IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, an individual, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Defendants,

and

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Intervenor-Defendants.

DECLARATION OF MOLLY E. DANAHY

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Molly Elizabeth Danahy, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney for the Campaign Legal Center, duly licensed to practice law in the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia and admitted to practice before this Court.
- 2. Together with co-counsel, I represent Intervenor-Defendants the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, Lisa Finley-DeVille, and Cesareo Alvarez.
 - 3. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein.
- 4. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of the Legislative Redistricting—Background Memorandum ("Redistricting History Memorandum,") presented to the Redistricting Committee in August 2021, which can be found in the public record at: https://ndlegis.gov/files/resource/committee-memorandum/23.9105.01000.pdf.

- 5. Attached hereto as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the Legislative Council Presentation on Redistricting dated August 2021 ("Legislative Council Presentation, Aug. 2021), which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23 5024 03000appendixc.pdf.
- 6. Attached hereto as Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of the Presentation to the Redistricting Committee by the National Conference of State Legislators ("NCSL Presentation"), which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23_5024_03000appendixb.pdf.
- 7. Attached hereto as Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of the Legislative Council Presentation to the Redistricting Committee dated September 2021 ("Legislative Council Presentation, Sept. 2021"), which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23 5062 02000 1010presentation.pdf.
- 8. Attached hereto as Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of the Redistricting Committee final report regarding redistricting ("Final Redistricting Committee Report"), which can be found in the public record at: https://ndlegis.gov/files/resource/67-2021/legislative-management-final-reports/2021ssfinalreport.pdf.
- 9. Attached hereto as Exhibit 9 is a true and correct copy of the 2020 general election results for the District 4 State Senate race ("2020 Election Results"), which can be found in the public record at: https://results.sos.nd.gov/ResultsSW.aspx?text=Race&type=LG&map=DIST&eid=313.
- 10. Attached hereto as Exhibit 11 is a true and correct copy of the 2016 general election results for the District 4 State House race ("2016 Election results"), which can be found in the

public record at: https://results.sos.nd.gov/ResultsSW.aspx?text=Race&type=LG&map=DIST&eid=292.

- 11. Attached hereto as Exhibit 12 is a true and correct copy of testimony submitted by MHA Chairman Fox to the Redistricting Committee on September 23, 2021 ("Fox Testimony, Sept. 23, 2021"), which found can be in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23 5062 03000appendixe.pdf.
- 12. Attached hereto as Exhibit 13 is a true and correct copy of the transcription of the August 31, 2021 meeting of the Tribal and State Relations Committee ("Aug. 31, 2021 Tribal and State Relations Comm Hr'g Tr."), produced by the State Defendants in this matter. A video recording of this meeting found in the public be record at: can https://video.ndlegis.gov/en/PowerBrowser/PowerBrowserV2/20210831/-1/21582.
- 13. Attached hereto as Exhibit 14 is a true and correct copy of testimony submitted by MHA Chairman Fox to the Redistricting Committee on September 29, 2021 ("Fox Testimony, 29, 2021"), be Sept. which can found in the public record at: www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23 5063 03000appendixd.pdf.
- 14. Attached hereto as Exhibit 15 is a true and correct copy of testimony submitted by Lisa Finley-DeVille to the Redistricting Committee ("Finley-DeVille Testimony"), which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23_5063_03000appendixb.pdf.
- 15. Attached hereto as Exhibit 16 is a true and correct copy of testimony submitted by North Dakota Native Votes Director Nicole Donaghy to the Redistricting Committee ("Donaghy Testimony"), which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23_5061_03000appendixe.pdf.

16. Attached hereto as Exhibit 17 is a true and correct copy of testimony submitted by

North Dakota Voters First Director Rick Gion to the Redistricting Committee ("Gion Testimony"),

which can be found in the public record at: https://www.ndlegis.gov/files/committees/67-

2021/23 5024 03000appendixf.pdf.

17. Attached hereto as Exhibit 20 is a true and correct copy of the transcription of the

deposition of Plaintiff Charles Walen ("Walen Dep."), taken in this matter on December 7, 2022.

18. Attached hereto as Exhibit 21 is a true and correct copy of the transcription of the

deposition of Plaintiff Paul Henderson ("Henderson Dep."), taken is this matter on December 7,

2022.

19. Attached hereto as Exhibit 22 is a true and correct copy of a partial transcription of

the preliminary injunction hearing held in this matter on May 5, 2022 ("Prelim. Inj. Hearing Tr.

Vol. 1").

20. Attached hereto as Exhibit 23 is a true and correct copy of a partial transcription of

the preliminary injunction hearing held in this matter on May 5, 2022 ("Prelim. Inj. Hearing Tr.

Vol. 2").

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, to the best of my

knowledge.

Executed this 28th day of February, 2023 in Baltimore, MD.

/s/ Molly E. Danahy

Molly E. Danahy

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EXHIBIT 1



North Dakota Legislative Council

Prepared for the Redistricting Committee LC# 23.9105.01000 August 2021

LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING - BACKGROUND MEMORANDUM

<u>House Bill No. 1397 (2021)</u> requires the Chairman of the Legislative Management to appoint a committee to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election. The bill provides:

- 1. The committee must consist of an equal number of members from the Senate and the House of Representatives appointed by the Chairman of the Legislative Management.
- The committee shall ensure any legislative redistricting plan submitted to the Legislative Assembly for
 consideration must be of compact and contiguous territory and conform to all constitutional requirements
 with respect to population equality. The committee may adopt additional constitutionally recognized
 redistricting guidelines and principles to implement in preparing a legislative redistricting plan for submission
 to the Legislative Assembly.
- 3. The committee shall submit a redistricting plan and legislation to implement the plan to the Legislative Management by November 30, 2021.
- 4. A draft of the legislative redistricting plan created by the Legislative Council or a member of the Legislative Assembly is an exempt record as defined in North Dakota Century Code Section 44-04-17.1 until presented or distributed at a meeting of the Legislative Management, a Legislative Management committee, or the Legislative Assembly, at which time the presented or distributed draft is an open record. If possible, the presented or distributed draft must be made accessible to the public on the legislative branch website such as through the use of hyperlinks in the online meeting agenda. Any version of a redistricting plan other than the version presented or distributed at a meeting of the Legislative Management, a Legislative Management committee, or the Legislative Assembly is an exempt record.
- 5. The Chairman of the Legislative Management shall request the Governor to call a special session of the Legislative Assembly pursuant to Section 7 of Article V of the Constitution of North Dakota to allow the Legislative Assembly to adopt a redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election and to address any other issue that may be necessary.

REDISTRICTING IN NORTH DAKOTA North Dakota Law

Constitutional Provisions

Section 1 of Article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota provides the "senate must be composed of not less than forty nor more than fifty-four members, and the house of representatives must be composed of not less than eighty nor more than one hundred eight members." Section 2 of Article IV requires the Legislative Assembly to "fix the number of senators and representatives and divide the state into as many senatorial districts of compact and contiguous territory as there are senators." The section provides districts ascertained after the 1990 federal decennial census must "continue until the adjournment of the first regular session after each federal decennial census, or until changed by law."

Section 2 further requires the Legislative Assembly to "guarantee, as nearly as practicable, that every elector is equal to every other elector in the state in the power to cast ballots for legislative candidates." This section requires the apportionment of one senator and at least two representatives to each senatorial district. This section also provides that two senatorial districts may be combined when a single-member senatorial district includes a federal facility or installation containing over two-thirds of the population of a single-member senatorial district and that elections may be at large or from subdistricts.

Section 3 of Article IV requires the Legislative Assembly to establish by law a procedure whereby one-half of the members of the Senate and one-half of the members of the House of Representatives, as nearly as practicable, are elected biennially.

Statutory Provisions

In addition to the constitutional requirements, Section 54-03-01.5 requires a legislative redistricting plan based on any census taken after 1999 must provide that the Senate consist of 47 members and the House consist of 94 members. The plan must ensure legislative districts be as nearly equal in population as is practicable and population deviation from district to district be kept at a minimum. Additionally, the total population variance of all districts, and subdistricts if created, from the average district population may not exceed recognized constitutional limitations.

Sections 54-03-01.8 and 54-03-01.10 provided for the staggering of Senate and House terms after redistricting in 2001. Section 54-03-01.8, which addressed the staggering of Senate terms, was found to be, in part, an impermissible delegation of legislative authority in that it allowed an incumbent senator to decide whether to stop an election for the Senate in a district that had two incumbent senators with terms expiring in different years. House Bill No. 1473 (2011) repealed Sections 54-03-01.8 and 54-03-01.10 and created a new section regarding the staggering of terms. Section 54-03-01.13 provides senators and representatives from even-numbered districts must be elected in 2012 for 4-year terms; senators and representatives from odd-numbered districts must be elected in 2014 for 4-year terms, except the senator and two representatives from District 7 must be elected in 2012 for a term of 2 years; the term of office of a member of the Legislative Assembly elected in an odd-numbered district in 2010 for a term of 4 years and who as a result of legislative redistricting is placed in an even-numbered district terminates December 1, 2012, subject to certain change in residency exceptions; the term of office of a member of the Legislative Assembly in an odd-numbered district with new geographic area that was not in that member's district for the 2010 election and which new geographic area has a 2010 population that is more than 25 percent of the ideal district population terminates on December 1, 2012; and a vacancy caused in an odd-numbered district as a result of legislative redistricting must be filled at the 2012 general election by electing a member to a 2-year term of office.

Section 16.1-01-02.2 pertains to procedures regarding special elections. As a result of concerns regarding the timetable for calling a special election to vote on a referral of a redistricting plan, the Legislative Assembly amended Section 16.1-01-02.2 during the November 1991 special session. The amendment provided "notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governor may call a special election to be held in thirty to fifty days after the call if a referendum petition has been submitted to refer a measure or part of a measure that establishes a legislative redistricting plan." This 30- to 50-day timetable was later amended to 90 days in 2007.

Section 16.1-03-17 provides if redistricting of the Legislative Assembly becomes effective after the organization of political parties and before the primary or the general election, the political parties in the newly established precincts and districts shall reorganize as closely as possible in conformance with Chapter 16.1-03 to assure compliance with primary election filing deadlines.

Redistricting History in North Dakota

1931-62

Despite the requirement in the Constitution of North Dakota that the state be redistricted after each census, the Legislative Assembly did not redistrict itself between 1931 and 1963. At the time, the Constitution of North Dakota provided:

- 1. The Legislative Assembly must apportion itself after each federal decennial census; and
- 2. If the Legislative Assembly failed in its apportionment duty, a group of designated officials was responsible for apportionment.

Because the 1961 Legislative Assembly did not apportion itself following the 1960 Census, the apportionment group (required by the constitution to be the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the House of Representatives) issued a plan, which was challenged in court. In *State ex rel. Lien v. Sathre*, 113 N.W.2d 679 (1962), the North Dakota Supreme Court determined the plan was unconstitutional and the 1931 plan continued to be law.

1963

In 1963 the Legislative Assembly passed a redistricting plan that was heard by the Senate and House Political Subdivisions Committees. The 1963 plan and Sections 26, 29, and 35 of Article II of the Constitution of North Dakota were challenged in federal district court and found unconstitutional as violating the equal protection clause in *Paulson v. Meier*, 232 F.Supp. 183 (1964). The 1931 plan also was held invalid. Thus, there was no constitutionally valid legislative redistricting law in existence at that time. The court concluded adequate time was not available with which to formulate a proper plan for the 1964 election and the Legislative Assembly should promptly devise a constitutional plan.

1965

A conference committee during the 1965 legislative session consisting of the Majority and Minority Leaders of each house and the Chairmen of the State and Federal Government Committees produced a redistricting plan. In *Paulson v. Meier*, 246 F.Supp. 36 (1965), the federal district court found the 1965 redistricting plan unconstitutional. The court reviewed each plan introduced during the 1965 legislative session and specifically focused on a plan prepared for the Legislative Research Committee (predecessor to the Legislative Council and the Legislative Management) by two consultants hired by the committee to devise a redistricting plan. That plan had been approved by the interim Constitutional Revision Committee and the Legislative Research Committee and was submitted to the Legislative Assembly in 1965. The court slightly modified that plan and adopted it as the plan for North Dakota. The plan contained five multimember senatorial districts, violated county lines in 12 instances, and had 25 of 39 districts within 5 percent of the average population, four districts slightly over 5 percent, and two districts exceeding 9 percent.

1971

In 1971 an original proceeding was initiated in the North Dakota Supreme Court challenging the right of senators from multimember districts to hold office. The petitioners argued the multimembership violated Section 29 of Article II of the Constitution of North Dakota, which provided each senatorial district "shall be represented by one senator and no more." The court held Section 29 was unconstitutional as a violation of the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution and multimember districts were permissible. *State ex rel. Stockman v. Anderson*, 184 N.W.2d 53 (1971).

In 1971 the Legislative Assembly failed to redistrict itself after the 1970 Census and an action was brought in federal district court which requested the court order redistricting and declare the 1965 plan invalid. The court entered an order to the effect the existing plan was unconstitutional, and the court would issue a plan. The court appointed three special masters to formulate a plan and adopted a plan submitted by Mr. Richard Dobson. The "Dobson" plan was approved for the 1972 election only. The court recognized weaknesses in the plan, including substantial population variances and a continuation of multimember districts.

1973-75

In 1973 the Legislative Assembly passed a redistricting plan developed by the Legislative Council's interim Committee on Reapportionment, which was appointed by the Legislative Council Chairman and consisted of three senators, three representatives, and five citizen members. The plan was vetoed by the Governor, but the Legislative Assembly overrode the veto. The plan had a population variance of 6.8 percent and had five multimember senatorial districts. The plan was referred and was defeated at a special election held on December 4, 1973.

In 1974 the federal district court in *Chapman v. Meier*, 372 F.Supp. 371 (1974) made the "Dobson" plan permanent. However, on appeal, the United States Supreme Court ruled the "Dobson" plan unconstitutional in *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1 (1975).

In 1975 the Legislative Assembly adopted the "Dobson" plan but modified it by splitting multimember senatorial districts into subdistricts. The plan was proposed by individual legislators and was heard by the Joint Reapportionment Committee, consisting of five senators and five representatives. The plan was challenged in federal district court and was found unconstitutional. In *Chapman v. Meier*, 407 F.Supp. 649 (1975), the court held the plan violated the equal protection clause because of the total population variance of 20 percent. The court appointed a special master to develop a plan, and the court adopted that plan.

1981

In 1981 the Legislative Assembly passed House Concurrent Resolution No. 3061, which directed the Legislative Council to study and develop a legislative redistricting plan. The Legislative Council Chairman appointed a 12-member interim Reapportionment Committee consisting of seven representatives and five senators. The chairman directed the committee to study and select one or more redistricting plans for consideration by the 1981 reconvened Legislative Assembly. The committee completed its work on October 6, 1981, and submitted its report to the Legislative Council at a meeting of the Council in October 1981.

The committee instructed its consultant, Mr. Floyd Hickok, to develop a plan for the committee based upon the following criteria:

- 1. The plan should have 53 districts.
- 2. The plan should retain as many districts in their present form as possible.
- 3. No district could cross the Missouri River.
- 4. The population variance should be kept below 10 percent.

Mr. Hickok presented a report to the committee in which the state was divided into 11 blocks. Each block corresponded to a group of existing districts with only minor boundary changes. The report presented a number of alternatives for dividing most blocks. There were 27,468 different possible combinations among the alternatives presented.

The bill draft recommended by the interim committee incorporated parts of Mr. Hickok's plans and many of the plans presented as alternatives to the committee. The plan was introduced in a reconvened session of the Legislative Assembly in November 1981 and was heard by the Joint Reapportionment Committee.

The committee considered a total of 12 legislative redistricting bills. The reconvened session adopted a redistricting plan that consisted of 53 senatorial districts. The districts containing the Grand Forks and Minot Air Force Bases were combined with districts in those cities, and each elected two senators and four representatives at large.

1991-95

In 1991 the Legislative Assembly adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 3026, which directed a study of legislative apportionment and development of legislative reapportionment plans for use in the 1992 primary election. The resolution encouraged the Legislative Council to use the following criteria to develop a plan or plans:

- Legislative districts and subdistricts had to be compact and of contiguous territory except as was necessary
 to preserve county and city boundaries as legislative district boundary lines and so far as was practicable
 to preserve existing legislative district boundaries.
- Legislative districts could have a population variance from the largest to the smallest in population not to
 exceed 9 percent of the population of the ideal district except as was necessary to preserve county and city
 boundaries as legislative district boundary lines and so far as was practicable to preserve existing legislative
 district boundaries.
- 3. No legislative district could cross the Missouri River.
- Senators elected in 1990 could finish their terms, except in those districts in which over 20 percent of the qualified electors were not eligible to vote in that district in 1990, senators had to stand for reelection in 1992.
- 5. The plan or plans developed were to contain options for the creation of House subdistricts in any Senate district that exceeds 3,000 square miles.

The Legislative Council established an interim Legislative Redistricting and Elections Committee, which undertook the legislative redistricting study. The committee consisted of eight senators and eight representatives. The Legislative Council contracted with Mr. Hickok to provide computer-assisted services to the committee.

After the committee held meetings in several cities around the state, the committee requested the preparation of plans for 49, 50, and 53 districts based upon these guidelines:

- 1. The plans could not provide for a population variance over 10 percent.
- 2. The plans could include districts that cross the Missouri River so the Fort Berthold Reservation would be included within one district.
- The plans had to provide alternatives for splitting the Grand Forks Air Force Base and the Minot Air Force Base into more than one district and alternatives that would allow the bases to be combined with other contiguous districts.

The interim committee recommended two alternative bills to the Legislative Council at a special meeting held in October 1991. Both of the bills included 49 districts. Senate Bill No. 2597 (1991) split the two Air Force bases so neither base would be included with another district to form a multisenator district. Senate Bill No. 2598 (1991) placed the Minot Air Force Base entirely within one district so the base district would be combined with another district.

In a special session held November 4-8, 1991, the Legislative Assembly adopted Senate Bill No. 2597 with some amendments with respect to district boundaries. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee. The bill also was amended to provide any senator from a district in which there was another incumbent senator as a result of legislative redistricting had to be elected in 1992 for a term of 4 years, to provide the senator from a new district created in Fargo had to be elected in 1992 for a term of 2 years, and to include an effective date

of December 1, 1991. In addition, the bill was amended to include a directive to the Legislative Council to assign to the committee the responsibility to develop a plan for subdistricts for the House of Representatives.

The Legislative Council again contracted with Mr. Hickok to provide services for the subdistrict study. After conducting the subdistrict study, the interim committee recommended House Bill No. 1050 (1993) to establish House subdistricts within each Senate district except in Districts 18, 19, 38, and 40, which are the districts that include portions of the Air Force bases. In 1993 the Legislative Assembly did not adopt the subdistricting plan.

In 1995 the Legislative Assembly adopted House Bill No. 1385, which made final boundary changes to four districts, including placing a small portion of the Fort Berthold Reservation in District 33.

2001

In 2001, the Legislative Assembly budgeted \$200,000 for a special session for redistricting and adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 3003, which provided for a study and the development of a legislative redistricting plan or plans for use in the 2002 primary election. The Legislative Council appointed an interim Legislative Redistricting Committee consisting of 15 members to conduct the study. The Legislative Redistricting Committee began its work on July 9, 2001, and submitted its final report to the Legislative Council on November 6, 2001.

The Legislative Council purchased two personal computers and two licenses for redistricting software for use by each political faction represented on the committee. Because committee members generally agreed each caucus should have access to a computer with the redistricting software, the committee requested the Legislative Council to purchase two additional computers and two additional redistricting software licenses. In addition, each caucus was provided a color printer.

The Legislative Redistricting Committee considered redistricting plans based on 45, 47, 49, 51, and 52 districts. The committee determined the various plans should adhere to the following criteria:

- 1. Preserve existing district boundaries to the extent possible.
- 2. Preserve political subdivision boundaries to the extent possible.
- 3. Provide for a population variance of under 10 percent.

The interim committee recommended Senate Bill No. 2456 (2001), which established 47 legislative districts. The bill repealed the existing legislative redistricting plan, required the Secretary of State to modify 2002 primary election deadlines and procedures if necessary, and provided an effective date of December 7, 2001. The bill also addressed the staggering of terms in even-numbered and odd-numbered districts.

Under the 47-district plan, the ideal district size was 13,664. Under the plan recommended by the committee, the largest district had a population of 14,249 and the smallest district had a population of 13,053. Thus, the largest district was 4.28 percent over the ideal district size and the smallest district was 4.47 percent below the ideal district size, providing for an overall range of 8.75 percent.

In a special session held November 26-30, 2001, the Legislative Assembly adopted the 47-district plan included in Senate Bill No. 2456 (2001) with amendments, most notably amendments to the provisions relating to the staggering of terms. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee. The term-staggering provisions provided a senator and a representative from an odd-numbered district must be elected in 2002 for a term of 4 years and a senator and a representative from an even-numbered district must be elected in 2004 for a term of 4 years. The bill further included provisions to address situations in which multiple incumbents were placed within the same district and in which there were fewer incumbents than the number of seats available. In *Kelsh v. Jaeger*, 641 N.W.2d 100 (2002), the North Dakota Supreme Court found a portion of the staggering provisions to be an impermissible delegation of legislative authority in that it allowed an incumbent senator to decide whether to stop an election for the Senate in a district that had two incumbent senators with terms expiring in different years.

2011

In 2011, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill No. 1267 (2011), which directed the Chairman of the Legislative Management to appoint a committee to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2012 primary election. The Legislative Redistricting Committee consisted of 16 members and held its first meeting on June 16, 2011. The committee concluded its work on October 12, 2011, and submitted its final report to the Legislative Management on November 3, 2011.

The Legislative Council purchased a personal computer and a license for the Maptitude for Redistricting software for use by each of the four caucuses represented on the committee. In addition, because there were significantly more members of the majority party caucuses on the committee, the Legislative Council purchased an additional computer and redistricting software license for the shared use of the members of those groups. A template of the existing legislative districts was provided in the redistricting software to use as a starting point in creating districts because the committee members generally agreed potential redistricting plans should be based upon the cores of existing districts.

The committee considered increasing the number of districts and received information regarding the estimated cost of a district based on a 77-day legislative session, which amounted to approximately \$1,190,170 for the decade. The committee elected to maintain a 47-district plan and determined the plan should adhere to the following criteria:

- 1. Preserve existing district boundaries to the extent possible.
- 2. Preserve political subdivision boundaries to the extent possible and preserve the boundaries of the Indian reservations.
- 3. Provide for a population variance of 9 percent or less.

The committee recommended a bill to repeal the existing redistricting plan, establish 47 legislative districts, provide for the staggering of terms of members of the Legislative Assembly, and authorize the Secretary of State to modify primary election deadlines and procedures if any delays arose in implementing the redistricting plan. Under the 47-district plan recommended by the committee, the ideal district size was 14,310. The population of the largest district was 14,897, which was 4.10 percent over the ideal district size, and the population of the smallest district was 13,697, which was 4.28 percent below the ideal district size, providing for an overall range of 8.38 percent. The plan included 33 counties that were not split, 3 counties that were split only to preserve the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, and 3 counties that were split only because the counties included cities that were too large for one district.

The committee also recommended a bill draft to the Legislative Management which would have required each legislative district contain at least six precincts. The Legislative Management rejected the portion of the committee's report relating to this bill draft.

In a special session held November 7-11, 2011, the Legislative Assembly adopted the committee's 47-district plan included in House Bill No. 1473 (2011) with minor amendments to legislative district boundaries and a change in the effective date from December 1 to November 25, 2011. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee and approved by the 62nd Legislative Assembly by a vote of 60 to 32 in the House and 33 to 14 in the Senate.

FEDERAL LAW

Before 1962, the courts followed a policy of nonintervention with respect to legislative redistricting. However, in 1962, the United States Supreme Court, in *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), determined the courts would provide relief in state legislative redistricting cases when there are constitutional violations.

Population Equality

In Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533 (1964), the United States Supreme Court held the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution requires states to establish legislative districts substantially equal in population. The Court also ruled both houses of a bicameral legislature must be apportioned on a population basis. Although the Court did not state what degree of population equality is required, it stated "what is marginally permissible in one state may be unsatisfactory in another depending upon the particular circumstances of the case."

The measure of population equality most commonly used by the courts is overall range. The overall range of a redistricting plan is the sum of the deviation from the ideal district population--the total state population divided by the number of districts--of the most and the least populous districts. In determining overall range, the plus and minus signs are disregarded, and the number is expressed as an absolute percentage.

In *Reynolds*, the United States Supreme Court recognized a distinction between congressional and legislative redistricting plans. That distinction was further emphasized in a 1973 Supreme Court decision, *Mahan v. Howell*, 410 U.S. 315 (1973). In that case, the Court upheld a Virginia legislative redistricting plan that had an overall range among House districts of approximately 16 percent. The Court stated broader latitude is afforded to the states under the equal protection clause in state legislative redistricting than in congressional redistricting in which population is

the sole criterion of constitutionality. In addition, the Court said the Virginia General Assembly's state constitutional authority to enact legislation dealing with political subdivisions justified the attempt to preserve political subdivision boundaries when drawing the boundaries for the House of Delegates.

A 10 percent standard of population equality among legislative districts was first addressed in two 1973 Supreme Court decisions--*Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735 (1973), and *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973). In those cases, the Court upheld plans creating house districts with overall ranges of 7.8 percent and 9.9 percent. The Court determined the overall ranges did not constitute a prima facie case of denial of equal protection. In *White*, the Court noted, "[v]ery likely larger differences between districts would not be tolerable without justification 'based on legitimate considerations incident to the effectuation of a rational state policy'."

Justice William J. Brennan's dissents in *Gaffney* and *White* argued the majority opinions established a 10 percent de minimus rule for state legislative district redistricting. He asserted the majority opinions provided states would be required to justify overall ranges of 10 percent or more. The Supreme Court adopted that 10 percent standard in later cases.

In Chapman v. Meier, 420 U.S. 1 (1975), the Supreme Court rejected the North Dakota Legislative Assembly redistricting plan with an overall range of approximately 20 percent. In that case, the Court said the plan needed special justification, but rejected the reasons given, which included an absence of a particular racial or political group whose power had been minimized by the plan, the sparse population of the state, the desire to maintain political boundaries, and the tradition of dividing the state along the Missouri River.

In Conner v. Finch, 431 U.S. 407 (1977), the Supreme Court rejected a Mississippi plan with a 16.5 percent overall range for the Senate and a 19.3 percent overall range for the House. However, in *Brown v. Thomson*, 462 U.S. 835 (1983), the Court determined adhering to county boundaries for legislative districts was not unconstitutional even though the overall range for the Wyoming House of Representatives was 89 percent.

In *Brown*, each county was allowed at least one representative. Wyoming has 23 counties and its legislative apportionment plan provided for 64 representatives. Because the challenge was limited to the allowance of a representative to the least populous county, the Supreme Court determined the grant of a representative to that county was not a significant cause of the population deviation that existed in Wyoming. The Court concluded the constitutional policy of ensuring each county had a representative, which had been in place since statehood, was supported by substantial and legitimate state concerns and had been followed without any taint of arbitrariness or discrimination. The Court found the policy contained no built-in biases favoring particular interests or geographical areas and that population equality was the sole other criterion used. The Court stated a legislative apportionment plan with an overall range of less than 10 percent is not sufficient to establish a prima facie case of invidious discrimination under the 14th Amendment which requires justification by the state. However, the Court further concluded a plan with larger disparities in population creates a prima facie case of discrimination and must be justified by the state.

In *Brown*, the Supreme Court indicated giving at least one representative to each county could result in total subversion of the equal protection principle in many states. That would be especially true in a state in which the number of counties is large and many counties are sparsely populated and the number of seats in the legislative body does not significantly exceed the number of counties.

In *Board of Estimate v. Morris*, 489 U.S. 688 (1989), the Supreme Court determined an overall range of 132 percent was not justified by New York City's proffered governmental interests. The city argued that because the Board of Estimate was structured to accommodate natural and political boundaries as well as local interests, the large departure from the one-person, one-vote ideal was essential to the successful government of the city-a regional entity. However, the Court held the city failed to sustain its burden of justifying the large deviation.

In a federal district court decision, *Quilter v. Voinovich*, 857 F.Supp. 579 (N.D. Ohio 1994), the court ruled a legislative district plan with an overall range of 13.81 percent for House districts and 10.54 percent for Senate districts did not violate the one-person, one-vote principle. The court recognized the state interest of preserving county boundaries, and the plan was not advanced arbitrarily. The decision came after the Supreme Court remanded the case to the district court. The Supreme Court stated in the previous district court decision, the district court mistakenly held total deviations in excess of 10 percent cannot be justified by a policy of preserving political subdivision boundaries. The Supreme Court directed the district court to follow the analysis used in *Brown*, which requires the court to determine whether the plan could reasonably be said to advance the state's policy, and if so, whether the population disparities exceed constitutional limits.

Although the federal courts generally have maintained a 10 percent standard, a legislative redistricting plan within the 10 percent range may not be safe from a constitutional challenge if the challenger is able to show discrimination in violation of the equal protection clause. In *Larios v. Cox*, 300 F.Supp.2d 1320 (N.D. Ga. 2004), a federal district court in Georgia found two legislative redistricting plans adopted by the Georgia General Assembly which had an overall range of 9.98 percent violated the "one person one vote" principle. Although legislators and redistricting staff indicated they prepared the plans under the belief that an overall range of 10 percent would be permissible without demonstrating a legitimate state interest, the district court found the objective of the plan, protection of certain geographic areas and protection of incumbents from one party did not justify the deviations from population inequality, particularly in light of the fact that plans with smaller deviations had been considered. With respect to protection of incumbents, the court indicated while it may be a legitimate state interest, in this case the protection was not accomplished in a consistent and neutral manner. Although protection of political subdivision boundaries is viewed as a traditional redistricting principle, the court held regional protectionism was not a legitimate justification for the deviations in the plans. The United States Supreme Court upheld the district court opinion in *Larios*.

In *Evenwel v. Abbot*, 136 S. Ct. 1120 (2016), the Texas Legislature redrew Senate districts based on total population, rather than registered voter population. Opponents of the redistricting plan argued the use of total population, rather than voter population, gave voters in districts with a large immigrant population a disproportionately weighted vote compared to voters in districts with a small immigrant population. The Supreme Court held states may, but are not required to, use total population when drawing districts to comply with the one-person, one-vote principles under the equal protection clause.

In *Harris v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission*, 136 S. Ct. 1301 (2016), the Supreme Court upheld a redistricting plan with an overall deviation of 8.8 percent. The Supreme Court held even though partisanship may have played a role in developing the plan "the population deviations were primarily a result of good-faith efforts to comply with the Voting Rights Act." The plaintiffs failed to meet the burden of showing it was more probable than not that the deviation predominately resulted from the use of illegitimate redistricting factors.

Case law has established if a legislative redistricting plan with an overall range of more than 10 percent is challenged, the state has the burden to demonstrate the plan is necessary to implement a rational state policy and the plan does not dilute or eliminate the voting strength of a particular group of citizens. A plan with an overall range of less than 10 percent may be subject to challenge if the justifications for the deviations are not deemed legitimate and plans with lower deviations have been considered.

Partisan Gerrymandering

Before 1986 the courts took the position that partisan or political gerrymandering was not justiciable. In *Davis v. Bandemer*, 478 U.S. 109 (1986), the United States Supreme Court stated political gerrymandering is justiciable. However, the Court determined the challengers of the legislative redistricting plan failed to prove the plan denied them fair representation. The Court stated a particular "group's electoral power is not unconstitutionally diminished by the simple fact of an apportionment scheme that makes winning elections more difficult, and a failure of proportional representation alone does not constitute impermissible discrimination under the Equal Protection Clause." The Court concluded "unconstitutional discrimination occurs only when the electoral system is arranged in a manner that will consistently degrade a voter's or group of voters' influence on the political process as a whole." Therefore, to support a finding of unconstitutional discrimination, there must be evidence of continued frustration of the will of the majority of the voters or effective denial to a minority of voters of a fair chance to influence the political process.

In 2004 a sharply divided Supreme Court addressed a challenge to a congressional redistricting plan adopted in Pennsylvania. In *Vieth v. Jubelirer*, 541 U.S. 267 (2004), four of the justices concluded partisan gerrymandering cases are nonjusticiable due to a lack of judicially discernible and manageable standards for addressing the claims. One other justice concurred in the opinion, but on other grounds, and the remaining four justices issued three dissenting opinions. Despite the challenge being dismissed, a majority of the court--the four dissenting justices and the one justice concurring in the decision to dismiss the claim--continued to maintain partisan gerrymandering cases may be adjudicated by the courts.

The Supreme Court again issued a divided opinion 2 years later in *League of United Latin American Citizens v. Perry*, 548 U.S. 399 (2006). In that decision, six justices wrote opinions and five justices agreed partisan gerrymandering cases are justiciable. However, the court did not agree on a standard for addressing claims and the partisan gerrymandering claim was dismissed.

The question of whether partisan gerrymandering cases are justiciable was settled by the Supreme Court in 2019. In the consolidated case of *Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2428 (2019), the congressional redistricting maps for North Carolina and Maryland were challenged as unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders. In *Rucho*, the Supreme Court held "partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts." The Court further stated, "the Constitution supplies no objective measure for assessing whether a districting map treats a political party fairly." However, the Court noted state courts may look to state statutes and state constitutions for guidance and standards to apply in partisan gerrymandering cases.

Instances in which state courts have addressed partisan gerrymandering include *League of Women Voters of Florida v. Detzner*, 172 So. 3d 363 (Fla. 2015). In this case, the challengers of the plan alleged the congressional redistricting plan was drawn to favor incumbent lawmakers and the Republican Party in violation of the Fair Districts Amendment to the Constitution of Florida, which prohibits political consideration in redistricting. The Florida Supreme Court upheld the trial court's findings that the map was tainted by the unconstitutional intent alleged and the Legislature was required to redraw the boundaries of several districts.

Partisan gerrymandering also was addressed at the state level in *League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania v. Commonwealth*, 644 Pa. 287 (2018). In this case, the challengers of the plan alleged the state's 2011 congressional plan violated the Free and Equal Elections Clause of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by providing one party an unfair advantage. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court found the plan lacked compactness and split local jurisdiction boundaries to an inordinate degree. The court held application of traditional redistricting principles must be the overriding consideration when preparing a redistricting map to avoid a violation of the Free and Equal Elections Clause. The Supreme Court held the map unconstitutional and substituted the 2011 map with a remedial map drawn by a special master.

Thus, though now precluded at the federal level, partisan gerrymandering cases may be justiciable in state court.

Multimember Districts and Racial or Language Minorities

According to data compiled by the National Conference of State Legislatures, North Dakota is 1 of 10 states that have multimember districts. Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act prohibits a state or political subdivision from imposing voting qualifications, standards, practices, or procedures that result in the denial or abridgment of a citizen's right to vote on account of race, color, or status as a member of a language minority group. A language minority group is defined as "persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage." A violation of Section 2 may be proved through a showing that as a result of the challenged practice or standard, the challengers of the plan did not have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and to elect candidates of their choice.

Many decisions under the Voting Rights Act have involved questions regarding the use of multimember districts to dilute the voting strengths of racial and language minorities. In *Reynolds*, the United States Supreme Court held multimember districts are not unconstitutional per se; however, the Court has indicated it prefers single-member districts, at least when the courts draw the districts in fashioning a remedy for an invalid plan. The Court has stated a redistricting plan including multimember districts will constitute an invidious discrimination only if it can be shown the plan, under the circumstances of a particular case, would operate to minimize or eliminate the voting strength of racial or political elements of the voting population.

The landmark case addressing a Section 2 challenge is *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 39 (1986). In that case, the Supreme Court stated a minority group challenging a redistricting plan must prove:

- The minority is sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district;
- 2. The minority is politically cohesive; and
- 3. In the absence of special circumstances, bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority's preferred candidate. To prove that bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority group, the use of statistical evidence is necessary.

Until redistricting in the 1990s, racial gerrymandering--the deliberate distortion of boundaries for racial purposes--generally had been used in the South to minimize the voting strength of minorities. However, because the United States Department of Justice and some federal courts had indicated states would be required to maximize the number of minority districts when redistricting, many states adopted redistricting plans that used racial gerrymandering to create more minority districts or to create minority influence districts when there was not sufficient population to create a minority district. As a result, a number of redistricting plans adopted in the 1990s were

challenged by white voters on equal protection grounds and the United States Supreme Court subsequently has held several redistricting plans to be unconstitutional as a result of racial gerrymandering.

In Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993), the Supreme Court invalidated a North Carolina plan due to racial gerrymandering. In that case, the Court made it clear race-conscious redistricting may not be impermissible in all cases. However, the Court held the plan to a test of strict scrutiny and required the racial gerrymander be narrowly tailored to serve a compelling state interest. The Court stated if race is the primary consideration in creating districts "without regard for traditional districting principles," a plan may be held to be unconstitutional.

Through the *Shaw* decision and subsequent decisions of the United States Supreme Court, the Court indicated unless race was the predominant factor in the creation of a district, a racial gerrymander challenge is not likely to be successful. In addition, the Court articulated seven policies that have been identified as being "traditional districting principles." Those policies are:

- 1. Compactness.
- 2. Contiguity.
- 3. Preservation of political subdivision boundaries.
- 4. Preservation of communities of interest.
- 5. Preservation of cores of prior districts.
- Protection of incumbents.
- 7. Compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act requires certain states and political subdivisions to submit their redistricting plans to the United States Department of Justice or the district court of the District of Columbia for review. Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act applied to states and political subdivisions that demonstrated a history of voter discrimination. However, in 2013, the formula used to determine which jurisdictions were subject to the preclearance requirements in Section 5 was held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 133 S. Ct. 2612 (2013). Thus, states and jurisdictions formerly subject to review are no longer required to submit their redistricting plans for preclearance under Section 5.

POSSIBLE ISSUES TO ADDRESS

The following are issues that may have to be addressed by the committee in beginning this study:

- What parameters should be followed in preparing plans?
- Should the committee limit consideration to plans that establish a certain number of districts?
- How should the Air Force base populations be addressed?
- How should the plan effectuate the staggering of terms of members of the Legislative Assembly?
- What will be the proper procedure for submitting proposed plans for consideration by the committee?
- How often should the committee meet?
- Should the committee meet in locations other than Bismarck?

EXHIBIT 2

Redistricting Overview

Redistricting Committee
August 2021



Redistricting Plan Directive

House Bill No. 1397 (2021)

- The Chairman of the Legislative Management must appoint a committee to develop a redistricting plan.
- Districts in the plan must be of a compact and contiguous nature and conform to constitutional requirements regarding population equality.
- The committee may adopt additional guidelines and principles in preparing the plan.
- The plan must be submitted to the Legislative Management by November 30, 2021.
- The Chairman of the Legislative Management shall request the Governor call a special session so the Legislative Assembly may adopt a redistricting plan in time for use in the 2022 primary election.

Requirements of the Constitution of North Dakota

- Membership of the Senate must range between 40-54 members.
- Membership of the House must range between 80-108 members.
- The state must be divided into as many districts as there are senators and the districts must be of compact and contiguous territory.

Requirements of the Constitution of North Dakota

- The Legislative Assembly must guarantee, as nearly as practicable, that every elector is equal to every other elector in the power to cast ballots for legislative candidates.
- One senator and at least two representatives must be apportioned to each senatorial district.
- Two senatorial districts may be combined when a single member senatorial district includes a federal facility or installation containing over two-thirds of the population of a single member senatorial district and elections may be at large or from subdistricts.

Requirements of the Constitution of North Dakota

- Districts ascertained after the 1990 federal decennial census must continue until the adjournment of the first regular session after each federal decennial census, or until changed by law.
- The Legislative Assembly must establish by law a procedure whereby one-half of the members of the Senate and one-half of the members of the House of Representatives, as nearly as practicable, are elected biennially.

Requirements of the North Dakota Century Code

- In addition to the constitutional requirements, North Dakota Century Code Section 54-03-01.5 requires a legislative redistricting plan based on any census taken after 1999 must provide the Senate consist of 47 members and the House consist of 94 members.
- Legislative districts must be as nearly equal in population as is practicable and population deviations from district to district must be kept at a minimum.

Requirements of the North Dakota Century Code

The total population variance of all districts from the average district population may not exceed recognized constitutional limitations.

- Overall range is the measure of population equality most commonly used by the courts, with a 10 percent standard first established in 1973.
- The overall range of a redistricting plan is the sum of the deviation from the ideal district population for the most and the least populous district.
 - For example, if the most populous district exceeds the ideal district population by 4.2 percent, and the least populous district falls short of the ideal district population by 4.1 percent, the overall range for the redistricting plan would be 8.3 percent.

Requirements of the North Dakota Century Code

- Section 54-03-01.13 provides for the staggering of terms.
- Section 16.1-01-02.2 outlines procedures for special elections and allows the Governor to call a special election to be held 90 days after the call if a referendum petition has been submitted to refer a measure or part of a measure that establishes a legislative redistricting plan.
- If redistricting of the Legislative Assembly becomes effective after the organization of political parties and before the primary or general election, Section 16.1-03-17 requires political parties in newly established precincts and districts to reorganize as closely as possible in conformance with Chapter 16.1-03 in order to comply with primary election filing deadlines.



Redistricting History in North Dakota

1931-62

• The Legislative Assembly did not redistrict itself, despite the requirement in the Constitution of North Dakota for the Legislative Assembly to apportion itself after each federal decennial census.

1963-75

Nearly constant state of litigation.

1981

 A 12-member interim committee used a consultant to assist in developing a 53-district plan. The redistricting plan was adopted during a reconvened session of the Legislative Assembly in November 1981.



Redistricting History in North Dakota

1991

• A 16-member interim committee contracted with a consultant for computerrelated services and developed a 49-district plan. The redistricting plan was adopted during a special session of the Legislative Assembly in November 1991.

2001

 A 15-member interim committee used laptops with redistricting software to develop a 47-district plan. The redistricting plan was adopted during a special session of the Legislative Assembly in November 2001.

2011

 A 16-member interim committee used laptops with redistricting software to develop a 47-district plan. The redistricting plan was adopted during a special session of the Legislative Assembly in November 2011.



Federal Law

- 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution (1868)
 - Individuals are guaranteed equal protection under the law.
- 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution (1870)
 - "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."
- Baker v. Carr, 369 U.S. 186 (1962)
 - Determined the courts would provide relief in state legislative redistricting cases when there are constitutional violations.
- Voting Rights Act of 1965
 - Enacted as a tool to aid in the enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments.
 - Banned the use of literacy tests.
 - Provided federal oversight of voter registration in areas where less than 50 percent of the minority population had registered to vote.



Federal Law — Population Equality

Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533 (1964)

- The equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment requires states to establish legislative districts substantially equal in population.
- Both houses of a bicameral legislature must be apportioned on a population basis.
- Overall range is the most commonly used measure of population equality.
 - Overall range equals the sum of the percentage deviation of the largest district and the percentage deviation of smallest district, disregarding plus and minus signs.



Federal Law — Population Equality

- If a legislative redistricting plan with an overall range of <u>more</u> than 10 percent is challenged, the state has the burden to demonstrate the plan is necessary to implement a rational state policy and the plan does not dilute or eliminate the voting strength of a particular group of citizens.
- A plan with an overall range of <u>less than 10 percent</u> may be subject to challenge if the justifications for the deviations are not deemed legitimate and plans with lower deviations have been considered.

Federal Law — Partisan Gerrymandering

Rucho v. Common Cause, 139 S.Ct. 2428 (2019)

- In 2019, the question of whether partisan gerrymandering cases are justiciable was settled by the Supreme Court, which stated "partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts."
- The Court further stated, "the [United States] Constitution supplies no objective measure for assessing whether a districting map treats a political party fairly."
- However, the Court noted state courts may look to state statutes and state constitutions for guidance and standards to apply in partisan gerrymandering cases.

Federal Law — Multimember Districts and Racial or Language Minorities

- North Dakota is 1 of 10 states that have multimember districts.
- Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act prohibits a state or political subdivision from imposing voting qualifications, standards, practices, or procedures that result in the denial or abridgment of a citizen's right to vote on account of race, color, or status as a member of a language minority group.
 - A language minority group is defined as "persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage."

Federal Law — Multimember Districts and Racial or Language Minorities

Thornburg v. Gingles, 478 U.S. 39 (1986)

A minority group challenging a redistricting plan must prove:

- 1. The minority is sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district;
- 2. The minority is politically cohesive; and
- 3. In the absence of special circumstances, bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority's preferred candidate. To prove bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority group, the use of statistical evidence is necessary.



Federal Law — Multimember Districts and Racial or Language Minorities

Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993)

- If race was not the predominant factor in the creation of a district, a racial gerrymander challenge is not likely to be successful.
- If race was the predominant factor in the creation of a district, the
 district will be evaluated under a test of strict scrutiny, where it must be
 show the district was narrowly tailored to serve a compelling state
 interest.

Common types of gerrymandering include:

- Packing overconcentrating a minority group into one or only a few districts.
- Cracking splitting a geographically compact minority group into multiple districts
 in order to dilute the voting power of the minority group.



Federal Law — Traditional Districting Principles

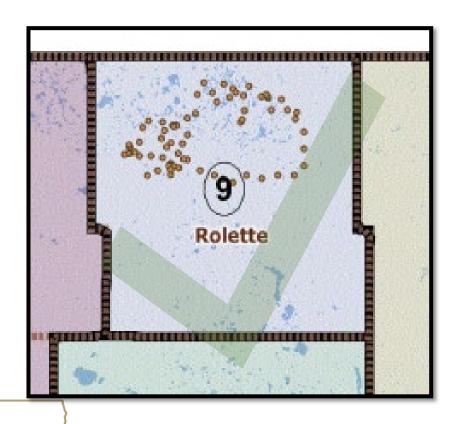
Items identified as traditional districting principles include:

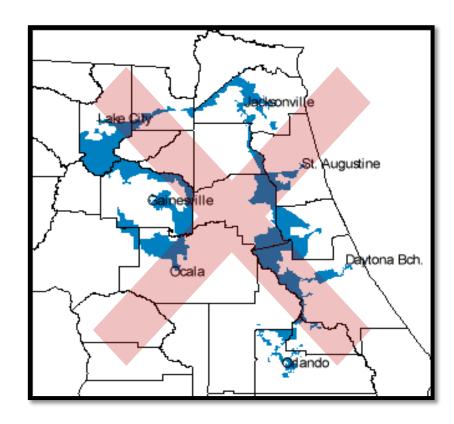
- 1. Compactness.
- 2. Contiguity.
- 3. Preservation of political subdivision boundaries.
- 4. Preservation of communities of interest.
- 5. Preservation of cores of prior districts.
- 6. Protection of incumbents.



1. Compactness

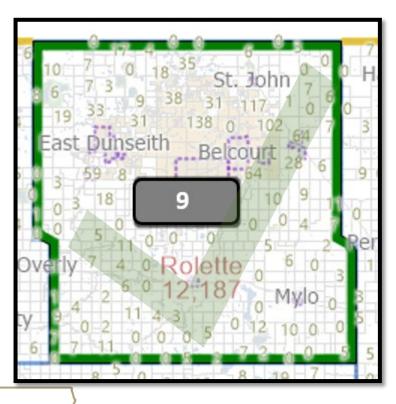
Districts must be geographically compact.

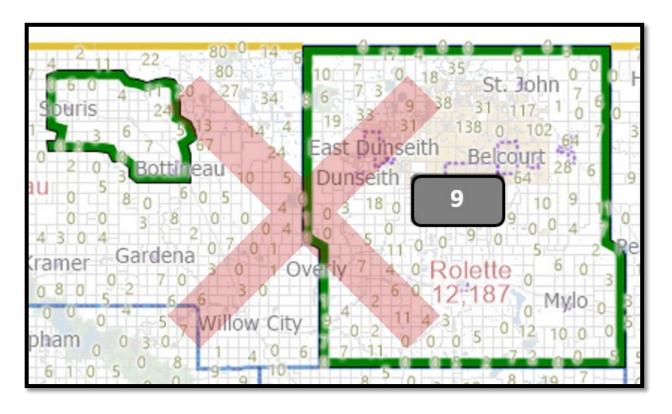




2. Contiguity

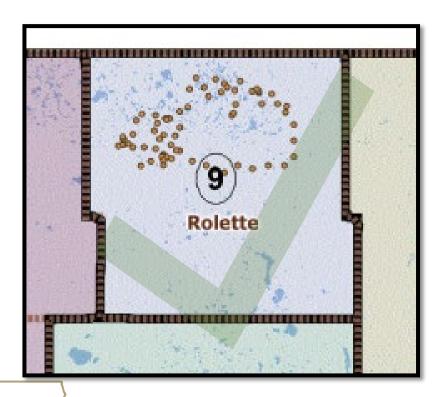
Districts must consist of a single shape with a connected boundary.

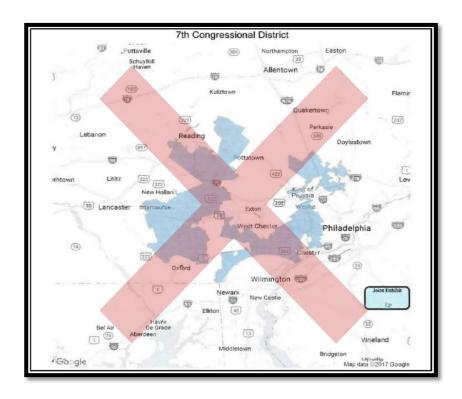




3. Preservation of Political Subdivision Boundaries

Avoid excessively splitting political subdivision boundaries.





4. Preservation of Communities of Interest

- Twenty-six states take into account preservation of communities of interest.
- Communities of interest are neighborhoods, communities, or groups of individuals who would benefit from being retained in a single district due to shared interests, policy concerns, or characteristics.
- They are often self-defined by the members of the community.
- Race and ethnicity can play a role in defining a community of interest, but cannot be the sole defining characteristic.

5. Preservation of Cores of Prior Districts

- Eleven states require prior districts to be maintained, to the extent possible after adjusting for population deviations, to maintain continuity of representation.
- One approach to preserving cores of prior districts is starting with existing boundary lines, rather than a blank map, and adjusting those boundaries to meet population equality requirements.

6. Protection of Incumbents

- Twelve states require drafters to avoid pairing incumbents.
- Placing two or more incumbents in a single district leads to one incumbent having to move, retire, or be defeated.
- The policy against pairing incumbents aims to promote continuity of representation.

Issues to Address

- What parameters should be followed in preparing plans?
- Should the committee limit consideration to plans that establish a certain number of districts?
- How should the Air Force base populations be addressed?
- How should the plan effectuate the staggering of terms of members of the Legislative Assembly?
- What will be the proper procedure for submitting proposed plans for consideration by the committee?
- How often should the committee meet?
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EXHIBIT 3





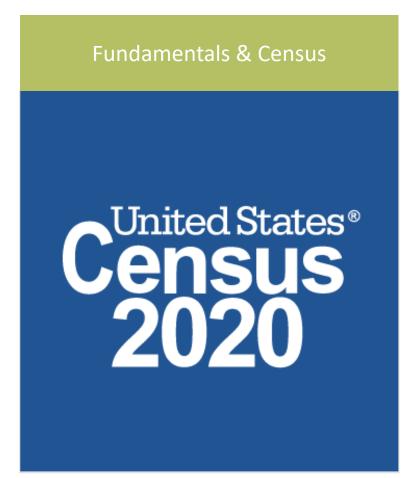
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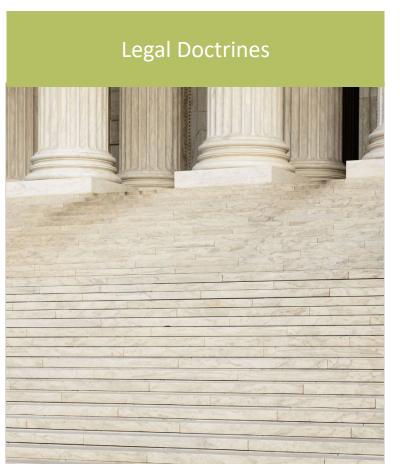
Strengthening the legislative institution.

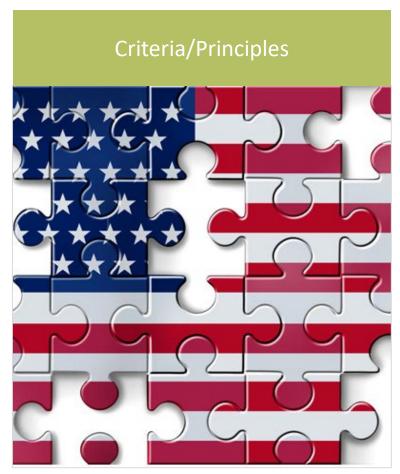
Serving 7,383 legislators and 25,000 staff.

Today's Outline









Why We Redistrict





Fundamentals: Who is a person?





- Supreme Court has never answered definitively
- Assumption since reconstruction has been all residents of the United States
- Key Case: Evenwel v. Abbott (2016)
 - Person = total population, regardless of legal status or age
 - But left door open to other interpretations...

Fundamentals: Who Draws Legislative Districts



Statutory or constitutional only; excludes commissions set up under other authorities

- Legislature only
- Legislature, with advisory commission
- Legislature, with backup commission
- Commission



Fundamentals: Who Draws Congressional Districts



Statutory or constitutional only; excludes commissions set up under other authorities

- Legislature only
- Legislature, with advisory commission
- Legislature, with backup commission
- Commission
- At-large district



- People living in the United States: 331,449,281
- Growth since 2010: 7.4%
- Nearly all population increase in metropolitan and micropolitan areas; ND is major exception to this!
- 47/50 states saw population growth this decade
- Only three states saw their populations shrink this decade:
 - Illinois (-0.1%)
 - Mississippi (-0.2%)
 - West Virginia (-3.2%)



2020 Census Takeaways

2020 Census Results

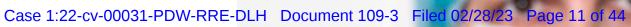


Population Changes by State

North Dakota's population grew by 15.8% between 2010 and 2020.

- + > 15% (Very Fast Growth)
- + 10-15% (Fast Growth)
- + 5-10% (Moderate Growth)
- + 0-5% (Slow Growth)
- Population Decrease

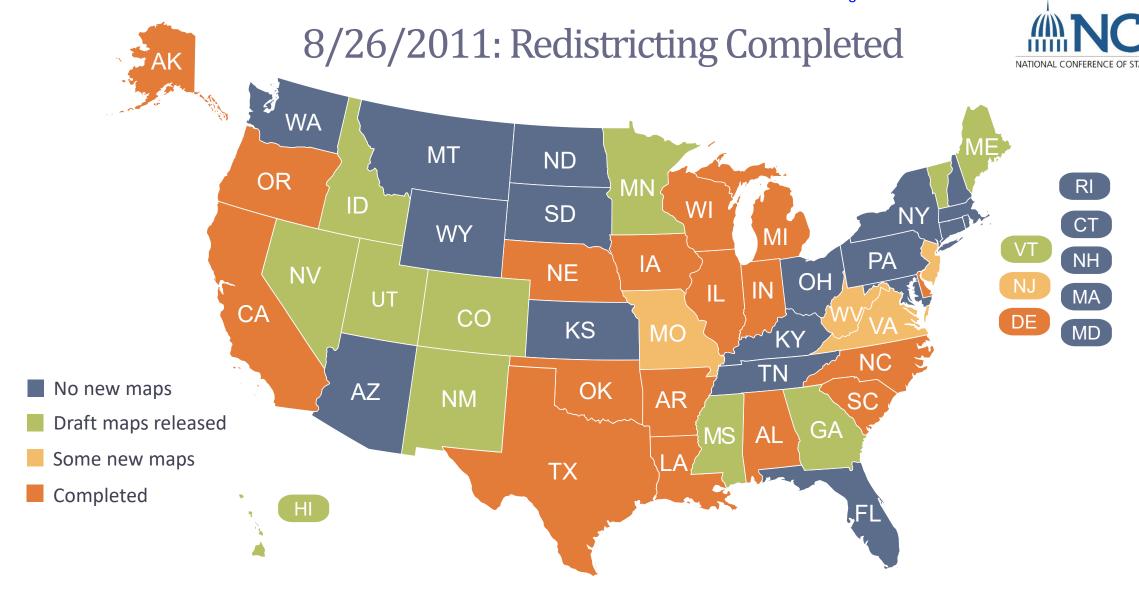




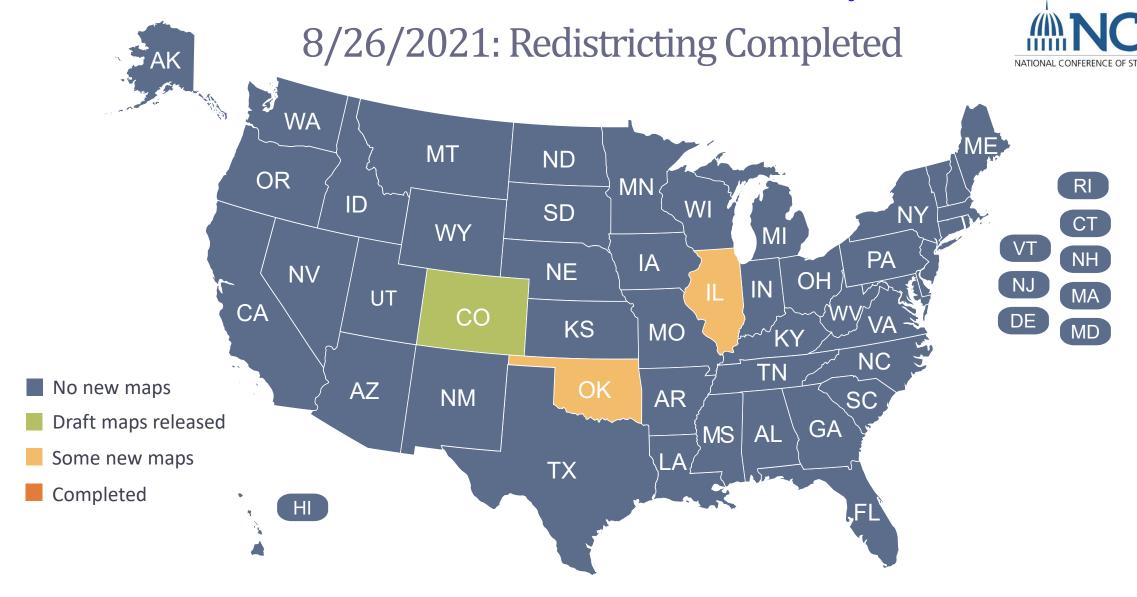
- The pandemic
- Fires
- Floods
- Policy changes



Delays

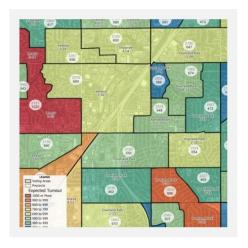


Source: All About Redistricting; Ballotpedia



The Problem With Delays: Less Time to Redistrict

It isn't just drawing new maps











Processing

Filing Deadlines

Residency

Local Prep

Primaries

State Redistricting Deadlines by Date



5By July 1, 2021

19 By Dec. 31, 2021 26
Other/None

Disclosure avoidance

- Federal statutes require the protection of respondents' information*
- The previous system proved to be breakable
- Any system to protect privacy reduces accuracy and usability





^{*}There's a federal requirement to provide population data at the block level too

Data Suppression



Fake Census Block Populations				
8	18	13	2	15
42	1	3	16	18
4	14	15	6	3
24	18	6	1	3
14	4	8	2	3

Fake Census Block Populations				
8	18	13	2	15
42	S	3	16	18
4	14	15	6	3
24	18	6	S	3
14	4	8	S	3

- Data that could expose personal information is simply not provided
- Used in 1980 for individual cells and for whole tables

Swapping Primer

Determine key to match units

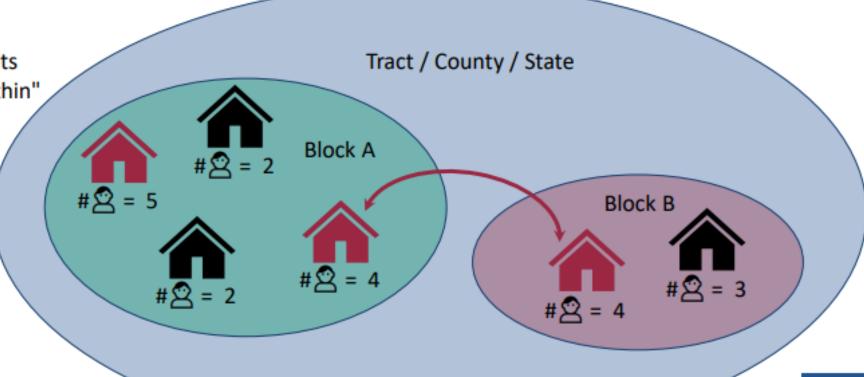
Choose "between" and "within"

geographies

Determine units to swap

Select swap rate

Find swap pairs



Shape your future START HERE >

Census 2020

Noise

Inserting error to increase uncertainty.

14	41	50	58	65
15	24	26	30	25
52	53	66	47	51
68	6	44	17	32
38	26	33	42	64



13	41	51	58	65
15	24	25	30	24
51	54	66	48	51
68	6	44	16	32
38	25	33	42	65



Using differential privacy to protect data means...

- Only state total population will be reported without "noise"
- Distortions in rural areas are likely to be greater than in urban areas
- Distortions in small racial/ethnic groups are likely to be larger than in others

Legal Doctrines

Federal and State





United States Constitution



Federal Statutes



State Constitutions



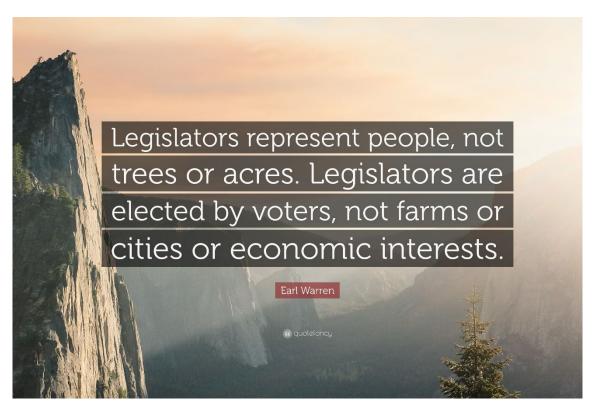
State Statutes/Common Law



Guidelines

US Constitution: One Person, One Vote

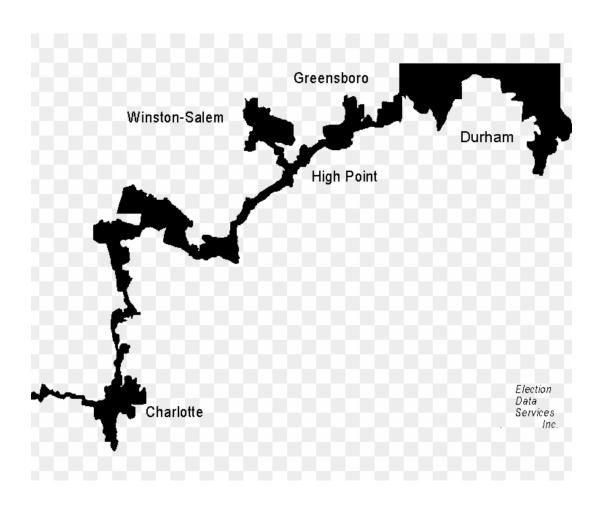




- Principle: Equal Protection requires that votes for legislators and congressmembers hold equal weight
 - Congressional Districts: *Wesberry v. Sanders* (1964)
 - State Legislative Districts: Reynolds v. Sims (1964)
- Application: Varies depending on district type
 - Congressional Districts: Exact numerical equality
 - State Legislative Districts: 10% deviation if justified by compliance with traditional criteria

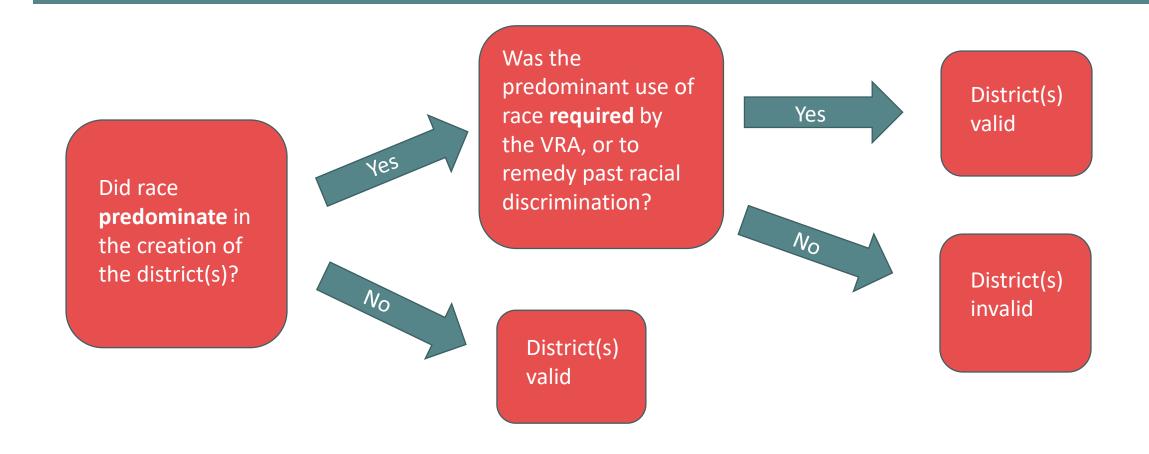
US Constitution: Racial Gerrymandering





- Equal Protection Clause claim
- Origin: Shaw v. Reno (1993)
- Claim has evolved over time
- Test: Predominance
 - Was race the predominant factor in the construction of a particular district?

US Constitution: Racial Gerrymandering



US Constitution: Partisan Gerrymandering





- Major focus at SCOTUS this decade
- Claims based on 1st and 14th
 Amendments
- No longer justiciable in federal courts
- But theories from these cases have successfully been used in state courts







Section 2



Private and Federal Cause of Action The "Bail-In" Remedy for Violating Federal Law



Section 4



Section 5

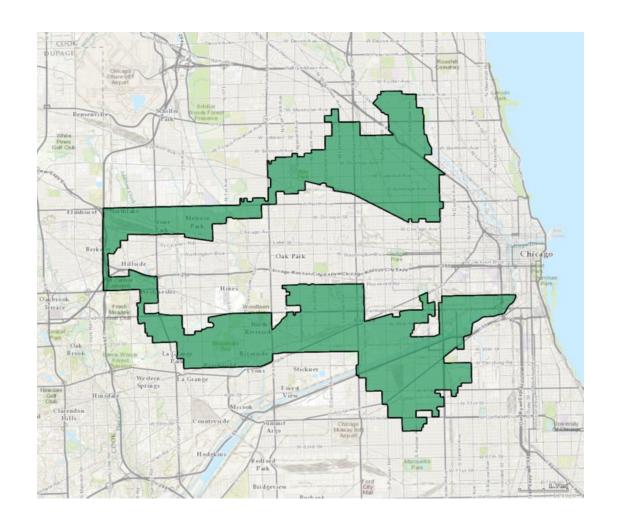
The Preclearance Coverage Formula The Preclearance Regime

Key Sections of the VRA

Section 2: Overview



- Prohibits Vote Dilution
- Applies Nationwide
- Requires litigation (not prophylactic)
- Burden of Proof: Discriminatory Effect
 - Plaintiffs do not need to prove discriminatory intent



Section 2: When Applies

Gingles Preconditions

Sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute majority

Minority group is politically cohesive

White voters act as a bloc to defeat minority group's candidate of choice

Senate Factors

- History of official discrimination
- Racially polarized voting in the state
- Minority vote diluting election procedures
- Minority exclusion from the candidate slating process
- Discrimination in health education and employment
- Subtle or overt racial appeals in campaigns
- Extent of minority success being elected to public office

Key Distinction: Vote Denial vs. Vote Dilution



Vote Denial (Elections)

- Applies to laws denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color
- Localized or statewide impact of challenged law on denial of right to vote
- Key Supreme Court case:
 - Brnovich v. Democratic National Committee (2021)

Vote Dilution (Redistricting)

- Applies to districting plans that hinder a minority group's opportunity to elect its candidate of choice
- Individual district-by-district analysis
- Some key Supreme Court cases:
 - *Mobile v. Bolden* (1980)
 - Thornburg v. Gingles (1986)
 - Bartlett v. Strickland (2009)

Section 3: "Bail-In"

- What: Remedy available from courts who find violation Fourteenth or Fifteenth Amendments to U.S. Constitution.
- How: Judge orders jurisdiction subject to preclearance for future election law changes if it finds proof of discriminatory intent by a defendant.
- When: Limited duration set by judge; not permanent like Sections 4 and 5. Judge has significant discretion in crafting remedy.
- Prevalence: Rare





Sections 4 and 5



SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

Syllabus

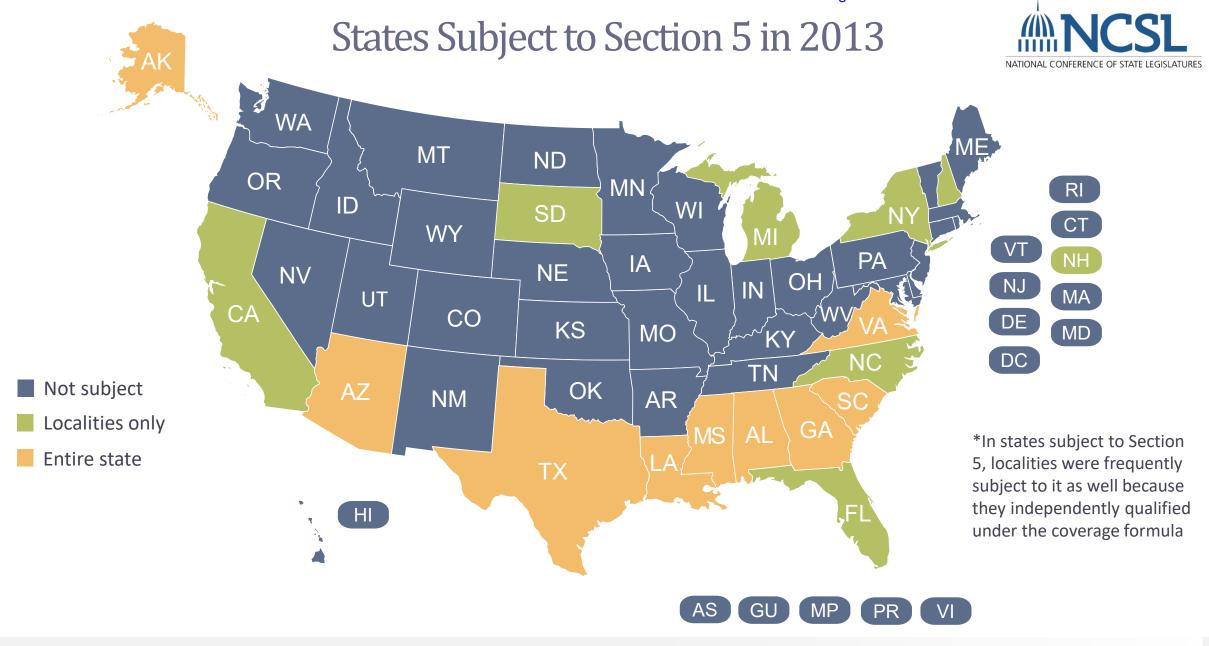
SHELBY COUNTY, ALABAMA v. HOLDER, ATTORNEY GENERAL, ET AL.

CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

No. 12-96. Argued February 27, 2013-Decided June 25, 2013

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was enacted to address entrenched racial discrimination in voting, "an insidious and pervasive evil which had been perpetuated in certain parts of our country through unremitting and ingenious defiance of the Constitution." South Carolina v. Katzenbach, 383 U.S. 301, 309. Section 2 of the Act, which bans any "standard, practice, or procedure" that "results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen . . . to vote on account of race





State Constitutions: Free and Equal Elections Clauses



POLITICO



The request to stay the ruling from the Pennsylvania state Supreme Court was denied without comment or recorded dissent. | Jacqueline Martin/AP Photo

Supreme Court won't block new Pennsylvania congressional map

By **ELENA SCHNEIDER** and **STEVEN SHEPARD** | 03/19/2018 03:51 PM EDT | Updated 03/19/2018

- 30 state constitutions require elections to be some combination of free, equal and fair
- PA and NC courts read this clause to include prohibition on partisan gerrymandering
- North Dakota's constitution does not contain this clause



Federal Statute: Single-Member Districts



"In each State entitled . . . to more than one Representative . . . there shall be established by law a number of districts equal to the number of Representatives to which such State is so entitled, and Representatives shall be elected only from districts so established, no district to elect more than one Representative." – 2 U.S.C. 2a

*Criteria/Principles: Compactness



- Common traditional principle (40 states)
- Two common ways to measure:
 - Polsby-Popper: Area of District

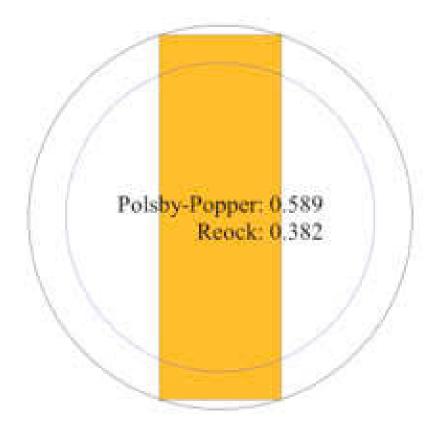
 Area of Circle with

 Same Perimeter as District
 - Reock:

 Area of District

 Area of Smallest

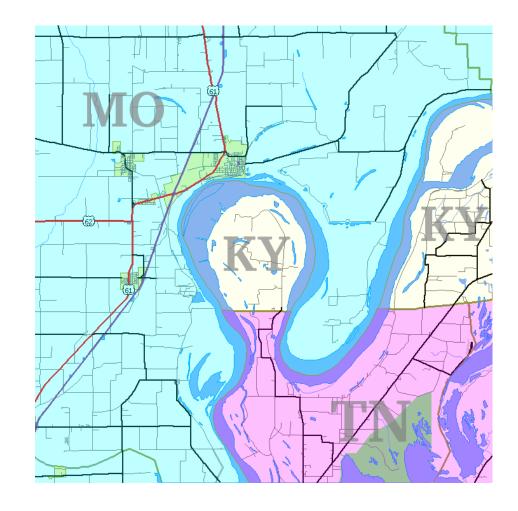
 Encompassing Circle



*Criteria/Principles: Contiguity



- Most common principle (all 50 states)
- General Rule: Must be able to go to every part of the district without leaving it
- Where issues arise:
 - Non-contiguous locality boundaries (usually arises with annexations)
 - Water



Criteria/Principles: Preserving Political Subdivisions



General Application

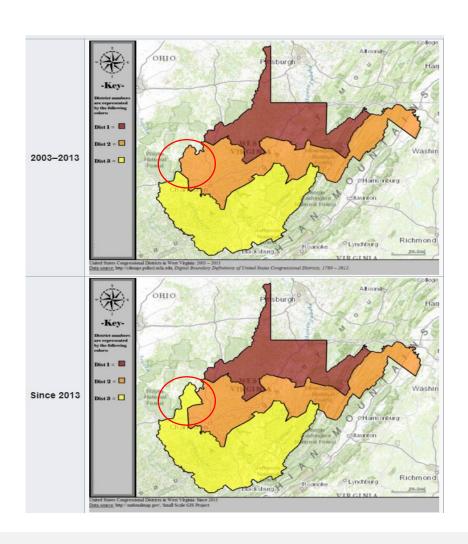
- Common traditional principle (45 states)
- Unless specified, could refer to any type of subdivision
 - County, City, School District, City Council Wards, etc.
- A stand-in for communities of interest or compactness?
- Importance of local political boundaries varies throughout the U.S.

Specific Application: Counties

- Sometimes codified (e.g., Idaho)
- Sometimes judicial (e.g., North Carolina)
- General Idea: keep counties or groups of counties together wherever possible. Only deviate from county borders when necessary to comply with federal laws like the Voting Rights Act or One Person, One Vote

Criteria/Principles: Preserving Cores of Prior Districts





- Somewhat infrequent traditional principle (10 states)
- Rationale: don't unnecessarily break up peoples' relationships with their representatives
- Usually permitted but not required
- Some states (e.g., Arizona) explicitly reject this principle and draw districts anew each decade

Other criteria NCSL tracks



- Preserving communities of interest (25 states)
- Prohibition on favoring/disfavoring an incumbent/party/candidate (17 states)
- Avoid pairing incumbents (11 states)
- Prohibition on using partisan data (5 states)
- Competitiveness (5 states)
- Proportionality (2 states)
- Symmetry (0 states, after repealed by Missouri voters in 2020)

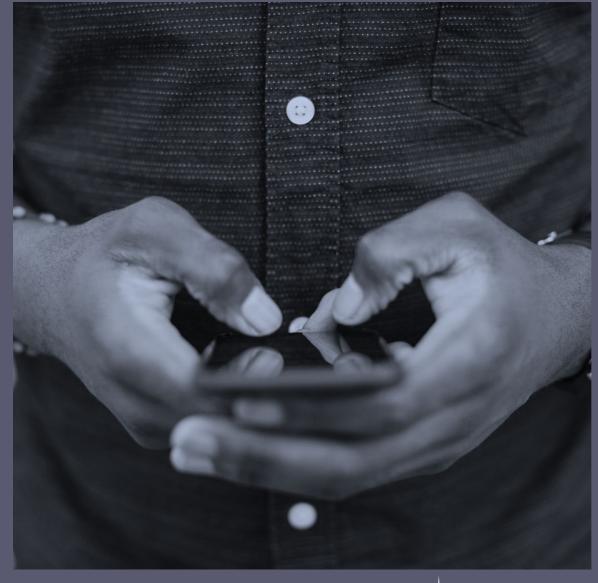
All of this could change via litigation...



- Legal doctrines are always evolving; what's true today may not be tomorrow
- Already there's litigation about:
 - Census Bureau's failure to deliver redistricting data on schedule
 - Alabama
 - Ohio
 - Use of alternative data
 - Illinois
 - Predicted failure to redistrict
 - Minnesota
 - Louisiana
 - Wisconsin
 - Pennsylvania

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Reach out anytime!

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Redistricting

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EXHIBIT 4

Legal Considerations for Subdistricting

Redistricting Committee
September 2021



Subdistricting Multi-Member Districts into Subdistricts

- Multi-member districts are not inherently unlawful but may raise issues under federal law.
- Redistricting bodies may use multi-member or single-member districts for several reasons.
- Federal law provides additional considerations for districting decisions involving race as a factor.
- Subdistricts must comply with the one-person, one-vote principle so the populations in subdistricts must be approximately equal.



Fourteenth Amendment

• Generally, race may not be the "predominant factor" in the creation of a particular district.

However:

- Race may be the predominant factor if the district is "narrowly tailored" to achieve a "compelling state interest;" and
- Race may be one factor out of multiple factors considered in the creation of a particular district.

Compelling State Interest

- Courts have said compelling state interests include:
 - Complying with Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act; and
 - Remedying past discrimination.

Compelling State Interest: Complying with the Voting Rights Act

- Complying with the Voting Rights Act can be a compelling state interest if there is direct evidence the votes of members of a racial minority would be diluted without a majority-minority district.
- Look to the Gingles Preconditions, which are covered in an upcoming slide, to help with this analysis.

Compelling State Interest: Remedying Past Discrimination

To show a compelling state interest in remedying past discrimination:

- The state must identify the past discrimination, which may have been public or private, with some specificity, and
- The redistricting body must have had a "strong basis in evidence" to conclude remedial action was necessary before engaging in the remedy.



