

Hi, my name is Jaki Hurwitz. I have lived in Neavitt, a very small village in Talbot County, for 12 years. I would like you to keep Neavitt together in the new district maps. Neavitt (zip code 21652) is located in western Talbot County, Maryland (2015c) on the Broad Creek Neck peninsula and is situated within Maryland's 1st congressional district. My community is a mixture of retirees, young families, and watermen. Some like myself, moved here from other areas to enjoy an eastern shore lifestyle and a small town sense of community. Others have long family histories here. We all live in single-family homes. Many of us belong to various community service groups in Talbot county and perform work at the interfaith shelters, churches, museums, and community centers such as the one in St Michaels. While Neavitt was originally a watermen village, it has become more diverse in terms of occupations; we have retired doctors, attorneys, public health officials, social workers, former and current federal employees, and librarians to name a few. My community is actively organized and we hold monthly events for the entire village such as pizza night, music events, picnics, flea markets, community caroling, and our own crab and oyster fest. These events are well attended by all groups in our community regardless of whether they are from here or came here. We also have a welcoming committee and have organized to help out some of our elderly residents should they require help getting to doctor appointments or food shopping. There are many elderly people within my community that need access to good healthcare and we are very hopeful that our district will have a new hospital and attract more doctors to serve us all.

Given how connected this community is to each other and the surrounding communities I support HB0488.

I want to thank the delegates and the members of the committee for allowing me this opportunity to testify.