

WASHINGTON STATE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

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VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF

PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING

RE: 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VIA ZOOM

Consisting of pages 1 to 42

June 22, 2021

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Taken Before:

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17 NOTE:

18 (indiscernible) = words heard but not understood

19 (phonetic) = phonetic spelling of name

20 (as read) = not an exact quotation of  
document, paraphrased or not  
verified with source document

21  
22 (audio disruption) = digital platform audio feed  
break or garbled transmission

23

(allotted time elapsed) = Two minutes of time allowed per  
24 person ran out; testifier's  
audio was muted

25

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at  
2 7:30 p.m., before Sue E. Garcia, Washington State  
3 Certified Court Reporter, residing at Tacoma,  
4 Washington, the following proceedings were had, to wit:

5

6

\* \* \* \* \*

7

8

CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Good evening, everyone.

9

I'm Sarah Augustine, Chair of the Washington State

10

Redistricting Commission. I would like to welcome all

11

of you to this public outreach meeting, the eighth one

12

of this 2021 redistricting cycle.

13

The topic of discussion tonight is Congressional

14

District 10 and the legislative districts included

15

within the 10th District.

16

I'll have more to say about that later. But first

17

let's kick things off with a video message from the

18

commissioners.

19

Maria?

20

(Video playing.)

21

22

CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you, Maria.

23

To those of you from the public who are joining us

24

this evening, welcome again. It is my goal as chair to

25

facilitate a process that is as participatory, fair,

1 and equitable as is possible. I will endeavor to  
2 engage communities across Washington as fully as I can  
3 and to hear and address your concerns and requests.

4 Throughout our tenure as commissioners we will  
5 hear public comments that are important, and we will  
6 listen to you. I will do my best to synthesize the  
7 comments, and we will endeavor to respond as we're  
8 able.

9 Still, it is possible that you will bring forward  
10 in your public comment ideas, requests, and injustices  
11 that we may not be able to address. We will certainly  
12 deliberate on the issues where we do have jurisdiction.  
13 Where we don't, I will do my best to refer you to those  
14 who may be able to respond more effectively.

15 I want to begin by reviewing the purpose and  
16 values of the commission. Together as a commission we  
17 have agreed on the following values and mission:

18 To provide an open, transparent, and credible  
19 process that is grounded in statute and where all  
20 voices are welcome and there is access for everyone;

21 To conduct ourselves with transparency, respect,  
22 and civility, where commissioners will participate and  
23 negotiate in good faith;

24 And to meet the deadline outlined by law;

25 And to produce the best possible maps.

1           You may be aware that because of the pandemic this  
2           redistricting cycle promises to be a challenging one.  
3           While we should have received the data from the Census  
4           Bureau that we need to begin redistricting by  
5           April 1st of this year, we don't expect to have that  
6           data until late August.

7           Nonetheless, in late April the Census Bureau did  
8           deliver to the President and the nation the  
9           apportionment data, which told us which states would  
10          gain seats in the U.S. Congress and electoral college  
11          and which would not.

12          Based on that data we know that in the last decade  
13          the population of our state grew by 14.6 percent and  
14          added approximately 1 million residents. Despite that  
15          population growth, it did not change the number of  
16          congressional seats we are entitled to. Washington  
17          will continue to have ten representatives in the U.S.  
18          House of Representatives.

19          Based on the population growth in the state, our  
20          job as the redistricting commission is to distribute as  
21          equally as is practical the population among ten  
22          congressional districts and 49 legislative districts.

23          Based on the census data from April, Washington  
24          had a population of 7,705,281 residents as of April 1,  
25          2020. Therefore, we need to draw ten new congressional

1 districts that are compact, contiguous, and convenient,  
2 and made up of approximately 770,528 residents, and 49  
3 new legislative districts that are also compact,  
4 contiguous, and convenient, and made up of  
5 approximately 157,251 residents.