Narrowly Tailored

- The remedy needs to correct the identified problem without going too far.
- To show a plan is narrowly tailored to complying with the Voting Rights Act, the state needs to show it "has good reason to think that all the <u>Gingles</u> preconditions were met..."
 - If the Gingles preconditions were met, courts then may consider the Senate Factors.

Gingles Preconditions

Senate Factors

- The minority group is sufficiently numerous and compact to form a majority in a single-member district.
- The minority group is "politically cohesive" (i.e., tends to vote similarly).
- The majority group votes as a block (i.e., tends to vote similarly) so the minority group's candidate of choice usually is defeated.

- History of official discrimination
- Racially polarized voting in the state
- Election procedures that diluted the minority vote
- Minority exclusion from the candidate slating process
- Effects of discrimination in health, education, and employment
- Subtle or overt racial appeals in campaigns
- Lack of elected officials' responsiveness to needs of minority
- Extent of minority success being elected to public office



Questions?



EXHIBIT 5

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Government Administration Committee was assigned a study of space needs of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches, and the Ethics Commission.

Committee members were Senators Randy A. Burckhard (Chairman), Jerry Klein, Scott Meyer, and Erin Oban, and Representatives Rick Becker, Glenn Bosch, Jared C. Hagert, Karla Rose Hanson, Pat D. Heinert, Karen Karls, Jim Kasper, Lawrence R. Klemin, Ben Koppelman, Todd Porter, Shannon Roers Jones, and Dan Ruby.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

STUDY OF SPACE NEEDS

The Government Administration Committee studied space needs of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches, and the Ethics Commission. The study included:

- A review of each branch's and the Ethics Commission's employee work location policies;
- An assessment of the space needs of each branch and the Ethics Commission to fulfill their constitutional and statutory responsibilities;
- An evaluation of state agency leases of space from private and other governmental entities in Bismarck, amounts being paid for these leases, and state agency rental payments being made to the Office of Management and Budget from special and federal funds;
- Consideration of the feasibility and desirability of the Office of Management and Budget charging rent to agencies
 receiving funding from the general fund; and
- The development of a space utilization plan for the Capitol complex.

The study included consideration of whether adequately sized committee rooms, appropriate accommodations under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and flexible meeting areas are available.

Legislative Branch Space

The committee received testimony from the Legislative Council indicating:

- The most significant changes in legislative committee rooms over the last 3 decades occurred during the 2021 legislative session due to the need for social distancing resulting from the COVID-19 emergency.
- The 2021 changes expanded the legislative presence in the judicial wing of the State Capitol through the construction of four new committee rooms.
- Most feedback from legislators and others regarding the newly constructed meeting rooms was positive and many legislators expressed interest in continuing to use the rooms.
- The legislative branch has retained control over the four new rooms since the conclusion of the 2021 legislative session; however, the long-term jurisdiction over the rooms has not been formally resolved.
- North Dakota Century Code Section 48-08-04 identifies areas of the State Capitol which may not be used without the authorization of the Legislative Council.

Recommendations

The committee recommends <u>Senate Bill No. 2349</u> to transfer certain space in the judicial wing of the State Capitol, including judicial wing room 216 and judicial wing rooms 327 B, C, and E, from the State Department of Health and the Department of Human Services to the legislative branch.

GOVERNMENT FINANCE COMMITTEE - SENATE BILL NO. 2290 STUDY

The Chairman of the Legislative Management directed the Government Finance Committee to study the provisions of Senate Bill No. 2290 (2021). The study must include a determination of the appropriateness of the bill's requirement for the Legislative Assembly to approve any Emergency Commission requests to expend funds after the aggregate amount of federal fund requests approved by the commission in a biennium has exceeded \$50 million and after the aggregate amount of other funds requests approved by the commission in a biennium has exceeded \$5 million. The committee is required to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislative Management by October 2021.

As approved by the Legislative Assembly, Senate Bill No. 2290 required the Budget Section to approve requests to receive and spend state special funds and federal funds during the interim if the request exceeds \$50,000. If the request exceeds \$50,000 but is less than \$3 million, the spending request may not be amended by the Budget Section. Requests exceeding \$3 million may be amended by the Budget Section, and any amended requests approved by the Budget Section are deemed to be approved by the Emergency Commission. The Budget Section may not approve more than \$50 million of federal funds spending requests or more than \$5 million of state special funds spending requests in aggregate during a biennium. The Legislative Assembly must approve any spending request for federal funds exceeding \$50 million, but Federal Highway Administration emergency relief funding and emergency recovery funding are exempt from the approval limits. The bill included an emergency clause and became effective April 29, 2021.

Committee members were Representatives Michael Howe (Chairman), Pamela Anderson, Jeff Delzer, Jared C. Hagert, Gary Kreidt, Lisa Meier, Corey Mock, Dave Nehring, Gary Paur, Mike Schatz, Jim Schmidt, Steve Vetter, Don Vigesaa and Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Richard Marcellais, Ronald Sorvaag.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

EMERGENCY COMMISSION - BRIEF HISTORY

The Emergency Commission was created in 1915 when the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$25,000 to establish a state contingencies funding pool to address state emergencies. As defined in North Dakota Century Code Section 54-16-00.1, an emergency means a calamity or an unforeseen happening subsequent to the time the appropriation was made and which was clearly not within the contemplation of the Legislative Assembly and the Governor. Initially, the Emergency Commission consisted of the Governor, the Secretary of State, and the State Auditor. Currently, the Emergency Commission consists of the Governor, the Secretary of State, the chairmen of the Appropriations Committees, and the majority leaders of the House and Senate. Until 1975, the Emergency Commission could approve any requests from the state contingencies funding pool up to the total amount appropriated by the Legislative Assembly; however, starting in 1975, Budget Section approval was required when the aggregate approvals from the state contingencies funding pool exceeded \$500,000. In Senate Bill No. 2015 (1999), the Legislative Assembly amended Section 54-16-04.1 and 54-16-04.2 requiring Budget Section approval to receive and spend state special funds or federal funds only if the request exceeded \$50,000.

During the 1989-90 interim, the Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee noted various state agency audit reports included a recommendation for state agencies to comply with Section 12 of Article X of the Constitution of North Dakota, which requires public money to be spent only pursuant to an appropriation made by the Legislative Assembly. As a result, the 1991 Legislative Assembly approved Senate Bill No. 2168 to provide an appropriation of \$10 million of special funds authority to create a special funds state contingencies funding pool, which the Emergency Commission could disburse to state agencies as needed. However, the Legislative Assembly amended Section 54-16-04.2 in Section 11 of Senate Bill No. 2015 (1995) to remove the provision that limited the approvals of the Emergency Commission for state special funds to the amount appropriated by the Legislative Assembly. Therefore, the appropriation of special funds authority for a special funds state contingencies funding pool was removed from the budget in the 1995-97 biennium, and the state contingencies funding pool consisted of \$500,000 from the general fund only.

RECENT BUDGET SECTION SPENDING APPROVALS

Since the 2007-08 interim, the Budget Section approved the following requests, which also were approved by the Emergency Commission, for the acceptance and expenditure of additional state special funds and federal funds:

	Total Requests	State Special Funds	Federal Funds
2007-08 interim	33	\$20,988,584	\$70,454,427
2009-10 interim	39	\$2,130,000 ¹	\$63,413,419 ¹
2011-12 interim	28	\$546,000 ²	\$25,904,860 ²
2013-14 interim	24	\$1,987,856 ³	\$7,169,024 ³

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	Total Requests	State Special Funds	Federal Funds
2015-16 interim	17	\$1,460,000 ⁴	\$1,558,365 ⁴
2017-18 interim	11	\$231,550 ⁵	\$31,124,500 ⁵
2019-20 interim	62	\$40,595,000 ⁶	\$1,883,802,474 ⁶

¹These amounts include \$50,701,861 of federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding, but exclude \$131,418,750 related to federal disaster relief funding and \$81,750,000 of emergency transportation funding (\$6,750,000 of matching funds from the state highway fund and \$75,500,000 of Federal Highway Administration emergency relief funds).

- ²These amounts include \$7,000,000 of federal ARRA funding, but exclude \$386,710,411 related to disaster relief funding (\$33,610,411 from the state disaster relief fund and \$353,100,000 of federal funds) and \$387,100,000 of emergency transportation funding (\$32,400,000 of matching funds from the state highway fund and \$354,700,000 of Federal Highway Administration emergency relief funds).
- ³These amounts exclude \$27,332,970 from the state disaster relief fund and \$11,134,875 from federal funds related to disaster relief funding.
- ⁴These amounts exclude \$32,307,427 from the state disaster relief fund related to disaster relief funding.
- ⁵These amounts exclude \$4,512,468 from the state disaster relief fund related to disaster relief funding.
- ⁶These amounts include \$1,772,634,147 of federal coronavirus relief funding, but exclude \$494,915 from the state disaster relief fund related to disaster relief funding.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS Bill Drafts

The committee considered a bill draft relating to Emergency Commission and Budget Section approval to accept and disburse federal funds and state special funds based on an adjustment to the current limits. The bill draft would have increased the approval limit for federal funds by \$25 million, from \$50 million to \$75 million per biennium. The bill draft also would have increased the approval limit for state special funds by \$70 million, from \$5 million to \$75 million per biennium.

The committee considered a bill draft relating to Emergency Commission and Budget Section approval to accept and disburse federal funds and state special funds based on percentage limits. The bill draft replaces the approval limit of \$50 million for federal funds with an amount based on 2 percent of the current biennial state general fund budget as approved by the Legislative Assembly. The approval limit of \$5 million for state special funds is replaced with an amount based on 1 percent of the current biennial state general fund budget as approved by the Legislative Assembly. The bill draft also includes other minor updates for clarity and consistency. Based on the 2021-23 biennium general fund budget of \$4,992,957,330, the approval limits under the provisions of this bill draft would be \$99,859,147 for federal funds and \$49,929,573 for special funds.

Recommendations

The committee recommends a bill draft [21.1085.01000] for consideration during a 2021 special or reconvened legislative session or during the 2023 regular legislative session relating to Emergency Commission and Budget Section approval to accept and disburse federal funds and state special funds based on percentage limits. The committee also recommends the Legislative Management consider temporarily increasing the state special fund approval limit by \$15 million, from \$5 million to \$20 million, for the remainder of the 2021-23 biennium during a 2021 special or reconvened legislative session.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Pursuant to a Legislative Management Chairman directive, the Human Services Committee was assigned the duty to review the behavioral health bed management system authorized by the 2021 Legislative Assembly to determine if any statutory changes for the program are needed.

Committee members are Senators Judy Lee (Chairman), Howard C. Anderson, Jr., JoNell A. Bakke, Jason G. Heitkamp, Kathy Hogan, and David Hogue and Representatives Gretchen Dobervich, Clayton Fegley, Dwight Kiefert, Alisa Mitskog, Karen M. Rohr, Matthew Ruby, Mark Sanford, Mary Schneider, Randy A. Schobinger, Kathy Skroch, Michelle Strinden, and Greg Westlind.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM Background

North Dakota Century Code Section 50-06-41.3, as created in <u>House Bill No. 1012 (2021)</u>, requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to establish and maintain a behavioral health bed management system to improve utilization of behavioral health bed capacity. The section requires public and private providers of residential or inpatient behavioral health services to participate in and report daily to DHS the information and documentation necessary to maintain the system. The database can then be used by providers to identify available behavioral health beds in the state.

Testimony and Committee Discussion

The committee received testimony indicating many behavioral health programs managed by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) are licensed by DHS and would be included in the behavioral health bed management system. However, because behavioral health beds managed by DOCR are not available to the public, it may not be appropriate to include those beds in the database.

Committee Recommendation

The committee recommends <u>Senate Bill No. 2348</u> to amend Section 50-06-41.3 to exclude DOCR from participating in the behavioral health bed management system.

INTERIM HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Legislative Management appointed an Interim House Appropriations Committee and assigned the committee the following duties:

- Review proposals to use funding from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund established through the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and develop recommendations for the use of funds.
- Review legislative appropriations from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and recommend any
 necessary changes to existing appropriations from the fund and develop recommendations regarding the use
 of any remaining available funding.
- Consider any other budget adjustments requiring legislation that are necessary before the 2023 regular legislative session.

Committee members were Representatives Jeff Delzer (Chairman), Bert Anderson, Larry Bellew, Tracy Boe, Mike Brandenburg, Michael Howe, Keith Kempenich, Gary Kreidt, Bob Martinson, Lisa Meier, Alisa Mitskog, Corey Mock, David Monson, Mike Nathe, Jon O. Nelson, Mark Sanford, Mike Schatz, Jim Schmidt, Randy A. Schobinger, Michelle Strinden, and Don Vigesaa.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 included \$219.8 billion for the State Fiscal Recovery Fund. Of this amount, \$195.3 billion is available to the states, \$25.5 billion will be distributed equally to the states and the District of Columbia, resulting in \$500 million allocated to each state. After an additional \$755 million is distributed to the District of Columbia, the remaining \$169 billion will be distributed to the states based on each state's share of seasonally adjusted unemployed persons for the 3-month period ending December 2020. North Dakota's allocation from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund is \$1,007,502,515. The funds have been received and are on deposit in the Bank of North Dakota.

Allowable Uses

Allowable uses of funding from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, which must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026, are as follows:

- Costs related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, including assistance to households, small businesses, nonprofits, and affected industries, such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- Provide premium pay of up to \$13 per hour in addition to base pay, up to a maximum of \$25,000, to state, territory, or tribal government workers who perform essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic, or provide grants to employers with employees who perform essential work, which is defined as work needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure and other sectors designated by the Governor as critical to protect the health and well-being of residents;
- The cost of providing government services to the extent there was lost revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Investment costs in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

States may not use the funding to reduce taxes directly or indirectly between March 3, 2021, and the last day of the fiscal year in which funds received have been spent or returned. States cannot use funds to make payments to pension plans. The Office of Management and Budget submitted \$1.8 billion of revenue loss as of December 2020; therefore, the funds should be able to be used for the cost of government services.

FEDERAL CORONAVIRUS CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$10 billion to the United States Department of the Treasury for a Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to provide payments to states, territories, freely associated states, and tribal governments "to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)."

North Dakota received an initial allocation of \$112,473,563 from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. North Dakota's allocation was later increased to \$113,276,228. The Legislative Assembly, based on initial information provided regarding the fund, approved using \$106,474,000 of the funding for the following projects for the 2021-23 biennium:

Agency	Project	Amount
Office of Management and Budget	Medical center construction grant	\$500,000
Judicial branch	Information technology equipment	157,600
Department of Public Instruction	Children's science center grant	5,900,000
University of North Dakota	Airport apron project	5,000,000
Dickinson State University	Pulver Hall and meat processing laboratory projects	4,000,000
Department of Career and	Statewide area career center initiative grant program	70,000,000
Technical Education		
Highway Patrol	Law Enforcement Training Academy remodel project	3,000,000
State Historical Society	Capital project planning and historic site repairs	4,200,000
Parks and Recreation Department	Deferred maintenance projects and repayment of International Peace Garden project loan	11,716,400
Agriculture Commissioner	Intermodal facility grant program	2,000,000
Total - 2021-23 appropriations		\$106,474,000

Eligible Uses Based on September 2021 Guidance

The September 2021 guidance provides grant funds may be used for critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to COVID-19. To be eligible for funding, a project must meet all of the following criteria:

- 1. The capital project invests in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring;
- 2. The capital project is designed to address a critical need that resulted from or was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
- 3. The capital project is designed to address a critical need of the community to be served by it.

PROPOSALS RECEIVED

The committee reviewed proposals from members of the Legislative Assembly and the Governor for the use of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds and for other budget adjustments as detailed in this section.

Federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund

The committee reviewed a proposal to adjust the funding source of certain projects that received an appropriation from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund during the 2021 regular legislative session. The proposal would change the funding source of nine projects from the fund to federal state fiscal recovery funds.

Agency	Description	Amount
Office of Management and Budget	Medical center construction grant	\$500,000
Judicial branch	Information technology equipment	157,600
Department of Public Instruction	Children's science center grant	5,900,000
University of North Dakota	Airport apron project	5,000,000
Dickinson State University	Pulver Hall and meat processing laboratory projects	4,000,000
Highway Patrol	Law Enforcement Training Academy remodel project	3,000,000
State Historical Society	Capital project planning and historic site repairs	4,200,000
Parks and Recreation Department	Deferred maintenance projects and repayment of International Peace Garden project loan	11,716,400
Agriculture Commissioner	Intermodal facility grant program	2,000,000
Total		\$36,474,000

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds

The committee reviewed 156 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds as follows:

Category	Proposals Received
Infrastructure	The committee reviewed 15 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for infrastructure projects, including natural gas pipelines, roads, water control, and other projects.
Aid to political subdivisions	The committee reviewed 33 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds to provide aid to political subdivisions for road and bridge projects, local park district infrastructure projects, water and sewer projects, and other purposes.

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Category	Proposals Received
Capital improvements	The committee reviewed 34 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for capital projects for state agency and institution building projects, deferred maintenance, and other purposes.
Information technology	The committee reviewed 19 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for information technology projects, including cybersecurity enhancements, state agency software projects, and other purposes.
Economic development	The committee reviewed 29 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for economic development, including research programs, workforce initiatives, business incentives, and other purposes.
Other proposals	The committee reviewed 26 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for other purposes, including human service programs, long-term care facility assistance, child care programs, and other purposes.

Other Budget Adjustments

The committee reviewed 27 proposals for other budget adjustments. The proposals included adjustments to federal spending authority for agencies, the authorization of new full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, additional authority to allow for the distribution of federal local fiscal recovery funds, and other purposes.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS Bill Draft 21.1104.06000

The committee recommends <u>House Bill No. 1505</u> to appropriate \$509,150,228 of federal COVID-19 relief funding, of which \$113,276,228 is from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, \$383,474,000 is from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund, and \$12,400,000 is from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund to various state agencies, as follows:

Federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund				
Agency Description		Federal Funds		
Department of Career and Technical Education ¹	Section 1 - Statewide area career center initiative grant program for career academies	\$50,000,000		
Information Technology Department	Section 8 - Broadband infrastructure grants to providers to expand coverage and ensure reliable high-speed broadband Internet to all addresses in the state			
Total		\$113,276,228		

¹<u>House Bill No. 1015 (2021)</u> provided \$70 million from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Department of Career and Technical Education for career academies. Section 1 of the bill draft would provide a total of \$80 million for this purpose, of which \$50 million is from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and \$30 million is from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

	Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
Agency	Description	Federal Funds		
Department of Career and Technical Education ¹	Section 1 - Statewide area career center initiative grant program	\$30,000,000		
Department of Public Instruction	Section 1 - Grant to a children's science center project to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	5,900,000		
University of North Dakota	Section 1 - Funding to reconstruct the University of North Dakota apron at Grand Forks International Airport to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	5,000,000		
Dickinson State University	Section 1 - Funding for Dickinson State University projects, including a Pulver Hall project, a meat processing laboratory remodel, and other projects to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	4,000,000		
Highway Patrol	Section 1 - Funding for a Law Enforcement Training Academy Center to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	3,000,000		
Office of Management and Budget	Section 1 - Medical center grant to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	500,000		
Judicial branch	Section 1 - Information technology equipment to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1015 (2021)	157,600		
State Historical Society	Section 2 - Historic site deferred maintenance to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1018 (2021)	4,200,000		

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
Agency	Description	Federal Funds	
Parks and Recreation Department	Section 3 - State park deferred maintenance and essential infrastructure to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1019 (2021)	7,900,000	
Parks and Recreation Department	Section 4 - State park capital improvements to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1019 (2021)	816,400	
Parks and Recreation Department	Section 5 - Funding for the International Peace Garden to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in House Bill No. 1019 (2021)	3,000,000	
Agriculture Commissioner	Section 6 - Intermodal facility construction grant program to replace funding from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund in Senate Bill No. 2245 (2021)	2,000,000	
Department of Transportation	Section 7 - State road and bridge projects (\$200 million), to improve county bridges (\$50 million), for allocations to counties based on the highway tax distribution formula (\$50 million), and for allocations to townships (\$17 million), which was appropriated in House Bill No. 1395 (2021)	317,000,000	
Total		\$383,474,000	

¹<u>House Bill No. 1015 (2021)</u> provided \$70 million from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Department of Career and Technical Education for career academies. Section 1 of the bill draft would provide a total of \$80 million for this purpose, of which \$50 million is from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and \$30 million is from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund			
Agency	Description	Federal Funds	
Department of Human Services	Section 9 - Payroll expenses	\$4,400,000	
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Section 9 - Payroll expenses	7,000,000	
Adjutant General	Section 9 - Payroll expenses	1,000,000	
Total		\$12,400,000	

Bill Draft 21.1130.03000

The committee recommends <u>House Bill No. 1506</u> to appropriate funding to the State Treasurer, Attorney General, Department of Human Services, Retirement and Investment Office, and Department of Public Instruction; transfer Bank of North Dakota profits to the University of North Dakota; authorize 16 FTE Department of Human Services positions; provide Department of Human Services transfer authority; and authorize 6 FTE Retirement and Investment Office positions, as follows:

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund			
Agency	Description	Federal Funds	
Department of Public Instruction	Section 16 - Information technology project upgrades in lieu of withholding state school aid from school districts not eligible for federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding allocations		
Total		\$100,000	

Other Fiscal Items			
Agency	Description	Special Funds	Federal Funds
State Treasurer	Section 1 - Provides additional appropriation authority to the State Treasurer to distribute funding from the federal Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to cities, to provide a total of \$53,174,975 appropriated to the State Treasurer for this purpose		\$3,014,975
University of North Dakota	Section 2 - Transfers Bank of North Dakota profits to the University of North Dakota for campus network upgrades	750,000	0
Attorney General	Section 3 - Funding from the Attorney General refund fund for State Crime Laboratory salary equity increases		0
Department of Human Services	Section 4 - Authorizes 16 FTE positions for the Department of Human Services	0	0

Other Fiscal Items							
Agency	Description	Special Funds	Federal Funds				
Department of Human Services	Section 5 - Appropriates federal funding due to the increased federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) and provides the department an exemption to use up to \$16 million of any general fund savings to address any decreases in the regular FMAP rate	0	79,600,000				
Department of Human Services	Section 6 - Medicaid postpartum coverage	0	600,000				
Department of Human Services	Section 7 - Lifespan respite care program	0	386,690				
Department of Human Services	Section 8 - Vulnerable adult protection services program	0	1,936,350				
Department of Human Services	Section 9 - Supplemental nutrition assistance program verification database	0	239,558				
Department of Human Services	Section 10 - Children and Family Services transition program	0	1,168,347				
Department of Human Services	Section 11 - Provides line item transfer authority to the Department of Human Services for House Bill Nos. 1394 and 1395 (2021)	0	0				
Department of Human Services	Section 12 - Funding for the State Hospital	0	200,000				
Department of Human Services	Section 13 - Money follows the person capacity program	0	5,000,000				
Department of Human Services	Section 14 - Randolph Sheppard vocational rehabilitation program	0	22,663				
Retirement and Investment Office	Section 15 - Authorizes 6 new FTE positions and appropriates funding for salaries and operating expenses	1,806,862	0				
Department of Public Instruction	Section 16 - Funding from state school aid withholding for information technology upgrades	10,000,000	0				
Total		\$13,094,159	\$92,168,583				

Bill Draft 21.1137.01000

The committee recommends a bill draft [21.1137.01000] to appropriate \$570,035,705 from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund, included in Section 1 of the bill, as follows:

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund					
Agency	Description	Federal Funds			
Industrial Commission	Pipeline infrastructure to transport natural gas from western to eastern North Dakota	\$150,000,000			
Industrial Commission	Abandoned oil well conversion to water supply grant program to convert abandoned wells to livestock freshwater supply wells for permanent drought resiliency	3,200,000			
Department of Water Resources	Water projects with \$50 million used to replace funding from the resources trust fund for current projects	75,000,000			
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Stipends to county jails for costs to house inmates sentenced to the department but deferred admission due to the pandemic	4,800,000			
Parks and Recreation Department	Grants to local park districts to renovate and upgrade existing outdoor facilities with a maximum of \$1.5 million per park district and a 1-to-1 matching requirement	5,000,000			
North Dakota State University Main Research Center	Capital projects, including \$446,000 for projects at the Carrington Research Extension Center (REC), \$1,963,000 at the Central Grasslands REC, \$3,420,000 at the Hettinger REC, and \$2,200,000 at the Dickinson REC	8,029,000			
State Department of Health	Public health laboratory project	15,000,000			
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Free through recovery program for capacity increase, wait time reduction, recidivism reduction, and to improve outcomes	2,995,200			
Parks and Recreation Department	State park deferred maintenance or small capital projects with each of the 13 state parks receiving a minimum of \$100,000	10,000,000			
Office of Management and Budget	Critical maintenance projects	10,000,000			
Office of Management and Budget	Human resources transformation initiative				

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Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund						
Agency	Description	Federal Funds				
Office of Management and Budget	Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning improvements to the legislative chambers and Brynhild Haugland Room	7,000,000				
State Historical Society	Essential infrastructure at historic sites	950,000				
State Board of Higher Education	High performance computing at North Dakota State University	2,200,000				
State Board of Higher Education	Higher education capital projects, including \$25 million for Hartnett Hall at Minot State University, \$50 million for Merrifield Hall at the University of North Dakota, and \$38 million for a polytechnic building at Bismarck State College	113,000,000				
State Board of Higher Education	Equipment and personnel for hyperbaric oxygen therapy at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences	2,104,121				
State Board of Higher Education	Dakota Digital Academy	475,000				
Attorney General	Establishment of a missing persons database	75,000				
Attorney General	Replacement of the prosecuting case management system	1,000,000				
Information Technology Department	Funding for radios compatible with the statewide interoperable radio network, including \$2,612,000 for the Highway Patrol and \$2,057,384 for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	4,669,384				
Information Technology Department	Grant to the North Dakota Stockmen's Association for the conversion of a paper-based brand inspection program to an electronic system	401,000				
Adjutant General	State active-duty software replacement project	450,000				
Judicial branch	Supreme Court docket system replacement project	2,020,000				
Office of Administrative Hearings	Development of a web-based document management system	20,000				
Department of Human Services	Retention bonuses for direct service professionals serving clients with intellectual or developmental disabilities	2,500,000				
Department of Human Services	Funding for long-term care facilities, including nursing facilities (\$20.8 million), basic care facilities (\$2.95 million), and assisted living facilities (\$1.25 million)	25,000,000				
Department of Human Services	Funding for western North Dakota behavioral health (\$4 million), child care services (\$17 million), Medicaid eligibility system upgrades (\$5 million), and substance use disorder treatment voucher system grants (\$3 million)	29,000,000				
Department of Human Services	North Dakota Pregnancy Resource Network	1,500,000				
Adjutant General	Camp Grafton housing enhancements	2,000,000				
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Grant to assist in the construction of the \$8 million Fisher House at the Fargo VA Medical Center	500,000				
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Improve and expand veteran medical transportation	147,000				
Bank of North Dakota	Fuel production facility loan forgiveness program	21,000,000				
Department of Commerce	Transfer to the innovation technology loan fund program	5,000,000				
Department of Commerce	Hydrogen development grants	20,000,000				
Department of Commerce	Autonomous agriculture matching grant program to accelerate innovation and research within the autonomous agriculture industry, also known as the Grand Farm Initiative	10,000,000				
Department of Commerce	Local workforce development incentive grant program to support efforts to recruit, retain, or retrain workers. Requires 25 percent matching funds from local sources.	15,000,000				
Department of Commerce	Technical skills training grant program for the expansion of successful workforce training programs to allow businesses to establish or expand internal training and training for new workers and workforce innovation grant programs to focus on attracting skilled workers to the state from targeted communities and regions	5,000,000				
State Board of Higher Education	Establishment of a Center for Space Education and Research at the University of North Dakota	10,000,000				
Aeronautics Commission	Airport grants	5,000,000				
Total		\$570,035,705				

Department of Transportation

The bill also includes a \$100 million appropriation in Section 2 from federal funds in excess of the regular federal funding amounts included in the Department of Transportation's 2021-23 biennium budget, to the Department of Transportation for road and bridge construction projects for the remainder of the 2021-23 biennium.

Appropriation Recommendation Summary

The following is a summary of the committee's appropriation recommendations:

Bill Draft	Federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund	Federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund	Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund	Other Federal Funds	Special Funds	Total
21.1104.06000	\$383,474,000	\$113,276,228	\$12,400,000	\$0	\$0	\$509,150,228
21.1130.02000	100,000	0	0	92,168,583	13,094,159	105,362,742
21.1137.01000	570,035,705	0	0	100,000,000	0	670,035,705
Total	\$953,609,705	\$113,276,228	\$12,400,000	\$192,168,583	\$13,094,159	\$1,284,548,675

Bill Draft 21.1135.02000

The committee recommends a bill draft [21.1135.02000] to provide legislative intent to reduce integrated formula payments to school districts eligible to receive ESSER funds by a one-time amount of \$88 per student based on fall 2021 enrollment for information technology upgrades to the state automated reporting system and the statewide longitudinal data system. Legislative intent is provided that the Department of Public Instruction use ESSER funds appropriated to the department by the 2021 Legislative Assembly to reimburse eligible school districts for the amount of integrated formula payments withheld.

Bill Draft 21.1134.01000

The committee recommends <u>House Bill No. 1507</u> to amend North Dakota Century Code Chapter 15.1-21 to require school districts to offer computer science and cybersecurity courses to students.

INTERIM SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Legislative Management appointed an Interim Senate Appropriations Committee and assigned the committee the following duties:

- Review proposals to use funding from the federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund established through the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and develop recommendations for the use of funds.
- Review legislative appropriations from the federal Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and recommend any necessary changes to existing appropriations from the fund and develop recommendations regarding the use of any remaining available funding.
- Consider any other budget adjustments requiring legislation that are necessary before the 2023 regular legislative session.

Committee members were Senators Ray Holmberg (Chairman), Brad Bekkedahl, Kyle Davison, Dick Dever, Robert Erbele, Joan Heckaman, David Hogue, Karen K. Krebsbach, Tim Mathern, Dave Oehlke, Nicole Poolman, David S. Rust, Ronald Sorvaag, and Terry M. Wanzek.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 included \$219.8 billion for the State Fiscal Recovery Fund. Of this amount, \$195.3 billion is available to states, \$25.5 billion will be distributed equally to the states and District of Columbia, resulting in \$500 million allocated to each state. After an additional \$755 million is distributed to the District of Columbia, the remaining \$169 billion will be distributed to the states based on each state's share of seasonally adjusted unemployed persons for the 3-month period ending December 2020. North Dakota's allocation from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund is \$1,007,502,515. The funds have been received and are on deposit in the Bank of North Dakota.

Allowable Uses

Allowable uses of funding from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, which must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026, are as follows:

- Costs related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, including assistance to households, small businesses, nonprofits, and affected industries, such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- Provide premium pay of up to \$13 per hour in addition to base pay, up to a maximum of \$25,000, to state, territory, or tribal government workers who perform essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic, or provide grants to employers with employees who perform essential work, which is defined as work needed to maintain continuity of operations of critical infrastructure and other sectors designated by the Governor as critical to protect the health and well-being of residents;
- The cost of providing government services to the extent there was lost revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Investment costs in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

States may not use the funding to reduce taxes directly or indirectly between March 3, 2021, and the last day of the fiscal year in which funds received have been spent or returned. States cannot use funds to make payments to pension plans. The Office of Management and Budget submitted \$1.8 billion of revenue loss as of December 2020; therefore, the funds should be able to be used for the cost of government services.

CORONAVIRUS CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated \$10 billion to the United States Department of the Treasury for a Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to provide payments to states, territories, freely associated states, and tribal governments "to carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)."

North Dakota received an initial allocation of \$112,473,563 from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. North Dakota's allocation was later increased to \$113,276,228. The Legislative Assembly, based on initial information

provided regarding the fund, approved using \$106,474,000 of the funding for the following projects for the 2021-23 biennium:

Agency	Project	Amount
Office of Management and Budget	Medical center construction grant	\$500,000
Judicial branch	Information technology equipment	157,600
Department of Public Instruction	Children's science center grant	5,900,000
University of North Dakota	Airport apron project	5,000,000
Dickinson State University	Pulver Hall and meat processing laboratory projects	4,000,000
Department of Career and	Statewide area career center initiative grant program	70,000,000
Technical Education		
Highway Patrol	Law Enforcement Training Academy remodel project	3,000,000
State Historical Society	Capital project planning and historic site repairs	4,200,000
Parks and Recreation Department	Deferred maintenance projects and repayment of International Peace Garden project loan	11,716,400
Agriculture Commissioner	Intermodal facility grant program	2,000,000
Total - 2021-23 appropriations		\$106,474,000

Eligible Uses Based on September 2021 Guidance

The September 2021 guidance provides grant funds may be used for critical capital projects that directly enable work, education, and health monitoring in response to COVID-19. To be eligible for funding, a project must meet all of the following criteria:

- 1. The capital project invests in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring;
- 2. The capital project is designed to address a critical need that resulted from or was made apparent or exacerbated by the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
- 3. The capital project is designed to address a critical need of the community to be served by it.

PROPOSALS RECEIVED

The committee reviewed proposals from members of the Legislative Assembly and the Governor for the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds and for other budget adjustments as detailed in this section.

Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund

The committee reviewed a proposal to adjust the funding source of certain projects that received an appropriation from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund during the 2021 regular legislative session. The proposal would change the funding source of nine projects from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to federal state fiscal recovery funds.

Federal State Fiscal Recovery Funds

The committee reviewed 156 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds as follows:

Category	Proposals Received
Infrastructure	The committee reviewed 15 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for infrastructure projects, including natural gas pipelines, roads, water control, and other projects.
Aid to political subdivisions	The committee reviewed 33 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds to provide aid to political subdivisions for road and bridge projects, local park district infrastructure projects, water and sewer projects, and other purposes.
Capital improvements	The committee reviewed 34 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for capital projects for state agency and institution building projects, deferred maintenance, and other purposes.
Information technology	The committee reviewed 19 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for information technology projects, including cybersecurity enhancements, state agency software projects, and other purposes.
Economic Development	The committee reviewed 29 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for economic development, including research programs, workforce initiatives, business incentives, and other purposes.
Other proposals	The committee reviewed 26 proposals to use federal state fiscal recovery funds for other purposes, including human service programs, long-term care facility assistance, child care programs, and other purposes.

Other Budget Adjustments

The committee reviewed 27 proposals for other budget adjustments. The proposals included adjustments to federal spending authority for agencies, the authorization of new full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, additional authority to allow for the distribution of federal local fiscal recovery funds, and other purposes.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee recommends the following bill drafts:

- 1. A bill draft [21.1108.03000] to:
 - Adjust the funding source of the following projects from the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to federal state fiscal recovery funds:

Agency	Project	Amount
Office of Management and Budget	Medical center construction grant	\$500,000
Judicial branch	Information technology equipment	157,600
Department of Public Instruction	Children's science center grant	5,900,000
University of North Dakota	Airport apron project	5,000,000
Dickinson State University	Pulver Hall and meat processing laboratory projects	4,000,000
Highway Patrol	Law Enforcement Training Academy remodel project	3,000,000
State Historical Society	Capital project planning and historic site repairs	4,200,000
Parks and Recreation Department	Deferred maintenance projects and repayment of International Peace Garden project loan	11,716,400
Agriculture Commissioner	Intermodal facility grant program	2,000,000
Total		\$36,474,000

- Provide for the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund to be allocated for career and technical education center projects (\$53.3 million) and rural broadband projects (\$60 million). In addition, \$30 million is provided from state fiscal recovery funds for career and technical education projects.
- Appropriate \$317 million of state fiscal recovery funds to the Department of Transportation for state road and bridge projects (\$200 million), county bridge projects (\$100 million), and transportation funding distributions to townships (\$17 million).
- Authorize any unused federal coronavirus relief funds to be used for salary costs of the Highway Patrol, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and Adjutant General.

2. A bill draft [21.1131.04000] to:

- Provide federal funds authorization of \$3,014,975 to the State Treasurer for additional local fiscal recovery fund allocations to political subdivisions.
- Continue the authorization for the University of North Dakota to use \$750,000 of Bank of North Dakota profits for campus network upgrades.
- Provide an appropriation of \$537,297 to the Attorney General from the Attorney General refund fund for salary equity increases for State Crime Laboratory employees.
- Provide an appropriation of \$10 million to the Department of Public Instruction from withheld integrated formula payments for information technology upgrades.
- Authorize 16 FTE positions for the Department of Human Services for the county social and human services project.
- Authorize the Department of Human Services to transfer funding between line items in House Bill Nos. 1394 and 1395 (2021).
- Provide federal funds authority of \$92,453,608 to the Department of Human Services for federal medical assistance percentage adjustments and for other various programs.
- Provide an appropriation from the Bank of North Dakota operating fund to the bank for salaries and wages.
- Provide funding of \$1,806,862 from the Retirement and Investment Office operating fund to the agency for six new FTE positions and other salary adjustments.
- Provide an appropriation of \$10 million from the Department of Public Instruction operating fund from withheld integrated formula payments and \$100,000 from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the department for information technology upgrades and for information technology upgrade funding in lieu of withholding from schools ineligible to receive allocations from the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.
- Amend Section 9 of Chapter 46 of the 2021 Session Laws relating to grant requirements for the beyond visual line of sight unmanned aircraft system program.

3. Senate Bill No. 2345 to:

• Appropriate federal state fiscal recovery funds to the following state agencies:

Agency	Purpose	Amount
Industrial Commission	Grants for a natural gas pipeline project to transport natural gas from western to eastern North Dakota	\$150,000,000
Industrial Commission	Abandoned oil well conversion to water supply grant program	3,200,000
Department of Water Resources	Water infrastructure projects	75,000,000
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Stipends to county jails for costs to house inmates sentenced to the department but deferred admission	4,800,000
Parks and Recreation Department	Grants to local park districts to renovate and upgrade existing outdoor facilities with a \$1 to \$1 matching requirement	5,000,000
Main Research Center	Capital projects at the Carrington, Dickinson, Hettinger, and Central Grasslands Research Extension Centers	8,029,000
State Department of Health	State health laboratory project	15,000,000
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Free through recovery program increase in capacity	2,995,200
Parks and Recreation Department	State park projects with a minimum of \$100,000 spent on projects at each park	10,000,000
Office of Management and Budget	State facility critical maintenance projects	10,000,000
Office of Management and Budget	Heating and cooling upgrades in the legislative wing of the Capitol	7,000,000
State Historical Society	State historic site repairs	950,000
North Dakota State University	Higher performance computing	2,200,000
Minot State University	Harnett Hall project	25,000,000
University of North Dakota	Merrifield Hall project	50,000,000
Bismarck State University	Polytechnic building project	38,000,000
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Science	Hyperbaric oxygen therapy project	2,104,121
North Dakota University System	Dakota Digital Academy	475,000
Attorney General	Missing persons database	75,000
Attorney General	Prosecuting case management system replacement	1,000,000
Highway Patrol	Radios compatible with the statewide interoperable radio network	2,612,000
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation	Radios compatible with the statewide interoperable radio network	2,057,384
Information Technology Department	Grant to North Dakota Stockmen's Association for brand inspection program software	401,000
Adjutant General	State active duty software replacement	450,000
Judicial branch	Replace docket system	2,020,000
Office of Administrative Hearings	Web-based document management system	20,000
Department of Human Services	Retention bonuses for direct service professionals	2,500,000
Department of Human Services	Funding to assist long-term care facilities	25,000,000
Department of Human Services	Funding for western North Dakota behavioral health (\$4 million), Medicaid eligibility system upgrade (\$5 million), child care services (\$17 million), and substance use disorder voucher program (\$3 million)	29,000,000
Department of Human Services	Grant to organization providing alternatives to abortion services	1,500,000
Adjutant General	Camp Grafton housing upgrades	2,000,000
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Grant to assist in Fisher House construction	500,000
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Improve and expand veterans' medical transportation	147,000
Bank of North Dakota	Fuel production facility grant program	21,000,000
Department of Commerce	Transfer to the innovation technology loan fund	5,000,000
Department of Commerce	Hydrogen development grants	20,000,000
Department of Commerce	Autonomous agriculture matching grant program	10,000,000

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Agency	Purpose	Amount
Department of Commerce	Local workforce development incentive grant program with 25 percent local match requirement	15,000,000
Department of Commerce	Technical skills training grant program	5,000,000
University of North Dakota	Space education and research	10,000,000
Aeronautics Commission	Airport grants	5,000,000
Total		\$570,035,705

- Appropriate \$100 million of additional federal funds to the Department of Transportation. The funds are not subject to the excess federal funds requirements in House Bill Nos. 1015 and 1431 (2021).
- 4. <u>Senate Bill No. 2346</u> to authorize the Department of Public Instruction to withhold integrated formula payments to school districts to be used for information technology project upgrades to the state automated reporting system and the statewide longitudinal data system.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE AND ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

The Legislative Management delegated to the Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee the Legislative Management's authority under North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-11 to make arrangements for legislative sessions. Legislative rules also are reviewed and updated under this authority. The Legislative Management also delegated to the committee the Legislative Management's responsibility under Section 46-02-05 to determine contents of contracts for printing of legislative bills, resolutions, journals, and Session Laws; and the power and duty under Section 54-35-02 to determine access to legislative information services and impose fees for providing such services and copies of legislative documents.

Committee members are Senators Rich Wardner (Chairman), Joan Heckaman, Ray Holmberg, Jerry Klein, Larry Luick, and Erin Oban and Representatives Joshua A. Boschee, Kim Koppelman, Scott Louser, Alisa Mitskog, and Chet Pollert.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

SPECIAL OR RECONVENED SESSION ARRANGEMENTS

At the time of the committee's most recent meeting, the Governor had not committed to calling a special session for legislative redistricting. The committee approved arrangements to accommodate either a special or reconvened session. The committee reviewed four areas of consideration for the special or reconvened session--legislative rules, session employees, a bill draft regarding printing services, and miscellaneous matters.

Legislative Rules

The committee received testimony regarding the legislative rules amendments adopted during previous special sessions. The amendments primarily addressed the introduction of measures, length of time to consider a measure after it is reported from committee, length of time to reconsider a measure, and special committees during the special session. The committee recommends changes to legislative rules which are substantively similar to those rules amendments adopted during the 2001 and 2011 special sessions. The committee recommends creation of Joint Rules 303 and 304; amendment of Senate Rules 318(4), 333, 337, 347, 401(1), 402, 403, 501, 504, and 601; House Rules 318(4), 337, 347, 401(1), 402, 403, 501, 504, and 601; and Joint Rules 202, 207, 302, and 501(4); and repeal of Senate Rule 502, House Rule 502, and Joint Rule 208.

The recommended rules provide bills and resolutions, other than bills and resolutions introduced by the Legislative Management, must be introduced through the Delayed Bills Committee of the house of introduction. The requirement for approval by the Delayed Bills Committee is intended to limit introduction of measures to those measures of significant importance for consideration during the special or reconvened session, which is intended to address legislative redistricting and appropriations of certain federal funds received by the state. By requiring measures to be introduced through the Delayed Bills Committees, bills and resolutions would be screened to assure promotion of the session objectives.

The recommended rules eliminate specific meeting days for committees. Instead, the rules amendments allow the committee chairman or a majority of committee members to call a committee meeting. Specifically listing the days on which committees may meet could create misconceptions if the committees met on other than regularly scheduled days.

The recommended rules authorize a measure to be considered on the same day it is reported from committee or placed on the consent calendar. The normal time frame for consideration of a measure is shortened from the day after a measure is reported from committee or placed on the consent calendar.

The recommended rules allow an amendment made upon second reading in the Senate of a bill providing for redistricting of the Legislative Assembly to be proposed as a concept. Upon approval of the concept, the redistricting bill would be rereferred to the Joint Redistricting Committee for preparation by the Legislative Council of the exact language required for the amendment. The Joint Redistricting Committee then would report the amendment back to the Senate for action. This change is intended to limit the time taken for drafting and proofing exact legal descriptions of legislative districts to those floor amendments supported by a majority of the Senate members.

The recommended rules authorize a measure to be transmitted from one house to the other immediately after approval unless a Majority or Minority Leader gives notice of intention to reconsider. If notice is given, the measure

cannot be transmitted until the end of that day. Without this amendment, the normal procedure would be to retain the measure until the end of the next legislative day.

The recommended rules allow either house to consider receding more than once on the same day before a conference is called. Without the amendment, reconsideration could not be made until the next legislative day.

The recommended rules require the return of a fiscal note within 1 day of the request instead of 5 days. This recommendation recognizes the shortened time frames for considering bills and resolutions during the special or reconvened session.

The recommended rules establish a Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee and a Joint Technical Corrections Committee and provide for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees and procedural committees to meet during the special or reconvened session. The Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee would be responsible for all bills and resolutions relating to redistricting. The Joint Technical Corrections Committee would be responsible for all bills and resolutions relating to other substantive matters except appropriations. Voting in joint committees would be by house and would operate similarly to voting in conference committees.

Session Employees

The committee reviewed the employee positions filled during the 2011 special session. The committee determined the House Employment Committee may hire up to 11 employees and the Senate Employment Committee may hire up to 10 employees for the special or reconvened session. The rates of pay for employees during the special or reconvened session would be the compensation levels established by <u>Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4003 (2021)</u>.

Printing Services

During the 2019-20 interim, the committee authorized the Legislative Council to solicit bids for printing legislative materials for the 67th Legislative Assembly. Despite soliciting bids twice, no bids were received. Central Duplicating Services within the Office of Management and Budget provided printing for the 67th Legislative Assembly and will provide printing during the special or reconvened session. The committee received testimony noting several sections of the Century Code could be clarified to authorize Central Duplicating Services to provide legislative printing services. The committee recommends Senate Bill No. 2347 providing the legislative branch the option of having legislative materials printed by Central Duplicating Services or soliciting bids for a private printing vendor. This bill is recommended for consideration during the special or reconvened session so the Legislative Assembly may consider contracting with Central Duplicating Services during the 2021-22 interim to print materials for the 68th Legislative Assembly.

Miscellaneous Matters

The committee recognizes the nature of the special or reconvened session will be limited in scope. Many services or items normally available during a regular session would not be feasible or economical during the special or reconvened session. The committee received testimony the bill and journal room has not been open to the public during special sessions. Committee hearings often are called on short notice during special or reconvened sessions, and printed schedules would become outdated quickly. Instead, measures, journals, and other documents have been made available on the legislative branch website and may be available through the North Dakota Legislative Daily application. Information on hearings also will be available on kiosks and signs throughout the Capitol. Journals typically have been printed after special sessions adjourn. The committee did not recommend any changes to these practices. The Legislator's Automated Work Station (LAWS) will be available to legislators during the special or reconvened session. Committee schedules and documents will continue to be available online, and the public may view committee meetings and floor sessions online as has been the practice since early 2020.

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

The Redistricting Committee was assigned the responsibility to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election. <u>House Bill No. 1397 (2021)</u> required the Chairman of the Legislative Management to appoint a committee to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election. The bill provided:

- 1. The committee must consist of an equal number of members from the Senate and the House of Representatives appointed by the Chairman of the Legislative Management.
- The committee shall ensure any legislative redistricting plan submitted to the Legislative Assembly for
 consideration must be of compact and contiguous territory and conform to all constitutional requirements with
 respect to population equality. The committee may adopt additional constitutionally recognized redistricting
 guidelines and principles to implement in preparing a legislative redistricting plan for submission to the Legislative
 Assembly.
- 3. The committee shall submit a redistricting plan and legislation to implement the plan to the Legislative Management by November 30, 2021.
- 4. A draft of the legislative redistricting plan created by the Legislative Council or a member of the Legislative Assembly is an exempt record as defined in North Dakota Century Code Section 44-04-17.1 until presented or distributed at a meeting of the Legislative Management, a Legislative Management committee, or the Legislative Assembly, at which time the presented or distributed draft is an open record. If possible, the presented or distributed draft must be made accessible to the public on the legislative branch website such as through the use of hyperlinks in the online meeting agenda. Any version of a redistricting plan other than the version presented or distributed at a meeting of the Legislative Management, a Legislative Management committee, or the Legislative Assembly is an exempt record.
- 5. The Chairman of the Legislative Management shall request the Governor to call a special session of the Legislative Assembly pursuant to Section 7 of Article V of the Constitution of North Dakota to allow the Legislative Assembly to adopt a redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election and to address any other issue that may be necessary.

Committee members were Representatives Bill Devlin (Chairman), Larry Bellew, Joshua A. Boschee, Craig Headland, Mike Lefor, David Monson, Mike Nathe, and Austen Schauer and Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Randy A. Burckhard, Robert Erbele, Ray Holmberg, Jerry Klein, Erin Oban, Nicole Poolman, and Ronald Sorvaag.

The committee submitted this report to the Legislative Management on November 1, 2021. The Legislative Management accepted this report for submission to the Legislative Assembly.

BACKGROUND Redistricting History in North Dakota

1931-62

Despite the requirement in the Constitution of North Dakota that the state be redistricted after each census, the Legislative Assembly did not redistrict itself between 1931 and 1963. At the time, the Constitution of North Dakota provided:

- 1. The Legislative Assembly must apportion itself after each federal decennial census; and
- 2. If the Legislative Assembly failed in its apportionment duty, a group of designated officials was responsible for apportionment.

Because the 1961 Legislative Assembly did not apportion itself following the 1960 Census, the apportionment group (required by the constitution to be the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the House of Representatives) issued a plan, which was challenged in court. In *State ex rel. Lien v. Sathre*, 113 N.W.2d 679 (1962), the North Dakota Supreme Court determined the plan was unconstitutional and the 1931 plan continued to be law.

1963

In 1963 the Legislative Assembly passed a redistricting plan that was heard by the Senate and House Political Subdivisions Committees. The 1963 plan and Sections 26, 29, and 35 of Article II of the Constitution of North Dakota were challenged in federal district court and found unconstitutional as violating the equal protection clause in *Paulson v. Meier*, 232 F.Supp. 183 (1964). The 1931 plan also was held invalid. Thus, there was no constitutionally valid legislative

redistricting law in existence at that time. The court concluded adequate time was not available with which to formulate a proper plan for the 1964 election and the Legislative Assembly should promptly devise a constitutional plan.

1965

A conference committee during the 1965 legislative session consisting of the Majority and Minority Leaders of each house and the Chairmen of the State and Federal Government Committees produced a redistricting plan. In *Paulson v. Meier*, 246 F.Supp. 36 (1965), the federal district court found the 1965 redistricting plan unconstitutional. The court reviewed each plan introduced during the 1965 legislative session and specifically focused on a plan prepared for the Legislative Research Committee (predecessor to the Legislative Council and the Legislative Management) by two consultants hired by the committee to devise a redistricting plan. That plan had been approved by the interim Constitutional Revision Committee and the Legislative Research Committee and was submitted to the Legislative Assembly in 1965. The court slightly modified that plan and adopted it as the plan for North Dakota. The plan contained five multimember senatorial districts, violated county lines in 12 instances, and had 25 of 39 districts within 5 percent of the average population, four districts slightly over 5 percent, and two districts exceeding 9 percent.

1971

In 1971 an original proceeding was initiated in the North Dakota Supreme Court challenging the right of senators from multimember districts to hold office. The petitioners argued the multimembership violated Section 29 of Article II of the Constitution of North Dakota, which provided each senatorial district "shall be represented by one senator and no more." The court held Section 29 was unconstitutional as a violation of the equal protection clause of the United States Constitution and multimember districts were permissible. *State ex rel. Stockman v. Anderson*, 184 N.W.2d 53 (1971).

In 1971 the Legislative Assembly failed to redistrict itself after the 1970 Census and an action was brought in federal district court which requested the court order redistricting and declare the 1965 plan invalid. The court entered an order to the effect the existing plan was unconstitutional, and the court would issue a plan. The court appointed three special masters to formulate a plan and adopted a plan submitted by Mr. Richard Dobson. The "Dobson" plan was approved for the 1972 election only. The court recognized weaknesses in the plan, including substantial population variances and a continuation of multimember districts.

1973-75

In 1973 the Legislative Assembly passed a redistricting plan developed by the Legislative Council's interim Committee on Reapportionment, which was appointed by the Legislative Council Chairman and consisted of three senators, three representatives, and five citizen members. The plan was vetoed by the Governor, but the Legislative Assembly overrode the veto. The plan had a population variance of 6.8 percent and had five multimember senatorial districts. The plan was referred and was defeated at a special election held on December 4, 1973.

In 1974 the federal district court in *Chapman v. Meier*, 372 F.Supp. 371 (1974) made the "Dobson" plan permanent. However, on appeal, the United States Supreme Court ruled the "Dobson" plan unconstitutional in *Chapman v. Meier*, 420 U.S. 1 (1975).

In 1975 the Legislative Assembly adopted the "Dobson" plan but modified it by splitting multimember senatorial districts into subdistricts. The plan was proposed by individual legislators and was heard by the Joint Reapportionment Committee, consisting of five senators and five representatives. The plan was challenged in federal district court and was found unconstitutional. In *Chapman v. Meier*, 407 F.Supp. 649 (1975), the court held the plan violated the equal protection clause because of the total population variance of 20 percent. The court appointed a special master to develop a plan, and the court adopted that plan.

1981

In 1981 the Legislative Assembly passed House Concurrent Resolution No. 3061, which directed the Legislative Council to study and develop a legislative redistricting plan. The Legislative Council Chairman appointed a 12-member interim Reapportionment Committee consisting of seven representatives and five senators. The chairman directed the committee to study and select one or more redistricting plans for consideration by the 1981 reconvened Legislative Assembly. The committee completed its work on October 6, 1981, and submitted its report to the Legislative Council at a meeting of the Council in October 1981.

The committee instructed its consultant, Mr. Floyd Hickok, to develop a plan for the committee based upon the following criteria:

- 1. The plan should have 53 districts.
- 2. The plan should retain as many districts in their present form as possible.
- 3. No district could cross the Missouri River.
- 4. The population variance should be kept below 10 percent.

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Mr. Hickok presented a report to the committee in which the state was divided into 11 blocks. Each block corresponded to a group of existing districts with only minor boundary changes. The report presented a number of alternatives for dividing most blocks. There were 27,468 different possible combinations among the alternatives presented.

The bill draft recommended by the interim committee incorporated parts of Mr. Hickok's plans and many of the plans presented as alternatives to the committee. The plan was introduced in a reconvened session of the Legislative Assembly in November 1981 and was heard by the Joint Reapportionment Committee.

The committee considered a total of 12 legislative redistricting bills. The reconvened session adopted a redistricting plan that consisted of 53 senatorial districts. The districts containing the Grand Forks and Minot Air Force Bases were combined with districts in those cities, and each elected two senators and four representatives at large.

1991-95

In 1991 the Legislative Assembly adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 3026, which directed a study of legislative apportionment and development of legislative reapportionment plans for use in the 1992 primary election. The resolution encouraged the Legislative Council to use the following criteria to develop a plan or plans:

- 1. Legislative districts and subdistricts had to be compact and of contiguous territory except as was necessary to preserve county and city boundaries as legislative district boundary lines and so far as was practicable to preserve existing legislative district boundaries.
- Legislative districts could have a population variance from the largest to the smallest in population not to exceed 9 percent of the population of the ideal district except as was necessary to preserve county and city boundaries as legislative district boundary lines and so far as was practicable to preserve existing legislative district boundaries.
- 3. No legislative district could cross the Missouri River.
- 4. Senators elected in 1990 could finish their terms, except in those districts in which over 20 percent of the qualified electors were not eligible to vote in that district in 1990, senators had to stand for reelection in 1992.
- 5. The plan or plans developed were to contain options for the creation of House subdistricts in any Senate district that exceeds 3,000 square miles.

The Legislative Council established an interim Legislative Redistricting and Elections Committee, which undertook the legislative redistricting study. The committee consisted of eight senators and eight representatives. The Legislative Council contracted with Mr. Hickok to provide computer-assisted services to the committee.

After the committee held meetings in several cities around the state, the committee requested the preparation of plans for 49, 50, and 53 districts based upon these guidelines:

- 1. The plans could not provide for a population variance over 10 percent.
- 2. The plans could include districts that cross the Missouri River so the Fort Berthold Reservation would be included within one district.
- 3. The plans had to provide alternatives for splitting the Grand Forks Air Force Base and the Minot Air Force Base into more than one district and alternatives that would allow the bases to be combined with other contiguous districts.

The interim committee recommended two alternative bills to the Legislative Council at a special meeting held in October 1991. Both of the bills included 49 districts. Senate Bill No. 2597 (1991) split the two Air Force bases so neither base would be included with another district to form a multisenator district. Senate Bill No. 2598 (1991) placed the Minot Air Force Base entirely within one district so the base district would be combined with another district.

In a special session held November 4-8, 1991, the Legislative Assembly adopted Senate Bill No. 2597 with some amendments with respect to district boundaries. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee. The bill also was amended to provide any senator from a district in which there was another incumbent senator as a result of legislative redistricting had to be elected in 1992 for a term of 4 years, to provide the senator from a new district created in Fargo had to be elected in 1992 for a term of 2 years, and to include an effective date of December 1, 1991. In addition, the bill was amended to include a directive to the Legislative Council to assign to the committee the responsibility to develop a plan for subdistricts for the House of Representatives.

The Legislative Council again contracted with Mr. Hickok to provide services for the subdistrict study. After conducting the subdistrict study, the interim committee recommended House Bill No. 1050 (1993) to establish House subdistricts

within each Senate district except in Districts 18, 19, 38, and 40, which are the districts that include portions of the Air Force bases. In 1993 the Legislative Assembly did not adopt the subdistricting plan.

In 1995 the Legislative Assembly adopted House Bill No. 1385, which made final boundary changes to four districts, including placing a small portion of the Fort Berthold Reservation in District 33.

2001

In 2001, the Legislative Assembly budgeted \$200,000 for a special session for redistricting and adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 3003, which provided for a study and the development of a legislative redistricting plan or plans for use in the 2002 primary election. The Legislative Council appointed an interim Legislative Redistricting Committee consisting of 15 members to conduct the study. The Legislative Redistricting Committee began its work on July 9, 2001, and submitted its final report to the Legislative Council on November 6, 2001.

The Legislative Council purchased two personal computers and two licenses for redistricting software for use by each political faction represented on the committee. Because committee members generally agreed each caucus should have access to a computer with the redistricting software, the committee requested the Legislative Council to purchase two additional computers and two additional redistricting software licenses. In addition, each caucus was provided a color printer.

The Legislative Redistricting Committee considered redistricting plans based on 45, 47, 49, 51, and 52 districts. The committee determined the various plans should adhere to the following criteria:

- 1. Preserve existing district boundaries to the extent possible.
- 2. Preserve political subdivision boundaries to the extent possible.
- 3. Provide for a population variance of under 10 percent.

The interim committee recommended Senate Bill No. 2456 (2001), which established 47 legislative districts. The bill repealed the existing legislative redistricting plan, required the Secretary of State to modify 2002 primary election deadlines and procedures if necessary, and provided an effective date of December 7, 2001. The bill also addressed the staggering of terms in even-numbered and odd-numbered districts.

Under the 47-district plan, the ideal district size was 13,664. Under the plan recommended by the committee, the largest district had a population of 14,249 and the smallest district had a population of 13,053. Thus, the largest district was 4.28 percent over the ideal district size and the smallest district was 4.47 percent below the ideal district size, providing for an overall range of 8.75 percent.

In a special session held November 26-30, 2001, the Legislative Assembly adopted the 47-district plan included in Senate Bill No. 2456 (2001) with amendments, most notably amendments to the provisions relating to the staggering of terms. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee. The term-staggering provisions provided a senator and a representative from an odd-numbered district must be elected in 2002 for a term of 4 years and a senator and a representative from an even-numbered district must be elected in 2004 for a term of 4 years. The bill further included provisions to address situations in which multiple incumbents were placed within the same district and in which there were fewer incumbents than the number of seats available. In *Kelsh v. Jaeger*, 641 N.W.2d 100 (2002), the North Dakota Supreme Court found a portion of the staggering provisions to be an impermissible delegation of legislative authority in that it allowed an incumbent senator to decide whether to stop an election for the Senate in a district that had two incumbent senators with terms expiring in different years.

2011

In 2011, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill No. 1267 (2011), which directed the Chairman of the Legislative Management to appoint a committee to develop a legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2012 primary election. The Legislative Redistricting Committee consisted of 16 members and held its first meeting on June 16, 2011. The committee concluded its work on October 12, 2011, and submitted its final report to the Legislative Management on November 3, 2011.

The Legislative Council purchased a personal computer and a license for the Maptitude for Redistricting software for use by each of the four caucuses represented on the committee. In addition, because there were significantly more members of the majority party caucuses on the committee, the Legislative Council purchased an additional computer and redistricting software license for the shared use of the members of those groups. A template of the existing legislative districts was provided in the redistricting software to use as a starting point in creating districts because the committee members generally agreed potential redistricting plans should be based upon the cores of existing districts.

The committee considered increasing the number of districts and received information regarding the estimated cost of a district based on a 77-day legislative session, which amounted to approximately \$1,190,170 for the decade. The committee elected to maintain a 47-district plan and determined the plan should adhere to the following criteria:

- 1. Preserve existing district boundaries to the extent possible.
- 2. Preserve political subdivision boundaries to the extent possible and preserve the boundaries of the Indian reservations.
- 3. Provide for a population variance of 9 percent or less.

The committee recommended a bill to repeal the existing redistricting plan, establish 47 legislative districts, provide for the staggering of terms of members of the Legislative Assembly, and authorize the Secretary of State to modify primary election deadlines and procedures if any delays arose in implementing the redistricting plan. Under the 47-district plan recommended by the committee, the ideal district size was 14,310. The population of the largest district was 14,897, which was 4.10 percent over the ideal district size, and the population of the smallest district was 13,697, which was 4.28 percent below the ideal district size, providing for an overall range of 8.38 percent. The plan included 33 counties that were not split, 3 counties that were split only to preserve the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, and 3 counties that were split only because the counties included cities that were too large for one district.

The committee also recommended a bill draft to the Legislative Management which would have required each legislative district contain at least six precincts. The Legislative Management rejected the portion of the committee's report relating to this bill draft.

In a special session held November 7-11, 2011, the Legislative Assembly adopted the committee's 47-district plan included in House Bill No. 1473 (2011) with minor amendments to legislative district boundaries and a change in the effective date from December 1 to November 25, 2011. The bill was heard by the Joint Legislative Redistricting Committee and approved by the 62nd Legislative Assembly by a vote of 60 to 32 in the House and 33 to 14 in the Senate.

NORTH DAKOTA REDISTRICTING LAW Constitutional Provisions

Section 1 of Article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota provides the "senate must be composed of not less than forty nor more than fifty-four members, and the house of representatives must be composed of not less than eighty nor more than one hundred eight members." Section 2 of Article IV requires the Legislative Assembly to "fix the number of senators and representatives and divide the state into as many senatorial districts of compact and contiguous territory as there are senators." The section provides districts ascertained after the 1990 federal decennial census must "continue until the adjournment of the first regular session after each federal decennial census, or until changed by law."

Section 2 further requires the Legislative Assembly to "guarantee, as nearly as practicable, that every elector is equal to every other elector in the state in the power to cast ballots for legislative candidates." This section requires the apportionment of one senator and at least two representatives to each senatorial district. This section also provides that two senatorial districts may be combined when a single-member senatorial district includes a federal facility or installation containing over two-thirds of the population of a single-member senatorial district and that elections may be at large or from subdistricts.

Section 3 of Article IV requires the Legislative Assembly to establish by law a procedure whereby one-half of the members of the Senate and one-half of the members of the House of Representatives, as nearly as practicable, are elected biennially.

Statutory Provisions

In addition to the constitutional requirements, Section 54-03-01.5 requires a legislative redistricting plan based on any census taken after 1999 must provide that the Senate consist of 47 members and the House consist of 94 members. The plan must ensure legislative districts be as nearly equal in population as is practicable and population deviation from district to district be kept at a minimum. Additionally, the total population variance of all districts, and subdistricts if created, from the average district population may not exceed recognized constitutional limitations.

Sections 54-03-01.8 and 54-03-01.10 provided for the staggering of Senate and House terms after redistricting in 2001. Section 54-03-01.8, which addressed the staggering of Senate terms, was found to be, in part, an impermissible delegation of legislative authority in that it allowed an incumbent senator to decide whether to stop an election for the Senate in a district that had two incumbent senators with terms expiring in different years. House Bill No. 1473 (2011) repealed Sections 54-03-01.8 and 54-03-01.10 and created a new section regarding the staggering of terms. Section 54-03-01.13 provides senators and representatives from even-numbered districts must be elected in 2012 for 4-year terms; senators and representatives from odd-numbered districts must be elected in 2014 for 4-year terms, except the

senator and two representatives from District 7 must be elected in 2012 for a term of 2 years; the term of office of a member of the Legislative Assembly elected in an odd-numbered district in 2010 for a term of 4 years and who as a result of legislative redistricting is placed in an even-numbered district terminates December 1, 2012, subject to certain change in residency exceptions; the term of office of a member of the Legislative Assembly in an odd-numbered district with new geographic area that was not in that member's district for the 2010 election and which new geographic area has a 2010 population that is more than 25 percent of the ideal district population terminates on December 1, 2012; and a vacancy caused in an odd-numbered district as a result of legislative redistricting must be filled at the 2012 general election by electing a member to a 2-year term of office.

Section 16.1-01-02.2 pertains to procedures regarding special elections. As a result of concerns regarding the timetable for calling a special election to vote on a referral of a redistricting plan, the Legislative Assembly amended Section 16.1-01-02.2 during the November 1991 special session. The amendment provided "notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governor may call a special election to be held in thirty to fifty days after the call if a referendum petition has been submitted to refer a measure or part of a measure that establishes a legislative redistricting plan." This 30- to 50-day timetable was later amended to 90 days in 2007.

Section 16.1-03-17 provides if redistricting of the Legislative Assembly becomes effective after the organization of political parties and before the primary or the general election, the political parties in the newly established precincts and districts shall reorganize as closely as possible in conformance with Chapter 16.1-03 to assure compliance with primary election filing deadlines.

FEDERAL REDISTRICTING LAW

Before 1962, the courts followed a policy of nonintervention with respect to legislative redistricting. However, in 1962, the United States Supreme Court, in *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), determined the courts would provide relief in state legislative redistricting cases when there are constitutional violations.

Population Equality

In *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964), the United States Supreme Court held the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution requires states to establish legislative districts substantially equal in population. The Court also ruled both houses of a bicameral legislature must be apportioned on a population basis. Although the Court did not state what degree of population equality is required, it stated "what is marginally permissible in one state may be unsatisfactory in another depending upon the particular circumstances of the case."

The measure of population equality most commonly used by the courts is overall range. The overall range of a redistricting plan is the sum of the deviation from the ideal district population--the total state population divided by the number of districts--of the most and the least populous districts. In determining overall range, the plus and minus signs are disregarded, and the number is expressed as an absolute percentage.

In *Reynolds*, the United States Supreme Court recognized a distinction between congressional and legislative redistricting plans. That distinction was further emphasized in a 1973 Supreme Court decision, *Mahan v. Howell*, 410 U.S. 315 (1973). In that case, the Court upheld a Virginia legislative redistricting plan that had an overall range among House districts of approximately 16 percent. The Court stated broader latitude is afforded to the states under the equal protection clause in state legislative redistricting than in congressional redistricting in which population is the sole criterion of constitutionality. In addition, the Court said the Virginia General Assembly's state constitutional authority to enact legislation dealing with political subdivisions justified the attempt to preserve political subdivision boundaries when drawing the boundaries for the House of Delegates.

A 10 percent standard of population equality among legislative districts was first addressed in two 1973 Supreme Court decisions--*Gaffney v. Cummings*, 412 U.S. 735 (1973), and *White v. Regester*, 412 U.S. 755 (1973). In those cases, the Court upheld plans creating house districts with overall ranges of 7.8 percent and 9.9 percent. The Court determined the overall ranges did not constitute a prima facie case of denial of equal protection. In *White*, the Court noted, "[v]ery likely larger differences between districts would not be tolerable without justification 'based on legitimate considerations incident to the effectuation of a rational state policy'."

Justice William J. Brennan's dissents in *Gaffney* and *White* argued the majority opinions established a 10 percent de minimus rule for state legislative district redistricting. He asserted the majority opinions provided states would be required to justify overall ranges of 10 percent or more. The Supreme Court adopted that 10 percent standard in later cases.

In Chapman v. Meier, 420 U.S. 1 (1975), the Supreme Court rejected the North Dakota Legislative Assembly redistricting plan with an overall range of approximately 20 percent. In that case, the Court said the plan needed special justification, but rejected the reasons given, which included an absence of a particular racial or political group whose

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power had been minimized by the plan, the sparse population of the state, the desire to maintain political boundaries, and the tradition of dividing the state along the Missouri River.

In *Conner v. Finch*, 431 U.S. 407 (1977), the Supreme Court rejected a Mississippi plan with a 16.5 percent overall range for the Senate and a 19.3 percent overall range for the House. However, in *Brown v. Thomson*, 462 U.S. 835 (1983), the Court determined adhering to county boundaries for legislative districts was not unconstitutional even though the overall range for the Wyoming House of Representatives was 89 percent.

In *Brown*, each county was allowed at least one representative. Wyoming has 23 counties and its legislative apportionment plan provided for 64 representatives. Because the challenge was limited to the allowance of a representative to the least populous county, the Supreme Court determined the grant of a representative to that county was not a significant cause of the population deviation that existed in Wyoming. The Court concluded the constitutional policy of ensuring each county had a representative, which had been in place since statehood, was supported by substantial and legitimate state concerns and had been followed without any taint of arbitrariness or discrimination. The Court found the policy contained no built-in biases favoring particular interests or geographical areas and that population equality was the sole other criterion used. The Court stated a legislative apportionment plan with an overall range of less than 10 percent is not sufficient to establish a prima facie case of invidious discrimination under the 14th Amendment which requires justification by the state. However, the Court further concluded a plan with larger disparities in population creates a prima facie case of discrimination and must be justified by the state.

In *Brown*, the Supreme Court indicated giving at least one representative to each county could result in total subversion of the equal protection principle in many states. That would be especially true in a state in which the number of counties is large and many counties are sparsely populated and the number of seats in the legislative body does not significantly exceed the number of counties.

In *Board of Estimate v. Morris*, 489 U.S. 688 (1989), the Supreme Court determined an overall range of 132 percent was not justified by New York City's proffered governmental interests. The city argued that because the Board of Estimate was structured to accommodate natural and political boundaries as well as local interests, the large departure from the one-person, one-vote ideal was essential to the successful government of the city--a regional entity. However, the Court held the city failed to sustain its burden of justifying the large deviation.

In a federal district court decision, *Quilter v. Voinovich*, 857 F.Supp. 579 (N.D. Ohio 1994), the court ruled a legislative district plan with an overall range of 13.81 percent for House districts and 10.54 percent for Senate districts did not violate the one-person, one-vote principle. The court recognized the state interest of preserving county boundaries, and the plan was not advanced arbitrarily. The decision came after the Supreme Court remanded the case to the district court. The Supreme Court stated in the previous district court decision, the district court mistakenly held total deviations in excess of 10 percent cannot be justified by a policy of preserving political subdivision boundaries. The Supreme Court directed the district court to follow the analysis used in *Brown*, which requires the court to determine whether the plan could reasonably be said to advance the state's policy, and if so, whether the population disparities exceed constitutional limits.

Although the federal courts generally have maintained a 10 percent standard, a legislative redistricting plan within the 10 percent range may not be safe from a constitutional challenge if the challenger is able to show discrimination in violation of the equal protection clause. In *Larios v. Cox*, 300 F.Supp.2d 1320 (N.D. Ga. 2004), a federal district court in Georgia found two legislative redistricting plans adopted by the Georgia General Assembly which had an overall range of 9.98 percent violated the "one person one vote" principle. Although legislators and redistricting staff indicated they prepared the plans under the belief that an overall range of 10 percent would be permissible without demonstrating a legitimate state interest, the district court found the objective of the plan, protection of certain geographic areas and protection of incumbents from one party did not justify the deviations from population inequality, particularly in light of the fact that plans with smaller deviations had been considered. With respect to protection of incumbents, the court indicated while it may be a legitimate state interest, in this case the protection was not accomplished in a consistent and neutral manner. Although protection of political subdivision boundaries is viewed as a traditional redistricting principle, the court held regional protectionism was not a legitimate justification for the deviations in the plans. The United States Supreme Court upheld the district court opinion in *Larios*.

In *Evenwel v. Abbot*, 136 S. Ct. 1120 (2016), the Texas Legislature redrew Senate districts based on total population, rather than registered voter population. Opponents of the redistricting plan argued the use of total population, rather than voter population, gave voters in districts with a large immigrant population a disproportionately weighted vote compared to voters in districts with a small immigrant population. The Supreme Court held states may, but are not required to, use total population when drawing districts to comply with the one-person, one-vote principles under the equal protection clause.

In *Harris v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission*, 136 S. Ct. 1301 (2016), the Supreme Court upheld a redistricting plan with an overall deviation of 8.8 percent. The Supreme Court held even though partisanship may have played a role in developing the plan "the population deviations were primarily a result of good-faith efforts to comply with the Voting Rights Act." The plaintiffs failed to meet the burden of showing it was more probable than not that the deviation predominately resulted from the use of illegitimate redistricting factors.

Case law has established if a legislative redistricting plan with an overall range of more than 10 percent is challenged, the state has the burden to demonstrate the plan is necessary to implement a rational state policy and the plan does not dilute or eliminate the voting strength of a particular group of citizens. A plan with an overall range of less than 10 percent may be subject to challenge if the justifications for the deviations are not deemed legitimate and plans with lower deviations have been considered.

Partisan Gerrymandering

Before 1986 the courts took the position that partisan or political gerrymandering was not justiciable. In *Davis v. Bandemer*, 478 U.S. 109 (1986), the United States Supreme Court stated political gerrymandering is justiciable. However, the Court determined the challengers of the legislative redistricting plan failed to prove the plan denied them fair representation. The Court stated a particular "group's electoral power is not unconstitutionally diminished by the simple fact of an apportionment scheme that makes winning elections more difficult, and a failure of proportional representation alone does not constitute impermissible discrimination under the Equal Protection Clause." The Court concluded "unconstitutional discrimination occurs only when the electoral system is arranged in a manner that will consistently degrade a voter's or group of voters' influence on the political process as a whole." Therefore, to support a finding of unconstitutional discrimination, there must be evidence of continued frustration of the will of the majority of the voters or effective denial to a minority of voters of a fair chance to influence the political process.

In 2004 a sharply divided Supreme Court addressed a challenge to a congressional redistricting plan adopted in Pennsylvania. In *Vieth v. Jubelirer*, 541 U.S. 267 (2004), four of the justices concluded partisan gerrymandering cases are nonjusticiable due to a lack of judicially discernible and manageable standards for addressing the claims. One other justice concurred in the opinion, but on other grounds, and the remaining four justices issued three dissenting opinions. Despite the challenge being dismissed, a majority of the court--the four dissenting justices and the one justice concurring in the decision to dismiss the claim--continued to maintain partisan gerrymandering cases may be adjudicated by the courts.

The Supreme Court again issued a divided opinion 2 years later in League of United Latin American Citizens v. Perry, 548 U.S. 399 (2006). In that decision, six justices wrote opinions and five justices agreed partisan gerrymandering cases are justiciable. However, the court did not agree on a standard for addressing claims and the partisan gerrymandering claim was dismissed.

The question of whether partisan gerrymandering cases are justiciable was settled by the Supreme Court in 2019. In the consolidated case of *Rucho v. Common Cause*, 139 S. Ct. 2428 (2019), the congressional redistricting maps for North Carolina and Maryland were challenged as unconstitutional partisan gerrymanders. In *Rucho*, the Supreme Court held "partisan gerrymandering claims present political questions beyond the reach of the federal courts." The Court further stated, "the Constitution supplies no objective measure for assessing whether a districting map treats a political party fairly." However, the Court noted state courts may look to state statutes and state constitutions for guidance and standards to apply in partisan gerrymandering cases.

Instances in which state courts have addressed partisan gerrymandering include *League of Women Voters of Florida v. Detzner*, 172 So. 3d 363 (Fla. 2015). In this case, the challengers of the plan alleged the congressional redistricting plan was drawn to favor incumbent lawmakers and the Republican Party in violation of the Fair Districts Amendment to the Constitution of Florida, which prohibits political consideration in redistricting. The Florida Supreme Court upheld the trial court's findings that the map was tainted by the unconstitutional intent alleged and the Legislature was required to redraw the boundaries of several districts.

Partisan gerrymandering also was addressed at the state level in *League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania v. Commonwealth*, 644 Pa. 287 (2018). In this case, the challengers of the plan alleged the state's 2011 congressional plan violated the Free and Equal Elections Clause of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by providing one party an unfair advantage. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court found the plan lacked compactness and split local jurisdiction boundaries to an inordinate degree. The court held application of traditional redistricting principles must be the overriding consideration when preparing a redistricting map to avoid a violation of the Free and Equal Elections Clause. The Supreme Court held the map unconstitutional and substituted the 2011 map with a remedial map drawn by a special master.

Thus, though now precluded at the federal level, partisan gerrymandering cases may be justiciable in state court.

Multimember Districts and Racial or Language Minorities

According to data compiled by the National Conference of State Legislatures, North Dakota is 1 of 10 states that have multimember districts. Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act prohibits a state or political subdivision from imposing voting qualifications, standards, practices, or procedures that result in the denial or abridgment of a citizen's right to vote on account of race, color, or status as a member of a language minority group. A language minority group is defined as "persons who are American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Natives, or of Spanish heritage." A violation of Section 2 may be proved through a showing that as a result of the challenged practice or standard, the challengers of the plan did not have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process and to elect candidates of their choice.

Many decisions under the Voting Rights Act have involved questions regarding the use of multimember districts to dilute the voting strengths of racial and language minorities. In *Reynolds*, the United States Supreme Court held multimember districts are not unconstitutional per se; however, the Court has indicated it prefers single-member districts, at least when the courts draw the districts in fashioning a remedy for an invalid plan. The Court has stated a redistricting plan including multimember districts will constitute an invidious discrimination only if it can be shown the plan, under the circumstances of a particular case, would operate to minimize or eliminate the voting strength of racial or political elements of the voting population.

The landmark case addressing a Section 2 challenge is *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 478 U.S. 39 (1986). In that case, the Supreme Court stated a minority group challenging a redistricting plan must prove:

- 1. The minority is sufficiently large and geographically compact to constitute a majority in a single-member district;
- 2. The minority is politically cohesive; and
- In the absence of special circumstances, bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority's preferred candidate. To prove that bloc voting by the majority usually defeats the minority group, the use of statistical evidence is necessary.

Until redistricting in the 1990s, racial gerrymandering--the deliberate distortion of boundaries for racial purposes--generally had been used in the South to minimize the voting strength of minorities. However, because the United States Department of Justice and some federal courts had indicated states would be required to maximize the number of minority districts when redistricting, many states adopted redistricting plans that used racial gerrymandering to create more minority districts or to create minority influence districts when there was not sufficient population to create a minority district. As a result, a number of redistricting plans adopted in the 1990s were challenged by white voters on equal protection grounds and the United States Supreme Court subsequently has held several redistricting plans to be unconstitutional as a result of racial gerrymandering.

In *Shaw v. Reno*, 509 U.S. 630 (1993), the Supreme Court invalidated a North Carolina plan due to racial gerrymandering. In that case, the Court made it clear race-conscious redistricting may not be impermissible in all cases. However, the Court held the plan to a test of strict scrutiny and required the racial gerrymander be narrowly tailored to serve a compelling state interest. The Court stated if race is the primary consideration in creating districts "without regard for traditional districting principles," a plan may be held to be unconstitutional. However, compliance with the Voting Rights Act and other circumstances may justify or necessitate the use of race in that manner.

