

## Testimony - Glenda

Thank you to Representative Mary Murphy and everyone involved for hearing my testimony and the issues that are most important to me. The issue of Congressional redistricting is very important because how this district is drawn will affect who our representatives are. The representatives in my community and all communities need to step up to address living conditions and acknowledge that some members of the community, like myself, are living in fear. My name is Glenda Golden and I am a resident of Autumn Ridge Apartments in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, 55428, and unfortunately I have encountered rodents, roaches on the walls, and living in fear because strangers are easily let into the building and the outside door is propped open every single day. I am approaching the age of a senior at 63-years-old and would never wish anyone of senior age or near senior age to live in these conditions. I am hurting and stressing out every day living where I am, and have never had to live in fear before.

I am asking that Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center, along with other Northwest suburbs of Minneapolis, have their districts drawn together so that we can fight these issues as a group. We hope to elect representatives who put down strong regulations and penalties against apartments that take advantage of people and don't give them basic living conditions.

I encourage representatives to see that the third Congressional district includes places like my neighborhood that have been overlooked, and that we don't have enough maintenance people here to cover all the residents. We also have violence in the area. Sometimes these incidents are ignored in favor of other parts of the district but we are part of it too.

It appears that everyone has a story out here. Everyone has a story about the upkeep and the shortage of maintenance, because we have needs that aren't being met. The people in my area have discovered a nightmare here, and representatives don't always see this part of the district. I am wondering when representatives will step up and have a conference meeting out here to see the people and the needs of the people, like they do in other areas of the district.

We are humans and no one should have to be subject to violence and living conditions that cause fear without even being told what they are getting into. These issues can be addressed if representatives in the third Congressional district start looking more toward areas like Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Center, and parts of Minneapolis more than they are now.

Deposits in the area and high credit scores result in residents having to pay double the deposit or sometimes not being allowed to live in the place they want to live in. These rules make it much harder for residents to go to other places and get better living arrangements, leaving us stuck.

Another issue that is unique to my area is that housing authorities won't pay rent for Section-8 housing, the way they do in other areas like Minnetonka. In many southwestern Minneapolis suburbs or rural areas, housing authorities would pay the rent, but not in my neighborhood or the surrounding areas.

I am worried that in the mapping process, we are bumped off of the nice places, included in a district where other people get a lot of government attention where we are ignored.

Thank you to Representative Mary Murphy and everyone present today who has taken the time to hear my story and my worries. I am hopeful that we can work together to address the issues

in peoples' lives and solve problems that have been hurting my community and its people for too long.