

Maryland General Assembly Special Session
Congressional Redistricting Hearing
December 6th, 2021
HB0002

Greetings to Delegates Barnes, Delegate Peña-Melynk, and the rest of the Rules & Executive Nominations Committee,

I am a resident of **District 21**, a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice Annapolis & Anne Arundel County ([SURJ3A](#)), and a member of the Anne Arundel County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People ([NAACP](#)). I am a nurse and a mother of two small children.

I am testifying in regards to congressional redistricting HB0002. I would like the finalized map to include a minority-majority district representing Anne Arundel County, as this would be reflective of the increasing minority population in our county. In 2000, the percentage of white census respondents not Hispanic or Latino was [79.8%](#), in 2010 [72.4%](#), and in 2020 it was down to [66.7%](#). That means minorities now make up a full one third of Anne Arundel County's population. Specifically, I am asking that the final proposed LRAC map keep the minority-majority district 4 that includes parts of AA County.

The recent National conversation has brought to light the racial disparities in this country. We have made a lot of progress, but minorities are still widely underrepresented in state and national politics. Blacks are 14.2% of the population but only make up 10% of state legislators, 13% in the US house of representatives, and 3% in the US Senate. Latinos are 18.7% of the population but just 5.3% of state lawmakers, 9% in the House, and 6% in the Senate. Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders are 6% of the population but are only 2% of state legislators, 3% in the House, and 2% in the Senate ([pbs.org](#) & [pewresearch.org](#)).

Let's continue to make progress and ensure that minorities have a voice and the power to elect those who represent them and their interests. That's why I am asking you to continue a minority-majority district in AA County. Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Roman
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