

## **MINUTES**

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING**

September 30, 2011

Kansas City and Leavenworth Public Hearings

Reardon Convention Center and

Kansas City, Kansas Community College-Leavenworth Center

#### **Members Present**

Senator Tim Owens, Co-chairperson  
Senator Dwayne Umbarger, Co-Vice-chairperson  
Senator Anthony Hensley, Co-Ranking Minority Member  
Representative Paul Davis, Co-Ranking Minority Member  
Senator David Haley  
Senator Tom Holland (Leavenworth Only)  
Senator Mike Petersen (Kansas City Only)  
Representative Richard Carlson  
Representative Bob Grant  
Representative Peggy Mast  
Representative Don Schroeder  
Representative Scott Schwab  
Representative Caryn Tyson  
Representative Jim Ward

#### **Staff Present**

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Reed Holwegner, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Mike Wales, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Theresa Kiernan, Senate Committee Assistant  
Cindy O'Neal, House Committee Assistant

#### **Conferees-Kansas City**

Joe Reardon, Mayor, Unified Government of Wyandotte County  
Mike Taylor, Unified Government of Wyandotte County  
Tom Strickland  
John Bradford, Leavenworth County Republican Party  
Frank Beer, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce  
Cindy Cash, Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce  
Senator Anthony Hensley  
Jordan Capra, Blue Valley West Student Center for Advance Professional Studies  
Mark Green, Johnson County  
Steve Hitchcock, Douglas County

Linda Quinn, Wyandotte County  
Lisa Carney, Wyandotte County

### **Conferees-Leavenworth**

John Bradford, Leavenworth County Republican Party  
Tyler Ficken, Junction City  
Carolyn Gaston, Geary County, Retired  
Barbara Craft, Junction City  
Senator Anthony Hensley  
Forrest and Jeanette Holderman, Lansing  
Paul Conway, Leavenworth County  
Thomas Cook, Leavenworth Waterworks Board  
Mark Green, Johnson County  
Katia Silva, Mission

### **Kansas City Public Hearing**

Senator Tim Owens, presiding Co-chairperson, called the meeting to order and provided opening comments.

Joe Reardon, Mayor, Unified Government of Wyandotte County, welcomed Committee members and citizens to Wyandotte County. He expressed his appreciation toward the Committee for holding a meeting in Wyandotte County. He informed the Committee that Wyandotte County has stabilized its population over the past decade and does not see that it should lose any legislative seats, but instead would need to add additional representation within the next few years. He expressed concern regarding the proposed DC-Topeka map that Senator Hensley has discussed at previous public hearings.

Co-chairperson Owens recognized Senator Haley who expressed thanks to those in attendance at the meeting. Senator Haley stressed the need to focus on communities of interest rather than partisanship in the process.

Co-chairperson Owens gave an overview of the guidelines and criteria for the 2012 redistricting process. He stated meeting the population requirement is the critical factor in congressional redistricting. He emphasized that neither he nor the courts look favorably on the process of drawing districts by gerrymandering. He stressed it is very early in the process of redistricting and no decisions have been made on any map or plan. He urged the citizens of Kansas not to jump to any preconceived conclusions and stated the Legislature is striving to make this a transparent process.

He went on to explain the 2010 Census showed a majority of Kansas counties lost population, while only 28 counties actually gained population. The census also showed citizens moved from rural areas to more populated urban areas. Overall, the state grew by 164,700 citizens allowing the state to keep four congressional districts ([Attachment 1](#)). Co-chairperson Owens then reviewed the population numbers of importance in the redistricting process.

Corey Carnahan, Kansas Legislative Research Department, reviewed the process the Legislature will follow during redistricting. He stated the redistricting process of 2011-2012 could be the most transparent process, to date, by: holding 14 town hall meetings across the

state; allowing members of the public to draw maps; and the launching of a redistricting website where citizens can view proposed maps.

Mike Taylor, Unified Government of Wyandotte County, stated the drawing of district boundary lines is mostly about math, but also includes the challenges of keeping communities of interest together and ensuring that districts are as compact as possible. He asked the Committee to resist the temptation to gerrymander boundary lines for perceived partisan political advantages. He was concerned about the "rumored DC map" that would put Wyandotte County into the First Congressional District and wondered how one congressperson could represent such diverse communities. If this map actually surfaces, keep in mind the community of interest shared by Wyandotte and Johnson counties. He stated both counties are urban in nature, share common needs and interests, which affect major cities, and are parties to regional entities, which address issues of both counties. He stated the same congressperson should represent Wyandotte and Johnson counties (Attachment 2).

Tom Strickland, resident of Wyandotte County, stated his family has lived in Kansas since 1953. He expressed concern with any plan placing Wyandotte County in the same congressional district as most of western Kansas. While Wyandotte County citizens have a large amount of respect for Western Kansas, they simply do not have the same needs, wants or goals.

John Bradford, Chairperson, Leavenworth County Republican Party, provided the Committee with four options for senate districts affecting Wyandotte County. The option he described would create two senate districts in Wyandotte County. The existing Third Senate District would be shifted more into Douglas County and the existing Fifth Senate District would move more into Leavenworth County. Under the proposal, Leavenworth County would be contained in one Senate district. Options 1-4 show different ways of drawing maps to meet the above goals (Attachment 3).

Mr. Bradford stated the suggested options would:

- Alleviate population overages in the Third and Fifth Senate districts;
- Eliminate population shortage in the First Senate district;
- Support Wyandotte County proposals;
- Avoid shift of population south into Johnson County Senate districts;
- Preserve integrity of existing political subdivisions;
- Comply with all the Committee guidelines; and
- Result in districts that are easily identified by voters.

Mr. Bradford stated Leavenworth County is made up of 76,000 citizens. Voter registration is basically one-third Democrat, one-third Republican, and one-third unaffiliated.

Representative Peterson expressed concern with Mr. Bradford's suggested Senate district maps and stated Mr. Bradford was simply trying to get Republicans elected. He pointed out that this is a classic case of gerrymandering.

Co-chairperson Owens reminded the Committee of the purpose of the meeting: to hear from conferees and allow them to give their opinions as to how they think districts boundaries should be drawn, not to debate them.

Mr. Bradford explained the reason he was suggesting the Senate districts be drawn as he proposed is because an additional Senate district probably would be added in Johnson County and, therefore, would have an impact on Wyandotte County. The suggested Senate district maps allow both counties to come together and make viable decisions.

Co-chairperson Owens reminded the Committee and citizens there have been no decisions made deciding Johnson County will receive an additional Senate seat.

Representative Davis asked if it would be a good idea to move Leavenworth County into the First Congressional District. Mr. Bradford stated it was not a good idea and he prefers to stay in the second district.

Frank Beer, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce, Chairperson, Public Affairs Committee, stated there is strong interest from their task force to remain in the Second Congressional District. The Task Force is comprised of members of the Chamber and a representative from each of the Republican and Democratic parties (Attachment 4).

Mr. Beer, on behalf of the Task Force, formally submitted two proposed congressional maps that meet their goals; both maps place Manhattan in the Second Congressional District.

- Map #1 - Provided continuity for military areas of the state (Attachment 5); and
- Map #2 - Recognizes the educational corridor between Kansas State University, Emporia State University, Washburn University, University of Kansas, and Pittsburg State University (Attachment 6).

Representative Ward asked Mr. Beer how many Regents' institutions are located within his proposal. Mr. Beer responded there were five Regents' institutions, as well as Benedictine and other institutions of higher education. This would enhance the community of interest of the district.

Cindy Cash, Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce, urged the Committee to keep Wyandotte and Johnson counties in the same congressional district. In addition to being manufacturing centers, the counties are also health care, tourism, entertainment, and retail centers and soon will be a software center. These put the two counties in the category of "like communities" (Attachment 7).

Senator Anthony Hensley provided a PowerPoint presentation similar to the presentation provided at previous town hall meetings. He related the main factor considered when redistricting is to make sure the requirement of "one person, one vote" is met. He also gave a history lesson on the word "gerrymandering" and its origins. He felt every guideline was ignored during the last redistricting process. He was extremely concerned the First Congressional District will be drawn so it stretches across the state, from the western border to the eastern border and then down into Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties. Senator Hensley said he heard this type of map had been circulating in Washington, D.C., but he had not actually seen a map with this configuration. He believes this type of map may be designed to preserve the dominance of the Republican Party in Kansas. He stated this plan would be a disservice to both Wyandotte County and western Kansas. This plan also would be a disservice to southeast Kansas because it would extend the Second Congressional District to include the City of Salina and thereby dilute the voting strength of the southeast counties currently in the Second Congressional District. Senator Hensley noted the map used in the PowerPoint was drawn by

his Chief of Staff, Tim Graham, and was drawn on the basis of conversations with unnamed persons who Senator Hensley claimed had contacted him. He reminded the Committee that when redistricting, the Legislature must comply with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Baker v. Carr*, relating to the "one person, one vote" requirement (See Attachment 8 of Wichita and Hutchinson Public Hearings).

Representative Tyson stated Mr. Beer's plan mirrors the February Copper plan proposed during the 2001-2002 redistricting process. She asked Senator Hensley whether the two were similar. The Senator stated the map is another one splitting southeast Kansas and he would be opposed to the plan proposed by Mr. Beer just as he opposed the February Copper plan.

Jordan Capra, Blue Valley West Student Center for Advanced Professional Studies, requested the names of Senator Hensley's sources of information for the "DC-Topeka Plan." Senator Hensley responded he would not divulge the names of his sources. He stated he had a conversation with a member of the congressional delegation, and his sources are Republicans.

Mr. Capra continued questioning Senator Hensley as to whether his intentions are to create the map so he can advocate for another map. Senator Hensley stated the "DC-Topeka Plan" is a classic case of gerrymandering, and it is his intent to show the map at each meeting.

Representative Ward stated there were no maps actually under consideration by the Committee. He stated he feels there would be more public input if there were maps available to the public. He stated there has been no "official" map proposed by the Committee at this time, but there are maps drawn, and are being circulated privately. He said it is more than likely legislators will see maps for the first time when we are asked to vote on them.

Co-chairperson Owens explained the Legislature needs to hear from the public before the committees propose "official" maps. If the Committee started with a map, members of the public would be less likely to provide input, as they would feel as though a decision had already been made. Co-chairperson Owens stated, other than the "DC-Topeka Plan" shown in Senator Hensley's PowerPoint presentations, today was the first day suggested maps have been presented and will be on the website.