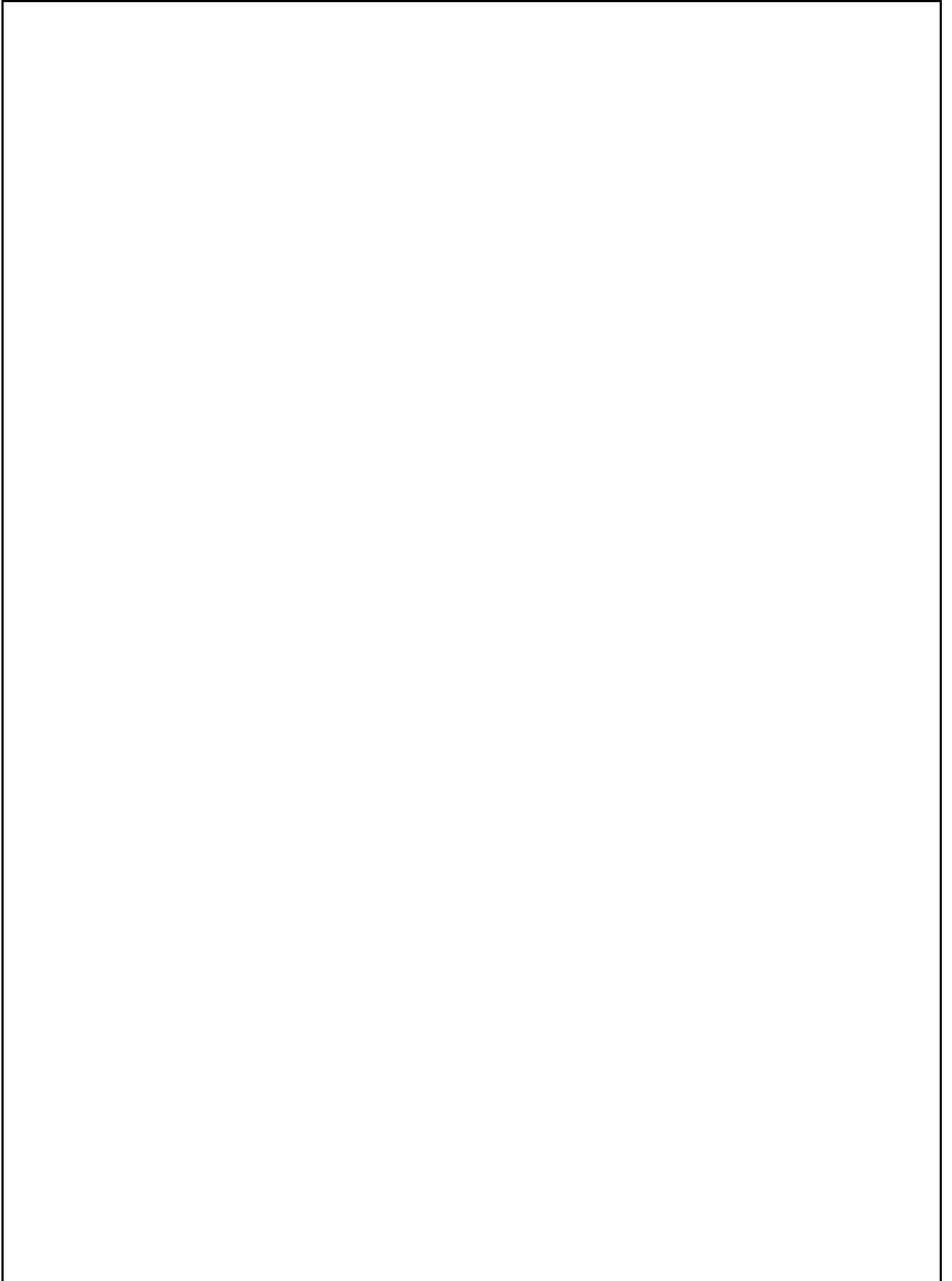
6 Statute also instructs us, as much as it is  
7 practical, to minimize drawing district lines that cut  
8 through counties, municipalities, and communities of  
9 interest. And the commission is committed to applying  
10 these principles while we try to create equally  
11 proportioned districts.

12 So while we know the overall population of the  
13 state according to the census, we don't yet know the  
14 particulars of percentage growth across neighborhoods  
15 and counties. State population estimates of the last  
16 ten years do give us a relative good idea of where our  
17 7.7 million residents live and which districts will  
18 need to get larger in area to add more residents and  
19 which districts will need to get smaller in order to  
20 shed residents. As we add or subtract neighborhoods  
21 for one district, it will cause the need to make  
22 corresponding adjustments to the neighboring districts.

23 To show you broadly, Maria, can you please put up  
24 the first map?

25 This map shows Washington state and its ten





1 congressional districts. The darker the brown color,  
2 the more the district needs to grow in size, and the  
3 darker the teal color, the more the district needs to  
4 shrink in size.

5 So regarding the topic of discussion today, the  
6 10th Congressional District, the map indicates that the  
7 10th Congressional District, according to state  
8 population estimates, has slightly less residents than  
9 the needed 770,000 residents to make it proportional.  
10 Depending on the final numbers we get from the Census  
11 Bureau, it looks like this congressional district may  
12 have to gain a few residents.

13 Now, slide, please, Maria.

14 The 10th Congressional District includes all of  
15 Legislative District 22 and parts of Legislative  
16 Districts 2, 20, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, and 35.

17 Based on state population estimates, we can see  
18 that the 2nd and the 22nd and the 31st have more  
19 than the 157,000 residents at a each district should  
20 have, while districts 20, 27, 28, 29, and 35 have less  
21 than the needed 157,000 residents.

22 Thank you, Maria.

23 So that's just a brief overview the challenge that  
24 your redistricting commission faces this year. In  
25 essence, commissioners have to create a new puzzle out

1 of the state, and the puzzle pieces have to contain  
2 nearly exactly the same population. As we make one  
3 puzzle piece smaller, its adjacent puzzle pieces will  
4 need to absorb those additional areas, meaning every  
5 time a boundary is moved it creates a cascade of  
6 changes in surrounding districts.

7 I was at a conference last week where Secretary of  
8 State Kim Wyman likened our task as similar to solving  
9 a Rubik's cube, which is quite an apt analogy.

10 So the purpose of our meeting tonight is to listen  
11 to your input about your community and how to ensure  
12 that the districts are fairly balanced in terms of  
13 population but also represent shared communities of  
14 interest. The commission may not be able to meet every  
15 interest. But as commissioners try to weigh the  
16 trade-offs inherent in this process, your opinions are  
17 welcome and vital.

18 This evening we have more than 40 individuals who  
19 have signed up to testify. We're going to invite  
20 individuals in groups of four to testify. Each  
21 individual will have two minutes to offer their  
22 comment. After four people have testified, we will see  
23 if the commissioners have any questions for the four  
24 testifiers, and then we will move on to the next group  
25 of testifiers.

1           With that summary, Sean, let's begin. Please call  
2 the first panel.

3           Sean, your audio is down.

4           MR. MURRAY: I apologize for that, Chair.

5           We will begin with Jani Hitchen, Roxy Giddings.  
6 Julian Wheeler, and Senator Steve Conway.

7           Jani, if you can begin your testimony by turning  
8 on your video, unmuting, and starting.

9           CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Welcome.

10          MS. J. HITCHEN: Good evening.

11          Today I would like to ask that when looking at the  
12 10th Congressional District that we pay careful  
13 attention to how the changes could impact our military  
14 community.

