigan is included.

Please avoid commenting on my behalf, because that's what you are doing.

Sincerely,

David Felicijan

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 4:59 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Mark Samoriga
Subject: Pledge of Allegiance

I just read the story who how some of you think that the Pledge of Allegiance is "too divisive" and "contentious". I am deeply saddened and left shaking my head at the stupidity of your comments. If people living in this country can't show even a small amount of pride by reciting the Pledge or the National Anthem, then they are free to go somewhere else.

All of you who are suddenly against reciting the Pledge of Allegiance are nothing but scared, cowering idiots who are always part of the problem, never part of the solution.

Grown a spine.

Mark Samoriga

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 4:23 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Doug and Debi Scobel

Subject: Refusal to say The Pledge of Allegiance

According to a report by Fox News.....Commissioner Rebecca Sztetia called the pledge "too divisive & contentious" and "too time consuming to say".

What country do you live in Commissioner Sztetia? Reminder: the COUNTRY that gave you an opportunity to serve on this Commission; the country that many sacrificed for you to have the opportunity to serve on this Commission; the country that gave you all the freedoms you enjoy every day!

If simply saying THANK YOU for the country and the men and women who served to give you all the freedom you enjoy is "too divisive and contentious" maybe you should think about the hundreds of thousands of people who are surging at the border to come to America for a better life! Do you think their journey on foot reflects a divisive and contentious view of America and the life they can have here?

Incredulous apathy and disrespect! You obviously don't have family who served/sacrificed to defend this country and the US Constitution!

Those of us who have family that served will continue to speak up for those who, like you, so easily dismiss their service! My 92-year old father (still doing great) served in Korea along with my uncle who survived the battle of Pork Chop Hill-the bloodiest of the war; an uncle who served in WWII, 3 cousins who served in Vietnam, 2 brother-in-laws that served in the Philippines and a niece and nephew, active duty, who have done several tours in Afghanistan! The "pledge" honors all of them and the thousands of others who did the same!

May God continue to Bless This Country in spite of all those who hate it and still live here!

America First & not last!

Debi Scobel

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 4:01 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Grace N

Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

Dear Redistricting Commissioners:

First, I want to thank you all for the professional effort up to this moment. Redistricting is a very critical operation in keeping fair democracy in helping fair and legal elections.

Secondly, I'd like to provide my feedback on your hiring procedures for the VRA legal counsel to the committee:

- 1.Please interview, but no rush on to formally offer Mr. Adelson the VRA contract during their meeting today;
- 2.Please consider interviewing other Voting Rights Act (VRA) proposals you received from the bi-partisan legal firms; and

3. Please follow the lead of Arizona if you choose to offer Mr. Adelson the contract and hire BOTH a known Republican and known Democrat to serve alongside each other as their VRA legal counsel.

a caring citizen,

--

Grace S. Norris

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 3:57 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Mary Patterson
Subject: Pledge

The Pledge Of Allegiance is divisive?????!
Really!!! I always thought that it United us as a country. The United States is the greatest country in the world....or at least it was until kooks took over. Please reconsider. Begin to take us back to the peaceful and happy place this used to be.

Sent from my iPhone

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 2:26 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: mike morast
Subject: county lines

Interested in getting voting districts restricted to county lines.... number of counties per congressman or woman would depend on population.

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 10:27 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Dave Asbel
Subject: Voting Rights Act Attorney Interview

Dear Commission,

It is my understanding that you will be conducting an interview of Bruce Adelson to fill the position of Voting Rights Act attorney for the MICRC. This is supposed to be a non-partisan position, and since Mr. Adelson is very partisan he should be disqualified from holding this position.

I ask that you first, do not formally offer Mr. Adelson the VRA contract today, second, that you consider interviewing other VRA proposals that you have received from bi-partisan firms, and lastly that if you do decide to hire Mr. Adelson that you also hire a known Republican attorney to share the position as VRA legal co-counsel.