Senator Haley expressed his excitement about this process stating ten years ago the Legislature did not have the software available that we have today.

Mr. Capra noted Senator Hensley had stated the guidelines were violated in the 2001-2002 process and asked if the guidelines would be followed in 2011-2012. Representative Davis responded the guidelines are simply guidelines and have no enforcement mechanism. He added the guidelines should be incorporated into statute.

Mark Green, Johnson County citizen, requested that no matter what map is being redrawn, the Committee consider the interests of people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities want to ensure their voices are heard by elected officials. Further, citizens with disabilities consider themselves a community of interest and a minority-voting bloc. He asked that placing them in a rural area not dilute their voting strength.

Steve Hitchcock, Douglas County, grew up in the First Congressional District, and is not accustomed to being in an area where residents are moved to new districts during each round of redistricting. He stated smaller counties need to be recognized and their interests should be

considered. Consistency and long-term relationships are important for effective representation in Congress.

Representative Grant stated there is no way the Legislature will make everyone happy. He indicated all maps need to be carefully drawn in order to be upheld if challenged in court and on the two maps presented earlier today, his constituents will not like the splitting of southeast Kansas.

Linda Quinn, Wyandotte County, stated it is very important to attend the public hearings. She agreed with Ms. Cash's remarks, the presentation on gerrymandering provided a good explanation of the possible pitfalls of gerrymandering, and one person, one vote is important to the black community as they cannot afford to lose voting power by being included in a district with more rural interests.

Lisa Carney, Wyandotte County, hopes the Committee keeps in mind one person, one vote. She expressed opposition to a plan placing Wyandotte County in a congressional district with western Kansas.

Co-chairperson Owens extended his appreciation to members of the Legislature in the audience for their attendance at the meeting and also thanked the other members of the audience for their attendance and participation in the redistricting process. In addition, he stated it is important these meetings are held across the state, so the members of the committees are able to get input from people from all areas of the state.

### **Leavenworth Public Hearing**

In addition to other opening comments and a presentation from staff, Co-chairperson Owens stated no decisions on maps have been made, individuals (legislators and other groups of interested parties) may have drawn maps on their own, but there are no maps that have been "agreed upon" by the committees. As a point of clarification, Co-chairperson Owens reminded the members of the audience redistricting is based on the total number of residents in the state not the number of voters in the state

John Bradford, Leavenworth County Republican Party Chairman, addressed the Committee with comments mirroring his remarks from the morning session. Senator Haley expressed concern with the plan suggested by Mr. Bradford, because of the affect on the legislative representation of the areas surrounding Leavenworth County.

Tyler Ficken, Junction City, spoke about a meeting with Junction City and Geary County residents and elected officials to discuss redistricting. The consensus was to maintain the current configuration of the districts (Attachment 8). The meeting attendees see having two representatives (House Districts 64 and 65) from this area as an advantage and there was little support for Junction City becoming its own House district, even though it has the necessary population.

In discussing Senate districts, Mr. Ficken highlighted that the 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District includes both Manhattan and Junction City, but Manhattan now has enough population to become its own Senate district, while Geary County needs to be combined with surrounding counties. The conferees from Geary County recommended the following:

- Geary, Dickinson, Morris, and Marion counties; or
- Dickinson, Morris, Riley, and Geary counties.

Mr. Ficken finished his presentation by explaining that both Junction City and Geary County want to remain in the First Congressional District. He provided a proposed map that would do so (Attachment 9).

Carolyn Gaston, Geary County resident, expressed support for:

- Keeping House District 65 as currently drawn, but possibly expanding it to the northern and western edges of Geary County;
- Separate Senate districts for Junction City and Manhattan; and
- Junction City remaining in the First Congressional District (Attachment 10).

Barbara Craft, former State Representative, 65<sup>th</sup> House District, passed on wishes of the communities of Junction City and Geary County to the Committee. The 65<sup>th</sup> House District is 0.2 percent away from the ideal population and requested the boundaries remain the same. However, the 64<sup>th</sup> House District is 9,310 citizens over the ideal number. This overage could be addressed by deleting two townships in Wabaunsee County; the remaining population then would be within 5 percent of the ideal population for a House district (Attachment 11).

Ms. Craft concluded by stating the 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District needs to be reduced by 18.8 percent to reach the ideal number. The suggested Map A in the handout includes the counties of Geary, Dickinson, and Morris and a large portion of Ft. Riley. This offers a number of advantages, while all three counties would be nearly whole. In response to a question posed by Co-chairperson Owens, Ms. Craft stated the citizens of Junction City believe Ft. Riley is more aligned with Junction City than with Manhattan.

Senator Anthony Hensley provided a PowerPoint presentation similar to the presentation provided at previous town hall meetings (See Attachment 8 of Wichita and Hutchinson Public Hearings).

Forrest Holderman, Lansing, stressed he does not support gerrymandering and asked the Committee to avoid it.

Paul Conway, Leavenworth County, stated gerrymandering seems to be unavoidable as long as politicians are drawing the lines. In every political system, each party does everything it can to gain the upper hand. He expressed support for appointment of nonpartisan redistricting commissions.

Jeanette Holderman questioned why computers could not be programmed to draw the lines in order to keep the process away from politicians. Representative Tyson responded people would program the computer systems, so if there were a program drawing districts, the motives of parties and political individuals would still be questioned. Co-chairperson Owens stated that whether it is an appointed or elected committee, there will always be some influence by politicians and there are always pros and cons to the different systems for drawing districts.

Under the current system, legislators serving on redistricting committees are held accountable by the electors in their home districts. He added that quality of electronic redistricting depends upon the quality of the programmer.

Thomas Cook, Leavenworth Waterworks Board, former candidate for the Second Congressional District, stated residents of Leavenworth County want to be represented by someone who lives within the county.

Mark Green, Johnson County, asked the Committee to consider the needs of people with disabilities. He stressed that voters with disabilities need to be able to access their representatives without having to travel extensively to meet with them.

Representative Carlson reiterated there are no "official" maps this Committee has proposed or endorsed. There were some proposed maps presented to the Committee by Geary County-Junction City and the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, but the Committee has not taken those maps up for discussion and recommendation.

Katia Silva, Mission, Kansas, agrees with having a non-partisan commission and urged the Committee to keep communities as one and not split them.

Representative Davis expressed support for the appointment of a nonpartisan redistricting commission. The process should not be about elected officials choosing their voters; it should be about voters choosing their elected officials.

The next redistricting public hearings will be held in Dodge City and Garden City on October 19, and Colby and Hays on October 20, 2011.

Prepared by Cindy O'Neal and Theresa Kiernan  
Edited by Corey Carnahan

Approved by the Committee on:

January 13, 2012  
(Date)



## **GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR 2012 KANSAS CONGRESSIONAL AND LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING**

### **Legislative Redistricting**

1. The basis for legislative redistricting is the 2010 U.S. Decennial Census as recalculated by the Kansas Secretary of State pursuant to Article 10, Section 1 of the *Constitution of the State of Kansas* and KSA 11-301 *et seq.*
2. Districts should be numerically as equal in population as practical within the limitations of Census geography and application of guidelines set out below. Deviations should not exceed plus or minus 5 percent of the ideal population of 22,716 for each House district and 70,986 for each Senate district, except in unusual circumstances. (The range of deviation for House districts could be plus or minus 1,136 persons, for districts that could range in population from 21,580 to 23,852. The overall deviation for House districts could be 2,272 persons. The range of deviation for Senate districts could be plus or minus 3,549 persons, for districts that could range in population from 67,437 to 74,535. The overall deviation for Senate districts could be 7,098 persons.)
3. Redistricting plans will have neither the purpose nor the effect of diluting minority voting strength.
4. Subject to the requirement of guideline No. 2:
  - a. The "building blocks" to be used for drawing district boundaries shall be voting districts (VTDs) as described on official 2010 Redistricting U.S. Census maps.
  - b. Districts should be as compact as possible and contiguous.
  - c. The integrity and priority of existing political subdivisions should be preserved to the extent possible.
  - d. There should be recognition of similarities of interest. Social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and economic interests common to the population of the area, which are probable subjects of legislation (generally termed "communities of interest"), should be considered. While some communities of interest lend themselves more readily than others to being embodied in legislative districts, the Committee will attempt to accommodate interests articulated by residents.
  - e. Contests between incumbent members of the Legislature or the State Board of Education will be avoided whenever possible.
  - f. Districts should be easily identifiable and understandable by voters.

## **Congressional Redistricting**

1. The basis for congressional redistricting is the 2010 U.S. Decennial Census as published by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The "building blocks" to be used for drawing district boundaries shall be Kansas counties and voting districts (VTDs) as their population is reported in the 2010 U.S. Decennial Census.
2. Districts are to be as nearly equal to 713,280 population as practicable.
3. Redistricting plans will have neither the purpose nor the effect of diluting minority voting strength.
4. Districts should attempt to recognize "community of interests" when that can be done in compliance with the requirement of guideline No. 2.
  - a. Social, cultural, racial, ethnic, and economic interests common to the population of the area, which are probable subjects of legislation (generally termed "communities of interest"), should be considered.
  - b. If possible, preserving the core of the existing districts should be undertaken when considering the "community of interests" in establishing districts.
  - c. Whole counties should be in the same congressional district to the extent possible while achieving population equality among districts. County lines are meaningful in Kansas and Kansas counties historically have been significant political units. Many officials are elected on a countywide basis, and political parties have been organized in county units. Election of the Kansas members of Congress is a political process requiring political organizations which in Kansas are developed in county units. To a considerable degree most counties in Kansas are economic, social, and cultural units, or parts of a larger socioeconomic unit. These interests common to the population of the area, generally termed "community of interests" should be considered during the creation of congressional districts.
5. Districts should be as compact as possible and contiguous, subject to the requirement of guideline No. 2.



# Testimony

Unified Government Public Relations  
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Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Mike Taylor, Public Relations Director  
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## Congressional Redistricting

Delivered September 30, 2011  
Special Committee on Redistricting

The Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City appreciates the important work the Committee is undertaking. Redrawing State legislative and Congressional district lines is difficult.

While its mostly about math... making sure every district has the same number of people... redistricting offers significant challenges. Keeping communities of interest together and ensuring district lines are as compact as possible are two of those challenges. Another is resisting the temptation to gerrymander boundary lines for perceived partisan political advantage.

