

Thank you for serving on the Special Committee for Redistricting and taking time to listen to my testimony. My name is Mary N. Boyle and I have been a voting resident of Cornish for 42 years. My father, who served in the Air Force for 33 years (Korean War and Vietnam War, may he rest in peace), instilled in me the importance of exercising and supporting the freedom to vote. I believe you share my commitment to uphold the integrity of voting by drawing the district maps representing Sullivan County and the other counties in New Hampshire by following a nonpartisan, transparent, and fair process.

Once the maps are drawn, I would like a second opportunity to review and comment on the maps you have drawn. This would reinforce a transparent process. My hope is that you will give strong consideration to the suggestions made by others on methods that would provide fair and nonpartisan maps.

Cornish passed warrant article 15 at Town Meeting June 8 this year and similar articles and resolutions were passed in 74 municipalities in NH supporting fair redistricting.

Cornish is closely connected to the communities of Claremont, south of us, and Plainfield, north of us, especially. Cornish is the home of many who have relatives from both Claremont and Plainfield. Some of our children elect to go to High School at Stevens High in Claremont. We shop in Claremont, go to restaurants there, go to church there, go to the hospital there, enjoy the parks, and this community center. Many people from our adjacent towns visit Saint-Gaudens Historic Park and avail ourselves to canoe, kayak, and fish along the Connecticut River. Our friends, neighbors, families, and relatives draw tourists to our connecting communities.

So you see, the impact of the way these maps are drawn affect the way we can voice our support for the people who live here. Our lives are deeply intertwined. We depend on you to help us continue to have our voices heard since our vote is our voice.

Thank you sincerely,
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