Through the *Shaw* decision and subsequent decisions of the United States Supreme Court, the Court indicated unless race was the predominant factor in the creation of a district, a racial gerrymander challenge is not likely to be successful. In addition, the Court articulated seven policies that have been identified as being "traditional districting principles." Those policies are:

- 1. Compactness.
- 2. Contiguity.
- 3. Preservation of political subdivision boundaries.
- 4. Preservation of communities of interest.
- 5. Preservation of cores of prior districts.
- 6. Protection of incumbents.
- 7. Compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act requires certain states and political subdivisions to submit their redistricting plans to the United States Department of Justice or the district court of the District of Columbia for review. Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act applied to states and political subdivisions that demonstrated a history of voter discrimination. However, in 2013, the formula used to determine which jurisdictions were subject to the preclearance requirements in

Section 5 was held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 133 S. Ct. 2612 (2013). Thus, states and jurisdictions formerly subject to review are no longer required to submit their redistricting plans for preclearance under Section 5.

TESTIMONY AND COMMITTEE CONSIDERATIONS

Redistricting Computers and Software

The Legislative Council purchased a personal computer and a license for the Maptitude for Redistricting software for use by each of the four caucuses represented on the committee. In addition, because there were significantly more members of the majority party caucuses on the committee, the Legislative Council purchased two additional computer and redistricting software licenses for the shared use of the members of those groups. The members of the committee were encouraged to use the redistricting software to develop redistricting plans to present for the review of the committee at each meeting. A template of the existing legislative districts was provided in the redistricting software to use as a starting point in creating districts.

Population Changes

The committee received the results of the 2020 Census on August 12, 2021. The data indicated the population in North Dakota increased by 15.8 percent over the past decade, which was the fourth largest percentage increase in state populations nationwide. The committee reviewed the changes in population between the 2010 to 2020 Census for legislative districts, counties, and cities. The majority of the population growth occurred in urban areas and in oil-producing counties, and the county with the largest percentage increase in population nationwide was McKenzie County, which increased in population by 131 percent over the past decade. Despite large gains in certain areas of the state, 30 of the state's 53 counties lost population. Population gains and losses in legislative districts varied dramatically, with some legislative districts increasing in population by more than 100 percent and others decreasing in population by more than 10 percent.

The committee discussed concerns regarding the accuracy of census data in smaller census units due to the application of differential privacy. The committee was mindful of the compressed time frames for completing redistricting as a result of delays in receiving census data.

Urban and Rural Considerations

The committee received testimony expressing concerns regarding the shift in urban and rural populations. Concerns included whether individuals living in primarily rural districts would be shifted to districts comprised of a majority of urban areas, leading to minimization of rural concerns, and whether primarily rural districts would be required to expand geographically due to population losses, leading to reduced direct access to legislators. Suggestions to address these concerns included creating subdistricts in rural districts or increasing the size of the Legislative Assembly as an attempt to preserve more existing district boundaries to lessen the impact of redistricting on rural areas of the state.

Size of the Legislative Assembly

Committee members debated whether to consider redistricting plans that would increase the size of the Legislative Assembly. The committee received information provided to the 2011 Redistricting Committee regarding the cost of a legislative district, which in 2011 amounted to an estimated \$1.2 million in salaries and benefits for a 10-year period. The committee received information showing the ideal district size for a 47-district plan is 16,576, while the ideal district size for a 54-district plan, which is the maximum number of constitutionally permissible districts, is 14,428. Proponents of maintaining 47 legislative districts noted South Dakota has a larger population than North Dakota but only 35 legislative districts. The committee determined it was prudent to require proposals submitted to the committee conform with a 47-district plan, rather than allowing proposals for varying numbers of districts due to the abbreviated timeline the committee had to complete its work.

Population Deviation

The committee received information regarding the overall population deviation in past redistricting plans. Because an overall range of 10 percent generally has been considered as an acceptable level of population deviation, committee members agreed any plan recommended by the committee should have an overall range of 10 percent or less. Plans submitted to the committee for consideration generally remained within plus or minus 5 percent of the ideal district size. The final plan considered by the committee had an overall deviation of 9.87 percent, with the largest district 4.88 percent over the ideal district population and the smallest district 4.99 percent below the ideal district population.

Preservation of Political Subdivision Boundaries

The committee received testimony requesting the committee avoid splitting counties whenever possible. The final plan considered by the committee included 33 counties that were not split, 4 counties that were split only to preserve the boundaries of a reservation, 8 counties that were split only because the population of each county exceeded the ideal district size, and 8 counties that were split for other reasons. By comparison, the redistricting plan adopted by the

Legislative Assembly in 2011 had 33 counties that were not split, 3 counties that were split only to preserve the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation, 3 counties that were split only because the counties included cities that were too large for one district, and 14 counties that were split for other reasons.

Existing Districts and Communities of Interest

Committee members were encouraged to keep traditional redistricting principles in mind when completing redistricting plans. Factors other than population and preserving political subdivision boundaries which were considered in proposed plans presented to the committee included preservation of the cores of existing districts, protection of incumbents, and preservation of communities of interest. Committee members also identified district boundaries using major streets and other easily identifiable geographic features when possible.

Native American Voters and the Creation of Subdistricts

The committee solicited and received testimony from several individuals representing tribal interests, tribal nations, and Native American rights organizations, including the Executive Director of the Indian Affairs Commission and representatives of the Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Three Affiliated Tribes, Native American Rights Fund, and North Dakota Native Vote. The testimony:

- Noted the growth of Native American populations in North Dakota;
- Urged the creation of subdistricts for Native American voters to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act and prevent dilution of votes cast by Native Americans;
- Requested tribal members be considered communities of interest;
- Urged the committee to provide equitable, more direct, and more responsive representation for Native Americans;
- Urged the committee not to split reservations into multiple districts;
- Noted multiple Native American candidates have had unsuccessful campaigns for membership in the House;
- Asserted there has been a history of discrimination in North Dakota against Native Americans; and
- Asserted a history of racial bloc voting has prevented Native American voters from electing their candidates of choice.

The committee also received updates from committee members who serve on the Tribal and State Relations Committee, which met with representatives of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Three Affiliated Tribes, and Spirit Lake Nation on their respective reservations regarding redistricting and other matters. The updates generally were consistent with the testimony presented to the Redistricting Committee. One member of the House testified in opposition to subdistricts.

The committee reviewed the 2020 Census data for tribal reservations, including the total population, total voting-age population, American Indian population, and American Indian voting-age population for each of the five reservations in North Dakota. ("American Indian" is the official United States Census Bureau designation for Native Americans.) Committee members noted the American Indian populations on the Fort Berthold Reservation and Turtle Mountain Reservation exceeded 4,145, the number required to constitute a majority of a House subdistrict with the ideal population size of 8,288. According to the Census Bureau, 5,537 American Indians live on the Fort Berthold Reservation, and 4,767 American Indians live on the Turtle Mountain Reservation. The numbers of American Indians on the Spirit Lake Reservation and the North Dakota portions of the Lake Traverse Reservation and Standing Rock Reservation are 3,134, 56, and 3,332, respectively.

The committee received information from the Legislative Council staff and testimony from others on constitutional and statutory provisions regarding the use of race in redistricting. In particular, the committee received detailed testimony and information regarding the 14th Amendment, the federal Voting Rights Act, and caselaw applying them to multimember and single-member districts. The testimony and information included in-depth discussions of the *Gingles* preconditions and the circumstances under which majority-minority districts or subdistricts are required under federal law. The committee also received information regarding *Grinnell v. Sinner*, a case in which Native Americans sued Governor George Sinner and other officials alleging the Voting Rights Act required North Dakota's 1991 redistricting plan to include a subdistrict for Native Americans in District 4. The plaintiffs lost the case because they were unable to meet the first *Gingles* precondition based on the Native American population in District 4 in the 1990 Census. According to the Census Bureau, 2,999 Native Americans lived on the Fort Berthold Reservation in 1990. The ideal district population for North Dakota based on the 1990 Census was 13,037, and the ideal subdistrict population was 6,518. The committee also received information regarding the creation of two Native American-majority subdistricts in South Dakota and the litigation concerning the subdistricts.

The committee engaged in several discussions regarding subdistricts. Some committee members expressed discomfort with drawing subdistrict boundaries based on race, a preference for court-directed subdistricts over legislatively initiated subdistricts, and concerns about having most citizens vote for two members of the House of Representatives while citizens residing in subdistricts vote for only one representative. Other committee members noted the creation of subdistricts might prevent a possible dilution of Native Americans' votes, provide communities of interest an opportunity to select their candidates of choice, and potentially stave off a court challenge to the redistricting map for which the committee had worked in an honest and transparent manner. Some committee members expressed a preference for legislatively drawn district boundaries over court-drawn boundaries that may result from litigation.

Staggering of Terms

The committee reviewed information regarding the procedures for staggering the terms of senators and representatives. The committee reviewed a bill draft that would maintain 4-year terms for members of the Legislative Assembly and:

- Require elections for senators and representatives in odd-numbered districts and subdistricts in 2022; and
- Require elections for senators and representatives in even-numbered districts in 2024, except in the following situations in which elections in 2022 would be required:

Three or more representatives elected from even-numbered districts in 2020 are located in an even-numbered district;

Two or more senators elected from even-numbered districts in 2020 are located in an even-numbered district;

A member of the Legislative Assembly elected from an even-numbered district is located in an odd-numbered district, and the member does not move back into the even-numbered district and provide the requisite certification of the change of residence by February 1, 2022;

The even-numbered district has been divided into subdistricts; and

The 2020 population of the geographic area added to the even-numbered district since 2010 is more than 25 percent of the ideal district population.

The bill draft also would provide a member of the Legislative Assembly is deemed to "live in" the district from which the member was elected until December 1, 2022, for purposes of Section 5 of Article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota. This provision would allow the member to continue serving the district from which the member was elected even if the member is located in a different district in the 2021 redistricting map.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The committee recommends <u>House Bill No. 1504</u> to establish 47 legislative districts, including subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9, and to include the provisions of the bill draft relating to the staggering of terms of members of the Legislative Assembly. The bill draft also repeals the current legislative redistricting plan, provides the Secretary of State authority to modify 2022 primary election deadlines and procedures as necessary to conduct the 2022 primary election, provides legislative intent regarding legislative district boundaries and the terms of incumbent legislators, and becomes effective upon its filing with the Secretary of State.

Under the plan recommended by the committee, the largest district has a population of 17,385 and the smallest district has a population of 15,749. Thus, the largest district is 4.88 percent over the ideal district size and the smallest district is 4.99 percent below the ideal district size, providing for an overall range of 9.87 percent. The plan includes 33 counties that were not split, 4 counties that were split only to preserve the boundaries of a reservation, 8 counties that were split because the population of each county exceeded the ideal district size, and 8 counties that were split for other reasons. Population data and maps of the proposed districts are included with this report.

EXHIBIT 6

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-CRH

Defendants,

v.

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

DECLARATION OF MARK N. FOX

- I, Mark N. Fox, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, based on my personal knowledge, declare that:
- 1. I am an enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation ("MHA Nation"), also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. I currently serve as the Chairman of the Tribal Business Council of the MHA Nation, which is the Tribe's governing body. I live on the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- 2. MHA Nation is a federally recognized tribe and located on the Fort Berthold Reservation. The Tribal Headquarters are located at 404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763.
- 3. MHA Nation has approximately 17,145 enrolled members, including approximately 11,796 members aged 18 and older. A substantial portion of these members are

eligible to vote and do vote in federal, state, and local elections on or near the Fort Berthold Reservation.

- 4. The Fort Berthold Reservation spans approximately 988,000 acres (or 1,543 square miles) in central North Dakota along the Missouri River. The Reservation intersects with McLean, Mountrail, Dunn, McKenzie, Mercer, and Ward Counties.
- 5. The Fort Berthold Reservation was established by executive order in 1870. Its present boundaries represent only a fraction of the ancestral territories of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Sahnish (Arikara) Peoples and territories recognized by the 1851 Treaty of Fort Laramie.
- 6. The MHA Nation is comprised of Mandan, Hidatsa, and Sahnish (Arikara) Peoples, who have been present in North America since time immemorial. While the three Tribes have separate origins, they have commonly resided in the Missouri River Area and on the land where the Fort Berthold Reservation is located for centuries.
- 7. The political boundaries of the MHA Nation are defined by the borders of the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- 8. The political borders of the Fort Berthold Reservation have important legal implications, including those pertaining to the MHA Nation's governing authority. For instance, the MHA Nation, through its Tribal Business Council and Tribal Court, has jurisdiction to enforce its Constitution and Tribal Code within the boundaries of the Reservation. The Tribal Court of the MHA Nation has the authority to adjudicate civil disputes arising out of events occurring on the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- 9. Citizens of the MHA Nation have a unique political status, recognized by the MHA Nation and the United States, that goes well beyond any racial classification.

10. Because of their tribal membership, citizens of the MHA Nation have particular rights and obligations that are recognized by Tribal and Federal Governments, including the right to vote in tribal elections. Likewise, they are entitled to participate in tribal and federal programs reserved to members of federally recognized Indian tribes.

North Dakota Elections and the State Legislative Map

- 11. Prior to 2021, the Fort Berthold Reservation was wholly located within Legislative District 4. Residents of District 4, including citizens of the MHA Nation residing on the Fort Berthold Reservation, elected two State House Representatives, at large, and one State Senator from within the District. District 4 contained parts of six counties: McKenzie, Dunn, Mountrail, McLean, Mercer, and Ward.
- 12. The prior at large electoral system for District 4 prevented MHA Citizens from electing their candidates of choice to the State Legislature. No Members of the MHA Nation were elected to the North Dakota State House or State Senate from the previous District 4 under the 2011-2021 electoral map's at-large system, despite multiple Tribal Members running for the various at large seats.
- 13. For example, MHA Tribal Members Thomasina Mandan and Cesar Alvarez ran for the at large State House seats in District 4 in 2020 and 2016, respectively. Both candidates lost their bids, despite winning in precincts on the Reservation. Lisa Finley DeVille likewise lost her bid for State Senate in 2020 in the at large District 4.
- 14. The 2020 Census showed that the populations of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the former District 4 grew substantially. According to the Census population estimates, the population of the Fort Berthold Reservation increased from 6,341 in 2010 to 8,350 in 2020. Similarly, the population of former District 4 grew from 14,081 in 2010 to 16,794 in 2020. The

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ideal population for an at-large legislative district during the 2021 Redistricting Cycle was 16,576 and 8,288 for a single-member house district.

- 15. Given this population growth, the historic failure of the at large system to allow MHA Tribal Members to elect a candidate of choice to the Legislature, and the unique needs of the MHA Nation and its Members, I testified twice in my official capacity as Chair of the Tribal Business Council regarding the MHA Nation's position in support of a State House subdistrict in District 4 that would follow the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation.
- 16. Other MHA Tribal Members similarly testified in support of a State House subdistrict in District 4.
- 17. The 2021 Redistricting Plan places the Fort Berthold Reservation into a single-member State House subdistrict, House District 4A, that follows the Reservation's boundaries. House District 4A has a population of 8,350. The majority of the citizen voting age population of House District 4A are Members of the MHA Nation.
- 18. The MHA Nation intervened as defendant in this case on its own behalf and on behalf of its members to protect the voting rights of its members and to defend the Fort Berthold Reservation as a community of interest in which House District 4A should remain.

MHA Nation as a Community of Interest

- 19. The Fort Berthold Reservation is a community of interest. MHA Nation Tribal Members living on the Fort Berthold Reservation share common economic, cultural, language, demographic, and social interests that are distinct from the surrounding populations.
- 20. Members of the MHA Nation are united in their unique relationship with the United States government and their status as citizens of the United States and State of North Dakota as well as citizens of the MHA Nation. This relationship has particular implications for the ways in

which MHA Nation Tribal Members access certain government services, such as healthcare, emergency response services, education, and housing support.

- 21. Members of the MHA Nation likewise share common languages, cultures, and religious practices. The MHA Nation offers services in support of these shared interests, like the programs of our Culture and Language Center.
- 22. Many Members of the MHA Nation who live on the Fort Berthold Reservation also share similar socioeconomic statuses and educational backgrounds, resulting in common needs when it comes to social services and other programs and objectives of the Tribal, State, and Federal Governments.
- 23. The MHA Nation and its Citizens further share a common relationship with the Missouri River that is unique from residents of the surrounding areas. For centuries, the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Sahnish Peoples who comprise the contemporary MHA Nation have lived along the Missouri River and in the Missouri Riverbed, using the River for sustenance, transportation, trade, and religious and cultural practices. When the MHA Nation negotiated with the United States for the location of the Fort Berthold Reservation, ensuring that the Nation could remain on the Missouri Riverbed and on lands that included the Missouri River was crucial.
- 24. Today, the Missouri River remains of paramount importance to the MHA Nation. The River is critical to our shared cultural and religious practices, social interests, and our languages. Likewise, Tribal Members continue to use the Missouri River for subsistence. Because of the importance of the Missouri River to the MHA Nation, the MHA Nation and its Members have continued to defend the Nation's ownership of the Riverbed against encroachment by the State of North Dakota. In fact, the Department of Interior recognized the MHA Nation's unique relationship with the Missouri River that sets the Nation apart from the State and residents of the

surrounding areas in 2022 in an official opinion affirming the MHA Nation's ownership of the

Missouri Riverbed. This relationship is distinct from residents of the surrounding areas.

25. The MHA Nation and residents of the Fort Berthold Reservation also share

common economic and regulatory interests arising from the Bakken Oil Formation, which has

significant reservoirs below the Fort Berthold Reservation.

26. The needs and concerns of the residents of the Fort Berthold Reservation are

distinct from those of the surrounding community, including the rest of District 4 outside of the

Fort Berthold Reservation. Placing the Fort Berthold Reservation into a larger at-large two seat

legislative house district would threaten to subsume the interests of its residents into the interests

of the broader community, leaving behind the unique needs of the Tribe and its Members.

27. Subdistrict 4A provides an opportunity for Citizens of the MHA Nation who reside

on the Fort Berthold Reservation to elect a candidate of their choice in the State House, and ensures

that their unique needs are represented in the Legislature.

I am competent to testify on the matters stated in this declaration. I declare under penalty of perjury

that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February , 2023,

m@adobesign.com (Feb 28, 2023 21:14 CST)

Mark N. Fox

Chairman of the Tribal Business Council

Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation

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EXHIBIT 7

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-CRH

Defendants,

v.

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

DECLARATION OF LISA FINLEY-DEVILLE

- I, Lisa Finley-DeVille, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, based on my personal knowledge, declare that:
- 1. I am an enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation ("MHA Nation"), also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
- 2. I live on the Fort Berthold Reservation, within the town of Mandaree. I have lived at my current residence for 12 years and on the Fort Berthold Reservation for 47 years.
- 3. I am eligible to vote in federal, state, and local elections in North Dakota at my residence on the Fort Berthold Reservation and do so regularly. I voted in the 2022 Election and plan to continue to vote in federal, state, and local elections in North Dakota in the future, including

elections for the North Dakota State Legislature. My current state legislative districts are Senate District 4 and State House Subdistrict 4A.

- 4. The elimination of Subdistrict 4A would deprive me of the opportunity to elect my candidate of choice to the North Dakota State House.
- 5. I currently serve as the State House Representative for House District 4A. I was elected in 2022, in the first election the Subdistrict.
- 6. Prior to the creation of Subdistrict 4A, I ran in the at large District 4 for the State Senate seat in 2020. I ran alongside Thomasina Mandan, an MHA Citizen, who ran for the at large seat in House District 4.
- 7. My experiences running in the at large District 4 and in Subdistrict 4A were very different. In 2020, despite winning handily in the portion of District 4 on the Fort Berthold Reservation, I ultimately lost. During my campaign, I had strong support from other Members of the MHA Nation, but my candidacy was not as well received by non-Native voters. I remember one event in particular during a campaign event where non-Native voters complained that my candidacy was forcing them to learn about treaties. I also heard frequent comments about Native Americans not paying taxes.
- 8. Running in Subdistrict 4A allowed me to focus my efforts on voters in my community. My campaign was centered on issues that most impact residents of the Fort Berthold Reservation, like protecting our homelands and ensuring a safe and healthy environment on the Reservation, increasing funding for education, protecting our women and children, and supporting the business and economic development of our local communities. I received strong support from other MHA Citizens who live on the Reservation. Now, as a Representative in the State House, I

can ensure that the needs of MHA Citizens and other residents of the Fort Berthold Reservation are represented in the Legislature.

9. I am competent to testify on the matters stated in this declaration. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 27, 2023,

Lisa Finley-DeVille

EXHIBIT 8

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, an individual, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Defendants,

and

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Intervenor-Defendants.

DECLARATION TO ACCOMPANY THE EXPERT REPORT OF LOREN COLLINGWOOD

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Loren Collingwood, declare that:

My name is Loren Collingwood. I am an expert witness designated by Intrevenor-Defendants in the above referenced case now pending in the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota.

A true and correct copy of my curriculum vitae is attached hereto as a part of my report. The following report, a true and correct copy of which is attached and incorporated herein for all purposes, is a summary of my opinions and conclusions. The materials I relied upon to develop my analyses and opinions are cited therein and/or produced herewith for all counsel.

The court testimony and publications I am required to disclose are described in my attached report and/or curriculum vitae.

My reasonable and necessary hourly rate for my time in this case is \$325.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this 17th day of January, 2023

Loren Collingwood, Ph.D

Expert Report of Dr. Loren Collingwood

Loren Collingwood

2023-01-17

Executive Summary

In this report, I examine past election results in North Dakota's recently enacted Legislative District 4. I do this to determine if voting is racially polarized—i.e., if Native American voters generally prefer one set of candidates, and white voters generally prefer a different set of candidates. In conducting this analysis, I analyzed 35 general elections from 2014 to 2022, and used the Ecological Inference (EI) and Rows by Columns (RxC) statistical methods to evaluate if racially polarized voting (RPV) exists. RPV is present in every election contest.

I also conducted electoral performance analyses in the following jurisdictions: The newly adopted full District 4, as well as Subdistricts 4A and 4B. An electoral performance analysis reconstructs previous election results based on new district boundaries to assess whether a Native or white preferred candidate is most likely to win in a given jurisdictions under consideration (i.e., the newly adopted legislative map).

Overall, the accumulated evidence leads me to conclude the following:

- Racially polarized voting (RPV) is present in the areas comprising the newly adopted Legislative District 4. This is particularly clear in the 2016 elections featuring three Native American candidates, and is also evident in the 2022 contest featuring a Native American candidate (Moniz).
- I used two well-known statistical methods to assess RPV, which consistently demonstrated racially polarized voting patterns between Native Americans and non-Hispanic white voters.
- Native American voters cohesively prefer the same candidates for political office in the newly adopted Legislative District 4. White voters cohesively prefer a different set of candidates for political office.
- In my reconstituted electoral performance analysis, Native American-preferred candidates lose every single race in the full District 4 for a block rate of 100%; but win handily in the newly adopted Legislative Sub-District 4A (33 of 34 contests) for a block rate of 3%. However, Native American-preferred candidates lose 34 of 34 contests in the newly adopted Legislative Sub-District 4B for a block rate of 100%.
- In the recent legislative general election held Sub-District 4A, the Native-Americanpreferred candidate, Lisa Finley-Deville, who is Native-American herself, won

handily in District 4A 69% to 31% for Terry Burton Jones. A correlation analysis in this contest shows a relationship between percent Native-American and percent Finley-Deville over 0.7 on a 0-1 scale – a very strong relationship.

 Native-American voters strongly backed Native-American candidate, Cesar Alvarez, in the 2016 Legislative District 4 election, whereas white voters split their votes evenly between two different candidates.

My opinions are based on the following data sources: Statewide and local North Dakota general elections from 2014-2022; 2020 U.S. Census voting age population data taken from Dave's Redistricting, and North Dakota Legislative Districts shape files.

Background and Qualifications

I am an associate professor of political science at the University of New Mexico. Previously, I was an associate professor of political science and co-director of civic engagement at the Center for Social Innovation at the University of California, Riverside. I have published two books with *Oxford University Press*, 40 peer-reviewed journal articles, and nearly a dozen book chapters focusing on sanctuary cities, race/ethnic politics, election administration, and racially polarized voting. I received a Ph.D. in political science with a concentration in political methodology and applied statistics from the University of Washington in 2012 and a B.A. in psychology from the California State University, Chico, in 2002. I have attached my curriculum vitae, which includes an up-to-date list of publications.

In between my B.A. and Ph.D., I spent 3-4 years working in private consulting for the survey research firm Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research in Washington, D.C. I also founded the research firm Collingwood Research, which focuses primarily on the statistical and demographic analysis of political data for a wide array of clients, and lead redistricting and map-drawing and demographic analysis for the Inland Empire Funding Alliance in Southern California. I was the redistricting consultant for the West Contra Costa Unified School District, CA, independent redistricting commission in which I am charged with drawing court-ordered single member districts. I am contracted with Roswell, NM Independent School District to draw single member districts.

I served as a testifying expert for the plaintiff in the Voting Rights Act Section 2 case *NAACP v. East Ramapo Central School District*, No. 17 Civ. 8943 (S.D.N.Y.), on which I worked from 2018 to 2020. I am the quantitative expert in *LULAC vs. Pate (Iowa)*, 2021, and have filed an expert report in that case. I am the BISG expert for plaintiff in *LULAC Texas, et al. v. John Scott, et al.*, having filed one report in that case. I am the racially polarized voting expert for the plaintiff in *East St. Louis Branch NAACP, et al. vs. Illinois State Board of Elections, et al.*, having filed two reports in that case, and submitted written testimony. I am the Senate Factors expert for plaintiff in *Pendergrass v. Raffensperger (N.D. Ga. 2021)*, having filed a report in that case and submitted written testimony. I am the racially polarized voting expert for plaintiff in *Johnson, et al., v. WEC, et al., No. 2021AP1450-OA*, having filed three reports in that case and submitted written testimony. I am the racially polarized voting expert for plaintiff in *Faith Rivera, et al. v. Scott Schwab and Michael Abbott No. 2022-CV-000089*. I have filed a report in that case and provided testimony. I served as the RPV

expert in *Lower Brule Sioux Tribe v. Lyman County* where I filed a report and testified at trial. I am the RPV expert for plaintiff in *Soto Palmer et al. vs. Hobbs et al.* and have filed a report and been deposed. In each instance courts have accepted my opinion. In this case I am compensated at a rate of \$325/hour.

District 4A Characteristics

District 4A has a Native American voting age population of 67.2%. It scores very high on measures of compactness. Two common measures are the Reock and Polsby-Popper scores. District 4A has a Reock score of .45 and a Polsby-Popper score of .57. These scores reflect a very compact district.

Racially Polarized Voting

Racially polarized voting (RPV) occurs when one racial group (i.e., Native American voters) consistently votes for one candidate or set of candidates, and another racial group (i.e., non-Hispanic white voters) regularly votes for another candidate or set of candidates. I analyze multiple elections across four election years to determine whether a pattern of RPV is present in a given geography and/or political jurisdiction (i.e., statewide, Legislative District 4, etc.). In an election contest between two candidates, RPV is present when a majority of voters belonging to one racial/ethnic group vote for one candidate and a majority of voters who belong to another racial/ethnic group prefer the other candidate. The favored candidate of a given racial group is called a "candidate of choice." However, if a majority of voters (i.e., 50%+1) of one racial group back a particular candidate and so do a majority of voters from another racial group, then RPV is not present in that contest.

Racially polarized voting does not mean voters are racist or intend to discriminate. In situations where RPV is clearly present, however, majority voters may often be able to block minority voters from electing candidates of choice by voting as a broadly unified bloc against minority voters' preferred candidate.

I examine RPV in the context of North Dakota statewide general elections – subsetting to voting districts located inside of the newly enacted District 4.

Ecological Inference

To determine if RPV exists, experts must generally infer individual level voting behavior from aggregate data – a problem called ecological inference. We turn to aggregate data because most of the time we do not have publicly available survey data on all election contests and in particular geographic areas where we want to see if RPV is present. In general, we want to know how groups of voters (i.e., Native Americans or non-Hispanic whites) voted in a particular election when all we have to analyze are precinct vote returns and the demographic composition of the people who live in those precincts.

Experts have at their disposal several methods to analyze RPV: homogeneous precinct analysis (i.e., taking the vote average across high density white precincts vs. high density

Black precincts), ecological regression (ER), ecological inference (EI), and ecological inference Rows by Columns (RxC), which is designed specifically for the multi-candidate, multi-racial group environment, though all of these methods can be used to assess whether RPV is present in diverse election environments involving multiple candidates and multiple groups. In this report I rely on the ecological inference (EI) and RxC method to assess whether voting is racially polarized. I also focus my attention on the two top of the ticket candidates in each contest.

The R software package, eiCompare (Collingwood et al. 2020), builds upon packages eiPack (Lau, Moore, and Kellermann 2020) and ei (King and Roberts 2016) to streamline RPV analysis, and includes all of these aforementioned statistical methods. In this report I include ecological inference estimates accounting for variation in turnout by race. That is, I divide candidate vote by voting age population and include an estimate for no vote. I then calculate vote choice estimates by race for only people estimated to have voted. In this way, the method differences out non-voters and attempts to account for variation in turnout by race.

The rest of the report presents my results: 1) A list of the elections analyzed; 2) District 4 RPV analysis; 3) District 4, 4A and 4B electoral performance analysis.

List of Elections Analyzed

Table 1 presents the analyzed exogenous elections. Native-American candidates have an asterisk after their name. Overall, there are 35 elections. In the full District 4, I analyze 34 elections across five election cycles finding RPV in each contest. I also examined the most recent 4A election, taking a slightly different approach, which I discuss later in the report. In addition, I analyzed the 2014 LD-4 contest between Terry Jones, Bill Oliver, Kenton Onstad, and Cesar Alvarez (Native-American candidate). This district is very similar to the newly adopted LD-4 but has a few additional precincts.

Table 1. List of contests analyzed, between 2014-2022. Native American candidates have an asterisk after their name.

Year	Contest	Candidate 1	Candidate 2	Native Prefer	D4 RPV	D4 Native-Prefer Win	D4A Native- Prefer Win	D4B Native- Prefer Win
2022	U.S. Senate	Christiansen	Hoeven	Christianse n	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	U.S. House	Mund	Armstrong	Mund	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	Agriculture Commissioner	Dooley	Goehring	Dooley	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	Attorney General	Charles Lamb	Wrigley	Charles Lamb	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	Secretary of State	Powell	Howe	Powell	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	Public Service Commissioner	Moniz*	Fedorchak	Moniz	YES	No	Yes	No
2022	Public Service Commissioner 4yr	Hammer	Haugen-Hoffart	Hammer	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	President	Biden	Trump	Biden	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	U.S. House	Raknerud	Armstrong	Rakenrud	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	Governor	Lenz	Burgum	Lenz	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	Auditor	Hart	Gallion	Hart	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	Treasurer	Haugen	Beadle	Haugen	YES	No	Yes	No
2020	Public Services Commissioner	Buchmann	Kroshus	Buchmann	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	U.S. Senate	Heitkamp	Cramer	Heitkamp	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	U.S. House	Schneider	Armstrong	Schneider	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Secretary of State	Boschee	Jaeger (I)	Boshee	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Attorney General	Thompson	Stenhjem	Thompson	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Agriculture Commissioner	Dotzenrod	Goehring	Dotzenrod	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Public Services Commissioner	Brandt	Christmann	Brandt	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Public Services Commissioner 2yr	Buchmann	Kroshus	Buchmann	YES	No	Yes	No
2018	Tax Commmissioner	Oversen	Rauschenberge r	Oversen	YES	No	Yes	No
2016	President	Clinton	Trump	Clinton	YES	No	Yes	No
2016	U.S. Senate	Glassheim	Hoeven	Glassheim	YES	No	No	No
2016	U.S. House	Iron Eyes*	Cramer	Iron Eyes	YES	No	Yes	No
2016	Governor	Nelson	Burgum	Nelson	YES	No	Yes	No
2016	Insurance	Buffalo*	Godfread	Buffalo	YES	No	Yes	No
2016	Public Services Commissioner	Hunte Beaubrun*	Fedorchak	Hunte Beaubrun	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Attorney General	Kraus	Stenehjem	Kraus	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Agriculture Commissioner	Taylor	Goehring	Taylor	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Commissioner 2yr	Axness	Fedorchak	Axness	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Commissioner	Reisenauer	Kalk	Reisenauer	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Secretary of State	Fairfield	Jaeger	Fairfield	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	Tax Commmissioner	Astrup	Rauschenberge r	Astrup	YES	No	Yes	No
2014	U.S. House	Sinner	Cramer	Sinner	YES	No	Yes	No

Racially Polarized Voting District 4

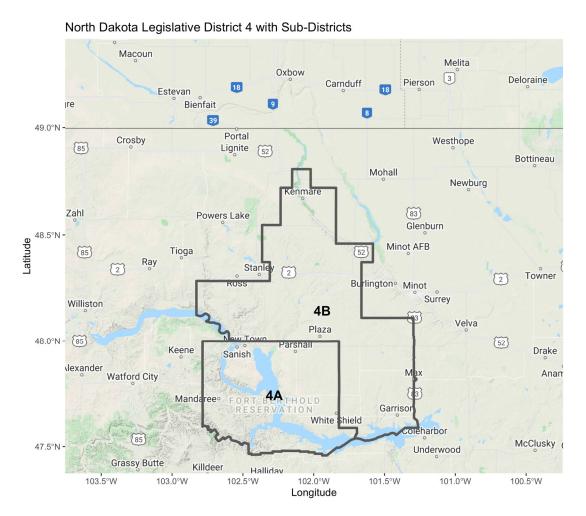
To conduct the analysis, I gathered precinct election returns for candidates running in each statewide contest either from the redistricting data hub¹ or the North Dakota Secretary of State, which provides precinct vote returns.² While the redistricting data hub data come formatted in precincts/VTDs and in GIS shape files, not all contests are always available. In the case where I downloaded data from the Secretary of State website I joined the data with VTD shape files based on common precinct names.

Next, I downloaded Census VTD files containing Voting Age Population (VAP) data from the 2020 U.S. Census from Dave's Redistricting – a popular website and program for redistricting. These data contain counts of VAP by race per precinct/VTD. I join precinct vote returns with VAP data using a combination of GEOID20 indicators and precinct names. Thus, I now have datasets that contain both candidate votes and racial demographics. Next, I subset the full statewide data to just the precincts found in the new District 4, which is presented in Figure 1.

¹ https://redistrictingdatahub.org/state/north-dakota/

² See https://results.sos.nd.gov/ResultsSW.aspx?text=All&type=SW&map=CTY&eid=292 for 2016 example.

Figure 1. District 4 under new North Dakota map.



The last step is to develop the inputs to the ecological inference model. I convert the precinct racial estimates to a percent, generating a percent Native American by dividing the estimated number of VAP Native American individuals by the total number of VAP individuals in a precinct. To generate my estimate of percent white, I do the same for non-Hispanic white. I then collapse all other race groups into a catch-all group – which is required for statistical estimation -- although I do not substantively analyze race: other. I then calculate vote choice estimates by race for people estimated to have voted. In this way, the method attempts to difference out non-voters and accounts for variation in turnout by race.

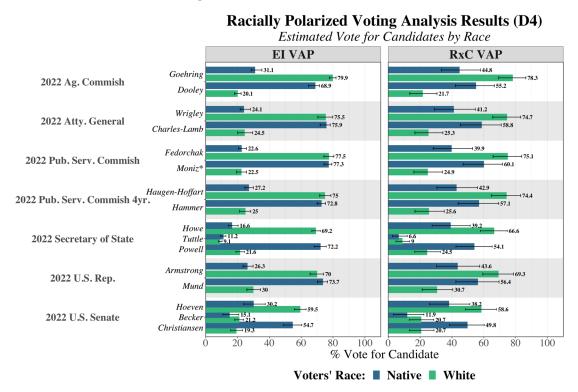
I do not conduct an ecological inference RPV analysis in Sub-Districts 4A and 4B because 1) there are relatively few precincts in each subdistrict, and 2) Sub-District 4A has a large share of Native Americans, whereas 4B does not, so locating homogeneous precincts of both racial groups in both subdistricts is challenging. Instead, I rely on the overall District 4 RPV results to assess candidate preference in the general region. However, I do conduct

performance analysis in the subdistricts to evaluate whether white votes block Native American candidates and Native-preferred candidates.

Figure 2 presents the 2022 RPV results. The left column axis shows the contest name, the middle panel the EI results, and the rightmost panel the RxC results. The results are generally consistent, showing RPV in every contest, or an RPV rate of 100%.³ I also present 95% confidence error bands showing each model's statistical uncertainty. Finally, candidates with an asterisk are known Native-American candidates.

There are so many contests I will not enumerate the results of each one; rather I will provide one example: the 2022 Agriculture Commissioner. In the EI model, 69% of Native voters backed Dooley (55% in the RxC model); whereas 80% of whites backed Goehring (78% in the RxC model). Thus, a majority of Native voters favor one candidate, and a clear majority of white voters favor a different candidate.

Figure 2. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2022 general election.



While I did not conduct ecological inference analyses in either subdistrict, I did conduct a correlation analysis of the most recent election in Sub-District 4A. Figure 3 presents bivariate (race and candidate vote share) scatterplots and reveals a trend consistent with an RPV analysis. For instance, in the bottom left corner, as the share of Native-American

³ The 2022 Senate race shows lower rates of RPV in the RxC model but diverging candidate preference by race is still very evident.

voters in a precinct increases, the vote share for Finley-Deville also rises. The converse occurs for Burton – who does best in the whitest precincts in Sub-District 4A (top right panel).

Figure 3. Scatterplots showing correlation/association between race and candidate choice in Sub-District 4A.

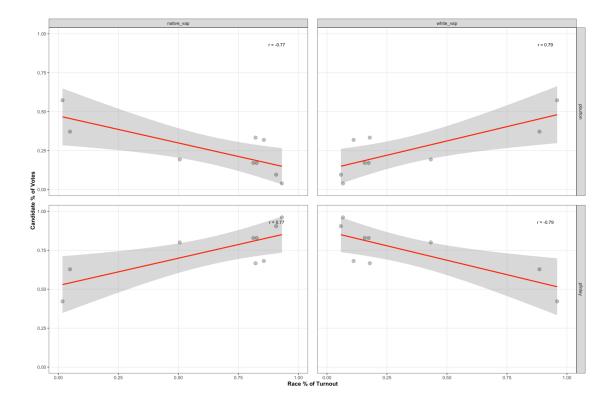


Figure 4 presents the racially polarized voting results for the 2020 contests. The results are consistent: in every single contest there is overwhelming evidence of RPV.

Figure 4. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2020 general election.

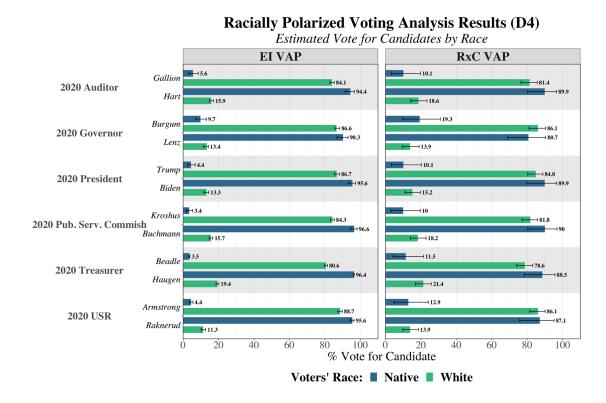


Figure 5 presents the racially polarized voting results for the 2018 contests. Again, the results show overwhelming evidence of RPV.

Figure 5. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2018 general election.

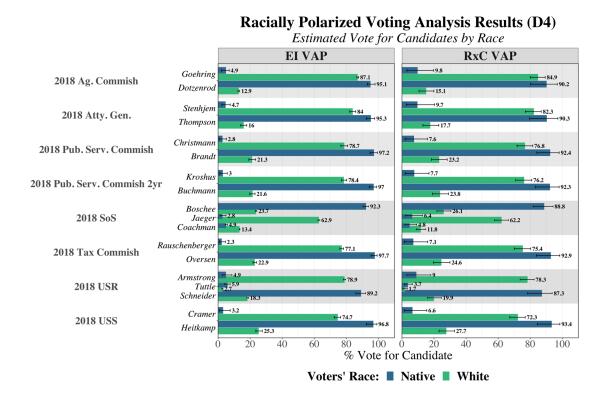


Figure 6 presents the racially polarized voting results for the 2016 contests.

Figure 6. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2016 general election.

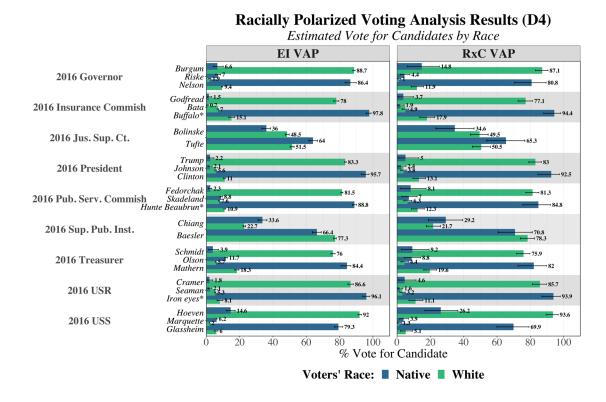


Figure 7 presents the racially polarized voting results for the 2016 Legislative District/State Representative 4 featuring Terry Jones, Bill Oliver, Kenton Onstad, and Cesar Alvarez. Mr. Alvarez is Native American while the remaining three candidates are white. Although this election was conducted under the prior version of District 4, and not the newly enacted version of the district, there were very few changes between the prior and the new district (2,364 people removed (91.4% white VAP) and 2,039 added (93.3% white VAP)). Because the district remained largely the same, with no change to the predominantly Native American portions of the district, the 2016 state legislative election is probative, especially so as an endogenous election featuring a Native American candidate. Voters could cast up to two ballots so I have normalized the results to account for overall voting behavior in preparing the RPV data. Native-American voters overwhelmingly backed Alvarez (62-65% of the vote), followed by Onstad – a white Democrat (31%). Note, that Native-American voters clearly prefer the Native-American Democrat over the white Democrat. Meanwhile, white voters cast split their ballot somewhat evenly between Oliver and Jones (34-36%) – the eventual winners. Indeed, only around 10% of white voters supported Alvarez. Notably, white voters were much more willing to vote for the white Democrat (20.3%) compared to the Native American Democrat (9.5%). This election illustrates how race, not partially, motivates racially polarized voting in the region.

Figure 7. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in Legislative District 4 for state representative, 2016.

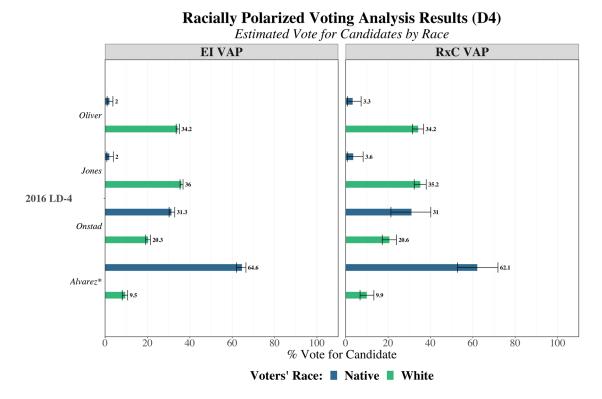
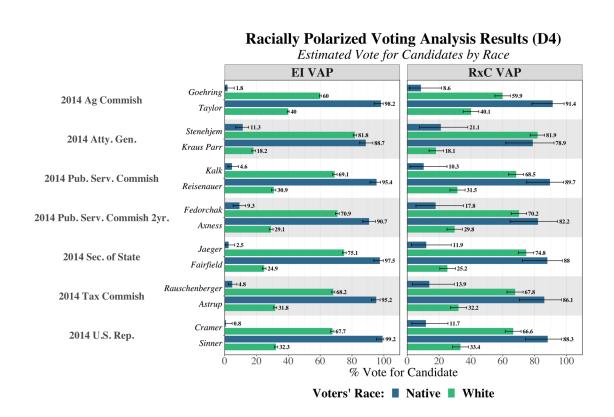


Figure 8 presents the racially polarized voting results for the 2014 contests.

Figure 8. Racially Polarized Voting assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2014 general election.



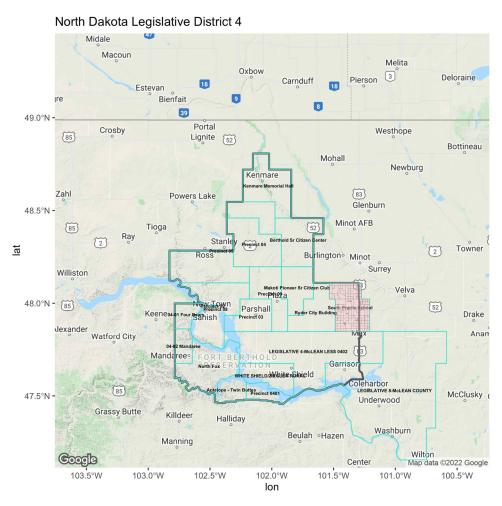
Performance Analysis District 4

To conduct the performance analysis, for 2022, I simply take the appropriate precincts falling within the full D4, then also look at D4A and D4B discretely. For the earlier contests where results are not presented by subdistrict, I take an additional step with regard to split precincts. For the full District 4, there are 3 precincts split across D4 and neighboring districts (i.e., District 8). These include South Prairie School (76.5% geographically in the district), LEGISLATIVE 4-McLEAN LESS 0402 (86.5% geographically inside the district),

and LEGISLATIVE 8-McLEAN COUNTY (7.4% geographically in the district). There are also several split precincts between D4A and D4B.

To account for these splits in my electoral performance analysis, I overlaid the precinct polygon shape file with the 2020 block polygon shape file and join population-level data including voting age population (VAP). Because blocks are fully nested inside precincts in this instance, I can make adjustments to precinct vote totals by weighting votes by total voting age population. In precincts that split between districts I take blocks on the one side of the District 4 boundary to estimate the share of the VAP that is inside/outside of the district. Figure 9 illustrates the idea. The part of the pink precinct to the left of the district boundary is included in D4, the part to the right is not.

Figure 9. Example of South Prairie School split precinct between District 4 and neighboring district, with Census blocks shaded pink.



One way to address this issue may be to turn to geographic distribution instead of population distribution. For example, a precinct might be geographically split 50-50 between District 4 and District 8. If there are 100 votes in the precinct, I could assign 50 votes to the part of the precinct in the district, and divide all candidate votes in half. If

Trump had received 70 of the precinct's initial 100 votes, and Biden 30, I would assign Trump 35 votes (70*0.5) and Biden 15 (30*0.5) totaling 50 votes.

However, another method when data are available is to take account of where the population lives within the precinct by using blocks – a much smaller and more compact geographic unit. Each block contains a tally for voting age population (VAP); therefore I can sum the VAP for all blocks for the part of the precinct falling inside of District 4, and for the part of the precinct outside of D4. This method more adequately accounts for population distribution within the precinct instead of relying on geographic area alone. It could be the case that 70% of the VAP resides in the part of the precinct falling into D4, and 30% in a neighboring district. So instead of multiplying the initial 100 votes by 0.5, for District 4, I multiply the precinct's initial 100 votes by 0.7. In this scenario, Trump would receive 49 of the 70 votes and Biden 21 votes. While the candidate vote share ratio might be the same the Trump net differential moves from plus 20 (35-15) to plus 28 (49-21).

Having accounted for the three split precincts, I combine those vote estimates with the 16 precincts fully inside D4. For each contest, I then sum votes for candidate 1 and candidate 2, respectively, and divide by total votes cast. I conduct the same procedure for the two subdistricts.

Figure 10 presents the 2022 electoral performance analysis results of the full District 4, then Sub-Districts 4A and 4B. The results show that the white-preferred candidate wins seven of seven (100%) contests in the full D4, loses all seven contests in D4A, and wins seven of seven contests in D4B. These results plainly show the need for a subdistrict in D4 – as the full district results show strong evidence of white voters blocking Native voters in their ability to elect candidates of choice at the full district level.

Figure 10. Performance analysis assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2022 elections.

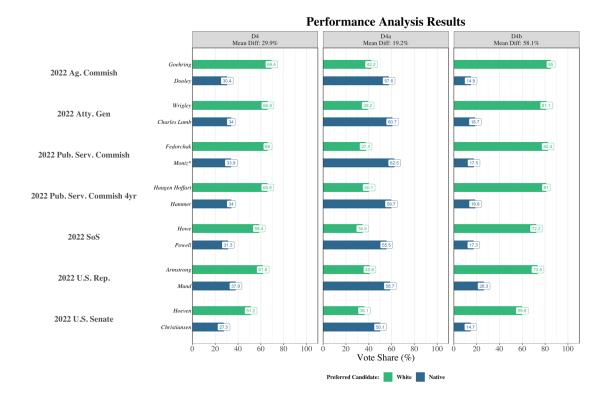


Figure 11 presents the 2020 election performance analysis results of the full District 4, then Sub-Districts 4A and 4B. Beginning with the leftmost panel – the full District 4 – the Native-preferred candidates loses 6 of 6 contests for a block rate of 100%. The middle panel tells a different story though. The Native-preferred candidates wins 6 of 6 contests for a block rate of 0%.

Finally, the rightmost panel (Sub-District 4B) tells the opposite story – the Native-preferred candidates loses 6 of 6 contests for a block rate of 100%.

Figure 11. Performance analysis assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2020 elections.

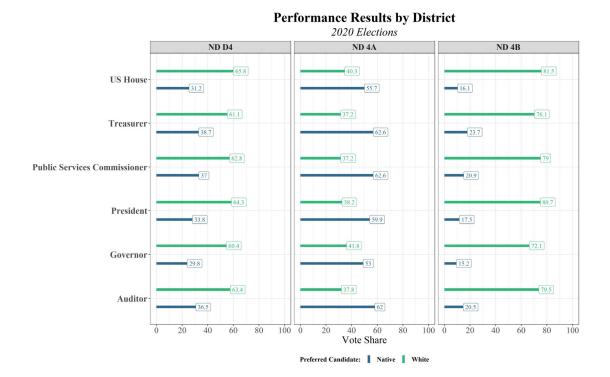


Figure 12 presents the 2018 election performance analysis results of the full District 4, then Sub-Districts 4A and 4B. Beginning with the leftmost panel – the full District 4 – the Native-preferred candidates loses 8 of 8 contests for a block rate of 100%. The middle panel tells a different story though. The Native-preferred candidates wins 8 of 8 contests for a block rate of 0%.

Finally, the rightmost panel (Sub-District 4B) tells the opposite story – the Native-preferred candidates loses 8 of 8 contests for a block rate of 100%.

Figure 12. Performance analysis assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4, 4A, and 4B boundaries, 2018 elections.

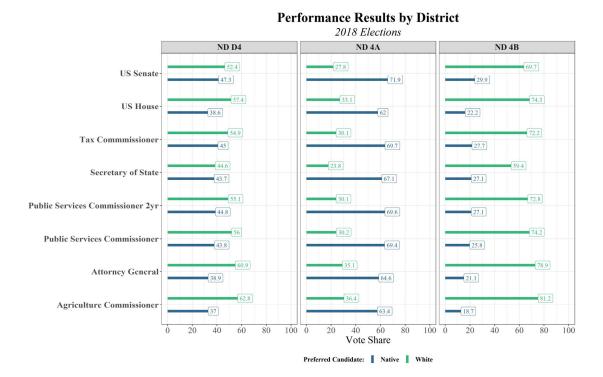


Figure 13 presents the 2016 election performance analysis results of the full District 4, then Sub-Districts 4A and 4B. Beginning with the leftmost panel – the full District 4 – the Native-preferred candidates loses 7 of 7 contests for a block rate of 100%. The middle panel tells a different story though. The Native-preferred candidates wins 6 of 7 contests for a block rate of 14%.

Finally, the rightmost panel (Sub-District 4B) tells the opposite story – the Native-preferred candidates loses 7 of 7 contests for a block rate of 100%.

Figure 13. Performance analysis assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2016 elections.

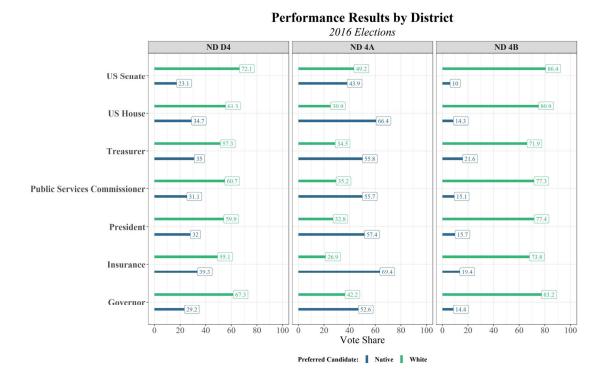
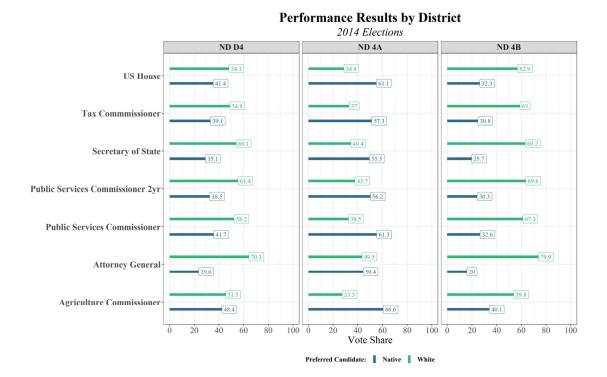


Figure 14 presents the 2014 election performance analysis results of the full District 4, then Sub-Districts 4A and 4B. Beginning with the leftmost panel – the full District 4 – the Native-preferred candidates loses 7 of 7 contests for a block rate of 100%. The middle panel tells a different story though. The Native-preferred candidates wins 7 of 7 contests for a block rate of 0%.

Finally, the rightmost panel (Sub-District 4B) tells the opposite story – the Native-preferred candidates loses 7 of 7 contests for a block rate of 100%.

Figure 14. Performance analysis assessment in statewide contests subset to the new District 4 boundaries, 2014 elections.



Conclusion

In conclusion, without any doubt, racially polarized voting between Native American voters and non-Hispanic whites is present in North Dakota's recently enacted District 4. RPV is especially clear in elections featuring Native American candidates – but is present across every single election I analyzed across five election years (2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, and 2022). RPV is also present in the 2016 LD-4 election featuring a Native American candidate who ran and lost. Thus, the Gingles II threshold is clearly met. A Gingles III analysis reveals that whites vote as a bloc to block Native Americans from electing candidates of choice at the full District 4 level in 34 of 34 contests. Narrowing in on the new Sub-Districts 4A and 4B, Native-preferred candidates win 97% of the time in 4A. However, in Sub-District 4B, Native-preferred candidates win 0% of the time meaning that they are very likely to lose contests in that subdistrict. Therefore, Gingles III is present in Sub-District 4B, in District 4 overall, but not in Sub-District 4A (which was drawn to allow Native American voters to overcome white bloc voting). Sub-District 4A thus affords Native American voters the opportunity to elect their candidates of choice that they otherwise lack in the absence of the sub-district.

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Employment

Associate Professor, University of New Mexico, 2020 - Present

Associate Professor, University of California, Riverside 2019 - 2020

Assistant Professor, University of California, Riverside 2012 - 2019

Assistant Analyst, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, Washington DC 2005-2007

Field Associate, Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, Washington DC 2003-2005

Education

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Washington 2007 - 2012 Committee: Matt Barreto (chair), Chris Parker, Luis Fraga, Chris Adolph, Peter Hoff

M.A., Political Science, University of Washington, 2009

B.A., Psychology, California State University, Chico, 1998 - 2002

Minor: Political Science

Honors: Cum Laude, NCAA Scholar-Athlete in soccer

Research Fields

American Politics, Political Behavior, Methods, Race and Ethnic Politics, Immigration

Books

2. Collingwood, Loren. Campaigning in a Racially Diversifying America: When and How Cross-Racial Electoral Mobilization Works. 2020. Oxford University Press.

Featured in Veja, Brazil

1. Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge. 2019. Oxford University Press.

Featured in Teen Vogue, Seattle Times; Phoenix New Times

Articles

- 40. Gonzalez O'Brien, Ben, **Loren Collingwood**, and Michael A. Paarlberg. "What Leads to Refuge? Sanctuary Policies and the Influence of Local Demographics and Partisanship." *Urban Affairs Review*. (Forthcoming).
- 39. Collingwood, Loren, Gabriel Martinez, and Kassra Oskooii. "Undermining Sanctuary? When Local and National Partisan Cues Diverge." *Urban Affairs Review*. (Forthcoming).
- 38. Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. "Is Distance to Drop Box an Appropriate Proxy for Drop Box Treatment? A Case Study of Washington State." *American Politics Research*. (Forthcoming)
- 37. Barreto, Matt, Michael Cohen, **Loren Collingwood**, Chad Dunn, and Sonni Waknin. "A Novel Method for Showing Racially Polarized Voting: The Promise of Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding." New York University Review of Law and Social Change. 46(1). (Forthcoming)
- 36. Barreto, Matt, **Loren Collingwood**, Sergio Garcia-Rios, and Kassra Oskooii. "Estimating Candidate Support: Comparing Iterative EI & EI-RxC Methods." *Sociological Methods & Research*. (Forthcoming).
- 35. Morín, Jason L., Rachel Torres, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2021. "Cosponsoring and Cashing in: U.S. House Members' support for punitive immigration policy and financial payoffs from the private prison industry." *Business and Politics*. 23(4): 492-509.

Featured in KOAT-ABQ news

34. Newman, Benjamin; Merolla, Jennifer; Shah, Sono; Lemi, Danielle; Collingwood, Loren; Ramakrishnan, Karthick. 2021. "The Trump Effect: An Experimental Investigation of the Emboldening Effect of Racially Inflammatory Elite Communication." British Journal of Political Science 51(3): 1138-1159.

Featured in New York Times; Washington Post; The Times of India; Washington Post; NBC News; New York Times; Forbes; NBC News

33. Collingwood, Loren and Sean Long. 2021. "Can States Promote Minority Representation? Assessing the Effects of the California Voting Rights Act." Urban Affairs Review. 57(3): 731-762.

Featured in NPR; Modesto Bee, IVN News San Diego; Woodland Daily Democrat; Silicon Valley Voice; Spectrum 1; Washington Post; Politico

32. Oskooii, Kassra, Nazita Lajevardi, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2021. "Opinion Shift and Stability: Enduring Individual-Level Opposition to Trump's 'Muslim Ban'." *Political Behavior*. 43: 301-337.

Featured in Washington Post

31. Hickel, Flavio, Rudy Alamillo, Kassra Oskooii, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2020. "When American Identity Trumps Latinx Identity: Explaining Support for Restrictive Immigration Policies." *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 84(4), 860-891.

Featured in Academic Times

- 30. Walker, Hannah, **Loren Collingwood**, and Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. 2020. "White Response to Black Death: A Racialized Theory of White Attitudes About Gun Control." *DuBois Review: Social Science Research on Race.* 17(1): 165-188.
- 29. Filindra, Alexandra, **Loren Collingwood**, and Noah Kaplan. 2020. "Anxiety and Social Violence: The Emotional Underpinnings of Support for Gun Control." *Social Science Quarterly*. 101: 2101-2120.
- 28. McGuire, William, Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien, Katherine Baird, Benjamin Corbett, and Loren Collingwood. 2020. "Does Distance Matter? Evaluating the Impact of Drop Boxes on Voter Turnout." Social Science Quarterly. 101: 1789-1809.
- 27. Reny, Tyler, Ali Valenzuela, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2020. ""No, You're Playing the Race Card": Testing the Effects of Anti-Black, Anti-Latino, and Anti-Immigrant Appeals in the Post-Obama Era." *Political Psychology*. 41(2): 283-302.

Featured in VOX The Weeds Podcast

- 26. Collingwood, Loren, Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien, and Joe Tafoya. 2020. "Partisan Learning or Racial Learning: Opinion Change on Sanctuary City Policy Preferences in California and Texas." Journal of Race and Ethnic Politics. 5(1): 92-129.
- 25. Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez. 2019. "Covert Cross-Racial Mobilization, Black Activism, and Political Participation Pre-Voting Rights Act." Florida Historical Quarterly 97(4) Spring.
- 24. Gonzalez O'Brien, Ben, Elizabeth Hurst, Justin Reedy, and Loren Collingwood. 2019. "Framing Refuge: Media, Framing, and Sanctuary Cities." *Mass Communication and Society*. 22(6), 756-778.
- 23. DeMora, Stephanie, **Loren Collingwood**, and Adriana Ninci. 2019. "The Role of Super Interest Groups in Public Policy Diffusion." *Policy and Politics*. 47(4): 513-541.
- 22. Collingwood, Loren, Stephen Omar El-Khatib, Ben Gonzalez O'Brien. 2019. "Sustained Organizational Influence: American Legislative Exchange Council and the Diffusion of Anti-Sanctuary Policy." *Policy Studies Journal*. 47(3): 735-773.
- 21. Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. 2019. "Public Opposition to Sanctuary Cities in Texas: Criminal Threat or Immigration Threat?" Social Science Quarterly. 100(4): 1182-1196.
- 20. Reny, Tyler, **Loren Collingwood**, and Ali Valenzuela. 2019. "Vote Switching in the 2016 Election: Racial and Immigration Attitudes, Not Economics, Explains Shifts in White Voting." *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 83(1): 91-113.
 - Featured in VOX; The Week; The Economist; New York Times; The Economist
- 19. Gonzalez-O'Brien, Benjamin, **Loren Collingwood**, and Stephen Omar El-Khatib. 2019. "The Politics of Refuge: Sanctuary Cities, Crime, and Undocumented Immigration." *Urban Affairs Review.* 55(1): 3-40.

Featured in WaPo Monkey Cage I; and Monkey Cage II; WaPo Fact Check; InsideHigherEd; PolitiFact; The Hill; Christian Science Monitor; Pacific Standard; NBC News; Huffington Post; Seattle Times; The Denver Post; San Jose Mercury News; Chicago Tribune; San Diego Union Tribune; VOX

18. Oskooii, Kassra, Sarah Dreier, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2018. "Partisan Attitudes Toward Sanctuary Cities: The Asymmetrical Effects of Political Knowledge." *Politics and Policy* 46(6): 951-984.

17. Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morín, and Stephen Omar El-Khatib. 2018. "Expanding Carceral Markets: Detention Facilities, ICE Contracts, and the Financial Interests of Punitive Immigration Policy." Race and Social Problems. 10(4): 275-292.

Featured in CityLab; The Guardian; Mother Jones; NPR

- Collingwood, Loren, Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien, and Sarah K. Dreier. 2018. "Evaluating Public Support for Legalized Marijuana: The Case of Washington." *International Journal of Drug Policy*. 56: 6-20.
- 15. **Collingwood, Loren**, McGuire, Will, Gonzalez O'Brien, Ben, Baird, Katie, and Hampson, Sarah. 2018. "Do Dropboxes Improve Voter Turnout? Evidence from King County, Washington." *Election Law Journal*. 17:1.

Featured in Seattle Times; CBS News

 Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. 2018. "A Change of Heart? How Demonstrations Shifted Individual-Level Public Opinion on Trump's Muslim Ban." Political Behavior. 40(4): 1035-1072.

Featured in VOX; ThinkProgress; LSE Blog; Al Jazeera; San Francisco Chronicle; NPR; Business Insider; Washington Post

- 13. Collingwood, Loren, Ashley Jochim, and Kassra Oskooii. 2018. "The Politics of Choice Reconsidered: Partisanship and Minority Politics in Washington's Charter School Initiative." State Politics & Policy Quarterly 18(1): 61-92.
- 12. Newman, Ben, Sono Shah, and **Loren Collingwood**. 2018. "Race, Place, and Building a Base: Ethnic Change, Perceived Threat, and the Nascent Trump Campaign for President." *Public Opinion Quarterly*. 82(1): 122-134.

Featured in Pacific Standard; LSE Blog; Newsweek

- 11. Skulley, Carrie, Andrea Silva, Marcus J. Long, **Loren Collingwood**, and Ben Bishin, "Majority Rule vs. Minority Rights: Immigrant Representation Despite Public Opposition on the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act." 2018. *Politics of Groups and Identities*. 6(4): 593-611.
- 10. Alamillo, Rudy and **Loren Collingwood**. 2017. "Chameleon Politics: Social Identity and Racial Cross-Over Appeals." *Politics of Groups and Identities*. 5(4): 533-650.

Featured in WaPo's Monkey Cage; NBC News; Los Angeles Times

Collingwood, Loren, Kassra Oskooii, Sergio Garcia-Rios, and Matt Barreto. 2016. "eiCompare: Comparing ecological inference estimates across EI and EI:RxC." The R Journal. 8(2): 92-101.

Featured in Investigate West

8. Barreto, Matt, **Loren Collingwood**, Christopher Parker, and Francisco Pedraza. 2015 "Racial Attitudes and Race of Interviewer Item Non-Response." Survey Practice. 8:5.

7. Barreto, Matt and Loren Collingwood. 2015. "Group-based Appeals and the Latino Vote in 2012: How Immigration Became a Mobilizing Issue." *Electoral Studies*. 40:490-499.

Featured in Latino Decisions blog

Collingwood, Loren, Matt Barreto, and Sergio Garcia-Rios. 2014. "Revisiting Latino Voting: Cross-Racial Mobilization in the 2012 Election." Political Research Quarterly. 67(3): 632-645.

Featured in LSE Blog

- Jurka, Tim, Loren Collingwood, Amber Boydstun, Emiliano Grossman, and Wouter van Atteveldt. 2013. "RTextTools: A Supervised Learning Package for Text Classification in R" The R Journal. 5(1).
- 4. Collingwood, Loren. 2012. "Education Levels and Support for Direct Democracy." American Politics Research, 40(4): 571-602.
- 3. Collingwood, Loren and John Wilkerson. 2012. "Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods." *Journal of Information Technology and Politics*, 9(3).
- 2. Collingwood, Loren, Matt Barreto and Todd Donovan. 2012. "Early Primaries, Viability, and Changing Preferences for Presidential Candidates." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, 42(2).
- Barreto, Matt, Loren Collingwood, and Sylvia Manzano. 2010. "A New Measure of Group Influence in Presidential Elections: Assessing Latino Influence in 2008." Political Research Quarterly. 63(4).

Featured in Latino Decisions blog

Book Chapters

- 11. **Collingwood, Loren**, Stephanie DeMora, and Sean Long. "Demographic Change, White Decline, and the Changing Nature of Racial Politics in Election Campaigns." In *Cambridge Handbook in Political Psychology*. Edited by Danny Osborne and Chris Sibley. [Forthcoming].
- 10. Morín, Jason L. and **Loren Collingwood**. "Contractor Politics: How Political Events Influence Private Prison Company Stock Shares in the Pre and Post Trump Era." In *Anti-immigrant Rhetoric*, Actions, and Policies during the Trump Era (2017-2019). [Forthcoming]
- Parker, Christopher S., Christopher C. Towler, Loren Collingwood, and Kassra Oskooii.
 2020. "Race and Racism in Campaigns." In Oxford Encyclopedia of Persuasion in Political Campaigns. Edited by Elizabeth Suhay, Bernard Grofman, and Alexander H. Trechsel. DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190860806.013.38
- 8. Collingwood, Loren, and DeMora, Stephanie. 2019. "Latinos and Obama." In Jessica Lavariega Monforti (ed.) Latinos in the American Political System: An Encyclopedia of Latinos as Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders.
- 7. DeMora, Stephanie, and **Collingwood, Loren**. 2019. "George P. Bush." In Jessica Lavariega Monforti (ed.) Latinos in the American Political System: An Encyclopedia of Latinos as Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders.

 El-Khatib, Stephen Omar, and Collingwood, Loren. 2019. "Ted Cruz." In Jessica Lavariega Monforti (ed.) Latinos in the American Political System: An Encyclopedia of Latinos as Voters, Candidates, and Office Holders.

- 5. Collingwood, Loren, Sylvia Manzano and Ali Valenzuela. 2014. "November 2008: The Latino vote in Obama's general election landslide." In Latino America: How America's Most Dynamic Population Is Poised to Transform the Politics of the Nation. By Matt Barreto and Gary Segura. New York: Public Affairs Press. (co-authored chapter with Matt Barreto and Gary Segura)
- 4. Collingwood, Loren, Justin Gross and Francisco Pedraza. 2014. "A 'decisive voting bloc' in 2012." In Latino America: How America's Most Dynamic Population Is Poised to Transform the Politics of the Nation. By Matt Barreto and Gary Segura. New York: Public Affairs Press. (co-authored chapter with Matt Barreto and Gary Segura)
- 3. Barreto, Matt, Loren Collingwood, Ben Gonzalez, and Chris Parker. 2011. "Tea Party Politics in a Blue State: Dino Rossi and the 2010 Washington Senate Election." In William Miller and Jeremy Walling (eds.) Stuck in the Middle to Lose: Tea Party Effects on 2010 U.S. Senate Elections. Rowan and Littlefield Publishing Group.
- 2. Collingwood, Loren and Justin Reedy. "Criticisms of Deliberative Democracy." In Nabatchi, Tina, Michael Weiksner, John Gastil, and Matt Leighninger, eds., *Democracy in motion: Evaluating the practice and impact of deliberative civic engagement*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.
- 1. Collingwood, Loren. "Initiatives." In Haider-Markel, Donald P., and Michael A. Card. *Political Encyclopedia of U.S. States and Regions*. Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2009.

Software

R package: RTextTools. This package uses supervised learning methods to automate text classification. Coauthors include Jurka, Boydstun, Grossman, and van Atteveldt. Available on CRAN.

R package: eiCompare. This package compares outcomes between ecological inference (EI) estimates and EI:Rows by Columns (RxC) estimates. Primary purpose is employed in racially polarized voting analysis. Development Version available here: eiCompare or on CRAN. Coauthors include Barreto, Oskooii, Garcia-Rios, Burke, Decter-Frain, Murayama, Sachdeva, Henderson, Wood, and Gross.

R package: Rvoterdistance. Calculates distance between voters and multiple polling locations and/or ballot drop boxes. Ports C++ code for high speed efficiency. Available on CRAN.

R package: Rweights. Creates survey weights via iterative variable raking. Survey design object and weights vector are produced for use with R, Stata, and other programs. Currently in alpha form with unix tarball available here: Rweights.

R package: Rmturkcheck. Functions for cleaning and analyzing two-wave MTurk (or other) panel studies. Available: Rmturkcheck

R package: RCopyFind. Functions for extracting data frames then plotting results from WCopyFind plagiarism text program. Co-authored with and Maintained by Steph DeMora. Available: RCopyFind

Under Review / Working Papers

Barreto, Matt, Michael Cohen, **Loren Collingwood**, Chad Dunn, and Sonni Waknin. "Using Bayesian Improved Surname Geocoding (BISG) to Assess Racially Polarized Voting in Voting Rights Act Challenges." [Revise & Resubmit]

Decter-Frain, Ari, Pratik Sachdeva, **Loren Collingwood**, Juandalyn Burke, Hikari Murayama, Matt Barreto, Scott Henderson, Spencer Wood, and Joshua Zingher. "Comparing BISG to CVAP Estimates in Racially Polarized Voting Analyses." [Revise & Resubmit]

Hickel Jr., Flavio R., Kassra A.R. Oskooii, and **Loren Collingwood**. "Social Mobility Through Immigrant Resentment: Explaining Latinx Support for Restrictive Immigration Policies and Anti-Immigrant Candidates." [Revise & Resubmit]

Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morín, and Eitan Tzelgov. "Walls and Weed: How Threats to Local Industry Shape Economic Voting." [Under Review]

Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morín, and Edward Vargas. "Protesting Detention: How Protests Activated Group Empathy and Party ID to Shift Attitudes on Child Detention." [Under Review]

Paarlberg, Michael A. and Loren Collingwood. "Fact or Fiction: Testing the link between local immigration policy and the MS-13 'Threat'." [Under Review]

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

Matt Barreto and Loren Collingwood. Detection of Vote Dilution: New tools and methods for protecting voting rights. Data Science for Social Good project selection, University of Washington. 2020

Loren Collingwood. Measuring Cross-Racial Voter Preferences. UCR Faculty Senate. \$3,500.

Francisco Pedraza and Loren Collingwood. Evaluating AltaMed's 2018 GOTV Efforts in Los Angeles. \$12,000. 2018-2019.

Allan Colbern, Loren Collingwood, Marcel Roman. A Mess in Texas: The Deleterious Effects of SB4 on Public Trust in Law Enforcement. Center for American Progress. \$7,100. 2018.

Karthick Ramakrishnan, Mindy Romero, Loren Collingwood, Francisco Pedraza, Evaluating California's Voter's Choice Act. Irvine Foundation. \$150,000, 2018-2019.

William McGuire, Loren Collingwood, Ben Gonzalez O'Brien, and Katie Baird, "Evaluating the Impact of Drop Boxes and Get-Out-The-Vote Advertising on Voter Turnout in Pierce County, WA." MIT Election Data and Science Lab, \$16,365, 2017

Justin Freebourn and Loren Collingwood, Blum Initiative \$4,000, 2017

Hellman Fellowship Grant, UC Riverside, \$30,000, 2014-2015

Best Dissertation Award, 2013 Western Political Science Association

UC Riverside Harrison & Ethel Silver Fund, \$2,000, 2013

Best Graduate Student Paper Award State Politics section, 2012 American Political Science Association

Texas A&M Experimental Methods Winter Institute, \$800, January, 2011

UseR! 2011 Conference travel grant, \$1000, August, 2011

Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences travel grant, \$870, January, 2011

David J. Olson Research Grant, University of Washington Political Science, \$2,000, January, 2011

Warren Miller Scholarship Award, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, Summer 2009

Matthews Fellowship, University of Washington, Winter 2008 - Spring 2009

Brennan Center for Justice, New York University [with Matt Barreto] Indiana Voter Identification Study, \$40,000-Oct. 2007, 6 months

Teaching Experience

POSC 10 (American Politics); POSC 146 (Mass Media & Public Opinion); POSC 171 (State Politics); POSC 104S (Race and Ethnic Politics Special Topics); POSC 108 (Race and Ethnic Politics)

POLS 300: Immigration Politics with Focus on Latino Politics

POLS 300: The Voting Rights Act: Causes and Effects

POSC 202A: Introduction to Quantitative Methods (Graduate)

POSC 207: Statistical Programming and Data Science for the Social Sciences (Graduate)

POSC 207: Quantitative Text Analysis (Graduate)

POSC 220: Graduate Seminar in Race and Ethnic Politics in the U.S.

POSC 256: Graduate Seminar in Public Opinion

POSC 253: Graduate Seminar in Electoral Politics

Text Classification with R using the RTextTools package, UNC-Chapel Hill Workshop

Text Analysis with Political Data, Claremont Graduate School, 2019

CSSS Intermediate R Workshop 2011, Instructor (Summer)

POLS 501: Advanced Research Design and Analysis, Teaching Assistant (2 quarters)

ICPSR Summer Course: Methodological Issues in Quantitative Research on Race and Ethnicity, Teaching Assistant

POLS 202: Introduction to American Politics, Teaching Assistant

CSSS Math Camp 2011, Teaching Assistant

POLS 499D: Center for American Politics and Public Policy Undergraduate Honors Seminar (2 quarters)

Professional Service

Co-editor, Politics of Groups and Identities, 2020-2021

Reviewer, Political Behavior, Journal of Information Technology and Politics, American Politics Research, Social Sciences Quarterly, Journal of Politics, Politics of Groups and Identities, American Journal of Political Science, Political Research Quarterly, State Politics and Public Policy, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Journal of Race and Ethnic Politics, Urban Studies, Urban Affairs Review; many other journals

Conference Papers and Presentations

Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk California Lutheran University. (October 2020).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk California State University, Chico. (March 2020).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk Humboldt State University. (March 2020).

Collingwood, Loren. "Campaigning in a Racially Diversifying America: Whether and How Cross-Racial Electoral Mobilization Works." Invited Talk Oregon State University. (February 2020).

Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk University of San Diego. (November 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Campaigning in a Racially Diversifying America: Whether and How Cross-Racial Electoral Mobilization Works." Invited Talk University of Massachusetts. (January 2020).

Collingwood, Loren. "Campaigning in a Racially Diversifying America: Whether and How Cross-Racial Electoral Mobilization Works." Invited Talk University of New Mexico. (December 2019).

Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk California State University, Northridge, Los Angeles. (November 2019).

Collingwood, Loren and Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk Occidental College, Los Angeles. (November 2019).

Collingwood, Loren (with Sean Long). "Can States Promote Minority Representation? Assessing the Effects of the California Voting Rights Act." UC Irvine Critical Observations on Race and Ethnicity Conference. (November 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk University of Geneva, Switzerland. (November 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk University of Bern, Switzerland. (October 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk ETH Zurich, Switzerland. (October 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk London School of Economics, U.K. (October 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Sanctuary Cities: The Politics of Refuge." Invited Talk University of Leeds, U.K. (October 2019).

Valenzuela, Ali, Kassra Oskooii, and Loren Collingwood. "Threat or Reassurance? Framing Midterms Results among Latinos and Whites." American Political Science Association, Washington, DC. (August 2019).

Paarlberg, Michael A. and Loren Collingwood. "Much Ado about Nothing: Local Immigration Policy and the MS-13 'Threat'." American Political Science Association, Washington, DC. (August 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "A Mess in Texas: The Deleterious Effects of SB4 on Public Trust in Law Enforcement." International Center for Local Democracy (ICLD) Conference on Local Democracy. Umae, Sweden (June 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "The #FamiliesBelongTogether Outcry: How Protests Shifted Attitudes on Immigrant Family Separation and Child Detention." Invited Talk University of California, Irvine (May 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Text Analysis with R." Invited talk and presentation. Claremont Graduate University (May 2019)

Collingwood, Loren. "The #FamiliesBelongTogether Outcry: How Protests Shifted Attitudes on Immigrant Family Separation and Child Detention." PRIEC. UC Davis (May 2019).

Collingwood, Loren. "Data Analysis with R." Invited presentation and training Cal Poly Pomona (May 2019)

Collingwood, Loren. "The #FamiliesBelongTogether Outcry: How Protests Shifted Attitudes on Immigrant Family Separation and Child Detention." Invited Talk Northern Arizona University (May 2019)

Collingwood, Loren (with Jason Morín). "Contractor Politics: How Political Events Influence Private Prison Company Stock Shares in the Pre and Post Trump Era." Invited Talk Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Distrito Federal, Mexico (February 2019).

Roman, Marcel, Allan Colbern, and Loren Collingwood. "A Mess in Texas: The Deleterious Effects of SB4 on Public Trust in Law Enforcement." PRIEC Consortium. University of Houston (December 2018)

Collingwood, Loren. "The #FamiliesBelongTogether Outcry: How Protests Shifted Attitudes on Immigrant Family Separation and Child Detention." Invited Talk University of Illinois Chicago (November 2018)

Collingwood, Loren. "Ongoing Research in Sanctuary Cities and Immigration Politics." Invited Talk University of Pennsylvania Perry World House (November 2018)

Collingwood, Loren. "Unfair Detention: How Protests Activated Racial Group Empathy to Shift Attitudes on Child Detention." Invited Talk Rutgers University (October 2018)

Collingwood, Loren. "Unfair Detention: How Protests Activated Racial Group Empathy to Shift Attitudes on Child Detention." UCR Alumni Research Presentation Washington and Philadelphia (October 2018)

Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morin. "Expanding Carceral Markets: Detention Facilities, ICE Contracts, and the Financial Interests of Punitive Immigration Policy." Invited Talk UCLA (October 2018).

Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. "Opinion Shift and Stability: Enduring Opposition to Trump's "Muslim Ban". APSA (September 2018).

Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morin, and Stephen Omar El-Khatib. "Expanding Carceral Markets: Detention Facilities, ICE Contracts, and the Financial Interests of Punitive Immigration Policy." American Political Science Association Conference (August 2018).

Collingwood, Loren, Sergio Garcia-Rios, and Hannah Walker. "The Impact of Exposure to Police Brutality on Political Attitudes Among Black and White Americans." Cooperative Comparative Post-Election Survey (CMPS) Conference. (August, 2018).

Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. "Opinion Shift and Stability: Enduring Opposition to Trump's "Muslim Ban". Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium (August 2018).

Collingwood, Loren, Jason Morin, and Stephen Omar El-Khatib. "Expanding Carceral Markets: Detention Facilities, ICE Contracts, and the Financial Interests of Punitive Immigration Policy." Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium, Michigan State University (April 2018)

Collingwood, Loren, Benjamin Gonzalez O'Brien, and Joe Tafoya. "Partisan Learning or Racial Learning: Opinion Change on Sanctuary City Policy Preferences in California and Texas." Midwest Political Science Association Conference (April 2018).

El-Khatib, Stephen Omar and Loren Collingwood. "State Policy Responses to Sanctuary Cities: Explaining the Rise of Sanctuary City Legislative Proposals." Midwest Political Science Association Conference (April 2018).

Hannah Walker, Loren Collingwood, and Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. "Under the Gun: Black Responsiveness and White Ambivalence to Racialized Black Death." Midwest Political Science Association Conference (April 2018).

Hannah Walker, Loren Collingwood, and Tehama Lopez Bunyasi. "Under the Gun: Black Responsiveness and White Ambivalence to Racialized Black Death." Western Political Science Association Conference (April 2018).

DeMora, Stephanie, Adriana Ninci, and Loren Collingwood. "Shoot First in ALEC's Castle: The Diffusion of Stand Your Ground Laws." Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium, ASU (February 2018).

El-Khatib, Stephen Omar and Loren Collingwood. "State Policy Responses to Sanctuary Cities: Explaining the Rise of Sanctuary City Legislative Proposals." Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium, UCR (September 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. "A Change of Heart? How Protests Shifted Individual-Level Public Opinion on Trump's Muslim Ban." APSA (September 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, McGuire, Will, Gonzalez O'Brien Ben, Hampson, Sarah, and Baird, Katie. "Do Dropboxes Improve Voter Turnout? Evidence from King County, Washington." APSA (September 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, Reny, Tyler, Valenzuela, Ali. "Flipping for Trump: In 2016, Immigration and Not Economic Anxiety Explains White Working Class Vote Switching." UCLA (May 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. "A Change of Heart? How Protests Shifted Individual-Level Public Opinion on Trump's Muslim Ban." UCLA (May 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, Nazita Lajevardi, and Kassra Oskooii. "A Change of Heart? How Protests Shifted Individual-Level Public Opinion on Trump's Muslim Ban." Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium, UCSB (May 2017).

Reny, Tyler, Ali Valenzuela, and Loren Collingwood. "Public Reactions to Anti-Latino Appeals in the Age of Obama: Race, Illegality and Changing Norms." Vancouver, Western Political Science Association Conference (April. 2017).

Collingwood, Loren, McGuire, Will, Gonzalez-O'Brien Ben, Hampson, Sarah, and Baird, Katie. "Do Dropboxes Improve Voter Turnout? Evidence from King County, Washington." WPSA (April 2017).

Gonzalez-O'Brien, Benjamin, Loren Collingwood, and Stephen El-Khatib. "Gimme Shelter: The Myth and Reality of the American Sanctuary City". Vancouver, Western Political Science Association Conference WPSA (April 2017).

Rush, Tye, Pedraza, Francisco, Collingwood, Loren. "Relieving the Conscience: White Guilt and Candidate Evaluation." Politics of Race Immigration and Ethnicity Consortium, UCI (March 2017).

Reny, Tyler, Ali Valenzuela, and Loren Collingwood. "Public Reactions to Anti-Latino Appeals in the Age of Obama: Race, Illegality and Changing Norms." Philadelphia, American Political Science Association Conference (Sept. 2016)

Barreto, Matt, Loren Collingwood, Sergio Garcia-Rios, and Kassra Oskooii. "Estimating Candidate Support: Comparing EI & EI-RxC." Chicago, Midwest Political Science Association Conference (April 2016)

Bishin, Benjamin, Loren Collingwood, and Erinn Lauterbach. "Cross-Racial Mobilization in a Rapidly Diversifying Polity: Latino Candidates and Anglo Voters" Chicago, Midwest Political Science Association Conference (April 2016)

Gonzalez-O'Brien, Benjamin, Loren Collingwood, and Stephen El-Khatib. "Gimme Shelter: The Myth and Reality of the American Sanctuary City". San Diego, Western Political Science Association Conference (April 2016)

Collingwood, Loren and Antoine Yoshinaka. The new carpetbaggers? Analyzing the effects of migration on Southern politics. The Citadel Conference on Southern Politics, Charleston, SC (Mar 2016)

Alamillo, Rudy and Loren Collingwood. Chameleon Politics: Social Identity and Racial Cross-Over Appeals. American Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco (Sept 2015)

Reny, Tyler, Ali Valenzuela, and Loren Collingwood. "Public Reactions to Anti-Latino Appeals in the Age of Obama: Race, Illegality and Changing Norms." San Francisco, American Political Science Association Conference (Sept 2015)

Alamillo, Rudy and Loren Collingwood. Chameleon Politics: Social Identity and Racial Cross-Over Appeals. Western Political Science Association Conference, Las Vegas (April 2015)

Barreto, Matt and Loren Collingwood. Confirming Electoral Change: The 2012 U.S. Presidential Election OSU Conference (October, 2013). "Earning and Learning the Latino Vote in 2008 and 2012: How the Obama Campaign Tried, Refined, Learned, and Made Big Steps in Cross-Racial Mobilization to Latinos.

Collingwood, Loren and Ashley Jochim. 2012 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (April) Chicago, IL. "Electoral Competition and Latino Representation: The Partisan Politics of Immigration Policy in the 104th Congress."

Collingwood, Loren. 2012 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference (March) Portland, OR. "The Development and Use of Cross-Racial Mobilization as Campaign Strategy in U.S. Elections: The Case of Texas 1948-2010."

Collingwood, Loren. 2012 Institute for Pragmatic Practice Annual Conference (March) Seattle, WA. "Changing Demographics, Rural Electorates, and the Future of American Politics."

Collingwood, Loren. 2012 Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (January) Riverside, CA. "The Development of Cross-Racial Mobilization: The Case of Texas 1948-2010."

Collingwood, Loren. 2011 American Political Science Association Annual Conference (September) Seattle, WA. "The Pursuit of Victory and Incorporation: Elite Strategy, Group Pressure, and Cross Racial Mobilization."

Forman, Adam and Loren Collingwood. 2011 American Political Science Association Annual Conference (September) Seattle, WA. "Measuring Power via Presidential Phone Records." (Poster)

Collingwood, Loren with (Tim Jurka, Wouter Van Atteveldt, Amber Boydstun, and Emiliano Grossman). UseR! 2011 Conference. (August) Coventry, United Kingdom. "RTextTools: A Supervised Learning Package for Text Classification in R."

Jurka, Tim, Loren Collingwood, Wouter Van Atteveldt, Amber Boydstun, and Emiliano Grossman. 2011 Comparative Agendas Project Conference. (June) Catania, Italy. "RTextTools: A Supervised Learning Package for Text Classification in R."

Collingwood, Loren and John Wilkerson. 2011 Journal of Information Technology & Politics Conference. (May) Seattle, WA. "Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods."

Collingwood, Loren. 2011 Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium (May) Davis, CA. "The Pursuit of Victory and Incorporation: Elite Strategy, Group Pressure, and Cross Racial Mobilization"

Collingwood, Loren. 2011 Western Political Science Conference (April) San Antonio, TX. "Race-Matching as Targeted Mobilization."

Collingwood, Loren. 2011 Western Political Science Conference (April) San Antonio, TX. "The Pursuit of Victory and Incorporation: Elite Strategy, Group Pressure, and Cross Racial Mobilization"

Collingwood, Loren (with John Wilkerson). Invited Talk: Texas A&M University. (April, 2011) "Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods."

Collingwood, Loren (with John Wilkerson). Invited Talk: Rice University. (April, 2011) "Trade-offs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods."

Collingwood, Loren. 2011 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (April) Chicago, IL. "Race-Matching as Targeted Mobilization."

Collingwood, Loren and John Wilkerson. 2011 Text as Data Conference. (March) Evanston, IL. "Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods."

Collingwood, Loren and John Wilkerson. 2011 Southern Political Science Conference. (January) New Orleans, LA. "Tradeoffs in Accuracy and Efficiency in Supervised Learning Methods."

Collingwood, Loren (with Ben Gonzalez). 2010 American Political Science Association Annual Conference. (September) Washington, DC. "The Political Process in Florida: Modeling African American Registration Rates Post Smith v. Allwright, 1944-1964."

Wilkerson, John, Steve Purpura, and Loren Collingwood. 2010 NSF Funded Tools for Text Workshop. (June) Seattle, WA. "Rtexttools: A Supervised Machine Learning Package in an R-Wrapper."

Collingwood, Loren and Marcela Garcia-Castanon. 2010 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference. (April) San Francisco, CA. "Negativity as a Tool: candidate poll standing and attack politics."

Collingwood, Loren. 2010 Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium. (January) Riverside, CA. "White Outreach: A spatial approach to modeling black incorporation in Florida post *Smith v. Allwright*, 1944-1965."

Collingwood, Loren. 2009 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference. (March) Vancouver, BC. "Levels of Education, Political Knowledge and Support for Direct Democracy."

Collingwood, Loren. 2009 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference. (March) Vancouver, BC. "The Negativity Effect: Psychological underpinnings of advertising recall in modern political campaigns."

Collingwood, Loren and Marcela Garcia-Castanon. 2009 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference. (March) Vancouver, BC. "Negativity as a Tool: predicting negative responses and their effectiveness in the 2008 campaign season."

Collingwood, Loren and Marcela Garcia-Castanon. 2009 Western Political Science Association Annual Conference. (March) Vancouver, BC. "Switching codes: analyzing Obama's strategy for addressing Latinos in the 2008 presidential campaign."

Collingwood, Loren, (with Matt Barreto and Sylvia Manzano) 2009 Shambaugh Conference. (March) University of Iowa, IA. "More than one way to shuck a tamale: Latino influence in the 2008 general election."

Collingwood, Loren and Marcela Garcia-Castanon. 2009 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. (April) Chicago, IL. "Switching codes: analyzing Obama's strategy for addressing Latinos in the 2008 presidential campaign."

Collingwood, Loren and Marcela Garcia-Castanon. 2009 Pacific Northwest Political Science Conference. (October) Victoria, BC. "Negativity as a Tool: predicting negative responses and their effectiveness in the 2008 campaign season."

Collingwood, Loren and Francisco Pedraza (with Matt Barreto and Chris Parker). 2009 Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences 10th Anniversary Conference. (May) Seattle, WA. "Race of interviewer effects: perceived versus actual."

Collingwood, Loren (with Matt Barreto, Chris Parker, and Francisco Pedraza). 2009 Pacific Northwest Political Science Conference. (October) Victoria, BC. "Race of interviewer effects: perceived versus actual."

Barreto, Matt, Loren Collingwood and Todd Donovan. 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. (April) Chicago, IL. "Early Presidential Primaries, Viability, and Vote Switching in 2008."

Collingwood, Loren. 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference. (April) Chicago, IL. "Levels of Education and Support for Direct Democracy: A Survey Experiment."

Collingwood, Loren. 2008 American Political Science Association Annual Conference. (September) Boston, MA. "Levels of Education and Support for Direct Democracy: A Survey Experiment." (Poster)

Collingwood, Loren. 2008 American Political Science Association Annual Conference. (September) Boston, MA. "Response Effects in Multi-Candidate Primary Vote Questions." (Poster)

Computer Skills

R, Stata, Python, WinBugs/JAGS, LATEX, SPSS, MySQL, Access, ArcGIS, Some C++ when interacting with R.

Reports

Collingwood, Loren. (2008). The Washington Poll: pre-election analysis. www.washingtonpoll.org.

Collingwood, Loren. (2008). Democratic underperformance in the 2004 gubernatorial election: explaining 2004 voting patterns with an eye towards 2008. www.washingtonpoll.org.

Barreto, Matt, Loren Collingwood, Francisco Pedraza, and Barry Pump. (2009). Online voter registration in Washington State and Arizona. Commissioned by Pew Research Center.

Collingwood, Loren, Todd Donovan, and Matt Barreto. (2009). An assessment of ranked choice voting in Pierce County, WA.

Collingwood, Loren. (2009). An assessment of the fiscal impact of ranked choice voting in Pierce County, WA. Commissioned by the League of Women Voters.

Barreto, Matt, and Loren Collingwood. (2009). Latino candidates and racial block voting in primary and judicial elections: An analysis of voting in Los Angeles County board districts. Commissioned by the Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association.

Barreto, Matt, and Loren Collingwood. (2011). A Review of Racially Polarized Voting For and Against Latino Candidates in Los Angeles County 1994-2010. Commissioned by Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina. August 4.

Collingwood, Loren. (2012). Recent Political History of Washington State: A Political Map. Commissioned by the Korean Consulate.

Collingwood, Loren. (2012). Analysis of Polling on Marijuana Initiatives. Commissioned by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner.

Collingwood, Loren, Sean Long, and Francisco Pedraza. (2019). Evaluating AltaMed Voter Mobilization in Southern California, November 2018. Commissioned by AltaMed.

Relevant Work Experience

Collingwood Research, LLC

Statistical Consulting and Analysis

January 2008 - Present

Conducted over 200 projects involving political research, polling, statistical modeling, redistricting analysis and mapping, data analysis, micro-targeting, and R software development for political and non-profit clients. Clients include: Greenberg Quinlan Rosner, Latino Decisions, Pacific Market Research, Beck Research, Squier Knapp Dunn Communications, Anzalone–Lizst Research, League of Women Voters, Shelia Smoot for Congress, pollster.com, Comparative Agendas Project, Amplified Strategies, Gerstein Bocian & Agne, Strategies 360, the Korean Consulate, the California Redistricting Commission, Monterey County Redistricting Commission, ClearPath Strategies, Los Angeles County Council, Demchak & Baller Legal, Arnold & Porter LLP, JPM Strategic Solutions, National Democratic Institute (NDI) – on site in Iraq, Latham & Watkins, New York ACLU, United States Department of Justice (Demography), Inland Empire Funder's Alliance (Demography), Perkins & Coie, Elias Law Group; Campaign Legal Center; Santa Clara County (RPV Analysis); Native American Rights Fund (NARF); West Contra Costa Unified School District (Demography); Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; LatinoJustice PRLDEF, Voces de Frontera; Roswell, NM Independent School District

Expert Witness Work

Expert Witness: LOWER BRULE SIOUX TRIBE v. LYMAN COUNTY, 2022

Expert Witness: Walen and Henderson v. Burgum and Jaeger No 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-CRH,

2022

Expert Witness: Faith Rivera, et al. v. Scott Schwab and Michael Abbott No. 2022-CV-000089,

2022

Expert Witness: LULAC Texas et al. v. John Scott et al (1:21-cv-0786-XR), 2022

Expert Witness: Pendergrass v. Raffensperger (N.D. Ga. 2021),

Expert Witness: Johnson, et al., v. WEC, et al., No. 2021AP1450-OA, 2021

Expert Witness: East St. Louis Branch NAACP vs. Illinois State Board of Elections, 2021

Expert Witness: LULAC of Iowa vs. Pate, 2021-2022

Expert Witness: United States Department of Justice vs. City of Hesperia, 2021-2022

Expert Witness: NAACP vs. East Ramapo Central School District, New York, 2018-2019

Riverside County, Corona and Eastvale, 2015

Los Angeles County Redistricting Commission, 2011

Racially Polarized Voting analysis of Latino and Asian candidates in San Mateo County and alternative map creation, 2010-2011

State of California, Citizens Redistricting Commission, including Blythe, CA, in Riverside County, 2011

Monterey County, CA Redistricting, alternative map creation, 2011

Greenberg Quinlan Rosner

Assistant Analyst, Anna Greenberg

June 2005 - May 2007

Assisted in the development of questionnaires, focus group guidelines, memos, and survey reports for political, non-profit, and corporate clients. Moderated in-depth interviews and focus groups.

Greenberg Quinlan Rosner

Field Associate

December 2003 - June 2005

Managed qualitative and quantitative data collection process in the U.S. and internationally. Provided methodological advice, including sample stratification, sampling Latino populations, and modal sampling strategies.

Congressman Adam Schiff

Database Manager

March 2003 - June 2003

Managed constituent mail and survey databases; updated and maintained Member's Congressional voting record.

Strategic Consulting Group

Field Organizer, Carol Roberts for Congress

July 2002 - November 2002

Recruited and coordinated over 100 volunteers for mailings, canvassing, phone banking, and GOTV operations. Developed internship program and managed 15 interns from local colleges and high schools.

Institute for Policy Studies

Intern, John Cavanagh

May 2001 - August 2001

Provided research assistance for projects advocating reform of the WTO, World Bank, and IMF. Worked on reports and op-ed pieces on global economic issues advocating fair trade.

Last updated: January 11, 2023

EXHIBIT 9

Case 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-RRE-DLH Document 109-9 Filed 02/28/23 Page 2 of 3

2020 Unofficial General Election Results State of North Dakota Downloaded at Feb 27 2023 12:32PM

				Jordan Kannianen	Lisa Finley-DeVille	
State Senator	County	Number of Precincts		Republican	Democratic-NPL	write-in
District 4	Dunn		5	598	214	1 0
	McKenzie		2	76	362	2 0
	McLean		2	607	353	3
	Mercer		1	7	3	3 0
	Mountrail		6	1,558	1,024	2
	Ward		6	2,114	397	' 2
	TOTALS	2	22	4,960	2,353	3 7

2020 Unofficial General Election Results State of North Dakota Downloaded at Feb 27 2023 12:38PM

State Senator	Precinct	Jordan Kannianen	Lisa Finley-DeVille	write-in
District 4	Antelope - Twin Buttes	44	71	0
	Collins/Halliday	179	26	0
	Dodge/Loring	72	15	0
	Dunn Center/Decorah	286	39	0
	North Fox	17	63	0
	TOTALS	598	214	0

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-CRH

Defendants,

V.

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

DECLARATION OF CESAREO ALVAREZ

- I, Cesareo Alvarez, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, based on my personal knowledge, declare that:
- 1. I am an enrolled member of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation ("MHA Nation"), also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
- 2. I live on the Fort Berthold Reservation. I have lived at my current residence for seven years and on the Fort Berthold Reservation for 25 years.
- 3. I am eligible to vote in federal, state, and local elections in North Dakota at my residence on the Fort Berthold Reservation and do so regularly. I voted in the 2022 Election and plan to continue to vote in federal, state, and local elections in North Dakota in the future, including elections for the North Dakota State Legislature. My current state legislative districts are Senate District 4 and State House Subdistrict 4A.

4. The elimination of Subdistrict 4A would deprive me of the opportunity to elect my candidate of choice to the North Dakota State House.

5. Prior to the creation of Subdistrict 4A, I ran in the at large District 4 for the State House seat in 2016. Despite winning handily in the portion of District 4 on the Fort Berthold Reservation, I ultimately lost. During my campaign, I had strong support from other Members of the MHA Nation, but my candidacy was not as well received by non-Native voters.

6. I am competent to testify on the matters stated in this declaration. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February 24, 2023,

Cesareo Alvarez

Case 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-RRE-DLH Document 109-11 Filed 02/28/23 Page 2 of 3

2016 Unofficial General Election Results State of North Dakota Downloaded at Feb 27 2023 12:36PM

			Terry B Jone	es.	Bill Oliver	Cesar Alvarez	Kenton Onstad	
State Representative	County	Number of Precincts	Republican		Republican	Democratic-NPL	Democratic-NPL	write-in
District 4	Dunn	!	5	379	441	240	227	0
	McKenzie		2	36	25	345	162	0
	McLean		2	393	356	330	389	6
	Mercer		1	3	3	5	6	0
	Mountrail		6	783	749	1,271	1,146	3
	Ward	(5 1,	497	1,410	484	777	1
	TOTALS	2:	2 3,	091	2,984	2,675	2,707	10

Case 1:22-cv-00031-PDW-RRE-DLH Document 109-11 Filed 02/28/23 Page 3 of 3

2016 Unofficial General Election Results State of North Dakota Downloaded at Feb 27 2023 12:36PM

State Representative	Precinct	Terry B Jones	Bill Oliver	Cesar Alvarez	Kenton Onstad	write-in
District 4	Antelope - Twin Buttes	14	19	101	51	0
	Collins/Halliday	129	149	20	45	0
	Dodge/Loring	43	51	19	26	0
	Dunn Center/Decorah	184	210	40	70	0
	North Fox	9	12	60	35	0
	TOTALS	379	441	240	227	0



MANDAN, HIDATSA & ARIKARA NATION

Three Affiliated Tribes * Fort Berthold Indian Reservation 404 Frontage Road New Town, ND 58763 Tribal Business Council

Office of the Chairman Mark N. Fox

> 67th Legislative Assembly Redistricting Committee September 23, 2021

Testimony of Mark N. Fox, Chairman Tribal Business Council

Chairman Devlin and members of the Redistricting Committee, my name is Mark Fox, I am the Chairman of the Tribal Business Council of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (MHA Nation) also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (FBIR). I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the MHA Nation.

Currently, FBIR is located within North Dakota District 4. District 4 consists of portions of the following six counties: McKenzie, Dunn, Mountrail, McLean, Mercer, and Ward. District 4 elects two members to the State House (at-large), and one member to the State Senate. The 2020 Census shows that the District 4 population and FBIR population increased between 2010 and 2020 to 16,794 and 8,350, respectively.

As a result of the overall 15.8% increase in North Dakota population from 672,591 residents to 779,094 residents, the ideal population for two member districts in North Dakota in 2021 is 16,576 and about 8,288 for a single-member house district. The MHA Nation urges the legislature to split the one at-large State House district to two single-member State House districts in District 4.

If single-member house districts were implemented within District 4, then House districts would have an ideal population of about 8,288. All of District 4 is currently about 38.6% Native American. The 2020 Native Voting Age Population (18 and over) is 33.9%.

Block voting is a concern for us. It has historically occurred in the state and has negatively impacted native voting and diminished native opportunities to serve in the legislature and participate in state and local elections. The current district lends itself to block voting.

This can be remedied by splitting the district into two single districts, thereby leveling the playing field for candidates. We understand that a split district is no guarantee that a tribal member would be elected, we are confident however that it will increase the representation of our issues and concerns to the legislative body.

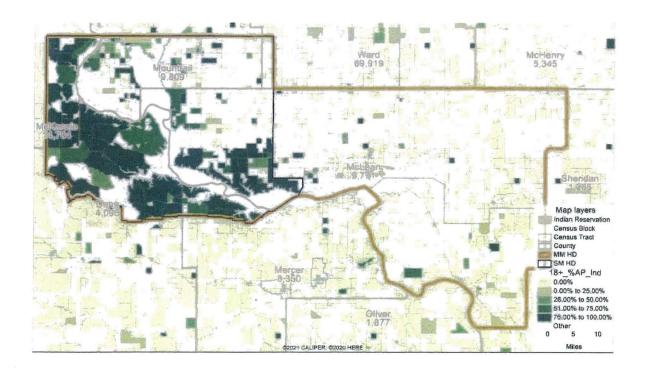
The legislature could easily draw a new single-member House district in our area that would have a Native Citizen Voting Age Population of 67% (*See Attached Proposed Map*). Using such a single-member district would give MHA a much better opportunity to elect a House representative of MHA's choice than under the current at-large system.

Second, the MHA Nation and its communities are a community of interest and should remain in a single legislative district. Splitting the reservation and our communities into multiple districts would dilute the ability of tribal members to elect the representative of their choice. I understand that certain legislators have stated that they will not split up, or crack, reservations into different districts. We can appreciate that position and respectfully request that our communities not be split as we have shared interests and deserve the same representation.

Third, tribal members who are also state citizens that are not only uniquely distinguished as minorities, but are part of a distinct political status that legally distinguishes them from other minority populations.

During the 1990s, the Parshall school district located on FBIR addressed similar concerns with block voting and addressed the issue by splitting the formerly at-large district. This allowed the election of two tribal members on the school board for the first time. The outcome has been beneficial for all of us. We were able to bridge the gap of communication and work together for the benefit of our children and families. I see the development of a single district for FBIR as another opportunity to enhance our communication and work together for a common goal of improving our communities and the lives of the people whom we represent. We ask for this Committee to support us in establishing a single district for the MHA Nation. We appreciate your support. Thank you.

Three Affiliated Tribes of the MHA Nation Proposed Sub-District



District	4 - Sub District	4A - Full District
Population	8353	17065
Deviation	65	489
% Deviation	0.007843	0.0295
18+_Pop	5712	12567
% 18+_Pop	0.683826	0.73642
NH18+_Wht	1462	7921
% NH18+_Wht	0.255952	0.630302
18+_AP_Ind	3838	4044
% 18+_AP_Ind	0.671919	0.321795

Charles Walen, et al. vs Doug Burgum, et al. Committee Meeting on 08/31/2021

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8	TRANSCRIPT OF VIDEO-RECORDED
9	MEETING OF THE
10	TRIBAL AND STATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE
11	STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
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13	AUGUST 31, 2021
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First thing we'll do is have roll 1 CHAIRMAN FOX: 2 call and then we'll have, or, um, no, we'll have the 3 prayer first and then we'll have roll call. So, uh, 4 Mr. Chairman. 5 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes. Appreciate that. 6 [Inaudible] Uh, little bit of a protocol, uh, we do --7 we have gone back into a mask mandate effective 8:00 8 a.m. yesterday, Today's Tuesday, yesterday for all 9 tribal village facilities. 10 Um, but given that we are still not very crowded 11 at this point in time I'll leave it discretionary. If 12 you want to wear your mask at this point in time. 13 Inside it's a controlled audience at this point in 14 time. We are getting more people in here then we may 15 want to move to a mask -- mask [inaudible]. 16 But right now, while the numbers alone we'll 17 leave it up to your discretion, whether you want to 18 wear a mask or not and that's where we're at. But at 19 this time, uh, I want to call forward one of our 20 elders she's also an employee which -- in our finance 21 department. 22 But whatever we call on her she always without a 23 doubt and without any hesitation, you know, comes forward and helps lead us in prayer. Uh, I will make 24 25 this comment and welcome here of course, to -- to our

- 1 organization and we'll do more of that in a bit.
- 2 One of the -- one of the great things about the
- 3 Indian Civil Rights Act, um, was passed by the federal
- 4 government pertaining to tribes and tribe
- 5 reservations, how we do in government.
- 6 One of the main things that, uh, I think is
- 7 really beneficial is that, uh, there's no requirement
- 8 of separation of church and state. And so we do all of
- 9 our government proceedings, uh, with prayer.
- 10 We begin those all with each and every time and
- 11 we're -- today, we'll be no different and -- and
- 12 hosting your meeting here with us at MHA Nation. So at
- 13 this time, Jaylene [ph], if you would, please,
- MS. JAYLENE: First of all, I want to thank you
- 15 for allowing me to come and take -- go to the Lord in
- 16 prayer. I'm always honored to do that. Um, dear
- 17 heavenly father, we ask that you take care of us today
- 18 as we have this meeting.
- 19 Thank you for each blessing you've given us. And
- 20 we ask that you go before us to be our shield against
- 21 evil, to go behind us, to lead us on the right path
- 22 and to stay beside us, to be with us every moment of
- every day.
- Much tragedy going on, people are crying and
- 25 hurting from fires to floods. We ask that you take

- 1 care of those people who are in sorrow, in mourning,
- 2 and as well as the war in Afghanistan, for those that
- 3 have died. We ask that you go ahead and take care of
- 4 us, that our minds can go ahead and do what is right.
- 5 Teach us that what we do affects everyone. And we
- 6 ask that you go ahead and bless our families. We have
- 7 things in our hearts that only you know father. We ask
- 8 that you take care of them for us today.
- 9 We ask that you bless all that are here, their
- 10 families, their homes. And we ask that we go ahead and
- 11 do the things we should do father and take care of us,
- 12 father. If there's nourishment here, ask it for the
- 13 nourishment of our bodies. And we ask all these things
- in your most precious name. Amen.
- 15 ALL: Amen.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN FOX: Well, Mr. Chairman, we'll take
- 18 roll on our side and then I'm going to have you, then
- 19 you will be able to make any welcoming comments or
- 20 anything like that. So --
- 21 MS. JAYLENE: And then after just --
- 22 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. We'll get that taken of,
- 23 yeah.
- MS. JAYLENE: Thank you, chairman. Uh, Chairman
- 25 Warder.

Charles Walen, et al. vs Doug Burgum, et al. Committee Meeting on 08/31/2021

Page 5

1	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Aye.
2	MS. JAYLENE: Uh, Senator Bell.
3	MS. BELL: Present
4	MS. JAYLENE: Senator Heckman.
5	MS. HECKMAN: Here.
6	MS. JAYLENE: Senator Oehlke.
7	MR. OEHLKE: Here.
8	MS. JAYLENE: Representative Boschee.
9	MR. BOSCHEE: Present.
10	MS. JAYLENE: Representative Jones.
11	MR. JONES: Here.
12	MS. JAYLENE: Representative Pollard.
13	MR. POLLARD: Aye.
14	MS. JAYLENE: Nathan Davis.
15	MR. DAVIS: Here.
16	MS. JAYLENE: Uh, Chairman Fox.
17	CHAIRMAN FOX: Here.
18	MS. JAYLENE: We have a quorum.
19	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: All right. And at this time
20	committee members, we would like to, uh, have the
21	minutes of the August 17th meeting committee
22	meeting, uh, considered, uh, for chairs, looking for a
23	motion.
24	ALL: So approved.
25	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. We got, uh,
1	

- 1 representative Boschee, uh, made the motion. Senator
- 2 Oehlke seconded it. Any discussion? My only comment is
- 3 I thought it was an excellent, uh, meeting and, uh,
- 4 minutes show that. All right, if not, uh, all those in
- 5 favor signified by saying age to approve them.
- 6 ALL: Aye.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Motion passes. At this
- 8 time, I would like, uh, Chairman Fox to make some
- 9 comments.
- 10 CHAIRMAN FOX: I appreciate that, uh, uh,
- 11 chairman, uh, Senator Wardner, uh, and commit members,
- 12 welcome to MHA Nation. Welcome to the lands of the
- 13 Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation.
- 14 Um, very proud to be able to host you today, host
- 15 the committee. Um, very proud to, uh, again,
- 16 reinitiate the tribal and state relations committee.
- 17 And, uh, it's something that we look forward to.
- 18 Something that we think is very important, um,
- 19 dialogue with the state.
- 20 Um, you know, it -- it is an honor to be able to
- 21 host this meeting and I -- I sure appreciate, um, the
- 22 -- the decision to go out and meet amongst the tribes
- 23 gives you a chance to see the reservations themselves.
- 24 Uh, meet, uh, the leadership and -- and -- and perhaps
- 25 some constituents. But, uh, it gives a chance for you

- to really, um, see where we lives, see how we lives, 1 2 see what we do, see what's going on. 3 In particular, here at Fort Berthold, uh, one of 4 the things you probably noticed a lot of is that we 5 have a high traffic count and that relates to our 6 energy program and what we do here. And, um, and, uh, 7 it's been getting busier and busier, which is, uh, in 8 many respects, a good thing. Uh, good thing because we -- we are proponents of 9 10 energy development and, uh, and re- -- but I want to 11 condition that by saying also it's very important, um, 12 for responsible development. 13 And, uh, that's I think is, uh, is the -- one of 14 the most primary, um, objectives that we have in, uh, our development of energy. So very -- very important 15 16 that we move forward that way, but make no doubt in your mind, my -- our nation, our government, uh, our 17 18 people, uh, support energy development and -- and --19 and development of what we call our trust assets. 20 That's what they are; oil and gas are trust 21
- 21 assets. I want to thank [inaudible], uh, Councilwoman,
- [inaudible] Lone Fight, uh, represents the [inaudible]
- 23 segment for being here as well.
- I just got a message from Councilman Fox and he
- 25 would not be able to make it. His mother has a very --

- 1 has a very important doctor's appointment, uh, and she
- 2 has to take her too. And -- and the others we'll see
- 3 if Councilman [inaudible] or [inaudible] do make it as
- 4 members of the executive.
- 5 And perhaps, maybe Monica as well. But, um,
- 6 again, thank you for coming, you know, and we're very
- 7 proud of where you're sitting today.
- 8 Um, if any of you and I'm looking around the room
- 9 and I'm trying to remember if I hosted any tours with
- 10 any of you. I -- I think, uh, I don't think any of you
- 11 have done the tour of the actual interpretive center
- 12 previously.
- 13 Mr. Jones, did you do it already? Yeah. He did,
- 14 great. Yeah. Because he was at the grand opening,
- 15 right. He was at the grand opening. And -- and -- and
- 16 as our rep here in our area, he was there and I
- 17 appreciate him being there.
- 18 And -- and -- and so it's, um, it's something
- 19 that we're very proud of. Um, um, for two really main
- 20 reasons one is you'll see a lot of things going on
- 21 here. Um, maybe not the most important reason, but a
- 22 very important reason is our -- our focus on economic
- 23 development, uh, tourism recreation. And this plays,
- 24 uh, a significant role in that.
- 25 You cross this little bay here, this little inlet

- 1 that we've got here, that's the Four Bears Peninsula
- 2 proper, uh, you look, uh, off to our Northeast you'll
- 3 see, uh, the new -- and this is where I -- I can't
- 4 wait for you to come back, but, uh, in about three
- 5 months we will be finishing what we're calling our new
- 6 capital, our new administration building, uh, uh.
- 7 Elevated up the view of the council chambers will be
- 8 back towards this area with the earth lodges and the
- 9 interpretive center and to the Southwest.
- And, uh, that will be open in a few more months.
- 11 Uh, we've done other things on the peninsula; the
- 12 water park, uh, development of a beach for the third
- one approved by the United States, uh, Army Corps of
- 14 Engineers.
- Um, uh, we also have other things that we're
- 16 digging in, building water didn't cooperate with us
- 17 this year as -- as -- as mother nature has done, uh,
- 18 to us. Um, we, uh, are building, um, more campsites,
- 19 we're building basketball courts, horseshoe, um,
- 20 gardens, an amphitheater for, you know, things to that
- 21 nature.
- What we're trying to do is make this area on Fort
- 23 Berthold, a little destination resort economically.
- 24 And it's very critical that we do the infrastructure.
- 25 So you see things going on at the casino we continue

- 1 to reinvest in that.
- 2 Um, I know we're going to talk about it later,
- 3 uh, but we have been very heavily impacted by, uh, the
- 4 expansion of gaming in the state, the ETAB machines
- 5 with the charitables. Uh, our employment still
- 6 remains, uh, at about 40 percent of, uh, pre-pandemic
- 7 numbers, uh, for employment.
- And so, uh, but we have taken a position to do
- 9 everything we can with our energy program to, uh,
- 10 expand our economic opportunities. And that's what
- 11 we've been doing since this time. So, um, again, you
- 12 know, welcome.
- 13 I'm thankful for the prayer, Jaylene. And
- 14 thankful that, uh, member of council. I have some
- 15 staff here. Monica's here, thank you, Councilwoman
- 16 Monica Mayer. Come on, come on, sit down with Monica.
- 17 And so thankful that, uh, she was able to make
- 18 it. And, um, like I said, I hope, uh, uh, we have a
- 19 couple more that might be able to make it as well. But
- 20 we have such a lot going on and -- and, um, uh, it's
- 21 very, very busy and we're very proud, but we've got a
- lot of work to do. Um, by no means are we anywhere
- 23 near where we want to be? We've got, you know, more
- 24 recreation, more tourism to focus on.
- We've got other economic ventures, the

- 1 greenhouse, for those of you who came across on 23
- 2 from the east, uh, near partial, you may have seen,
- 3 uh, we're getting the -- the phase one of the base all
- 4 down for that.
- 5 Um, when that's built, uh, we've got a little bit
- of hiccup like everybody else who's got hiccups right
- 7 now with materials and costs and bid estimates coming
- 8 in high. And so we're working on those, uh, but we
- 9 will build that facility.
- And, uh, we also have some other, uh, openings as
- 11 you cruise through and as Mr. Jones, the
- 12 representative, uh, knows full well, uh, there was a
- 13 time, uh, not of -- not just of, you know, not more
- 14 than few years ago where, uh, the explanation by those
- 15 visiting and those around areas that, uh, for example,
- 16 New Town in this area was dying.
- 17 It was disappearing. Well, you drive through New
- 18 Town and if you get that impression, then you're --
- 19 you're driving with your eyes closed.
- 20 And because we have so much going on now, it's
- 21 been re- -- revitalized, revamped, and -- and so much
- 22 more. Monica's here as well, too. And -- and, uh, so -
- 23 so very proud that, uh, we're getting much done in
- 24 many of the segments.
- 25 Uh, the outline segments so no [inaudible] Four

Bears and partial. We got a number things going on in 1 2 there something we had our school did -- we actually 3 had opened it yet with the children in it? 4 Not yet. No. We're pretty close though. October 5 now, October will be the time that they'll get it 6 finalized and open. 7 And before the Snow flies, so we'll have completed our third school, our third school here. So 8 9 I don't want to get into the -- and I'm supposed to 10 just be doing a welcome. I don't want to take up too 11 much time here and we'll get back to the issues at 12 hand here. 13 But we've got so much going on in all the 14 different segments, uh, you get a chance you're seeing 15 one segment and driving through what -- depending on 16 which direction you come through, maybe one or two of 17 the others. 18 You come up through Mandari; you saw some of Mandari from a distance. You come from -- on 23, you 19 20 saw New Town, uh, and, and what's going on there. I 21 encourage you when you get the time and we'll be glad 22 to host you, uh, and get people lined up to take you on a tour if you need to, from looking at oil and gas 23 pads from drilling pads and -- and everything else, 24

25

uh, operations that were going on.

To, um, the different segment things happening, 1 2 uh, white shield and Twin Buttes for example, they 3 got, I think combined or were -- were [inaudible] approaching a half a billion in infrastructure and 4 5 buildings and things done in the outline segments so 6 that they have opportunities. 7 And we've got so much more going on in -- in -in the other areas as well. So again, uh, I -- I say 8 9 thank you, uh, for being here. And thank you for this 10 time and opportunity to -- to go over some really 11 important things as well. So, uh, with that, I defer 12 back to you, Mr. Chairman. 13 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you, Chairman Fox. Uh, 14 before we start, uh, if you don't mind, uh, Mr. 15 Chairman, I would like to welcome, uh, representative 16 Buffalo if she may sit over here at the table, uh, uh, 17 she is with us today and she is one of your, uh, 18 members here, even though she represents a different 19 district. 20 So, uh, Representative Buffalo, if you would like 21 to sit up at the table, uh, we would like to have you, and you are welcome to come. 22 23 MS BUFFALO: Thank you. Um, [inaudible] here 24 though [inaudible]. 25 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Oh, okay. Very good. Well,

- 1 thank you for being here. Uh, also, uh, I would,
- 2 before I make my couple of statements, uh, I've
- 3 traveled through New Town for many years.
- 4 I used to teach and coach in Mohal and my in-laws
- 5 lived in Killdeer. So we went through here and -- and
- 6 yes, uh, you are correct. Uh, there was a time the
- 7 businesses were starting to falter even in New Town,
- 8 but not anymore.
- 9 And, uh, I -- I -- I guess I think one of the
- 10 biggest things that we got was that bypass around, uh,
- 11 New Town for the trucks and stuff like that, uh, come
- 12 along ways.
- And so you're at a point where now you can grow,
- 14 you don't have to deal with issues all the time. We do
- 15 appreciate, uh, many of the things that you're doing,
- 16 especially, uh, the treatment centers that you got in
- 17 -- in Bismarck I think that is, uh, tremendous.
- 18 You are, uh, putting money, investing money in --
- 19 in -- in human, uh, assets. And, uh, that is
- 20 appreciated. The biggest thing that I would like to
- 21 work on is that we do more partnerships and of course,
- 22 we already are doing a lot to partnerships with this
- 23 particular, uh, tribe and reservation.
- We've -- we've already done a lot of things and
- 25 we need to continue that and, uh, work together to

- 1 improve the quality of life of the people.
- 2 And that's what our goal is. And so we're, uh,
- 3 we're excited to come here and, uh, and at some point
- 4 we'll have our members go around and, uh, they will
- 5 make comments about what they think and feel, uh, at
- 6 the end, we'll have kind of a go around.
- 7 And if any of your council people are here,
- 8 there, we will invite them to participate. So, uh, so
- 9 right now, uh, we're here to listen. We're here to,
- 10 uh, visit with you and, uh, hear your concerns. So
- 11 with that Chairman Fox, uh, I'm turning it over to
- 12 you. Okay.
- 13 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. I appreciate very much, we -
- we do have a -- a -- a schedule here, um. But maybe
- 15 perhaps before we dig into the, uh, nuts and bolts of
- 16 -- of the items that we have listed here, and we seem
- 17 to be on time.
- 18 I -- I would like to defer to my fellow
- 19 councilmembers for some brief comments as well. So
- 20 Sherry would like to make a few comments?
- 21 MS. SHERRY: Um, can I just hold that for a
- 22 minute?
- 23 CHAIRMAN FOX: Sure -- sure. Monica, would you
- 24 like to --
- 25 MS. SHERRY: This is my first meeting and I --

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay.
2	MS. SHERRY: I just want to get the feel of
3	things.
4	CHAIRMAN FOX: Sure. That's that's fine.
5	MS. SHERRY: Thank you.
6	MS. MONICA: Is it on? Yeah. Um, I guess, uh, I
7	think this is my first meeting too with, uh, tribal
8	government relationships. But I just want to thank
9	everybody for coming down and to the, uh, beautiful
10	shores of MHA and our land.
11	And, uh, as a north segment council
12	representative from the New Town Shell Creek area, uh,
13	I'm in my second term and we do as Chairman Fox
14	said, have a lot of work to do while we can do it.
15	And, uh, very thankful and grateful for the blessings
16	from of the oil industry that we have, which are
17	other issues. As far as I'm concerned.
18	You know, I, as a physician, uh, background,
19	think that the health of the nation is number one and
20	what we can utilize our monies for to improve, uh, as
21	Senator Wardner said, the lives of our of our
22	people. Improving lives of our people.
23	And so I I strongly, um, really, um, invested
24	into doing what we can because for those of you who
25	don't know the life expectancy of an Indian man on
1	

- 1 this reservation is 55 years of age.
- 2 And, uh, women is 61. And I know that because I'm
- 3 61. So I've hit my life expectancy and I think the
- 4 chairman has too.
- 5 CHAIRMAN FOX: Um, getting close.
- 6 MS. MONICA: I know. So anyway, that's just
- 7 atrocious to me. That's 20 years younger than the non-
- 8 Indian population in the state of North Dakota; 20
- 9 years for both males and females.
- 10 Yet this tribe spent \$171 million in, uh,
- 11 healthcare insurance premiums over a five-year period.
- 12 We paid \$106 million in claims, and there's something
- 13 wrong here when you spend so much money and have such
- 14 a low quality of life indicator.
- 15 Um, life expectancy is typically an indicator.
- 16 Our infant mortality is extremely high. So that just
- doesn't make any sense to me yet we are pouring
- 18 millions into it.
- 19 So we are busy -- we're fortunate to be able to
- 20 have insurance for our membership, all of them, but we
- 21 really need to look at, um, we're building a medical
- 22 care campus right now to try to unify all our services
- 23 into, uh, one area where our clinic and our diabetes
- 24 building, our new KDU, um, our new community health
- 25 where we house all the WIC, infant, and toddler, um,

- 1 PHNs for immunizations and, you know, unify our
- 2 services so it's easier for, or access to, um,
- 3 services.
- 4 One of the issues that we just -- I just met with
- 5 the, uh, um, Medicaid director, department of health.
- 6 And, uh, one of the issues we do have, that's just
- 7 continually, constantly going on is between McKinsey
- 8 and Montreal County.
- 9 Um, we are -- out of those premiums that we're
- 10 paying, we're paying for people who are eligible for
- 11 Medicaid, but yet we're paying their insurance
- 12 premiums. And one of the methodologies --
- 13 methodologies of the county is to try to eliminate or,
- 14 um, make it very difficult for those Native-Americans
- 15 that are eligible for Medicaid.
- And that's a problem. And so we tried to go down
- 17 to get some more cooperation for our -- for our, uh,
- 18 MHA Nation, because as you know, there's what five or
- 19 six counties that surround us.
- 20 But -- but typically our two counties that we
- 21 have difficulty with is the McKinsey Montreal County
- 22 social services offices. So I just wanted to put that
- on your radar, that we need better, uh, cooperation.
- 24 And I know Chairman Fox has talked to the
- 25 governor multiple times about the federal law mandates

- 1 that you cannot use the oil and gas, um, royalties
- 2 that individuals receive as the source of income when
- 3 applying for Medicaid.
- 4 Um, and, you know, suffice it to say if we, you
- 5 know, Indian Health Service was not doing a very good
- 6 job in our opinion, in taking care of our people. So
- 7 we 638'd it. So, uh, we are now in charge and trying
- 8 to partner up with experts as best as we can to -- to
- 9 improve those services.
- 10 However, if -- if we continue and this has been
- 11 going on for guite some years now, and I think
- 12 chairman with the, um, Medicaid eligibility, the
- 13 elders just don't want to apply for anything because
- 14 they don't want, uh, any harassment about their oil
- 15 tax and royalties.
- 16 However, given that that money for Medicaid comes
- 17 from CMS to the state and then the state distributes
- 18 it. Well, if we just can't come to sort of, uh,
- 19 negotiation and cooperation, then we may have to as
- 20 the case with IHS 638, the CMS monies, and have it
- 21 just come directly to the tribe and we'll distribute
- 22 it. So we don't want to have to do that, because it
- 23 would require a lot of, you know, a lot of work to do
- 24 so.
- 25 Uh, it took us several years before we 638 it.

- 1 And so, you know, it gets all those lawyers involved
- 2 and all that other stuff so. And um, but that's one
- 3 area Mr. Chairman that I really feel strongly about in
- 4 the health of our nation.
- 5 And of course, uh, I was the former chief medical
- 6 officer for what we call the Aberdeen area for IHS
- 7 that's, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, 10
- 8 years ago, 2010 or 15 years ago, I declared drugs and
- 9 alcohol as our number one healthcare issue.
- 10 And, uh, it still is today. It -- in out of that
- 11 171 million, we probably have invested at least 60
- 12 percent of that money into drug and alcohol treatment.
- 13 And that's before we even built the treatment center
- 14 down in, uh, Bismarck.
- 15 So the -- we're not talking chump change, but
- 16 we're not making as much headway as we should. So the
- 17 answer is really not to throw more and more money at
- 18 it, but to come up with better ways of managing it.
- 19 And one of the ways is we can't manage if we can't
- 20 measure.
- 21 So data is vital to our -- our way of
- 22 implementing change and improving, um, the lives of
- 23 our -- our children, our adults and our elders.
- And so, I mean, I could go on and on, you know,
- 25 but I think the energy, the -- the solar, the

- 1 geothermal, the gas, the wind that we can capitalize
- 2 on should be sit into, uh, health and, uh,
- 3 infrastructure for the tribe. And so with that, Mr.
- 4 Chairman, I'll go ahead and move on.
- 5 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Appreciate that, Monica.
- 6 Thank you for your comments. Any questions senator?
- 7 MALE: I just want to make one comment. Uh, we've
- 8 got some hungry people here, so at 10:00 we're going
- 9 to have a hard stop and take a break.
- 10 CHAIRMAN FOX: Sounds good. Well, we got some
- 11 food ready, some breakfast ready to go and I think
- 12 lunch after that.
- MALE: So, so, uh, Representative Boschee.
- MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um,
- 15 Councilwoman, Dr. Mayer can -- when you talk about,
- 16 you know, we have the federal system of Medicaid, the
- 17 tribe is paying for insurance premiums for members
- 18 there's -- we deliver Medicaid through the county-
- 19 based services or the zones right now.
- 20 What is the solution? What -- what is the state
- 21 not doing well or the county that is creating these
- 22 barriers? Um, not just for your members, but anyone to
- 23 access the resource -- the federal resources we could
- 24 be doing, we could be implementing to make people
- 25 healthier?

Well, I've got numerous examples that 1 MS. MAYER: 2 I don't want to, um, bother you with in time. But, uh, 3 for instance, I have a home health team. We took, uh, I had the home health team go over to Montreal County 4 5 and Stanley to get an elder, uh, signed up for 6 Medicaid. 7 And the customer service was at best, poor. They 8 were rude and disrespectful, weren't helpful until 9 they let them know who they were coming from our 10 office. And then they kind of -- but they make it very 11 difficult. 12 Oh, you didn't fill this out. Didn't notify them 13 that this was not completed or whatever. And I think 14 it boils down to customer service. And, um, so, but we 15 also have issues with like Stanley Hospital. They 16 won't accept our -- our patients from our, uh, 17 detention center. 18 They, um, won't, um, take care of those that are 19 in need, who, um, could have coverage from Stanley. And so it -- it- -- it's -- it's a matter of, uh, um, 20 21 you know, improving that quality of life through 22 having better services and good customer services so 23 that we can understand. 24 Um, you know, and I don't want to throw that word 25 out there, but it could be a race card issue. I mean,

uh, we'd be, ostrich's sticking our head in the sand 1 2 if we didn't admit that. 3 Um, but as citizens of North Dakota, uh, we find 4 it very difficult for our people to go to Stanley and 5 Walford City. One of the best places for us to go is 6 Garrison. Garrison's very, um, um, amenable to us. And 7 so, um, you know, we even have troubles over at 8 Trinity. 9 So one of the future ideas for us is when our 10 medical campus is up and we -- and the people have, 11 uh, cried about this for decades is that when we were 12 flooded out, the Elbow Woods Hospital was not, um, 13 included in rebuild. And so my mother is now gone, but she used to 14 15 refer to Apple Woods, the hospital, very fondly. And, 16 um, so one of the areas that we're trying to do is 17 secure some more land so we could buy -- we could 18 probably look at eventually getting a critical care 19 access center right here on Fort Berthold in New Town 20 would be very tremendous for us because our -- the 21 great amount of our population lives right here in the 22 New Town area. 23 And so that would be a dream come true if we 24 could figure out ways to fund that through, uh, treaty 25 and, um, oil and gas and -- and the state cooperating

- 1 with us. So if -- if that's, you know, something that
- 2 we could put on the table, that would be very well.
- 3 But your answer to the question is Senator, uh, or
- 4 Representative Boschee is, uh, I think it's, uh, boils
- 5 down to customer service.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: If -- if I can follow up with
- 7 -- thank you, Monica, follow up. I really narrowed
- 8 down in my mind to two things.
- 9 Uh, on the federal side of things, the United
- 10 States government has done a very poor job of
- 11 outreaching and getting to qualified Medicare and
- 12 Medicaid recipients. They have actually offices and
- 13 employees who are -- are tasked with doing that, but
- 14 rarely do they get up here, do they help, um, uh, push
- on -- on getting, um, the enrollments up.
- So Monica's alluding to very few of our elders
- 17 participate. There are many that are qualified, but we
- 18 just don't have them signing up. That's the primary
- 19 problem, I see. The secondary problem that we do have
- 20 is what she's alluding to is since Medicare and
- 21 Medicaid channels to the state, um, it's the state,
- 22 uh, offices that -- that deploy it out and -- and --
- 23 and provide the services.
- And that means when people apply, we're getting,
- 25 and -- and we did one of the first things I did in

- 1 becoming chairman seven years ago was to sit down with
- 2 Medicare, Medicaid themselves over in the casino, in a
- 3 conference room and we had state officials and we
- 4 tried to hash this problem out.
- 5 Um, there's been some evidence back and forth
- 6 during that time, and I'm sure some subsequent to
- 7 that, but what was happening and she was alluding to
- 8 as one of the biggest things is -- is, um, mistakenly
- 9 or otherwise intentionally or mistakenly, uh, asking
- 10 certain questions about the elders and those that
- 11 would qualify.
- 12 Uh, taking into consideration, asking questions,
- 13 like, do you get royalties? And -- and -- and if so,
- 14 how much and using that for disqualification purposes.
- Well, at that time, seven years ago, we made it
- 16 very clear as did Medicare and Medicaid that that's
- 17 not something that can -- trust income cannot be taken
- 18 to disqualify a person.
- 19 And -- and I remember the state officials at the
- 20 time representing, um, both the county level and state
- 21 level said, you know, certainly we don't want to do
- 22 that we understand.
- 23 And -- and if any of our intake personnel are --
- 24 are making those kind of mistakes, we want to correct
- 25 that. And there was a huge movement to do that at that

- 1 time, but that was seven years ago.
- 2 And obviously the problem has not been completely
- 3 resolved. So between those two situations, we get a --
- 4 a poor participation in -- in applying for and being
- 5 qualified and receiving benefits from Medicare and
- 6 Medicaid. And -- and it -- it is a problem.
- 7 So what we -- what's not provided to a person
- 8 because they're Medicaid, Medicare eligible we create
- 9 our own insur- -- we have our own insurance program
- 10 for our -- our people derived from our energy
- 11 resources.
- 12 Um, and so we have to pick them up on insurance,
- 13 but since it's our insurance, we -- we pay for it. And
- 14 -- and so that's a cost to us that we could use for
- other things. So, you know, maximizing the federal
- 16 dollars out there is really critical and we -- we need
- 17 to do a better job of that.
- 18 So I wanted to touch on that. Uh, but thank you
- 19 for your question. Uh, Mr. Boschee and -- and also,
- 20 um, I wanted to comment briefly before we jump in on a
- 21 item and we kind of went by a little bit here and I
- 22 think we need to get at it really guick regarding to
- 23 redistricting because we got some -- definitely some
- 24 points that we want to illustrate.
- I want to remind everybody that when you step out

- on your break and we take a break, have something to
- 2 eat and you step out on the patio and the area out
- 3 there and you look out at that lake, uh, you've heard
- 4 me --
- I was -- had the honor doing, uh, the state of
- 6 the tribal nations address. And you've seen
- 7 documentaries, you- -- you've seen a wonderful
- 8 documentary of -- of Elbow Woods that, uh, Mo- --
- 9 Monica's referencing to her grandma May, you know, and
- 10 her talking about that.
- 11 And -- and, uh, it's called basketball, you know,
- 12 you know, water basketball in the lost city of Elbow
- 13 Woods and -- and -- and -- and, uh, the DVD Prairie
- 14 Public did and talks about this issue. But when you
- 15 look out at that water today, you'll have to realize
- 16 that it didn't always look that way.
- 17 We are a victim of -- of federal policy that
- 18 built dams, a series of dams along the Missouri River
- 19 Pick-Sloan program, it's called. Pick-Sloan and all
- 20 the -- in congress passed this up, that built all
- 21 these dams and recreated the Garrison Reservoir by
- 22 building a dam where it's located today, uh, you know,
- 23 in that area to the south of -- on our river. Um, we
- 24 suffered greatly from that.
- 25 Prior to that, our people -- even though on many

- 1 reservations, uh, where people -- people were put on
- 2 Indian reservation became federally dependent, MHA
- 3 Nation, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara people were not as
- 4 dependent on the federal government as other tribes
- 5 were.
- 6 We grew our own crops. We -- we had our ranches.
- 7 We -- we -- we were, you know, agriculture is
- 8 very important to us. We were self-sustaining. We had
- 9 our own sawmill, our school hospital, everything that
- 10 we established along the river up in our communities
- 11 up and down the river.
- But that was taken away because the decision was
- made to flood our area and then to supposedly
- 14 compensate us which was very poorly done as well in
- 15 flooding us and driving us to the high grounds,
- 16 separating out and New Town became a town called New
- 17 Town because of the flooding. But all that, when you
- 18 look outside today, uh, I want you to kind of try to
- 19 envi- -- envision what it looked like before and --
- and what we've had to do. We've had to make lemonade
- 21 out of lemons now.
- 22 And that's why with recreation, tourism,
- everything that we're trying to do now, and build back
- 24 out of -- of what was done to us. But prior to this
- 25 flooding, we were not situated the same as other

- 1 tribes in the -- in the nation. We were self-
- 2 sufficient.
- We weren't wealthy or anything of that nature,
- 4 but we didn't depend on the federal government, like
- 5 most of the tribes do today, but that radically
- 6 changed when they flooded us out and -- and they
- 7 destroyed our economy. And that's what we've been
- 8 dealing with, rebuilding out of that.
- 9 Now, in that regards, Mr. Chairman, I- -- I'm
- 10 raising this issue because you all sitting around this
- 11 table all had a very important role in what we had to
- 12 do in developing our energy.
- The first tax agreements that came out were not
- 14 equitable, but from a series of about eight years,
- 15 from 2013, really 2011 I was up there and Senator
- 16 Wardner probably remembers that.
- But from 2013 to 2021, it took eight years to
- 18 make the tax agreement more equitable, so that more
- 19 money, hundreds of millions of dollars over time
- 20 additional would come to the MHA Nation so we could do
- 21 these things that we're doing today.
- The schools, law enforcement centers, treatment
- 23 facilities, uh, insurance. Insurance, and
- 24 distributions to our me- -- membership three times a
- 25 year, two more times for elders, those distributions

- 1 and insurance combine for 90 percent of all the
- 2 royalties that the tribe collects for tribal, uh,
- 3 [inaudible] on tribal lands. Just those two items
- 4 alone. The other portions of it we use towards school
- 5 and -- and -- and that's where the tax comes in.
- The royalties goes to those two items, but the
- 7 tax goes for schools, roads, infrastructure, all those
- 8 things and it eats up, you know, about 80 percent of
- 9 that.
- 10 So all that being said, you know, uh, I want to,
- 11 you know, remind and commend, uh, members of this
- 12 legislature of the North Dakota legislature and this
- 13 committee that it didn't happen overnight.
- 14 It -- it took a while. Uh, we continued to
- 15 negotiate, communicate through this committee and
- otherwise governor's office, the legislative branch as
- 17 well, for yourselves.
- And we were able to, um, get to where we are
- 19 today. And I -- I commend you for that process
- 20 because, uh, there was no guarantees it was going to
- 21 happen and, uh, got heated in your committees and got
- 22 heated on the floor. I -- I know that. Got heated in
- 23 discussion.
- 24 But I think what I'm asking you to do now is to
- 25 understand why we were so passionate, why we're so

- 1 driven to get these changes, because where you sit now
- 2 is we're rebuilding, we're rebuilding what, uh, uh,
- 3 against what was done to us and -- and has taken some
- 4 time.
- 5 And we've been waiting patiently for 60 years.
- 6 And so eight years we were able to handle as well. And
- 7 so you see a lot of things that we're to do in the
- 8 United States and, uh, we're very -- very happy with
- 9 that.
- 10 So that being said, I know we got about 12
- 11 minutes here. Maybe we could introduce the subject if
- 12 you want, Senator.
- 13 CHAIRMAN FOX: Well -- well, we do want to hear
- 14 about your thoughts on redistricting. So --
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes.
- 16 CHAIRMAN FOX: -- that is a --
- 17 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Can I -- can I do that now,
- 18 Senator?
- 19 CHAIRMAN FOX: Yes. Our thoughts, uh, um, you
- 20 know, it's kind of -- on one hand for me, it's a lot -
- 21 a lot similar having interacted with the legislature
- 22 now for 12 years or more, 9, 11, 13, I- -- I've been
- 23 no stranger down there to try to some things done for
- 24 our tribe.
- 25 Um, part of how I view it sometimes, uh, is -- is

- similar to the gaming. You know, like we are sort of not in a position to have influence or control
- 3 sometimes.
- 4 And because when you expanded your gaming on the
- 5 outside, it had a heavy impact to all our tribes, you
- 6 know, hurting us to the degree of -- of losing a lot
- 7 of jobs. And that's what our gaming represents is
- 8 jobs, now that's been cut down by 60 percent.
- 9 But again, it was difficult to say, you shouldn't
- 10 do that when it's your gaming, you have allowed it,
- 11 even though we're citizens of the State of North
- 12 Dakota and what you do impacts us. We all figured that
- out in the pandemic. And -- and -- and things of that
- 14 nature.
- And so part of me was kind of always like trying
- 16 to look at it from that perspective and -- and -- and
- 17 this redistricting, I -- I imagine we're going to get
- 18 much of the same rhetoric back or -- or same points
- 19 made back is that, well, you know, we hear what you're
- 20 saying, tribe, but, you know, really, um, really it's
- 21 -- it's, we're re- -- reorganizing our -- our system
- 22 of government to -- to vote and -- on how we set that
- 23 up. But if we -- if we characterize it that simply it
- 24 makes it problematic because here's the issue, we are
- 25 citizens of the state of North Dakota.

1	That's not something we chose. And me and and
2	my background and of history and law, I can I can
3	argue and talk to you for hours about what we could do
4	alternatively to that in recognition recognition of
5	as a US to territory and things of that nature and
6	and have our own members of congress elected straight
7	from MHA system, or or to be in a situ
8	situation at least, uh, similar to Puerto Rico,
9	surrounded by water, but no different from us.
10	They're a country we're a country. And that's the
11	reality of of the law, but we're not there. So the
12	only thing that we have to represent to have, uh, a
13	conduit and a mechanism means to get representation on
14	a federal level is to be citizens of the State of
15	North Dakota and cast our our ballots for
16	congressmen and and two senators as well, same as
17	you. We we we havewe have no other choice. If
18	we don't do that, we can't participate in electing
19	federal representatives.
20	And so being citizens of the state of North
21	Dakota, we also now have that opportunity to elect
22	those who represent our interest as citizens as well
23	and we are citizens, even though we have a dual
24	citizenship.
25	State and our own MHA Nation citizenship and they
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are two different things. So that being said, we -- we 1 2 make these pleas that we should have a role. And --3 and what we ask for should be strongly considered because we are impacted. 4 5 Now specifically for MHA Nation, uh, and looking 6 at the previously -- and we've been sitting down, 7 we've had others, um, uh, there are other groups out 8 there, uh, representing native interest that have gone 9 out and met with the United tribe, met with us, uh, 10 separately. One of the things that we would ask for of course is -- is -- is for opportunity Fort Berthold as 11 12 a whole, to -- to be part of a district, which we are. 13 Um, but one of the things that might give us even 14 more and -- and more opportunity to have, uh, our 15 voices heard is, uh, the potential of -- of splitting 16 the house, which has historically been done. Um, if you split our district house in two and 17 18 Fort Berthold is in one or the other, uh, it might 19 give us an opportunity to, uh, have, uh, uh, to help 20 elect an individual that might carry forward our 21 concerns. 22 And that's really important to us as well. And so we have, uh, formally with a letter -- a letter has 23 been submitted to that effect to the committee and 24 25 saying, you know, in your reconsideration of -- of

possible restructure of your committees to vote and 1 2 your districts in redistricting, uh, to take that into 3 consideration, because it very much would help us participate better with your system and -- and -- and 4 5 -- and the state government of election. And so, uh, 6 we definitely are advocating for that as well, too, 7 so. 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Well thank you, uh, 9 committee members, any questions for Chairman Fox? 10 Representative Boschee? 11 MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, uh, 12 Chairman Fox and then of course, any of the other 13 councilmembers, uh, I'd be curious for input. Um, I--14 - I'm the only one here that also serves on the 15 redistricting committee. And so we have had good 16 conversations about sub-districts specifically for 17 tribal nation. 18 So I think that's promising and -- and we'll 19 hopefully navigate that over the next month as we do 20 our work, um, specifically for MHA Nation internal 21 mountain, because of the population in which your --22 the people that live on your reservation comprise of 23 a- -- an entire district almost equals half. So the math is there on your side as well. My 24 25 question for you is, as we look at -- so currently

1	you're in legislative District 4, um, and comprise
2	about half of that land mass.
3	But right now the land mass generally goes north,
4	um, and almost to the the Canadian border. Curious
5	what your thoughts may be as we continue those
6	discussions, not just about the sub-district, but
7	about what are there are there communities near
8	you that would be that you would like to be a part
9	of in terms of a legislative district?
10	Uh, so would going west be better to be tied in
11	with Watford City? Would be going south to be in cold
12	country or west in the cold country, be a better
13	partnership or or maybe no change at all? But I'm
14	just curious what your thoughts would be. Especially
15	as we we talk a lot in redistricting about
16	communities of interest, and one of that is economics.
17	So that's why I frame right away thinking of
18	Waterford City from oil and gas, but certainly
19	interested. But that requires us to put a good chunk
20	of the district on the other side of the river too. So
21	
22	CHAIRMAN FOX: Uh, we certainly wouldn't be
23	adverse. That consideration on that level is is, is
24	maybe, uh, what you're alluding to, you know, with our
25	energy development may have some things in common to

- 1 the west, possibly.
- 2 The only thing I -- I would say is whether it be
- 3 to the north, west, south or east, is that nothing
- 4 diminishes our ability to vote a- -- a- -- as a -- as
- 5 a reservation, as the native people.
- 6 The -- the worst thing we'd want to see in any
- 7 redistricting is to pull us apart, so to speak and to
- 8 split us and putting Twin Buttes down in a different
- 9 district and partial over in a different district and
- 10 Mandari to a different district.
- 11 That's what we would be most comm- --, you know,
- 12 diluting or diminishing our -- our -- our
- 13 ability, uh, to -- to vote and express our concerns
- 14 collectively.
- 15 And that would be the biggest concern, but we --
- 16 I don't think I would have any objection to any
- 17 redistricting that -- that maintain those things that
- 18 were concerned about, but it included a different area
- 19 of the state. I don't think I would object to that, at
- 20 least looking at what you're offering. So --
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Senator Heckaman.
- MS. HECKAMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um,
- 23 Chairman Fox, um, not knowing the exact outline of
- 24 what communities are outside the reservation
- 25 boundaries.

	1	Are there some communities where a large number
	2	of your that have a population with a large number
	3	of your members that maybe, um, just what
	4	representative Boschee said, be good to integrate back
	5	into, um, a drawing for your district?
	6	CHAIRMAN FOX: I I'd have to really look at
	7	the the data, you know, because really, um, there
	8	are some of our members that live in in the Stanley
	9	area, I mean, simply because housing's at a shortage
	10	and and they either live in Stanley or maybe have
	11	to live in [inaudible] and make the commute down here
	12	and drive.
	13	Um, I don't know if Sherry knows the numbers
	14	offhand, but I would think that we have similar or
	15	maybe slightly more in the Watford City area, be, you
	16	know, from people that gravitate from Four Bears,
	17	Mandari area and move in into [inaudible] and come
	18	back forth.
	19	But the there wouldn't be a he I don't
	20	think I have to check the data. I wouldn't say
	21	there'd be a significant difference.
	22	MS. HECKAMAN: Okay. Thank you.
	23	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah.
	24	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Anyone else have any
	25	questions? Any more comments on redistricting?
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- 1 Otherwise we're going to take a 20 minute break.
- 2 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Any other further comments?
- 3 Ruth, do you have anything to comment in the regard- -
- 4 regards here? Okay. Yeah. Thanks. Um, John and
- 5 Cynthia worked in getting the letters together, but
- 6 Cynthia, go ahead please.
- 7 MS. MONTEAU: Chairman Wardner. Oops.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. And then do your name
- 9 and stuff for the record too.
- 10 MS. MONTEAU: Uh, Chairman Wardner, Cynthia
- 11 Monteau MHA Nation. Um, Chairman and Representative
- 12 Boschee I just had a question on the mapping tool
- that's available to the redistricting committee that
- 14 shows the numbers, um, the population and so forth
- 15 based on the census. Is -- is that something that we
- 16 could work with the committee or -- or, um, chairman
- 17 can, you know, contact you so we can look at those
- 18 numbers and see what you're looking at? Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Good. Go ahead. Thank you, Mr.
- 21 Chairman. Um, Ms. Monteau, uh, yes. So the limitation
- 22 -- the committee's made up of 16 members and the
- 23 limitation that the committee has right now is that,
- 24 um, I believe there's only six licensed laptops with
- 25 software.

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1	So only six members at any one time can have
2	that, uh, software available. But yes, um, I'd be
3	certainly willing to help and I know that we could
4	probably connect with legislative council to make sure
5	that you're getting accurate information.
6	We did receive some information at last week's
7	meeting, uh, specific to reservation communities, as
8	far as the numbers that the Census Bureau has. Um,
9	there is some, uh, conflict in what's represented
10	because we know that there's also probably an
11	undercount, um, and that's the hard part as we know
12	that the census bureau didn't necessarily take into
13	consideration of the roles that your research, uh, or
14	or, um, census office may have.
15	Uh, we heard that from Turtle Mountain
16	specifically that they have a lot more data on who's
17	living where, but the Census Bureau wouldn't accept
18	that, um, for purposes. So there's a challenge there
19	in recognizing those numbers, but I'd certainly be
20	able to help make sure that you guys have the
21	information we have so that we can we're comparing
22	apples to apples as we're drawing those lines.
23	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. And and and Senator to
24	war, we talked about this not long ago why there's
25	underrepresentation, oftentimes there's deterrents to
1	

- 1 that reporting.
- 2 Uh, many of it has to do with the housing and
- 3 federal rules and housing and, you know, and, uh, hard
- 4 -- hard rules. You know, you get, you know, we always
- 5 have a shortage of housing so people gravitate to come
- 6 home and either to work and go to schools and
- 7 everything else.
- 8 And -- but when you don't have the housing, you
- 9 know, there and available, and we've been building
- 10 over 500 homes since we've changed the tax agreement,
- 11 but we are still far short where we need to be. So
- 12 having, uh, large families, extended families in a
- unit, a three-bedroom unit, but having 12, 14
- 14 individuals living in that is not uncommon.
- But if they're in a housing unit, that's
- 16 [inaudible] controlled and they report that they will
- then tell them, you're going to have to move. You're
- 18 not allowed to keep those people in there. Either they
- 19 move or you all have to move.
- 20 And so what you'll get is under-reporting where
- 21 they say, it's just us three here. And -- and -- and -
- 22 and -- and because they don't want to lose their
- 23 housing opportunity, housing is hard to come by here.
- 24 Very difficult. So you're right there is drastic
- 25 under-reporting.

1	MS. MONTEAU: Mr. Chairman, I do have one
2	question I'm not familiar with redi redistricting
3	however, um, the the, um, is there a way that we
4	can say, okay, redistricting would give us these
5	benefits and versus, uh, risks of, you know, losses or
6	whatever, or negatives?
7	Because if we redistrict, would that make us
8	eligible for our own district health unit within the
9	reservation, because that's been a long time issue?
10	And number two, would we have representation to the
11	state, um, uh, congress legislatively and, um, making
12	sure that we don't lose our it might be able to,
13	um, take care of the Medicaid issue too.
14	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, council, uh, member
15	Mayer, that district is a little different than the
16	redistricting for, uh, voting. So
17	MS. MONTEAU: Oh okay.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: They are different, but I did
19	write down, uh, what you had said, and I think we need
20	to visit with the, uh, department of human services
21	in, uh, the zones. We started the new zones and not
22	counties.
23	And we need to talk about this and how we provide
24	services to the, uh, tribal nation. So but that is
25	a different, uh, type of district.
1	

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Representative Buffalo.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, representative Buffalo.
3	MS. BUFFALO: Um, thank you. Um, Chairman Wardner
4	and members of the committee. Um, [inaudible] good
5	morning [inaudible] in the Hidatsa language. I am a
6	citizen of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara nation. I
7	originally am from Mandari.
8	So I grew up here. So it's really good to be back
9	here and to be able to sleep under my mom's roof, you
10	know, last night. Uh, my family my entire family
11	still lives here in Mandari.
12	And so I am pretty well connected to concerns.
13	People will often share their concerns with me, even
14	though I'm proud to represent district 27 on the
15	Eastern side of the state.
16	And one of the concerns that has been brought to
17	me very consistently is given the size of land mass,
18	um, of that falls within the exterior boundaries of
19	Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and also the
20	population size a common theme that has come up quite
21	often is why not make Fort Berthold Indian
22	Reservation, its own legislative district?
23	Um, so I felt very I feel a responsibility to
24	share that, um, information that why not make Fort
25	Berthold Indian Reservation, its own legislative
1	

- 1 district? Um, the other thing is, uh, question may be
- 2 more for representative Bo- -- Boschee, who is on the
- 3 redistricting committee.
- 4 Um, what -- what does the committee plan to do to
- 5 get more tribal representation? I know that there were
- 6 many advocates who asked for my participation, who had
- 7 -- had asked for my participation on that
- 8 redistricting committee.
- 9 Um, as an indigenous woman, as a citizen of the
- 10 Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation, who does have, uh,
- 11 lived experience and extensive knowledge on the gaps
- 12 within the system.
- 13 What are you going to do to get tribal comm- --
- 14 tribal communities more involved? Um, and then also, I
- 15 -- I do want to, you know, add positives to that
- 16 question in that I commend you for reaching out to
- 17 each of the tribal communities to get input.
- That's really good. So I want to also commend you
- in making those efforts Senator Wardner. Um, but I do
- 20 see a lot of work where you do have Native-American
- 21 indigenous legislators, but oftentimes we're not being
- 22 used to our fullest stability.
- 23 Um, I would even mention maybe having one of us
- 24 sit on the Indian Affairs Committee as well. Um,
- 25 things need to shift and change we're here. And so

1	please use us as a resource.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Representative Boschee.
3	MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Uh,
4	Representative Buffalo. Uh, well, one thing that the
5	committee is doing is the tribal affairs committee has
6	been tasked with going to each nation to have the
7	conversation about redistricting, to get input for
8	normally there. And then at, um, each of the committee
9	meetings, there's open comment period, which people
10	every citizen of North Dakota is encouraged to
11	participate in.
12	And I know North Dakota native vote has
13	participated in a couple conversations there. And as
14	we get into September, which will be the busy time.
15	So to give everyone an idea, the redistricting
16	committee will be meeting two to three days a week,
17	um, for the next four weeks to finish up the work
18	because we want to have it done by the first part of
19	October, with the hopes of having a special session
20	the week of November 8th at this point.
21	Um, so it's a really compact schedule, but during
22	those meetings to again invite, uh, tribal nations to
23	present to the committee, as we start seeing where
24	these lines might fall based on population.
25	So extensive work is being done to engage

specifically the tribal nations. And -- and again, I 1 2 think the positive, um, hearing from our -- our 3 colleague Senator Holmberg [ph], uh, who this is his 4 fourth redistricting process. 5 It happens every 10 years. So that tells you for 6 40 years, he's been doing redistricting, uh, as he's 7 the one that's really leading the conversation on making sure that we look at tribal sub-districts. 8 9 Uh, specifically if -- where the communities --10 where with the math certainly makes sense. I think 11 it's going to be challenging for Spirit Lake and 12 Standing Rock, but I know that there's efforts to see 13 about what a sub-district would look like for those 14 nations as well. 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Yeah. Thank you. 16 MR. BOSCHEE: Yeah. 17 Right, Senator. CHAIRMAN WARDNER: 18 Uh, I would just like to make a MR. BOSCHEE: follow up comment and then, uh, we'll break and the --19 20 the issue is the count; we need to get a count. I --21 we know that up at Turtle Mountain the number is 22 probably double of what is down as far as the census. 23 I mean, they're between seven and eight and they're probably around 14,000 to 15,000, which would 24 25 be one district. But we've got to get the count, and

1	we've got to figure out a way going forward to give
2	these, uh, people, the confidence that they can have
3	themselves counted.
4	And I would as we talk, Chairman Fox, same as
5	true here. Uh, we got to get the number up and that
6	the, uh, redistricting committee has to go with the
7	numbers they have. And so I really believe that, uh,
8	the the census for the MHA is probably less than
9	what it really is.
10	And, uh, that makes a difference, uh,
11	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, at a minimum, maybe the
12	committees would be willing to consider without
13	actually doing a a an actual survey again, or
14	maybe we would do that and provide additional
15	information, but that would take time and expense.
16	But maybe the US census, the reports that come
17	out, there's an assumption of under-reporting by
18	percentage. And that's a federal, you know, that's a
19	federal document and federal federal data.
20	So maybe they'd be willing to utilize that to
21	to to buff the numbers up so to speak, uh, for
22	reconsideration. Uh, if you say the historical under
23	reporting on Indian reservations is X percent and you
24	would, you know, take that as as as what it is,
25	and then add that in to, uh, the existing, um, um,

- 1 population and -- and -- and use that to -- to try to
- 2 get closer to the number.
- 3 MR. BOSCHEE: Okay. And then we did have the, uh,
- 4 you know, with the COVID, uh, the universities were
- 5 not there. And so we've got under-reporting in those
- 6 a- -- areas too. So it is a little bit of a problem
- 7 this time around.
- 8 But the redistricting committee is under the gun.
- 9 They got to -- they got to get their, uh, decision in
- 10 their districts done, you know, before the first of
- 11 the year, because we -- we get ready for a new cycle,
- 12 uh, next 10 years.
- 13 So they do have some issues they have to deal
- 14 with. But I can assure you that, uh, the -- a lot of
- 15 discussion in talking about tribal re- --
- 16 representation is being -- being done so that --
- 17 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
- 18 CHAIRMAN FOX: All right. Committee members, if,
- 19 uh, I don't see anybody that wants to talk -- oh, sure
- 20 you may come up -- and you have to come up to the mic.
- 21 Sorry, I didn't see you. Uh, --
- 22 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: That's why I said we can
- 23 conduct your service [inaudible].
- 24 CHAIRMAN FOX: If you would state your name, uh,
- 25 --

Hello committee. My name is, um, 1 MR. LONE FIGHT: 2 can you hear me? My name is Ted Lone Fight of Mandari. 3 I come from a, uh, the grass root people of the Four 4 Bears Indian Reservation, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara 5 Nation. 6 And -- and [inaudible] effort on redistricting. 7 You know, I sat on the council 30 years ago and we had 8 the same question, why can't we get our own district 9 and be our own sovereign state and alongside of the 10 state of North Dakota? As you know we are a nation 11 within a nation. So I think it's important that we be -- we be --12 13 be, uh, distinguished enough to, um, to our own lives 14 on -- on where we -- on where we -- that we become 15 part of the state. And the state district you 16 understand the -- the federal government identified 17 our boundaries by -- by federal -- by federal, um, 18 legislation. 19 But I think, uh, we -- we deserve the right to --20 to say that we are truly a sovereign nation with our 21 own jurisdiction, our own governments and -- and --22 and --- and be able to -- to coexist along with the 23 State of North Dakota legislature and the whole government -- government gamut [inaudible]. 24 25 So I think it's really important at this time --

- and time -- and this point in time that we as human --1 2 as human beings and members of -- of citizenship of -of North America in the United States, that we be 3 4 recognized as a separate state and given as the, uh, 5 opportunity to -- to control everything, what we want 6 to do. You know, and you understand that the oil and 7 gas package is -- is tremendous on the reservation 8 here. 9 And yet we share it with the state of North 10 Dakota without a question. I think Chairman Fox has 11 made a question, raised that issue. But what about us 12 people here that were -- that [inaudible] here. 13 And you all know what the eye of the Bakken is, 14 this is a -- a focal point of -- of the extraction of -- of oil and gas, um, and in terms of money and um --15 16 and we -- we -- we suffer from, um, lack of, um --17 lack of, um, government funding, state funding, county 18 funding, and municipality fundings for our -- for our own needs like you have addressed earlier. 19 20 The healthcare issue, it runs rampant and -- and in decline in Indian country here. We can't get 21
- 25 That we have to fight [inaudible] and -- and we

cooperation with the -- with the state -- state, uh,

pharmaceuticals and -- and medical, uh, com- -- uh,

companies.