15          I live in the 29th Legislative District, which  
16 has a little bit of that area. And the 28th holds  
17 quite a bit. And then you jump down to Thurston  
18 County, and a portion of that is held. And it's all  
19 under the 10th Congressional District.

20          And right now the majority of our base and  
21 veterans hospital and community partners that work  
22 directly with the military are predominately in the  
23 10th District boundaries.

24          Though I'm not sure how far in one direction or  
25 other the lines can move, keeping our military

1 community together makes a great deal of sense when it  
2 comes to advocacy. Our communities which serve our  
3 active-duty, retired-to-a-new-career, and veterans that  
4 live within the 10th District work together to support  
5 this unique community and their special needs. And  
6 they've done a lot of work. And I want to keep  
7 supporting that. And I think if we were to break that  
8 up, it would be a challenge to continue to do that good  
9 work.

10 I can't see how you could redraw the map where any  
11 of these key areas like DuPont, Lacey, and Lakewood  
12 would not be in the same congressional district as our  
13 base. However, I don't exactly know how those lines  
14 get chosen. So being able to provide this information  
15 and just say that having our military families and the  
16 supports for them in the same congressional district  
17 allows us to put them under the same umbrella at the  
18 congressional level and allows the communities that  
19 support them to work together as a whole unit.

20 Thank you.

21 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
22 your comments.

23 Sean, if you'd please call the next speaker.

24 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely.

25 I see, Roxy, your camera is on.

1           It looks like they are trying to work something  
2           out.

3           So we will move on to Julian Wheeler, if you can  
4           turn on your video and begin your testimony.

5           Julian, we cannot hear you.

6           Julian?

7           MR. J. WHEELER: Julian testing 1, 2.

8           MR. MURRAY: Yeah. There we go. Thank you  
9           so much. Yes, we can hear you.

10          MR. J. WHEELER: Oh, you can. Okay. I guess  
11          I had to unplug my headphone in order to get the -- my  
12          voice to work here.

13          Julian Wheeler, resident of Lakewood and 28th --  
14          rather, 29th LD and 10th Congressional District,  
15          formerly a resident of the 28th when I was active  
16          duty.

17          I just wanted to second the comment made earlier  
18          by Councilmember Hitchen and to ask for keeping the  
19          community of interest together featured by active-duty  
20          and their families, active-duty military.

21          But I just wanted to also add to the support for  
22          finding a way to bolster the voice of other communities  
23          of interest, such as students, and I'm thinking  
24          particularly of college students.

25          And another community of interest I would mention

1 is that of, as far as is able to be determined  
2 geographically, people with disabilities since people  
3 who know me as chair of the Pierce County Accessible  
4 Communities Advisory Committee, they know that I am  
5 concerned about making it possible for people to have  
6 better access to the various local facilities.

7 And I think that maybe you could make the district  
8 more accessible. I mean, first of all, it's an open  
9 question: How would you do that? I would suggest  
10 making the -- you know, join the lines in a way that  
11 include a facility with its -- with much of its  
12 constituency or its users, end users.

13 So I just want to thank you very much and --  
14 because I know there are some cities that have  
15 significant gradients, downtown business districts,  
16 that are difficult for people to get around. So maybe  
17 having them -- a district where it's easy for a  
18 resident to go to a community function that would be in  
19 their same jurisdiction. I know that it's probably a  
20 tall order and there's no perfect way to do it. But --

21 (Allotted time elapsed.)

22 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. I'm sorry that  
23 your time has run out. But we would love to see your  
24 written comment if you would send that to us via email.  
25 And please stay on in the event that commissioners have

1 a question or comment for you after the panel.

2 Sean, if you'd call the next speaker, please.

3 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely.

4 We have Roxy Giddings. I see your video on, if  
5 could you unmute and begin your testimony.

6 MS. R. GIDDINGS: Yes. I just got a call  
7 from Steve Conway. He's having trouble getting on. I  
8 don't know why. But he wanted me to tell you that he's  
9 having trouble getting on.

10 I wanted to say that the Parkland area out here  
11 next to McChord on the east side has been split into  
12 three pieces, and we're having a terrible time with  
13 representation because we have too many people. And  
14 so -- and our -- our area's growing. And we need to be  
15 put into the Parkland area again and not split up.

16 So -- and it -- and we connect with Spanaway  
17 and . . .

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible.)

19 MS. R. GIDDINGS: -- the land-use planning  
20 that's going on about us is -- they're trying to make  
21 us high density. And we have some that is high and  
22 some that isn't. So we'd like to be together.

23 That's it.

24 Maybe you could get connected with Steve somehow.

25 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate



1 your comments. And we're -- I have staff working on  
2 that right now.

3 Thank you.

4 Sean, if you'd like to call the next speaker.

5 MR. MURRAY: Yes, Chair. So the next speaker  
6 is supposed to be Senator Conway. I believe that his  
7 legislative assistant is using his login link.

8 As a friendly reminder to everyone, each link is  
9 only able to be used once.

10 And so that is probably the issue. So we will  
11 also email Senator Conway and make sure that that's  
12 clear.

13 But that will also be the end of this panel.

14 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. Great.

15 At this time I would like to ask the commissioners  
16 if you have questions or comments for the members of  
17 this panel.