There are lots of rumors about redrawing the Congressional district lines so that Wyandotte County and Kansas City shift from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District to the 1<sup>st</sup>. Such a map is so far only rumor, but it seems to be a strong rumor which first surfaced as far back as March. Putting Kansas City and Liberal or Dodge City in the same Congressional district is a ridiculous idea that would cheat residents in both eastern and western Kansas out of effective representation. How could one Congressman represent communities with such diverse issues? Just the logistics of keeping district offices and conducting town hall meetings would be unwieldy. And while most of the discussion assumes the 1<sup>st</sup> District Representative would come from western Kansas, that may not always be the case. How would a resident living in, say Garden City, feel about having their Congressman elected from Wyandotte or Atchison County?

The Unified Government is focused on communities of interest. Johnson County and Wyandotte County are now more communities of interest than perhaps ever in their history. Both are significant contributors to the State economy. Both are extremely urban in nature. Both share a Stateline with the Missouri side of the metropolitan area. Both share common needs and interests which affect major cities, including poverty, health care, home construction and business development. Wyandotte and Johnson Counties work together as part of the larger Kansas City metro on regional projects and issues. One example is transit. Another is infrastructure... from sewers and water systems to highways. The 22 Mayors of Johnson and Wyandotte County cities meet monthly as the Council of Mayors to exchange information and discuss issues.

The nature of those regional issues and the pursuit of federal funding dictates that Wyandotte and Johnson Counties are represented by the same Congressman.

Special Committee on Redistricting  
September 30, 2011  
Attachment 2

# **Wyandotte Senate Districts**

## **Wyandotte Senate Districts**

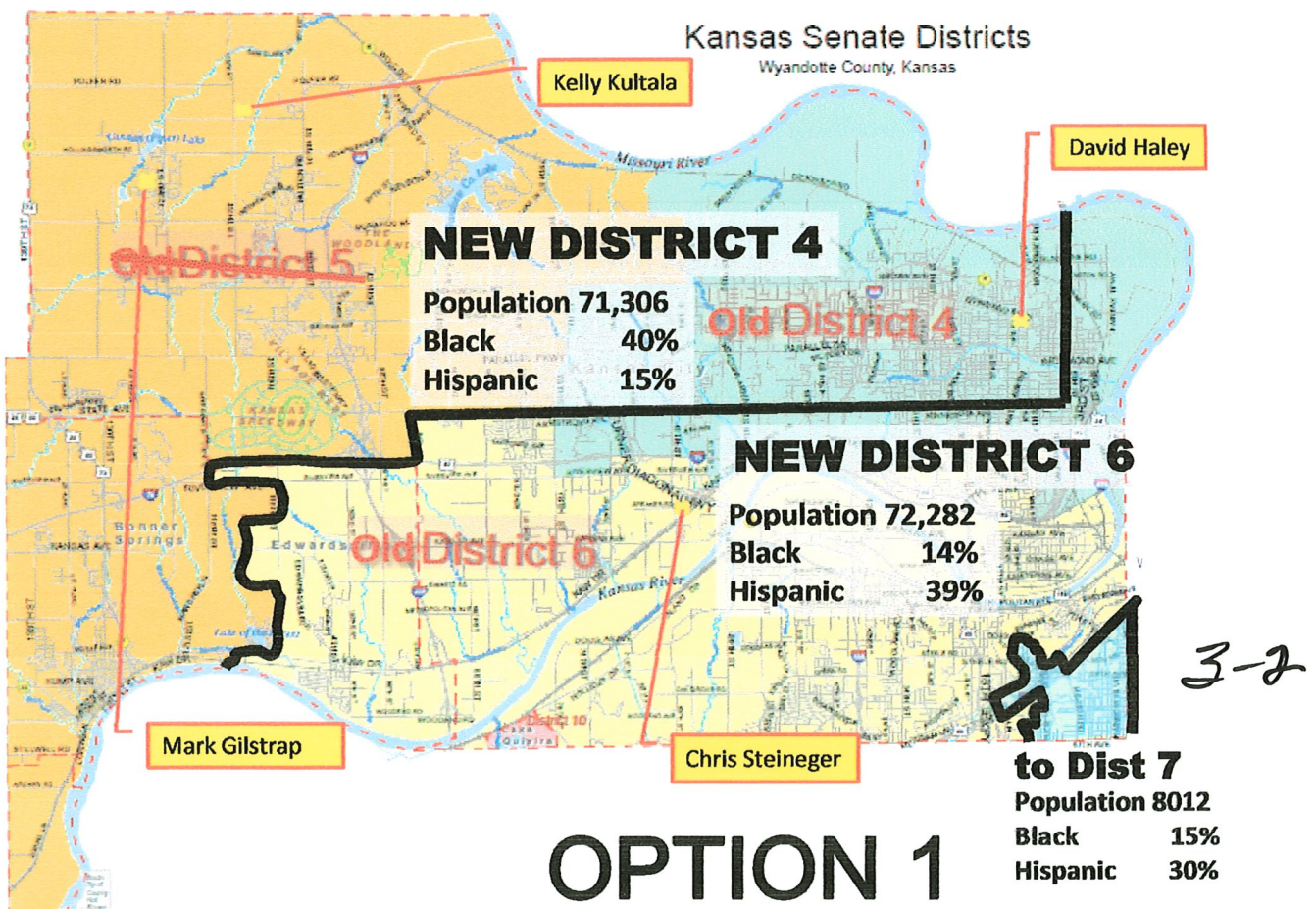
### **Overview**

- Wyandotte County has population for slightly more than two senate districts.
  - Logically, two senate districts should be wholly within the county (population, communities of interest, political entities, etc.)
  - The remaining population should become part of the senate district of an adjacent county. In this case the northeastern Johnson County senate districts are below ideal population.

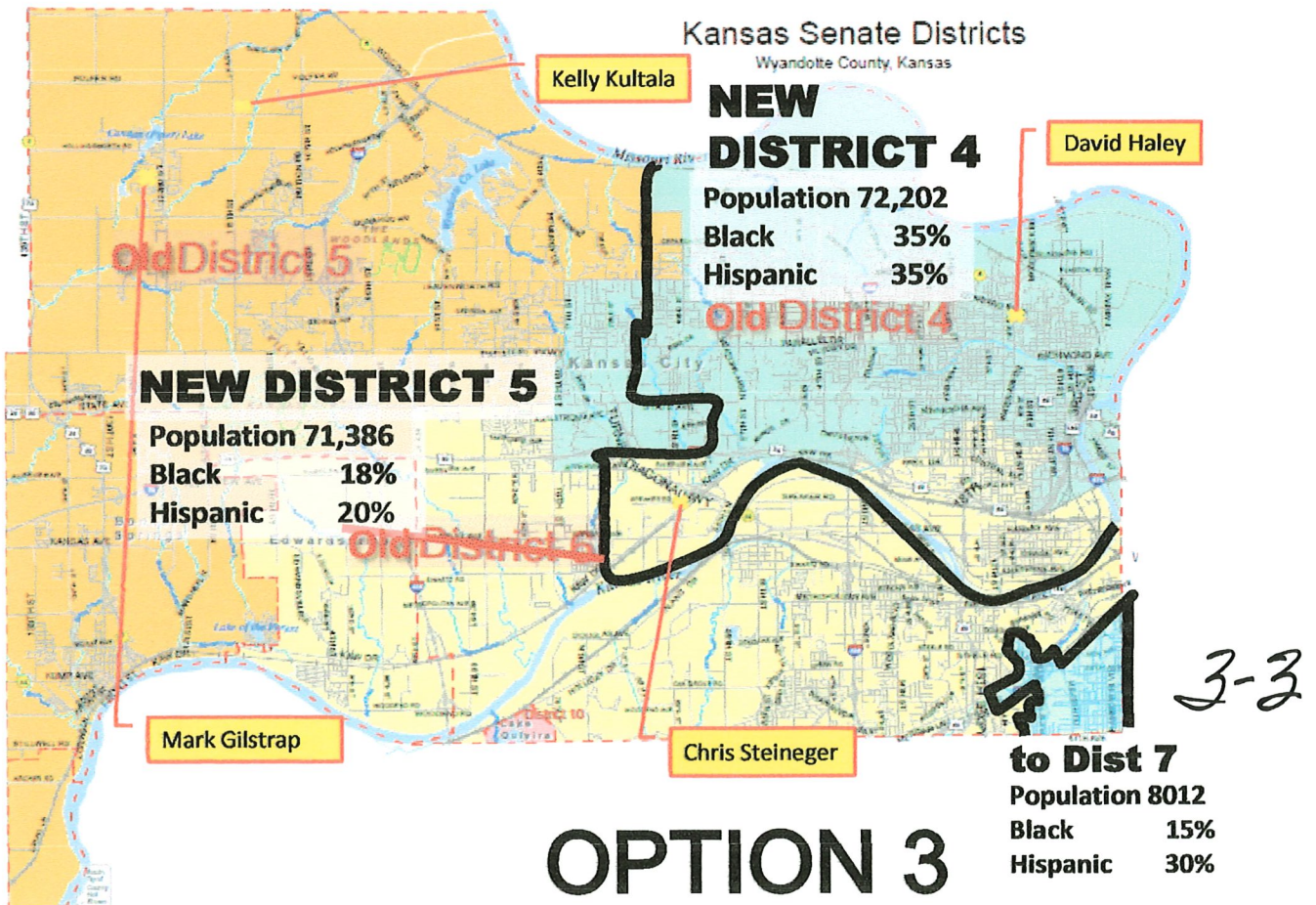
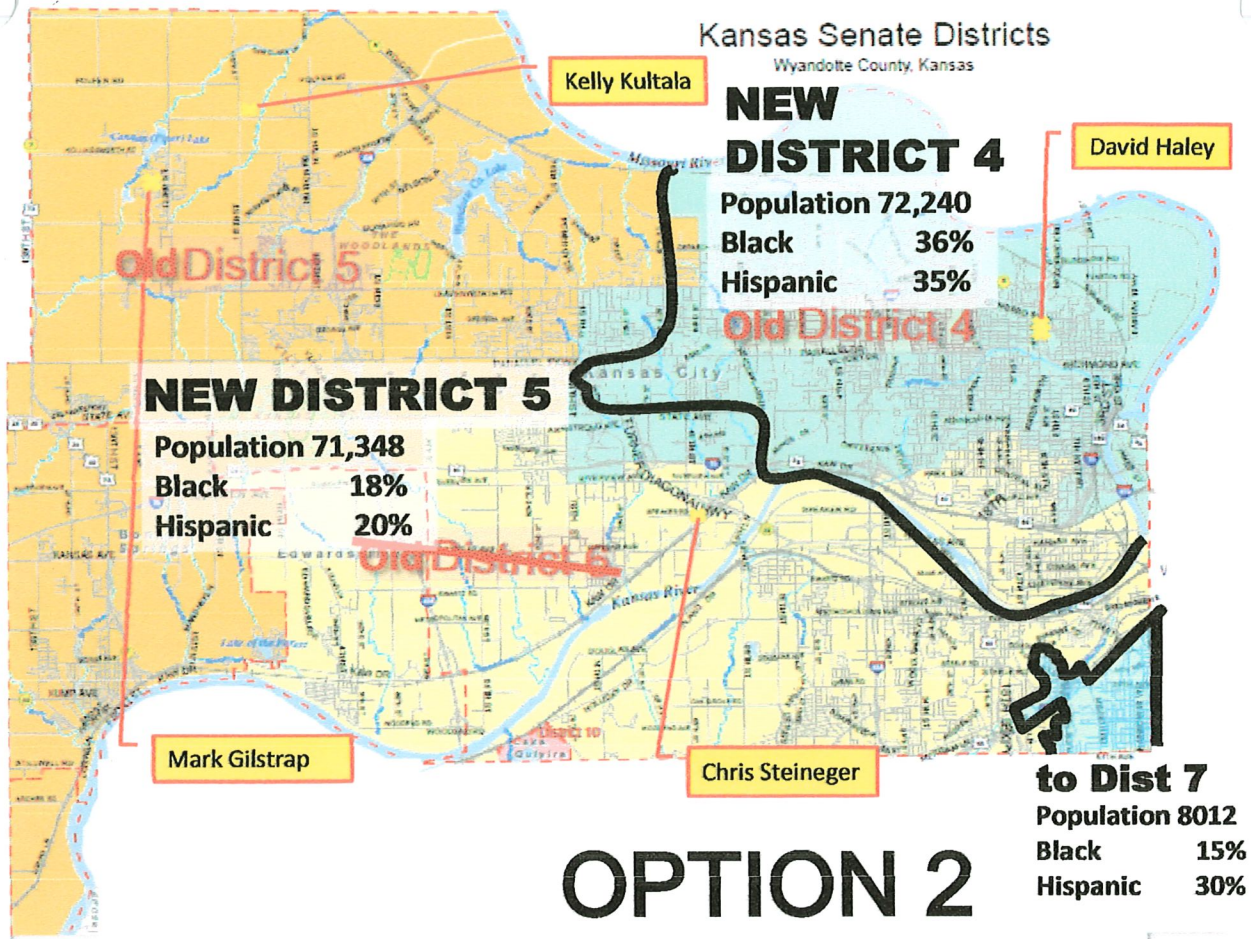
# Wyandotte Senate Districts

