

Thank you, members of the LRAC commission and the State Legislature for creating a transparent process on the issue of redistricting, and for allowing testimony on this issue.

My name is Mayer Martin, and I am a resident of Annapolis, MD, and have lived in Maryland in both Annapolis, then Baltimore, and again now in Annapolis for 38 years.

I feel strongly that Andy Harris is a clear and present danger to our democracy and you need to do everything you can to reduce his chance of being re-elected, otherwise, the citizens of Maryland (as well as the Country) will suffer at the hands of a man who has taken up with the lawless, racist, anarchists who are working hard to tear our democracy to shreds.

Andy Harris voted against the certification of several states that President Biden won fair and square. We cannot give him the opportunity to overturn the 2024 election results.

Andy Harris helped stoke the violence that led to the insurrection on January 6th and has tried to minimize and cover up what happened that day.

Andy Harris voted against giving the Congressional Gold Medal to the Capitol Police officers that saved his life.

He has lost the right to serve in Congress. Unfortunately, none of the four proposed maps go far enough in reducing the risk of him from being re-elected again. Of the proposed draft maps, Map 3 is most acceptable, but even it is not substantial. In fact, Andy Harris told Fox News that all four maps would result in him being re-elected. That is an unacceptable outcome. You must do more to prevent an insurrectionist from serving in Congress.

I and many like-minded citizens want a competitive district to allow voters to render a verdict on Harris.

Andy Harris has been able to be re-elected time and again because the current First District nearly guarantees that he will for as long as he wants to be in Congress.

The current First District *intentionally* packs as many Republicans together as possible and Andy Harris has stood to benefit from that. We can't let him be able to coast to re-election any longer. A new First District must be more balanced and competitive so Harris is accountable to the people.

While not perfect, LRAC's Map #3 comes close to doing this, so I urge you to adopt a final map like this one.

I live in Anne Arundel County. The Eastern Shore and Anne Arundel/Annapolis are linked culturally and economically, so they should be together in the same district.

The Eastern Shore has too little population to be its own congressional district. Therefore, it must include portions of the Western Shore so that all of Maryland's districts are balanced by population. There are two options for the Eastern Shore to connect with the Western Shore: into Harford and Carroll Counties or into Anne Arundel County using the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, but I think the latter is the far better option because Anne Arundel County has so many more cultural and economic ties to the Eastern Shore than Carroll County does.

In fact, the latest data available from the Maryland Department of Labor shows that 9,000 residents from the five Upper Shore counties commute daily to Anne Arundel County. There are also thousands more who commute in the other direction.

The Bridge itself—and the potential for an additional span—demands that a single representative be sent to Congress to bring funding to our communities to alleviate traffic and promote economic growth on both sides of the Bridge.

Anne Arundel County has more shoreline on the Bay and its tributaries than any other county on the Western Shore. It should be in the same district as the Eastern Shore because both regions have the same economic and environmental interests in protecting the Bay.

These Counties/Areas must be redistricted in a manner that assures a balanced and fair representation of voters to avoid the death grip hold on democracy that Andy Harris has enjoyed for so many years, to the detriment of his district but also to the endangerment to our democracy.

Thank you for your time.

Mayer Martin

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