18 Commissioner Graves.

19 COMMISSIONER GRAVES: Thanks very much, Madam  
20 Chair.

21 Thanks to all of you for coming and giving us some  
22 time and testifying tonight. I just wanted to say a  
23 special thanks to Julian for your service to our  
24 country and then also for your advocacy for those with  
25 disabilities. That means a lot.

1 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you.

2 Other members of the commission?

3 (No audible response.)

4 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. Seeing none, I would  
5 like to excuse the panel. Thank you for being here.

6 We appreciate your willingness and your comments.

7 Sean, if you would call the next panel, please.

8 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair.

9 Our next panel will begin with Matthew Smith,  
10 Senator T'wina Nobles, Tracy Turner, and Alexander  
11 Lomas.

12 Matthew, if you can begin your testimony.

13 I see they're connecting now. Please begin your  
14 testimony.

15 If Matthew is not there, we will move on.

16 Oh, there we go. I see you. If you can begin  
17 your testimony by unmuting.

18 MR. M. SMITH: Okay. There we go.

19 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. Welcome.

20 MR. M. SMITH: All right. There we go. Good  
21 evening, everybody.

22 First of all, I'd like to thank each and every one  
23 of the commissioners for taking the job. This is a  
24 very arduous mission for you. And I look forward to  
25 seeing the new lines that we're going to draw.

1           So it seems like in the 10th Congressional  
2           District, being surrounded by the 6th and the 3rd, that  
3           the 6th and the 3rd are going to absorb some of the  
4           10th since it needs to shrink a little bit.

5           And how -- my question is: How are we going to --  
6           to really balance the -- the -- the seats between  
7           Democratic and Republican? It seems like if we lose  
8           the south end, we're going to -- we're going to grow  
9           more in the Democratic area.

10          It seems like you guys are going to have a  
11          tough -- some tough decisions there. And I sure --  
12          Senator Fain, I've seen you working with the Senate,  
13          and I know that you're -- you guys are going to do your  
14          best and -- you know, to redraw those lines.

15          But my question is: If we lose more of the rural  
16          areas in the south and west of our district, how are we  
17          going to continue to try to have equal representation  
18          in the district?

19          And last year it was 55:45, which isn't real  
20          close. But I surely would like to at least try to  
21          remain in that ratio.

22          So easy question: How are we going to balance  
23          this within the district if we lose the rural areas?

24          Thanks.

25                 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We sure

1 appreciate you taking the time to speak with us, and  
2 please stay tuned in the event the commissioners have  
3 another question or comment for you.

4 Sean, if you'd call the next speaker, please.

5 MR. MURRAY: Yes, Chair. We have Steve  
6 Conway to begin testimony.

7 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Welcome.

8 SENATOR S. CONWAY: Can you hear me here now?

9 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Yes.

10 SENATOR S. CONWAY: I'm on my telephone. We  
11 had some connection problems.

12 But I really have represented the 29th  
13 Legislative District for three decades, actually, and  
14 have been in this district a long time. Originally  
15 this district represented Parkland and south Tacoma.  
16 And south Tacoma, I will let you know, is a unique area  
17 of its own, not to be confused with Tacoma.

18 Eventually we inherited a little bit of Lakewood  
19 in the second decade. But in the last re-org they  
20 actually took south Tacoma away from the 29th  
21 Legislative District, which gave us half of -- south  
22 Tacoma was divided in two. And I think that violates  
23 the state law or at least the guidance that the  
24 redistricting commission has in trying to retain  
25 interested areas.

1           They also divided up another area that we  
2           represented forever, Parkland. They drew the line, and  
3           half of Parkland was on one side of Pacific, and on the  
4           other side of Pacific was the 29th Legislative  
5           District. That to me is really --

6           I'm hoping that this redistricting commission will  
7           pay a little bit more emphasis on communities of  
8           interest. It doesn't make sense for the 29th  
9           district to, you know, be partly representing these  
10          areas when we should be actually representing them as a  
11          whole.

12          The foundation of the 29th District probably --  
13          given the fact that we will probably have to add  
14          numbers, is basically south Tacoma, Parkland, and  
15          Spanaway. And I can't help but feel that efforts to --  
16          to -- in the last redistricting they paid no  
17          interest -- no emphasis on communities of interest.  
18          And I -- the law says very clearly that the commission  
19          needs to do that and --

20                                 (Allotted time elapsed.)

21           CHAIR AUGUSTINE: I'm sorry. Your time has  
22           lapsed. We're thankful that you're here. And please  
23           stay through the end of this panel.

24           Sean, if you'd call the next speaker, please.

25           MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair.

1 Alexander Lomas, if you can begin your testimony.

2 I see your video's on.

3 MR. B. ANTON: Yeah. I would like to mention  
4 Alex couldn't be here tonight. So he called me to  
5 speak for him a little bit.

6 But I think one of the concerns he'd like me to  
7 bring up --

8 And, first of all, I would like to second a lot of  
9 what Steve said. There is a really tight-knit  
10 community between Parkland and south Tacoma and  
11 Spanaway. And that does need to be brought together.  
12 So I would like to second that.

13 But then I'd also like to mention, if we are going  
14 to have to shrink the district a little bit, I think  
15 there's a really close community between a lot of the  
16 north and the west in the 10th that I don't necessarily  
17 see with the south.

18 I understand the concerns about -- I understand  
19 the concerns about wanting partisan balance and not  
20 wanting to mess any of that up. But there is -- as  
21 Mr. Conway spoke to, there are communities of interest  
22 that you need to be keeping together. And I think we  
23 see communities of interest in the north part of 10th,  
24 like if you took off more of the north and split away  
25 some of south Tacoma from the district, I see those as

1 communities of interest that would be being broken up  
2 that are really tight knit.