22

23

24

- 1 all know that the reason why we fight is that -- is
- 2 that our skin is different and we are from a different
- 3 nation. And we are recognized as a -- as a sovereign
- 4 independent people of -- of the state of Dakota.
- 5 And, um, I just want to say I support, uh,
- 6 Representative Buffalo here. And I'm glad she made
- 7 that a point. And I think it's high time, that we do
- 8 identify a redistrict and -- and -- and the -- the --
- 9 the district lines are already drawn within the state
- of, uh, North Dakota, federal government, that we are
- 11 a Four Bear [inaudible] Indian reservation with
- 12 boundaries, exterior boundaries. And we are recognized
- 13 that way in -- in the -- in the federal government.
- 14 Thank you, [inaudible].
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you, uh, Mr. Lone Fight.
- 16 Okay. Anyone else? All right. Uh, it is about, uh, 12,
- 17 uh, we'll go at -- to 10:35 we will return. At 10:35
- 18 we're in recess. I know you're are hungry.
- 19 [Inaudible].
- 20 [recess]
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Relations committee back to
- 22 order. And we will continue, uh, Chairman Fox, uh, you
- 23 are -- you've got control of the agenda now.
- 24 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Awesome. Raises for all
- 25 committee members and what else? Milage? No. I kid.

Oh. Oh. Nathan. I forgot Nathan. Give the director a 1 2 raise over here of the Indian Affairs Commission. I think -- I think that's, uh, the governor's budget, 3 probably on that. Um, yeah, uh, I appreciate that. 4 5 We do have, uh, uh, a number of items. Uh, again, 6 I thank you on the redistricting. We are very much 7 interested, and in particular MHA Nation, again, uh, would love to see some of the suggestions made. At 8 9 least some drafts to see how it might work. 10 Uh, be involved as were stated by a number of 11 individuals here in support of making sure that tribes 12 play a role and -- and have some influence on what 13 determinations are made, uh, you know, mainly for the 14 purpose -- as far as I'm concerned, members of the 15 committee, of -- of just hearing our voices and, um, I 16 really don't think, uh, honestly, uh, I -- I haven't 17 studied your politics and the state's politics, uh, 18 for a long time, and demographics and everything else. 19 And nature, uh, I don't think, uh, any radical change in all you districting is going to change, uh, 20 21 how things sit at your level, and, Bismarck, I really 22 don't, I'll be honest with you. As far as a changing 23 from one party to the other. 24 Um, what -- what I do see is an opportunity at 25 this point in time in -- in -- in state history, uh,

- 1 an opportunity for the voices to be, uh, of -- of
- 2 minority, uh, voices to be heard better. Uh, I really
- 3 -- I see that as, uh, as a -- as a really golden
- 4 opportunity to get tribes and non-tribal more involved
- 5 through your own legislature.
- 6 And I think that's a positive thing. And so, we
- 7 do have another other issues in relation and other
- 8 than that item we want to visit with you, of course.
- 9 As I reference back I want to commend this committee
- 10 here in particular the most recent committee and --
- and the Straddle wells issues, um, your, um, energy
- 12 departments as well.
- 13 Mr. Helms and your state tax officers did an
- 14 awesome job coordinating with our -- our tax
- 15 department, coordinating with our legal counsel,
- 16 myself. Uh, we addressed some issues, um, we thought,
- 17 uh, and very cooperatively, on -- on how to, uh, break
- 18 the rate down on particular wells and as they sat.
- 19 Ownership of those -- those tracks is really key,
- 20 be it trust or not-trust. And we had to, um, find a
- 21 middle ground so that the proper assessment and then
- 22 the taxes could be collected, split up, and sent out
- 23 to the -- the state and the tribe. And so, we were
- 24 able to address that over the summer.
- 25 And I -- correct me if I'm wrong, Senator John

- 1 [ph], I think we've resolved it to a great degree. So,
- 2 they're able to now put those calculations in place
- 3 and get them to the treasurer and -- and get our
- 4 payments made; correct?
- 5 MR. FREDERICKS: Correct.
- 6 CHAIRMAN FOX: So, we're all -- we're all clear
- 7 from that prospective. So, again, it's been a good
- 8 thing and I want to commend the committee. Um, the
- 9 things that we didn't accomplish still really loom
- 10 heavy on our nation. Um, you know, I -- I -- I'll save
- 11 the gaming one for next, but the one right now that we
- 12 think really needs to be addressed and that has to do
- 13 with the alcohol.
- 14 The alcohol tax that we, um, are in position now,
- 15 um, we're actually got a dual taxation system going on
- 16 right now. We all know that dual taxation, that's why
- 17 we don't do it in oil and gas. If we do that, it would
- 18 stymie development of energy. So, collectively we
- 19 formulated a -- a -- a tax agreement to address energy
- 20 and oil and gas.
- 21 Well, alcohol has been a -- a -- a problem well.
- 22 The problem with having a dual taxation system is that
- 23 means that's ultimately either the tax entity, the
- 24 bar, or -- or the liquor shop or what have you, ends
- 25 up paying two taxes. Or they will move that and --

1	move the incident that tax to the consumer.
2	And and so, uh, people will be charged more
3	for an alcoholic drink. Which may may stymie some
4	of the businesses as well. So, dual taxation is is
5	typically not a good thing. But in our circumstances
6	because of two failed attempts to try to get something
7	though the leg state legislature, in '19 and 2021,
8	uh, we had no choice but to begin.
9	We have moved in that direction for a number of
10	years now. And the only thing that's holding us back
11	in enforcement and collection at this point through
12	legal collection is is waiting with all the
13	greatest my father's a minister, but the patience
14	of Job, uh, to try to hope that some way, somehow, the
15	state will I thought we had it I thought that we
16	had locked through the committee actions, this past
17	committee, this past session.
18	And when we failed, it was very disappointing
19	because we've been holding back on enforcement. The
20	the number of alcoho of bars and and liquor
21	establishments that are are not collecting and
22	paying the taxes is is is building up.
23	The the the assessments that we have to,
24	uh, uh, assign against them is building up. So, if we
25	end up in litigation in, uh, federal court or

- 1 otherwise, more -- more likely first deferred to our
- 2 own court system.
- Those numbers are going to come into play. And
- 4 it's not a good thing, uh, because this is our right.
- 5 We've never been able to collect one single dime of --
- 6 of tax directly on -- on sales of alcohol in Fort
- 7 Berthold for -- well, legally being sold to tribal
- 8 members for -- for 70 years, 75 years. Um, and alcohol
- 9 was in existence even prior to that.
- 10 Uh, ever since non-Indians have been in our area
- 11 alcohol has been distributed and -- and sold
- 12 themselves, in particular, uh, Parshall been an -- an
- incorporated city for over 100 years. Um, so, we've
- 14 never collected one dime.
- So, what we have to do typically is take from
- 16 Peter to pay Paul which is take our resources and
- 17 revenue over here and deal with alcohol related
- 18 treatment, saturation patrols, law enforcement,
- 19 domestic violence, all these things that stem, uh,
- 20 from the activity of alcohol being sold and all the
- 21 social responsibilities that come with it.
- 22 The regulations that come with it. The -- the
- 23 safety that comes with it. Same with, uh, with energy.
- 24 Well, how do we spend that money?
- Well, we don't have any revenue stream. From the

sale of ta- -- of alcohol on our reservation and it's 1 2 -- it's a horrendous problem for us. And if you go 3 historically we have lost out on millions and 4 millions, tens of millions of dollars in revenue if 5 you go back to the 1950s. 6 And we have not collected any dime. So, very 7 adamant about trying to figure way and we've been even 8 more so patient hoping for the legislature to -- to 9 come to a consensus amongst yourselves to agree to 10 what we're asking for, which is really simple. 11 Have a joint tax agreement, split that equitably, 12 uh, in our eyes, you know, similar to motor fields or 13 something similar to our energy. 80/20 is what we ask 14 for in a bill and it was defeated in committee. 15 Didn't make it to the floor. I understand it came 16 an opportunity to formulate an alcohol agreement at 17 the end hours of the session under the -- the 18 appropriation side and it was struck as well. And so, it's really created a -- a dire situation over here. 19 20 Uh, we have unregulated activity occurring now. 21 And we -- we have to be -- we have to do something 22 about it. 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Chairman, I -- I just would like, uh, you kind of to teach us a little bit about 24 25 what was, what is, and where you would like to go.

- 1 And, uh, I think we all understand that up until
- 2 you've raised this question the state collected the
- 3 alcohol tax period. And it's \$0.07, is that what
- 4 they're -- what is the --
- 5 CHAIRMAN FOX: The -- the state can collect it on
- 6 -- on two levels. They -- they collect on the
- 7 wholesale level on certain types of alcohol --
- 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
- 9 CHAIRMAN FOX: -- before it even gets to the
- 10 reservation. Then it's delivered to the reservation.
- 11 Then there's a retail tax on -- on the sale of alcohol
- 12 per establishment.
- 13 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. A retail tax. Yeah.
- 14 CHAIRMAN FOX: And that's at around seven
- 15 percent. And then the retailer generally pays that in.
- 16 They get their monthly proceeds, sales, beer alcohol
- 17 sold. They apply. They have a formula, they have forms
- 18 they fill out. And they submit that with their
- 19 payments to the state. So, it's a combination of both
- 20 of those things are in place.
- 21 And so, uh, the problem that we've got is when
- 22 that's paid, it goes to the state and it stays with
- 23 the state. There is no agreement to split that.
- So, the only way that we can get revenue is to
- 25 say well, certain entities may have to pay a state tax

- 1 but you also have to pay a tribal tax. Now, for
- 2 everybody's understanding here, our ability to tax is
- 3 not dependent on having an agreement with you. It is a
- 4 lawful, federally recognized authority for the tribes
- 5 to apply a tax.
- 6 When we adopted our alcohol ordinance, that has
- 7 to be approved by the federal government. And John can
- 8 allude more to this, our -- our -- our -- our enhanced
- 9 what I'm saying.
- 10 But we had to get that alcohol agreement, uh,
- 11 alcohol ordinance approved. All tribes have to do
- 12 that. We submitted ours for approval to the United
- 13 States government.
- It's included in there. The taxation of alcohol,
- 15 the regulation of alcohol. Both of those are in there,
- 16 accepted by the federal government. Certified by the
- 17 Department of Interior, Secretary of Interior. We
- 18 recognize your ordinance. You -- you have the lawful
- 19 authority. Not just that but case law, you know, Rice
- 20 versus Rehner. We can go on.
- 21 All the different cases at the Supreme Court
- level, but we have the legal authority to tax. We are
- 23 holding back knowing that it's going to have economic
- 24 impact, uh, to -- to the area and it's better to have
- 25 a -- a joint dual tax, I mean, a joint tax together --

a tax agreement than to have two sets of tax, uh, 1 2 impacting the local economy. 3 And but, again, after two sessions now, we're 4 talking three years, um, you know, going on four years 5 of -- any longer for myself in trying to get this passed, but where we've attempted bills. Now part of 6 7 the issues that were raised by legal counsel for some of the wholesalers that sell out at the reservation 8 9 was they didn't want to be subject to tribal 10 regulations in particular didn't want to have to be 11 permitted or -- or licensed --12 MS. MONTEAU: Licensed. Yeah. 13 CHAIRMAN FOX: -- and we -- we told them -- they 14 can sit up here if you want -- and we told them, and 15 we explained to them that they would not be taxed. 16 You're licensed. You have to get a license because you're selling on our reservation. That's -- that's 17 18 pursuit of the tribal and federal law. But we're not 19 going to be charging you a -- a tax. 20 There's no wholesale tax. The tax is for the alcohol sold on a reservation. And -- and so, um, we -21 22 - that wasn't good enough at some point. They even asked their -- their -- through their attorneys for to 23 24 take can you get something out of Washington D.C. that 25 says that?

And so, we send letters forward to the Department 1 2 of Interior stating our ordinance and then whether or 3 not, uh, for example, both that and the jam shop, all right, about taxing. 4 5 And that the jam shop laws that we were reference 6 that. Would that be applied? And we interpreted our --7 our ordinance and said to them, no. We're -- we -- we 8 would not apply -- that doesn't apply to us 9 wholesalers. Jam shop laws don't apply to us 10 wholesalers. And they said, well, get that from 11 Washington D.C. 12 So, in a letter that we sent out to D.C. and the 13 response back was, this is the tribe's ordinance. If 14 the tribe says they're not going to apply jam shop in 15 their ordinance, or they're not going to apply a tax 16 to a wholesaler, that's the law. That's the ordinance. 17 And we stand behind it. There's nothing more the 18 federal government is supposed to do. 19 And -- and that wasn't good enough. And -- and 20 so, then it boiled down to another issue. Not this 21 past -- not this past session, but the previous one, 22 where all the tribes -- it was approved by you but the 23 tribes reject it was the, uh, the, um, the mathematical breakdown of how to apply the tax -- the 24 25 formula for applying the tax.

1	What takes into consideration the percentage of
2	population in the state and and applies that to
3	what you can collect by sales on your reservation.
4	That creates an inequity here. As John will constantly
5	say when when I do my testimonies and with with
6	the things that when he's allowed to, uh, to speak up
7	on our behalf in committees and otherwise is, we have,
8	uh, the authority to tax non-tribal sales made on the
9	reservation.
10	Unlike the retail taxes, the argument's made if a
11	a a, you know, if a tax is sold to a non-tribal
12	member, you you you assert that. In many
13	instances they try may try to argue that the
14	that tax is taxed by the state but not by the tribe.
15	And and and I disagree with that. But in our
16	situation here, is the law.
17	And and supported by federal law says if if
18	Senator Wardner goes over to the casino or goes down
19	to Sportsman's Bar on New Town, North Dakota on fee
20	property, and he buys a beer, the law, both tribal and
21	federal law says that's taxable, allowed to be taxed
22	by the the three affiliated tribes, MHA Nation.
23	There's no doubt about that in our minds. Now, we
24	have lawyers and they we have to go through the
25	elongated, expensive, time-consuming to prove that in

1	the federal court. It's not going to be good for a lot
2	of people, in particular for those who pay those
3	lawyers. Because, you know, at the end of the day
4	lawyers no no no slight at John here and
5	you got them too. All right?
6	Uh, they're going to make their money when that -
7	- when all all the dust clears. But the reality is
8	that somebody's going to end up paying big time. And
9	we don't believe that's us. So so, my point being
10	that has always been an obstacles while as how we
11	provide the formula.
12	In our bill, we address that and said, the
13	formula will be more simply applied and we think we
14	can do an 80/20 split, and with you taking an
15	administrative fee, similar to energy, and and
16	we'll get there. And it never got a chance to get
17	get to that point for a vote.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: So, currently in that
19	situation if you use me as an example, uh, right now
20	the state gets the tax
21	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yep.
22	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: and MHA gets nothing.
23	CHAIRMAN FOX: That's correct.
24	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: And let me ask this. Currently
25	are you are you, uh, non, uh, native owners,

1	they're not they're just doing the state tax. Is
2	that, uh, correct?
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: The non-native owners on fee land
4	in general
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: On fee land.
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: I don't think there'a any
7	exception. Uh, Cynthia may know some that aren't
8	paying. But, uh, to my knowledge every one of them is
9	paying, filling out their forms, and paying those
10	taxes directly to the state. And that's it.
11	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. And then but for
12	your, uh, Native American owners on trust land
13	CHAIRMAN FOX: Mm-hmm.
14	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: are they collecting two
15	taxes?
16	CHAIRMAN FOX: Some some some of them are.
17	There's a couple that are. That are paying both a tax
18	to the tribe and a tax to the state. But, uh, there
19	are, I believe, uh, maybe one or two, I'm not sure
20	about that, that are not paying taxes to either.
21	Uh, but, uh, and and there's one that might be
22	paying just to the tribe, but he's behind, is what I
23	understand. So, there's causing confusion. If we had
24	joint tax system together were we simply split it
25	80/20 split, uh, we would resolve it in many ways as

1	well.
2	MALE 1: Casino is not paying [inaudible]
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: The casino itself is not paying
4	the tax but they are paying the tribal tax.
5	MALE 1: Right.
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: They are not paying. So, they're
7	paying the tax as it comes up. So, yeah. That
8	that's to clarify it for you.
9	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I do know. And I did get a
10	copy. And I still have gone through it, uh, from the
11	governor's office. I know that they've been working
12	with you and I we need to we'll need to bring
13	this committee up-to-date on all of the details on
14	that at some point here when we meet again.
15	But, uh, is this my do I have this understood
16	correctly that you're looking for with the
17	wholesalers you're just saying that you have to buy a
18	license.
19	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. Yeah. You have to apply for
20	a license to get approved.
21	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: To sell
22	CHAIRMAN FOX: You don't have to buy you don't
23	have to pay anything.
24	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Oh oh, they just have to be
25	approved

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: to sell on the reservation.
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. Toto distribute
4	wholesale, to to retailers so there's no money
5	exchanged.
6	MALE 2: Just a licensing fee.
7	[talking over each other]
8	CHAIRMAN FOX: Because that was a licensing fee.
9	That's it. The licensing fee was one time. Annual one
10	time; right?
11	MS. MONTEAU: Yes.
12	CHAIRMAN FOX: Annual license fee of what is
13	it, typically?
14	MS. MONTEAU: Depends on what they're what
15	they're selling.
16	CHAIRMAN FOX: But it isn't, like, tens of
17	thousands of dollar [inaudible]?
18	MS. MONTEAU: No.
19	CHAIRMAN FOX: It's, like, what? \$100 or more?
20	MS. MONTEAU: Well, the most is \$1000 if they're
21	going to get with the beer and liquor
22	CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay.
23	MS. MONTEAU: license.
24	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: So, the the wholesaler
25	would then, for example, pay \$1000
1	

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1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yep.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: to for a license to sell
3	to, uh, retailers on the reservation.
4	CHAIRMAN FOX: Right.
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Period. Okay.
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: And that's the most.
7	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
8	CHAIRMAN FOX: Some would be far less.
9	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: All right. And then for the
10	retailers you're looking at any alcohol sold on the
11	reservation you're looking at a 20/80 split.
12	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yes.
13	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Eighty to the tribe, 20 to the
14	state.
15	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. That's correct.
16	MS. MONTEAU: Gross retail sales.
17	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. Gross retail sales taxes.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. I just wanted to make
19	sure everybody understood kind of where we were at on
20	that. Because I we do have the chairman of the
21	senate, uh, finance and tax, and I don't know if you
22	have any comments, uh, feel okay.
23	If you do, be jump in. But, uh, so we
24	understand this, uh, uh, Representative Jones.
25	Question?
1	

1	MR. JONES: Thank you Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman.
2	You know, we had this meeting a few years back here at
3	Fort [Bear???]. And, um, I'm one that completely
4	disagrees that you have the right to tax non-tribal
5	members inside the boundaries of the reservation. When
6	that federal law was made it did not contemplate the
7	checkerboard nature of this reservation where it's got
8	private businesses, private taxes.
9	The people that were that are a fee patent
10	businesses operating are paying those taxes. And I
11	like your approach of taking that tax and splitting
12	it. And am I missing something or didn't we have an
13	agreement that you guys haven't signed off on that was
14	done in 2019? Isn't there something on the table that
15	was that was moving that forward?
16	CHAIRMAN FOX: No. None of the tribes will sign
17	what was done in 2019. You approved it, but none will
18	sign up. Let me explain why.
19	MR. JONES: Okay. Thank you.
20	CHAIRMAN FOX: The two reasons why they will not
21	sign it is a as the the formula does not work for a
22	single one of our tribes. It reduces, even though you
23	disagree, our rights to tax non-tribal members if our
24	we have a concert and a lot more non-Indians come
25	in and, by golly, we just had Sammy Hagar and

1	whatever, come on in and everybody have a good time.
2	And alcohol sold incrementally. The more that are
3	sold to the non-Indians that are that are coming to
4	our facility and doing that, we would get less and
5	less of that tax. Because if if we followed that
6	formula, we'd be restricted on how much tax we would
7	receive. So, the ratio doesn't work for us.
8	And it and it it undermines our disregards
9	our legal federal authority as well as tribal, to tax
10	non-Indians. That has to be addressed. And then the
11	the secondary issue was the regulation. In that, uh,
12	2019 bill and attempts made in the 2021 is that when
13	we form if we formulate a joint tax agreement, the
14	regulation has to be with the state and the tribe
15	plays no role in that.
16	And we attempted to address that in our language
17	as well. We said it will be joint regulation as the
18	law provides today. In any federal case, Supreme Court
19	or otherwise. So, basically if you approved our
20	resolu our our our bill, it would have
21	caused us to sit down, the state and the tribes and
22	put together a joint regulatory committee that would
23	have a uniform regulation over all alcohol
24	establishments.
25	But we couldn't get there. So, the tribes

- 1 themselves, based on 2019, won't sign it for that
- 2 reason as well. Because they're basically saying that
- 3 the state system usurps the tribal one when it comes
- 4 to regulation. And that's not joint. That is one
- 5 taking over the other.
- 6 And the tribes said, we reject that as well. So,
- 7 what we attempted to do from '19 to '21, was to get
- 8 the language changed so that not just MHA Nation,
- 9 because the other tribes signed on and said they'd
- 10 support our bill as well, is to put a bill into place
- 11 that the tribes would reconsider and then go into a
- 12 joint regulatory and taxation system. A unified one.
- 13 But they won't do that, uh, under the '19. '21 they
- 14 would have.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: And if we get that set up the
- 16 state would collect the tax and remit back to the --
- 17 CHAIRMAN FOX: Sure. We -- we don't have a
- 18 problem. Similar to energy where they --
- 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Right.
- 20 CHAIRMAN FOX: -- one percent fee, collect it to
- 21 offset costs. And then remit that 80 percent back and
- 22 20 of it -- we don't have a problem with that. And --
- 23 and -- and I don't think you guys have a problem with
- 24 that. And I -- I think most of the retailers on Fort
- 25 Berthold, I can't speak for them. Uh, some of them

- 1 have legal representation and they can do that.
- 2 But most of them as they told to me is we just
- 3 want to pay one tax. We don't care how you split it.
- 4 You -- we just don't want to pay two taxes. Well,
- 5 we're at the verge of doing that regardless. And --
- 6 and to avoid that we're hoping that legislature will
- 7 come around and say, it's best to just have one tax
- 8 and split it that way.
- 9 And I think whether or not our Representative
- 10 Jones believes in our legal authority or not, I think
- 11 he's advocating that we just have that one tax and get
- 12 that split into place. And that way the headaches go
- 13 away. Everybody's just paying one tax. And they're
- 14 doing it uniformly.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Representative Jones.
- 16 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you
- 17 for that explanation and I understand it gets
- 18 complicated though, because I know I've been at a lot
- 19 of calls from the retail salesman, particularly on the
- 20 -- on the -- on the permit to sell.
- 21 They're concerned that, uh, there's some clauses
- in there that they can be audited. That, uh, the tribe
- 23 can audit their books and do a whole bunch of other
- 24 stuff.
- 25 CHAIRMAN FOX: Just like the state can.

1	MR. JONES: Yep. And, uh, with them being told by
2	those businesses that are state. They they're
3	traditionally North Dakota citizens paying North
4	Dakota tax. Yes. They fall within the boundary of the
5	reservation but they consider themselves, um, well,
6	for one thing they don't get there's not tribal
7	benefits coming back to them through the taxation
8	process.
9	CHAIRMAN FOX: But there is.
10	MR. JONES: Normally okay. Could you could
11	
12	CHAIRMAN FOX: Police protection. For example,
13	police protection. You get police protection. You get
14	fire protection. All these benefits. Guess what? We
15	get no tax revenue to pay those things
16	MR. JONES: To help pay for them.
17	CHAIRMAN FOX: but but those retailers they
18	get that from us. They're going to sell to non-tribal
19	members and tribal members alone. They don't pay for
20	any treatment. They don't pay for victim, uh, uh, what
21	do you call the, um
22	MALE 2: Victim assistance.
23	CHAIRMAN FOX: victim assistance or the newest
24	law, uh, that was passed, uh, where non-tribal members
25	are, uh, cohabitating with a tribal member and have

- 1 victims that occur there as well. Uh, none of the --
- 2 the -- the retailers -- none of them. Some of the
- 3 retailers don't feel like they have any obligation to
- 4 pay taxes that similar to you collect that you provide
- 5 these services on.
- That's unfortunate because we know what the law
- 7 is. John, uh, he can speak for himself as well, but I
- 8 promise you this. That in his 30 years of practicing
- 9 or more, uh, more, and -- and he is fully confident
- 10 that we are well within our legal right to apply the
- 11 tax. The unfortunate this is, is we don't get the
- 12 legislature to agree to -- to do this in a uniform way
- 13 that tribes will accept.
- We will go there. And it will be decided. And it
- 15 will be shown, regardless of what they want to say.
- 16 Uh, you know, uh, I want to take up a whole bunch of
- 17 time on this, but if you study federal Indian law, the
- 18 history of the United States, the United States
- 19 federal tribal relationship, a large part of why the
- 20 United States government reserves this right between
- 21 the tribes and itself and excludes states historically
- 22 is that very reason.
- People getting in, coming down and trading
- 24 alcohol, starting wars, starting battles, this is all
- 25 that occurred in United States as it was becoming a

- 1 young nation. Was occurring and states going in and
- 2 trying to assume lands and take lands away from the
- 3 tribes. And -- and alcohol played a big part of that,
- 4 you know.
- 5 Traders going on and selling alcohol and then
- 6 things occurring. Next thing you know you're fighting,
- 7 you know. And -- and -- and wars, you know. First war
- 8 declared against a tribe west of the Mississippi was
- 9 declared against one of our tribes in -- in -- in
- 10 1823. Arikara War of 1823 and it had to do with
- 11 trading, had to do with coming in and usurping our
- 12 economy and -- and doing things -- trying to do things
- to our people that we didn't want happening.
- 14 And -- and so, the United States in its wisdom as
- 15 United States which we all belong to, you know, we're
- 16 all United States citizens. We are all Americans, you
- 17 know. Great now or making it great, whatever you
- 18 believe. We're all the same. And I'm a veteran who's
- 19 telling you, sitting here. But the federal law
- 20 supports and says that.
- 21 That in particular when it comes to alcohol
- 22 sales, we're -- we're going to make sure that the
- 23 federal oversight remains so any Indian reservation
- 24 whether they sold land within it to -- to immigrates
- 25 that came over or not, opened up areas for sale, the

- 1 law still says -- the law still says that that whole
- 2 area in which non-Indians have bought land and started
- 3 businesses, that remains within the boundary of the
- 4 reservation.
- 5 That's the law. That's the eight circuit court of
- 6 opinion that says that that reservation was not
- 7 disenfranchised. Checkerboard as it may be, those
- 8 boundaries remain. It was not the intent of Congress
- 9 to reduce those. That's the law. So, we don't want to
- 10 get heavily in the trenches. We can resolve this.
- 11 Rather than get into all those arguments, rather
- 12 than get in -- we have a simple way of proposing how
- 13 we get a joint tax agreement together, everybody pays
- it. Casino pays it. The bar in New Town, non-tribal
- owner, they pay it. Everybody pays the tax.
- We simply collect it together, take out your fee,
- 17 80/20, and now we've got a source of revenue to deal
- 18 with domestic violence, saturation patrols, treatment,
- 19 all these things. And that's what we're after.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, Chairman, one of the
- 21 things that, uh, I remember coming up a lot, and that
- 22 was the auditing. And it wasn't -- and I didn't hear
- 23 about auditing the retailers, the -- the wholesalers
- 24 didn't want to be audited by the -- the tribal
- 25 government. Now, under your plan now, you wouldn't be

auditing the wholesalers would you? Because you -- it 1 2 would be the --3 CHAIRMAN FOX: The -- I -- I don't think Cynthia 4 refers to them as audit. What they are required is to 5 submit reports. Just like you get reports. I would 6 think that under our authority if somebody doesn't 7 submit a report or if they submit a report and it 8 doesn't seem to match up with what they're saying, you 9 do the say thing. 10 You would say, we need to see further data and 11 what have you. That's the only way that we can 12 regulate, you know. And -- and the same for the state. 13 The state has the same authority somebody's selling on 14 the reservation. Uh, if you -- in this agreement when 15 we jointly do it together, we'll have a structure or 16 committee over that that says, okay. 17 Everybody turn in your reports, everybody file, 18 everybody, you know, properly fill them out, submit your taxes. That will be uniform across the whole 19 20 reservation. But we've got to get beyond this 21 principle of certain en- -- people thinking that the 22 tribe doesn't have that kind of jurisdiction over me 23 to tell me when and when and where and how I can sell an alcohol beverage within the boundaries of the 24 25 reservation because I'm non-Indian.

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We've got to get beyond that. The law does not
 1
 2
     support that.
          CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, I -- I -- well, I got to
 3
 4
     do some more digging into it than and -- and some more
 5
     research on it but it seems to me that was one of --
 6
     it was -- it was the wholesalers that didn't feel that
 7
     the tribal governments had the authority to come and,
 8
     uh, look at their books.
 9
          Now, if what you're saying is it's simply a
10
     report, you'd think that if the state and the tribal
11
     governments are working together, um, I don't know
12
     what the issue would be. But I'd have to ask them. I -
13
14
          CHAIRMAN FOX:
                         If they're -- if they're afraid --
15
     if the wholesaler -- the non-tribal wholesaler or non-
     tribal retailer on the reservation is afraid that
16
17
     there's going to be disparate treatment of the law,
18
     that what we put in to a proposal was then let's
19
     jointly do it.
20
          Jointly means we're both sitting at the table, we
21
     both decide how it's applied. That way if that non-
22
     tribal members feel I -- I -- I feel safer with the
23
     state's involvement, well the state is involved. And
     it's just not the tribe's rules alone and you're --
24
25
     you're collecting 20 percent and saying, tribe do
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- whatever.

 No. You're at the table. We're doing it
- No. You're at the table. We're doing it together.
- 3 But what was proposed in 2019 was the state does this
- 4 by themselves, tribe doesn't play a role. And we said,
- 5 we can't do that. Okay. Now. So, needs to be
- 6 addressed. John?
- 7 MR. FREDERICKS: Chairman Wardner, I just -- I
- 8 want to clarify, uh, the -- the jurisdictional issues.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Pull the mic over in front of
- 10 you. It's [inaudible]
- 11 MR. FREDERICKS: Just for the record, can you
- 12 hear me?
- 13 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes. Now we can.
- MR. FREDERICKS: Um, in -- in the area of alcohol
- 15 sales, the federal statutes, uh, specifically prohibit
- 16 alcohol sales in Indian country. Uh, and there's the
- only exception to that is where, uh, persons selling
- 18 alcohol in Indian country, which includes the
- 19 reservation. It doesn't distinguish between fee lands.
- There are exceptions, but none of those
- 21 exceptions apply to us. Um, the only exception is
- 22 where -- when you can sell without committing a crime,
- 23 and it's a crime. It's an 18 -- United States Code 18
- 24 USC Section 1154 prohibits the sale of alcohol in
- 25 Indian country. There's an exception where the person

- 1 selling alcohol is licensed by both the state and the
- 2 tribe. That's by federal statute.
- 3 So, it's not court made law. It's Congress-made
- 4 law. And so, in this area it's clear. And, you know,
- 5 non-Indian retailers that live here on the reservation
- 6 might think differently, but that's what the law says.
- 7 It's by statute and so, um, we're -- we've been
- 8 extremely patient with these non-Indian retailers, um,
- 9 who, you know, don't want to get licensed, um, but
- 10 they are operating in violation of federal law.
- And it's a crime to do it, you know. The United
- 12 States attorney hasn't enforced that law, yet, but
- 13 they have the authority to do that. And so I think if
- 14 we, you know, work together to get a -- a bill in
- 15 place a -- a -- a state law in place like we've got
- 16 with, uh, oil and gas, we can, uh, solve this problem.
- 17 Um, but we can't do it with the existing -- with the
- 18 existing, uh, formula.
- 19 It just doesn't work for us. Where you take a
- 20 formula and you split it based on the alcohol that
- 21 tribal -- our tribal members consume in the state?
- 22 That -- that doesn't work for us. That's -- that
- 23 doesn't have any type of nexus or relation to the, uh,
- 24 way things happen on the reservation.
- 25 And it also doesn't take into account, as the

- 1 chairman says -- said, the, uh, tribe's authority to
- 2 tax the non-Indians who consume alcohol on the
- 3 reservation. Over 70 percent of our tribal court cases
- 4 are alcohol related and a lot of that alcohol is
- 5 purchased from non-Indians selling it on the
- 6 reservation.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, Mr. Fredericks, uh, I'm,
- 8 uh, whether I'm, uh, a Native American or a non-Native
- 9 American selling, uh, alcohol on the reservation,
- 10 under the proposal that we're -- we're talking about
- 11 here that you're promoting, it wouldn't make any
- 12 difference to them. They would still pay their regular
- 13 seven percent --
- 14 MR. FREDERICKS: Correct.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: -- and -- and the only thing
- 16 that would be changed is that when it came time to
- 17 take a look at their books, if it was so -- and then
- 18 the -- the tribe and the state would come in together.
- 19 That's the only thing.
- 20 MR. FREDERICKS: Right.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Whereas now it's only the
- 22 state. It would be adding the tribes. So -- so for
- 23 them the -- there shouldn't -- and I -- I'm finding it
- 24 hard to believe that they are concerned about that.
- 25 CHAIRMAN FOX: And -- and -- and cynthia

1	also showing me her data here and she's got her
2	licenses of the vendors that are licensed here and
3	those that are not. That that haven't submitted.
4	But there are two non-tribal on fee operators that
5	have our license and aren't paying the tax.
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: And aren't paying?
7	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yes.
8	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah.
9	CHAIRMAN FOX: And so all, you know, it it
10	it's just not a, you know, non-Indian, Indian issue
11	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Right.
12	CHAIRMAN FOX: and we're aligned. They're saying
13	well, we're selling and we're going to pay.
14	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Are they dual to being dual
15	tax are they dual taxing? Paying seven percent to
16	the tribe and seven percent to the state?
17	CHAIRMAN FOX: Yes.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
19	CHAIRMAN FOX: So, that's, you know, in their
20	minds they're saying, well, it's unfair. I I'm
21	trying to comply with both sets of laws. We live on
22	the reservation. I'm paying both taxes. If we rectify
23	this, then it will be one one tax.
24	It'll cut that in half, and we just simply split
25	it 80/20. So, the answers there. We we need to get

her done. But the worst thing we need -- and we've 1 2 already experienced this -- and we've been dealing 3 with it -- going back to issues on energy and 4 pipelines. 5 The last thing we need is an issue of this 6 magnitude to drive us apart. And then all of a sudden 7 we have an issue that blew up on us when we had a 8 chance to nip it at the bud. That's the last thing we 9 need. 10 Where -- where alcohol is such a -- is one of --11 you just heard Monica, Dr. Mayer, on our council tell 12 us that the number one problem in her estimate as 13 practicing physician for how many years? 14 MS. MAYER: Thirty-five. 15 She way up there. And I know she's CHAIRMAN FOX: 16 getting up there. And -- and so, all them years, you 17 know, the practice is telling you as the leading the 18 region for -- for all these reservations that alcohol, now along with drugs, is the number one problem. 19 20 And we spend tens of millions of dollars treating 21 people every year. Why is that not seeming to resonate 22 when we have an opportunity to at least not -- not fix 23 the problem? But do it, start addressing it with some 24 revenue to start applying towards that aspect.

25

And if I'm going to open a bar and Mark Fox

- 1 retires, I'm not chairman anymore, and I open a bar up
- 2 in New Town or Parshall, North Dakota, you know. I
- 3 don't think I ever would. But if I did, I would be the
- 4 first to say, whatever taxes you charge that's fine
- 5 with me. Because, you know, I -- I -- I have a
- 6 responsibility here as well.
- 7 And people that come and buy alcohol from me and
- 8 -- and it creates the problems that -- that I -- I
- 9 know -- my activity helps lend towards, I would -- I
- 10 would have to do that. Of course, I don't really have
- 11 a bar, but -- but I'm just saying. Uh, that has to be
- 12 accepted and we have to move above and beyond.
- 13 And -- and -- and what we proposed before
- 14 legislature, and we're ready to propose again, similar
- 15 language that says joint regulations and we've already
- 16 asserted under our ordinance and we can provide you
- 17 that data as well.
- 18 You know, the jam shop laws do not apply to
- 19 wholesalers and -- and etc. Which they raised as well.
- 20 And -- and -- and we just need to have a common,
- 21 regulatory system together that spells it out so that
- 22 all parties feel comfortable with that joint
- 23 regulatory system.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Chairman, I -- just a comment.
- 25 Uh, if, uh, Dr. Mayer's getting right up there then I

- 1 must be really up there because it seems like
- 2 yesterday she was tearing around on the court for the
- 3 New Town Eagles. So, I -- I feel pretty old.
- But to -- would -- would you give us, uh, remind
- 5 us the agreement with the, um, gasoline tax and the
- 6 state and the percentages and stuff. How that works.
- 7 CHAIRMAN FOX: The -- the motor fuels tax.
- 8 And -- and it's limited in itself and I'll explain
- 9 that in a second. But the motor fuels tax was done
- 10 differently. We didn't take a base amount like we did
- 11 with energy.
- We just said, 80/20 because economic reasons. Um,
- 13 the motor fuels tax is going by census based. So,
- 14 Standing Rock, Spirit Lake, Turtle Mountain, Fort
- 15 Berthold have different percentages. So, some are
- $16 \quad 70/30$, some are 75/25, one is 80/20. And so, they're
- 17 different depending on the census.
- But of course we know the problems with the
- 19 census. Our fix to it was, given the historical
- 20 problems with alcohol, just make it a flat 80/20 so
- 21 that we're not jumping around every 10 years trying to
- 22 realign it. Just do the 80/20 and then we would use
- 23 that. And that -- that's kind of where that come from.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I understand. So, the gas, uh,
- 25 the fuel tax, yeah. That's on a census thing and --

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: It it is on a census base so
2	but that's established. And I don't think it's every
3	changed. I know, uh, in 2010 there was a census and
4	then when we brought it up in 2011 or 2013 the
5	governor at the time, Governor Dalrymple, said, um,
6	you know, we reconsidered because of the social ills
7	on the reservation for a short period of time during
8	the session he thought about should we just
9	standardize it to every reservation, make everybody
10	the same as Standing Rock's. I can't Standing Rock
11	has the highest at 80/20.
12	So, let's just make everybody similar to Standing
13	Rock. And at the last moment he pulled back and said,
14	you know, we'll just leave it as is and he didn't want
15	to wrestle with it at that time. Now, Governor Burgum
16	has brought up the same thing and he seemed to be
17	willing to now take that step forward and say, make
18	them all standardized on each reservation at certain -
19	- assuming that the the legislature would approve
20	of it.
21	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, that will be a
22	discussion point for this committee to talk about, uh,
23	whether we want to standardize these things and and
24	bring them forward as a proposal and stuff like that.
25	So, thank you. Uh, Representative Jones.
I	

1	MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess I
2	have one more question for John on this. So, it's
3	illegal to sell alcohol in Indian Country unless they
4	are licensed both by the state and the reservation. Is
5	that the caveat that makes it makes it people
6	able to sell?
7	MR. FREDERICKS: Yes. Correct.
8	MR. JONES: And so, the sticking point that I'm
9	hearing from the retailers is just concern about that
10	that license. So, uh, you know, I hope we can focus
11	and I hope your intentions are to focus on that to
12	remedy, you know.
13	I think they're worried about creep. The greatest
14	fee right now is \$1000 a year for the retailers and
15	the wholesalers or is it just the wholesalers?
16	MS. MONTEAU: Uh, Mr. Chairman, again, it depends
17	on the type of license. But there is depends if they -
18	- are selling beer or alcohol or both. But, um,
19	roughly, right now, about \$1000. Depending if the just
20	want to sell beer, I think it's, like, \$300.
21	MALE 1: That's wholesalers. What's the
22	retailers?
23	MS. MONTEAU: Um, I can
24	MALE 1: It's less than that.
25	MALE 2: Seven percent.

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1	MS. MONTEAU: Yeah. It's
2	MALE 1: No. No. The fee.
3	MS. MONTEAU: It depends, again
4	MALE: Is that your question?
5	[talking over each other]
6	MS. MONTEAU: Yeah. It's about \$700. \$300 to \$700
7	depending on what they're selling. If they're selling
8	on sale, off sale. It it varies, you know. The
9	state has varying degrees. Uh, Mr. Chairman, Cynthia
10	Monteau, MHA Nation. Sorry.
11	CHAIRMAN FOX: I need to share this with you and
12	Cynthia made this point to me and and showing all
13	these things. Not all, but nearly all, of the
14	provisions we have in our alcohol ordinance mirror
15	what the state does.
16	Almost all. We're just simply doing carrying
17	out on our own behalf, mirroring under our own laws
18	similar provisions that you have to make it easier for
19	us to have a joint agreement.
20	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Continue.
21	MR. JONES: I guess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um,
22	I guess my concern or suggestion as we're moving
23	forward with this because I like moving forward with
24	it, is that somehow we lock it in so that the people
25	that are going to be paying these fees for permits

- 1 and, uh, taxes understand that it's not going to
- 2 change.
- 3 That it's going to stay consistent with what the
- 4 state's doing and they're not going to all of a sudden
- 5 get a notice that now this year we're going to double
- 6 the permit fee. Those types of things.
- 7 CHAIRMAN FOX: What will happen is it will stay
- 8 consistent with the agreement we've put into place.
- 9 So, we -- we agree to put it into place, uh, to change
- 10 the agreement you can either opt out of it or but to
- 11 change the agreement we both have to change it.
- So, for another two years, and nothing prohibits
- 13 you from doing the same, is you -- you say, well,
- 14 we're going to change this tax agreement with the
- 15 tribe. What we wanted to have in place is -- is for us
- 16 to be at the table as well if you're going to consider
- 17 changing that. And -- and that's what we're asking
- 18 for. It's jointly changed.
- 19 Same with the tax agreement on oil and gas. You
- 20 know, we had that issue, too. That neither side is
- 21 supposed to have authority to unilaterally change
- 22 that. We have to do it jointly together. And that's
- 23 what we've done and accomplished in '19 and '20 and
- 24 '21. And -- and just recently. So, those are really
- 25 important as well, too.

1	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Continue.
2	MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate
3	that, Chairman. Um, what I'm talking about though, is
4	not changing the agreement. Once the agreement is
5	is in place that
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: That's what governs the
7	regulations.
8	MR. JONES: It's it's going to be the
9	governing document.
10	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes.
11	MR. JONES: What I'm talking about is that, uh,
12	this fee schedule. Somehow I would hope that as we
13	move forward with this we can figure out how to put in
14	that fee schedule that it's going to be sensibly
15	derived.
16	That if if the state's paying a certain about
17	of money for fees, for licensing, and that kind of
18	stuff, if your fees are similar or identical or
19	however it is, that we put in the agreement that it's
20	going to be consistent with the fees charged by the
21	state.
22	CHAIRMAN FOX: Which it already is, but yeah. The
23	agreement would provide for that.
24	MR. JONES: That that
25	CHAIRMAN FOX: If you pass the legislative
1	

- 1 agreement, it will provide for us to jointly decide
- 2 that. So, then when they sit down have the regulation,
- 3 you know, hours of operation, and -- and can't sell to
- 4 minors, and -- and the fee structure.
- 5 All that is jointly sat down and said this is how
- 6 we do it. So, that every entity whether it's tribally
- 7 -- a tribal member owns it or a non-tribal member own
- 8 it are under the same set of laws and the same -- same
- 9 type of regulation. That's all we're asking to be done
- 10 here.
- 11 MR. JONES: Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN FOX: If we don't do that, we will
- implement our own. They will be similar, but they will
- 14 be paying two. And we don't want that. Okay.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Anyone else have any comments
- or questions for Chairman Fox? I would just like to
- 17 make this -- now, I'm -- this -- see? I'm -- I'm going
- 18 way back into my childhood now how old I'm getting. I
- 19 remember when, uh, it was changed when an individual
- 20 by the name of Joel Wicks[ph] who -- who was, uh,
- 21 married to a Native American on Fort -- or on, uh,
- 22 Standing Rock.
- 23 He was an outstanding auctioneer. He -- he was an
- 24 auctioneer that everybody loved at Kist Livestock in -
- 25 in Mandan. And he became a representative. And that

- 1 was one of the things he accomplished was that, uh,
- 2 uh, alcohol could be sold on the reservations. I
- 3 remember that as a kid. So, it goes back to a long
- 4 time ago.
- 5 So, and we're still kicking it around. So, but he
- 6 was a -- he was a very influential person and
- 7 everybody loved him. But he had relationships with
- 8 people and people, uh, he could get it done. So,
- 9 anyway. That's just a little comment.
- MS. MAYER: Mr. Chairman, was that about 1954?
- 11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, it would have to be. Yeah.
- 12 MS. MAYER: I remember because my father built
- 13 the Snake Pit Bar up here on Sahnish in 1955 and that
- 14 was when the natives could buy -- go to liquor stores
- 15 and buy booze --
- 16 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah
- 17 MS. MAYER: -- in '56; right?
- 18 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah.
- 19 MS. MAYER: Yeah.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, he's the individual that
- 21 was the, uh, motivation and, uh, force behind it back
- 22 then. It was the right, you know, that they have the
- 23 same rights as other people, uh, the Native Americans.
- 24 So, anyway.
- MS. MAYER: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say and,

- uh, Chairman Fox that, uh, I, um, you know, I see 1 2 things a little bit different than, you know, the --3 your -- your -- your regular politician would, but my 4 understanding of the alcohol tax, which is a long time 5 coming for us, um, it will allow us, even though it's 6 not a, uh, very large amount of money, to deal with 7 the issues of that we have in our health care 8 disparity. 9 They link together the alcohol, the taxation, and 10 the health care. They link together because we're paying for cirrhosis and domestic violence and rape 11 12 and, you know, Indian women are raped and beaten and 13 assaulted and missing and murdered, uh, 10 times more 14 than non-Indian woman are in the United States and 15 that's NIH's database. 16 Um, child abuse, unemployment, DUIs is the number one, uh, law enforcement issue that we have here on 17 18 Fort Berthold and, um, of course there's jurisdiction issues that go along with that. And, uh, all our 19
- 20 criminal activity, our -- our large amount of
- 21 ambulance, uh, costs and our ER costs that go into,
- 22 uh, those that are on drugs and alcohol.
- 23 Alcohol has been around much longer than drugs
- 24 but drugs is massive right now. But my understanding
- of this alcohol code would be that we would be a joint

- 1 agreement with the taxation of seven percent and
- 2 licensed fees with MHA and the state being, um, joint
- 3 and that the distribution would be done, uh, by the
- 4 state at -- at 80/20 or wou- -- wou- -- is that what
- 5 the agreement would be?
- 6 CHAIRMAN FOX: Well, we're trying to propose
- 7 that.
- 8 MS. MAYER: Yeah. Proposing that. So, um, my
- 9 understanding is that if we can partner joint together
- 10 in this agreement, like we probably should have in
- 11 the, you know, decades ago, um, we would be able to
- 12 address some of our healthcare issues based on this
- 13 tax.
- So, it's a good thing for the state and it would
- 15 be a really good thing for us, too. So, if my
- 16 understanding's correct, I'm in full support of that.
- 17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes. And she brings up a point
- 19 that begs a question I just need to find out. When you
- 20 talk about the wholesalers and their licensing fee,
- 21 would they be paying one to the tribe and one to the
- 22 state or would they pay one and we would split it up
- 23 20/80? How do you see that?
- 24 CHAIRMAN FOX: On their fee?
- 25 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. On their fee.

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1	CHAIRMAN FOX: On their license fee?
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: License fee.
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: That's something that jointly
4	together we would we would decide, you know, what
5	kind of fee they would pay. I would assume that I
6	would expect that joint regulatory structure that
7	that we pass would sit down and say, you know, either
8	defer that to the tribes, pay the tribes, or split it
9	in the same way we split the tax. It doesn't matter to
10	us that much.
11	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, I would say that that
12	would take away any, uh, pushback from the wholesalers
13	if they pay one fee. Who who do they care if how
14	the state and the tribe splits it. So
15	CHAIRMAN FOX: Agreed.
16	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I, uh, I just happened to
17	think about that. Representative Jones.
18	MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and, uh, I
19	would refer us back to the law that John cited, too.
20	It says specifically you can't sell alcohol on the
21	Indian Country unless you have a permit from both the
22	tribe and the state.
23	So, you don't want to combine the two. They need
24	to buy a permit from the tribe, uh, from the tribe and
25	a permit from the state. And this permit issue would

- 1 be separate from.
- 2 If you try to con- -- convolute that and say, now
- 3 they're just -- I don't know how you can separate
- 4 those two to satisfy the requirements of that law if
- 5 you didn't let those two permits be separate.
- 6 CHAIRMAN FOX: Logistics of doing that and I'm
- 7 sure it can be ironed out. If -- if both entities --
- 8 governmental entities under the law say this is the
- 9 way we're going to do it, jointly together, in effect
- 10 you are doing both of them.
- John, I don't know if you know differently, but
- 12 even if we did have a scenario where we said, well,
- 13 you've got to have a license from the state and
- 14 licensed by the tribe and what kind of fee's put into
- 15 that. That -- that's -- you've got two licenses but
- 16 the fee, it can be singular. It -- it doesn't matter.
- 17 MR. JONES: Right.
- 18 CHAIRMAN FOX: The fee can be singular. The
- 19 licenses could be both.
- 20 MR. JONES: Yes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: First, uh, Representative
- 22 Jones, is that -- did that answer your question? So,
- 23 the -- the fee -- what they're talking about is you
- 24 get two licenses but there's one fee. And then how the
- 25 state -- do you have an issue with that, I guess,

- 1 before I go to the Representative Pollert?
- MR. JONES: You know, I don't have the expertise,
- 3 but I appreciate the conversation. And my goal is to
- 4 make sure we hash it out together and figure out how
- 5 we can satisfy the legal requirements. How we can
- 6 satisfy the convenience requirements.
- 7 And how to satisfy for those people that are
- 8 doing it that they know that they're covered and that
- 9 it's not going to be changed and grow and cause
- 10 problems going down the road.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: And -- and that's a good
- 12 point. I -- but I think -- I think we're headed down
- 13 the right track here. Representative Pollert.
- MR. POLLERT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, John,
- 15 did -- does this take a, um, I don't want to say an
- 16 exemption, but a permission from the federal
- 17 government so the state can have one license since
- 18 there's a federal law on the books.
- 19 That's what I'm hearing. And so, Representative
- 20 Jones says it takes two, one from the federal state
- 21 unless you get an agreement. But wouldn't you have to
- 22 get kind of an exemption or a permission slip from the
- 23 federal government say yeah, you can do that and then
- 24 you can get it worked out?
- 25 MR. FREDERICKS: Um, no. The statute -- the

- 1 existing statute simply says that if -- if you are
- 2 licensed by the state and the tribe then you're not
- 3 violating federal law. So, we -- under, uh, a joint
- 4 scheme, you know, if -- if we were to get a bill that
- 5 both sides can live with, um, the tribe would still
- 6 license the facility, um, but we would do that under
- 7 the parameters of our agreement.
- 8 And so, um, there still would be a license and --
- 9 and, you know, how we -- how we charge fees for that,
- 10 we've got a lot of discretion on how we can do that.
- 11 MR. POLLERT: So -- so, Mr. Chairman, so then,
- 12 from what you just said, so the language federally is
- 13 pretty permissible to get that set up?
- MR. FREDERICKS: Yes.
- 15 MR. POLLERT: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRMAN FOX: But go back to John's point. In
- 17 the beginning the -- he made and I did as well,
- 18 Cynthia, is that as he said, it requires both. That's
- 19 what the law says. So, you -- you -- you run a system
- 20 for decades that has been non-compliant with the
- 21 federal law.
- Meaning you have a state license but you don't
- 23 have a tribal one. And some of them are still in that
- 24 existence today. They are continuing violating federal
- 25 law and they are now violating tribal law under our

ordinance approved by the federal government. And they 1 2 are accumulating fees and penalties. And we don't want that to -- we need to resolve 3 4 that. We can deal with that, pass the law, get a joint 5 regulatory system, and get that all water under the 6 bridge, and we can get back to a joint regulatory 7 system; we're splitting the tax the way we -- we 8 advocate for and then we just move on. And I thought 9 we were there this -- this -- this session. 10 I really did based upon our tribal state tax 11 relations committee discussions. So, we were greatly 12 surprised when it didn't go forward. And it didn't 13 make it forward. Very disappointing. At some point in 14 time we got to make a decision. 15 If we can't get the state legislature to have a 16 dual taxation -- taxation system to avoid the issues 17 that are coming up, then we're going to be forced --18 we're going to be forced to enforce. And -- and I want you to think about what that means. That means 19 20 assessing fines. That means closing -- closures. Those could be 21 22 force closures -- closures. Now, unless a federal 23 judge says we cannot and holds us, uh, up on it while it being determined, that might mean closing doors and 24

locking doors.

25

That might be physically removing people. And the 1 2 law enforcement we have on -- on our side, our own law 3 enforcement, we don't need to go there. We can resolve 4 this. We can -- government to government. We can get 5 this resolved. 6 So -- so, my point again is -- is -- it's -- it's 7 the -- the -- the minor issues that I think arose again during this legis- -- legislative session we 8 9 feel we have addressed them. We can, as a joint 10 system, address them and we just need to get this 11 approved so we can move forward. And -- and we can avoid this. And I think we're 12 13 there. I think we're close. 14 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, thank you. Is there 15 anyone else who would like to make any comments or 16 questions? Uh, uh, this has been a very good 17 discussion. I have learned some things that I didn't 18 know. And, uh, and have some understanding of some 19 things that I didn't understand as well. 20 So, I appreciate it. Uh, we will be discussing 21 this, uh, as a committee and going through it, uh, 22 step by step and, uh, uh, Mr. Chairman, uh, we would -- we would want you there and, uh, we also know that 23 the other parties that are involved, we would want 24 25 them there to make sure that everything, uh, is taken

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care of and they aren't surprised. 1 2 And then all of a sudden, uh, there's opposition 3 that you didn't know where it was coming from. So --4 CHAIRMAN FOX: The -- the opposition's there, uh, 5 so I thought we resolved it [meeting of the?] issues, but you're right. They need to be at the table. Those 6 7 impacted or affected. And I, uh, I'm sure they're not wanting to in any of all our processes are public and 8 9 open and so they're going to want to say, how are you 10 addressing our concerns. 11 Now if their concerns are, you know, not paying 12 the extra tax, all that taxes, you know, uh, you know, 13 administered licensing and that's all resolved, then -14 - and -- and what have you, those are doable. If you 15 have an entity that just simply says, I don't want to 16 be taxed by the tribe or have any regulatory control 17 that the tribe's a part of over me, that -- that is a 18 -- a -- that's not good. 19 There has to be an acceptance of the fact that by 20 federal law, both entities have the right to regulate. 21 And inherently, John might disagree with me a little 22 bit, I might even disagree, also comes the -- the --23 the ability to tax with that regulation. And -- and -and it's joint. So, let's just move forward because we 24 25 haven't been able to joint in 60, 70 years have gone

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by. No tax revenue to the tribe. 1 2 Well, the big thing is that we CHAIRMAN WARDNER: communicate. And, uh, a lot of times that I've found 3 4 in this business, uh, in the legislature, people think 5 if you don't communicate well with them, they think 6 it's something else and they, uh, they miss the point 7 and end up opposing something they really don't need to oppose. So, uh, I'm, uh, I -- I appreciate the 8 9 conversation. 10 CHAIRMAN FOX: Cynthia --11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Cynthia --12 MS. MONTEAU: Um, yes, Mr. Chairman. I just 13 wanted to respond to Representative Jones and just 14 give him an example of the fees. So, um, the federal 15 law requires if you sell, transport, or distribute 16 alcohol on the reservation you need a tribal license. So, as an example, I just did a quick comparison. 17 18 Um, is that for a wholesaler on the reservation it's \$500 for, um, selling, and then it's \$250 for 19 transporting. So, it's \$750. And as a comparison for 20 21 the state, for a wholesaler for selling beer and 22 alcohol, if you sell within the first six months of 23 the year it's \$900 and if you sell, um, if you get a license in the second half of the year, it's \$600. 24 25 So, right now we're fairly commensurate. I just

- 1 wanted to bring that to your attention and clarify,
- 2 um, previous comments. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: No. Thank you. Uh, we need all
- 4 the information we can get. Any, uh, anyone else? Uh,
- 5 I think we'll move on to another issue and, uh, this
- 6 one, uh, appreciate all of the discussion. So,
- 7 continue, Chairman.
- 8 CHAIRMAN FOX: So, uh, alcohol have addressed
- 9 that. Sales and use tax, uh, we haven't really dug
- 10 into that too much, um, so to speak. Uh, it is
- 11 something that economically, you know, we would want
- 12 to probably consider at some point in time, although
- 13 we're not pushing hard on it.
- 14 Um, we do know about sales made and there was an
- issue related to the sales made to a tribal member,
- 16 uh, regardless of -- of, uh, the owners of the
- 17 business. As long as it's done within the boundaries
- 18 of the reservation at this -- it's non-taxable. That
- 19 is an issue right now. Because the tribe doesn't have
- 20 a sales and use tax and the state does.
- 21 I bring this issue up every -- every time we have
- 22 these meetings and I will continue to do so. And until
- 23 we have a joint agreement it's going to become a
- 24 problem. There's an indirect collection of tax that
- 25 have been ongoing for more than 70 years. And it is

1	unlawful to for the state to collect a tax against
2	a sales tax made to a tribal member within our
3	boundaries.
4	But sometime these vendors will require and
5	and some of them are simply trying to establish a
6	means to measure and assess. Some of them not so much.
7	Basically, uh, person getting up to the till and then
8	charging them a tax without asking. Or having a means
9	to figure out whether they're a tribal member or not.
10	Uh, I don't like the assumption being on the
11	tribal member. I'd rather have the assumption being on
12	on the vendor. Uh, if you have reasons to believe
13	that that that person is not if they say, are
14	you a tribal member, don't tax them. Because that's
15	what the Supreme Court law says. Uh, if you have
16	reasons to believe that they are not a tribal member,
17	reasonable suspicion or other information, then you
18	could ask them for their tribal ID.
19	Say, do you have a tribal ID. Now, some of the
20	vendors require a tribal IDs and say, if you want to
21	exert your tax exemption, you have to, before the sale
22	commences, tell us you're a tribal member and show us
23	your tribal ID. Uh, that's putting somewhat of the
24	burden on. I give the example that we had here in the
25	previous committee years, you know, you get a a

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a -- my son's eight years old. 1 2 We go up to the dollar store and he's happy to 3 get, you know, he does his chores and he gets his \$20 4 and he heads up to the dollar store and starts buying 5 things. And how is he supposed to stand there -- and 6 of course he would because he's my son, but how is he 7 supposed to stand there and say, you know what? 8 You're not supposed to be taxing me. And you 9 charged me a tax and he shows the receipt on his toys 10 and his candy. By law says the United States Supreme 11 Court says that -- that -- that law able. That's 12 illegal. But the vendors say, well, until you prove 13 that you're a tribal member, we're going to tax you 14 and we're going to send that to the state. 15 They'll collect it and they'll send it to the 16 state unlawfully. And that's occurring at a great 17 extent. Now tribal members say well, if I go to the 18 store I have to make sure I have my tribal ID. Even 19 though I've been in there 80 times. That clerk is going to say, if you don't have an 20 21 ID, I'm going to charge you, even though you presented it 79 times. That's an unlawful collection of tax. And 22 23 it's not a few hundred thousand dollars. Over time that's millions and millions of dollars. That's 24 25 something we have to try to address someway somehow.

1	Uh, joint system of collecting that tax, again,
2	getting to a split might help resolve that. But some
3	of our membership will have to, you know, put that out
4	there to them because they might not want to be
5	subject to even a joint tax.
6	So, that's something that we have to reconsider.
7	But the concern I've got is this indirect taxation
8	that is unlawful and it's occurring, but we have to do
9	something about that. I know without spending a lot
10	of time on that at this point in time.
11	MS. MONTEAU: Online sales are big.
12	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Do you have any kind of idea
13	for a solution for that? Because I don't. I mean,
14	other than to tax everybody and then do like we're
15	doing with the fuel tax and stuff like that.
16	CHAIRMAN FOX: Well, the joint agreement.
17	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I do recall one of the first
18	meetings a couple of years ago we had with this
19	committee, there were people from different all
20	over from Standing Rock and he said, is this what
21	they're you're going to do? Tax us?
22	We're we're not going to put up with that. So,
23	I mean, I do know that, uh, tribal people are not
24	interested in being taxed. So, I
25	CHAIRMAN FOX: Not on the sales and use tax. We -

- 1 we pay it. But, you know, I -- I'll say this is, um,
- 2 we still have a very important act that has to be
- 3 acknowledged. The majority of our people, when we
- 4 purchase goods, pay state sales tax.
- 5 Do you know why? Because most of us, and this is
- 6 a fact, purchase our goods off the reservation. We go
- 7 to Minot. We go to Watford City. And when we make --we
- 8 buy something, we pay the tax.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. So, that you're saying
- 10 they're -- they're paying it already so, it's no big
- 11 deal.
- 12 CHAIRMAN FOX: So -- so, I think inherently
- 13 they're going to learn to accept it over time.
- 14 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Because it -- it's --
- 15 it's just a -- it's a -- I would say it's a principle
- 16 with some of the -- especially the older, uh, people
- 17 that, uh, live on the reservation. They, uh, no way
- 18 are you going to be taxing me, uh, but maybe that
- 19 could be changed.
- But, uh, that's what I would see as a possible
- 21 solution, but there may be others. Uh, Nathan.
- 22 MR. DAVIS: Well, I was just --
- 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, you waved your hand, so
- 24 --
- 25 MR. DAVIS: I was just kind of moving my arm

- 1 around, but yeah. [inaudible] No. But I -- I think too
- 2 just moving forward as we talk about sales use taxes.
- 3 We talk about, uh, the dual taxation issue with
- 4 alcohol. Um, we remember the words that were said over
- 5 and over today; the mutual consent.
- 6 When you speak with tribal nations you speak of
- 7 their agreements, their treaties with the federal
- 8 government. Those treaties cannot be altered without
- 9 mutual consent; both parties being involved. And we
- 10 talk about the language that was passed in '19 that
- 11 none of the tribes would sign on on. I was part of the
- 12 tribal government in Turtle Mountain at that point.
- But what that did to us was mentioned earlier by
- 14 Chairman Fox, was it presented and, um, a negative
- 15 precedence towards tribal nations of uno- --
- 16 unilateral authority. The state of North Dakota coming
- in and oppose those taxations without say, the tribe.
- 18 So, moving forward, we need to make sure we have that
- 19 mutual consent and relay that government to government
- 20 framework in these agreements.
- 21 Because now you're talking about a negative
- 22 impact, an adverse impact on the -- the local economy
- 23 here in the MHA Nation that Chairman Fox has alluded
- 24 to before that he does not want to impose.
- 25 You know, every -- every tribal nation you come

1	to	do	business	with	in	the	reservation	there	are	

- 2 federal guidelines that no matter what entity you are,
- 3 even if you're a political subdivision of another form
- 4 of government, you pay those fees to the tribe to con-
- 5 -- to conduct business with their members.
- 6 So, I think that's just something that we need to
- 7 keep in mind moving forward. And then also you look
- 8 at, you know, tribes and how we work with the federal
- 9 government. And you look at past, uh, pieces of
- 10 legislation that were passed but a little before our
- 11 time even.
- 12 You only look at the state's admission acts that
- 13 were passed that allowed certain states to come to the
- 14 union. You know, a state's in there that all lands
- 15 within, um, all lands held within the fed-, uh, the
- 16 exterior boundaries of a reservation shall -- and I
- 17 don't like to use this word too much, but we -- we
- 18 talk about the disposition of the United States
- 19 government.
- So, as tribes we're constantly dealing with not
- 21 only our own ordinance that are passed here, we're
- 22 dealing with ordinance that are passed at the state
- 23 level, but then ultimately we deal with the ordinance
- 24 that are passed at the federal level.
- So, I think when we really talk about those

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partnerships, we need to remember the -- the 1 2 uniqueness and the duality that tribal nations, uh, 3 represent in forms of government. So, I just wanted to put that on the record as we move forward. 4 5 CHAIRMAN FOX: Appreciate that. 6 Yeah. Thank you. CHAIRMAN WARDNER: 7 CHAIRMAN FOX: Um, a related item to that, of 8 course, we don't have easy answers. I do know this is 9 -- and we may suggest some things before we get to a 10 session where we could have the alcohol agreement done 11 or a sales and use tax. Um, I'm not proposing that 12 we're -- we're going to be coming running in with 13 that, but what I'm saying is that it -- it does take 14 some work and maybe sitting down. 15 But in the meantime what we can do is -- is come 16 up with some solutions with the vendors to try to encourage them not to unlawfully collect and submit 17 18 taxes. If they know somebody's a tribal member, whether they loyally reach in their back pocket and 19 20 show them ID or put them on a running list or whatever 21 you need to do. And say, what's your name? Tribal 22 member? 23 Don't collect the tax. Don't collect that tax. It's the unlawful collection of taxes that we're --24 25 we're objecting to. And so, I think there's some

- 1 things that we can work with the vendors to cause them
- 2 to be, uh, a little bit more the onus on -- on
- 3 themselves than on the individual. But yeah. There
- 4 might be an individual saying, yeah, I'm a tribal
- 5 member, to avoid tax.
- There might be. But if they, through time,
- 7 somebody says, you know what? That person that been
- 8 coming in here a couple times he say they're a tribal
- 9 member and they're not.
- We have information that they're not a tribal
- 11 member, uh, they came up here to work and then what
- 12 have you. And then they can say, okay.
- 13 I'm sorry but we're going to have to ask you for
- 14 your tribal ID. Well, if they don't produce one then
- 15 say, well, until you do we're going to tax you. They
- 16 do produce the tribal ID, put them on the list or
- 17 whatever, on you memory or whatever it takes.
- 18 Ouit taxing them and then collecting it and
- 19 sending it to the state because you guys owe us a lot
- 20 of money if you keep doing that, you see. So, that
- 21 being said, um, there is a -- a situation of sales
- 22 that are to be done as well, online sales. If a tribal
- 23 member orders it from New Town, North Dakota and they
- 24 do online, and it's delivered and consummated by
- 25 delivery on the reservation to that tribal member,

- that's non-taxable by the state as well. 1 But this vendor who's sending it to them and many 2 3 of those that you see online, that they have a joint 4 agreement on the standard -- a joint agreement that 5 states belong to, they're assessing that tax and 6 they're giving it to you. Again, that tax cannot be 7 collected by if it's made to a tribal member within 8 our boundaries it shouldn't be collected, etc. 9 So, we've got to figure out how to split this 10 online sales tax and that might be one that can help 11 us mature into other taxes. Maybe that's one we 12 address at the next session is how do we, or even 13 before that, how do we -- how do we get a split done 14 on that.
- 15 If I -- if I buy an order of, you know, uh,
- 16 computer online and they deliver it onto the
- 17 reservation and it's consummated by a delivery fee,
- 18 you know, I'm -- they're charging a tax on that. And
- 19 that tax has to either be lawfully split by agreement
- or it can't be applied at all. It has to be exempted.
- 21 So --
- 22 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: That's interesting. I hadn't
- 23 thought about that. Uh, I know Senator Cook was the
- 24 quy that was the main negotiator to -- to get all that
- 25 done.

1	I don't ever remember him visit talking about
2	the the tribes getting money or getting product
3	from, uh, uh, catalog store in another state and
4	CHAIRMAN FOX: Internet internet sales all
5	over the place.
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Internet sales. Uh, so, the
7	streamline sales tax you're not in the agreement in
8	any way.
9	CHAIRMAN FOX: Right. We
10	MALE 1: Other tribes are.
11	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. All right. That's
12	interesting. I never thought of it.
13	CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. So, we need to figure out a
14	way to address that down the line here as well. Two,
15	um, other related items that we've got.
16	We straddle wells, we talked about that. It's
17	going well. Um, I will say this as it did in '19. In
18	'19 we did some things. You saw with the split change.
19	Uh, and Lynn Helms will back me up on this I guarantee
20	you.
21	But I can just tell by driving on a daily basis
22	at home now that we've settled this one of the last
23	remaining major issues on on oil and gas tax
24	between us and you. The activities picked up again, as
25	well, too. I can tell. Uh, the overall production may

- 1 -- may not yet show that yet because the drilling's
- 2 not falling as much as the enhanced production, but it
- 3 will. And I mean we only have three rigs on right now
- 4 currently.
- 5 We need to get back to the days of nine and ten
- 6 and when that does occur and more commitment's made to
- 7 drilling, I know the production -- enhanced production
- 8 is up. But it -- it -- it's a result of us resolving
- 9 that. And the straddle wells lent itself towards a
- 10 number of -- of producers and great.
- 11 We supported it, they sat down with us, we meet
- 12 almost weekly with, uh, our major producers. We've got
- 13 about 10 on the reservation. Uh, and so, when we sit
- 14 down with them, they are all talking about reinvesting
- 15 capital, increasing production, helping them with
- 16 water, getting the fracking done, adhering to our
- 17 regulations, making sure they're compliant.
- 18 And all -- all relates to us on the state and
- 19 tribal level figuring out how to cooperatively move
- 20 together. So, I want to again commend you. Uh, so
- 21 there's no issues right now to really bring up with
- 22 straddle wells.
- We addressed them this summer on -- on ownership
- of the land and how we split that. Uh, and -- and
- 25 we've been able to do that. So, uh, the split in our

- 1 eyes and right now the state should -- should be as
- 2 equitable as we intended it to be when we approved it
- 3 -- approved it at, uh, the legislature.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, Mr. Chairman, I'd just
- 5 like to make one comment then we do appreciate your
- 6 support at -- in keeping the, uh, dapple, the
- 7 pipeline, uh, going and your support to do that.
- 8 CHAIRMAN FOX: Well --
- 9 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: It was huge, not only for you,
- 10 but for the whole state.
- 11 CHAIRMAN FOX: It is and we appreciate that. And
- 12 we -- we've got a common interest there but I want to
- 13 reiterate for the record because often times, you
- 14 know, entities will take it from -- from a different
- 15 perspective.
- 16 What we had to do in that process is we had to
- indicate we -- we stood back for too long, so to
- 18 speak, during the -- during what was occurring on in -
- 19 in a federal court level. And on a -- on a national
- 20 regulatory level as well with the Corps of Engineers.
- 21 What we felt was going on was our voices were not
- 22 being heard.
- We were going to be impacted. And we still may be
- 24 impacted, I understand it's -- it's coming up very
- 25 short time here that on their own, without the -- the

- 1 court, on their own they have to make determinations
- 2 about permits; the Corps does.
- 3 So, so to speak, that's still out there. But what
- 4 we did is we had to shed the truth on the process,
- 5 whether on the regulatory level, on a -- a adjudicated
- 6 level what the impacts were going to be if that
- 7 pipeline was discontinued. And that's simply what we
- 8 did.
- 9 What we don't want to be taking on is
- 10 mischaracterized as being anti-Standing Rock and their
- 11 rights to appeal, to not support, that impact to their
- 12 reservation. We've already been supportive of that.
- 13 You do what you got to do.
- What we've asked in return from the government,
- 15 which I think we got from them, is to respect our
- 16 right, too, and standing up and saying, this is how it
- 17 would be negatively impacted our economy as you see
- 18 [ph] ds on that. Unfortunately that doesn't always go
- 19 for the population of people that are on the
- 20 membership don't agree.
- 21 And -- and -- and we've had our disagreements.
- 22 But for government -- government relationship, you
- 23 know, we respect Standing Rock's right to -- to -- to
- 24 want to say we don't want a pipeline going on or near
- 25 our reservation. And we respected their rights.

1	They they followed the system. And the system
2	itself said, at this point in time, it's not going to
3	change the way you ask it to change. And that's just
4	all there is to it. And I I wanted that understood
5	though. We respect it at all times. So
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Anyone else, uh?
7	CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. A couple more. Um, I'd, uh,
8	when we talked about the motor fuels tax. That is a
9	tax that we historically agreed to to be applied at
10	the retail level only when you go to the pump. So,
11	what happens is you have a bulk fill, you know, have a
12	vendor selling wholesale and he brings down and he
13	generally pays that tax into the state.
14	But when it comes down and that tax is paid
15	and that sale is made at the pump and the consumer
16	pays that tax, you'll see that tax inside there. What
17	we have agreed to do is is when you collect it, you
18	remit it back based on the census number, 70/30,
19	75/25. And we collect that. But that's only at the
20	pump.
21	Only when you occur to pulling up to a
22	concession, uh, to a convenience store. What it
23	doesn't apply to is bulk sales. And prior to energy
24	development we none of us knew what that really
25	was; right? But here's what it is. Vendors on the

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reservation will order and tribal and non-tribal bulk 1 2 sales of fuel because its massive development here. 3 And when that fuel comes in on a train rail, for 4 example, or a depot type area, it will come in on a 5 wholesale bulk level. They will purchase it from them 6 and they will take that tax away. It's not going to 7 the retail pump. And when we brought this detail up in decades --8 9 in session past and with -- with your tax department, 10 they made a big point to say, when we agreed to that -- to do that, it was retail sales only and not these 11 bulk sales coming in onto the reservation and being 12 13 sold on that level. So, we did ask, I believe it was 14 in '17 to have an opportunity. 15 There was some language, I believe, that was 16 approved that would get us to a point where we could 17 agree to include bulk sales along with our retail 18 sales, but we weren't able to accomplish that. It 19 remains an issue. 20 So, when those come in and they're -- they're not 21 -- they're paying a state tax because it's paid off 22 the reservation first before it's brought on. But the 23 tribes get zero for that sale made. 24 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: So, Mr. Chairman, uh, what 25 happens is the state gets that tax and then -- but

there's no tax collected after --1 2 CHAIRMAN FOX: The tax is sent -- sent in and 3 remitted and -- and paid to the state, but it's not 4 apart of the -- the motor fuels. 5 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Because --6 CHAIRMAN FOX: So, it just sits there and you 7 collect 100 and keep 100 percent. 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Because it's collected ahead 9 of time before it's delivered. 10 CHAIRMAN FOX: Right. And so we've got regulatory 11 controls. We got spills that can occur. We got to 12 have, you know, our pipeline authority. We got to have 13 our environmental agencies that we pay for, you know. 14 All these relate to things like that. 15 So, we're impacted. And -- and not only that, but 16 you also have tribal members, some of them are 17 involved, in -- in purchasing bulk fuels as well and 18 they're not paying the tax as well. 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Is that -- is that tax 20 collected then, uh, when they load the rail cars and 21 they remit it? 22 CHAIRMAN FOX: It's -- it's usually paid 23 off to the -- the vendor that's bringing it on a rail car example. And it's usually -- that tax is paid by a 24

25

percentage beforehand, remitted. And then it's brought

- 1 down, they collect it, and they have already paid it
- 2 so to speak. It'd been remitted in. And so it's not
- 3 paid right there at that rail car.
- 4 It's already been pre-paid so to speak. Same way
- 5 with the retail sales. When they retail seller brings
- 6 it on they'll bring a truck down and they'll go into
- 7 the hole and they'll fill them up. But that's already
- 8 been paid by the wholesaler to the state. How they get
- 9 their money back is -- is by the sale. And -- and --
- 10 and it's the same thing.
- 11 Only difference is -- is -- and we were pointed
- 12 out by your tax department is that's your -- our
- 13 agreement is only for retail. If our agreement was
- 14 retail and wholesale, bulk sales, then we would remit
- 15 that to you. And they don't.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Any -- any comments? Any
- 17 questions on, uh, that because --
- 18 CHAIRMAN FOX: So, it would be real easy just
- 19 basically say, retail and bulk wholesales.
- 20 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I, uh, I guess, Mr. Chairman,
- 21 what is your next, uh, is it a -- if we're going into
- 22 gaming we're going to wait on that one because --
- 23 CHAIRMAN FOX: We're -- we're waiting on the
- 24 gaming a little bit. I got maybe about one minute of -
- 25 of -- of -- two minutes of -- of the rest of the,

- 1 uh, items.
- 2 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Let's do that.
- 3 CHAIRMAN FOX: And then we'll leave the gaming
- 4 for the last. Then we'll take a break. And then we can
- 5 come back to it.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Then we'll take a break.
- 7 Everybody needs a break. People don't think very well
- 8 when they sit [inaudible]. So --
- 9 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Here's the next one. Um, one
- 10 of the things that -- that Cynthia and her experience
- in coming over from Montana. Um, she ran -- worked for
- 12 the Montana state tax department and made her come
- over here and work for us and stole her away from
- 14 them. And, um, but she always alludes to the
- 15 experiences that they have between tribes and the
- 16 state and how they do things.
- 17 And one of the things that they do over there is
- 18 they have by action of legislature actually passed
- 19 laws, correct me if I'm wrong, bills and laws that
- 20 established a similar what we have here; state
- 21 relations policy. Not just a committee to sit
- 22 together, but policy. And you -- you -- you reiterate
- 23 what that policy means and what you would do
- 24 government to government.
- So, a government to government policy. And the

1	state of Montana has that specifically with their
2	tribes. And I and and we're we're looking at
3	
4	MS. MONTEAU: Other tribes in Nevada, Washington
5	
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: Other tribes do as well. In
7	Nevada, Washington, they have the same thing. North
8	Dakota doesn't. So, what we're recommending is we look
9	at developing policy that you could then approve and
10	say, between our nations this is not only a committee
11	set up to talk about what we need to do, but here's
12	the policies that we recognize and want to jute
13	jointly, um, provide and enforce together.
14	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. A a little more on
15	that. Could you, uh, so, are you, uh, saying that,
16	like, this particular, uh, committee would be working
17	with you and the other tribes. We would sit down and
18	we would talk about policies?
19	CHAIRMAN FOX: I I think Cynthia can
20	elaborate a little bit more but it just sort of
21	formalizes the fact that you will have, uh, establish
22	policy and not just a forum to discuss. But you would
23	actually establish, uh, uh, recognize that there is a
24	policy in existence between tribal nations and the
25	state. That, uh, have the characteristics to mutually

- 1 decided upon. So, Cynthia [inaudible]
- 2 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. I would like, uh, expand
- 3 a little bit more on how this would work.
- 4 MS. MONTEAU: Uh, thank you, Mr., uh, thank you,
- 5 uh, Mr. Chairman. Cynthia Monteau, MHA Nation. Uh, so,
- 6 one would be basically a statutory requirement that
- 7 the state would -- would essentially be recognizing
- 8 the unique status of tribes within the state and
- 9 recognize all the tribes and formalize a policy in --
- in, um, essence basically creating -- well, the
- 11 federal government is the government to government
- 12 relationship.
- But essentially you would be establishing a
- 14 similar government to government relationship and
- 15 elevating that to a statutory level in terms of we are
- 16 recognizing the tribes in the state. Along with that,
- 17 would be a consultation policy in terms of how we are
- 18 going to consult with the tribes.
- 19 Um, in the -- in -- as Chairman Fox had mentioned
- 20 earlier, we do have language in agreements that we
- 21 have with the state that say, you know, we are going
- 22 to agree, mutually consent, to, um, these actions
- 23 within the agreement. But other issues as they, um, as
- laws, um, for instance our propose at the state
- 25 legislature.

