

LATFOR Public Hearings Excerpts

Plattsburgh, New York, 11/2/2011

Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, page 24

11 As the Assemblyman who represents 4 of
12 the 11 counties, I believe that it is important
13 to keep the North Country together as a single
14 congressional district and not split the region
15 possibly into two or three different districts.
16 If that were to happen, our
17 representation would be diluted and we would be
18 relying on members who are unlike to live or work
19 in the North Country.

Ray Scollin, page 41

18 Due to current population, the 23rd
19 Congressional District must change.
20 Specifically, the district needs to grow by more
21 than 50,000 people. I believe the best solution
22 is to keep the North Country intact and add the
23 remainder of Essex County and all of Fulton
24 County to the district.

Paul Maroun, Franklin County legislator, page 43

21 I've traveled the whole district. And this
22 district does not and should not be placed in
23 close proximity or on the edges or within a major
24 city.

4 I would suggest that you look strongly
5 at, and we should have never separated Essex
6 County, it should be one county and it should be
7 in our district. And to probably drift into more
8 of Fulton County would pick up your 53,000
9 people. I know there are cities there.
10 Assemblymen, you're going to have to figure a
11 little bit, and Johnstown and Gloversville, but I
12 think those people share the concerns that we do.
13 They're very close to the Adirondack Park. They

14 know the issues. Most of them have second homes
15 or have camps in the park. They hunt and fish
16 here.

Dom Lee, page 59

3 One of our concerns, though, is if you
4 split us up into one, two or three districts,
5 instead of going east/west like we are right now,
6 and you go north/south and you include some of
7 the cities and stuff like that, where do you
8 think our representation is going to be? Where
9 do you think the due diligence is going to be for
10 the politicians? Are they going to come up to
11 the North Country? Yeah, for vacation maybe.
12 But are they going to pay attention to us?
13 They're going to get their votes in the
14 metropolis areas and where the big industrial
15 areas are and us up here in the North Country
16 will not get the true representation that we
17 need.

Ron Jackson, page 77

15 So I think the important thing is the
16 commonality of it, both the border and the
17 ruralness of it, the farming which is hay, dairy,
18 maple syrup, apples. The whole North Country
19 here has a very similar economy. And it's very
20 important, we are rural, we are tourist, we are
21 different than the capitol, the central New York,
22 the Mohawk. Those are completely different
23 districts that border us, but their thoughts are
24 different, their way of life is different, their
interests are different.

10 If you want to balance it and get the
11 53,000 we need, if you add in parts of Fulton and
12 maybe the rest of Essex and take that belly out
13 of the elephant and add that part of Herkimer
14 County into it, I think you'd come up with the
15 53,000 and have a rural block and a
16 representative that truly is concerned with the

17 border, the farming, the tourism areas that you
18 would not have if you divide us up and put us
19 into three different districts.

Syracuse, New York, 7/19/11

Thomas Dadey, page 70

I believe

19 keeping Onondaga's representation under one
20 member of Congress is the best approach
21 considering that no matter how these new lines
22 are drawn Onondaga County's more than 500,000
23 residents would likely represent the lion share

2 of the constitutionally required 719,000+
3 residents. Due to our large population I believe
4 it would be a disservice to slice our county into
5 multiple parts because it would dilute our voice
6 in Congress and not accurately reflect the
7 concerns of this region.

Vita Demarchi, page 77

13 Syracuse is one of our State's significant
14 cities, as you said a metropolitan area. It is a
15 significant part of our county's identify and our
16 community's identify. It is a significant center
17 for Central New York. Segmenting the Central New
18 York hub area, Onondaga County could derail the
19 political social, and economic progress and goals
20 achieved for the people in this county over the
21 years.

Rochester, New York, 7/20/11

William Gerling, page 26

4 Also, if possible, please put the entire
5 City of Rochester or all of most of the County of
6 Monroe in the same Congressional District,
7 something which has not happened in more than 70
8 years.

Sandra Frankel, Town of Brighton Supervisor, page 106

8 It would make a
9 lot more sense, and we would have more effective
10 representation in Congress if the towns in Monroe
11 County that are now in Congressman Reed's
12 District were moved into Congresswoman
13 Slaughter's District because of the commonality
14 and the focused interest that that would provide.

Mark Assini, Town of Gates Supervisor, page 112

But I would like to ask for your
6 consideration in creating a Greater Rochester
7 Congressional District.

We have
12 enough population in this county to have a single
13 Congressional District

5 It's time to take action and give the
6 greater Rochester area its own Congressional
7 District.

Tony LaFountain, Town of Penfield Supervisor, page 135

2 Certainly having a sole
3 representative in Washington representing
4 Rochester/Monroe County would be something that
5 would be very positive.

Buffalo, New York, 8/18/11

Assemblyman Andrew Goodell, page 66

2 Although we border Erie
3 County, our demographics are dramatically
4 different. Erie County of course is much more
5 urban, which is probably why you decided to have
6 this meeting here rather than in Chautauqua
7 County, although you're always welcome to come
8 down and visit us.
9 We were always part of the southern tier
10 until the last reapportionment ten years ago.
11 While part of the southern tier, we've been ably
12 represented by both Republicans and Democrats.
13 In fact, this was the congressional district in
14 which Stan Lundine represented as a congressman
15 before becoming Lieutenant Governor under
16 Governor Cuomo. So we urge you to consider
17 reconnecting Chautauqua County with the southern
18 tier. The entire southern tier is connected not
19 only on a demographic basis, but on a
20 transportation basis with interstate 86 now

2 So when you look at the demographics and the
3 characteristics, I really hope that you put us
4 back in with the southern tier.