



November 16, 2021

The Honorable Steven C. González  
Chief Justice  
Washington Supreme Court  
PO Box 40929  
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Chief Justice González:

Last night, after substantial work marked by mutual respect and dedication to the important task, the four voting commissioners on the state redistricting commission were unable to adopt a districting plan by the midnight deadline. The late release of the 2020 census data and the legislature's 2019 shortening of the commission's deadline for submission, combined with technical challenges, hampered the commission's work considerably. Pursuant to RCW 44.05.100, I must hand over to you and the Washington Supreme Court responsibility for adoption of a redistricting plan. The commissioners have every faith that the Supreme Court will draw maps that are fair and worthy of the people of Washington.

Based on historic levels of public participation and of tribal consultation, the commissioners did agree on a framework for a redistricting plan. Unfortunately, they did not fully comprehend the time and complexity required to formalize that agreement. Nonetheless, the task is now done.

On behalf of the commission, I humbly submit to you the full plan for congressional and legislative districts, cognizant of the fact that, as the commission, we have ceded our responsibility to the Court for adoption of the plan. The full plan contains the transmittal letter to the legislature, the signed resolution, the shapefiles and legal description of the new congressional districts, and the shapefiles and legal description of the new legislative districts. It is the hope of all commissioners that these maps, created in a bipartisan process with unprecedented public input and resulting in the doubling of minority-majority districts, greater consolidation of cities, counties and communities of interest, and full consideration of the eight Tribes with which the commission consulted, can be given due consideration by your court.

It was a pleasure to serve on the 2021 Commission and an honor to take part in this truly bipartisan process on behalf of the people of Washington State. My staff and I remain at your disposal as you assume responsibility for this important task.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Augustine  
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Augustine". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Sarah Augustine".

cc: Commissioner Joe Fain  
Commissioner April Sims  
Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate  
Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk, House of Representatives  
Tera Heintz, Deputy Solicitor General, Attorney General's Office  
Commissioner Paul Graves  
Commissioner Brady Walkinshaw