1	How are those communicated to the tribes and how
2	are the tribes brought in to, um, to be able to
3	adequately respond as, um, as those proposed actions
4	may or may not affect them as individuals or as the
5	tribal government, land, resources, and so forth? So,
6	essentially developing a or formalizing rather a
7	policy in which tribes in the state would be
8	consulted.
9	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
10	CHAIRMAN FOX: Basically how we experience that
11	on a federal level, is in a difference from
12	administration administration. But for the longest
13	time now you've had a presidential decree govern
14	government policy on the executive side that has been
15	in existence for for decades now.
16	And and often times sometimes, too, the normal
17	course f federal bureaucracy, some of the agencies
18	kind of lose sight of that sometimes.
19	So, they'll do some things, uh, that that may
20	be inconsistent with for example, consultation,
21	like, here's here's what we're planning to do. We'd
22	like to sit down with you and discuss how it's going
23	to impact you, you know.
24	Uh, like, health, uh, Dave Glatt, you know, Dave
25	Glatt running your Department of Health. Sometimes you
1	

- 1 have different things and waste disposals and things
- 2 like that. Well, you know, or -- or things of that
- 3 nature. I -- I -- he's one that fully understands, I
- 4 have to -- I have to admit that, you know. Um, but,
- 5 um, I'm just, you know, I'm just saying it
- 6 hypothetically.
- If you had an agency that said, well, we're just
- 8 -- we're going to go. We got our permit to put
- 9 something over here. Uh, it's on Fort Berthold, but go
- 10 ahead and approve it and -- and -- and have something
- 11 to occur there. What -- what a policy would do is --
- 12 would -- would remind all your sub-agencies and
- 13 everybody else that pursuant to a policy agreement you
- 14 have in place, you got to sit down with them and you
- 15 got talk a little bit of what's going on.
- 16 And -- and -- and measure the impacts and get
- 17 agreements if they're necessary. And things of that
- 18 nature and -- and -- and moving forward. I see that as
- 19 -- as something positive to do as well. And -- and
- 20 it's something that the legislature, I think, uh,
- 21 should strongly consider working with us to establish
- 22 it.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. You're talking about
- 24 communications. Uh, that's really what you're talking
- 25 about.

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Essentially.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Okay.
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: So, other than that is there
4	anything else I'm missing [inaudible] I got the online
5	one.
6	MS. MONTEAU: Um, other than gaming, I guess
7	[inaudible]
8	CHAIRMAN FOX: Just the gaming that will hold
9	after lunch.
10	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. What okay. And then
11	what do you have planned for us at lunch? Do we break
12	for lunch [inaudible]
13	CHAIRMAN FOX: Do we have food; don't we?
14	MS. OVERLIE: It's coming. Yeah.
15	CHAIRMAN FOX: What's that?
16	MS. OVERLIE: It's coming.
17	CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, we, uh
19	MS. OVERLIE: [inaudible] we had a working lunch
20	[inaudible] but it's up to you guys.
21	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. It said working
22	CHAIRMAN FOX: So, it's going to be brought in
23	sooner otherwise I I hate to break and then not
24	make hay of this time while it's being set up. But if
25	you want to, it's up to you. Want to break, then take

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a little break and then wait for it? How soon, Lovell? 1 2 Is it scheduled for right at noon? 3 MS. OVERLIE: [inaudible] 4 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. 5 [inaudible] be here at noon MS. OVERLIE: 6 [inaudible] 7 CHAIRMAN FOX: Hurry up. We're going to throw you 8 under the bus pretty soon. We're hungry. 9 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: All right. We're going to --10 we're going to take a break. We'll take a -- what? --11 one hour break? Uh, does that -- and, uh --CHAIRMAN FOX: Come back at one o'clock? 12 13 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. We'll come back at 1:00 14 o'clock. 15 I -- I would strongly, uh, I would CHAIRMAN FOX: 16 strongly encourage this, even while we're waiting for 17 the food set up, to go and, if you've got time, go use 18 the restroom, make a call, but to -- to go through on 19 a tour -- a quick tour as well. Walk through. 20 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Very good. We will. Thank you 21 for that. 22 CHAIRMAN FOX: Great. 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: All right. We're in a recess 24 until 1:00 o'clock. 25 [recess]

1	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: to order, and we're going
2	to turn it right over to Chairman Fox to continue on.
3	CHAIRMAN FOX: And with that I appreciate that
4	Mr. Chairman, senator Wardner. [Inaudible]. I hope you
5	all join the mill you take, uh
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. I'll get my mi mic
7	on. We get great, um, pleasure out of our guests and
8	visitors coming and not only seeing our facility and
9	our history and what we have to offer, but also our
10	food. We've got a lot of pride in that. And they do an
11	awesome job and as you see, you know, we have here,
12	you know, um, uh, the the the corn and beans
13	soup, you know, be that that was one of our
14	staples, you know.
15	I always brag about how we're the first we
16	were the first farmers of the state, you know, first
17	agriculturists. And we did, we were raised corn,
18	beans, squash, watermelon, all things. And not just
19	small little gardens that we have like I got at my
20	house right now. Right.
21	Um, not small gardening. There are major major
22	plots of land and major development. That's how the
23	MHA Nation and they were really divided at that time
24	there Hidatsa, Mandan, and Arikarain the beginnings.
25	Um, but along the Missouri River, we were what

- 1 they call Aboriginal trade centers. And you had seen
- 2 one of the displays if you walked by it and had enough
- 3 time, it shows the Aboriginal trade system in North
- 4 America. And we were one of two of the primary ones,
- 5 meaning the, uh, interaction of a lot of people, a lot
- 6 of different tribes.
- 7 So as they have on display, there's -- there's
- 8 seashells from the west coast, there's things from
- 9 Hudson Bay, there's things from Mexico that they found
- 10 in our villages on our old villages, archeologists
- 11 that demonstrate that inner tribal trade system,
- 12 meaning they -- they brought those things all this way
- 13 up as well, too. So I'm very proud of it.
- MS. MONTEAU: Mr. Chairman, I have another
- 15 meeting obligation, so I just wanted to thank -- I --
- 16 I have another meeting obligation. I have another
- 17 meeting obligation, so I'm just, uh, going to make
- 18 sure that I attend that one.
- 19 And, um, I want to thank you all Senator Warden
- 20 and the committee members for coming to MHA and
- 21 working out and trying to partner and do joint
- 22 activities together in -- in -- for the people.
- 23 Because as Senator Warden said earlier today, it's all
- 24 about improving the life of our people.
- 25 So I want to thank you for coming up and -- and

- 1 look forward to working with you, uh, more on these
- 2 issues. So thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Thank you, Monica. I
- 4 appreciate that.
- 5 CHAIRMAN FOX: And Mr. Chairman, thank you for
- 6 the lunch it was -- it was delicious.
- 7 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Great. Great. Glad you got to
- 8 eat -- eat some of it. Like I said, um, uh, relates to
- 9 our history and very proud to offer it. They also have
- 10 like squash and other things as well. Um, but, um,
- 11 that's really important to us. Aboriginal Trade
- 12 Centers are what we used to be in establishing North
- 13 Dakota long before United States or European, uh,
- 14 European countries or other countries as well come --
- 15 came to, uh, America.
- And so, you know, we -- we are doing our best to
- 17 return to that. That's one of the goals of mine
- 18 administratively as chairman is how do we regain the
- 19 economy we used to have? Oil and gas is a given we
- 20 know that, but we want to return to our agricultural
- 21 roots as well with -- with, uh, you know, with, uh,
- 22 domesticated cattle and growing crops. And -- and we -
- 23 we plan to do that, uh, very aggressively in the
- 24 future. Okay.
- 25 So the -- the subject matter at hand that we've

- got now that we want to focus on in the time remaining 1 2
- that we have is to talk about the gaming and the
- 3 gaming impacts. Cynthia herself had another meeting
- 4 herself, had to go back, jump in her car and head back
- 5 to Bismarck. So she wrote a number of notes. And I'm -
- 6 - I'm glad to share these with you because this is
- 7 kind of what we're faced with, as I explained earlier
- 8 this morning.
- 9 But, uh, gross proceeds per quarter of \$321 in--
- 10 - indicated, uh, this is the gross proceeds, not --
- 11 not the net, but the gross of \$377 million. Uh, the
- 12 next quarter from -- at \$621, \$418 million, that's an
- 13 increase obviously.
- 14 The gross -- the gross, uh, proceeds of all
- 15 gaming from 2019 and 2021 estimated, although we get
- 16 these directly from the state AGs office in particular
- 17 and others, um, is a 1.880. So just under \$1.9 billion
- 18 in revenue.
- Billion -- and that's from 2019 to 2021. And that 19
- 20 continued to increase. The devices in, uh, in March
- 21 were, uh, 3,330. The devices after your legislature
- 22 ended in -- in 630 has now increased to 3,684.
- 23 That's an increase of 354 new machines out there
- as well and that number continues to rise. We were 24
- 25 looking and she might text me to see if we can get the

- 1 updates from June to August or soon to be September
- 2 here.
- But I have not yet rec- -- oh, oh, I lied here.
- 4 You have the [inaudible], um, oh but she didn't update
- 5 that number on new machines. So I'm going to guess
- 6 that it won't be very long you'll be at 4,000 machines
- 7 operating, uh, you know, on our -- on the, uh, the
- 8 pole tabs. So electronic pole tab machines.
- 9 Organization wise, you have 269 as of March 1.
- 10 Now charitable organizations that have gaming license
- 11 is now up to 320, that's a gain of 51 new charities
- 12 coming onboard. Sites, you went from 655 to now 695 so
- 13 nearly 700.
- 14 Again, a gain of about 40 all increasing. Um,
- 15 some of the things that, uh, needs to be understood as
- 16 well is the -- there are six in here. She just sent
- 17 the message, six manufacturers, uh, of gaming devices,
- 18 primarily six of them, one of those, um, and I
- 19 understand it and in case, you have the guestion to
- 20 it. Um, it looks like Grover Gaming. And it's a six --
- 21 six right now, but a seven is very close to being
- 22 licensed.
- 23 Manufacturers are as follows [inaudible] Diamond
- 24 Games, Grover Charitable Gaming Technology, G2, uh,
- 25 Powerhouse, and a new one is called Pilot Games out of

- 1 Minnesota. But one of those represents 60 percent of
- 2 all your devices one manufacturer, 60 percent, uh,
- 3 that's a dominating figure in our world.
- 4 And we deal a lot with machines because we run
- 5 gaming. And to have 60 percent of, uh, of a market
- 6 share is -- is a huge number, huge -- huge number. The
- 7 charitables gross proceeds from 321 to 1221, which of
- 8 course we're not there yet.
- 9 Um, but and is soon to be six to nine months that
- 10 so far NDAD is the leader at about 10.7 million. Um,
- 11 share house I think it's called Inc 8.2. American
- 12 Foundation for Wildlife 8.75. So one over 10 and
- 13 almost 11 million of the others. 8.3 and 8.- -- 8.8.
- 14 And uh, those are just three examples of three
- 15 charities, uh, from three 1221, uh, to present. Um,
- 16 those are really staggering numbers and -- and you
- 17 heard me earlier say there's an impact.
- And as I was explaining to one of our guests this
- 19 morning, I wish we lived in a major area in which
- 20 there was darn near an unlimited, um, population that
- 21 had disposable income for gaming, but we don't. There
- 22 are limited people in this radius or in the state
- 23 area. We do have some visitors, you know, some
- 24 tourism, but it's limited.
- 25 So you take that times the average income of each

- 1 person that lives in the state, you multiply that out
- 2 and you get a gross figure.
- 3 And of that gross figure what percentage of that
- 4 economically is what we call income disposed to
- 5 gambling, income disposed to playing games and that's
- 6 limited. And that's -- that's a number that I know
- 7 you're studying. I know you need to study just like we
- 8 are studying heavily.
- 9 But that's -- that's not, uh, an unlimited
- 10 number. That's a limited number. And so the point in
- 11 raising this is that because that number, once it's
- 12 reached the total available dollars that can be spent
- on gaming logistically, economically, uh, once that is
- 14 peaked, if one goes up, then somebody's got to go down
- 15 and that's what's happened to us.
- 16 Uh, we, you know, unless you got an influx of a
- 17 new million people into the state and we're not going
- 18 to get that, um, there's no way for us to continue to
- 19 slice up the pie and all grow.
- 20 More one grows the less the others. And today the
- 21 less the others is our tribes. Our incomes are
- 22 beginning to go down. Our -- our revenues are going
- down. None of our tribes are positioned like, uh,
- 24 like, uh, Shakopee is down at Mystic where you got a
- 25 million people, 20, 30 minutes away. I wish we were --

- 1 we're not. They do very well.
- 2 They only have less than a thousand adult
- 3 members. We have 17,000 by ourselves and -- and our
- 4 revenue is nowhere close to that.
- 5 All four tribes put together now, based upon
- 6 what's happened both with the pandemic and with ETAB,
- 7 you know, we're -- we're talking less than \$100
- 8 million in -- in gaming revenue between all five
- 9 tribes.
- 10 Now with \$1.8 billion being a gross revenue and
- 11 then even the net revenue as being \$300 to \$400
- 12 million --
- 13 CHAIRMAN FOX: Is that an annual number that?
- 14 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes.
- 15 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay.
- 16 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: That would be an annual
- 17 number. And -- and so a- -- any increments are going
- 18 up on the billions of dollars being gamed over here,
- 19 gross revenue has got to come from somewhere and --
- 20 and unfortunately it's coming from us.
- 21 CHAIRMAN FOX: So a person who says, you know
- 22 what? I like to go down to Four Bears and I live in
- 23 Minot, North Dakota. They're more apt now to say well,
- 24 I can go right down here to this local bar.
- 25 And I, you know, I don't remember the local bar's

- 1 name used to be Blind Duck, but I don't think that's
- 2 that anymore. And but the names up there, but they now
- 3 can -- if they just want to play slot machines a- --
- 4 and not worried about any of the other things we have
- 5 to offer, they can go there.
- 6 And a lot of people are doing that. And -- and --
- 7 and -- and -- and this is never -- the -- the concerns
- 8 we raise have nothing to do with being in opposition
- 9 to the charities and nothing at all. You know, we've
- 10 been doing -- that's why under IGRA, we do charitable
- 11 -- charitable and -- and -- and government related
- 12 things --- programs for our people to help change our
- 13 [inaudible] that's why IGRA was established in -- in
- 14 1988, Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
- 15 And it allowed for casinos to begin because there
- 16 was no other economic engine to give jobs and revenue
- 17 to start doing other things for tribes. Some tribes
- 18 very well, some tribes not. There are still hundreds
- 19 of tribes that don't have any gaming at all and -- and
- 20 haven't had gaming for 25 years. Um, that- -- that's
- 21 kind of the plight where we're at right now.
- 22 So I'm explaining the overall picture that, uh, I
- 23 understand fully in our discussions and committee and
- 24 sidebars and everything else. This is the state's
- 25 right to game. State has a right to expand or limit

- its gaming at any given time. 1 2 A lot of states are expanding that seems to be the trend in America today. Online gaming is taking 3 4 off, but what behooves you today might severely 5 undermine you in the future. And you got to remember 6 that. 7 I truly believe that of everything and I'm going 8 to bring up this point in raising this is, um, I 9 believe there's going to be a saturation with or 10 without the tribes being in -- considered here on 11 what's going on with ETAB machines in the state. 12 There's limited income out there. And if you get 13 a saturation point and only five or six charities 14 control 80 percent to 90 percent of that, that's a lot 15 of other charities organizations, 320 of them as of
- 16 621, that will be wondering how we got to this point
- where they're not making any more money than what they
- 18 started with.
- 19 And the majority of that revenue, 80 percent of
- 20 it it's only going to six of those 320. They're going
- 21 to want answers from you. They're going to want
- 22 conditions from you. They're going to want to figure
- 23 out ways to -- to push that and make it more equitable
- 24 to them or to limit what the others do. And we're --
- 25 we -- we raise these issues during the session and we

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-- we saw them as coming. Yes. 1 2 It would behoove us if you did limit the number 3 of licenses a charity can have, you limit the number 4 of devices at those sites you could have. We've asked 5 for those things to be in place. Um, we've also asked 6 and we want you to strongly consider the definition of 7 bar. Um, that's really a key issue as well. 8 Here's why, uh, and we all know all about 9 definitions and Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Our 10 tribal state compact, everything that we got to do is 11 regulation. We got -- we're eight -- eight entities 12 regulating our Indian gaming here. 13 Right, if anybody's overregulated in America, 14 it's Indian gaming. And -- and so, but definitions is 15 what rules the day in -- in your establishment and 16 your core documents and -- and that's what we're 17 talking about in your century code and what's 18 applicable. The definition of bar is pretty broad. 19 And what we're seeing here more and more so where 20 you're tempted to limit it to an audience of 21 and 21 over in the beginning with bars being their primary 22 business today simply because they sell a six pack of -- of twisted tea over here, now you've got convenient 23 stores who are now bars, they're selling alcohol. 24

25

You've got restaurants and -- and maybe that's only 10

1	percent or 5 percent of their income selling that as										
2	well.										
3	Um, that expansion is is created these sites										
4	seven near 700 sites today. That also has an										
5	incentive, uh, of of charities that are now hogging										
6	the market so to speak, to go out and start acquiring										
7	properties, uh, commercially. And you know, that's										
8	going on, that's not fictitious and we're not making										
9	that up.										
10	You have certain charities buying properties so										
11	the very fact that they could put machines in there										
12	because of the dollars that they make more than the										
13	business itself. So these are some of the things that										
14	we're we're beginning to contend with and have										
15	have contended with as well. Uh, we we wanted to										
16	see maybe some limitation.										
17	I'm all about trying to limit limit the										
18	numbers per charity. And and even if we can't do it										
19	for the tribe's purposes of trying to salvage their										
20	jobs that remain for the next decade, um, I know that										
21	your other 314, 15, or soon to be 350, by that time,										
22	other charities are going to say we got a problem with										
23	us not being able to make money on our charity and										
24	what we're trying to do because the Mandan market is										
25	saturated.										

1	So these are some of the things I wanted to									
2	raise. Um, I think maybe, you know, I can go on and on									
3	and I won't, because maybe I'm better positioned to									
4	answer questions that you might have chairman or									
5	others might have about operating and what it means									
6	for gaming and things of that nature and I'll be glad									
7	to do that.									
8	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Does anyone on the									
9	committee have any questions or probably, uh, some of									
10	you have some comments or statements you want to make									
11	about the the gaming in, uh, North Dakota? Hey, I									
12	think it kind of got away from us. I don't think									
13	that's what we intended in the beginning.									
14	But so, uh, there are some of us that would like									
15	to cut it back, but it's the horse is kind of out									
16	of the barn so we got a we have a real, uh, issue									
17	on our hands, on how to deal with it. Uh,									
18	Representative Boschee.									
19	MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Chairman									
20	Fox, um, I appreciate everything you shared about, um,									
21	the impacts of the Indian gaming as we've and the									
22	charitable gaming. I think the tough part, especially									
23	with this last session in the previous two sessions as									
24	we've talked about gaming there's a number of us									
25	legislators that I think support all forms of gaming.									
1										

1	You know, we see it as a personal choice. People
2	can spend their money, how they want. Hopefully, it
3	benefits different communities or or services
4	provided by different groups. The exhaustion we feel
5	and I can only imagine the exhaustion you and your,
6	um, gaming staff feel is we feel like we're always
7	refereeing them. The legislature ends up being a
8	referee around this.
9	But, you know, basically Indian gaming and
10	charitable gaming on the two sides. Have there been
11	any conversations with charitable gaming or is there
12	an opportunity that you see that in this interim,
13	there could be some sort of real good conversation
14	with charitable gaming from Indian gaming to find
15	progress that we can have a
16	CHAIRMAN FOX: We've had some outreach
17	MR. BOSCHEE: yeah.
18	CHAIRMAN FOX: and some some minor
19	conversations with them. And we are willing through
20	the United Tribes Gaming Association to sit down and
21	see if some of these charities would be, you know,
22	could look down the road a little bit further, like
23	I'm trying to do. And if they're willing to make some
24	concessions or some compromises towards that expansion
25	to take all things into into effect, I mean, we're

1	we're open to that discussion we really are.
2	We're not trying to hurt charitable purposes, y
3	gosh, you know. We we do a we do a ice warrior
4	plunge. Now we didn't do it last year because of the
5	pandemic this past year in 2021. But we did it for,
6	you know, five years previous. And and uh, I
7	that's not the first time I jumped in water. The first
8	time I jumped in water I mean, other than being a
9	crazy kid, uh, first time I jumped in ice water to
10	raise money for a purpose was down in Jamestown.
11	I did I did a polar plunge in down in
12	Jamestown and I remember the AG was there, uh, and
13	[inaudible] and others were there and jumping as
14	well. But, uh, I raised more individually than any
15	person at all for special Olympics. And I went down
16	and I I jumped in into the the cold water for my
17	first formal polar plunge, you know. And uh, so from
18	my my own perspective, I support charities, I
19	support what they can do.
20	But that's in my opinion, this is just my
21	opinion. You have something that has grown beyond I
22	believe control that is no longer primarily charitable
23	gaming. You now have commercial gaming. And I say that
24	because the majority of revenue does not stay with the
25	charity. The majority of revenue leaves. You now have
1	

1	commercial gaming.									
2	We asked during the session to put conditions on,									
3	if we do class 2 gaming under IGRA, which we can do									
4	and have ETAB machines, similar machines and we ran									
5	those here. One of the federal provisions we have to									
6	adhere to under the National Indian Gaming Commission									
7	in IGRA is that 60 percent of the net revenue base has									
8	to be revenue. If you operate class 2 gaming, same									
9	ETAB machines has to be revenue to the tribe. Has to									
10	be.									
11	Anything less it's unlawful they won't allow you									
12	to conduct it. So that says that the majority of the									
13	revenue must be revenue gaming revenue to the									
14	tribe. You guys don't have that. We beg for bases,									
15	meaning get as many machines as you're going to do									
16	what you're doing now anyway. Sites are unlimited.									
17	The the licenses are unlimited, uh, le									
18	least demand that when these these organizations									
19	these manufacturers and people come in come in to									
20	run those for charities, that the charities are the									
21	ones that are winning at the end of the day. The									
22	charities are making 60 percent, 70 percent of that									
23	revenue. And they're using it for purposes out to the									
24	people, out to the kids, out to whatever they're									
25	trying to do.									

1	But when, uh, and you'll learn this lesson too,									
2	leasing machines is bad business we know that here at									
3	Four Bears. You're smarter to buy your machines, it									
4	costs less over time. Yeah. You got maintenance and									
5	you got things of that issue but when you lease									
6	machines that cap is way up here.									
7	The cost and the and the net									
8	revenue on a purchase machine is far greater than the									
9	least one, nearly almost all your machines and E									
10	and ETAB out there under charities are lease machines.									
11	That's why your revenue's leaving it's going									
12	away. And and and if you said to the state said,									
13	charities must be in receipt of 60 or 70, whatever									
14	number you choose 60, two thirds of the revenue must									
15	be revenue to the charities to use for their purposes									
16	that causes that manufacturer to reconsider how they									
17	come in and conduct business and not let their less									
18	apt to just throw machines around and get that revenue									
19	just rolling on a higher level.									
20	They're more apt to sit down and strategize with									
21	the owners with the with the charities and say,									
22	okay, you know, we don't have a free open opportunity									
23	we we have to learn to limit that in how we charge									
24	and what we do. I'm not saying that's going to save									
25	Indian gaming. It came to a point that a legislature,									

- 1 I'll be honest with you and yourselves I said it,
- 2 executive branch I said it, if you guys are going to
- 3 do anything with gaming, limiting charities, just
- 4 leave the tribes out of it.
- 5 Because the moment you put tribes in there as
- 6 being opposed to it or wanting this or that, it seems
- 7 like everything went back against us. And so I was
- 8 saying, if you're going to do something to limit the
- 9 charities, limit charitable gaming under ETAB
- 10 machines, do it for your reasons, not the tribes.
- 11 Because that's how I felt by the end by -- by -- by
- 12 the time April rolled around and -- and -- and we were
- 13 -- we were suffering the consequences.
- 14 Like when we advocated something, it's like,
- 15 there'd be that many more people pushing back against
- 16 us because it's the tribes asking for it. It's like
- 17 we're being penalized. And so I began to say, just do
- 18 this on your own, [inaudible] that.
- 19 Know where you're heading yourselves and if you
- 20 make these changes and limitations and we happen to
- 21 benefit down the long -- long -- long line and down
- 22 the road and -- and -- and save some jobs for our
- 23 people then great.
- I already told you, we went from 450 jobs down
- 25 to, during the pandemic we went down to 160 when we

1	reopened, after being shut down for nearly two months,									
2	we went back up to 169 I believe it was.									
3	And we have never gone anymore for the summer									
4	because we have a waterpark and a few other things, we									
5	just barely went over 200. So you take that and now									
6	we're going back collapsing those jobs, waterparks									
7	shut down going to be shut down, everything else.									
8	We're going to go into fall season. We just took									
9	two losses in three months. Summertime is when we make									
10	money at our casino and two out of our three summer									
11	months, we took we're in a rut, we lost money.									
12	This MHA Nation has the ability to take other									
13	energy resources and throw it out that to try to									
14	enhance it and we lost twice. This is the trend that									
15	we're heading towards. And and so we're trying to									
16	hang on to those jobs. What does that mean for the									
17	state? If we hang on to 450 jobs at that casino, guess									
18	where they shop, like I said this morning, every									
19	casino worker on average spends more money in Minot,									
20	Bismarck, Watford City, Williston, everywhere.									
21	State benefits [inaudible] those jobs mean. So									
22	gain over here and charitables means a loss to the									
23	tribes, but also means a loss to you that has to be									
24	equated and studied as well. You've got vendors who									
25	pay taxes to the state that that are vendors for									
1										

- 1 the tribes that as the business drops, they lose
- 2 business and they were paying you taxes. They- --
- 3 they're not the vendors who were picked up under ETAB.
- 4 They're now out of business, they're non-tribal,
- 5 we have non-tribal employees. Some of the casinos like
- 6 -- like, uh, Dakota Magic and others, theirs is way
- 7 higher non-tribal. Um, ours, I think we're right
- 8 around 30 percent of our workers are non-tribal. This
- 9 closes down we lose those jobs and we lost 200 and
- 10 some of them already, they -- they were laid off and
- 11 hopefully they get another job, but they're not paying
- 12 you state income taxes either or any other taxes for
- 13 that matter.
- 14 So what I'm getting at people made it almost like
- 15 an Indian and a non-Indian issue it's an economic
- 16 issue. And a gain over here, meant a loss for tribes
- 17 over here, but it means also a loss for the state over
- 18 on this side in that equation as well.
- And I don't know if you've made up with that with
- 20 new regulatory charges or not -- fees, but you've lost
- 21 over here with us as well. And that's kind of what I'm
- 22 trying to share with everybody.
- 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
- 24 CHAIRMAN FOX: Senator Oehlke.
- 25 MR. OEHLKE: Uh, Mr. Chairman. I -- I, you know,

- a statement was made earlier that, uh, that there was 1 2 a will out there for, you know, if people want to 3 gamble, they can gamble. Um, and I- -- I'm in the 4 insurance business. 5 And I -- so when I sell a business, an insurance 6 policy, I always include fidelity coverage in case a 7 buddy absconds with their money. And here's what's --8 what's happened and I've handled three similar claims 9 in the last year and a half. 10 Somebody in the family gets the habit, could be 11 on a pull tab machine, it could be at a -- at a local 12 casino in the -- at Spirit Lake it's not very far 13 away. And -- and they start losing, but they're so 14 afraid to ask for help from anyone, whether it's a family member or -- or a counselor, or, you know, a 15 16 friend that they start stealing from their employer. 17 And it doesn't get caught because typically this person that's doing this is in a very responsible 18
- position handling money in the business. And before 19
- 20 the loss is finally discovered, it's well over
- 21 \$100,000, in some case is \$200,000.
- 22 And it doesn't get noticed till there's, you
- 23 know, something weird happens a bank in one case, uh,
- the local bank called and said, you know, there's 24
- 25 something kind of weird about your last deposit that

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came in and we just think it's funny. 1 2 You'll want to check on it. Then they did an 3 audit. This was a trusted employee that had worked for 4 them for over 20 years. She probably in this case, it 5 happened to be a lady it's not always a lady. But her 6 spouse had died about five years before, she started gambling a little bit, probably just the social thing. 7 And one thing led to another and it was way over 8 9 \$100,000. And how much insurance coverage does the 10 business have? Not that much. 11 You want to know why? Well, no, we're --12 everybody here we love everybody though \$25,000 as 13 coverage is enough. Well, it's not. And when it's 14 pointed out to even a client that, you know, maybe you should get more coverage than this. No. In one case, 15 16 the person that was stealing was also the person in 17 charge of renewing the insurance every year. 18 So when you renew the policy with them and you say, okay, well, here's the fidelity coverage in case 19 20 you have employee theft, you know, how -- is this 21 adequate coverage? Oh yeah. That's enough. 22 Well, they were the one that was dipping into it 23 with the idea they would never get caught. And it doesn't start out that way they get in trouble 24 25 gambling and then they think, well, I'll just take 50

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bucks and I'll win it back and I'll pay the boss back. 1 2 And then that 50 is gone and now they got to buy 3 groceries. And one thing leads to another and it just \$50, \$100, \$150 at a time. And after a period of X 4 5 number of months, or sometimes years, it adds up to 6 lots of money. So to say that you're only hurting that person, that's not true. 7 8 You're hurting many people, not just and think 9 about the family when it finally -- when the law 10 finally knocks at the door and puts the cuffs on a person and takes them to jail how does that affect 11 12 that family? And how does that affect the community 13 and all the friends that they have? We were -- we were 14 advised not, you know, not just by people from Indian 15 Gaming. 16 We were advised by people that sell these pull 17 tab machines and there was a -- there was a lobby out 18 there that's said this type of machine and this 19 electronic horse racing crap is a joke. It is going to 20 hurt people. 21 But for some reason, a majority of us did not 22 have the will to stand up. And when you know what's 23 wrong -- and I'll bet as I'm talking right now, 90 percent of us in this room know somebody that got into 24 25 trouble this way.

1	And they weren't kids, probably they were adults								
2	that should know better. And I could tell some stories								
3	about kids getting loose and wild with a credit card								
4	and gambling too, but I don't need to do that. Mr.								
5	Chairman, we we have a real problem here. We have a								
6	real problem. We need to do some backtracking; we need								
7	to limit these crazy pull tab machines.								
8	One of the people in my office this last weekend								
9	getting together with a group and they, you know,								
10	pooled their money and were playing pull tabs. And								
11	and when they wanted to get out, the others are like,								
12	oh no, come on you can't do that. We got to keep it								
13	rolling, we're winning. Well, not me I'm not putting								
14	any more money in and I want out.								
15	And the next time it rolled was gone. That's what								
16	happens people they can't stop. Addiction. Addiction.								
17	So you will never catch me voting in favor of								
18	gambling. My son is opening a craft brewery in Devils								
19	Lake. He's not going to have pull tab machines in								
20	there. He's not going to have any kind of machine in								
21	there that that people can lose money on.								
22	If they want to put quarters in a shuffle board								
23	or a or a pool table, I'm all for that and so is								
24	he. If they want to pay mon a little bit of money								
25	to throw an axe, knock yourself out, but he's not fans								

	<u> </u>									
1	of gambling. And there's a damn good reason why we see									
2	it happening too often. I'm all done now.									
3	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you.									
4	CHAIRMAN FOX: M Mr. Chairman, can I, uh									
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yes.									
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: Really great points that were									
7	raised. And if I could add in a little bit what the									
8	Senator Oehlke has has talked about.									
9	Um, especially the history, what he just talked									
10	about in North Dakota and I had the privilege of being									
11	involved with Indian Gaming since the beginning of the									
12	compacts and the North Dakota in the Game Association									
13	and the first chairman, the Great Plains in the Game									
14	Association and the first chairman.									
15	Kurt Luger, a director, etc. We worked on a									
16	number of initiatives at that time, uh, measure two,									
17	measure five, statewide measures that went out, that									
18	the people voted and said, we're going to limit get									
19	aiming, we're going to turn down expansion. And you									
20	remember these things and as do many of you around the									
21	table.									
22	In those days, uh, gaming, even for tribes, like									
23	I said earlier, the United States government was never									
24	willing to put the capital and the dollars behind true									
25	economic development.									

1	All the United States in their infinite wisdom									
2	decided to do was to say we'll open up gaming then to									
3	tribes in 1988, knowing that we had some sovereign									
4	authority to conduct them anyway. They brought the									
5	state in, say get a compact. Let let the let the									
6	gamblers let the gaming people help fund the									
7	tribes.									
8	And now they won't be coming to the federal									
9	government to try to get economic development. And									
10	that was the whole reason of doing that. And they									
11	they allowed the state to come in on that. So what I'm									
12	talking to right now is that North Dakota has changed									
13	a lot of the mentality.									
14	This is one of the times that I feared the most									
15	going back to the 90s, because those votes were taken									
16	and the people and that used to be [inaudible] was									
17	a a strong factor behind that the non-expansionist									
18	of gaming was very strong.									
19	And there was a good following into that. And									
20	then you had, believe it or not, and some of you who									
21	are younger may not believe this, the charities who									
22	said, don't expand gaming. Because if you expand state									
23	sponsored gaming and open up commercial gaming in the									
24	state, we won't make any money at the charities and									
25	they were content with where they're at. You had an									

1	alliance of three entities coming together.									
2	You had the charities, you had tribes and you had									
3	the non-expansionist in the state who said, we don't									
4	want gaming to explode. We don't want to become									
5	Nevada. We want to be North Dakota to remain North									
6	Dakota. And if there's going to be gaming, it'll be on									
7	Indian reservations where they need the money and it's									
8	not going to be out in Bismarck or anywhere else.									
9	With the three entities involved twice, we									
10	defeated measures and we kept it where it was. But									
11	I'll tell you what, my biggest fear I had all that									
12	time, even during that time is what if North Dakota									
13	ever changes?									
14	What if their attitude towards gaming changes?									
15	And with the advent of internet, I believe that's what									
16	really has opened the door, exposure to gaming on many									
17	different levels the ability to get on a [inaudible]									
18	flight for less than \$100 and fly to Vegas and turn									
19	around for less than \$100 back.									
20	All these things have combined for the perfect									
21	storm for more acceptability of gaming explosion. So									
22	that day has arrived and and there is more									
23	expansion of gaming. The only really thing is how can									
24	we control the flood? How can how can we minimize									
25	that for a number of purposes? And we're hoping that									

- 1 the tribes will be one of those.
- Now there's two other really important points he
- 3 -- that Senator, okay, uh, touched on addiction and
- 4 theft. Addiction and we -- we see it and we recognize
- 5 that problem, we funded programs in the past.
- 6 You know, Luther and social services beginning
- 7 others we would give revenue [ph]. We didn't put as
- 8 much of the other tribes because they were stationed
- 9 in Bismarck and 80 percent of what they did for other
- 10 -- for the tribes were at Standing Rock.
- 11 So the other tribes kind of said, well, we're
- 12 helping to fund this equally, but all their services
- 13 are going towards just an addiction in just one
- 14 locale. So we kind of backed off a little bit of that,
- but we've always been willing to address that problem
- 16 we do it on our own level. Theft. You mentioned about
- 17 theft. You know, it isn't just gaming.
- 18 It can be anything in which a large is
- 19 circulating around and there's a lot of temptation.
- 20 Theft can occur. But I'll tell you where your thefts
- 21 going to occur more often than not. Under Indian
- 22 gaming, we have what's called a federal mix, minimum
- 23 internal control standards. You have to have these in
- 24 place.
- 25 And you -- if you do not, you do not operate.

- 1 There's a national Indian gaming commission that
- 2 requires this amongst all other things that they have
- 3 to do as well. And it- -- it's called regulatory
- 4 control. I mentioned earlier, we are the most
- 5 regulated entity in a United States, six, seven
- 6 entities, regulators. We've got the state. We've got
- 7 BIA. We've got MIGC. We've got IRS. We got -- I can go
- 8 all down the line.
- 9 Uh, all these entities that have their hands over
- 10 Indian gaming say, show us your data, show us your
- 11 testing, show us the results, show us the reports, all
- 12 these things all the time. I'm not saying theft
- 13 doesn't occur, it does.
- No matter how much mix you put into place, you're
- 15 going to get some degree of that when that much
- 16 money's circulating and -- and it happens.
- 17 And -- and -- and to the senator's point as well,
- 18 you know, when we catch them the most, and we do catch
- 19 them? It's collusion. And an individual gets access,
- 20 and you're trying to -- to design your mix so that
- 21 individuals don't have sole access, but when they do,
- 22 that's how they get away the money. So you design your
- 23 mix and your controls so that there -- it would take
- 24 collusion.
- 25 You have oversight, one watching this one, this

1	guy's	watching	this	one,	this	one	signs	off	on	all

- 2 three of them. And somebody signs off on his. These
- 3 are minimum turns to control status. You don't have
- 4 those that -- like we have them at the tribal level.
- 5 When we catch somebody and they're stealing over here,
- 6 it's usually because there's two or three of them
- 7 together in collusion and somebody eventually gets mad
- 8 and says, I'm turning you in and h- -- here's what
- 9 they've been doing.
- 10 That's usually when we catch them and that
- 11 requires collusion. Otherwise they keep it secret.
- 12 It's hard to catch. And you've got the same problem
- 13 times 10. Because your minimum internal control
- 14 standards are not the same as ours.
- There's another area in which you have, uh, a
- 16 really difficult time and that's federal compliance,
- 17 Title 31. Title 31 requires certain requirements it's
- 18 under what we call the Bank Secrecy Act, BCA -- BSA.
- 19 The Bank Secrecy Act requires certain things.
- 20 Bank Secrecy Act was created for two main reasons to
- 21 stop tax evasion and -- and laundering of money. We're
- 22 trying to stop and I know all these things I used to
- 23 be the gaming director for the tribe here. All right?
- So you're trying to keep people from -- drug
- 25 people from coming in with \$50,000, they just sold in

- 1 drugs locally to come in and wash their money by
- 2 playing a game, printed out a -- a receipt now of a
- 3 sudden when they say -- and -- and if FBI investigates
- 4 them.
- 5 Where did you get all that money? Oh, I went to
- 6 the casino, I won it. I won on a table. I won on the
- 7 machine. That's how you wash your money. It's not
- 8 legitimized. They may have to pay taxes on that
- 9 eventually, but it's not coming from an illegal source
- 10 because they laundered it. They washed it. That goes
- on all across the United States, in Las Vegas, in Four
- 12 Bears and, and Bismarck, North Dakota.
- 13 The problem you got is your controls can't catch
- 14 it as readily as we can. Your controls are not
- 15 required because why? IRS breathe down our back every
- 16 month and ask us for all these reports. All these
- 17 suspicious activity reports, they're called SARs. We
- 18 have to report those things every month. We don't
- 19 report them they come in and audit us. Why aren't you
- 20 reporting them?
- 21 You had to have somebody come in and cash more
- 22 than \$10,000 worth of -- of -- of chips or
- 23 anything else you had to have. And then they start
- 24 breathing down our back.
- 25 The same thing in Las Vegas they got to answer

- 1 to them as well. So you'll see the Las Vegas
- 2 regulations and the Nevada regulations set up for that
- 3 as well.
- 4 Uh, that's what we noticed in the comparison
- 5 between Indian gaming and -- and -- and charitable
- 6 gaming under the ETAB explosion you don't have the
- 7 regulatory structure. Now I know you passed more
- 8 money. I know you're beefing up the gaming division of
- 9 the AGS office, can they get to that level and be
- 10 federally compliant?
- I don't know, but in the meantime, while they're
- 12 trying to work towards that, that's why you're going
- 13 to have this things going on as laundering of money,
- 14 theft going on, etc. And -- and -- and I had to share
- 15 that with you as well. [Inaudible].
- 16 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: So, uh, Representative
- 17 Pollert.
- 18 MR. POLLERT: Thank you, Ms. Chairman and I'm
- 19 sure I'll get phone calls after I say some of this
- 20 stuff, so be it. The cat's out of the bag with the
- 21 bars. I mean, we've got tab machines, I think what is
- 22 a limit 10, I think for this facility, something like
- 23 that. My concern is -- and I had a -- a great
- 24 opportunity this summer to take a bucket list ride
- 25 with my brother over 5,000 miles on the motorcycle.

1	And there's some states where gas stations,
2	restaurants and I don't want to see North Dakota
3	that way. Now I'm not as far as Senator Oehlke is, but
4	I think we've got to stop somewhere here. And, um,
5	like I said, the cat's out of the bag. I just don't
6	want to see gas stations, restaurants having it.
7	And then we probably got a look at a different at
8	at a definition of what's considered a gas station,
9	because now if you go to other states they're selling
10	off well, we're they're selling off sale in
11	North Dakota as well so does that allow that too.
12	Um, there's got to be a point where we got to
13	slow this thing down a little bit. Now my phone will
14	start ringing, but that's the way I look at it. ${\tt Um}$,
15	because I haven't I'm not a big [inaudible] and,
16	uh, but I do visit a casino every now and then, but I
17	enjoy that. But at the same time, we've got to have
18	some controls, if we're going to be in this game, then
19	W
20	e better be in the game and we better regulate.
21	If we're going to regulate, we better regulate because
22	right now we're not.
23	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Right. The the one thing
24	I've heard today and is that we need to take a look at
25	some definitions and, uh, Representative Pollert and

- 1 Chairman Fox have both brought that out.
- 2 And so, uh, we need to dig into this thing,
- 3 because what's happening I think is the tail is
- 4 wagging the dog in this particular situation. And, uh,
- 5 we got to, we got to charge. Representative Jones.
- 6 MR. JONES: Thank you Mr. Chairman. And thank you
- 7 Mr. Chairman. Um, the cat is out of the bag, but I
- 8 resent the fact that it was led out of the bag with a
- 9 bunch of misinformation and lies. I was on the
- 10 judiciary committee and they promised us that they
- 11 were not the same as a slot machine. They said that --
- that it doesn't give you the adrenal rush because it's
- 13 not the same. It's just not an instant win.
- 14 You know, you have to -- anyway they lied to us.
- 15 Yes. Because in the testimony we had, uh, recently in
- 16 judiciary committee and then again, over at Turtle
- 17 Mountain, uh, the people are telling us they are slot
- 18 machines, period. The people that are addicted to
- 19 them, the people that are -- are most familiar with
- 20 them are saying it's a slot machine.
- 21 So I think the cat is out the bag, but as a
- 22 legislator, I want to go back and I want to address
- this and put those sideboards on, make it so there's
- 24 only -- you know, when they -- when they sold them to
- 25 us, they were going to be a little laptop type thing

- 1 that was going to be kept on to the counter. And they
- 2 would let people check them out from the counter, use
- 3 them.
- 4 Uh, we -- I didn't understand we were going to
- 5 have machines that looked ju- -- just like slot
- 6 machines coming into our state and the -- and the
- 7 Attorney General's office said, we've got thousands of
- 8 them right now they're waiting to be approved and
- 9 they're planning on bringing -- bringing them in and
- 10 doing exactly what you're talking about, putting them
- 11 all across North Dakota. And I -- I don't want to see
- 12 that.
- And I was one of them that supported the idea and
- 14 I'm rethinking my position and saying, we need to go
- in and say, okay, we're going to only allow five or
- 16 three machines in a legitimate bar. We're going to
- 17 have to get the definition.
- 18 We're going to have to work together because, uh,
- 19 these numbers are shocking when you're looking at
- 20 billions of dollars and the negative impact it's
- 21 having on the -- on the, uh, tribes and on the
- 22 citizens in North Dakota.
- I think it's time that we go back in and I think
- 24 we absolutely were justified to do it. Because we have
- 25 the record in the judiciary committee the things that

- 1 were said, and we can go back and say, this was a
- 2 false statement that we based our information on and
- 3 our decision to vote on this. And we're going to go
- 4 back and -- and trim the -- the thing back where it
- 5 should be.
- 6 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you. Anyone else have
- 7 any questions, comments on this issue? Okay. Thank
- 8 you. Uh, any, uh, any other issues?
- 9 I know that, uh, Representative Buffalo has some
- 10 individuals that would like to make comment, public
- 11 comment, and we welcome that. Um, if that's what would
- 12 be at this time, go ahead, Representative Buffalo.
- MS. BUFFALO: Chair, um, chairman Wardner, I just
- 14 wanted to clarify there were individuals that, um,
- 15 were concerned with the new variant and live in Twin
- 16 Buttes and now in the country and Mandari, so those
- 17 are the individuals I believe that have called in and
- 18 primarily to discuss redistricting.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: That's fine, uh, we understand
- 20 that and that's one of the things about technology.
- 21 People can participate, they don't have to be here
- 22 physically. So if -- if those individuals are, um,
- 23 available and I'm getting the thumbs up, um, I don't
- 24 know would you like to introduce the individual or,
- 25 uh, or -- or you- -- you're ready to go?

1	Okay. I remember. Okay. Tell the individual and -
2	- and who's ever on, uh, would you state your name so
3	that we have it for the record?
4	MS. MONIZ: Can you hear me?
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, we can hear you loud and
6	clear.
7	MS. MONIZ: Okay. I just wanted to, um,
8	greetings, um, committee members. My name is Melanie
9	Moniz, um, I am currently with my mother Cheryl
10	Benson. Uh, we reside in Twin Buttes, which is
11	district four right here in the Fort Berthold
12	reservation.
13	Um, I did want to open the floor and, um, as
14	as you know, I'm calling in so I cannot see if there's
15	other, uh, community members on the call and if
16	there's any, uh, elders, um, I would gladly await, um,
17	for them to have the opportunity to speak before I.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: No. I think you, uh, the floor
19	is yours, go ahead.
20	MS. MONIZ: Okay. Well, first of all, thank you
21	very much for giving us the opportunity to call in
22	today. Um, as I stated, my mother is an elder and, uh,
23	you know, we have, um, some family that, um, does have
24	some immune uh, is immunocompromised. So we were a

1	Um, but did want to share some of our concerns
2	and just, you know, be heard and and maybe maybe
3	hear back from you all on what you are working on. Um,
4	before we kind of get in, I would like to, um, let you
5	all know that we are in support of the sub-districts
6	when it comes to redistricting.
7	Um, as an individual who has worked on many
8	efforts with in political organizing and community
9	organizing, um, it's often a barrier to come to the
10	table with indigenous issues, um, and and get to
11	the work.
12	Because so many times we are stuck educating on
13	the issue, um, you know, creating space for important
14	conversations, meaningful, um, discourse, you know,
15	and I've worked on many efforts on both sides of the
16	table with various leaders, um, elected officials on
17	local and state, state, um, levels.
18	And so I'd just like to communicate to you all as
19	an individual who does work within the realm, it is
20	representation is so important.
21	Um, and so that being said, I would like to just
22	state my support for sub-districts, um, and just
23	encourage you all to please, um, make sure indigenous
24	choices are at the table and that we are all equally
25	represented.

1	It will help so much to build a stronger North
2	Dakota for all of us.
3	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Thank you.
4	MS. MONIZ: Um, another
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Oh, I'm sorry.
6	MS. MONIZ: Yes. Absolutely.
7	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Go ahead. Go ahead.
8	MS. MONIZ: No. I have I did have another, uh,
9	question more so, um, is I would like to discuss
10	today, um, since since, um, since May of 2021, uh,
11	in the discovery of the 215, um, children found in
12	unmarked graves in Canada, there has been the
13	discovery, um, and this is something let me just
14	first state that this is something we've always known
15	about as indigenous people.
16	Um, this is not new to us, but with this
17	discovery came, you know, a lot of a lot of, um,
18	reopening of the wounds. And so since then, you know,
19	so many more have been discovered, so many more
20	unmarked graves have been discovered both, uh, in,
21	across the border in Canada, but also here in the
22	United States.
23	And I just wanted to bring this to the table, you
24	know, and I just share with you all a few of the
25	numbers.

1	As of right now, since, um, as of August 24th,
2	there's currently been a discovery of 1,172, uh,
3	graves of of children in the United States. That's
4	189 in Carlisle, 50 in Rapid City, South Dakota, 103
5	in Pasco, Kansas, 227 in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, 21
6	grand junction, Colorado 200 Carson City, Nevada, 222
7	Chemawa, Oregon, 12 in Bernalillo County, New Mexico,
8	69 Kay County, Oklahoma, 1 Nez Perce County, Idaho, 66
9	in Riverside County, California, 12 Panguitch, uh,
10	Utah.
11	And these are various boarding schools throughout
12	throughout the United States. And the searching is
13	is continuing. Um, and I'm just really, you know,
14	want to share with you all the need, um, and hope that
15	this is already a discussion that you're already
16	having. As I'm aware, um, the board of United Tribes
17	as is discussing this and working on this issue as
18	well.
19	Um, and so I did want to bring this to the table
20	and ask what are what is North Dakota doing to
21	address this this need to to search and and -
22	- and locate if there's children in unmarked graves in
23	our state?
24	Uh, what's being done to ensure that at the
25	remains of our our ancestors are being brought back
1	

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to their -- to their tribal nations, to their people? 1 2 And what are -- what's North Dakota doing to 3 address the trauma, the intergenerational trauma that 4 is prevalent in so many indigenous communities today? 5 Um, and so that, that's really my question. Again, I'd just like to -- to end with saying thank you all for 6 7 the work that you do. Um, thank you for allowing me 8 the opportunity to share with you my concerns and my 9 support. 10 I am, again, going to state, I -- I do support 11 the, um, sub-districts and would just again, like to ask what is being done on a state level to address 12 13 these, uh, the investigations into the schools 14 returning remains to -- to, um, to their people and 15 addressing the need for healing? That's all I have for 16 you today. 17 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, yeah. Before you leave is 18 there anyone on our committee would have a question 19 and then would you repeat your name again for the 20 record? So, uh, you said it quite quickly and I -- we 21 just need to make sure we have it. 22 Sure. And I apologize for speaking so MS. MONIZ: 23 quickly. I just don't want to take up too much of your 24 time. I know you've all been very busy today. Um, my 25 name is Melanie Moniz. That's M-e-l-a-n-i-e. My last

- 1 name is Moniz, M-o-n-i-z. I am a resident of district
- 2 four [inaudible].
- 3 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you. We appreciate that.
- 4 Uh, does anyone have any questions? Well, thank you,
- 5 Melanie. We, uh, we do appreciate you calling in and,
- 6 uh, giving testimony, that's what we're here for today
- 7 to listen. And we have --
- 8 MS. MONIZ: Wonderful.
- 9 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: And we have -- and I would
- 10 like to -- on the comment on talking about, uh,
- 11 children from boarding schools and stuff and -- and,
- 12 uh, knowing what's happened to them.
- 13 Uh, he's asked to speak, but I'm going to have
- 14 him, uh, to tell what -- what the state historical,
- 15 uh, has talked to, uh, Representative Boschee. And
- 16 this came up -- up at our meeting up at Turtle
- 17 Mountain.
- 18 And so we are, uh, looking at records -- or
- 19 records are open to help, uh, find solutions to these
- 20 individuals that have been, uh, forgotten, so to
- 21 speak. Representative Boschee.
- MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members
- 23 of the committee and Melanie. At our meeting up in
- 24 Turtle Mountain, uh, this issue is raised by, uh,
- 25 Chairman Azure, who, as I understand, I don't -- he's

1	on the board of United Tribes Technical College, but
2	also I think has an appointment in another entity
3	related boarding schools and the recovery and and
4	healing associated with that.
5	But he brought up this issue and, uh, the one
6	issue that was brought up by his the attorney for
7	the tribe was, you know, access to records to make
8	sure that there can be reconciling of when there are
9	unmarked graves, uh, and so forth. And so what was
10	shared at that meeting was that Fort Totten, which
11	this committee will be visiting that area tomorrow.
12	Um, but Fort Totten, uh, was the only if I
13	understand correctly, federally, um, run boarding
14	school in the state. Uh, the other boarding schools
15	were generally through the different religious
16	organizations.
17	But so we connected with the State Historical
18	Society who is, uh, offering to help in any way that
19	they can, for anyone that is looking for information.
20	The limitation they have is that they don't
21	actually have the records. They have the history of
22	the building and the facility, but they are willing to
23	help make connections. And I think it's out of
24	Oklahoma, um, there's a federal depository through the
25	national archives that they believe would have any
1	

- 1 form of records of, uh, people who lived there or
- 2 brought there, um, whether or not they died or lived
- 3 or whatnot.
- 4 So we did introduce the conversation, the State
- 5 Historical Society, and the director there Bill
- 6 Peterson has indicated that he's willing -- him and
- 7 his staff are on standby to help as best they can to
- 8 work through this. And then they are looking to the
- 9 committee if there's additional requests that we have.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, Representative Buffalo.
- 11 MR. BUFFALO: Thank you. Um, chairman Wardner and
- 12 members of the committee. Um, just to kind of clarify
- 13 things, um, I am the newly appointed president --
- 14 board president for the National Native-American
- 15 Boarding School Healing Coalition so I think there
- 16 might be some confusion with, um, Representative
- 17 Boschee's comments.
- 18 Also to clarify, there is, um, a repository in
- 19 Kansas City, um, where a lot of records from the
- 20 Dakotas is located. So thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: So those are some things that,
- 22 uh, we're learning as we're doing these, uh, visits to
- 23 the different tribal nations and, uh, talking with
- 24 them. Uh, it's an issue that has now been brought up
- 25 at, uh, two out of two meetings.

1	So anybody else have any comment question? If
2	not, uh, thank you, Melanie. Uh, do we have someone
3	else that we have two more? All right. Our next,
4	uh, guest state your name and, uh, you may begin.
5	MS. BIRD BEAR: Hello.
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: We hear you?
7	MS. BIRD BEAR: Hi, good afternoon. My name is
8	Joletta Bird Bear. I live in District 4. I am a tribal
9	member, uh, Mandan and Hidatsa of the three affiliated
10	tribes. I want to thank you for this opportunity to
11	speak to the legislative committee and the state and
12	tribal relations committee. I am, uh, speaking on the
13	need, uh, for the redistricting, um, based on the
14	census.
15	And also based on the inclusion of the native
16	votes in North Dakota to, uh, have a have a impact
17	a positive act on the functioning of the state of
18	North Dakota. I live in District 4 in rural Mandari,
19	and District 4 is very large territory within North
20	Dakota and, uh, repeatedly because of the districting
21	current districting, our voices, uh, are lost in
22	that voting process.
23	Uh, tribal members have a strong, uh, strong, I
24	think, uh, commitment to democracy a democratic
25	government. In fact, uh, founders of the concept of

- 1 democracy started within indigenous people and were
- 2 adopted into the constitution of the United States. So
- 3 we're very aware of our place within the decision
- 4 making process.
- 5 So as a voter of, uh, who participates not only
- 6 in tribal elections held here on Fort Berthold, but
- 7 who -- who is always voting in, uh, state held
- 8 elections, which also are, uh, con- -- contained the
- 9 federal election I believe that it's important to
- 10 vote. You know, I believe in a participer- --
- 11 participatory, uh, form of government.
- Now, redistricting is so critical for North
- 13 Dakota, and I'm glad that, um, you are allowing people
- 14 to, uh, voice their -- bring their recommendations to
- 15 your committee. I want our, you know, I want my vote
- 16 to count in North Dakota and it is being diluted just
- 17 based on the districting.
- 18 Um, the size of the district, my vote is lost. My
- 19 vote is just consumed in -- in that. I would rather
- 20 vote in a district that where I can vote for a member
- 21 of my tribe from my community to carry my concerns to
- 22 the state legislative, um, process.
- 23 And that would happen if we had a district, uh,
- 24 representation of native voters. And maybe that is
- 25 that sub-district concept, as long as the legislative

- 1 includes additional legislative, um, state senators
- 2 and state representatives to represent those, uh,
- 3 North Dakota indigenous voters from those districts or
- 4 those sub-districts. Um, the other -- the other matter
- 5 is that population is growing here on Fort Berthold.
- 6 And I'm aware that in North Dakota, uh, the
- 7 population, uh, in some areas, mostly declines, but in
- 8 our area, the population is growing and it will
- 9 continue to grow. And primarily the reason is
- 10 connected to the land.
- 11 Please understand as where you're sitting right
- 12 now, um, on Berthold, uh, the land is trust land and
- originally this land was a portion of at least 3
- 14 million acres, when a treaty was entered into called
- 15 the Fort Laramie Treaty.
- 16 Uh, but prior even to that, I'm sure it was a
- 17 bigger base, but treaties, um, treaties defined. So
- 18 from 3 million, we are now down to 1 million acres on
- 19 the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
- 20 And of that 1 million more than half of it is fee
- 21 patent acres, which are, um, I'm not sure, but I would
- 22 think they would be still under the tribal
- 23 jurisdiction since they're within the Fort Berthold
- 24 Indian Reservation, but I believe they are within the
- 25 state jurisdiction.

1	The other 480 some acres of that, I would say
2	400,000 acres are owned by individual Mandan, Hidatsa
3	and Arikara people such as myself. So we are voters
4	and we are the majority trust land owners of Fort
5	Berthold please, understand that.
6	The tribal government, which I have a vested
7	right to to have my concerns addressed on land,
8	because you know that I'm a tribal member and tribal
9	land I have a vested interest in that also.
10	But the tribal government's lands are the
11	minority of all trust property here on Fort Berthold.
12	So our vote matters and and that's why the
13	population will always continue growing here because
14	people will come back to their lands even if they've
15	lived a lifetime away, they will come back.
16	Um, the other, uh, thing I wanted to state that
17	is in 2018, um, we here on Fort Berthold we lost
18	the Fort Berthold voters of, uh, the Mandan Hidatsa
19	and Arikara we lost two, uh, North Dakota county
20	precincts.
21	One is was the Four Bears voting precinct. And
22	the other was the called North Fox voting precinct
23	of rural Mandari. Now, when those precincts were
24	closed, that resulted in people from the Four Bears,
25	uh, voting community, which you're sitting in, you're
1	

- 1 sitting in the Four Bears community they traveled down 2 to Mandari to cast their vote.
- 3 They left their community to come down here. And
- 4 that was [inaudible], that was anywhere from could be
- 5 maybe 70 miles roundtrip to cast their vote. I, on the
- 6 other hand, I live in Mandari, rural Mandari; my
- 7 precinct, the North Fox precinct was closed so I
- 8 traveled 120 miles to Manning, North Dakota, which is
- 9 the county seat for Dunn County.
- 10 And that is where I voted. And those two
- 11 particular -- well, during that time tribal members
- 12 did that because they wanted to make sure their ballot
- 13 was counted. And at that time, the USPS was under this
- 14 policy of slow down mail ballots, or slow down the
- 15 mail. So people did venture at those great distances
- 16 to vote.
- 17 That is unequal treatment, it's clearly unequal
- 18 treatment, uh, for, um, requiring a voter to -- to do
- 19 that, to go outside of their community at great
- 20 lengths to cast their vote. So I am asking for your
- 21 support and your action to restore those two county
- 22 precincts. One is from McKenzie County and the other
- 23 is the Dunn County -- from Dunn County.
- 24 Please understand that the North Fox voting
- 25 precinct historically has, uh, carried huge, um, high

- 1 voter turnout. Higher than some other communities that
- 2 are still supported and still operational. So that
- 3 needs to be addressed, um, we want greater voter
- 4 turnout in elections that's what this democratic
- 5 government is based upon.
- 6 And we will have that when our precincts are
- 7 returned to us and we don't have to expand, uh, funds
- 8 to take ourselves, uh, two -- maybe two communities
- 9 away to vote, in my case. Um, let's see. I think that,
- 10 uh, I do support the -- the redistricting, if it is
- 11 considered sub-districting, as long as those districts
- 12 also have the same equal representation in a Senate
- 13 and a representative.
- 14 Um, that's what -- that's where it will matter.
- 15 Um, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation is divided by six
- 16 North Dakota counties. And so our -- all of our, uh,
- 17 votes are diluted within those six counties at those,
- 18 uh, county offices.
- 19 So that is something to -- to be aware of and to
- 20 know that that is, uh, what impacts us here as we
- 21 vote. And we will -- we will continue to vote.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, thank you. And, uh, the
- 23 one thing I would say when it comes to precincts and
- 24 places to vote, that's not just an issue that people
- are complaining about on the reservation. It's off the

1	reservation.
2	I'm not sure in your case and Chairman Fox, I'd
3	like you to make some comments on that. Is it the
4	county that decides that? I know that, you know, Dunn
5	County has been a Mail-in county, uh, and there were
6	20 well, I was told there were 33 counties that
7	were Mail-in counties before the pandemic.
8	And, uh, one of the issues, uh, well, first of
9	all, I don't know if it was tribal or a county when
10	it's on the reservation. And the other thing is, I
11	talked to Terry Traynor of the Association of
12	Counties. I said, how come we don't have more?
13	He says, we're having a hard time finding poll
14	workers. And so that's one of the issues. And so we're
15	going to have to take a look at that one. And so, uh,
16	uh, Joletta, it is it's it's, uh, it's uh
17	MS. JOLETTA: Can I yes. Can I say something?
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Sure. Just a second of, uh, it
19	it's a statewide issue it's not just, uh, something
20	that has to do with tribal. Go ahead.
21	MS. JOLETTA: Yeah. Well, the reason it is
22	important and it is related to districting is the
23	the whole, uh, issue is representation. That's what it
24	boils down to your vote. It should matter.
25	It should matter when you vote, your vote should

- 1 count. So the -- the -- the thing of mail-in voting;
- 2 North Fox has always been a place to vote that's where
- 3 my family voted that's where I vote.
- 4 Uh, it's -- and when, in fact, when it was
- 5 changed over to this mail-in vote, we weren't even
- 6 notified by mail. There was such a up with 911
- 7 addressing that we did not receive written
- 8 notification. I didn't, and I know others didn't who
- 9 get their mail by a post office box. Okay.
- 10 So it w- -- it was, uh, a rough time for
- 11 democracy here when we found out later our -- our
- 12 precinct's closed, we're going to -- you're going to
- have to go to Manning or over to Twin Buttes. Well,
- 14 Manning is the county seat. And the reason I asked in
- 15 Manning prior to going to voting at a different time,
- 16 I asked what was the reason? Why did -- why did you
- 17 close North Fox? Well, it was to save money. Save
- 18 money for who?
- 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, we hear you and it's,
- 20 uh, I appreciate you bringing it up. And I -- I just
- 21 want to make a comment to one of the things you said
- 22 about being represented in Bismarck.
- 23 And this is a little attaboy for your, uh,
- 24 chairman and your councilmembers. They have been down
- 25 there representing you the last four or five sessions.

1	Believe me, you are represented cause they're
2	there making a difference they're talking to people.
3	So you can be proud of your and that's not
4	answering your what your concern is but I just
5	wanted you to know that, uh, the council and the
6	chairman from MHA have been very active in the North
7	Dakota legislature. So your voice is being heard out
8	there.
9	MS. JOLETTA: Thank you. And I do want to add one
10	more note and that is for this community to please
11	understand that, you know, although my tribe is down
12	in in, uh, before the legislator, legislators in
13	North Dakota, the the votes are cast by individual
14	tribal members. We are the ones that vote. We are the
15	voters. Please understand that.
16	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I understand what you're
17	saying. I'm just telling you that, uh, you have
18	elected good people here at MHA Nation to represent
19	you, uh, in all that they do. Chairman Fox, right
20	comments. Oh, I'm sorry, finish your comment and then
21	I'll
22	MS. JOLETTA: And yeah. And that's true, but what
23	we're talking about is the right of individual voters.
24	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Right?
25	MS. JOLETTA: The right of individuals, not of a

- 1 tribe, but of individuals. That's what this committee
- 2 has come to Fort Berthold to talk of out. And so
- 3 you're hearing from an individual voter. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Right. You're welcome.
- 5 MS. MONIZ: With all due respect. Uh, if I may
- 6 just jump in, I was -- I'm still on the call. This is
- 7 Melanie Moniz. Um, I just would like to politely
- 8 address, um, a need for some understanding of cultural
- 9 competency. Um, you know, we all come from different
- 10 walks of life and have different, uh, different ways
- 11 of communicating.
- 12 And, um, as I sat and listened to my elder, uh,
- 13 addressed her concerns, I -- I did take note that she
- 14 was interrupted a -- a few times.
- 15 Um, and I would just like to -- to bring that to
- 16 the table is that, you know, um, those are things we
- don't do when our elders are speaking. Um, those are
- 18 traditional -- traditional values of the MHA Nation.
- 19 And I'd just like to politely, uh, bring that to your
- 20 -- to your awareness. But with that, I will hop off
- 21 the call.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. Chairman Fox.
- 23 CHAIRMAN FOX: Now just to touch on a point that
- 24 Joletta brought up as well. Uh, it is a concern that I
- 25 heard that occurred previously that, uh, the polling

1	places were limited and it had a dramatic effect. And
2	you know, whether it's a part of an overall, uh,
3	difficulty experience by the whole state or occurring
4	here, it was even more so dramatic here.
5	The the native vote it's it's very
6	difficult to get native people to vote in in state
7	elections to begin with. And and so oftentimes when
8	we make it even more difficult, if they say, well,
9	instead of going over here where you're used to going,
10	all of a sudden you've got to travel 120 miles
11	roundtrip.
12	It it has a really bad deterrence effect and -
13	- and and people are not wanting to vote. So I I
14	share the concern raised that, uh, we we have to
15	take some additional things into consideration and
16	make sure that the ability to vote is not hampered or,
17	you know, impeded by, uh, not having proper polling
18	places. We've we've tried our best to work through
19	the, uh, the residential address issue you as well.
20	We're done, you know, I will say this, uh, even
21	though those things were put into place and many felt
22	that even on a national level, that it was going to
23	dramatically dis you know, diminish, uh, voter
24	participation by natives, uh, Fort Berthold, uh, in
25	those two chall challenging situations, uh,

- 1 actually by numbers came out and voted very high, uh,
- 2 kind of felt like they're being, you know, pushed out
- 3 and a lot of people actually went to the polls that
- 4 may not have otherwise. So I do want to say that --
- 5 that there was a good response to those conditions.
- 6 But we just want to make sure that we're not
- 7 being treated inequitably or things are not done, that
- 8 are dissuading our participation to vote. We want
- 9 people to vote this is America.
- 10 The United States Marine and I tell you, and you
- 11 know, that- -- that's what our democracy's all about.
- 12 Democracy is all about, is just getting people an
- opportunity to say, this is my vote and that's what's
- 14 key. So --
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Uh, Senator Heckaman.
- 16 MS. HECKAMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Um,
- 17 chairman Fox, this is just for my own information. Um,
- 18 I know that some of the, uh, native country has their
- 19 tribal elections the same time as the general -- the
- 20 state elections does, uh, MHA do that?
- 21 CHAIRMAN FOX: Half the time. Uh, sometimes it's
- 22 half it's -- it's in line with the state elections.
- 23 But, um, the other half, um, and so when the three
- 24 districts -- we have four and a three. Chairman and
- 25 three reps, and then we have three, so four, every --

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- every four years, but staggered by two years. 1 2 So one group, the three will come during the --3 the presidential and national elections so you'll see 4 a lot of turnout because of the president's running. Then the other four are on the off two years. Uh, the 5 6 -- the secondary years is where the non-presidential 7 national election is. So yeah they are in line though 8 with the November elections typically. 9 Okay. Thanks. MS. HECKAMAN: 10 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. We have one more, uh, 11 individual that wants to testify online and if 12 they're, uh, ready, they may begin state your name. 13 MS. DEVILLE: Hello. My name is Lisa DeVille. I'm 14 going to give comment on the, um, the support for 15 redistricting subcommittees. So we indigenous people need to be at the table when decisions are being made 16 17 about our lives. All right, also I'm -- I'm a resident
- 19 So mine is short/sweet. So, um, there should be

of the Mandari community here on Fort Berthold.

- 20 no more assuming that North Dakota knows what's best
- 21 for us indigenous people when our culture and our
- 22 tradition and our beliefs are different. So again, we
- 23 need to be at the table and we need fair
- 24 representation in North Dakota. And thank you for the
- 25 opportunity to speak to you.

18

1	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you. Anyone have any
2	questions, comments, uh, for Ms. DeVille? If not,
3	thank you very much. Uh, okay. Senator Jones,
4	representative Jones. I'm sorry. I elevated you.
5	MS. JONES: Right.
6	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Lisa, are you still online?
7	MS. DEVILLE: Yes. I'm here.
8	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: You know, I, uh, I take it
9	particularly to be an honor to serve District 4. And
10	I've read a lot of emails from you over the last few
11	years, and I've responded back to several.
12	And, uh, I can assure you that you have a seat at
13	the table because I represent District 4, whether
14	you're on the reservation or off the reservation.
15	And I've gotten in a lot of trouble because as I
16	leave my phone number, my cell number open to the
17	public so that you can find it so you can contact me
18	so that I can represent you and deal with your
19	concerns. And, uh, I take pride in doing that. And,
20	uh, I may not be native, uh, America, but I was born
21	in America and I love this country and I love North
22	Dakota. And I particularly love District 4. It's been
23	a good home for me.
24	And so I hope you'll take some comfort in knowing
25	that you have somebody at the table and you can ask

- 1 the, uh, my fellow representatives, I do make a lot of
- 2 noise. Sometimes I'm right. Sometimes I'm wrong. But I
- 3 try to represent District 4 and all my constituents in
- 4 the best way that I can. And I hope that I can hear
- 5 more from you in the future.
- And, uh, we'll have a lot of discussions and you,
- 7 and all the other constituents who might be out there
- 8 listening so that I can do a better -- better job of
- 9 serving you and, uh, helping to move the proper things
- 10 forward that we need to for -- for District 4. Okay.
- 11 Thank you. Okay. Chairman Fox, we're, uh, kind of
- 12 winding down unless there is, uh, just in case, was
- 13 there anybody else out there that wanted to --
- I don't want to leave anybody that, uh, may have
- 15 been queued up and wanted to talk and I'm getting, uh,
- 16 no, there isn't anyone else. So I'm going to turn it
- 17 over to Chairman Fox to kind of wrap things up. And
- 18 then, uh, well, I, uh, make a couple -- make some
- 19 comments. I'm going to give the committee a chance to
- 20 make some comments, uh, after you are done, and then
- 21 you can --
- 22 CHAIRMAN FOX: I'll -- I'll do that, that sounds
- 23 good to me.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Me, um, I'll just wrap up our
- 25 side of things, so to speak and give time for

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committee members, uh, that may want to either ask or 1 2 -- a question or make a comment and I appreciate it 3 very much. Again, it was an honor to be able to host a committee, thank you for coming to our homeland or a 4 5 country to our district. 6 And, um, we're very, very proud of what we've got 7 going on, but we've got a lot of needs. And I think 8 you're hearing in addition to the enumerated things 9 that we raised regarding taxes and other things, uh, 10 and gaming, uh, you also heard some other concerns. 11 There are always a significant number of concerns that 12 are out there that separate us or -- or -- or give us 13 contention, or we don't agree on. 14 But the good thing is though that our policy is not a closed door policy, ours is an open door policy 15 16 to sit down government to government and to talk and -17 - and figure out what we can do. May not always agree, 18 but the goal is to try to find some common consensus 19 and move things in the right direction. And, um, 20 that's why I appreciate this time and opportunity. 21 Everybody around the table we've got the 22 committee members, but we also have, uh, two house 23 members here as well, uh, that -- that joined us. And, uh, I think it's been a good day and I think we got 24 25 some good information discussed, and I'm hoping that,

- 1 uh, you know, it leads itself to -- to ways to address 2 the issues.
- 3 I'm -- I'm really optimistic that when you do
- 4 have the special sessions, that we might be able to
- 5 get some more critical issues quicker, and hopefully
- 6 resolve those instead of having to wait for another
- 7 year and a half before those possibilities come up.
- 8 So again, thank you for being here, uh, you know,
- 9 happy to -- anytime any of you want to come up, we're
- 10 happy to take you on a tour, go see a well pad. You
- 11 know, go see what we do. See -- see some of the things
- 12 that we're working on, some of the construction.
- We have our grand opening in about two and a half
- 14 months on the new administration building make sure
- 15 you come to that as well. We've got other things that
- 16 are ongoing as well. Um, just always -- always feel,
- 17 you know, we're part of the state of North Dakota and
- 18 proudly so.
- 19 And I say that as, uh, you know, although we have
- 20 -- argue and we have our, you know, our jealousy that
- 21 goes on every two years and in between somewhat. You
- 22 know, I- -- I'm telling you as -- as, uh, then I was a
- 23 young man, I'm certainly not now.
- 24 But as a young man serving in the United States
- 25 government and -- and the Marine Corps, you know, and,

1	uh, being deployed and I got a chance to Mr. Joseph
2	here have a little brief conversation during lunch
3	break about where I served and and he shared some
4	of his. Um, when I went out there though, uh, I I -
5	- I was I stood out in many ways and I took pride
6	in that. My father's a World War II veteran, my
7	brother oldest brother's a Vietnam veteran.
8	My father, and his two brothers, all three of
9	them, three brothers, all joined and became World War
10	II veterans in three different branches and served
11	during World War II as well. And so I had that pride
12	in me in in serving when I went out. And I wanted
13	to do for my motives, uh, a number of things in in
14	serving this country and and the service as well,
15	being the Marine.
16	Um, but when I was there and and if I if
17	and when I did stand out and they would Marines
18	from all over the United States would be serving
19	sometimes other countries. Because you can have
20	Marines from Puerto Rico and you can have Marines from
21	Guam and you can have and were served with them too.
22	And and I served overseas and there's the
23	two things that the commonalities that they wanted
24	when they asked questions, where are you?
25	Who are you? And where do you come from? And why

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- 2 you are? And most of the time it was positive. Um, I
- 3 always told them well, I'm from North Dakota.
- 4 Of course I told them, um, Mandan, Hidatsa and
- 5 Arikara, I come from, uh, people and I would describe
- 6 that.
- 7 And many of them had not met natives before and
- 8 they wanted to know much about that. Korea was -- I
- 9 was one time share that with you some day when I got a
- 10 lot of time, but the South Koreans and Iraq Marines I
- 11 served with there and you wanting to just run up a
- 12 400-foot cliff just to touch a Native-American,
- 13 American-Indian was -- was -- was amazing to them.
- 14 Uh, but I always told -- I always told people how
- 15 proud I was, that where I come from was North Dakota
- 16 and well, what's that about? I said, well, as you all
- 17 know, it gets very cold there, but it's also where we
- 18 work very hard.
- 19 You know, we hunt, we fish, we enjoy the
- 20 outdoors, we're really as strong people, all North
- 21 Dakota people, we're not afraid of work.
- 22 Get up before the sun and -- and work until the
- 23 sun goes down if that's what we have to do. Whether
- 24 it's farming, ranching, anything that needs to be
- 25 done. Took a lot of in that when I was there. Took a

- 1 lot of pride in that, not just in the Marine Corps.
- I tease John here, I used to go up and work out a
- 3 popular area there and -- and I used to work for a guy
- 4 up there in farming. I took a summer, went up there to
- 5 go help out on a ranch and farm up there.
- And he said, you know what he said to me? He
- 7 said, I don't know what the hell it is about you North
- 8 Dakota guys, but you can guys can work your asses off?
- 9 He said, whenever somebody from North Dakota comes my
- 10 way, I hire them.
- 11 He said, I don't know, what's wrong with these
- 12 guys around here. I can't get them to work. You know.
- 13 And -- and -- and he -- he -- he represented, and I
- 14 was proud when he was telling me that. He said, you
- 15 guys really know how to work. And when I went out, I -
- 16 I -- I explained that to him.
- And we're fair minded. We're good people. We're
- 18 tolerant people. You know, I've been to other states.
- 19 I- -- I've been in Mississippi. I- -- I've been in the
- 20 Southern st- -- States. I've been in -- I was
- 21 stationed in North Carolina for a while.
- I saw a stark contrast between, you know, white
- and black. And there wasn't a lot of room for somebody
- 24 that was brown in understanding sometimes. And -- and
- 25 -- and not knowing things, but I've been to other

- 1 countries.
- 2 I've been treated, you know, certain ways by
- 3 Japanese, different from Koreans. Going on Filipinos
- 4 and things of nature. So being able to experience
- 5 that, but I've always been so proud of our state and
- 6 this is way before being in the trenches and -- and
- 7 the things that we have to work on and stuff. And I
- 8 still am proud. And -- and -- and we all can
- 9 realize that we are -- we are the same in many ways,
- 10 but we're also different.
- 11 And -- and what we have to do is recognize those
- 12 differences. Those differences should be understood
- 13 and should bind -- bind us to learn more about each
- 14 other.
- 15 As much as I want you to learn about the Mandan,
- 16 Hidatsa and Arikara and walk through this Interpretive
- 17 Center, many of our own people need to learn more
- 18 about you too, and how you came to North Dakota and --
- 19 and how that evolution occurred.
- 20 But everybody needs to get a better understanding
- 21 of that. We're talking about books during the new --
- 22 during the -- what good books could I read about the
- 23 tribes in North Dakota?
- And there are some good books out there, Mary-
- 25 Jane Schneiders and others that have written things. I

- 1 mean, one of the books that I think you should read is
- 2 -- is called Guns, Germs, And Steel. And if you
- 3 haven't read that it's by Jared Diamond, he won to
- 4 Pulitzer prize for it.
- 5 And he talks about how the true history of the
- 6 world developed and where we stand today when
- 7 civilization began and what happened and why Europeans
- 8 are different from the indigenous population in North
- 9 America. Not because one was more superior than other,
- 10 but because there's other factors that led to it.
- 11 The axis of north and south versus east and west.
- 12 The climate zones, uh, the domestication of plants and
- 13 animals, I can go on and on.
- 14 When I read that it opened up my eyes and I --
- 15 and I tell every non-Indian and every Indian read that
- 16 book, if you think you know about civilization and
- 17 where you're at today, read this book. And it opened
- 18 up your eyes to -- to where we're at and why things
- 19 occurred.
- 20 CHAIRMAN FOX: Um, again, thank you for coming
- 21 here. Thank you for -- for -- for sharing with us,
- 22 we'll have more opportunities to do this I'm sure in
- 23 the future.
- 24 And we got -- we're proud of what we've done so
- 25 far, but we need your help. Law enforcement, drug

- 1 addiction, treatment, um, energy development,
- 2 protecting our environment while we're doing it, all
- 3 these things we need to work together on.
- 4 And even if we disagree, we can find -- we can
- 5 find ways to do it. And, um, like I told you, during
- 6 my travel state relations, uh, speech, you know,
- 7 you're -- you're looking at, and that might work to my
- 8 disfavor, my arguments, but you're looking at a
- 9 combination of an Indian and non-Indian world.
- 10 You know, I am just as proud. And -- and
- 11 sometimes like -- like my Senator Oehlke says, I might
- 12 get lot of phone calls and representative Pollert
- 13 says, Chet says about, I might get more phone calls
- 14 and I do.
- But here's the reality is, is I'm just as proud
- of my mother's people as I am my father's. My father
- is a full-blooded member of this tribe. My mother was
- 18 not. But I- -- I- -- I'm no less proud of that. I have
- 19 a lot of relatives up there in the [inaudible] and
- 20 Jones.
- 21 And those are my relative [inaudible] are -- are
- 22 -- are close relatives of mine. And -- and -- and
- 23 through my mother's side ranching and things of that
- 24 nature. So I just wanted to share that with you.
- 25 And -- and -- and if I can show that, uh, by my

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1	sitting in front of you, that two worlds can come
2	together and and get something done, uh, then, uh,
3	I'm an example of that myself too. So I appreciate you
4	being here.
5	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, thank you. I want to
6	start with you, uh, Representative Jones, any final
7	comments?
8	MR. JONES: I just appreciate everybody coming to
9	District 4. This is nice and this is a good I
10	mean, I might butt heads pretty hard with, uh, people
11	with different opinions, but I hope at the end of the
12	day, we come up with some really good stuff.
13	And I think we were well served by being here.
14	I've learned a bunch of things, and I look forward to
15	following through, and trying to get the solutions
16	that we need for the good of of everybody that's
17	involved. And so thank you for coming to District 4.
18	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Representative Boschee.
19	MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you. Mr. Chairman. Uh,
20	Chairman Fox and fellow councilmembers just thank you
21	for your hospitality. It's always a joy to get back up
22	here growing up in Minot. And so get you know, I
23	share with folks, it wasn't until I ran around the
24	state in 2018, that I never realized how close MHA is

25

to Minot because we didn't come down here as people

- 1 from Minot. Uh, and your -- your folks came up to us
- 2 all the time.
- 3 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Oh yeah.
- 4 MR. BOSCHEE: Um, so, uh, it's great to -- to be
- 5 here again and beautiful to see all the work that
- 6 you're doing and look forward to continue to partner
- 7 with you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Many of us were born in Minot.
- 9 MR. BOSCHEE: Yeah.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Some of us grew up there. My
- 11 first six years, Roosevelt School in Minot went for a
- 12 couple months before my dad dad built the church, got
- 13 Indian mission and moved us into a low rent project in
- 14 [inaudible] and that's where way we went. And, uh, I
- 15 grew up there in that area. So, but mine is -- mine,
- 16 you know, back in the day -- I know not to
- 17 [inaudible].
- I know we got to go on table, but back in the
- 19 day, if you got to go to Minor about once every three
- 20 or four months, you really got to go somewhere cool.
- 21 Right? When we were kids and got in the car and got to
- 22 go to Minot, you know, McDonald's, the zoo.
- Today, if you don't go to Minot four times a
- 24 week, you- -- you're below average. You know, we go to
- 25 Minot every day, jumping on cars or Waterford City or

- 1 wherever it's every day I just want to share that with
- 2 you. So Senator Heckaman.
- 3 MS. HECKAMAN: Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And
- 4 thank you, Chairman Fox and your council for hosting
- 5 us today in this beautiful country.
- 6 Um, I'm going to bear my soul today and tell you
- 7 that I've had some tough times in my life and before I
- 8 met my husband now I had two little boys. and in '76,
- 9 I loaded up my two little boys having a tough time
- 10 that summer came out and camped over here in the park,
- 11 looking out towards the river and we spent two days
- 12 there and two nights there.
- And it really cleared my head and made me
- 14 understand that I made the right decision in my life.
- 15 So I just wanted to let you know that it's a -- a good
- 16 place to come and to meditate out here.
- 17 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Welcome back.
- 18 MS. HECKAMAN: Yeah. Um, but I do have a question
- 19 for you. Do you have one of your council people that
- 20 has a portfolio in education? Or who can I contact out
- 21 here? I'm looking to figure out how to serve our non-
- 22 beneficiary or the students that don't meet blood
- 23 quantum on reservation schools, who pays for those?
- 24 That's what I'm looking to find out.
- 25 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: If -- if -- if, but they --

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like our members of, uh, a native family, but they're 1 2 not enrolled. Is that what you're saying? 3 MS. HECKAMAN: So let's say that you have, um, a 4 native husband and wife or man, and woman, and one of 5 them doesn't have, for example, like your mom. So now 6 as you go down in generations and the -- one of them 7 doesn't have, um, meet the qualifications and that dilutes that down further, um, who pays for the 8 9 education of those students out here? I want to visit 10 with somebody [inaudible]. 11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: In -- in our -- in our 12 settings here at Fort Berthold, we still do. 13 MS. HECKAMAN: You still do. Even if they're not enrolled. 14 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: 15 Usually that eighth -- eighth requirement that we 16 have, uh, we do have what we call distribution direct 17 benefits. But most of what we do, uh, Sherry can speak 18 to that as can any council rep all our services that we provide either through the segment for the tribe on 19 a -- on a larger scale, uh, at schools, uh, services, 20 21 the pandemics, big proof of that. Yeah. Emergency distributions, vaccines. 22 23 We've vaccinated more non-Indian, and non-tribal members then we did tribal members. And -- and so our 24 25 -- our point I'm raising with you is it's still, as

- 1 you -- you saw many years ago, this is still community
- 2 based. And so all our services nearly, almost, I won't
- 3 say a hundred percent of the time, but 90 percent of
- 4 the time or more is expanded out to non-Indians as
- 5 well. They're welcome to share on what we were able to
- 6 do and we do that all the time. Education is no
- 7 exception to that.
- 8 MS. HECKAMAN: And my -- my concern is that, um,
- 9 BIA, BIA doesn't pay for those students.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Like in a partial on new
- 11 town setting, because those are -- are public schools.
- 12 We get impact aid. And they may not be counted on
- that, but our contributions to each school's hundreds
- of thousands of dollars each year, what we give out
- 15 \$500,000 a year, just to the schools alone, just to
- 16 spend on what they want to more than covers the -- the
- 17 tuition of that.
- 18 MS. HECKAMAN: Got it.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Non-tribal members.
- 20 MS. HECKAMAN: Got it. Thanks so much.
- 21 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: You bet. Senator Oehlke.
- MR. OEHLKE: Um, Mr. Chairman and Chairman Fox.
- 23 Thank you for your service to the country.
- 24 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you for yours.
- 25 MR. OEHLKE: Certainly appreciate that. Um, yeah

- 1 -- I -- well, I said my piece on gambling, so I won't
- 2 delve into that anymore. But, uh, I think, uh, you
- 3 know, this committee and -- and those out there
- 4 listening are probably starting to understand that,
- 5 uh, a, uh, tribal nation has, um, a big job to do.
- 6 And your tribal council, uh, is no exception to
- 7 having to do everything that -- that we end up doing
- 8 at a state level as well. I -- I -- I would -- I would
- 9 suspect there's not a county or a city out there that
- 10 has as many challenges as you would do. And we -- I
- 11 think we appreciate that.
- 12 CHAIRMAN FOX: Appreciate that Senator.
- 13 Representative Pollert.
- MR. POLLERT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We had a
- 15 quick tour of the Interpretive Center today and, um,
- 16 very informative, uh, enjoyed it immensely.
- 17 That's why I was late getting to my lunch, but it
- 18 was very good. But also at the same time and -- and I
- 19 had said it earlier, you know, I -- I, uh, my great-
- 20 grandfather was from the Rose- -- Rose Glen area.
- 21 And then I had an uncle and -- and my
- 22 grandmother's sister was married and they were from
- 23 White Shield.
- 24 So there's a little bit of history here that I
- 25 need to learn a little more of, but, uh, I remember us

- 1 taking visits out here and -- and -- and, you know
- 2 what, and him allowing my oldest brother to wear his
- 3 head dress. So, yeah. So there's more to learn. So,
- 4 yeah. But yeah. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Yeah. Appreciate that very
- 6 much. Could Terry say a few?
- 7 CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah. Well, I would, uh, I welcome
- 8 her and, uh, also the commissioner and, uh,
- 9 Representative Buffalo to make some comments too.
- 10 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: There you go.
- 11 MS. BUFFALO: Testing. Thank you. Uh, first of
- 12 all, I'd like to thank you Senator Wardner and all
- 13 your representatives, especially District 4 rep for
- 14 being here. And I'm very proud of our chairman for
- 15 everything that he does for our great MHA Nation. Um,
- 16 sometimes we don't tell him that enough, but, um, I am
- 17 very proud of you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Thank you, Sherry.
- 19 MS. SHERRY: -- for everything that you do for
- 20 us. Um, I know I got a lot of -- I got a big line --
- 21 um, well, first of all, my name is, uh, Sherry
- 22 [inaudible]. I'm the west segment representative in
- 23 the Mandari area. We have the, uh, largest land base
- 24 area where majority of the Balkan is, majority of the,
- 25 um, oil industry.

