

I AM ROBERT WINEGARDNER , I LIVE IN EARL TOWNSHIP, NEW HOLLAND PA. 17557.

I AM A RESIDENT OF THE 99TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, AND THE 36TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT, I AM HERE TODAY NOT TO GIVE YOU A MAP OR A LOT OF NUMBERS. I AM HERE TO ASK THIS COMMISSION IF YOU GAVE ANY CONSIDERATION TO THE LIKE- MINDED RESIDENTS KNOWN AS SENIOR CITIZENS. (65 AND OVER) MANY OF WHOM LIVE IN NURSING HOMES AND RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES. IT WAS HORRIBLE WATCHING OUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS IN NURSING HOMES AND RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES SUFFER AND DIE FROM COVID 19 BECAUSE A GOVERNMENT COMMISSION DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE LIFE-STYLE, AND LIKE MINDEDNESS OF THE GROUP REFERED TO AS SENIOR CITIZENS. TO NOW READ THAT THE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION IS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW MANY REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE FROM ONE PARTY OR THE OTHER AND TO READ THE COMMISSION'S CONCERN ABOUT BLACK DISTRICTS AND HISPANIC DISTRICTS, BUT NOT READ ANY THING ABOUT THE IMPACT THE REDISTRICTING WILL HAVE ON SENIOR CITIZEN'S LIFE-STYLE AND THE PROBLEMS IT WILL CAUSE THEM SEEMS LIKE "SAME BOOK DIFFERENT CHAPTER". DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES AND NURSING HOMES ARE IN LANCASTER COUNTY? DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY RETIREMENT COMUNITIES AND NURSING HOMES ARE IN THE 99TH DISTRICT? HAVE YOU CONSIDERED HOW DIFFICULT, CONFUSING AND UPSETTING IT WILL BE TO THIS GROUP OF SENIORS LIVING IN DISTRICT 99 AND LANCASTER COUNTY TO HAVE A NEW DISTRICT AND MAYBE A NEW DISTRICT OFFICE? THESE SENIORS HAVE COME TO LEARN WHO THEIR STATE REPRESENTIVE IS, WHERE THE DISTRICT OFFICE IS AND THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE OFFICE AND THE PEOPLE WORKING IN THAT OFFICE WHO HAVE AND WOULD CONTINUE TO HELP THEM

WHEN THEY HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THE STATE BEUREAUCRACY.THE IDEA THAT SENIOR CITIZENS LIVES WILL BE IMPACTED WITHOUT ANY CONSIDERATION IS JUST ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF OUR STATE'S FAILURE TO CARE ABOUT THIS LIKE-MINDED, LOVABLE, LOYAL GROUP ,OF BROTHERS, SISTER, AUNTS, UNCLES AND PARENTS. I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND THE COMMISSION THAT DISTRICT 99 AND LANCASTER COUNTY IS NOT ALONE IN THIS INJUSTICE. PENNSYLVANNIA HAS A VERY LARGE SENIOR POPULATION THAT VOTES AT ABOUT THE 65% LEVEL AND THEY ARE ANGRY ABOUT HOW THEY HAVE BEEN TREATED DURING COVID. WHEN THEY REALIZE WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN WITH THE REDISTRICTING, I WOULD NOT WANT TO BE RUNNING FOR REELECTION AS A MEMBER OF THE PARTY THAT GETS THE CREDIT FOR THIS REDISTRICTING.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASK WHAT CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO TWO GROUPS KNOW AS THE AMISH AND THE OLD ORDER MENNONITE THAT RESIDE IN LANCASTER COUNTY AND IN THE 99TH DISTRICT. ARE YOU AWARE HOW HARD IT IS TO GET THIS GROUP TO INTERACT WITH POLITICANS? THE AMISH GROUP IN LANCASTER COUNTY ARE THE OLDEST AND LARGEST AMISH GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES, NUMBERING ABOUT 30,000. THE POPULATION HAS NEARLY DOUBLED IN THE PAST TWENTY YEARS AND REPRESENTS ABOUT 5% OF THE COUNTY POPULATION, BLACKS REPRESENT ABOUT 4% OF THE POPULATION IN THE COUNTY. THE OLD ORDER MENNONITE, CALLED HORSE AND BUGGY MENNONITE NUMBER ABOUT 3500 AND THERE ARE ABOUT 4500 AMISH, THESE TWO CONSERVITIVE GROUPS REPRESENTS ABOUT 13% OF THE POPULATION IN THE 99TH DISTRICT. WAS THERE ANY CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO THIS WHEN THE MAPS WERE DRAWN AND THE IMPACT THAT THE NEW LINES WOULD HAVE ON THIS GROUP?

SINCE THEY TRAVEL BY HORSE AND BUGGY IT IS A HARDSHIP FOR THE AMISH/OLD ORDER MENNONITES TO TRAVEL TOO FAR TO VISIT THE DISTRICT OFFICE OF THEIR STATE REPRESENTATIVES. (A GOOD HORSE AND BUGGY CAN TRAVEL ABOUT 8 MILES AT A TIME)

I WOULD CONTEND THAT THE CHANGES AS PROPOSED WILL PUT THESE TWO GROUPS IN A POOR SITUATION AND WILL NOT BE FAIR TO A VERY IMPORTANT, LIKE-MINDED, UNDER CONSIDERED GROUP, THAT HAS A LARGE IMPACT ON THE OUTCOME OF MANY ELECTIONS.