## The Main Points

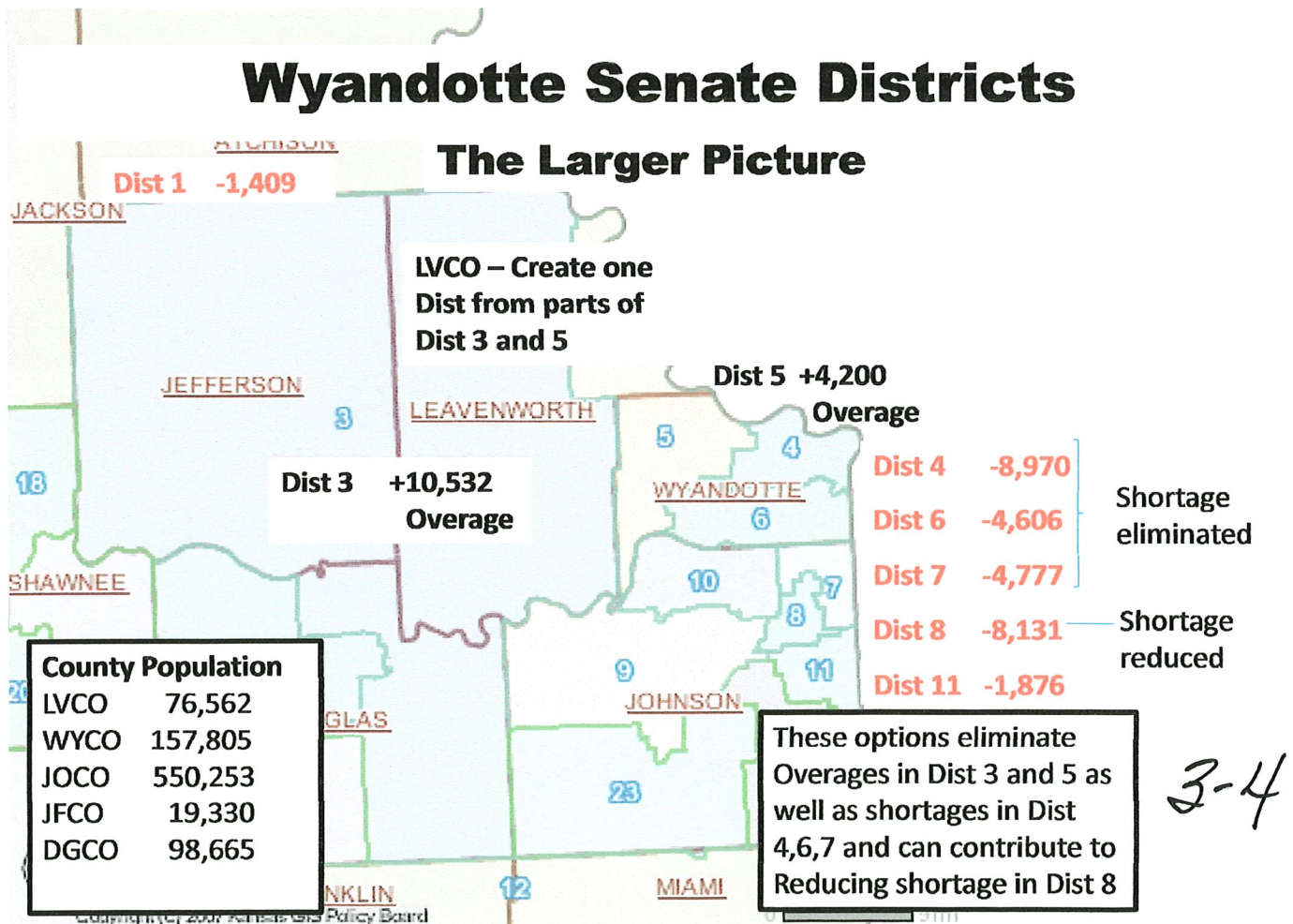
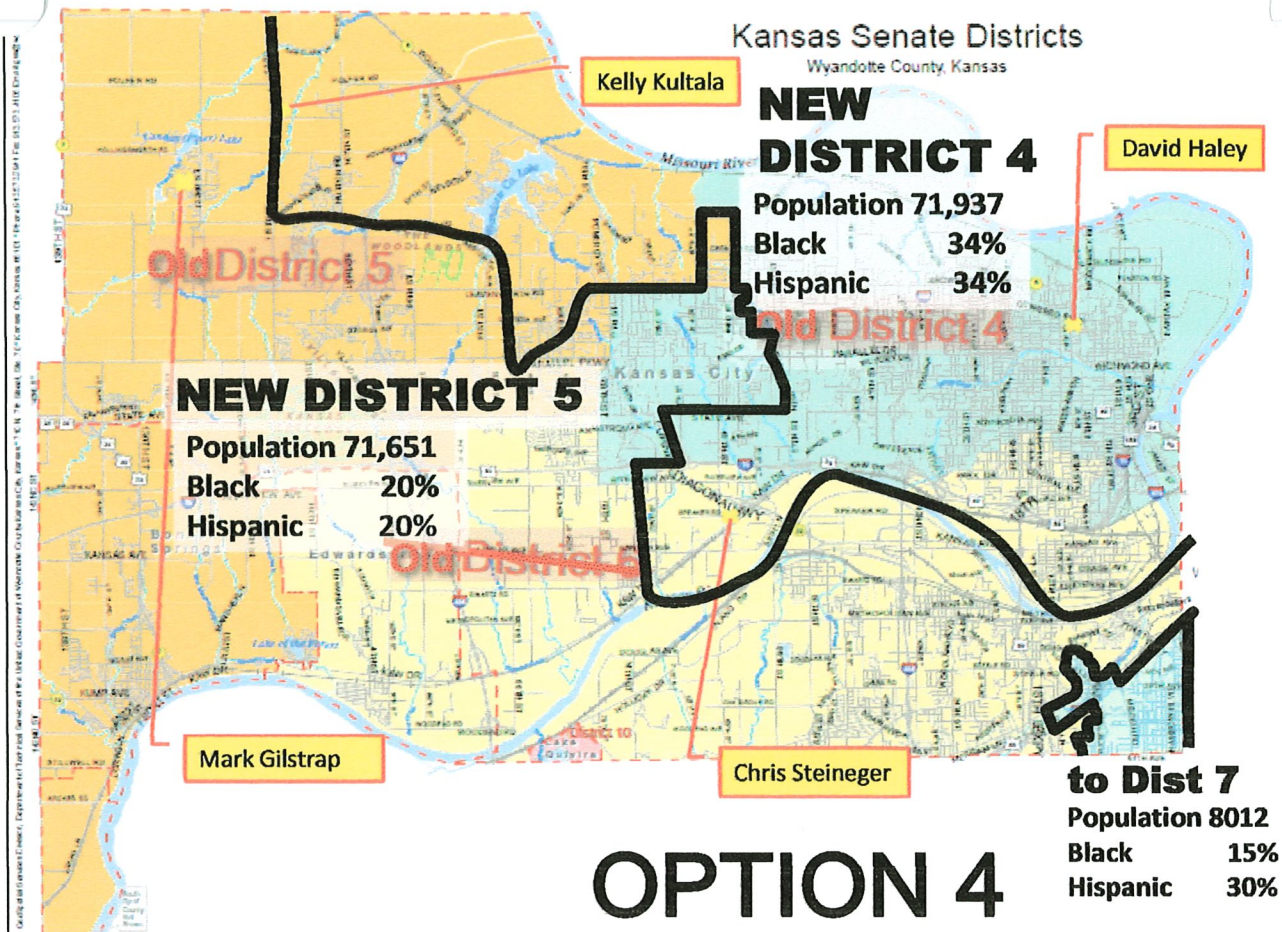
- Create two senate districts in Wyandotte County out of the current three.
- Expand district 7 into Wyandotte to absorb population in excess of two districts.