1	And, um, a lot of my, uh, constituents, my people
2	all have a lot of, uh, concerns and everything out
3	there. But, um, with that said, we will, um, prevail
4	and go through and work things out. We are a very
5	resilient people and we do, um, stand strong. I also
6	come from a veteran family. My husband is a veteran.
7	My grandfather's on both sides and my brother was a
8	Marine.
9	And when you grow up with that veteran kind of
10	family, um, life is more structured. Life is more, uh,
11	you always have, um, constraints and obli
12	obligations and things to, um, stand steady and
13	strong. And I am very proud of that.
14	And, um, with that said, the we really want
15	our pulling place back in, um, by our church. It's,
16	uh, it was really hard on all of us. It was hard on
17	Four Bears where they had to track people down, um,
18	bust them down to Mandari and, um, you know, we we
19	may do with that, but the ones that worked it was, um,
20	it was harder.
21	I was a school teacher for many years, 14, and,
22	um, at that at time I wasn't teaching, but if I was
23	and for those that my, um, counterparts that were
24	working, when they got off work, they had to travel
25	all the way to Manning after a long hard day where

- 1 they could have just done it at lunch and had it over
- 2 with.
- But again, thank you for all coming. It was very,
- 4 um, it was lot of experience for me being here for the
- 5 first time. I am newly elected, so I am learning a
- 6 lot. And again, thank you, um, chairman for all the
- 7 hard work you do for us.
- 8 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: I appreciate that, Sherry.
- 9 Thank you for being here today. I appreciate it very
- 10 much. Thank you. Yeah, Ruth?
- 11 MS. BUFFALO: Um, Chairman Wardner and members of
- 12 the committee. Um, thank you for allowing me to share
- 13 this -- this space with you. Um, as a citizen of the
- 14 Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara nation, and originally
- 15 from Mandari. It's always good to come -- come back to
- 16 the homelands.
- 17 I'm super proud to represent district 27. Um, a
- 18 lot of the conversation I enjoyed today, um, also want
- 19 to remind the committee of a package of bills that
- 20 were introduced in now law, um, regarding human
- 21 trafficking prevention and awareness and addressing,
- 22 missing and murdered indigenous people.
- 23 Um, have also provided congressional testimony on
- 24 voting and, MMIP. So I hope that this committee will
- 25 use me as a resource, um, still working in the public

- 1 health arena, um, focusing on trying to improve the
- 2 quality of life for all people.
- 3 Um, so again, I just hope that you'll use me as a
- 4 resource, um, and that we can work together, um, to
- 5 address the needs of the people. So mods, good odds.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 Oh, also one more thing it's important too, when
- 8 you travel to different communities, if somebody
- 9 hasn't kind of prepped you on -- or if you haven't
- 10 yourself kind of done the homework of the different
- 11 tribal communities that you -- you visit, it's kind of
- 12 important to note which communities are matriarchal
- 13 and matrilineal too.
- 14 Um, and -- and the differences there, or even you
- 15 might have noticed during prayer, you know, the women
- 16 sit and I -- I still do that in the house chambers. So
- 17 I think somebody on the phone call had mentioned
- 18 cultural competency.
- 19 So it's kind of like getting informal, uh, raised
- 20 awareness. So I'm just thankful that you have made the
- 21 effort to go to the communities. Um, so mods, good
- 22 odds. Thank you,
- 23 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Commissioner. You have any
- 24 comments?
- 25 MALE: Uh, yes. Uh, Chairman Wardner, committee

- 1 members, uh, Chairman Fox, uh, council
- 2 representatives. Uh, thanks for the, uh, the invite
- 3 today. Thanks for lunch. Uh, it's not often I go to
- 4 work and get to eat fried bread nowadays. I'll say
- 5 that -- that was nice. It's always nice to come visit
- 6 up here in MHA. You know, I used to spend my summers
- 7 here as a kid, have an aunt and uncle that live here.
- 8 Uh, three first cousins that were born and raised
- 9 here. I have a -- a sister and a niece and nephew
- 10 they're all enrolled members. So, you know, it's
- 11 always nice to come visit an MHA Nation. I always tell
- 12 stories about the, uh, before the boom, uh, when you
- 13 go down main street, you know, it was a little small,
- 14 like so you blink, you miss it.
- 15 And I remember they used to have the, uh, I
- 16 believe it was -- I can't remember the exact name, but
- 17 it was, uh, down to main street and it was the youth
- 18 center. This like a little trailer, I think it was a
- 19 blue trailer with a chain link fence around it.
- We'd go in there -- there was activities to do.
- 21 And I think one of my favorite times down here, um,
- 22 other than running the hills and riding horse was we
- 23 got to watch the, uh, and to us it was a treat.
- We didn't have TV back home in Turtle Mountain so
- 25 we got to watch the, uh, Chicago Bulls and the Utah

- 1 Jazz in the finals every time they came on that
- 2 summer. We got to down the youth center and play games
- 3 and watch basketball.
- 4 So that's one of my highlights of my, uh, my
- 5 childhood was just being able to do something like
- 6 that here in New Town, uh, in MHA Nation. Uh, but
- 7 yeah, once again, like I said, it's -- it's great to
- 8 come visit. It's great to be a part of the
- 9 conversations and the partnerships moving forward. So,
- 10 uh, thanks for the opportunity.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Cool. Okay. Um, you have any
- 12 final comments? How about the quiet quy right next to
- 13 you?
- 14 CHAIRMAN FOX: I know he would say nothing. He'll
- 15 -- he'll bill me though. No. Go ahead.
- 16 MALE 2: My only comment is when, uh, Chairman
- 17 Fox was up in [inaudible] and he went to work for that
- 18 quy that was so impressed with the North Dakotans
- 19 because he hired me first.
- 20 CHAIRMAN FOX: Uh, maybe John set the standard, I
- 21 don't know. But I -- once I -- once the guy that he's
- 22 talking about last comment and they were all, I'm glad
- 23 that in humor is very important to all of us here.
- 24 And -- and I appreciate what Ruth had said and in
- 25 our ways, and I was -- I forgot to explain that this

- 1 morning when -- especially when we pray, it's
- 2 customary amongst many of our our native women to
- 3 remain sitting and that's our -- the way we do things
- 4 customarily.
- 5 Um, but me, when I -- when I ask
- 6 somebody to pray and we conduct something, I always
- 7 tell people do -- do what you were taught. If you --
- 8 if you were taught to, to remain sitting and that's
- 9 part of your ways, then remain sitting.
- 10 If you -- if you were taught to stand in
- 11 reverence, my father was a minister. If you're taught
- 12 to rise then -- then rise. But everybody has to choose
- 13 their way of -- of, you know, paying devotion to God.
- 14 So -- so I -- I want to kind of throw that in
- 15 there a little bit. But yeah, this -- this rancher
- 16 that I worked for one -- one time and it was well over
- 17 100 degrees, got there early in the morning and my
- 18 other -- the other two hands show up.
- 19 They were there the day before they were there.
- 20 But that one day I did, uh, well over by myself I rode
- 21 a bale sled, picked it up the first time out of a bale
- 22 sled, pushed it off stacks of eight, uh, sometimes
- 23 nine but seven to nine in -- in stacks.
- And then you come around and there's a handyman
- 25 and I got a flatbed semi and he drives that. And then

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1	he comes gets his handyman and he scoop them up on
2	top of the flatbed and then I stack them again.
3	And so, you know, uh, when and one day we
4	went, you know, almost 2000 bales and one day
5	collecting them and hauling them twice. And and so,
6	uh, uh, that was really a hard day. Uh, a hard day it
7	was a temperature over 100 degrees, uh, and what have
8	you.
9	But but again, thank you for everything. Thank
10	you for for being here and come back, because we
11	got other things to show you and other things to talk
12	about and uh, we'll do our best to even [inaudible] a

- 13 little bit better. Huh? Sherry. We'll do even some
- 14 more things for when you come back the next time. So,
- 15 and Tasha back there which I asked her if she had
- 16 anything to -- to add in but --
- 17 MS. BIRD BEAR: I do, but I had to step out.
- 18 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Go ahead please.
- 19 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Would you use that mic over
- 20 there next to the chairman?
- 21 CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah.
- 22 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: You know, we're recording
- 23 things now and people want to hear you.
- 24 CHAIRMAN FOX: Yeah.
- 25 MS. BIRD BEAR: Okav.

1	CHAIRMAN FOX: Live two.
2	MS. BIRD BEAR: Hello. My name is Lonewoman. My
3	government name is Tasha Bird Bear. I'm chicken clan.
4	I live in [inaudible]. And oh, I'm sorry. I'm not
5	really used to a bunch of people or speaking in front
6	of them.
7	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: You're doing real well,
8	MS. BIRD BEAR: But um, I am very happy with what
9	our people are doing for language revitalization. And
10	I would like to see more of our ways taught within the
11	state. I I lived in Minot. That's uh, I was born in
12	Stanley. I lived in Minot and during certain times
13	whenever they were going over native history, the
14	teacher would usually refer over to me. She'd say
15	[inaudible].
16	Or him. And they're like [inaudible] woman. And
17	anyways, um, it would be great to have that out there
18	like within our state so others could learn. And also
19	for voting. I really agree with a lot of the things
20	that Joletta had said. And in my own experience in
21	2012, I had gone to vote over in [inaudible] and there
22	was myself and two other two others.
23	Anyways, when we walked in this lady, she came
24	right to the door before we could even get in. And she
25	was asking us what we had and it seemed like she was
1	

- 1 using her age and what not to stop us from going. And
- 2 we were well versed. We listened to what was on the
- 3 radio, like make sure you have these identifications,
- 4 make sure you have these utility bills. And the two
- 5 behind me, they were quick to be like, oh, well maybe
- 6 we shouldn't be here.
- We all have the right to vote. And it would be
- 8 great if that was better represented. And for polling
- 9 places, I would definitely volunteer. I didn't see
- 10 anybody that looked like us in that voting station. I
- 11 just saw people trying to stop us. So anyways, thank
- 12 you for listening to me. Thank you for letting me on
- 13 that Zoom. I'm so glad I get to see elders on a daily
- 14 basis and learn from them. Okay.
- 15 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay.
- 16 FEMALE: I'll -- I'll just, um, emphasis what she
- 17 -- what she meant about that. Um, I am the, uh,
- 18 cultural, uh, representative for the tribe. Well, I
- 19 sit on a chair. I'm the chairwoman of that.
- 20 And I am really an advocate for, um, bringing
- 21 back our language. And so, um, our education -- not
- 22 our education, our cultural depart has classes every
- 23 day on Zoom for anybody who wants to get on and learn
- 24 about our ways of the Hidatsa.
- 25 Um, I believe that, um, they might be doing

- 1 something in Arikara too. I'm not too sure because I
- 2 am Hidatsa and that's what I focus on. And I'm believe
- 3 they do things in Twin Buttes for the Mandan also.
- 4 But if any of you want to just get on Zoom, we
- 5 can give you the link and you can just listen, you
- 6 don't have to participate. But if you listen and hear
- 7 how things are done and spoken, it might bring more
- 8 cultural awareness between the bridges that we have.
- 9 Thank you and [inaudible].
- 10 CHAIRMAN FOX: Okay. Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Well, thank you. And, uh,
- we've had a good day and we, uh, really appreciate the
- opportunity to visit here. And, uh, yes. We will be,
- 14 uh, spending time on these issues. Uh, one of my goals
- is that we are going to move things forward. And, uh,
- 16 with all of the, uh, tribe- -- tribal governments.
- 17 And so there's a -- there's a lot of work to do,
- 18 and we've got a long ways to go. But we're going to --
- 19 we're going to get -- going to keep pushing.
- 20 Uh, to the committee members tomorrow morning,
- 21 we'll be 9:00 we'll be at the Casino in, uh, Spirit
- 22 Lake and we will resume and we'll be listening to the
- 23 issues that they have in their tribal government. So
- 24 with that, uh, I'm asking for an, uh, motion to
- 25 adjourn.

1	MR. POLLERT: Motion adjourn.
2	CHAIRMAN WARDNER: Okay. We got a motion to
3	adjourn. I, uh, from, uh, Representative Pollert.
4	Second by Representative Jones. We're we're
5	adjourned.
6	CHAIRMAN FOX: Thank you, everybody.
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2	
3	I, Chris Naaden, a transcriber, hereby declare
4	under penalty of perjury that to the best of my
5	ability the above 211 pages contain a full, true and
6	correct transcription of the tape-recording that I
7	received regarding the event listed on the caption on
8	page 1.
9	
10	I further declare that I have no interest in the
11	event of the action.
12	Challen .
13	March 21, 2022
14	Chris Naaden
15	
16	
17	
18	(NoDak Tribal and State Relations Committee, 8-31-21)
19	
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EXHIBIT 14



MANDAN, HIDATSA & ARIKARA NATION

Three Affiliated Tribes * Fort Berthold Indian Reservation 404 Frontage Road New Town, ND 58763 Tribal Business Council

Office of the Chairman Mark N. Fox

> 67th Legislative Assembly Redistricting Committee September 29, 2021

Testimony of Chairman Mark Fox

Chairman Devlin and members of the Redistricting Committee, I am Mark Fox, Chairman of the Tribal Business Council of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation. I am respectfully submitting this written testimony as follow-up to the in-person testimony I provided to the Committee on September 23, 2021. During my testimony on September 23rd, I advocated for the creation of a single-member (or sub-district) for the State House district that encompasses the Fort Berthold Reservation. I am resubmitting the proposed district map for District 4, which includes a proposed sub-district line for a single-member House district that would provide the MHA Nation, its members, and the surrounding communities of interest with the best opportunity to elect the representative of their choice.

The proposed sub-district follows the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation; the creation of such a majority-minority sub-district is required under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. Section 2, as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court in *Thornburg v. Gingles*, 470 U.S. 30 (1986), requires the establishment of a majority-minority district when: 1) the minority group "is sufficiently numerous and compact to form a majority in a single-member district; 2)

the minority group is "politically cohesive; and 3) the "majority votes sufficiently as a bloc to . . . defeat the minority's preferred candidate."

Based on the Committee's prior discussion, the Committee is aware already from the 2020 Census that the number of tribal members on the Fort Berthold Reservation is sufficiently numerous and compact to form a majority in a single-member district, and that a sub-district following the lines of the reservation would form a perfectly populated sub-district. There is also ample evidence of voting history in District 4 to show that tribal member candidates and tribal member candidates of choice are routinely outvoted by the majority vote in the district.

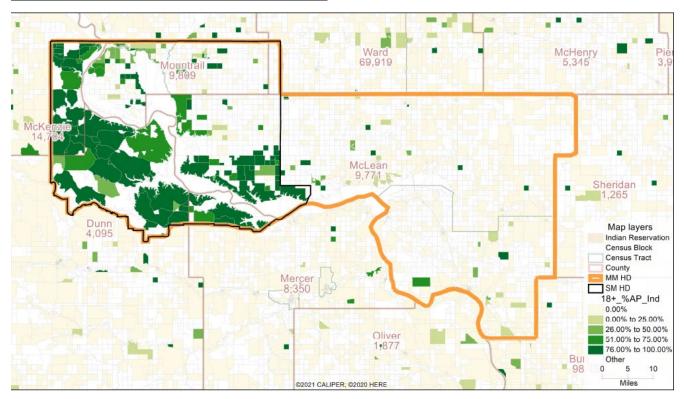
Proven history of bloc voting occurred on the Fort Berthold Reservation in the City of Parshall, e.g., Parshall School Board in 1990. I shared in prior testimony my personal experience when I sought election to the Parshall School Board that nearly five hundred votes were cast, in stark contrast to average voter turnout of less than one hundred when non-native candidates were on the ballot. Additional examples include two other tribal members running for the State House in 2020 and 2016, respectively. Both candidates, Thomasina Mandan and Cesar Alvarez easily won the precincts on the reservation but lost in the overall election. If single member districts were utilized, it is likely both of those candidates would have won. The MHA Nation seeks this Committee's support of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act in creating a sub-district for District 4 that includes the Fort Berthold Reservation.

Below is the proposed district and sub-district map. The proposed sub-district contains a Native American VAP of over 67%. The creation of such a district would improve the representation of the MHA Nation's members within the state, and the adoption of this proposed sub-district would satisfy the Legislature's requirements under the Voting Rights Act. I strongly

encourage the Committee and the Legislature to follow the law and adopt this proposed subdistrict.

Thank you for your consideration of this additional testimony.





District	4 - Sub District	4A - Full District
Population	8353	17065
Deviation	65	489
% Deviation	0.007843	0.0295
18+_Pop	5712	12567
% 18+_Pop	0.683826	0.73642
NH18+_Wht	1462	7921
% NH18+_Wht	0.255952	0.630302
18+_AP_Ind	3838	4044
% 18+_AP_Ind	0.671919	0.321795

EXHIBIT 15

September 28, 2021

North Dakota Legislative Redistricting Committee

Testimony of Lisa DeVille Mandaree, ND Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nation

Chairman Devlin and members of the legislative redistricting committee,

Dosha, my name is Lisa DeVille and I am a citizen of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation in Fort Berthold. I grew up in Mandaree where I and my family are lifelong residents of our ancestral lands. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation is a federally recognized tribe in the state of North Dakota, located in the counties of Dunn, Mountrail, McKenzie, Mercer, Ward and McLean. The Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation is a sovereign nation governed by its Tribal Business Council. We have an enrollment of nearly 17,000 members. Under the 2020 Census, the population of the reservation was 8,350. The total population in North Dakota increased overall between 2010 and 2020 from 672,591 residents to 779,094, representing a 15.8% increase. The Native American population outpaced the state, and grew by 29.7% in the last decade. The Fort Berthold Reservation is within North Dakota State District 4, which elects two members to the State House (atlarge), and one member to the Senate.

Currently, District 4 is represented by three Republicans: Senator Jordan Kannianen, Representative Clayton Fegley, and Representative Terry B. Jones. Prior to the 2016 election, the District had a Democratic senator and one Democratic representative for several years. In 2020 I challenged Senator Kannianen and unfortunately was not able to be elected even though portions of the district on the reservation strongly supported myself and House of Representatives candidate Thomasina Mandan.

Every decade new district lines are drawn that give each of our votes equal weight, each of our voice's equal stature, and each of our communities equal resources. Voters pick our leaders, and our leaders should not pick their voters. To determine how we will be represented and how funds for schools, hospitals, and other essential services will be allocated we need legislators that work with tribal citizens as well as government.

Representation at state, county, and federal level is not all about oil and gas. We Native American/Indigenous people have our own voice. The Non-Native American have been speaking for us since they landed here.

Recently, I gave a short comment on redistricting during the ND and MHA Tribal relations meeting. I support implementation of subdistricts. We need to be at the table when decisions are made that impact our lives and possibly the lives of future generations. There should be no assumption that ND knows what is best for us Indigenous people when our culture, tradition, and beliefs are different and often not taken into account when decisions are made.

Again, we need to be at the table and we need fair representation in North Dakota. Maacagiraac-Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you.

EXHIBIT 16



North Dakota Native Vote PO Box 226 Bismarck, North Dakota 58502 info@ndnativevote.org

9/15/2021

North Dakota Legislative Redistricting Committee

Testimony of Nicole Donaghy North Dakota Native Vote, Executive Director

Chairman Devlin and members of the Redistricting Committee,

My name is Nicole Donaghy, I'm a citizen of the Standing Rock Nation and a descendant of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara people. I live in Lincoln, North Dakota and I'm the Executive Director of North Dakota Native Vote.

North Dakota Native Vote is a non-profit, non-partisan grassroots organization that initially formed in response to the 2018 US Supreme Court decision to uphold the voter identification law that had the potential to disproportionately adversely affect over 5,000 Native voters in North Dakota. Our mission is to create and affect policy to promote equitable representation for the Native people of North Dakota.

I joined North Dakota Native Vote in 2018 because the imbalance of power in our state was very apparent to me after being a community organizer for years. I've worked on education issues, protection of land, air, and water, and now civic engagement. I soon realized that the issues that I was working on often stem from a lack of inclusion and representation in the decision making processes.

In North Dakota, the Native American population grew by 29.7% in the last decade, it is North Dakota Native Vote's ask that the Committee take into consideration the perspectives of each of the Tribes as well as tribal members in the redistricting process.

We are asking the Committee to adopt single-member House districts to prevent the dilution of Native American votes. Tribes and tribal members in North Dakota have had to fight for the right to vote, whether by defeating voter I.D. laws, opposing district lines that dilute the Native American vote, or by demanding on reservation polling locations. As we have seen in our early beginning as an organization, tribal citizens in North Dakota have been overburdened by policy that is created by decision makers with little input from their tribal constituents. At-large voting systems, like the current one used for the North Dakota State House, violate the Voting Rights Act when they dilute minority voting power by preventing tribal members from electing the candidate of their choice.

Our State Constitution in Article IV subsection 2, paragraph 2 states "The legislative assembly may... provide for the election of senators at large and representatives at large or from subdistricts from those districts." North Dakota Century Code 54-03-01.5 Legislative subsection 2 also



North Dakota Native Vote PO Box 226 Bismarck, North Dakota 58502 info@ndnativevote.org

provides that "Representatives may be elected at large or from subdistricts." North Dakota law allows for the creation of sub-districts and that is what should be done. Single-member House districts, or sub-districts, within districts containing reservations would allow tribal members to elect the candidate of their choice as required under the Voting Rights Act.

Candidates are able to run, but not get elected because of the dilution of their vote by being grouped in with adjacent communities that do not share similar interest.

One example is my home lands in Sioux County on the Standing Rock Reservation. Data from elections for legislative seats over the past decade indicate that Native American residents of District 31 are not currently able to elect representatives of their choice.

For example, in 2014 two Standing Rock Tribal members, Mike Faith and LaDonna Allard, ran for the State House but were out-voted in the at-large system. In 2010, another Standing Rock Tribal member ran for the State House, but was likewise outvoted in the at-large system. Chase Iron Eyes, another Standing Rock member and candidate for U.S. House, earned 78% of the vote in Sioux county, but was defeated in each of the other counties in District 31. This shows that the Native American voters have not been able to elect the candidate of their choice.

We recommend that a "Community of Interest" standard should be used by this Committee, which takes into consideration communities that have similar language, culture, and identity, to keep those communities together within a single legislative district. Splitting the reservation or our communities into multiple districts would dilute the ability of tribal members to elect the representative of their choice.

Lastly, this Committee should be holding hearings on or near reservations so that tribal members who are unable to travel to Bismarck, and who lack internet access, are able to participate in the redistricting process. There are high levels of poverty and a lack of access to transportation and broadband internet on our reservations. This Committee would be doing itself and this state a disservice by failing to provide an opportunity for all of this state's citizens to take part in this important discussion. All voices must be heard.

North Dakota Native Vote was founded to ensure the inclusion of Native voices in the political discourse of our State. We support and encourage our Native people to engage in the political process that is not always inclusive of our people for various reasons. I thank the Redistricting Committee for its time today and will stand for any questions the Committee may have. Thank you.

EXHIBIT 17



Redistricting Committee Testimony - Thursday, August 26, 2021

To: Chairman Devlin and members of the Redistricting Committee:

My name is Rick Gion, and I live in Fargo, ND. I'm the director of North Dakota Voters First. We are a non-partisan, grassroots organization dedicated to strengthening democracy. Our organization focuses on educating and engaging North Dakota citizens to make elections and public policy more accountable, ethical, and transparent.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the 2021 North Dakota legislative districting process. Our organization is urging fairness and transparency with this process. We are hopeful that you will be posting draft legislative maps on the legislative website as is alluded to in House Bill 1397 of the 2021 legislative session.

Re-drawing boundaries of legislative districts is one of the most important tasks required to maintain a well-functioning and representative government in our state. It only happens every 10 years. I believe that the goal of districting should be to work as much as we can to ensure that everyone's vote matters. That means districts are compact and contiguous, the number of people in each district is almost identical, existing boundaries are respected, and communities of interest are represented. I'd also suggest taking a look at splitting districts for the state House of Representatives. This would help give better representation in rural areas and with the state's Native American reservations.

One of the major problems to avoid is gerrymandered districts that are designed to produce electoral advantages for incumbents or the political party in power. Biased legislative districts favor powerful special interests instead of voters. Every vote no longer counts, because the system is rigged.

As a proud North Dakotan, I'm urging fairness in the 2021 districting process. Let's avoid gerrymandering and make sure that we have the best and most representational state government in the nation. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rick Gion (lobbyist #
Director, North Dakota Voters First
rick@northdakotavotersfirst.org

EXHIBIT 18

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, an individual, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Defendants,

and

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Intervenor-Defendants.

DECLARATION TO ACCOMPANY THE EXPERT REPORT OF DANIEL MCCOOL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Daniel McCool, declare that:

My name is Daniel McCool. I am an expert witness designated by Intervenor-Defendants in the above referenced case now pending in the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota.

A true and correct copy of my curriculum vitae is attached hereto as a part of my report. The following report, a true and correct copy of which is attached and incorporated herein for all purposes, is a summary of my opinions and conclusions. The materials I relied upon to develop my analyses and opinions are cited therein and/or produced herewith for all counsel.

The court testimony and publications I am required to disclose are described in my attached report and/or curriculum vitae.

My reasonable and necessary hourly rate for my time in this case is \$200.
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this 17th day of January, 2023

Daniel McCool, Ph.D

Darry Molar

Expert Witness Report
In the case of
Walen v. Burgum
U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota, Eastern Division

prepared by:
Daniel McCool, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Department of Political Science
University of Utah
January 2023

OUTLINE OF THE REPORT

Summary of Findings

- I. Introduction
 - 1. Qualifications
 - 2. Research Question and the Senate Factors
 - 3. Qualitative Methods
- II. The Senate Factors Applied to North Dakota
 - 1. A history of official voting-related discrimination in the state or political subdivision.
 - a. Historical Discrimination and Vote Denial:
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 - c. Official Discrimination in Voting Rights:
 - 2. The extent to which voting in the elections of the state or political subdivision is racially polarized.
 - 3. The extent to which the state of political subdivision has used voting practices or procedures that tend to enhance the opportunity for discrimination against the minority group, such as unusually large election districts.
 - 4. The exclusion of members of the minority group from candidate slating processes.
 - 5. The extent to which minority group members bear the effects of discrimination in areas such as education, employment, and health, which hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process.
 - a. Income
 - b. Education
 - c. Health
 - d. Internet Access
 - 6. The use of overt or subtle racial appeals in political campaigns.
 - 7. The extent to which members of the minority group have been elected to public office in the jurisdiction.
 - a. The Legislature and
 - b. State Administrative Positions
 - c. County Elective and Appointed Offices
 - d. School Boards
 - e. Civil Service/Boards

- f. Urban Government
- 8. The responsiveness of state and local officials to the needs of minorities.
 - a. Redistricting
 - b. The controversy over DAPL
- 9. The tenuousness of the policy underlying voting laws, standards, and practices.

III. Conclusion

Summary of Findings:

A comprehensive analysis of the Senate factors reveals an enormous body of evidence that indicates that the Senate factors, except for two factors that are largely absent from contemporary elections, have characterized the relationship between Native Americans and the state of North Dakota for an extended time. There is a significant and prolonged history of official and *de facto* discrimination against Native Americans, racially polarized voting and a hostile political atmosphere, significant socio-economic differences between Native people and non-Native North Dakotans, and a lack of electoral success for Native Americans. The adopted redistricting plan that created House Districts 4a and 4b significantly affected one of the Senate factors—the lack of electoral success—and is a dramatic contrast to previous treatment of Native voters.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Qualifications

I am Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Utah. I received a B.A. in Sociology from Purdue University, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Arizona. I have spent my entire professional career studying the political relationship between Native Americans and the larger political context. For over thirty-five years I have conducted research on the voting rights and water rights of Native Americans. In 2007, I co-authored *Native Vote: American Indians, The Voting Rights Act, and the Right to Vote* (Cambridge University Press). In 2012, I edited a book titled *The Most Fundamental Right: Contrasting Perspectives on the Voting Rights Act* (Indiana University Press). I also have several peer-reviewed publications that focus on public policy methodology and theory. I serve as an academic advisor to the Native American Voting Rights Coalition, and co-authored the 2020 report, "Obstacles at Every Turn:

Barriers to Political Participation Faced by Native American Voters" (Tucker, De León, and McCool. 2020). I also assisted in the design of a four-state survey of Native American voters. My latest research focuses on Native American water rights in the Southwest.

I utilized "qualitative methods," described below, for nearly all of the 10 books, 27 articles, and 20 book chapters that I have published. I have served as an expert witness in 23 voting rights cases, which are listed on my vita. Seven of those cases were filed in state courts, and the others involved federal claims under Section 2 or Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. I applied the same methodology, described below, in all of these reports. My reports and my testimony have never been rejected by a court. I have been hired by the tribal defendants in this case and I am compensated at the rate of \$200/hour. The conclusions I present in this report are mine alone, are not related to or endorsed by the University where I have an appointment and were reached through an independent process of research and inquiry.

2. Research Question and the Senate Factors:

The fundamental research question addressed in this report is: To what extent are the Senate factors present in North Dakota and the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, and how does the configuration of legislative districts affect those factors?

In answering such a research question, the first task of a social scientist is to establish a set of criteria or factors that guide the inquiry and allow for the systematic evaluation of a large body of data. My analysis relies on factors that have been identified in statutory law, case law, and the U. S. Constitution that are relevant to questions regarding vote denial or abridgment, equal opportunities to vote and participate in the

political process, and equal opportunities to elect candidates of choice. I have primarily based my analysis on the 1982 Senate factors, which were identified as important indices of racially troubled jurisdictions in the Senate report that accompanied the 1982 amendments to the Voting Rights Act (Senate Report. 1982: 28-29). These are:

- 1. A history of official voting-related discrimination in the state or political subdivision.
- 2. The extent to which voting in the elections of the state or political subdivision is racially polarized.
- 3. The extent to which the state of political subdivision has used voting practices or procedures that tend to enhance the opportunity for discrimination against the minority group, such as unusually large election districts.
- 4. The exclusion of members of the minority group from candidate slating processes.
- 5. The extent to which minority group members bear the effects of discrimination in areas such as education, employment, and health, which hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process.
- 6. The use of overt or subtle racial appeals in political campaigns.
- 7. The extent to which members of the minority group have been elected to public office in the jurisdiction.
- 8. The responsiveness of state and local officials to the needs of minorities.
- 9. The tenuousness of the policy underlying voting laws, standards, and practices.

I rely on these factors because they are "for courts to use when assessing whether a particular practice or procedure results in prohibited discrimination in violation of Section 2 [of the Voting Rights Act]" (Katz. 2005: 3. Also see: *Pope v. Albany*. 2015). They represent the "'tools,' practices, and socio-economic and historic conditions that are indicative of problematic relationships between minority and majority populations, based on the preponderance of the evidence" (Senate Report. 1982: 29).

3. Qualitative Methods

In this report I utilize a well-recognized methodology known as "qualitative methods" (Denzin and Lincoln. 2017; Teherani, et. al. 2015). This is the same methodology I have used in nearly all my academic work, as well as all my previous expert witness reports. Qualitative methods are particularly useful to analyze information

from large bodies of print data. It is important to note that qualitative analysis does not mean non-numerical; for this report I employ many numerical measures and a large body of data to answer the research question. I employ this methodology by using data and information gleaned from multiple and overlapping sources: original research, interviews, newspapers (including editorials and letters to the editor), past court cases, interest group publications, oral histories, secondary published sources such as books and articles, online sources (websites, blogs), business advertising and business policies, campaign flyers and publicity, church records, and documents and studies created by tribal, local, state, and federal governments, including voting data and census data. In some cases, it is also useful to examine photographs, videos, and other visual "data." As Fraser and Davies point out, qualitative methods "may fruitfully draw on written documents as a resource to generate new knowledge" (2019: 213). I examine these multiple sources for significant long-term trends across multiple sources of information and data. Confidence levels increase when consistent patterns of responses appear across multiple sources over a sustained period of time. Reliability is enhanced by utilizing a large number of documents that represent many different types of sources and finding consistent patterns across these diverse sources. For this report I relied on 196 written sources, a large body of U.S. Census data, and both in-person and telephone interviews.

Qualitative methods are well recognized in the social sciences. The Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods was established in 2001 (Consortium on Qualitative Research Methods. n.d.). The American Political Science Association organized a

¹ I relied on both 2020 Census data as well as the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) data. I note that the 2020 Census was problematic: "The data collection issues experienced by the 2020 ACS severely affect the data quality of these statistics, therefore the Census Bureau decided not to release the standard ACS 1-year data for 2020" (Daily. 2021).

Research section (American Political Science Association. 2021). By 2003 almost half of all peer-reviewed articles in Political Science journals utilized qualitative methods (Bennett, Barth, and Rutherford. 2003). Syracuse University, with funding from the National Science Foundation, established a "Qualitative Data Repository" to assist researchers who utilize this method (Qualitative Data Repository. n.d.). Qualitative methods are now used in a variety of fields and research settings (Lamont and White. 2009: 5; Bartolini. 2013). Qualitative methods are often employed in conjunction with quantitative methods: "A sophisticated and growing methodological literature—both qualitative and quantitative—is now concerned with the analysis of necessary causes in both individual cases and populations of many cases" (Mahoney. 2021: 103).

Qualitative methods are well-suited for expert analysis in voting rights cases because the methodology is adept at analyzing phenomena that are complex, long-term, multi-dimensional, and subject to rapid change. Furthermore, the application of the methodology is not limited to any particular social or ethnic group. Lamont and White note that qualitative methods are "particularly useful for studying timely topics such as group identities and boundaries [and] race, class, gender..." (2009: 5). It is also particularly useful to study phenomena that occur over long periods of time, due to the large number of variables and factors that change over time (see, for example: Bartolini. 2013). There are many methodology textbooks that focus on qualitative methods; most are written by political scientists, but others are by authors in fields such as public health, anthropology, sociology, and increasingly the humanities. This method has been especially relevant to the multi-methods approach of the "new history" movement and

social history (see, for example: Hoffer. 2007; Tyrrell. 2005; Limerick et. al. 1991). The use of social science methodology in history, including qualitative methods, is exemplified by journals such as *Social Science History* and the *Journal of Policy History*. The widespread use and acceptance of qualitative methods, along with the applicability to large-scale analytical problems, is why I have consistently relied on that approach for both my academic work and my expert witness reports.

II. The Senate Factors Applied to North Dakota

1. A history of official voting-related discrimination in the state or political subdivision.

a. Historical Discrimination and Vote Denial:

It is important to understand the long-term historical relationship between Native Americans and Anglos in North Dakota because that history still has a direct impact on the attitudes of Native Americans toward the dominant society, which controls the electoral process. Historical trauma—the result of centuries of warfare, grievous losses in land, autonomy, and culture—affects the contemporary ability of Native Americans to engage in the political process.

The state of North Dakota has had a long and troubled history with its American Indian citizens (See, for example: *Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians v. United States*. 1974; North Dakota Legislative Council. 1997; Richardson. 2011). The conflict between Anglos and Indians goes back to territorial days, when the *Bismarck Tribune* editorialized: "The American people need the country the Indians now occupy.... An Indian war would do no harm, for it must come, sooner or later" (quoted in Karolevitz. 1975: 99).

They got their wish; the military confrontation between Native people defending their homes, and new settlers and the U.S. Army, was long and brutal. Colonel Henry Sibley, who pursued Dakota people across what is now North Dakota following the 1862 Dakota Uprising, expressed an attitude that was typical for that era: "My heart is steeled against them [the Dakota people], and if I have the means, and can catch them, I will sweep them with the besom of death" (Minnesota Historical Society. 2022). The war against Native people in the northern plains was largely driven by the settlers' demand for Indian land:

...there was no general policy relative to Indian reservations prior to 1850. White land hunger, as so often happened, forced the government to develop a plan. By mid-century farmers in Iowa and Missouri coveted the rich lands occupied by the transplanted Indians west of the Missouri River and demanded that the government concentrate the Indians' holdings so whites could move onto the vacated parcels of land. In response, the commissioner of Indian affairs in Washington developed a plan for small, well-defined Indian 'colonies' where the tribes would be concentrated (Risjord. 2012: 155).

North Dakota historian Elwyn Robinson explains how the tribes of the Dakotas were unilaterally deprived of their homelands with the rationalization that reservation lands were "larger than they needed to be:"

As the Indians began to live by farming and on government rations, it became obvious that some of the reservations were much larger than they needed to be. In August, 1879, the government reduced the size of the Great Sioux Reservation, taking away more than 5,000,000 acres of land east of the Missouri, mostly in South Dakota. And in 1889 the government took about half of the Great Sioux Reservation, or 11,000,000 acres of what still belonged to the Sioux west of the Missouri, and divided the remainder into six separate reservations. The Standing Rock Reservation had 2,462,000 acres (only 665,000 in North Dakota). In two

² The "Indian wars" were stunningly brutal. Here is a description of what happened at Wounded Knee, which basically ended the 400-year war between Native peoples and Euro-Americans: "...the soldiers hunted down and slaughtered all the Sioux they could find, riding them down and shooting at point-blank range as they tried to escape. One woman was murdered after she had run three miles from the camp. Soldiers shot babies in their cradle-boards. The only good Indian was a dead Indian, many of the troops had been taught, and they had just turned two hundred and fifty Sioux into good Indians." (Richardson. 2011: 11).

cessions, the first in 1880 and the second in 1891, the government took away the greater part of the Fort Berthold Reservation, leaving the Three Tribes about 1,300,000 acres. The cession of 1891, negotiated in 1886, but, to the disappointment of the Indians, long unratified by Congress, gave the Three Tribes \$800,000 in ten annual payments and opened 1,600,000 acres to white settlement (Robinson. 1966: 252-253).

The dramatic loss of traditional homeland was especially severe on the Fort Berthold Reservation:

On July 13, 1880, an Executive Order was issued, depriving the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara of the greater part of their lands. Everything south of a line forty miles north of the Northern Pacific Railroad right-of-way was ceded. This involuntary cession also included an extensive tract of land south and west of Fort Buford. The tribes were not consulted when the Executive Order was drawn up. As compensation, the tribes were granted a parcel of land north of the Missouri River, extending to within thirty-five miles of the Canadian border. This action, viewed as bad faith on the part of the government, did not pacify the injured and angry feelings of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara. The land to the north offered in compensation to the tribes was rough and undesirable... Within twenty-five years, the government reduced more than 12 million acres of their territory to one-tenth of its original size....They [the three tribes] had never reconciled themselves to the loss of territory resulting from the Executive Orders of 1870 and 1880 for which they had not been compensated. The reductions suffered by the reservation amounted to roughly 90 percent of what the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara/Sahnish had been acknowledged to own at the time of the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty (North Dakota Studies. 2022).

Fort Berthold would lose an additional 155,000 acres of prime bottom land and most of their towns along the river when the Garrison Dam was constructed. The losses suffered by the Three Affiliated Tribes were so devastating that the tribal council chairman wept when he had to sign the document ceding so much land to the Project (Lawson. 1982: 61-62):



Chairman George Gillette, at the signing of the Garrison Dam Land Sale, 1948

Historical trauma for other tribes is often the result of war and losses suffered in the Nineteenth Century, but one the greatest calamities to befall the MHA Nation—Garrison Dam and the flooding of the heart of their reservation—happened in the lifetime of some of the people still living. For some tribal members it is still a visceral and emotional event.

Settlement of the state by Anglos was celebrated by the new-comers, but it was devastating for the Native people of the northern Great Plains—a historical trauma that still affects the relationship between Native people and Anglos today and their ability to participate in the electoral process. Incoming Anglos, especially those who settled near Indian reservations, often harbored hostility for their Native American neighbors, as explained in the U. S. Supreme Court case, *U. S. v. Kagama*: "They [Indian tribes] owe no allegiance to the states, and receive from them no protection. Because of the local ill

feeling, the people of the states where they are found are often their deadliest enemies" (1886).

By the time that the Dakota Territory was being considered for statehood, the Native population had been forcibly settled onto reservations that were a small remnant of their traditional homelands. The state constitutional convention in 1889 provided the first opportunity for the nascent state to specify the role of Indians in governing and society. The convention lasted from July 4 to August 17—a period of nearly seven weeks. Throughout the voluminous proceedings of the convention, there is virtually no mention of Native Americans; they were practically invisible. There was boilerplate language regarding Indian lands—a stipulation required by the Enabling Act, but the only discussion of Native people was to specifically exclude them from voting.³

The article on suffrage in the state Constitution originally contained language that gave the vote to "persons of Indian blood who shall be declared citizens by the laws of the United States" (Journal of the Constitutional Convention. 1889: 31). This was a broad and fairly liberal grant of suffrage to Native people; full suffrage only awaited federal legislation granting full citizenship. But that language was almost immediately replaced by a severely restrictive phrase that granted the right to vote only to "Persons of Indian blood or of mixed white and Indian blood, who shall have adopted, for not less than two years, the language, customs and habits of civilization" (p. 70). However, the reference to people of mixed white and Indian blood apparently upset some people.

³ There is one other reference to Indians. A design for the "great seal" for the state was embedded in the Constitution. In a symbolic nod to the framers' mind-set in regard to the future of Native Americans in North Dakota, the Constitution specified that the seal include "An Indian on horseback pursuing a buffalo towards the setting sun" (*Journal of the Constitutional Convention*, 1889: 188). That image is still on the state seal.

In the next iteration of the Constitution, it was replaced by this phrase: "Civilized persons of Indian descent who shall have severed their tribal relations two years next preceding such election" (p. 135). That phrase was ultimately adopted. To "sever" tribal relations in that era meant to leave the reservation, have no affiliation with a tribe, and adopt the dress, religion, and customs of white people (McCool, Olson, and Robinson. 2007: 2-12). Native Americans are the only group of citizens in U.S. history who were required to give up their home, their language, and their culture as a prerequisite to the right to vote.

Even this narrow grant of suffrage to Native individuals who had essentially become facsimiles of white people did not guarantee a right to vote. The test as to whether "civilized Indians" would actually be allowed to vote came just eight years after statehood when members of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Band of Indians on the Spirit Lake (at that time called Devils Lake) Indian Reservation petitioned the county commissioners to establish a voting precinct on the reservation (State v. Denoyer. 1897). The county commissioners had established precincts everywhere in the county except on the reservation. The petition was from tribal members who had followed the dictates of the Dawes Act and settled on allotments, "adopted the habits of civilized life" and had as a result been awarded U. S. citizenship (Dawes Act of 1887). The county commissioners refused, and in the subsequent court case argued that the state lacked the jurisdiction to establish precincts on Indian reservations, and that the Indians were not sufficiently civilized because on the reservation there were "three persons known as 'chief,'... and that these chiefs exercise sway... in the same manner that Indian chiefs ruled in years gone by" (State v. Denoyer. 1897: 590). The county also argued that the Indians should

not have the right to vote because they did not pay taxes in the county—a claim that is still heard today (p. 590).

The judge first determined that the state did indeed have the power to establish a precinct on a reservation; he then determined if the Indians were qualified to vote based entirely on how "civilized" the Indians had become: "[The Indians] would not be voters unless they had entirely abandoned their tribal relations, and were in no manner subject to the authority of any Indian chief or Indian agent" (*State v. Denoyer.* 1897: 600). The judge also noted that the Indians were farmers on allotted land, and had met the requirements of the Dawes Act, and thus concluded that the Indians were sufficiently acculturated to be eligible to vote under state law. The court then forced the county to establish a precinct on the reservation.

In 1911, additional caveats were added via statute to the suffrage provision pertaining to Native Americans; voting for Native people was limited to: "Civilized persons of Indian descent who shall have severed their tribal relations two years next preceding such election, provided he has complied with the provisions with any law which is now or may in the future be in force relating to the registration of voters" (North Dakota Statute, Chap. 131, approved March 3, 1911).

The cultural litmus test of a "civilized Indian" embodied in the North Dakota Constitution was applied again in 1918 when a small group of Sioux Indians from Standing Rock voted in a local election. A group of local ranchers filed a lawsuit claiming the Indians had no right to vote because they had not sufficiently severed tribal relations, even though the Sioux voters had followed the dictates of the Dawes Act, settled upon allotments, and become U.S. citizens. The lawyers for the ranchers argued

that "Indians are not a portion of the political community called the people of the United States," and their political status "does not condition the government to protect their property" (*Swift v. Leach.* 1920: 437).

A North Dakota trial court ruled that the Indians were in fact civilized, but the ranchers appealed to the North Dakota Supreme Court. In a 1920 decision that must have come as a surprise to many Anglo people, the Court ruled in favor of the Sioux Indians. The judge based his decision solely on a finding that the Indians had become exactly like white people and had completely abandoned their tribe: "There is no evidence whatsoever... of tribal relations.... Over these Indians there are no chiefs.... The evidence sustains the findings that these Indians are civilized persons... following the customs of the white man in marriage and domestic life, in agricultural pursuit, in education, in religious life" (*Swift v. Leach.* 1920: 446).

This review of the historical relationship between Native Americans and Anglos in North Dakota is essential to an understanding of the contemporary relationship between these peoples because it results in feelings of alienation from the political system and a sense that one is not a part of, and cannot influence, that system. The traumatic history summarized above still directly affects the ability of Native Americans to participate in the political process.

In sum, the state of North Dakota deprived nearly all Native Americans of the right to vote; the franchise was extended only to a small segment of the Native population that had conformed to the rigid cultural, economic, and religious norms of the dominant society and abandoned their homeland, their culture, and their tribe.

b. Contemporary Discrimination:

In the 100 years since the Swift decision, Native people in North Dakota have had to deal with the continuing occurrence of discrimination in voting as well as in society as a whole, which still has a negative impact on their ability to participate in elections. The lengthy history of discrimination in North Dakota was documented in a 1999 report by the North Dakota Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights. The Committee report noted the testimony of a former state senator: "...since 1957, as a member of the North Dakota legislature and from his involvement with other organizations, 'the question of discrimination has always been one of the chief topics of...discussion" (North Dakota Advisory Committee. 1999: 7). A member of the House at that time commented on one of the many problems confronting Native Americans in his urban district: "Within that district, about 600 people Native American, which is the largest number of Native Americans in any district in the State, except those districts that have reservations within them. There are also 1,400 mobile homes and 1,800 apartments constituting some of the poorest people in the district.... What I'm really saying is that we have a very high percentage of very vulnerable people, people who have less voice, people who have less power, people who have less mobility" (Advisory Committee. 1999: 35-36). Another member of the House noted that "discrimination occurs on a regular basis against Native Americans" (Advisory Committee. 1999: 37).

Native American leaders also gave testimony to the Advisory Committee. The chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes noted that, "For our tribal populations, civil rights enforcement has been infrequent, at best, in North Dakota" (p 38). The President of United Tribes Technical College stated that discrimination ranged from "we do not rent to Indians' notices that appeared over 20 years ago in a Bismarck hotel, to United

Tribes Technical College students being followed today by security personnel at the local malls and stores in Bismarck" (p. 38). The Director of the state Indian Affairs Commission spoke about a case of employment discrimination: "an individual was passed over for promotions and was subject to racial slurs in the workplace. Some comments included, 'go back to the reservation to your squaw,' 'go back to the reservation and eat dog,' and 'all Indian women are whores'" (p. 40). A native woman who was a columnist for the *Bismarck Tribune* said that "[Native] people are angry, frustrated, and have a sense of hopelessness," and described a recent ad referred through the state Job Service that attached instructions saying "Do not send Native Americans" (p. 64).

Additional testimony was given by a Methodist minister, who noted that "An American Indian [was] treated differently from whites at a business establishment when she attempted to write a personal check," and an assistant U. S. Attorney who said she witnessed "discrimination toward women and other minority groups, most notably Native Americans, all the time" (p. 66). The report concluded by stating: "Many forms of discrimination have been ongoing in the State for several decades, and it appears that limited accomplishments have been realized to solve those issues.... Systemic discrimination continues to occur...." (p. 75). That report was issued 23 years ago, but as we shall see in this report, discrimination against Native American in North Dakota continues to be a problem.

In the past, overt statements of racial discrimination were common; it was an accepted practice and an accurate reflection of prevailing belief systems. More recently, discrimination has become more subtle, with certain code words or phrases used in place

of explicitly racist language (Dick and Wirtz. 2011; Hill. 2008). Political scientist Henry Flores explains that "In the current historical era, race is implied (rather than openly stated) when the law is discussed or debated and other language, a different rhetoric, is used to hide racism from the public policy realm" (Flores. 2015: xiv).

A 2012 study of the North Dakota court system reiterated this distinction: "Research has identified two kinds of bias: overt and implicit.... Most racial and ethnic bias occurs in a pervasive yet subtle manner, referred to as implicit bias" (North Dakota Commission. 2012: 3). As a tribal college administrator put it, "there is a lot of self-censoring that goes on in the mainstream media; there is no need to say something bigoted to deny service; just do it" (Neumann. 2016). Another observer described discrimination in North Dakota this way: "it's not open and outright. I think the Native community would likely say yes. Do I hear background talk from white people about this? Sure" (Cook. 2016).

This undercurrent of racial tension became evident at Spirit Lake in 2013 when Congressman (now Senator) Kevin Cramer made controversial comments to a group called the North Dakota Council on Abused Women. This group deals with problems associated with violence against women, especially on Indian reservations. According to some of the people at the meeting, Congressman Cramer referred to all tribal governments as "dysfunctional," disparaged tribal judicial systems, and then reportedly said: "I want to ring the Tribal Council's neck and slam them against the wall" (Merrick. 2013; Spirit Lake Tribe. 29 Mar. 2013; Ecoffey. 2013). Congressman Cramer later claimed he had been "misunderstood," explaining that: "This may have been the result of my tone and rhetoric, better suited for active debate in Congress rather than in addressing

the protectors of our most vulnerable citizens. I apologize, and welcome future discussion to address my meaning, and to further our common cause" (Schilling. 1 April 2013; Dickinson Press Staff. 29 Mar. 2013).

Another event that provoked accusations of racism and discrimination was the conflict over the "Fighting Sioux" team mascot—what the *Wall Street Journal* described as the "contentious nickname" for the University of North Dakota sports team (Futterman. 26 Mar. 2015). Numerous Native groups and other advocacy organizations conducted a prolonged campaign to stop UND from using this mascot; they met with fierce resistance, and the conflict extended over a period of more than two decades. The National Congress of American Indians, the NAACP, most of the Sioux tribes, the Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara Affiliated Tribes, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribe demanded an end to the mascot (University of North Dakota Graduates. n.d.).

The mascot controversy was an emotional issue, and some people chose to express their opinions in an overtly racist manner. According to a group of students formed to force UND to change the mascot, a local store displayed a sign reading: "Redskins, go back to the reservations, leave their name alone" (University of North Dakota Graduates. n.d.). Some of the t-shirts produced at that time displayed obscene images of Indian people engaging in sex acts with bison (the team mascot of the rival NDSU). Another t-shirt, which could be purchased on-line, read: "If they were called the drunken, lazy, welfare collecting, free cheese eating, whiny ass Sioux, then you would have something to complain about." Another t-shirt depicted the head of an Indian in full headdress under the words: "Siouxper Drunk" (ICTMN Staff. 14 May 2014).

During the controversy, posters taped to the doors of the Indian Studies Program at UND were covered in racist insults:

- > "If the name has to go, so should your funding"
- > "Wish I could go to school for free"
- > "Go back to the res, or work @ the Casino, prairie nigga"
- > "Drink 'em lots o' fire water"
- > "if you get rid of the "Fighting Sioux" then we get rid of your <u>FREE</u> schooling!"
- > "Find something better for your time 'like a job"
- > "You lost the war. Sorry"

(University of North Dakota Graduates. n.d.)

The issue became so big that the state actually held a referendum on the name change; voters approved changing the mascot. This did not stop some people from filing a lawsuit in an attempt to stop the name change. The NCAA finally forced the change in 2012 because it considered the name "hostile and abusive" (Kolpack. 18 Nov. 2015; Walsh. 19 Oct. 2015; Houska. 20 Nov. 2015).

The Native people I interviewed at Fort Berthold feel that discrimination is a problem, both past and present, in North Dakota. They described many of the typical attributes of a racially polarized society. Here are some of the comments they made and incidents they discussed in response to the question: "Has discrimination had an impact on the ability of Native Americans to vote? Is there historical trauma?"

- > Were more seen as an outcast, seen that way by some; some white people are very hateful toward Native people. I haven't experienced discrimination because I've never been outside. There was this one time at a school basketball game and the people on the other team were saying hateful things, I don't want to say it [does not want to repeat the insulting term] (Good Bird. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > I have lots of stories of discrimination. We had a school board member named say to a Native girl that it's because of girls like you that we have a lot of teenage pregnancies. It was a public meeting; it got bad; we got into a verbal altercation. New Town News hired an editor. I was the school board president. This news lady put a misquote in the paper about me saying our teachers are not worth any more money; they misquoted me and would not do a correction. There were three Native people and two

⁴ Additional comments describing racism in North Dakota, made by tribal members from other reservations, were listed in my expert report for the case of *Turtle Mountain v. Jaeger* (2022).

white people on the New Town school district. I was the first Native to hold my seat on that school board.... At the next school board meeting, her husband wanted to fight me because we had barred her from the meeting as a reporter. We called law enforcement. This was in like 2003 or 4. We had another guy, a white guy, and he punched the Native school board member in the face. We hired our very first Native American superintendent; I was the board president; the two white guys wanted to hire a white guy, and all Native members on the school board voted for the Native candidate....When I was a coach and we'd go to Watford city, as we were getting off the bus, the white kids were doing the whoop-whoop thing and calling us wagon burners. It happened a second time, but that time the coach was also the principle and he made them apologize. Dickinson is horrible if you're a minority. In Kildeer, we had a player on the opposing team call one of our players a prairie nig---. We all heard it. I went onto the court and had an altercation with the refs for allowing that to happen. Nothing came of it. One of the teachers there was an enrolled member, and he got involved and they suspended that kid and apologized. That was in 2018. Another time we were in Washburn, ND, where the fans were calling our kids dirty Indians and savages. The fans were saying that. Our fans got upset; the other side called the county sheriff and he said he'd throw us out Racism is alive and well. (White. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).

- > Yes. The flood alone was traumatic. Smallpox was traumatic. Then Covid, it was a nightmare trying to get vaccines (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > The historical trauma is from dams from the federal government, and the treatment of tribal people since the formation of this country. Garrison Dam flooded intact communities and moved them to upland places where they don't have shelter and water. That trauma was experienced by my parents, and I grew up with that. I felt it when I was small, going into towns. There was a distinct feeling that we were unwanted, and we were there to buy things and contribute to their economy (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Yes to both questions. Tribal people have mistrust of governments other than their own just because of the treatment we've receive from governments. And that's based on genocide, because they took from us, but we gave a lot for the foundation of the U.S. government. And yes, there's discrimination in outside reservation towns. Since childhood, I could see that. My parents were treated poorly, not served in cafes, and today it's still the same, it might be in subtler forms, but there are still discriminatory attitudes in these neighboring towns. Discrimination is still alive (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Yes there is. I've seen it before I became mayor. People would look at me and not know I'm Native. But people would be joking around and say prairie nig--- and I'd almost get into a fight. They [local whites] talk sh-- about us, and talk sh-- about other races too. It's easy for me to play the race card, because of I've seen it all the time growing up, and the one thing is they always think, they think the Natives are so frickin' stupid. This was taught to me when I was growing up; if I act stupid and play dumb, you actually start to see the people's true colors. If you act dumb, they'll act like a snake and you'll get bit. They think we're weak and gullible; they mistake our kindness for weakness. We just pray for them. I had one guy say, if it wasn't for us white men you fu----' Indians would still be savages. That was in Minot (Standish. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).

- > Yes I have personally experienced discrimination. At an Appleby's in Bismarck, we walked in to be seated; an employee said: go help those brown people over there. We ask to speak to the manager—it turned out to be the person who'd said that. I wrote to the company. You get so used to discrimination you have to look for the humor in it, you can't let it scar you, because you can't help it how people were brought up and how they were taught. Because a lot of times with discrimination it becomes normal to you to be treated like that and you get used to it (Spotted Horse. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > Yes. A lot. I've been called any manner of names, including prairie n---. Growing up in North Dakota its almost like you can't get away from it. It's the worst rite of passage that anyone could experience (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > There is absolutely historical trauma. When I leave these reservation lines, in these border towns, and in all of ND, this whole state is a racist state. I've had all kinds of discriminatory things done to me. I was in Mandan in the McDonalds waiting in the drive-through lane, and this white woman, she gave me the finger and then pulled her pants down and stuck her white rear end out at me. I'm brown-skinned. There is no such thing as respect or regard. I filed a police report, this happened a couple of year ago. Even now, if I gotta go to Dickinson, now watch; they're all going to be staring me down. They let me know they're watching me. I don't respond to people putting me down. That is the discriminatory behavior we have in North Dakota.... This historical trauma, it goes way back to Columbus. We felt sorry for him. Then they raped the young Native American girls, and then they put us on reservations. It's one historical trauma after another. Our Four Bears chief died of smallpox. We haven't been able to grieve because one big thing after another has happened. Reservations, then boarding schools, our people were herded here and there. The ones that got home, they had a lot of social issues; we haven't even touched on that. Then smallpox, and then they flooded us out with Garrison Dam; my mom told me that when they flooded us out it was so devastating. The wolves got flooded out too and they attacked people. No one there to help my mom and dad. We should have places to go and talk about that. We don't have a place for historical grief. [she begins to cry]. Our people here, this trauma has been here. We need to pray. Where is the justice for our people? We don't have justice (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).
- > I experienced prejudice in a restaurant in Watford City. They wouldn't wait on us. After that I was well aware of prejudice. My Mom said; don't let this ruin anything for you; you have to fight for yourself. When I was working at Dickinson State, I was in the nursing program. They told me I had to do extra work "just like the other Native woman who works here." In Dickinson, Mexicans were more welcome than Natives. One of them said to me; white people don't like Indians because they're lazy (Muzzy. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 12).
- > Yes, it does have an impact (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > In general, yes, I'm half Native and German/Irish. I've experienced it from living in Bismarck; people said: go back to your reservation. My brother is darker, he gets pulled over more (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

Anglo people in North Dakota may not feel that racism is a problem. During the floor debate over HB 1504, Representative Jones claimed that "I have not seen racial animus that affects our elections. I don't believe it's here" (House Floor Session. 2021. Comments by Rep. Jones). That statement appears to contradict all of the statements above made by tribal members. The Native Americans I interviewed at Fort Berthold and other reservations certainly do. Indeed, differing perceptions regarding the existence or extent of discrimination is an indicator of polarization.

Thus, there is certainly polarization in the perception of how American Indians are treated. An administrator at the United Tribes Technical College succinctly made this point: "Yes, discrimination exists in North Dakota, and it's my perception that race matters are not perceived by people in the mainstream, but they are very much in the forefront of Native people's thinking. There are all sorts of problems that come from that, both problems, and perceptions of problems" (Neumann. 2016). Perhaps this explains why, in a 2014 survey of Indians living in the Bismarck/Mandan area, nearly half of the respondents rated the friendliness of their community as "poor to fair" (Sacred Pipe Resource Center. 2014).

In sum, political scientists have consistently shown that context matters in political participation (Verba and Nie. 1971; Rosenstone and Hansen. 1993; Verba, Schlozman, and Brady. 1995; Jenkins and Andolina. 2016: 146-148; Williams. 2004). Discrimination, both official and *de facto*, creates an atmosphere that is inimical to active participation in the electoral process. The long history of discrimination described in this report directly affects the ability of Native people in North Dakota to participate equally in the electoral process. It affects their willingness to engage with the electoral process and interact with

local and state political officials. Dr. Eric Longie, a former tribal college president, expressed what this means for Native people in North Dakota:

When I leave the reservation I become a different person, I have to be if I want to be treated respectfully. I got very good at it. If we show our Indianness, the prejudice will come right out. That kind of thing is the reason why a lot of Indians don't get involved in state politics. A lot of them don't like us, and some of them have very prominent positions. We're not a part of state politics (Longie. 2022)

c. Official Discrimination in Voting Rights:

One method of evaluating the extent of official discrimination in voting rights is to survey the cases involving the voting rights of minorities. There have been eight cases in North Dakota, and the Indian plaintiffs have either won, or successfully settled, all of them.

1. *U. S. v. Benson County*. Native voters claimed that the at-large method of electing county commissioners had prevented them from having an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice; indeed, no American Indian had been elected to the county commission. The District Court agreed, and the resulting consent decree ordered the county to change to a district system. The consent decree noted the high degree of racial polarization and racial bloc voting:

Racially polarized voting patterns prevail in elections for the Benson County Board of Commissioners. Native American voters in Benson County are politically cohesive. In elections involving Native American candidates and white candidates for the Benson County Board of Commissioners, Native American voters vote cohesively for Native American candidates and white voters consistently vote sufficiently as a bloc usually to defeat the Native American voters' candidates of choice in at-large elections. Native American citizens within Benson County have suffered from a history of official racial discrimination in voting and other areas, such as education, employment, and housing. Social, civic, and political life in Benson County is divided along racial lines (*U. S. v. Benson County.* 2000: 4).

- 2. Parshall School District. In 2007, another voting case was threatened when the U.S. Department of Justice filed a notice letter against the school board for the town of Parshall, which is located on the Fort Berthold Reservation. The issue was at-large school board elections. After receiving the letter, the school board agreed to a district plan, which resulted in the election of two Native Americans to the school board (Porterfield. 1997). Today, there is one Native American, Mervin Packineau. Mark Fox, the Chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Airikara Nation, noted that the outcome of switching to a single district system: "[It] has been beneficial to all of us" (Fox. 2021).
- 3. Spirit Lake Tribe v. Benson County. In this case the American Indian plaintiffs argued that the closure of three voting places made voting more difficult for tribal members to vote. The District Court agreed that closing two of those voting places, which were on the reservation, would create a "disparate impact," (2010: 6) and must be kept open. The Court noted that: "The historic pattern of discrimination suffered by members of the Spirit Lake Tribe is well-documented" (2010: 5).
- 4. Brakebill v. Jaeger I. This case was in response to two restrictive voter identification (ID) laws. HB 1332, passed in 2013, and HB 1333, passed in 2015, required that each voter present an ID with a residential street address. Some tribal IDs do not have a street address because Indian reservations do not always have a street grid system with a numerical house number. The new voter ID laws also eliminated the "fail-safe" option that allowed voters without the proper ID to remedy the problem. In granting a preliminary injunction, the U.S. District Court found that "the lack of any 'fail-safe' provisions to be dispositive in this matter... a safety net is needed for those voters who cannot obtain a qualifying ID with reasonable effort. Accordingly, the Court enjoins the

Defendant from implementing the current voter ID laws without the existence of some form of a 'fail-safe' provision" (*Brakebill v. Jaeger*, Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. 2016: 1-2). The Court also found that "The undisputed evidence in the record clearly establishes that the Native American population in North Dakota bears a severe burden under the current version of [the voter ID law]" (p. 21), and concluded that "The public interest in protecting the most cherished right to vote for thousands of Native Americans who currently lack a qualifying ID and cannot obtain one, outweighs the purported interest and arguments of the State" (p. 28).

5. Brakebill v. Jaeger II. The North Dakota Legislative Assembly responded to the Court's preliminary injunction by passing a new voter ID law (HB 1369) in 2017. This law also required a residential address on all forms of ID, and allowed for a limited form of fail-safe that imposed significant requirements. This law was also challenged by Native American plaintiffs. The District Court found that "the new law passed by the Legislative Assembly (House Bill 1369) in April, 2017, still requires voters to have one of the very same forms of a qualifying ID's in order to vote that was previously found to impose a discriminatory and burdensome impact on Native Americans" (Brakebill v. Jaeger, Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Second Preliminary Injunction in Part. 2018: 4). The Court issued an injunction against the offending portions of the law, concluding that "common sense and a sense of fairness can easily remedy the above-identified problems to ensure that all residents of North Dakota, including the homeless as well as those who live on the reservations, will have an equal and meaningful opportunity to vote" (p. 17).

The state of North Dakota appealed the District Court's decision to the Eighth

Circuit, claiming that a mailing address, which could be a P.O. Box, was not sufficient, and all IDs should have a residential street address (*Brakebill v. Jaeger*, Appeal. 2018: 4). This issue is important because many tribal members rely on P.O. boxes. The Eighth Circuit, in a 2 to 1 decision, issued a stay of the District Court's injunction "pending disposition of this appeal or further order of the court" and the appeal remained "under submission, and an opinion on the merits will be filed in due course" (p. 11). The Court pointed out that the injunction affected all North Dakota voters, but the policy in question only applied to a portion of the Native American population, and suggested that the Court might entertain a narrower injunction targeted at certain voters. An appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to vacate the Circuit Court's decision was denied (*Brakebilll v. Jaeger*. 2018. On Application to Vacate Stay). But the door was still open to further litigation.

6. Spirit Lake Tribe v. Jaeger. In 2018 the voter ID issue was again before the court, with Native plaintiffs claiming that "North Dakota's proof of residential address requirement is unplanned, untested, and broken" (Spirit Lake Tribe v. Jaeger, Complaint. 2018: 2). Unlike the previous ID cases, the plaintiffs in this case included a tribe—the Spirit Lake Nation—in addition to individual tribal members from Spirit Lake, Turtle Mountain Chippewa, and Standing Rock Sioux. The Spirit Lake Nation could specifically identify 262 members whose tribal IDs did not have a residential street address, even after a concerted effort by the Tribe to make new IDs for tribal members (p. 6). The plaintiffs asked the Court to enjoin the requirement for a "current residential street address" for the upcoming election, but the request was denied because the election was only a week away (Spirit Lake Tribe v. Jaeger, Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion for Temporary Restraining Order. 2018). This left open the possibility for further relief. In

denying the state's motion to dismiss, Judge Hovland noted that "This is a complex voting rights case" (*Spirit Lake v. Jaeger*. 2020. Opinion). At that point the parties began discussing a settlement.

The long-running conflict over voter IDs finally came to an end in 2020 when the parties reached a settlement, and a binding court decree was signed by all parties. The state agreed to financially assist tribes in generating IDs, provide free non-driver IDs, and to "accept as valid for voting purposes, a tribal ID or supplemental document issued by a Tribal Government, that locates a person's residence within a voting precinct by marking it on a map, or by another method agreed upon by the Parties, identifying the location of residence other than a numbered street address" (*Brakebill v. Jaeger*, Order, Consent Decree, and Judgment. 2020: 6).

After a settlement was reached, the North Dakota Secretary of State Alvin Jaeger issued a press release: "The Consent Decree will ensure all Native Americans who are qualified electors can vote, relieve certain burdens on the Tribes related to determining residential street address for their tribal members and issuing tribal IDs, and ensure ongoing cooperation through mutual collaboration between the State and the Tribes" (Jaeger. 2020). A less sanguine interpretation of the impact of the voter ID laws was presented recently by Roger White Owl, the CEO of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation:

Most of our members have IDs that list a P.O. box as their address. The MHA Nation had to step in [after the new ID laws took effect] to take action to make sure that Tribal members' votes would be counted. As fast as we could we began issuing new Tribal IDs and created street addresses for our members and their homes. Our enrollment office had limited staff and resources to do this work. In about a month and a half, they issued 456 new IDs with new addresses. We did not get any support, any support, from the State of North Dakota or Federal trustees to do this work. Some Tribal members had to drive for hours to get a new

ID every day. There were long lines of people waiting to receive new IDs, especially during lunch breaks. I am sure many people were unable to get the new ID. Even with all this work, about one-third of our members still do not have Tribal IDs (White Owl. 2019).

- 7. Spirit Lake v. Benson County. In 2021, the Benson County Commission returned the county commission to at-large elections, despite a finding in *U. S. v. Benson County* (the first case listed above), that at-large county commissioner districts diluted Native American voting strength. The consent decree in that case permanently enjoined the county from using at-large districts. The Spirit Lake Tribe and two tribal members immediately filed suit to prevent the county from returning to at-large elections. The parties are currently in settlement negotiations.
- 8. Turtle Mountain Tribe v. Jaeger. In 2022 the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, the Spirit Lake Tribe, and individual tribal members sued the state of North Dakota over the 2021 redistricting law (HB 1504, the same law that is the subject of this case). The tribes had requested that they be placed in one compact district (District 9). Instead, the legislature ignored their plea and divided District 9 into two sub-districts and placed Spirit Lake voters in another district. The Complaint claims that the new redistricting plan diluted the votes of Native Americans by packing most Native American voters in District 9a, placing some Turtle Mountain land in District 4b, and placing Spirit Lake voters in another district. This case is currently under litigation.

This long litany of cases indicates a persistent effort on the part of state or local officials to dilute or abridge the voting rights of Native Americans in North Dakota. It also points to a vigorous effort on the part of Native Americans to obtain the right to vote, and then fight to get an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

One way that Native people experience voting-related discrimination in North

Dakota is access to polling places and adequate mail delivery. Native voters often face unreasonably long distances to drive to a polling place. The alternative—vote-by-mail—is often not an attractive option because mail delivery is often inadequate or non-existent, post offices are poorly staffed with limited hours, and the drive to a post office may be just as long as the drive to a polling place (Tucker, De León, and McCool. 2020: Ferguson-Bohnee. 2020; Nilson. 2020). Several of the members of MHA Nation that I interviewed explained why long distances and poor mail delivery diminished their ability to participate in elections:

- > For state elections I didn't go vote because it was too far, you have to go a half-hour drive to Mandaree, or a 45-minute drive Watford city, each way (Good Bird. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 10).
- > Location of the voting polls has impacted the ability of lower income individuals to adequately get to a polling place. Prior to redistricting, in Four Bears we had to go to Watford city, a 40 plus minute drive one way, not including standing in line to vote. And most policies allow only one hour to take off to vote, so that would mean taking leave and not getting paid while you're gone. We reached out for a polling place in Four Bears, and they said no. They didn't give a reason; they didn't want us to have the convenience of voting here.... We still have to go to Mandaree to vote, still no polling place in Four Bears where we are. Have about 1,000 eligible voters here, enrolled and not enrolled.... We don't have a post office here in Four Bears; we're in McKenzie County; New Town is in Mountrail County (White. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > If you have [tribal] members in a rural area, they have trouble getting into town, money to pay for gas, and they moved the polling sites that we had. We used to vote here but now we can't. They changed it to make long distances to drive. Poverty too much to even own a car, increased distances. Same with White Shield; now they have to go to Washburn, a long distance (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > They closed North Fox polling place in 2018, now I have to go to Manning, ND, the county seat for Dunn County, which is 110 round-trip. Can't depend on the Mandaree post office. It's often closed, so we can't depend on the mail system. Receiving and sending ballots is time-sensitive, so there's no guarantee my ballot will get there on time. The roads are icy in November often. Our mail goes from Mandaree to New Town, to Minot, then to Bismarck where they post-mark it. The postal system used to be a good system but it's really crippled now. For tribal members, the county does not make them fully aware that there is a timeline for mailing ballots, but the delay in getting the postmark can affect whether your ballot is accepted.... They closed the North Fox precinct without notifying the voters here; we didn't find out until just before the precinct was closed. Twin Buttes is a site where we can vote, but they're even further than

Manning. We met with the county clerk, in Manning, and she said they did it to save money (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).

- > We used to rely on the postal service but with the decline in postal service, our post office is unmanned or not open, so we make a point of voting in-person. When they closed the North Fox precinct we received no notice. The Dunn County auditor told us that the North Fox precinct didn't have our physical address; my notification was rejected as undeliverable because my address is not a physical address. All rural post offices have PO Boxes. I have a mailing address; it's a PO box in Mandaree. I have a physical address; 9120 BIA Road 12. But we should have a street address that is a unique identifier. This house is 9121 [we were across the highway at her sister's house], but we don't have a street address. Dunn County used that physical address to mail a ballot, but it is NOT a delivery point in the USPS address system; my PO box is my mail delivery address. So when the ballot notice came to my physical address it was rejected by the post office because it's not an official PO address. There is no mailbox at our house (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > The disappearance of polling places, which is a problem for elders and those who cannot afford to make a one-hour trip. It's been effective, but the tribe has done everything they can to ameliorate that; the tribe offered to pay to keep polling places in North Fox/Mandaree and Four Bears [they were turned down].... The Postal Service offices; here it's been a bit sketchy, due to the gutting of the funding (Baker. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 12).
- > It used to be that the counties come to the reservation and set up their voting thing [polling place], but they don't do that now. Now I have to go to Manning; it's about 45 minutes to an hour each way. It used to be here in the Catholic Church. They are just trying to take our votes away [by closing polling places] (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).
- > We go to Manning to vote; it's close to 50 miles each way (Muzzy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > The system in ND is so complex; accessing the ballot is not easy when you come from a reservation, and polling places are not available; in some cases we have to drive 50 miles to the nearest polling place (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12). > they put up a lot of roadblocks.... They make it harder. Needing a real ID but won't
- > they put up a lot of roadblocks.... They make it harder. Needing a real ID but won't take a PO Box—I have a PO box and when I put in my real address it says my address doesn't exist. For emergency services they mapped the area and that said my house had the wrong address (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

In addition to issues involving closed polling places and poor to non-existent mail service, there are larger conflicts between Native people and Anglos that affect voting.