Regards,

Dave Asbel
United Rentals
Field Service Manager Branch 152, G47, 79A & K31
Romulus, Michigan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date of Submission: Friday, April 9, 2021 10:18 AM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Kamille Karlson
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

Greetings MICRC Members:
After you have considered Mr Adelson's qualifications, please consider others also especially the idea of selecting two attorneys, one from each political party.
Redistributing results MUST give all the citizens confidence in the FAIRNESS of the decisions.
Respectfully, Kamille Karlson

Sent from kskarlson iPad

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 6:02 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Secrest John
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

Is Brighton, Mi taking in illegal immigrants, I saw a big group of foreign immigrants in a Brighton mi retail store. And they were not speaking English and looked like they were from central America, I think we should know if illegals are being flown or bussed here

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:39 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: James s Kozik

Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

You assured the people of Michigan that this so called bi-partisan commission would actually be bi-partisan!! It doesn't even take a computer genius to check and see his radical, far left ideology, and support!

Do not confirm, hire, employ this far left ideologue!!

At least attempt to keep your word, and your mission to be "fair and balanced"!!

Jennifer Kozik

Sent from Jennifer Kozik's iPhone.

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:27 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: James s Kozik
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

You assured the Michigan citizens that you would keep this

Sent from Jennifer Kozik's iPhone.

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:19 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Harry Bowman
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

Find someone else.

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 3:50 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Cathy
Subject: Redistricting Interview

Please interview but do not formally offer Mr. Adelson the VRA contract during your meeting today!

Please consider interviewing other VRA proposals they received from bi-partisan firms.

If you do decide to hire Mr. Adelson, please follow the lead of the Arizona Redistricting Commission which hired a known Republican and known Democrat to serve alongside each other as their VRA legal counsel. It must be kept bipartisan.

Cathy Ehgotz

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
Get Outlook for Android

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 3:05 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Carolyn Curtin
Subject: Feedback on Mr. Bruce Adelson

I am very concerned about the possible hiring of Bruce Adelson to serve as their Voting Rights Act attorney. His past does not show he can be fair minded for both sides. The approach to hire both a Republican and a Democrat VRA attorney to counsel them is a good compromise.

Osceola County Chair

Carolyn Curtin



Ewart, MI 49631

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 1:38 PM
Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>
Name: Jocelyn Hansen
Subject: VRA Attorney

This afternoon you will be interviewing Mr. Bruce Adelson for the job of VRA attorney. We were told this process would be non partisan and fair. Mr. Adelson is a known partisan activist attorney.

I am asking you to do the following.

1. Please do not formally offer Mr. Adelson the VRA contract during your meeting today.
2. Please consider interviewing other VRA proposals you have received from bi-partisan firms.
3. If you do decide to hire Mr. Adelson, please follow the lead of the Arizona Redistricting Commission, which hired a known Republican and known Democrat to serve alongside each other as their VRA legal counsel.

Thank you for your consideration. The voters and citizens of the state of Michigan are asking you to make sure this is a non partisan and fair process for all of Michigan's citizens.

Jocelyn Hansen

Date of Submission: Thursday, April 8, 2021 1:30 PM

Method of Submission: Email To <Redistricting@Michigan.gov>

Name: Dan Wholihan

Subject: Opposition Mr. Bruce Adelson

Dear Commission:

The voters in 2018 supported an independent based redistricting commission. The Voting Rights Act (VRA) interpretation will be the number one indicator in how districts are drawn in the State of Michigan.

Unfortunately, Mr. Adelson as the VRA attorney would be a threat to the independence of this commission. He is a donor to the current Secretary of State. As the Secretary of State oversees this commission, the hiring of Mr. Adelson would be a conflict of interest giving the appearance of a "Pay to Play" operation.

I hope the commission chooses a non-partisan attorney that does not have ties to our current Secretary of State. This is the trial run for our commission, and I hope it sets a good template for future commissions to follow down the road. Thank you for your time.

Dan Wholihan
Brighton, MI