**Testimony to the Joint Redistricting Committee  
Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce  
Jack Reardon Convention Center  
Room – Wyandotte 1  
September 30, 2011**

Chairmen O'Neal and Owens, and members of the Joint Committee on Redistricting, my name is Frank Beer and I serve as the Chairman of the Public Affairs Committee for the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce.

On July 27, 2011, the Chairman of our Board of Directors, Fred Willich appeared before you at the Manhattan Special Committee Hearing to advocate on behalf of our membership, our strong interest in remaining in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. Our position was determined by a task force which met several times to review and analyze options that would best serve our community and surrounding area. The task force was comprised of members of the chamber, and a representative each of the republican and democrat party. At that July meeting, we were requested to submit a map(s), which would support our reasons for remaining in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District.

I appear before you today to submit two (2) maps which we have drawn, that achieve our goal. The first map, entitled Chamber 1, provides continuity as it relates to the military communities in the northeast part of our state. As you will see, the map captures the counties which surround the Fort Riley catchment area, as well as maintains the geographic connection to Fort Leavenworth.

The second map, entitled Chamber A, has also been referred to as a map that recognizes the educational corridor from the northeast to the southeast portion of Kansas. This map would



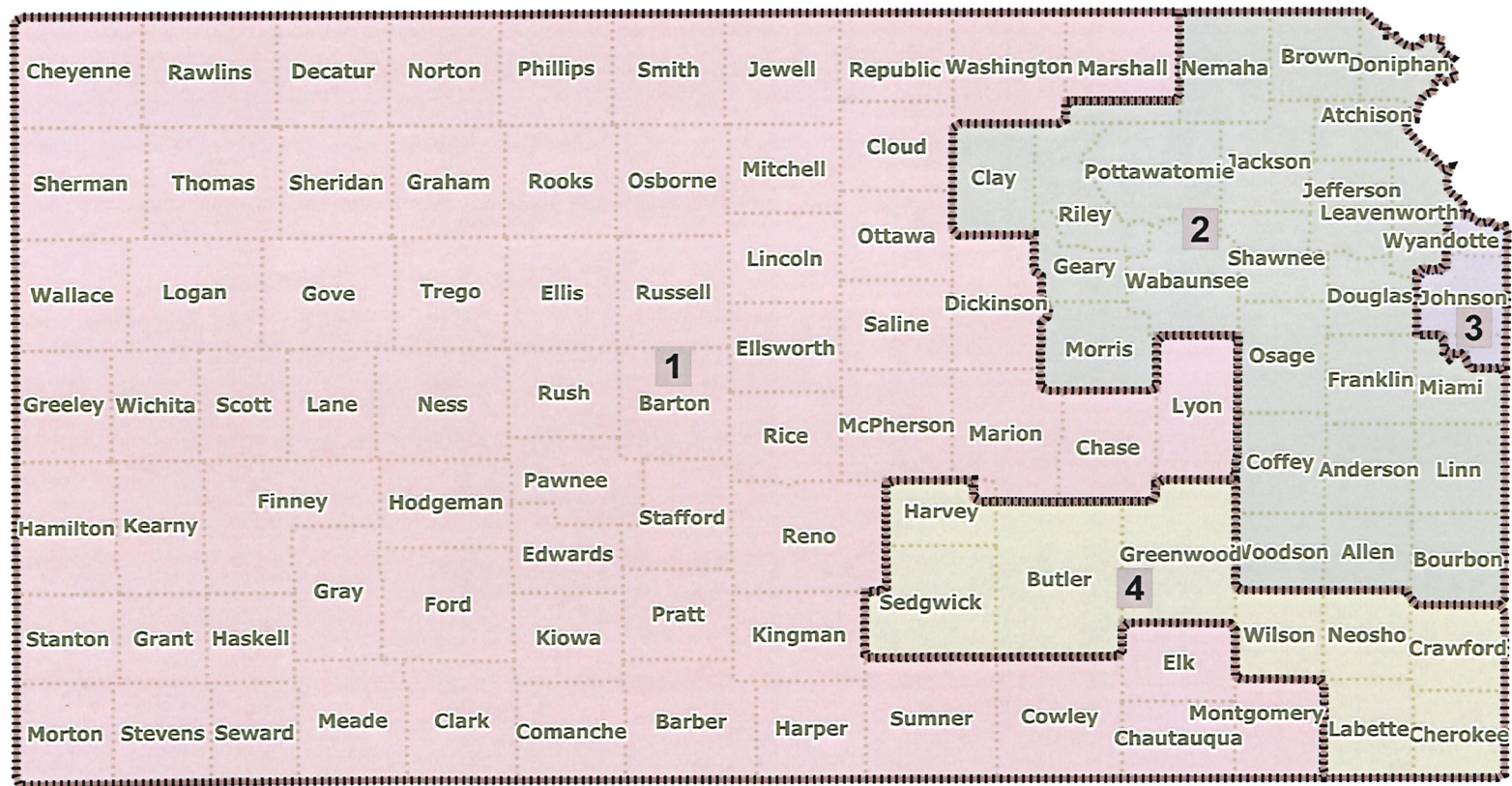
focus on many of the synergies already in place within the higher education system – Kansas State University, Emporia State University, Washburn University, The University of Kansas, and Pittsburg State University would all be within the boundaries of this map.

The Chamber chose not to place a preference on one map over the other (i.e. Chamber 1/Chamber A), as both achieve the goal of maintaining Manhattan and Riley county in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, as well as capitalizing on the strengths of the communities situated within the district outlines.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this very important process. I would be pleased to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

4-2

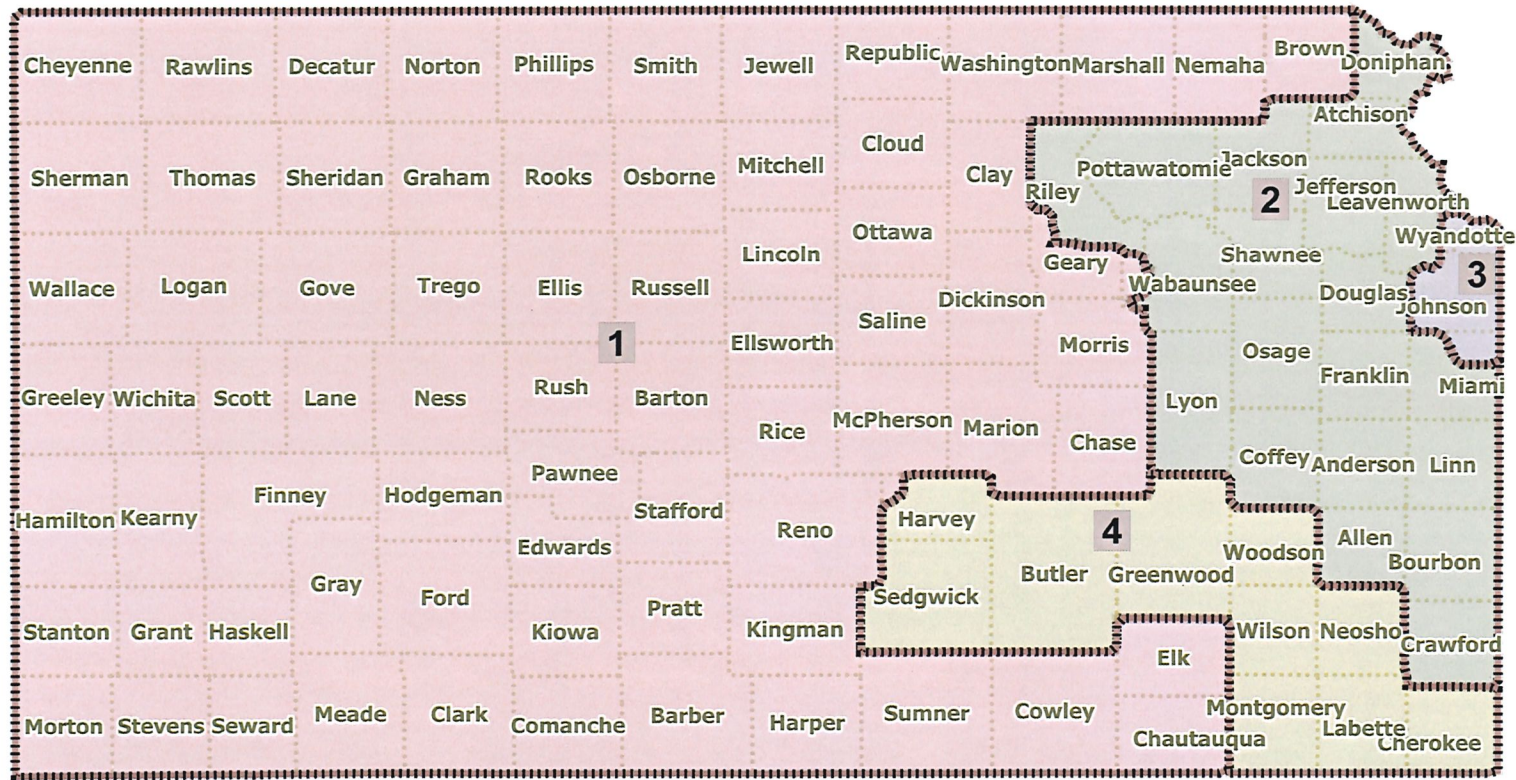
# Manhattan Chamber 1



District	Population	Deviation	% Deviation
1	713243	-37	-0.01%
2	713243	-37	-0.01%
3	713275	-5	-0%
4	713357	77	0.01%

**DRAFT**

# Manhattan Chamber A



District	Population	Deviation	% Deviation
1	713287	7	0%
2	713281	1	0%
3	713272	-8	-0%
4	713278	-2	-0%

**DRAFT**

Special Committee on Redistricting  
September 30, 2011  
Attachment 6





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## **TESTIMONY FOR SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING**

September 30, 2011

Cindy Cash, President/CEO

Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce

Thank you for your efforts to hear from Kansans all across the state. We appreciate the time you have all taken to conduct these meetings about a subject that is important at all levels of government and affect all Kansans.

The Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce urges the Special Committee on Redistricting to make sure Johnson and Wyandotte Counties are in the same federal congressional district based on the results of the 2010 Census.

Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County has re-energized itself over the last 15 years in addition to be a manufacturing center is also a health care center, tourism, entertainment and retail center and soon to be a health care software center.

The educational communities from the K-12 through graduate school have many linkages between the two counties and work to develop a workforce for the metropolitan Kansas City area.

This squarely puts these two counties in the category of like communities. If consideration is given to separating these two counties for any reason, it would be unfair under the like communities definition as well as causing another federal district representative to have competing interests to monitor if an urban and rural representation is created.

We strongly urge and respectfully would only be supportive of a congressional district that contains both Wyandotte and Johnson County in it.

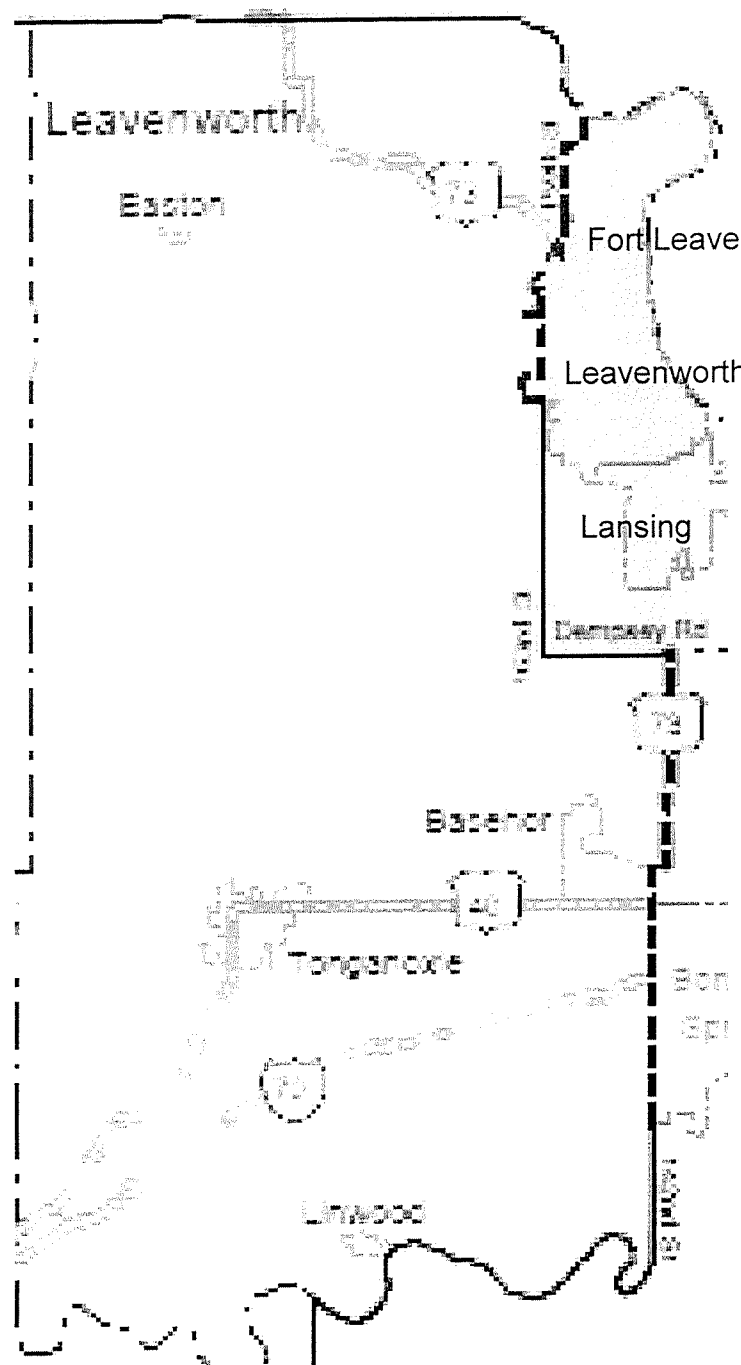
Special Committee on Redistricting  
September 30, 2011  
Attachment 7

# **Recommendation to Senate Standing Committee on Reapportionment**

Leavenworth County Republican Party

September 30, 2011

Third Senate District  
(Holland)  
115%

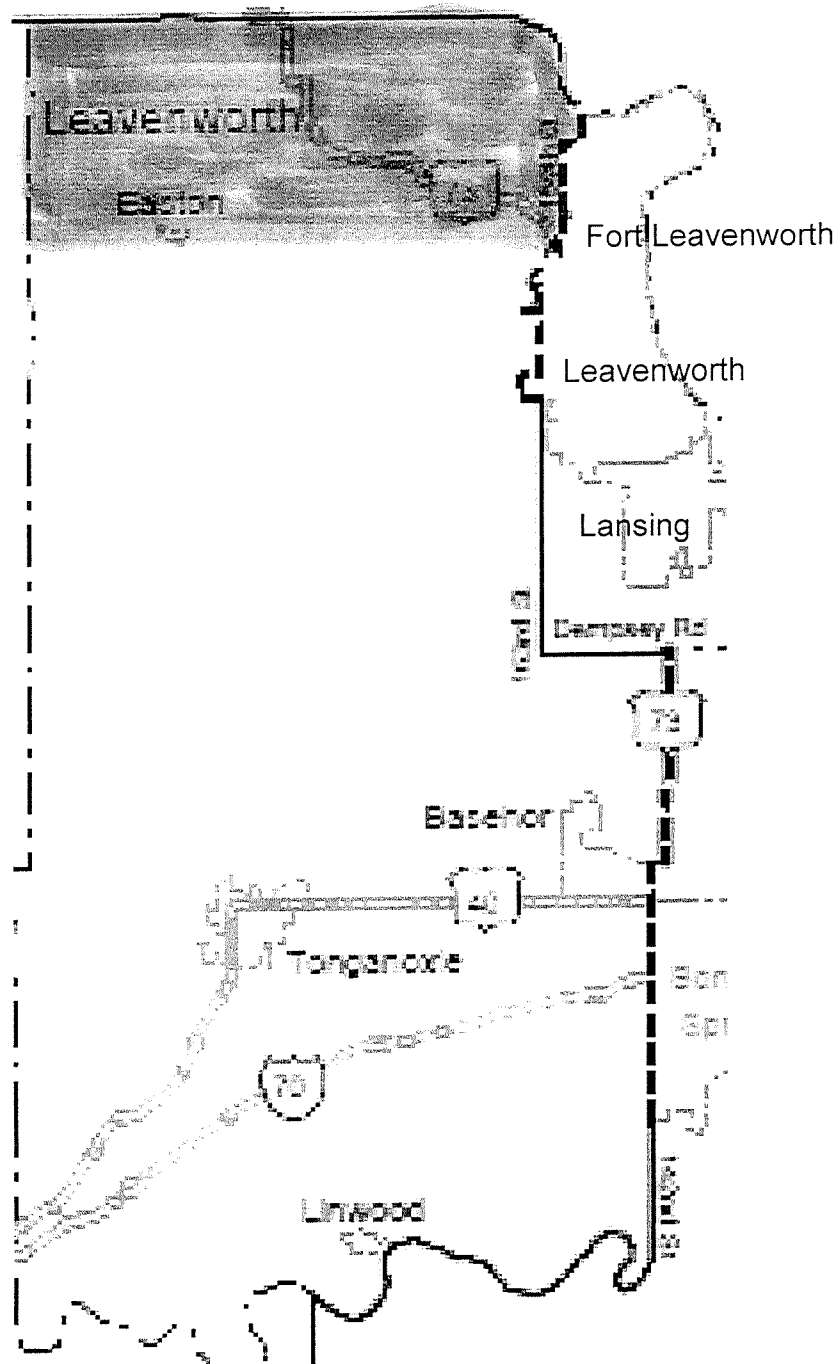


Fifth Senate District  
(Kalamazoo)  
107%

# Leavenworth County Proposal

- Establish a **new Senate district** in Leavenworth County
  - Senate District # 3 (currently at 115% strength) retracts out of Leavenworth County
  - Senate District # 5 (currently at 107%) realigns based on Wyandotte proposals
- Cross-level remaining slight overage of new district with slight underage of Senate District # 1 by putting two northern Leavenworth County precincts in District # 1.

First Senate District  
(Pyle)



8-4



## Considerations

- Alleviates population overages in Districts 3 & 5
- Eliminates District 1 population shortage.
- Supports WYCO proposals
- Avoids shift of population south to JOCO districts
- Preserves integrity of existing political subdivisions
- Complies with all committee guidance requirements
- Districts are easily identifiable and understandable by voters

Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to allow local communities to share opinions on redistricting today.

On September 15<sup>th</sup> the Junction City/Geary County community met with elected officials to discuss redistricting. The consensus from that meeting was to keep the districts similar to what we have today. Although, we recognize that steep growth in Geary County/Junction City will force the lines in this region to change. I used the information received from the redistricting meeting to draw some maps that are acceptable, using information provided from the community at the hearing.

The population of Geary County has increased by 23% since the 2000 Census; this makes Geary County the fastest growing county in the state by percentage.

#### 64<sup>th</sup> & 65<sup>th</sup> Kansas House Districts

During our redistricting meeting the advantage of having two representatives for the area was discussed, and it was generally viewed as an advantage. While Junction City has enough population to become a single house district, there was no support voiced for that position at the hearing. Alta Vista is not included in the map drawn for the 65<sup>th</sup> district. There was discussion of Alta Vista during the meeting, and the feeling was that West & North Geary County may be a better fit for the District.

