

LETTER TO MINN HOUSE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE – 09-20-2021

Dear Chair Murphy and Committee Members;

I live in East Bloomington Minnesota, in CD3. There are two things that I wanted to say re redistricting specific to where I live and the fair redistricting rules.

One is that I spend the majority of my time – shopping at small businesses and malls, doctors and medical facilities, going to parks, friends, social events, etc. in Bloomington and Edina. It is what I consider a "natural flow" between the 2 cities so I'd like to see them in the same congressional district. This would fit the compactness and contiguity focus of Minnesota fair redistricting.

Going from Bloomington to Edina is a few short miles. Unlike other CD3 testifiers, I am very unlikely to go 10 miles south to Burnsville, Apple Valley, etc. Why go 10 miles when you only have to go 2 miles from Bloomington, to the next-door city, Edina, to go shopping, etc. France Ave in Edina is where a lot of my friends and neighbors shop.

The second thing is that I live in an apartment building in Bloomington, which has many types of people: whites, African American, Asian, Arab/Muslin, Hispanic. We also have variety in ages and work - many seniors retired (I am one), working people mostly in their 40s and 50s, some young people in their 20s, some families, many single people. I think this is a great mix that represents the district and the Twin Cities area well. I don't know how that affects redistricting but I thought it might be helpful for you to know the situation for many apartment buildings at least in Bloomington. I think it likely illustrates the idea of a community of interest and also addresses the need for minority populations in Minnesota be recognized in this year's redistricting process.

I am very happy and thankful that the House Redistricting Committee is making this an open and fair process that citizens can be involved in.

Sincerely,  
Dory Shonagon  
Bloomington, Minnesota  
CD3