3 You saw the mayor of Tacoma -- the former mayor of  
4 Tacoma, Marilyn Strickland, be elected to represent the  
5 10th, and she -- as the mayor of Tacoma, she  
6 represented more of that northern, northeastern area.  
7 And so I think there's a really tight -- tight  
8 connection there.

9 And honestly, I don't think that a lot of members  
10 of the 10th would feel fairly represented by being in  
11 the 9th despite a lot of those in north Tacoma. They  
12 see themselves as -- not out any disrespect to the 9th,  
13 but as different community and just a different --  
14 different group of interest.

15 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We sure  
16 appreciate your comments and your willingness to join  
17 us this evening.

18 Sean, if you'd call the last member of this panel,  
19 please.

20 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair.

21 Before we move on, can I get the last speaker's  
22 name for the record? I know that you signed in for  
23 someone else.

24 The other --

25 MR. B. ANTON: Oh, yeah. Sorry.

1 MR. MURRAY: Yeah. Can I get your name for  
2 the record?

3 MR. B. ANTON: Yeah. I didn't realize I  
4 turned on my mute.

5 I Brett Anton.

6 MR. MURRAY: Thank you so much.

7 MR. B. ANTON: B-r-e-t-t A-n-t-o-n.

8 MR. MURRAY: Thank you so much.

9 And then for the last individual of this, we will  
10 go to Tracy Turner.

11 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Welcome.

12 MS. T. TURNER: Yeah. I am Tracy Turner, and  
13 I'm in the 39th District, with the June Robertson.

14 And, you know, my concern is for people -- 'cause  
15 I have -- people with disabilities. You know, if we --  
16 I think they -- we need to not have -- you know, I  
17 would like to see if I can stay in the -- you know,  
18 have the 39th District because the neighborhood that  
19 I'm in is close to community. But we need to have  
20 like -- you know, to have, you know -- if we can stay  
21 in the same district but not, you know, divide us.

22 And that -- you know, that -- that's just my  
23 concern.

24 And thank you for letting me come tonight.

25 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you very much. We



1 appreciate your words. Thank you for taking the time  
2 to be here.

3 MS. T. TURNER: Yes.

4 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Sean, it looks like you're  
5 going to add a person to this panel. Is that right?

6 MR. MURRAY: Yes, Chair. Originally we had  
7 the four individuals, and then we were trying to get  
8 back to Senator Conway.

9 And now we can go to Senator Nobles. And you can  
10 begin your testimony.

11 SENATOR T. NOBLES: Thank you. It's so great  
12 to be here tonight. And thank you all for your work  
13 making sure that we equitably create the new 10th.

14 I do want to just amplify some of the comments  
15 that have already been made to make sure that we think  
16 about our military families and our military community  
17 and also that we are considering our communities of  
18 interest, that we are thinking about our cultural  
19 groups and doing our very best to keep those groups  
20 together.

21 Everything else that I could think about has been  
22 shared in previous testimony. But, again, thank you  
23 all for taking on this task and for your hard work and  
24 dedication and just for listening to the community  
25 tonight.

1 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We really  
2 appreciate you taking the time to be here.

3 So at this point I'd like to ask the members of  
4 the commission if you have questions or comments for  
5 the members of this panel.

6 (No audible response.)

7 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Seeing none, I would like  
8 to thank the members of the panel for choosing to be  
9 here, taking the time to be with us tonight. Thank you  
10 for your words. And you're excused.

11 And, Sean, if you would please call the next  
12 panel.

13 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair. We are going  
14 to begin with Michael Brandstetter, Elizabeth Scott,  
15 Leeroy Perkins, Frances Blair.

16 Michael, if you can turn on your video and begin  
17 your testimony.

18 Michael, are you there?

19 MR. M. BRANDSTETTER: Certainly hope so.

20 MR. MURRAY: We can hear and you see you. If  
21 you can point your camera a little bit lower, we'll be  
22 able to see you better. And you can begin your  
23 testimony. Thank you.

24 MR. M. BRANDSTETTER: Well, first of all, I  
25 just want to thank the commissioners for taking on

1 this -- in your efforts on this important task.

2 I'm Michael Branstetter. I'm a city council  
3 member from the City of Lakewood. And we are currently  
4 served by the 28th and the 29th District, and we are  
5 within the 10th Congressional District.

6 I would say that, with respect to the 10th  
7 Congressional District, I would echo the comments  
8 about, you know, one of the commonalities of the  
9 citizens up and down has to do with the relationship  
10 with JBLM. And I would urge the commissioners to  
11 continue to keep the axis of the 10th District along  
12 I-5 from south Tacoma down into Thurston County, where  
13 communities up and down, let's have that.

14 With respect to the legislative districts,  
15 Lakewood has been well served by having both  
16 representation in the 28th and 29th District. The  
17 eastern portion of our city has much in common with the  
18 areas of Parkland and Spanaway and the unincorporated  
19 areas to the east of us. And the western portion of  
20 our city, which is in the 28th, has much in common  
21 with the municipalities that are to our north, south,  
22 and west. And we would like to sort of see that  
23 retained so that the interests of both areas of our  
24 city are meshed with others in their state district.

25 And that's -- that concludes my comment.

1                   CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
2 your time. Thanks very much.

3                   Sean, if you would call the next speaker.

4                   MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair. We had  
5 several individuals drop off from that last panel. So  
6 we've added some.