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> Kansas Senate District

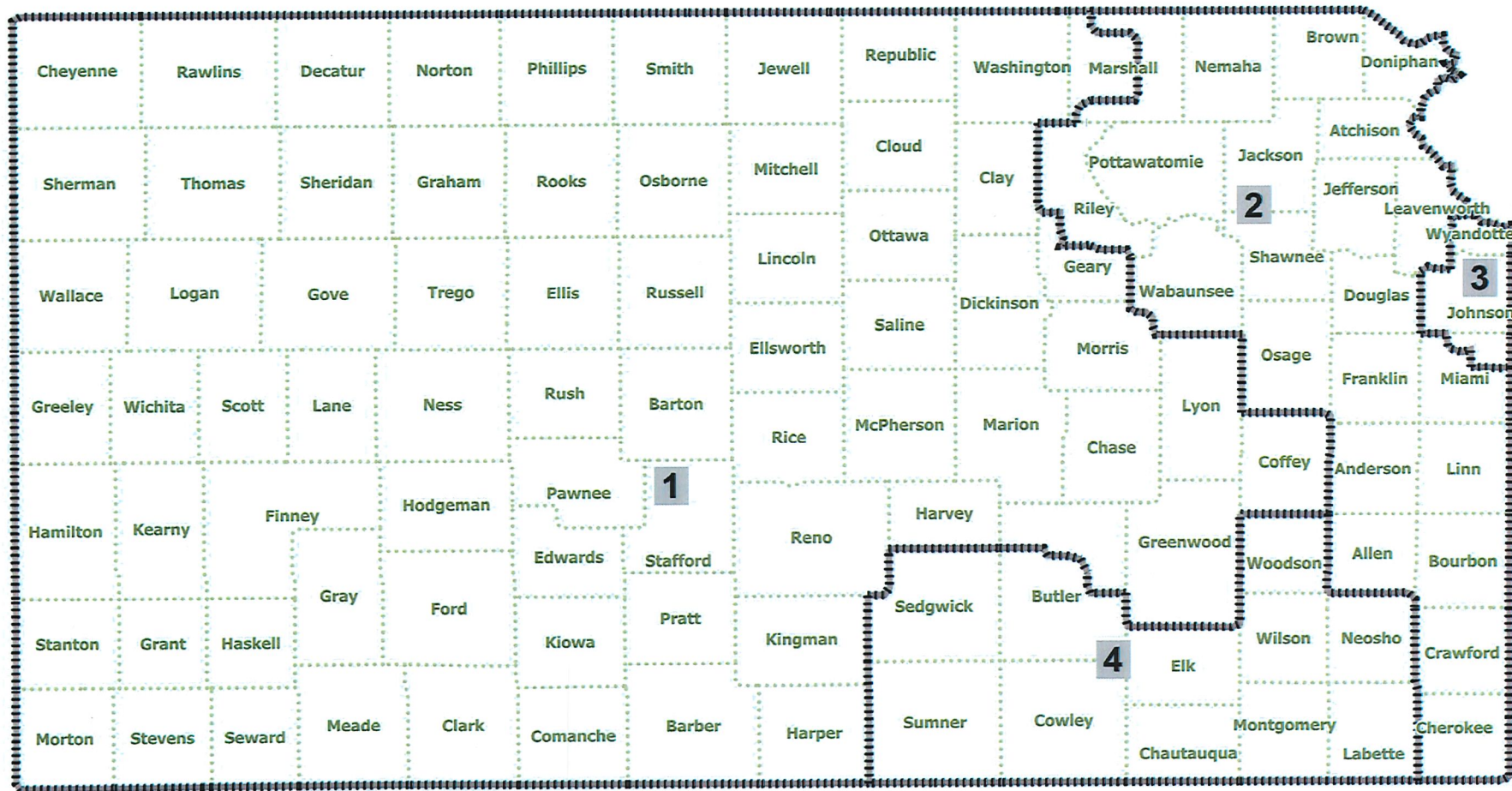
The status of the 22<sup>nd</sup> district was discussed at length at our public meeting. The Kansas 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District currently includes both Manhattan and Junction City. The adjusted 2010 Census numbers indicate that the 22<sup>nd</sup> District has a population of 84,299. Currently, the population of Geary County is roughly half the size of an ideal Senate seat at 34,362. The result will likely be that Junction City and Manhattan will no longer share the 22nd Senate District. Manhattan will essentially become its own Senate District. At the meeting, the group discussed directions in which a Geary County district could grow. That discussion included an intense interest in not being parceled to surrounding districts that have lost population. Instead, we used input from the discussion to create attached Senate Maps A & B. The districts meet all criteria set by the House and Senate redistricting committees. Dickenson County would become wholly part of the proposed districts.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional House District

The Junction City and Geary County community is interested in remaining in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. In 2002, Junction City was removed from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District and placed in the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. The 1<sup>st</sup> District is a pipeline to the U.S. Senate. Bob Dole, Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran used the 1<sup>st</sup> District as a springboard to the U.S. Senate. In contrast, the 2<sup>nd</sup> District has been politically competitive. Competition is typically favored by the electorate, but can lead to less stability for the seat and possibly result in a less experienced representation. Junction City & Geary County are interested in having experienced representation. The 1<sup>st</sup> District has had 5 different representatives since 1963, and 3 of those 5 have become U.S. Senators (Bob Dole, Pat Roberts, and Jerry Moran). As population moves East within the state it makes sense to accept the fact that the 1<sup>st</sup> District is growing East. Also, it is not beneficial to our community to move between the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional districts every 10 years.

# JCGC Congress 1

9-2



District	Population	Deviation	% Deviation
1	713290	10	0%
2	713280	0	0%
3	713274	-6	-0%
4	713274	-6	-0%

Special Committee on Redistricting  
Carolyn L. Gaston  
September 30, 2011

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Carolyn L. Gaston. I am a long-time resident of Geary County and am currently retired. I previously was a 33-year employee of a Fortune 500 telecommunications company.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear here today on behalf of Geary County and the Junction City community and to testify in support of their interests in the Redistricting of our area.

The areas of interest are:

**-House District 65** – Keep the District as is unless area is diluted which would result in our asking to expand the 65<sup>th</sup> into northern and western Geary County.

**-Senate District** – Currently we reside within Senate District 22 and are requesting the consideration of a separate district which is identified in a proposed map which is attached as JCGC Proposed Senate (A), & JCGC Alternate Senate (B)

Please consider this proposed map as it:

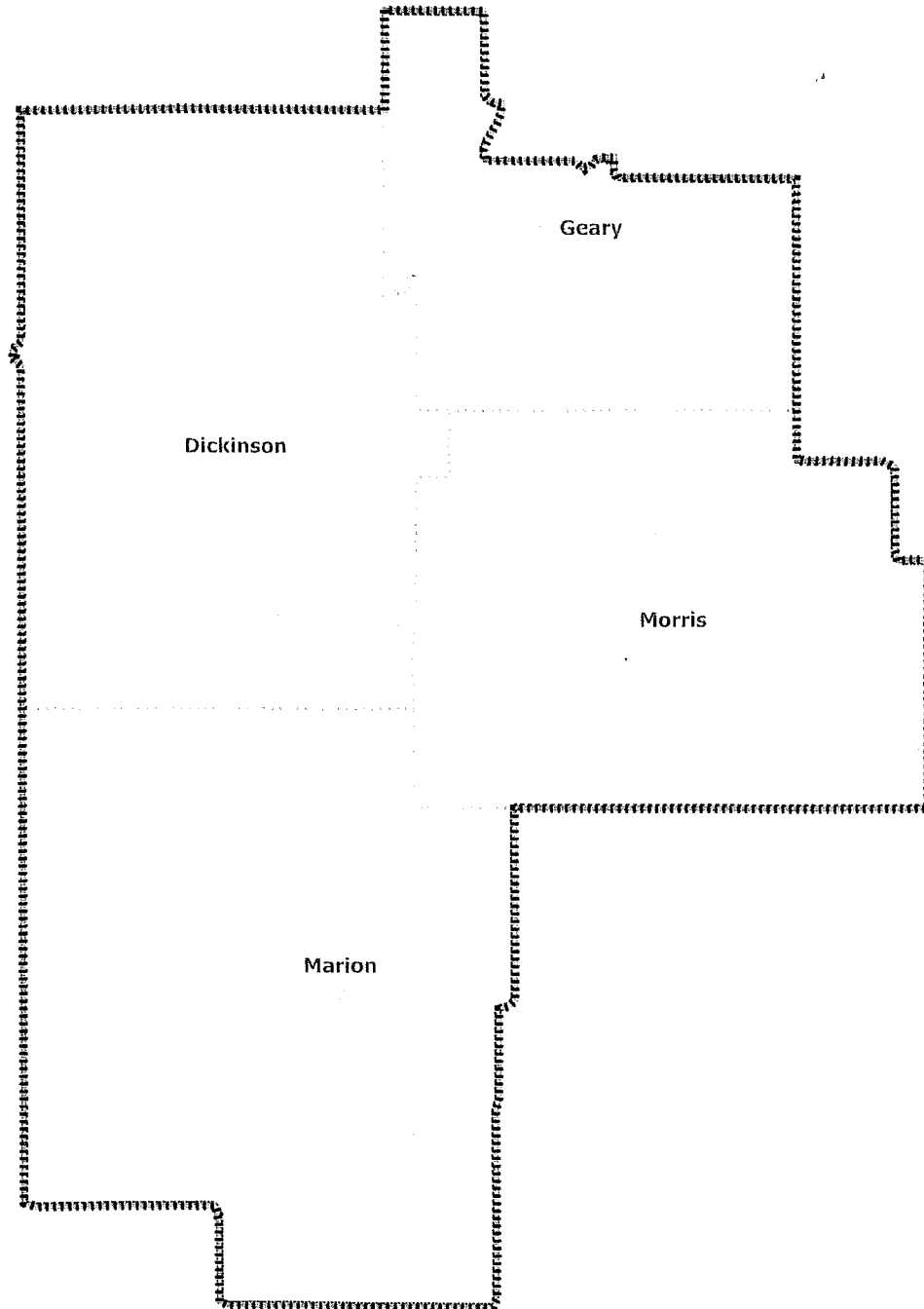
- has contiguous boundaries,
- no incumbent,
- more similarities
- represents four (3) whole counties & a large part of Fort Riley
- has one large population center

**-Congressional District** –We ask you to consider leaving the Geary County and Junction City community in the 1<sup>st</sup> District or more significantly to keep Geary County intact.

Thank you for this opportunity and I will be pleased to respond to questions at the appropriate time.

Carolyn L. Gaston, 3220 Rolling Hills Dr., Milford, KS 66514,  
785-238-8951

JCGC Alternate Senate (B)  
JCGC Senate 7  
ND01



District	Adj_Population	Deviation	% Deviation
ND01	72974	1,988	2.8%

Note: Population of district does not meet ideal population deviation criteria.

