

**Jake P. Benson**  
Proctor City Councilor  
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Minnesota House of Representatives  
Committee on Redistricting  
100 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Redistricting

Chair Rep. Mary Murphy and Committee Members,

As the process of Redistricting continues I appreciate the work of the committee to ensure everyone is represented at the Capitol. While the process of redistricting is exciting it also brings anxiety.

I would have participated in the public input session for Congressional District 8, however we had a city council meeting that conflicted with providing oral testimony. I offer a request to preserve "Communities of Interest" when redrawing State Senate District 3 and House District 3B.

Proctor is not Duluth. The City of Proctor, and its schools district (ISD 704) has more in common with its surrounding communities of the Townships of Midway, Solway, Grand Lake, Hermantown and Bay View Heights. While Bay View is in Duluth it has more in common with Proctor. It is in the Proctor school district, residents attend Proctor churches and subscribe to their local newspaper, the Proctor Journal.

While Proctor's population has stabilized we feel it is not in the city's interest to fold our community into a city that may not ensure equal representation.

Many of the concerns our citizens' face is different than Duluth. Combining Proctor into the same legislative district as Duluth could hinder and possibly silence our voice. I would propose to include all of Duluth proper to make up the new District 7.

We appreciate your consideration in keeping Proctor in SD3 and HD3B.

Sincerely,

Jake P. Benson  
Councilor  
City of Proctor