7                   We will next begin with Frances Blair, if could  
8 you turn on your video and begin your testimony.

9                   MS. F. BLAIR: Oops. Okay.

10                  I live in Steilacoom, which means that I'm in the  
11 28th Legislative District, the 10th Congressional  
12 District, and the 6th County Council District. It  
13 would sure be nice if some of those lines all met  
14 together.

15                  Since I'm in the middle of the 28th and the  
16 middle of the 10th, I don't expect those -- my position  
17 to change. But on the edges I know you have access to  
18 those marvelous machines that do guesses of what  
19 populations. And so I assume that you will be making  
20 lots and lots of use with -- of those.

21                  It's nice to have boundaries go along natural  
22 things like mountaintops or streets or major divisions,  
23 also, instead of through the middle of a neighborhood.  
24 That's been done pretty well in the past, and I hope  
25 you'll continue to do that.

1 I think everything else I had to say has already  
2 been said. So thank you.

3 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
4 your comments and your time.

5 Sean, if you would call the next panel, please.

6 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair.

7 Our next panelist is going to be Heather Allred,  
8 if you can turn on your video, unmute, and begin your  
9 testimony, please.

10 MS. H. ALLRED: All right. Can you hear me?

11 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Yes. Welcome.

12 MS. H. ALLRED: Thank you. All right.

13 So basically I think I might have different  
14 perspective from what I've been hearing -- is --

15 The only lines I'm afraid of is if they're weird  
16 and wonky. I've seen some other states do things that  
17 I do not approve of. I've looked at Washington's past,  
18 and everything seems pretty -- pretty -- like a pretty  
19 normal grouping. And I'm -- I'm pretty happy.

20 So I -- you know, I hear a lot people saying, "Oh,  
21 we want to stay in our group." Well, sometimes the  
22 time is right to make new friends. You just --

23 I -- what I don't -- I just don't want to -- I'll  
24 be disappointed if I see some weird lines. That's  
25 basically what I'm watching for and won't be happy

1 with.

2 So thank you.

3 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
4 your time and your comments.

5 So, Sean, is that -- does that conclude this  
6 panel?

7 MR. MURRAY: We have one more, Chair.

8 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Oh, great. All right.  
9 Terrific. Thank you.

10 MR. MURRAY: Jon Febus, if you can turn on  
11 your video and begin your testimony, please.

12 MR. J. FEBUS: There we go. Hello. I  
13 appreciate the opportunity to comment on this  
14 redistricting of the 10th.

15 I am a resident of South Hill in the 10th  
16 Congressional District and the 25th Legislative  
17 District.

18 On a personal level, I am one block away from the  
19 8th. So I got moved from the 8th to the 10th just by  
20 one block.

21 I want to specifically draw your attention to the  
22 east boundary to the 10th District. The 25th and the  
23 western edge of the 35th District were moved from the  
24 8th District into the 10th. This resulted in our  
25 suburban votes being diluted by the urban populations

1 of Olympia and Tacoma. And the results of this  
2 dilution was evidenced by the fact that a Republican  
3 candidate was not on the final ballot of the 2010  
4 November election for the 10th District.

5 So, please, reconsider the eastern -- redrawing  
6 the eastern boundary of the 10th so that these two  
7 growing suburban population centers can be moved back  
8 into the 8th District, where we have been before 2010.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
11 your time and your comments.

12 And so I believe that concludes this panel. And  
13 so I'd like to ask the commissioners if you have  
14 questions or comments for the folks on this panel.

15 (No audible response.)

16 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. Seeing none, thank  
17 you for coming and spending your time us with this  
18 evening. We appreciate your comments. And you're  
19 excused, members of the panel.

20 And, Sean, if you would please call the next  
21 panel.

22 MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair. We're going  
23 to have Deryl McAfee, Andrew Noh, Jim Lazar, and Jimmie  
24 Farmer.

25 If we can begin with Deryl.

1 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you.

2 MR. D. McCARTY: It's McCarty.

3 Yeah. My name is Deryl McCarty. I am military,  
4 retired. And I'm going to echo the comments made  
5 several times that, inasmuch as you can --

6 And I have been on the redistricting committee for  
7 our county twice in the last 20 years. I know it's  
8 tough.

9 But the military is a community of interest  
10 because, having walked the streets and walked the walk,  
11 there are times when they are -- that one member of a  
12 family is deployed and the others are scared, and there  
13 are times when health crisis hits -- and I don't mean a  
14 COVID. Other kinds of crisis -- and it's really much  
15 easier that the community, inasmuch as possible, is  
16 concentrated in one congressional district.

17 I'd also make that point for the legislative  
18 districts. I just don't think you can get there from  
19 here. But you can try.

20 But the 10th, for example, however, to draw the  
21 lines, you may have to move them in a little bit from  
22 the north. But it should include the -- McChord, Fort  
23 Lewis -- I'm old school. Sorry, guys -- McChord, Fort  
24 Lewis, and the stuff south of the fort, underneath the  
25 fort between the fort boundaries, say, and Lacey and



1 over to Lakewood and all the way -- using basically  
2 Madigan General as the middle point and drawing a  
3 circle. I know you can't do that. But like that.

4 And I think at --

5 (Allotted time elapsed.)

6 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
7 sorry your time has elapsed. Please stay tuned and  
8 perhaps the commissioners will have questions or  
9 comments for you.

10 Sean, if you'd call the next speaker, please.

11 MR. MURRAY: Yes, I see Jim Lazar, if you can  
12 begin your testimony, please.

13 MR. J. LAZAR: Thank you. And thank you for  
14 having me.

15 I'm mostly concerned with the congressional  
16 districts and that only one district should cross the  
17 Cascades. No congress member should have to travel  
18 across the snowy mountains to connect their district.