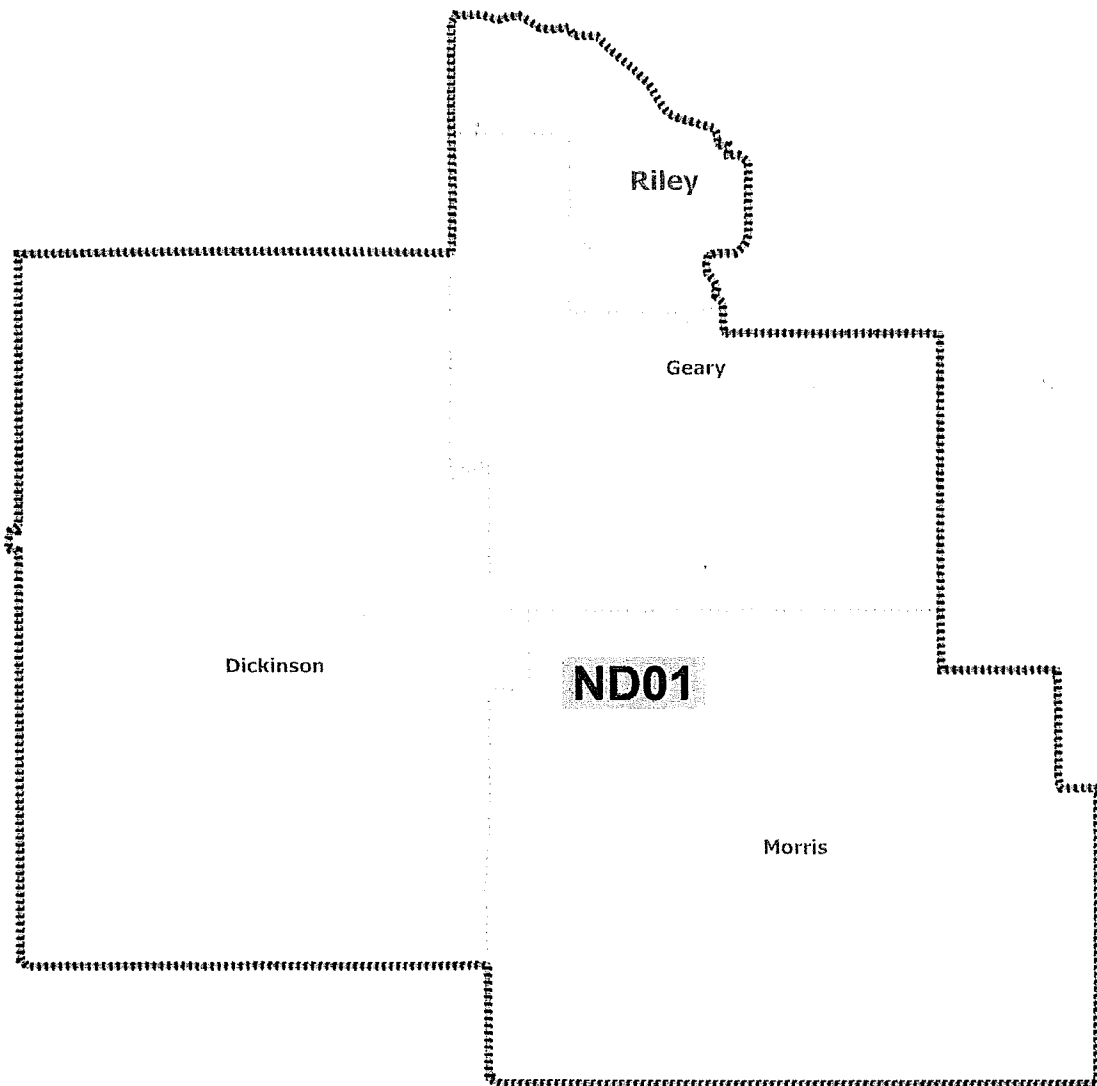
Kansas Legislative Research Department, 9/28/11, JCGC Senate 7 ND01 Only.lay

10-2

# JCGC Proposed Senate (A)

## JCGC Senate 5

ND01



District	Adj_Population	Deviation	% Deviation
ND01	68772	-2,214	-3.12%

Note: Population of districts does not meet ideal population deviation criteria.

## Testimony before the Special Committee on Redistricting

September 30, 2011

Good afternoon, Chairman Owens and Members of the Committee. I am Barbara Craft, former Representative of the 65<sup>th</sup> District in the Kansas House.

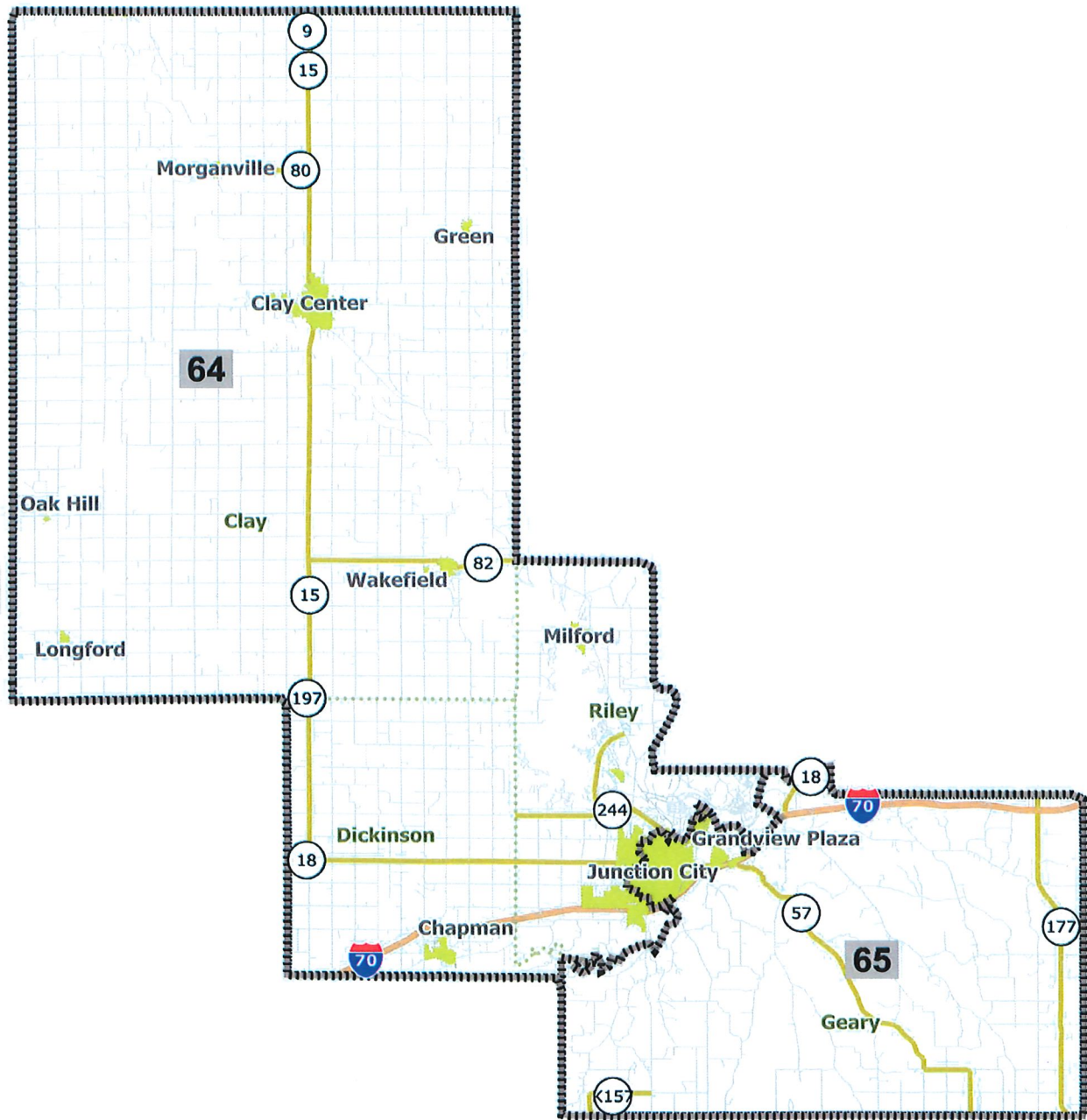
I am here as a community-at-large representative for the Junction City/Geary County area. Three of us will be making remarks today that reflect the discussion at a public meeting held in Junction City recently. We are all in agreement on the wishes of our community.

**First, consider the 64<sup>th</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> House Districts.** The population of the 65<sup>th</sup> District, which contains most of Geary County, is only 0.2% away from the ideal number. Your committee may consider leaving this existing district as is. However, the 64<sup>th</sup> District, which contains the western portion of Geary County, is 9,310 people over the ideal number. It would make sense to bring northwestern Geary into the 65<sup>th</sup> with the rest of Geary County and drop off the two townships in Wabaunsee County that are currently in the 65<sup>th</sup>. We hope this change can be made to the extent possible within the 5% overage that is allowed.

**Second, the Congressional level.** Geary County is currently in the 1<sup>st</sup> District. We were moved into the 1<sup>st</sup> District ten years ago following the 2000 census. While our issues differ in many respects from the mostly rural counties of the Big First, we are pleased that two members of the Kansas Congressional delegation represent Fort Riley and the surrounding area. We would like to stay in the 1<sup>st</sup> District. Our major concern is that we want our county to remain **undivided** through the redistricting process. Since we are such a unique county in Kansas in terms of economic diversity, population growth, school funding, and transient residents, we would be strongly opposed to having our county divided among two or more districts.

**Third, our biggest concern is the 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District.** Because of the population growth, it is necessary for the district to be reduced by 18.8% to reach the ideal number. It is obvious that Geary County and Riley County cannot both remain in the 22<sup>nd</sup> District. We propose that new lines be drawn to include the counties of Geary, Dickinson, and Morris, and a large portion of Fort Riley in a Senate district (Map, JCGC Senate-A). This configuration would offer a number of advantages: (a) all three counties would be whole (2) all three counties are contiguous; (3) there would be no incumbent senators residing in this district; (4) many people in these counties work at Fort Riley; (5) these counties all receive impact aid for military students; (6) there would be one large population center instead of two or more; and (7) agriculture issues are important in these counties. Please give strong consideration to this proposal – we think it has real merit! A second map (JCGC Senate-B) is offered as an alternative option.

# JCGC House 1



District	Adj_Population	Deviation	% Deviation
64	23694	978	4.31%
65	21997	-719	-3.17%

11-2