19 So start in the northwest and work south along the  
20 Cascades, pull the 8th Congressional District into  
21 western Washington. That will push the 10th further  
22 south. The 3rd will be the only district to cross the  
23 Cascades.

24 Currently, you know, I mean, it goes into Skamania  
25 and Klickitat County. Now it will go further east, but

1           there's no snowy mountains to cross there. There is  
2           the Columbia gorge.

3           I think that will still enable you to keep  
4           communities together. I'm not sure that Chelan and  
5           Kittitas County particularly enjoy being represented by  
6           a western Washington person anyway.

7           Finally, I live in the 22nd District. I'm a  
8           little concerned about the shape of the little weird  
9           hook at the south end of the 35th Legislative  
10          District that hooks around Tumwater and comes and picks  
11          up my neighbors just a couple of blocks away and puts  
12          them in a district with Kitsap County. I hope that the  
13          35th can be made a little bit more rectangular than it  
14          is now.

15          But my real focus is that only one congressional  
16          district should cross the Cascades.

17          Ten years ago the commission offices were next  
18          door to my office in what was then the 1063 building.  
19          I enjoyed chatting with the commissioners then. It's  
20          nice to be able to see the commissioners now, but it's  
21          not quite the same.

22                   CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you very much. We  
23                   sure appreciate your testimony.

24                   Sean, if you'd call the next speaker, please.

25                   MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair.

1           Our next speaker will be Andrew. I see your  
2 video, if you can unmute and begin your testimony.  
3 Thank you.

4           MR. A. NOH: Sorry. Just no testimony to add  
5 or anything else. Just here to listen. Thank you.

6           CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. We appreciate  
7 you being here.

8           Sean, if you'd like to call the next speaker.

9           MR. MURRAY: Chair, that will be the end of  
10 this panel. Jimmie Farmer is having a Zoom issue  
11 getting transferred over.

12          CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Terrific.

13          So I want to ask the commissioners at this point  
14 if you have questions or comments for the folks on this  
15 panel.

16   (No audible response.)

17          CHAIR AUGUSTINE: All right. Seeing none,  
18 I'd like to thank the folks who testified. We sure  
19 appreciated you coming to be here us with. You're  
20 excused at this point.

21          And, Sean, if you'd call the next panel, please.

22          MR. MURRAY: Absolutely, Chair. Of the next  
23 individuals that we have are going to be Lin Crowley,  
24 Walter Jorgensen, and that will be the remainder of our  
25 testifiers today. And we are going to try to get back

1 to Jimmie Farmer if we're able to get that working.

2 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Great. Thank you, Sean.

3 MR. MURRAY: We can start with Lin Crowley.

4 MS. L. CROWLEY: Hi. Can you hear me?

5 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Yes. Welcome.

6 MS. L. CROWLEY: Wonderful. Thank you so  
7 much. And glad to be back. And thank you again for  
8 giving us the opportunity to speak to all of you. And  
9 thanks, of course, to all of the commissioners for your  
10 great work.

11 I am Lin Crowley. I live in the 35th  
12 Legislative District, which used to be the 22nd.

13 So while the things I have, you know, comments for  
14 today is similar to what -- the gentleman that spoke  
15 earlier. I think it's Jim Lazar who have talk about  
16 possibly having some of those lines to be drawn so it  
17 follows some kind of natural boundary, such as Yelm  
18 Highway, for example, you know, on the southeast side  
19 of Olympia. Right now it's drawn in such a way that it  
20 seems like they are being separated in a very unusual  
21 way. I'm not quite sure why that happened. So I like  
22 to see that being considered this time.

23 And then I also wanted to speak about the top  
24 portion of the Congressional District 10, which --  
25 really should consider maybe including more of the

1 Nisqually area because that will help the, I think, you  
2 know, community of color, including Native Americans,  
3 so that -- to be within this district. And I think  
4 that is something a lot of community members that I  
5 belong to kind of like to see happen. And I wanted to  
6 voice that interest to all of you.

7 Other than that, I don't have anything else to add  
8 because a lot of other things was already spoken about  
9 by others. So --

10 (Allotted time elapsed.)

11 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you. Thank you.  
12 Appreciate your time and your testimony.

13 Sean, if you'd like to call the next speaker.

14 MR. MURRAY: Yes, Chair. We're unable to  
15 move Walter Jorgensen. But we have allowed them to  
16 speak in the attendee panel.

17 Walter, if you can begin your testimony. I  
18 apologize that there won't be video.

19 Walter, are you able to begin your testimony?

20 I do not think they're able to actually contribute  
21 tonight, Chair.

22 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay.

23 MR. MURRAY: So that will be the last person  
24 who is signed up to testify, is in the meeting, and has  
25 not testified.

1 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. All right. Thank  
2 you.

3 So I will ask the commissioners, then, if you have  
4 questions or comments for Ms. Crowley.

5 (No audible response.)

6 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Okay. Seeing none, I would  
7 like to excuse you and thank you for taking the time to  
8 meet with us this evening. We appreciate it.

9 All right. Terrific.

10 And you are excused.

11 And I want to ask the commissioners if you would  
12 like to make concluding remarks to this meeting this  
13 evening.

14 Okay. Commissioner Graves.

15 COMMISSIONER GRAVES: Well, thanks,  
16 everybody, for showing up this evening and taking some  
17 of your time to come talk about maps and especially the  
18 communities of interest that matter to you. I thought  
19 it was really helpful testimony.

20 I know we're all a little bit frustrated that we  
21 don't have the official data so we can't have  
22 particular maps you're commenting on. But I can assure  
23 you that we're listening and we care deeply about what  
24 you've said tonight and we'll take it into account.

25 And I am especially grateful for the testifier who

1           said that it might be a good time to make new friends  
2           because that might be a good slogan for this commission  
3           and for all of us more generally this summer.

4                       CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you, Commissioner  
5           Graves.

6                       Commissioner Walkinshaw.

7                       COMMISSIONER WALKINSHAW: Going to echo  
8           Commissioner Graves' comments.

9                       Thank you all so much for putting the time in to  
10          coming out this evening and for sharing your insights.  
11          This is extraordinarily help as we work on this input  
12          and begin to move toward drawing the maps for the  
13          congressional and legislative districts.

14                      CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Great. Thank you,  
15          Commissioner Walkinshaw.

16                      Commissioner Simms.

17                      COMMISSIONER SIMMS: Just adding to the  
18          appreciation tonight. I'm a lifelong resident of the  
19          City of Destiny, and so I deeply appreciate my  
20          neighbors and community members providing comment  
21          tonight.

22                      I really want the public to know that the context  
23          that you shared along with the census data will provide  
24          direction for our work ahead. So deep appreciation for  
25          everyone for making the time, being flexible with the

1 schedule change, and coming out tonight to provide  
2 testimony. Thank you.

3 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you.

4 And Commissioner Fain.

5 COMMISSIONER FAIN: Thank you.

6 Also, just a thank-you to everyone. It's -- you  
7 know, no, part of the state is easy to draw, but there  
8 are some that are definitely harder than others. And I  
9 think the community that we talked about today has a  
10 lot of complexity in that there are a lot of tight  
11 urban areas that bleed into both rural and suburban  
12 areas without, you know -- without much warning.

13 And so communities of interest find themselves  
14 pulled into other communities that they don't feel that  
15 natural connection to, just as the requirement to make  
16 sure those populations of each district are equalized  
17 as much as possible.

18 But I also appreciate my colleague bringing up the  
19 quote of the night, which, maybe it's time to make new  
20 friends.

21 So great comments tonight. And, again, encourage  
22 everyone to go online and fill out the draft maps and  
23 mapping tool that we have available there here in the  
24 next few days.

25 CHAIR AUGUSTINE: Thank you, Commissioner



1 Fain.

2 I want to applaud the commissioners for your  
3 diligence and your commitment to your communities and  
4 to the state.

5 And I want to assure members of the public who are  
6 here, it's a privilege to get to interact with your  
7 voting commissioners each day and week. And each one  
8 of them is doing their best, using all of their energy  
9 and creativity and wisdom. They're putting those  
10 things to this task. And so I just want to assure you  
11 that this is a terrific commission, and I appreciate  
12 all of these commissioners.

13 Thank you for being here. Thank you for being  
14 flexible and for being here this evening and all that  
15 you give to the commission.

16 Also want to acknowledge the commission staff and  
17 all that you do to make these public meetings happen  
18 and especially for all of the outreach efforts that  
19 have gone on.

20 I would like to acknowledge our interpreters this  
21 evening, both Spanish language interpreters and  
22 American Sign Language interpreters that help us to  
23 keep our commitments to the public.

24 And finally, I would like to thank the court  
25 reporter who is helping us with the record this

1 evening.

2 And with that I would just call the meeting to a  
3 close. Thanks, everyone. Have a great evening.

4 (Proceedings concluded at 8:19 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SUE E. GARCIA, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, residing at Tacoma, authorized to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to RCW 5.28.010, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me on the 22nd of June, 2021, and thereafter transcribed by me by means of computer-aided transcription, that the transcript is a full, true, and complete transcript of said proceedings, consisting of pages 1 through 42;

That as a CCR in this state, I am bound by the Rules of Conduct as Codified in WAC 308-14-130; that court reporting arrangements and fees in this case are offered to all parties on equal terms;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any party to this action or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this July 5, 2021.

*Sue E. Garcia*

SUE E. GARCIA, CCR, RPR  
WA Lic. No. 2781



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A</b></p> <p><b>A-n-t-o-n</b> 23:7</p> <p><b>able</b> 6:8,11,14 10:14 12:14 14:1 16:9 25:22 33:20 35:1 36:19,20</p> <p><b>Absolutely</b> 12:24 15:3 17:8 20:25 22:20 25:13 27:4 28:6 30:22 33:25 34:22</p> <p><b>absorb</b> 10:4 18:3</p> <p><b>access</b> 6:20 14:6 27:17</p> <p><b>accessible</b> 14:3,8</p> <p><b>account</b> 37:24</p> <p><b>acknowledge</b> 40:16 40:20</p> <p><b>action</b> 42:10,11</p> <p><b>active</b> 13:15</p> <p><b>active-duty</b> 12:3 13:19,20</p> <p><b>add</b> 8:18,20 13:21 20:13 24:5 34:4 36:7</p> <p><b>added</b> 7:14 27:6</p> <p><b>adding</b> 38:17</p> <p><b>additional</b> 10:4</p> <p><b>address</b> 6:3,11</p> <p><b>adjacent</b> 10:3</p> <p><b>adjustments</b> 8:22</p> <p><b>admin@capitolp...</b> 1:24</p> <p><b>administer</b> 42:3</p> <p><b>ADMINISTRAT...</b> 2:11</p> <p><b>Advisory</b> 14:4</p> <p><b>advocacy</b> 12:2 16:24</p> <p><b>affirmations</b> 42:3</p> <p><b>afraid</b> 28:15</p> <p><b>ago</b> 33:17</p> <p><b>agreed</b> 6:17</p> 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