Several of the people I have interviewed for this case and other cases in North Dakota talked about how discrimination still has an impact on voting:

Interviews at Fort Berthold:

- > A lot of people here don't have a functioning car or truck. They can't vote unless they have a ride or someone is willing to take them. No public transportation. There is an elder bus, but it only goes to a specific segment; this is Four Bears segment (Good Bird. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > [There is] discrimination from the North Dakota government because we are not encouraged or included in election races in the state, and we're bisected by six county governments (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > This case [referring to *Walen v. Burgum*) is discrimination, calling it racial gerrymandering; that's discrimination (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > We are discriminated against. They picked a small community, the North Fox precinct [at Mandaree] to close.... The turnout varies; people are not connected to the state of ND, it's only recent that we got Lisa DeVille. We look at the tribal government and federal government; the state is a remote entity. It impacts us but the state has never encouraged us to develop an active role; you have to push your way in, you have to fight. There is not an interest in county commissions; there is no encouragement, and no county commissioner ever elected from Mandree; you are seen as an outsider there [in Manning, the county seat]. (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > As far as voting, I've heard of others that have experienced discrimination in voting, over ID or appearance. And the ability to get to a voting area, and some seek others to drive them because of the distance (Spotted Horse. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > There's always been a cover effort to suppress the indigenous vote but it really caught fire when we got Heidi Heitkamp elected. She knew, and valued, the Native vote. Neither Berg nor Kramer ever made an appearance out here. But Heidi did a lot... I'm thinking about my aunt who lives about 45 minutes away in Mandaree... She is 80; how is she going to go vote? What about house-bound elders? (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > We still have to go to Mandaree to vote, still no polling place in Four Bears where we are. Have about 1,000 eligible voters here, enrolled and not enrolled (White. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 10).
- > They are just trying to take our votes away [by closing polling places]; they think: them dumb Indians they ain't gonna know. If racism is shown to you on a daily basis, how many of us are going to be running to go vote. We say: I don't know them people [Anglo candidates], I don't know them. They still feel we're savages, they don't want to come into our poor houses. Racism is still playing a big part of our life (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > "When you apply for candidacy [a Native running for office], it's very racist over here" (Finley-DeVille. 2022).

Interviews from Other Reservations and Statewide:

> We see the closing of polling places, being met with racial tension, we've had racial slurs thrown at our people, our people have met resistance. Every election year we monitor the polls, and we set up warming stations at the polls. In some instances we're not welcome. In Benson County and Mountrail County we were told to move. There is a lot of racial bias by these decision makers. At Mountrail County, we had a tent set up and the county auditor told us to move. We said we have every right to be there so we

refused to move. We were within our rights, so the auditor backed down (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).

- > "In several elections on my reservation, at some of our polling locations the poll workers verify IDs. Poll workers have an issue with tribal IDs, even though they are legal. Native people have been turned away. Now we see confusion as to where people vote. If an individual has driven 50 miles one way and then are told they are in the wrong place, it is discouraging. People get confused as to where the lines are for poll locations. There is a misinformation about ballot initiatives here, and I think it is purposeful misinformation. There was false information given to tribal colleges. At Spirit Lake, at New Town, and at Bismarck; they all got the same flyers from out-of-state interests" (Seminole. 2022).
- > "A lot of them [tribal members] felt uncomfortable going anywhere else to vote. They changed the voting sites, and people didn't show up then. The one in fort Totten was moved. The one in Warwick moved to Sheyenne (just off the reservation). And the postal service moved too. A lot of people don't have a permanent address; they have a P.O. box. They shut the post office in St. Michael here. Now we have to go to Fort Totten. The people in Tokio now have to go to Sheyenne or Warwick (and that one maybe shut down). And the post office cut the hours down, from 10 to 2, and on Saturday is from 10 to 10:30am; only a half-hour. They're trying to eliminate us from voting. Trying to limit our districts" (Pearson. 2022).
- > "Our Indian people were afraid to vote because of fear and misinformation. They are afraid that they might be called for jury duty. It's like a stigma. Those rumors start and Indians don't like that. Nobody likes going to court; it's a common historical fear of courts. So, fear of jury duty is used to keep Indians from voting. I'm the first Native to be a chair of a county commission in Rolette County" (Poitra. 2022).
- > "Yes [discrimination has an impact on Native voting]. Laws that stifle our ability to access the ballot and polling place and to vote for candidates of our choice. Huge push to vote by mail, but that is a limitation for our communities. When I went to vote this last time, in 2018, I used my tribal ID. The voter ID was in use at that time. I updated my ID and handed it to the poll worker and he asked me for a driver's license. He said it was harder to input that kind of ID. Some places refuse tribal IDs. There's been intimidation tactics; a lot of people from both parties are questioning everything that is happening. And racism; people show up as a large group. We've seen discrimination at the polls. In 2018, in Selfridge, we had a large group [of Natives] go to vote, and the people who were there were like 'you Indians are good for nothing but protesting. We're going to shut the precinct.' They [our group of tribal voters] felt threatened and heard racial slurs: 'effing Indians, good for nothing but protesting and collecting food stamps;' and that was from the poll worker" (Donaghy. 2022).
- > "It was 2018 or 2020 and we took some young people to a poll, in a bowling alley in Mandan; a bunch of non-Native people were standing outside the door. One of the [Native] girls had a panic attack when she saw them. She couldn't breathe. She said I don't' want to go. So three of us formed a protective barrier around her so she could go in and vote. It's that hostile stare and posture; that's intimidating.... They had problems with the auditor in Sioux County [who is no longer in office]; she told people she was out of ballots when she wasn't; she would not let people hand out water. She wouldn't let people get a chair for Native elders." (Kary. 2022).

And some Anglos still bring up the issue that "Indians don't pay taxes" as a reason for limiting Native participation in the electoral system:

- > "They say Native Americans don't pay taxes; I've heard that several times off the reservation" (Finley-DeVille. 2022).
- > "a lot of stuff has come out since I got on the commission; people say I shouldn't be on the commission because I don't pay taxes. That came from fellow commissioners; two said that; that I shouldn't be on the commission because I don't pay taxes" (Poitra. 2022).

In sum, there is a long history of official and *de facto* discrimination in elections that has affected the ability of Native Americans to vote and have an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

2. The extent to which voting in the elections of the state or political subdivision is racially polarized.

The clearest test of racially polarized voting occurs when a Native candidate is pitted against an Anglo candidate. State-wide, that has rarely occurred. In 2016, three Native American candidates ran for state-wide office. Chase Iron Eyes, from Standing Rock Reservation, ran against Keven Cramer for the U. S. House of Representatives in 2016. Only two counties had a majority of votes for Mr. Iron Eyes—Sioux and Rolette, both of which are majority Native counties. Rolette County (78 percent Native) voted 2,487 for Iron Eyes and 1,195 for Cramer. Sioux County (81.4 percent Native) voted 973 for Iron Eyes and 243 for Cramer. Benson County, with 55.6 percent Native population, was close, with 857 for Iron Eyes and 1,053 for Cramer. These data indicate that Native voters strongly favored Mr. Iron Eyes. The same comparison can be made for the another race in 2016 that featured a Native American running against an Anglo. In the race for Insurance Commissioner, Ruth Buffalo, from the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara

Nation, ran against Jon Godfread. Like Iron Eyes, Ms. Buffalo carried both Rolette and Benson Counties, but also won Sioux County.

The most recent race to pit a Native American against an Anglo was the 2022 race for Public Service Commission. Melanie Moniz, a member of the MHA Nation, ran against incumbent Julie Fedorchak. Ms. Moniz won only two counties: Rolette (Turtle Mountain) and Sioux (Standing Rock), and she won a respectable 40 percent in Benson County (Spirit Lake).

These data make it clear that Native voters prefer the Native candidates and Anglo voters vote for the Anglo candidate in state-wide races—a stark illustration of racially polarized elections.

Another aspect of elections that is indicative of racially polarized voting is when turnout suddenly increases when there is a strongly preferred candidate by minority voters. This happened in 2018 when Native voters turned out at record levels to support their preferred candidate for Senate, Heidi Heitkamp, who had sponsored or co-sponsored 17 bills and resolutions dealing with Native Americans (Heitkamp, 2019). Turnout in three predominately Native counties set records:

In Sioux County, where the Standing Rock Indian Reservation is, turnout was up 105 percent from the last midterm elections in 2014 and 17 percent from the 2016 presidential election, according to data from the North Dakota Secretary of State's office. In Rolette County, home to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, it was up 62 percent from 2014 and 33 percent from 2016. In Benson County, home to the Spirit Lake Nation, it was up 52 percent from 2014 and 10 percent from 2016 (Astor, 2018).

However, a high level of Native support for Senator Heitkamp could not overcome an overwhelming vote for her opponent, Representative Kevin Cramer, in predominantly Anglo counties.

Evidence of racially polarized elections at Fort Berthold was provided to the redistricting committee via testimony. Mark Fox, Chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation, described examples of such elections in his testimony:

Proven history of bloc voting occurred on the Fort Berthold Reservation in the city of Parshall, e.g. Parshall School Board in 1990.... When I sought election to the Parshall School Board nearly five hundred votes were cast, in stark contrast to average voter turnout of less than one hundred when non-native candidates were on the ballot. Additional examples include two other tribal members running for the State House in 2020 and 2016, respectively. Both candidates, Thomasina Mandan and Cesar Alvarez easily won the precincts on the reservation but lost in the overall election (Fox. 2021).

Another member of the MHA Nation provided similar testimony: "In 2020 I challenged Senator Kannianen and unfortunately was not able to be elected even though portions of the district on the reservation strongly supported myself and House of Representatives candidate Thomasina Mandan" (Finley-DeVille. 2021). Both Ms. Finley-DeVille and Ms. Mandan are member of the MHA Affiliated Tribes.

Another method of evaluating the extent of racially polarized elections at Fort Berthold is to examine recent election data. In the 2022 election for House District 4a, Lisa Finley-DeVille, a member of MHA Nation, ran against the Anglo incumbent, Terry Jones, after the district had been divided into two sub-districts by the 2021 redistricting legislation. The new district 4a is comprised of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. It should be noted that a sizeable population of Anglos live on the reservation; 26.9 percent of the population is Anglo, compared to 64.5 percent Native American. That breakdown is very similar to the outcome of the election for House District 4a; Ms. Finley-DeVille won 69.02 percent of the vote, while Mr. Jones won 30.7 percent.⁵

⁵ Another expert is doing a statistical analysis of racially polarized voting.

Many of the people I have interviewed commented repeatedly about the polarized nature of voting, especially in the most probative races when an Indian and an Anglo ran against each other. These comments are divided into two segments; the first set comes from people at Fort Berthold, and the second set are in regard to polarized races involving other reservations in North Dakota state-wide races.

Interviews from Fort Berthold:

- > I ran for state Senate [a Native candidate]. When we ran, who voted for us was our people. I knew that was going to happen, but you hear all the really racist remarks. When you apply for candidacy, it's very racist over here. They say we don't want to hear about treaties, but I say I had to learn about you, so you need to hear about us (Finley-DeVille. 2022).
- > I'm not much political. I just think it brings up conversations that don't need to be started. We don't see what they [white people] see. We don't know what they say. They don't show up here to campaign. All you see is signs, they don't come here to talk or anything. People feel ignored. I don't even know who Jones is (Good Bird. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 10).
- > Definitely [Natives vote for Native candidates and Anglos vote for Anglo candidates]. They [Tribal members] are voting on color and race. You may not even know them [Anglo candidates], but we all vote on race (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > Pretty much [Natives vote for Native candidates and Anglos vote for Anglo candidates]. They [Tribal members]; it's along racial lines. We vote for non-Indian candidates because there are no Indian candidates. That's a historical thing. But with Lisa we got a tribal candidate (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Generally, there are no Native candidates. That depends on our ability to place a candidate and with the gerrymandering here in North Dakota it's almost impossible [prior to the creation of District 4a]. We have to vote for a white person, because it's important to vote.... In North Dakota its white candidates. The way the districts are supports that, until recently the districts now allow Natives to have a larger role. In our recent election, it was historical, we had our fist Native candidate in opposition to the white candidate. Jones never came to Mandaree. Fegley and Terry Jones had a session in New Town that was a Republican party thing, but they didn't come to Mandaree (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Why would I vote for someone I don't know? If it's a buddy of mine who was non-Native, that's different. I support friends and family (Standish. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > Tribal people are an engageable population but you have to stay engaged with them. We've been able to engage people because we've made a concerted efforts to talk to people; I've been on voting tours and talked to people about voting. It requires effort; indigenous people have no reason to trust this system whatsoever.... The majority of indigenous people are going to vote for the indigenous candidates. Terry [Jones] didn't

- engage, but this time [2022] he made an effort. All those other years he made no effort (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > Pretty much [Natives vote for Native candidates and Anglos vote for Anglo candidates]; we've never had the chance to do that [vote for a Native candidate] before now (Muzzy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12). >
- > It depends on their platform; it might be based on who they know or their family. They vote based on interest (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

Interviews from Other Reservations and Statewide:

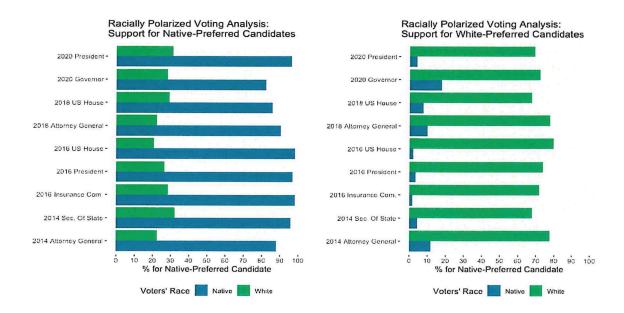
- > Yes they do [Natives vote for Native candidates and Anglos vote for Anglo candidates] (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > When I ran... on a statewide ballot, I really got a flavor of that [discrimination]. People would say to me "we don't vote for Indians"..... It [being perceived as an Indian—Mr. Boucher actually is not an enrolled member] was stuck in my face quite a few times (Boucher, 2016).
- > When I ran [a Lakota woman running for a House district] I took all of Sioux County and none of Morton County. I took Grant County—there are tribal members there. Whites voted for my opponent (Allard, 2016).
- > Do Native Americans have a propensity to vote for their own? Yes, the same is true with whites (Boucher, 2016).
- > My brother [an American Indian] ran for sheriff [of Rolette County].... He came out ahead because he got all the Indian votes. The last two sheriff races the Indians won; the Native voters elected him (J. Turcotte, 2016).
- > There was discrimination against Turcotte [Native American sheriff in Rolette County]. They made it so miserable for him as sheriff that he quit.... Some of them just couldn't see an Indian being sheriff (A. McCloud, E. McCloud, 2016).
- > Yes [Indians vote for Indians and Anglos vote for Anglos] in the city council races [in Rolla] (Nordmark, 2016).
- > ...racism would create barriers for any non-white candidate for state office. Natives can elect Natives, but for larger offices [beyond local] I don't see a Native candidate gaining traction (Carbone, 2016).
- > Mike Faith was one of our [Standing Rock] council members. He received a large vote from the Indian community when he ran [for non-tribal office] (Eagle, 2016).
- > Yes they definitely do [Indians vote for Indians, Anglos for Anglos]. I can tell you we've had enrolled members run for county commissioner; there's been four or five of them. They ran against Whites that had college degrees and are well-known, and the Indian had maybe a fifth or sixth grade or high school education. But you can see the voting is so one-sided on the reservation they just put an x there. The Whites vote for the best candidates, but there's that cultural divide here. The Indians vote for Indians (anonymous 1, 2016).
- > "Yes, most of my votes [a Native American candidate] were from Benson County on the reservation. In Rolette County, every time they have a campaign for Senator Marcellais, the tribe turns out and makes sure that he wins" (Longie. 2022).
- > "I ran for office in 2010 for district 42 for the state House. There was a lot of hatred as part of that campaign" (Seminole. 2022).

- > "We had one of our members run for sheriff in Minnnewaukan. He ran against a white sheriff. Those who voted from here [on the reservation] voted for the Native" (Pearson. 2022).
- > "I ran for county commissioner [a Native candidate] in 2018; a big push, despite the ID issue. I didn't campaign; I depended on that Indian voter to rally behind me. It was the most votes for a county commissioner ever. I got over 2,000 votes; that was a record; about 2,000 were Native voters. I benefited from the GOTV effort among Indians" (Poitra. 2022).
- > "Case in point; our former chair Mike Faith; ran for district 31 legislative seat. Ran against a non-Native. The reservation people turned out for him. But we're packed in with non-Natives" (Donaghy. 2022).

In short, in the most probative races—those that pit a Native American against an Anglo—there is a pronounced level of racially polarized voting. The interviews make it clear that, when Native voters have an opportunity to vote for a Native, they do so. The evidence also indicates that Anglo voters tend to vote for Anglo candidates rather than a Native candidate. The preference for a Native candidate was explained in an interview with Robert White, MHA Tribal Council; it is his belief that "An enrolled member would be more equal and willing to work with the betterment of everybody" (White. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 10).

There is also a long evidentiary record of racially polarized voting. Past court decisions, such as *U.S. v. Benson County*, noted that "Racially polarized voting patterns prevail in elections for the Benson County Commission..." (*U.S. v. Benson County*. 2000). The expert witness reports that accompanied that case and some of the other cases cited above presented data on racially polarized voting. And testimony provided to the Legislative Redistricting Committee by Jamie Azure, Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, and Douglas Yankton, Sr., Chairman of the Spirit Lake

Nation, included bar charts, reproduced below, starkly depict the racial polarization of elections in the state.⁶



Another presentation to the redistricting committee by Mike Faith, Chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux, also described racially polarized voting that takes place in District 31, which includes his reservation (Faith. 2021).

The election data presented above make it clear that Native people vote for Native people when the opportunity arises, and only a few Anglo voters choose to vote for the Native candidates, resulting in a history of racially polarized voting.

3. The extent to which the state or political subdivision has used voting practices or procedures that tend to enhance the opportunity for discrimination against the minority group, such as unusually large election districts.

The 2021 redistricting process could have employed "voting practices or procedures" that discriminated against voters on the Fort Berthold Reservation, as in the past. But instead, the legislature created a split district. This avoided the past practice of an at-

⁶ The minutes of redistricting committee meetings and attached testimony can be found at: https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/67-2021/committees/interim/redistricting-committee

large two-member district that did enhance opportunities for discrimination against members of the MHA Nation.

During the debate over redistricting, several legislators claimed there was no evidence of any racial bloc voting in North Dakota. During the floor debate, Representative Jones claimed that no one had presented evidence of racial bloc voting (House Floor Session. 2021. Comments by Rep. Jones). Senator Oley Larsen also claimed that "there was no polarization study done to see if there was truly racial bias on these two areas that we're subdividing" (Senate Floor Session. 2021. Comments by Senator O. Larsen). However, there is a large body of evidence presented in other Voting Rights Act cases in North Dakota (see cases cited above) that indicates a persistent problem with racially polarized elections in North Dakota. In addition, tribal members from MHA Nation provided evidence at the redistricting hearings of racially polarized voting. Also, at-large election jurisdictions have been the target of many Voting Rights Act cases, including many cases involving Native American voters. The North Dakota Legislative Council's redistricting "Background Memorandum" specially alludes to that: "Many decisions under the Voting Rights Act have involved questions regarding the use of multimember districts to dilute the voting strengths of racial and language minorities" (North Dakota Legislative Council. 2021: 9). Table 1 is a list of at-large cases with Native American plaintiffs.

Table 1: At-Large Cases with Native American Plaintiffs

WON/	CASE	STATE	YEAR	
SETTLED			FILED	
Yes	U.S. v. Thurston Co.	NB	1978	
Yes	U.S. v. San Juan Co.	NM	1979	
Yes	Windy Boy v. Big Horn Co.	WY	1983	
Yes	U.S. v. San Juan Co.	UT	1983	

Yes	Largo v. McKinley Cons. School District	NM	1984
Yes	Estevan v. Grants-Cibola Co. School District	NM	1984
Yes	Buckanaga v. Sisseton School District	SD	1984
Yes	Felipe & Ascencio v. Cibola Co.	NM	1985
Yes	Tso v. Cuba Independent School District	NM	1985
Yes	Kirk v. San Juan College Board	NM	1986
N.A.	Clark v. Holbrook Unified School District	AZ	1988
Yes	Bowannie v. Bernalillo School District	NM	1988
Yes	Cuthair v. Montezuma-Cortex School District	CO	1989
No	Grinnell v. Sinner	ND	1992
Partial	Stabler v. Thurston Co.	NB	1993
Yes	U.S. v. Parshall School District	ND	1996
Yes	Matt v. Ronan School District	MT	1999
Yes	U.S. v. Blaine Co.	MT	1999
Yes	Alden v. Board of Comm. of Rosebud Co.	MT	1999
Yes	U.S. v. Roosevelt Co.	MT	2000
Yes	U.S. v. Benson Co.	CO	2000
Mooted	Emery v. Hunt / U.S. v. South Dakota	SD	2000
N.A.	McConnell v. Blaine Co.	MT	2002
Yes	Weddell v. Wagner Comm. School District	SD	2002
Yes	Large v. Freemont Co.	WY	2005
Yes	Navajo Nation v. San Juan Co.	UT	2012
Yes	U.S. v. Chamberlain School District	SD	2019
Yes	Lower Brule v. Lyman Co.	SD	2022
Ongoing	Spirit Lake v. J	ND	2023

Sources: McCool, Olson, and Robinson. 2007: 48-68; Tucker, De León, and McCool. 2020; U.S. v. Chamberlain School District. 2020; Lower Brule v. Lyman Co. 2022; Spirit Lake v. Benson Co. 2022

Note that three of those cases were in North Dakota, one of which involved the Parshall School District on Fort Berthold.

In sum, there was a significant body of evidence that indicated that, if the legislature did not create Districts 4a and 4b, it would lead to a Voting Rights Act case because of the impact the at-large district had on Native voters.

4. The exclusion of members of the minority group from candidate slating processes.

Candidate slating became less important after the Voting Rights Act was amended in 1982 and does not appear to relevant to this case (Katz, 2005: 33-36). The best

explanation of this factor is found in Professor Ellen Katz's voluminous analysis of cases under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act:

Factor 4 asks whether members of the minority group have been denied access to a candidate slating process, assuming such a process exists in the jurisdiction. A denial of such access was an important component of a Section 2 claim prior to the 1982 amendments, but the factor appears to be of diminished importance under the amended provision. Sixty-four lawsuits determining Section 2 was violated did not find Factor 4.... While the term "slating" is not defined by the Senate Report, the Fifth Circuit has described it as "a process in which some influential non-governmental organization selects and endorses a group or 'slate' of candidates, rendering the election little more than a stamp of approval for the candidates selected" (Katz. 2005: 33).

In short, candidate slating within a political party is an extreme rarity these days and is almost never an important political roadblock for minority candidates, especially in states that have party primaries (as does North Dakota).⁷ I found no evidence of parties in North Dakota engaging in an overt race-conscious candidate slating process.

5. The extent to which minority group members bear the effects of discrimination in areas such as education, employment, and health, which hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process.

In North Dakota, there are significant differences between Anglos and American Indians in income and poverty, level of education, and health. Limited internet access, which is a largely a function of poverty and poor education, also hinders the ability to participate. Each of these will be analyzed in detail, using both historical and recent data. A comprehensive statistical analysis of current socio-economic factors is being completed by another expert, however the qualitative methodology I employ reveals a

⁷ The only contemporary case I could find that included a slating claim was the 2011 Texas redistricting case, *Perez v. Perry* (835 F. Supp.2d 209 (2011). That case included a claim that "Slating was the act of controlling, through secret ballot, who could be a candidate for city offices, thus limiting the choices available to voters" (Flores. 2015: 160).

persistent gap in socio-economic status between Native Americans and Anglo in North Dakota.

a. Income:

It is well-recognized in political science that income correlates positively with political participation (Lien. 2000; Verba, Schlozman and Brady. 1995; Wolfinger and Rosenstone. 1980). Klofstad notes: "The strength of the SES [socio-economic status] model is that it is well grounded empirically. For example, countless studies show that factors such as income and education are correlated strongly with voter turnout, making campaign donations, participating in civil organizations, and the like" (Klofstad. 2016: 4). This section presents past data as well as contemporary data to demonstrate changes in data over time.

The tribes of North Dakota were once rich in land and other resources. That changed with the reservation system: "The effect on Indian culture was devastating.

Deprived of their primary source of food and housing, the Dakotas became dependent on government handouts" (Risjord. 2012: 157). Black Elk, the famous Teton Sioux, described the reservation in the 1880s: "Hunger was among us often now, for much of what the Great Father in Washington sent us must have been stolen by Washichus [white Indian agents] who were crazy to get money. There were many lies, but we could not eat them" (quoted in Risjord. 2012: 157). A century later, they were still living in desperate poverty: "The late 1950s found us [Lakota people] living in square houses in scattered communities across the reservations. Our lifestyle was largely indefinable and on the dole of the United States government... We were virtually powerless politically" (Marshall.

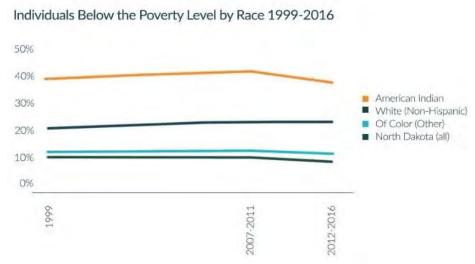
2004: 52). American Indians in the Dakotas were "the poorest of the poor" (Lawson. 1982:38). This legacy of long-term poverty continued into the contemporary era.

American Community Survey data from 2011-2013 showed the sharp contrast between the social and economic well-being of Anglos and that of American Indians in North Dakota (ACS. 2011-2013). The rate of employment in the labor force for Anglos was 71 percent; for Indians it was 58 percent (ACS. 2011-2013: 5). Another indicator of potential economic difficulties was the percentage of households headed by a female with no husband present. For Anglos, that rate was only 6.7 percent, but for Indians it was 29.5 percent (ACS: 2). Also, Indians were employed in the lowest-paying jobs; 30.5 percent worked in service occupations while only 16 percent of Anglos were in service jobs. At the other end of the spectrum, 35.2 percent of Anglos worked in "management, business, science and arts," but only 25.6 percent of Indians had such jobs (ACS: 6). It is not surprising then, that there is a big difference in income. The median annual household income for Anglos in 2011-2013 was \$56,566; for Indians it was not much more than half of that—\$29,909 (ACS: 7). The data for "mean earnings" also reflected a large gap; For Anglos it was \$73,313, for Indians it was \$48,763 (ACS: 7). The low pay, lack of jobs, and inadequate education, led to stark differences in poverty rates. Only 5.3 percent of Anglos families live below the poverty line at that time, but for Indians it was 37.7 percent (ACS: 7).

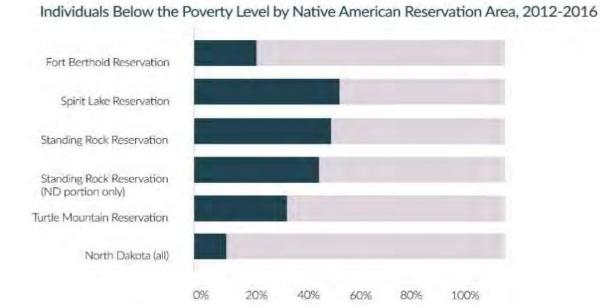
In 2016, the median household income for American Indians in the state was \$25,255; the state as a whole earned nearly twice that amount--\$48,670 (North Dakota Department of Health. 2016, Table 11). The state average for people living below the

poverty line was 13 percent; for Indians it was 39.8 percent—over three times as high (North Dakota Department of Health 2016, Table 12).

The data described above can be represented in a graph:



Source: https://www.ndhfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/HomelessPlan2018.pdf
The 2012-2016 data on poverty can be broken down by reservation:



Source: https://www.ndhfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/HomelessPlan2018.pdf
These data indicate that the highest levels of poverty during the period 2012-2016 was on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation and the Spirit Lake Reservation, but Turtle

Mountain and Fort Berthold were also very high. The poverty rate at Fort Berthold would be even higher if the data did not include the 30 percent of the population on the reservations that is Anglo.

These differences in economic circumstances are reflected in differential rates of home ownership versus rentals. The 2011-2013 data reveal that 76.2 percent of Anglos lived in owner-occupied housing, compared to just 46.3 percent for Indians. Conversely, only about a third of Anglos (32.8 percent) lived in rentals, compared to over half (53.7 percent) of the Indian people in the state (ACS: 8). Also, the value of these homes was quite different. The average value of a home for Anglos at that time was \$144,400; the same figure for Indians was about half of that--\$74,700 (ACS: 9). Home ownership among urban Indians was also low. According to a 2014 study of Native Americans in the Bismarck/Mandan area, 46 percent of Indians lived in a rented apartment, and 18 percent lived in a rented trailer; this means that their residential address may change more frequently than people who own their own homes (Sacred Pipe Resource Center. 2014). Indeed, this population appeared to be fairly transitory; the same survey found that 12 percent of the respondents had lived in the Bismarck/Mandan area for less than one year; and 31 percent for one-to-five years.

At least those people had a roof over their heads. Native Americans are over-represented in the homeless population. According to 2013-2017 data, Native people represented 18.2 percent of the homeless population, but they were less than six percent of the total population (North Dakota Interagency Council on Homelessness. 2018). Native Americans also face housing problems associated with their over-representation in the prison population:

According to the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Black and Native Americans are four times more likely to be incarcerated, on parole, or on probation than their white counterparts. Overall, North Dakota's population is 84 percent white, three percent Black, six percent Native American, three percent other, and four percent Hispanic. This contrasts with the North Dakota prison population which is five percent Hispanic, 19 percent Native American, and 65 percent white, clearly reflecting the disproportionate numbers of communities of color incarcerated in the state. Individuals with criminal backgrounds have difficulty securing housing and often results in homelessness (North Dakota Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights. 2021: 10).

Another result of low income and lack of jobs is the inability to afford vehicles and phone service. The 2011-2013 data showed that 13 percent of Indians did not have a vehicle; only 5.1 percent of Anglos lacked a vehicle. There is virtually no public transportation on Indian reservations in North Dakota, so lacking a vehicle makes it extremely difficult to travel to register and vote. A 2014 survey of urban Indians in Bismarck/Mandan found that 19 percent of respondents did not own a vehicle (Sacred Pipe Resource Center. 2014). And 3.6 percent of Indians did not have a phone, compared to 2.2 percent for Anglos (ACS: 8).

Poverty also results in less access to the legal system, and the need to rely on assistance: "Minorities constitute disproportionately large percentages of those using Legal Services North Dakota compared to minority populations in the state" (North Dakota Commission. 2012: 169). In one way, however, Native Americans have too much representation in the legal system—in prison. One-quarter of the people incarcerated in federal prisons in North Dakota are American Indian (U.S. Sentencing Commission. 2013), and 24 percent of the population in state prisons is Native (Spotlight North Dakota. 2022).

The most recent Census survey data indicate that low income and unemployment are still prevalent on North Dakota's Indian reservations. The following table examines

unemployment rates and median income for all five reservations in North Dakota and the state as a whole. The table also indicates the percentage of the population on each reservation that is Native American.

Unemployment and Income on Indian Reservations

RESERVATION/	UNEMPLOY.	MEDIAN	PERCENT
N. Dakota	RATE	HOUSEHOLD	NATIVE
		INCOME	
Fort Berthold	4.9	60,929	64.5
L. Traverse	5.4	53,309	40.3
Spirit Lake	3.9	43,824	81.8
Standing Rock	21.9	39,516	78.3
Turtle Mt.*	9.5	45,885	94.5
North Dakota	2.3	68,131	5.7

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2017-2021

The relationship between poverty, and the ability to vote was a theme in many of the interviews on Fort Berthold:

- > Poverty and insolation have a huge economic impact on voting. If you're living, let's say 15 miles from a grocery store. Every day is a long drive. Say from Thunder Butte to New Town, it's about 15 miles from that subdivision. All of us go to New Town to pick up our mail (White. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > Just basic survival, not voting, has been more important... If you have members in a rural area, they have trouble getting into town, money to pay for gas, and they moved the polling sites that we had. We used to vote here but now we can't. They changed it to make long distances to drive. Poverty so much to even own a car, increased distances. Same with White Shield; now they have to go Washburn, a long distance (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > Definitely [poverty has an impact on voting]. That's why we need this precinct here. We have to travel to Manning, especially bad in November. A lot of people have used cars, not good tires for winter (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11.
- > Yes it does if your precinct, which we had just three miles down the road, is closed. My 3 miles became 100 miles. I will be making that trip to make sure my ballot reaches that box.... There are so many layers of barriers to voting for Native people. It requires time and money for voters to go to their precinct. When they're closed, that sends a big message that we're unwanted. Historically, North Fox precinct had high turnout; we're rural but we voted. In comparison in Dunn County, precincts that are white, we had higher turnout. They kept some precincts open in Dunn County (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Yes, of course. It makes it tough for people to get out and do things. If they are sitting there worried about basic survival, running water, food in the house, the last thing they're

^{*}Includes lands in Montana as well as the main reservation in North Dakota

going to worry about is voting. Back in the day, some Natives tried to vote with tribal IDs, but they got kicked when they were already down (Standish. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).

- > Yes I believe so. Because of a person's living conditions, poverty, education, they're not going to worry about a person running for office. Unless they are directly affected, they're not going to vote; they would rather find the means of getting food or assistance. They don't have time to go vote, it's a survival thing for them; I need this now and a vote isn't going to get it for me (Spotted Horse. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > Everything I'm talking about; it's like a poverty tax. It costs money to be poor (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > Absolutely. We have this oil. We have billions, but you look around, we look like we're still in the third world. You look around and you see the devastation of poverty, ten families in a home.... But the oil money is not benefiting our people, a lot of our people are dying off. We're still living under this poverty, look at my house. With these billions of dollars, we shouldn't be living like this (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).
- > Yes, before the oil. They say 40% of the people get oil payments. Some people get some money. There is still poverty here. The ones that don't have anything, they're always hoping the tribe would give more (Muzzy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > Yes. People don't have money to drive 50 miles in one direction to vote. They are unaware of who they're being ask to vote for because candidates do not enter the reservation boundaries; they don't go and talk to our people. Even voting by mail is not a good option because our people come from very little income, and with ND's complex election system, you need a PO box, you need wifi and a printer to apply for an absentee ballot. There's ID issues, if it's not updated you need to pay for updating it or driving to a DOT office; there are no satellite offices on reservations. Minot might be the closest to Fort Berthold. People don't have child care, they don't have the ability to travel, they don't have IDs because the consent decree was not followed (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).

In sum, low income means less access to the internet, more frequent changes of address, less money for a car, gas, insurance, and fewer opportunities to travel to polling sites, the post office, or county and state electoral facilities. These factors combine to make accessing the electoral system more difficult; they present very real barriers to Native American voters.

b. Education:

Educational level is an important determinant of political participation. As political scientists Verba, Scholzman, and Brady explain:

Education has a significant direct role with respect to each of the participation factors. It affects the acquisition of skills; it channels opportunities for high levels of income and education; it places individuals in institutional settings where they can be recruited to political activity; and it fosters psychological and cognitive engagement with politics (1995: 433).

But the history of Indian education is one long, dismal tale of tragedy and failure. First among stories of failure is the boarding school system (Adams. 2020). The principal focus of that system was forced assimilation, not education, with traumatic effects. A Department of the Interior report in 2022 concluded that:

Further review is required to determine the reach and impact of the violence and trauma inflicted on Indian children through the Federal Indian boarding school system. The Department has recognized that targeting Indian children for the Federal policy of Indian assimilation contributed to the loss of the following: (1) life; (2) physical and mental health; (3) territories and wealth; (4) Tribal and family relations; and (5) use of Tribal languages (Newland. 2022: 94).

There were twelve boarding schools in North Dakota, three of them on the Fort Berthold Reservation (Newland. 2022, Appendix A). Denise Lajimodiere, Ph.D., a citizen of the Turtle Mountain Reservation, extensively studied the survivors of boarding schools in the northern plains. This is the summary of her findings:

Five major themes emerged.... First, the survivors experienced loss, which can be subdivided into five sub-elements: loss of identity, language, culture, ceremonies, and tradition; loss of self-esteem; loneliness due to loss of parents and extended family; feeling of abandonment by parents; and feeling lost and out of place when they returned home. Second, survivors attending boarding school experienced abuse, subdivided into corporal punishment and forced child labor; the Outing program; hunger/malnourishment; and sexual and mental abuse. Third, survivors experienced unresolved grief, mental health issues, relationship issues, and alcohol abuse. Fourth, survivors express that they felt they had an inferior education at the boarding schools (Lajimodiere. 2019: 13).

This legacy of oppression, intolerance, and sub-standard education has led to significant differences between Anglos and Indians regarding educational levels and quality of education: "Only 17 percent of Native American students enroll in college after high school,

while the national average for all students is about 70 percent. Of the Native American students who start college, 82 percent drop out before they finish. This staggering number is mostly due to the lack of academic and financial resources available to many Native American students" (Accredited Schools Online. 2022). The data for North Dakota reflect these national trends.

For the years 2006-2010, 17.8 percent of Indians in North Dakota did not graduate from high school; the state average at that time was 10.6 percent (North Dakota Department of Health. 2016, Table 11). Data from the American Community Survey of 2011-13 also demonstrated a significant difference. Only 8 percent of Anglos had less than a high school education, but the figure for Indians was 18.1 percent, and 20.2 percent of Anglos had a Bachelor's degree, while only 10.6 percent of Indians had that degree (ACS: 3). By 2020, the Native graduation rate was still significantly lower than that of Whites. The state school superintendent noted that, when she was first elected, the Native graduation rate was a dismal 57 percent, but it had increased to 72 percent, which was still below the White graduation rate of 89 percent (Thompson. 2020).

The lack of top-quality educational resources is reflected in grades and test scores. A 2011 analysis found that, while 38 percent of White students performed at the advanced level in reading, only 15 percent of Native students performed at that level. In 8th grade math, 47 percent of White students were at the proficient level, but only 15 percent of Native students made that level, and 46 percent scored at the "below basic" level (Education Trust. 2011).

A 2015 survey of middle school children found that 78 percent of white kids "made mostly A's or B's," but the comparable figure for Indians was 50.8 percent (North Dakota Middle School Survey 2015, QN49). In a 2000 survey of ACT scores, white high

school students in North Dakota scored an average of 21.6 (which is above the national average), but the state's Indian students scored an average of 17.1 (Nicholson 16 Aug. 2001). Inadequate education has made it necessary for Native students to seek assistance or qualify for special education programs. In a 2015 survey, 32.3 percent of Indian students in middle school received such assistance; less than half that—14.8 percent—of white students needed assistance (North Dakota Middle School Survey 2015, QN68).

Perhaps part of the reason for such problems is the paucity of Native American teachers. Indian students constitute 10.7 percent of the student body in public schools, but only 2.9 percent of the teachers are Native (Nowatzki. 22 Jul. 2014).

There are also Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools in North Dakota. A 2014 assessment of those schools found little progress on goals; indeed, the BIE schools in North Dakota performed even worse than most of the BIE schools in other states (Bureau of Indian Education. 2014: 40, 41, 56, 57).

The most recent data on educational levels is presented in the following table.

Education Level

RESERVATION	% HIGH SCHOOL/	% BACHELORS/
	HIGHER	HIGHER
Ft. Berthold	85.9	22.3
L. Traverse	88.5	17.0
Spirit Lake	83.1	15.8
Standing Rock	85.4	14.6
Turtle Mt.	85.3	15.2
N. Dakota	93.3	31.1

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2017-2021

c. Health Care:

The health status of citizens also affects their ability to participate. Registering to vote, and voting, often require travel, which is directly affected by the health and ambulatory ability of an individual. Those with disabilities, and those who are

chronically ill, face extra hurdles to exercising their right to vote. The dominant society does a poor job of providing adequate health care to Native Americans. The Indian Health Service explains that "The American Indian and Alaska Native people have long experienced lower health status when compared with other Americans. Lower life expectancy and the disproportionate disease burden exist perhaps because of inadequate education, disproportionate poverty, discrimination in the delivery of health services, and cultural differences" (Indian Health Service 2016). As a result, in 2016, the mortality rate for Indians in the U.S. was 943/10,000; the average for all races was 774/10,000 (Indian Health Service 2016). Infant mortality was especially high among Indians (13.5) compared to Anglos nationally (7.5) (North Dakota Department of Health 2016, Table 14B). Data on the "disproportionate disease burden" is presented in Appendix A.

One of the problems that affect health care for American Indians is a presumption sometimes made by states that the Indian Health Service can provide for all the health care needs of Indian people. But in North Dakota, there are only two IHS hospitals (among the total of 50 hospitals), one at Fort Yates and one at Belcourt, so Native people must rely on other sources of health care (North Dakota Department of Health 2016, Table 22).

The health of Native people in North Dakota is also threatened by environmental variables. On the Standing Rock Reservation, "Problems with water quality and inadequate supply are common throughout the reservation and have a detrimental effect on health and quality of life" (Standing Rock Environmental Profile. 2016). Tribal members at Fort Berthold are dealing with the negative health impacts of the massive drilling boom in that area (Konkel. 2016; Lauer, Harkness, and Vengosh. 2016; Deaton.

2021; Simonelli, Leachman and Onodera. 2022). There "have been leaking pipelines, fires and trucking accidents that spilled oil and wastewater" (Opatz. 2022). The oil boom, while quite profitable, has also resulted in an increase in crime, which also has an impact on the health of a community (Ruddell, et. al. 2014; Horwitz. 2014; FBI. 2016).

Another aspect of health is mental health. A 2015 survey of high school students found that 8.2 percent of white students had attempted suicide; the figure for Indians is nearly twice that--14.3 percent (North Dakota High School Survey. 2015, QN29). The data are even more depressing for middle school kids; 5.2 percent of white students have tried to kill themselves, while 18.7 percent of Indian kids have done so (North Dakota Middle School. 2015, QN17).

These demographic variables—inadequate education, poverty, and poor health care—tend to combine in a vicious cycle. The University of North Dakota's Center for Rural Health noted that "People in poverty tend to have a lower health status. Poor housing, sanitation, and water supply can contribute to disease and ill health. Access to adequate and quality food sources is limited. Poverty is associated with greater rates of illness and shorter life spans" (Center for Rural Health 2014: 8). When people are dealing with survival, they are much less likely to have the time, energy, expertise, and desire to expend those resources on civic affairs. This is a very clear demonstration of Abraham Maslow's famous "hierarchy of needs." At the most basic level are physiological/biological needs—food, shelter, warmth. The next level is safety, including economic security and health. These needs must be met before the individual can aspire to higher levels of needs, such as political participation and civic engagement (Maslow 1954). It is clear from the data cited above that many Indian people in North

Dakota are struggling desperately to achieve their most basic needs; this condition automatically reduces their opportunities to vote and elect candidates of their choice.

In sum, low income and poverty, less education, and poor health conspire to make it difficult for tribal members at Fort Berthold and the other reservations in North Dakota to vote.

d. Internet Access:

One of the most important components of infrastructure in terms of accessing government services—including registering to vote and receiving information about voting, candidates, and elections services—is the internet. The internet requires having, not just broadband service, but the economic means to buy a computer or smart phone, pay a monthly service fee, and if one wants to print government permits or registration forms, a printer and paper.

But Native Americans are the least connected people in the U. S. An analysis conducted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that 35 percent of households on Indian reservations did not have broadband service, compared to 8 percent for the nation as a whole (U.S. Government Accountability Office. 2018). Having broadband service is only part of the equation; the other part is the ability to pay for a subscription service. Recent data from the American Community Survey show that the internet subscription rate for Native Americans is 67 percent, compared to 82 percent for non-Natives (Wang. 2018). The reasons for poor internet access are some of the same reasons why Native people have less access to the electoral process:

Tribal lands often present significant obstacles to deploying broadband and are expensive to serve. These challenges to deployment on Tribal lands include rugged terrain, complex permitting processes governing access to Tribal lands, jurisdictional issues involving states and sovereign Tribal

governments, lack of necessary infrastructure, and a predominance of residential, rather than business customers. High poverty rates and low-income levels on Tribal lands, as well as cultural and language barriers, further inhibit the widespread availability of broadband to Tribal residents (Federal Communications Commission. 2019: 2).

The data on internet availability on North Dakota reservations reflects the national trend. A 2020 study of tribal internet analyzed the provision of low-cost wired broadband (defined as less than \$60/month). For Spirit Lake, the rate was 54 percent, for Standing Rock it was 69 percent, Fort Berthold was 29 percent, and Turtle Mountain was 75 percent. High-priced internet was more widely available, but low income levels limit access to that (Tanberk and Cooper. 2020). These data indicate the availability of broadband, but not actual prescription rates. The latest data for Fort Berthold indicates that 75.7 of households have an internet subscription; this compares to 84.2 percent for the state as a whole (U.S. Census, 2017-2021).

Moving to a more urban environment does not necessarily solve the problem of access. A 2014 survey of Indians in the Bismarck/Mandan area found a low proportion with connectivity; only 61 percent owned their own computers, and only half had their own internet access (Sacred Pipe Resource Center 2014).

In sum, these four socio-economic factors (income, education, health care, and internet access) combine to form a barrier to political participation. There is a large literature in political science on the "costs of voting," and how increased costs reduce turnout and overall rates of political participation (Schraufnagel, Pomante, and Quan. 2020, 2022). The factors discussed above increase the cost of voting for Native voters and, combined with historical trauma and political polarization, create a formidable array

⁸ These data do not include access to a cellphone.

of obstacles to Native voters. In addition, these factors interact with one another to create a multiplier effect. Low income makes it difficult to contribute to political campaigns or take time off work to vote or participate in a campaign. Lower education levels lead to less understanding of the political system and the myriad rules regarding registration, voting, and running for office. Poor health and lack of information via the internet exacerbate these trends (see: Tucker, De León, and McCool. 2020: 27-47. Also see: Barreto, Sanchez, and Walker. 2022). A member of the Turtle Mountain Tribe alluded to these multiple factors in a 2019 hearing:

Because of this high poverty rate, the community's access remains limited. Limited because of those living below poverty do not have vehicles, driver's license, or other means of public transportation to various government service providers.... And as many of the Congressional delegation may be aware we are not a wealthy Tribe. We have scraped and scraped and survived these past 200 years. Every time I come before one of these hearings, I start crying (Pearson. 2019).

A summary of these data, focusing specifically on Fort Berthold Reservation is helpful. However, these data must be interpreted with caution because 30 percent of the population on the reservation is White (My Tribal Area, U.S. Census. 2022). The data from the reservation can be compared to state data; however, that data must also be considered carefully because it includes the 5.7 percent of the state's population that is Native American. All data is from 2021-2022, provided by the U.S. Census:

- -- Unemployment: On the Fort Berthold Reservation, the unemployment rate is 4.9 percent; for the state as a whole the rate is 2.3 percent.
- -- Income: Median household income on the reservation is 60,929; for North Dakota, it is \$68, 131.
- -- Education: On the reservation, 85.9 of the people have graduated high school or higher; for the state as a whole 93.3 percent have achieved that level of education. On the reservation, 22.3 percent have a bachelor's degree or higher; at the state level it is 31.1 percent.

-- Broadband Subscription: 75.7 of households on the reservation have a subscription; in the state as a whole the subscription rate is 84.2 percent.

The dismal statistics cited for the Senate factor 5 analysis in this report help explain why voter turnout has traditionally been so low among Native Americans (Carrero. 2020). That historically low turnout rate has hardly improved. For the 2020 election, state-wide turnout was 42.9 percent. For Sioux County it was 21.45 percent; for Rolette County it was 29.34 percent; and for Benson County it was 33.39 percent (data from North Dakota Secretary of State website). I cannot determine Native turnout rates for Fort Berthold because Native Americans are a small proportion of population in all of the six counties that contain parts of the reservation.

6. The use of overt or subtle racial appeals in political campaigns.

Overt racial appeals are rare in contemporary politics; most political candidates are aware of the problems that can accompany overtly race-based appeals. However, Native people certainly make reference to the role of race in elections with a Native candidate. Chase Iron Eyes, when he ran for the U. S. House of Representatives, fully realized he needed the Native vote as a base. According to the AP, "Iron Eyes says he plans on defeating Cramer by mobilizing the Native American vote like 'never before'" (Assoc. Press, April 2, 2016). He expected—and received—a very high percentage of the Native vote over Representative Cramer. Implicit in Mr. Iron Eyes' comment is an assumption that Anglo people might not vote for him in any appreciable numbers.

Another Native candidate, Ruth Buffalo, who ran for Insurance Commissioner in 2016, also pointed out how Native candidates, and Native-favored candidates, need a bloc-vote from Native Americans: "'Heidi Heitkamp was put into office because of the Native vote,' said Buffalo, of the Democratic underdog senator elected in 2012.

'Wouldn't it be great if the Native vote put Native people into office'" (Spotted Bear, 2016).

The extent of racial appeals in elections is difficult to determine. The interviews I did at Fort Berthold are mixed; some people have not heard any racial appeals and others have. Several interviewees mentioned that Anglo candidates seldom come to the reservation or directly communicate with tribal members, so they have no way of knowing if they are making racial appeals. Below are responses to the question: "In those races that pit a Native American against an Anglo, are there racial appeals in the campaign? Do candidates try to appeal chiefly to members of their own racial group?"

- > They don't come here, so I don't know (Good Bird. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > White people say: "We can't have that Indian in there." That is the attitude of some (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > Talking about Lisa, she did outreach to non-Indians. That was only this year. This was the first time that the white candidate put his poster in Mandaree, first time. They never reach out to the Indian communities, Fegley and Jones, and Kannianen (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > Jones never came to Mandaree (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > I'm not aware of hearing anything like that (Spotted Horse. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > It's slightly veiled, it's in this language of danger, hinting at "she's not right for ND because...." [a phrase used against Rep. Ruth Buffalo, who lost her seat in the state House]. That is just pure racism and fear mongering. And that's on the ads and billboards (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > We don't hear anything from white candidates they are too scared to come to our houses (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).
- > As far as I know, Terry Jones has never campaigned in this area. So I don't know what he was saying to white people; and they aren't going to tell us (Muzzy. 2023. Inperson interview, Jan. 12).
- > I've never heard of that, said in open spaces (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > Have not seen that. With Lisa, it was "From here, for here." That statement was part of her campaign (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

In sum, overt racial appeals are very rare in contemporary politics; most candidates know that such language can cause problems for them. The interviews I conducted at Fort Berthold indicate that there may be some veiled racial appeals in elections, but it appears to be limited.

7. The extent to which members of the minority group have been elected to public office in the jurisdiction.

In a state where 5.7 percent of the population is American Indian alone (this figure is higher if people of mixed heritage are included), and much of that population is concentrated in specific geographic areas, we would expect Native people to be elected to office and be appointed to serve government in other ways. Yet this is not the case; indeed, it is very rare to find American Indians holding any kind of public office in the state other than in tribal government. ⁹ The election of Lisa Finley-DeVille is an exception to this long-term trend, and that only occurred because of the creation of District 4a.

a. The Legislature:

One of the most basic elements of representative government is the right to be represented by people who are "like-minded." This, in many situations, means people from similar socio-economic, cultural, and racial backgrounds. But the American Indian people of North Dakota are almost exclusively represented in the state legislature by Anglos, with just two exceptions. The legislature has a "Tribal and State Relations

⁹ The most reliable and widely accepted methodology to "race ID" candidates or office-holders—with a high degree of certainty—is to create a panel of local people with extensive knowledge of the local population and ask them to identify the race of each candidate or office-holder. This is an extremely cumbersome, expensive, and time-consuming process. I have either relied on available evidence or information gleaned from interviews. For school board members and county sheriffs, there was very limited information available.

Committee." It has seven members—all of them Anglos (Tribal and State Relations Committee. 2022). The state's website for the Indian Affairs Commission contains a list of 24 representatives from districts that contain Indian reservations. The list has not been updated since the 2023 election, so it is out-of-date. The only legislator on the list who is Native American is Senator Richard Marcellais from Turtle Mountain (North Dakota Indian Affairs 2022). However, he was defeated in 2022 after the boundary lines of his district were changed. When the list is updated, it will include two House members who are Native American: Representative Lisa Finley-DeVille, from MHA Nation and representing the new District 4a, and Jayme Davis from Turtle Mountain representing the new District 9a.

Senator Marcellais's defeat means that there are no Native Americans in the North Dakota Senate now. Until 2022, only one Native American had been elected to the state House from a tribal area, Dawn Marie Charging, from MHA Nation, who represented District Four (the Fort Berthold area) from 2005 to 2008. The only other Native American from a North Dakota Tribe to serve in the state House was Ruth Buffalo, who is an enrolled member of the MHA Nation, but represented a district in Fargo until she lost re-election in 2022 due to changes in the boundary lines of her district. The election of Lisa Finley-DeVille and Jayme Davis in 2022 is a dramatic exception to this past record; both were elected in sub-districts.

b. State Administrative Positions:

¹⁰ Representative Oley Larsen's website indicates he is a member of the Kluane First Nation in Canada. He represents Minot. See: https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/members/senate/senator-oley-larsen

The governor's "administration and Staff" website lists twenty people in the governor's cabinet. One of them is Native: Nathan Davis was appointed Executive Director of the Indian Affairs Commission in 2021. Tribal member Erica Thunder was the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Human Rights, but she was replaced in November 2022 (North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, Administration and Staff. 2023).

The only unit of the state government with significant tribal membership is the Indian Affairs Commission. That commission operates a North Dakota Indian Affairs website that addresses the "state of the Tribal-State Relationship." The last entry on that website is from 2013 (North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, Media and Publications. 2023). It should be noted that, when the state legislature created the Indian Affairs Commission in 1949, it stated that the official policy of North Dakota was forced assimilation: "Indians should be assimilated into the general citizenry of the state by a process of association with non-Indians in their day-by-day business and social relationships" (North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission. 1999: 3).

There is also a state Committee on Tribal and State Courts. By statute that committee includes tribal judges and tribal court administrators (I was unable to determine what percentage of state judges, if any, are Native American).

c. County Elective and Appointed Offices:

Native Americans are also rare among elected officials at the county level. There are three counties with Indian populations in excess of 50 percent: Rolette, Benson, and Sioux. Rolette County (78 percent American Indian) has five county commissioners; members of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe now have a majority on the county

commission with the appointment of Alice Lunday to fill a vacancy, and with the election of Craig Poitra and Henry LaRoque (and one of the commissioners is married to a Native woman). And Native people hold two positions in county administration: tax equalization, and the veterans service office. There are no enrolled members holding the following elective and administrative positions in the county: auditor's office, coroner's office, district court, emergency management, extension, highway department, human service zone, public health, recorder's office, risk management, sheriff's office, state's attorney's office, superintendent of schools' office, veterans service office, weed control, and 911 communications.

Sioux County (81.4 percent American Indian) has three county commissioners; one is an enrolled member at Standing Rock. The new sheriff, Michael Crow Feather, is Native American. Vernetta Iron Eyes is the district court administrator, and the county recorder, and the treasurer. The county auditor, Angela Eagle, is Native American. All of the remaining county offices are held by Anglos: coroner's office, emergency management, extension, highway department, human service zone, public health, risk management, state's attorney's office, superintendent of schools' office, tax equalization, and weed control.

Benson County (55.6 percent American Indian) has five county commissioners. David Davidson is the only Native American; the other four are Anglo. All of the following elected and appointed county officials are Anglo: the auditor, deputy auditor, coroner's office, district court, emergency management, extension, highway department, human service zone, public health, recorder's office, risk management, sheriff's office,

state's attorney's office, superintendent of schools office, tax equalization, treasurer's office, deputy treasurer, veteran's service office, weed control, and 911 communications.

The Fort Berthold Reservation is spread out across six counties; none of them has a Native American county commissioner, and there has never been a Native American serving as clerk/auditor or magistrate judge in any of those counties. The lone exception to this pattern of all-Anglo office holders is Jerry Kerzmann, a Native American county sheriff in McLean County (which includes part of the Fort Berthold Reservation). In response to the question of whether any Native Americans had been elected, appointed, or employed by Dunn County (one of the six counties that include Fort Berthold), an interviewee told me: "in Dunn County, are you crazy? That is unheard of...it shouldn't be crazy in 2023, but no way. Nope. They'd hire a black person before they'd hire a Native American" (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).

d. School Boards:

I also attempted to assess the extent to which American Indians have been elected to school boards in the state. There are some American Indians serving on school boards for districts on or near reservations. In the case of Parshall, that was made possible by the threat of a Voting Rights Act lawsuit, and today there is one tribal member serving on the Parshall School Board. The New Town School District, which is on the Fort Berthold Reservation and is nearly all Native American, has four out of five school board members who are Native, and the lone Anglo on the board is married to a Native.

In other reservation areas of the state, there are Native Americans on school boards at Belcourt and St. John at Turtle Mountain, Minnewakan School District at Spirit Lake, and Fort Yates and Solen at Standing Rock. One Native person, Lorraine Davis, was elected to the Mandan School Board, but quit after a short period of time.

e. Civil Service and Commissions/Boards:

Many important decisions in government are made by civil service administrators. Although data is difficult to obtain, there are some relevant examples. A 2012 analysis of state employees found that only 1.23 percent of state employees identify themselves as American Indians (United Tribes Network 2013). A 2012 analysis discovered that minorities, including American Indians, were "not proportionally represented in North Dakota's legal profession or as state court employees" (North Dakota Commission. 2012: ix, 149). 11

There also appears to be very few Indian people serving as appointed members of advisory boards and commissions. According to one source, "There is so much segregation we don't have representation on boards and advisory commissions. Just ask anybody and they'll know; they can't name a single Native American board member (Kary, 2016). There are 137 commissions and boards listed on the state's website, and the race of the members is not denoted, so I have no way of independently verifying Ms. Kary's statement. The obvious exception is the state Indian Affairs Commission. The only other Indian commission I could find was for the city of Fargo, which has a Native American Commission composed almost entirely of American Indians. Apparently, Fargo is the only city in North Dakota with such a commission.

f. Urban Government:

¹¹ In 2012, American Indians were 5.4 percent of the population, but only 0.8 percent of the state bar (North Dakota Commission (2012): 127.

The largest community on the Fort Berthold Reservation is New Town, which is about 75 percent Native. In 2022, for the first time, a member of the MHA Nation was elected mayor (Jay Standish). The City Council is all-Native, except for one.

Off-reservation, there is a considerable American Indian population in Bismarck, which is 4.3 percent Indian (with a total population of 74,138). The city is governed by a commission consisting of four commissioners and a mayor; none is American Indian. Mandan is 4.2 percent Native, and has a similar governing structure; but no one on the city commission is American Indian. Fargo is 1.2 percent Native, and has an all-white city commission (with a total population of 126, 748) (U.S. Census Quick Facts. 2022, city websites).

It is clear that a Native American running for public office faces tremendous hurdles—unless the electorate is composed of a majority of Native voters. An Indian woman who ran for a House district was told by a more experienced politico that she would do much better if she changed her name to "something sounding Scandinavian" (Jones. 2016). Merle Boucher ran for state-wide office; he is not an enrolled member of any tribe, but has Indian/Metí blood and an Indian-sounding name, and thus was mistaken for being Native. When handing out campaign literature he was told by one man: "You f-----g Indians are all communists" (Boucher, 2016). Another interviewee tried to explain why there are so few American Indians involved in governance: "It's systemic. We are not really a part of the system; it has been built around us (Kary, 2016).

This lack of representation, and the long history of Native disenfranchisement and discrimination related to voting, have a direct impact on what political scientists refer to as *political efficacy*: "the 'feeling that individual political action does have, or can have,

an impact upon the political process, that is, that it is worthwhile to perform one's civic duties.'... Simply put, efficacy is citizens' perceptions of powerfulness (or powerlessness) in the political realm" (Morrell. 2003: 589. Also see: Niemi, Craig, and Mattei. 2014). Political efficacy is a "a crucial component of political agency and democratic participation" (Beaumont. 2011:216). Native people have repeatedly expressed a low sense of political efficacy, which in turn reduces rates of political participation; here is a stark example, expressed by a Native American: "There is an inherent level of distrust between Native people and the government. Many Natives avoid state elections altogether because we've been screwed over by both Democrats and Republicans, at every point in history, on just about every issue. So when we do choose to participate, we should at least be treated with the same level of respect as our non-Native counterparts" (Luger 6 Nov. 2014). This sense of a lack of political efficacy was expressed by several people I interviewed, with a change in attitude due to the creation of District 4a:

<u>Interviews from Fort Berthold:</u>

- > A lot of people don't think our vote counts because our population is so little. Native people think this, that our vote doesn't count, their vote doesn't matter. Were more seen as an outcast (Good Bird. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > Is the redistricting to 4a a good thing? It's an extremely good thing because it gives us a voice (White. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > Regarding her relatives, my Mom said; I'm not voting because it won't make any difference, there's never been anybody [Native American] in North Dakota that's held office. We just don't have a strong enough presence in North Dakota to make a difference (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > no outreach from that county [Dunn] to encourage people to run. We're made to feel like we don't belong in those county offices, but we have a right to be in there (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > A lot of people say; what's the use to go vote. I don't know those people, but they never come here to talk to me (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).

- > We haven't had any representation because theres not enough of us voting to make it into the ballot, and some don't even make on the ballot. Were a minority, and they made us an even smaller minority (Muzzy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > People would say; it doesn't matter any way because our vote doesn't count. It's usually the younger people say that (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

Interviews from Other Reservations and Statewide:

- > Historical trauma does impact elections because voter confidence is impacted by adverse experiences at the polling places, and after that our people don't want to go back.... Also, the limited experience our people have had since we were allowed to vote. There's a low turnout because people say; we've never been asked to vote and they're not welcoming to us (Donaghy. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > Cheryl Kary, the executive director of the Sacred Pipe Resource Center in Mandan claimed that reservations in the past "have been gerrymandered many times" and as a result, "a number of tribal nations feel they don't have elected officials who are aligned with their concerns" (Public News Service. 2021).
- > "Leaving us out of that kind of thing [consideration of funding for economic development] does not give us much incentive to vote, doesn't make us feel part of the state" (Longie. 2022).
- > "Native apathy; we don't vote because we've been left out of the process for so long that we haven't engaged in the process.... The dominant culture does not really care about the reservations. The election of Ruth Buffalo and Senator Marcellais have helped [both have been defeated]. But there's this disassociation from the candidates and Native people" (Seminole. 2022).
- > "I didn't vote because I couldn't see how I could impact anything happening out there" (McDonald. 2022).
- > "We took a lady to the poll and she was 50 and had never voted. It was never taught that the vote would make a difference. It was never modeled for me. A lot of people never think about it. Native people feel like we are such a small group that we'll never make a difference. It's not going to do any good, and the people that get in don't represent them anyway.... Historically, I don't think people understand the ideological barriers when you have long-term disenfranchisement. Discrimination is not in-your-face, not a Klansman thing, but there might as well be, because they [tribal members] see the system doesn't work for them. So it's a tradition to not go vote, and it's not going to make a difference" (Kary. 2022).

Standing Rock tribal member Chase Iron Eyes, who ran for Congress in 2016, explained

the resulting sense of alienation: "We don't see ownership in our political futures"

(quoted in: Levine. 2018).

American Indians in North Dakota are citizens of the county in which they reside, and the state, and for urban Indians, the city. Yet they only participate in the governance and administration of these institutions in a very marginal way. They are rarely elected to office, and when they are elected, it is because they have sufficient support among Native voters to overcome their Anglo opponents. The election of Lisa Finley-DeVille is an extreme rarity among electoral politics in North Dakota. The lack of electoral success and representation in the state has left some Native people with a low sense of political efficacy.

8. The responsiveness of state and local officials to the needs of minorities.

One of the hallmarks of "good" government is its ability to serve the needs of the people—all the people. "Responsiveness" is the ability—and willingness—of a government to respond to perceived problems of its citizens. However, responsiveness is difficult to achieve in an atmosphere of animosity and conflict. The first part of this section looks at requests made by tribal members during the redistricting process. The second part of this section examines the highly controversial issue of DAPL and its impact on state/tribal relations.

a. Redistricting:

During the redistricting process, the state had a mixed record in responsiveness to Native Americans. The committee was unresponsive in two ways but responsive in the case of Fort Berthold. The first example of unresponsiveness concerned the location of committee meetings. The redistricting committee held six meetings; all of them were held in Bismarck, except the final meeting, which was held in Fargo. During the redistricting process, the redistricting committee was asked repeatedly to come to Indian Country for

at least one of their meetings, because many reservations are a long distance from the capital. For example, the drive from New Town on the Fort Berthold Reservation to Bismarck is 2.5 hours. At the August 26th meeting, Collette Brown, from Spirit Lake Reservation, asked the redistricting committee to "listen to tribal input and hold redistricting meetings and tribal consultations on reservations" (Brown. 2021. Aug. 26). Councilman Charles Walker from Standing Rock also requested that the redistricting committee "listen to tribal input and hold redistricting meetings and tribal consultations on reservations... [But] this committee has chosen to only hold hearings in Bismarck or Fargo. Holding hearings in far-away communities has a disproportionately negative impact on tribal communities" (Walker. 2021).

The committee chose to not travel to any reservations. In a second meeting with the redistricting committee, Ms. Brown expressed dismay that the committee had not responded to tribal requests: "Tribes have continued to advocate for more inclusivity in the redistricting process, and that advocacy has largely been ignored by this Committee" (Brown. 2021. Sept. 15). 12 Tribal Chairman Jamie Azure from Turtle Mountain and Douglas Yankton from Spirit Lake also noted the lack of responsiveness:

Throughout the redistricting process, the Tribes of North Dakota made numerous requests to the Legislature's Redistricting Committee to hold redistricting hearings on and near reservations to allow tribal members an opportunity to be heard on how their state legislative representation will be guided for the next ten years. Those requests fell on deaf ears.... Despite repeated requests, the only outreach from the Redistricting Committee was the e-mailing of a hearing notice to the Tribes with one day's notice (Tribal Leaders. 2021).

Another tribal chairman, Mike Faith from Standing Rock Sioux, also chastised the redistricting committee for not being responsive to the needs of Native people:

¹² The committee sent a representative from the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission to reservations, but no one from the committee.

I am extremely disappointed that the Committee has failed to formally consult with the tries to take Tribal input into account in the redistricting process. Sending an informal invite to tribal leaders to testify a day before a hearing is highly disrespectful. North Dakota Native Vote requested formal govern-to-government consultation on redistricting months ago. Failing to reach out to Tribal leaders for months, and then waiting for the last minute to invite us to provide this important information is unacceptable. Many other states began holding redistricting hearings months ago to get feedback directly from citizens and tribal governments. Our tribal governments, just like other governments all across the country, are dealing with the rising impact of the Delta Variant. The actions by the Committee send the message that the Committee is not interested in hearing what we have to say and that it is not important at all (Faith. 2021).

Nicole Donaghy, the executive director of North Dakota Native Vote, made a similar claim during the redistricting process: "They don't include Native voices in the process. They don't reach out to the tribes" (quoted in Lerner. 2021).

A second way that the committee was unresponsive was in regard to District 9 and requests from the Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake tribes. The Turtle Mountain Chippewa specifically asked the committee not to divide District 9 into two subdistricts: "The Committee...decided to create subdistricts in the Turtle Mountain reservation area, even though no subdistricts were ever requested by Turtle Mountain to the Redistricting Committee" (Tribal Leaders. 2021). In a statement before the redistricting committee, Chairman Azure of Turtle Mountain pointed out that the proposed division of District 9 "would dilute the Native American vote, would not provide our tribal members with the ability to elect candidates of their choice. On the other hand, a single district with Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake together would allow the tribal members from both Tribes to elect their preferred candidates" (Azure. 2021). The committee proceeded with its plan to divide District 9 into subdistricts anyway.

In contrast, the redistricting committee was quite responsiveness in the creation of sub-districts for District 4, in response to requests from MHA tribal members. As a result,

the original District 4, which had a Native population of about 38.6 percent, was split into two districts, with District 4a having a Native voting age population of 67 percent (Fox. 2021). In short, the state's redistricting process was not responsive to all Native requests but it was responsive in the creation of District 4a.

Another aspect of state responsiveness came up during the debate over HB 1504. Senator Oley Larsen argued against creating subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9, and then made an argument that sounded remarkably similar to early provisions of the state constitution that limited voting only to Indians who had severed tribal relations. He argued that tribal members should not have representation in the state legislature: "Indians have their own sovereign nation constitution... You cannot come to another nation's country and say okay I want representation even though I have my own constitution on my own sovereign nation.... [In creating sub-districts in Districts 4 and 9] we're going to give representation to an individual to represent individuals that do not follow the Constitution of the United States. They have their own tribal sovereignty constitution that they follow first" (Senate Floor Session. 2021. Comments by Senator O. Larsen).

b. The Conflict over DAPL:

The bitter conflict over the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) contributed to the long history of tension between Native Americans and Anglos in North Dakota. ¹³ This hostility was expressed in the state legislature by several bills that were interpreted by some as "anti-Indian" or punitive legislation. As one legislator put it, "these bills are really coming at us really out of anger" (House Floor Session, Representative Vetter 6

¹³ For an account of this conflict from the Native perspective, see: Keeler. 2021; Estes. 2019.

Feb. 2017: 1). Several of the bills were aimed at the DAPL protesters. Strong language was used on the floor of the House to describe them: "riots" and "ecoterrorism" (Representative Porter 6 Feb. 2017); "thugs" and "ecoterrorists" (House Floor Session, Representative R. C. Becker 6 Feb. 2017); "If we want to protect our society and continue to have a free country, we better get these protesters taken care of" (House Floor Session, Representative R. S. Becker 6 Feb. 2017). My point is not to agree or disagree with these characterizations, but to point out just how hostile and polarized the situation in North Dakota had become.

The following eight bills were a direct response to the DAPL protests:

- -- HB 1193 would make it a felony to cause economic harm while committing disorderly conduct. It did not pass.
- -- HB 1383 would criminalize loitering; "An individual may not loiter and prowl in a place at a time or in an unusual manner that warrants justifiable or reasonable alarm or immediate concern for the safety of other individuals or property in the vicinity." It did not pass.
- -- HB 1426 increased the penalties for riot offenses for riots that involve 100 or more people. This bill passed both houses by wide margins and became law.
- -- HB 1281 requested that the federal government return lands and mineral rights under Lake Oahe to cover "the costs borne by the state to ensure public safety in relation to protests against the placement of an oil pipeline under the Missouri River." It did not become law.
- -- HB 1203 was aimed at protesters who blocked traffic, and held: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a driver of a motor vehicle who, while exercising reasonable care, causes injury or death to an individual who is intentionally obstructing vehicular traffic on a public road, street, or highway may not be held liable for any damages." This bill did not become law.
- -- HB 1332 (not the same bill as the voter ID bill with the same number) provided that anyone convicted of trespass had to pay an additional \$1,000 to the county sheriff. It did not pass.
- -- HB 1304 made it illegal to wear a mask on public property. This bill was introduced by Representative Carlson—the same legislator who introduced HB 1369. It became law after passing both the House and Senate by wide margins.
- -- HB 1293 increased penalties for trespassing. It passed.
- -- SB 2246 made it unlawful not to vacate an area, even on public property, if ordered to do so by police; the fine was set at \$5,000. This bill did not pass.

This raft of bills provoked strong reactions on both sides. The legislator who introduced the bill to waive liability for someone running over a protester in the road saw it this way: "...what we are dealing with was terrorism out there" (House Floor Session, Wootson 17 Jan. 2017). Ladonna Brave Bull Allard, a protester and member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, had a different view: "I have never seen so many people frightened in all my life. My recommendation for the legislature would be to pray harder. I think people are living on rumor and gossip more than they do the truth" (Wootson 17 Jan. 2017). Nancy Greene-Robertson described the tension this way: "It's not peaceful. There's a lot of rebuilding that needs to take place" (Greene-Robertson 5 Feb. 2018). Carol Davis of the Turtle Mountain Reservation also made reference to the high level of hostility: "The people who are in leadership don't have a good attitude toward tribal members" (C. Davis 2018).

These bills were a direct response to the DAPL protests, which were clearly polarizing and confrontational. But another bill appeared to be aimed squarely at Native American tribes in the state. HB 3033 proposed to build six state-regulated private casinos; this was a transparent bid to run Indian casinos out of business (MacPherson 2 Mar. 2017). This bill was introduced by Representative Carlson—the same legislator who sponsored the voter ID bill (see the *Brakebill v. Jaeger* and *Spirit Lake v. Jaeger* cases). Tribal leaders considered it "retaliatory" (McDonald 5 Feb. 2018). One of the legislators who considered this bill in committee noted "...there were concerns among the committee members that the introduction of the resolution has the appearance of being a response to the recent issues being faced by the state with regard to the protest" (House Floor Session, Roer Jones, Representative 23 Mar. 2017). One of the few Native

American legislators, Senator Richard Marcellais, had a much more adamant response to Representative Carlson's casino bill: "It's racist. I feel like going over there and knocking him through the window" (MacPherson 2 Mar. 2017).

For Native people, the DAPL was part of the long and bitter legacy of land loss and the state ignoring their interests:

It's a familiar story in Indian Country. This is the third time that the Sioux Nation's lands and resources have been taken without regard for tribal interests. The Sioux peoples signed treaties in 1851 and 1868. The government broke them before the ink was dry. When the Army Corps of Engineers dammed the Missouri River in 1958, it took our riverfront forests, fruit orchards and most fertile farmland to create Lake Oahe. Now the Corps is taking our clean water and sacred places by approving this river crossing. Whether it's gold from the Black Hills or hydropower from the Missouri or oil pipelines that threaten our ancestral inheritance, the tribes have always paid the price for America's prosperity (Archambault. 2016).

The intensity and depth of the racial polarization that is evident surrounding DAPL was summarized by Senator Dever: "I think that... there have been damages done to the relationships between our general population and the population south of here through recent events. But it needs to be made clear that that is a two-sided thing. That we're going to have to work together to repair some of those things that have come together over the last 30, 40, 50 years to the positive and now have been challenged" (Senate Floor Session, Dever 14 Feb. 2017). Regardless of the merits of the proposed pipeline, it became a flash-point of contention for Native Americans who felt the state was not responding to their needs.

Most of the people I interviewed at Fort Berthold felt that there are long-standing problems with the responsiveness of state and local governments. One of the problems encountered by people on the reservation is that it is spread out across six counties, making any kind of coordination difficult. Here are some of their responses to the

question: "Is the state of North Dakota, and the six counties where the reservation is located, responsive to the needs of Native Americans?

- > As a former employee at the casino, getting [non-tribal] law enforcement here was like pulling teeth. We'd have non-tribal members acting a fool, and they don't want to come and arrest them, or it would take an extremely long time to get here. When we have events there's always a strong tribal police presence, but there's no county police presence; they are invited but they don't come (White. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 10).
- > Absolutely not. There are conflicting issues with guardianship. They won't help with ambulance, and we have to pay for that. They will help with fire. The oil trucks have torn up the highways and the state has not helped us with that. The counties will do as little as possible, but they use our data and then not include us in the disbursements. In health care, the most important and most expensive of services, these counties have been told by the state not to include the surrounding counties' social services to Natives. They are utilizing enrolled members royalties and then denying tribal members' eligibility. So we have to pay for tribal medical insurance; we pay \$41 million annually to Sanford Health for health insurance. Unemployment rates are high; we have a lot that should get Medicaid, they should be eligible, but the state distributes it through the counties and they have our people fill out eligibility forms, but then they deny us. They don't get Medicaid so we have to pay huge payments for health insurance because the counties don't provide.... We've begged the state to work on the road outside of New Town because of the trucks, but they wouldn't listen. We're getting the short end of the stick out of the state. We have alcohol on this reservation; the state taxes that, but we never get any of it back to help with our alcohol and drug programs. The state also gets 20 percent of the oil royalties from wells on the reservation. But we don't see that. The six counties; they include our data to get federal funding, but then don't share that funding; that is a problem (Mayer. 2023. In-person interview, Jan 10).
- > I think it's important to vote in both federal and state elections and we need to have a voice in the process, and I've believed that all my life. That's why I traveled over 100 miles to vote. Manning [Dunn County seat] has a brand-new county courthouse; they spent millions. But then they said they didn't have the money to keep our precinct open (Theodora Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > No. the state receives a big portion of funds from the federal government, especially in human services. There is the need for medical services, drug and alcohol treatment, and food. There's also a need for transportation funding; that comes from the federal government to the state. Our highways, 22 and 23 and 73, are all state highways. They need funding to redesign and repair those because they are the pathway for the oil industry. Public safety is at stake; you're at high risk on the highways here because of the trucks. There is a need for the state to consider addressing those issues....There are so many layers of barriers to voting for Native people. It requires time and money for voters to go to their precinct. When they're closed, that sends a big message that we're unwanted (Joletta Bird Bear. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 11).
- > No. I've worked CPS (child protection services). When it comes to a Native American child, they tend to just let it be. It's a Native child, they just say leave, or let it

linger. But for a non-enrolled kid, they are right there. I just think there are places that are not treated fairly. On roads, White Shield roads were so beat up it took forever to fix them. Even around here in New Town, the roads are bad with the traffic (Standish. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).

- > It depends on the time of the year, if it's election year they want Native support and they show up for pow-wows or Native conferences or presentations, but always within a year or two of an election. In White Shield, growing up, there was a county road, but there's issues; the county will only go to the reservation, and then won't go the last two miles on the reservation for maintenance and snow plowing. Then the tribe has to do it (Spotted Horse. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 11).
- > In the past, we attempted to establish a public health unit because Mountrail and others would count our population as part of their numbers, but not use the benefits of that to service our people. There is a fair amount of people who have to work with the state, say food stamps. The county seat is 30 miles away from here. It can be difficult (Baker. 2023. In-person interview, Jan. 12).
- > I doubt it because, I raised two sons by myself. There were times I needed county welfare, and when I'd go to them and ask for help. They are rude, they are disrespectful. People don't want to apply for welfare when they are mistreated, and their kids go without. I'm sure our young people are still being mistreated at these county welfare places (Young Bear. 2023. In-person interview. Jan. 12).
- > The state, no, they were going to put a pipeline through. They don't consider us a whole lot. Just listening to the legislative assembly, I don't hear a lot of discussion of how issues will affect tribes. We're left out of a lot of the lot discussion where we should be included. They don't really consider us (Beheler. 2023. Telephone interview. Jan. 13).

In sum, the state of North Dakota was not responsive to Native concerns in many ways, with the obvious exception that the legislature created District 4a on the Fort Berthold Reservation. Recent conflicts over DAPL and the voter ID issue exacerbated tensions between tribes and the state. As a University of North Dakota law professor explained: "There's an animosity between tribal communities and the state here in the Dakotas" (quoted in Willis. 2020). These recent developments, combined with the historical legacy of discrimination and outright racism, have resulted in a state government that is only rarely responsive to tribal needs.

9. The tenuousness of the policy underlying voting laws, standards, and practices.

"Tenuous" is defined as "having little substance or strength" (Merriam-Webster Dictionary). Tenuousness in re-districting can be assessed in two ways: First, by examining the extent to which districts conform to the traditional criteria for proper districts; and second, by the rationale for redistricting decisions.

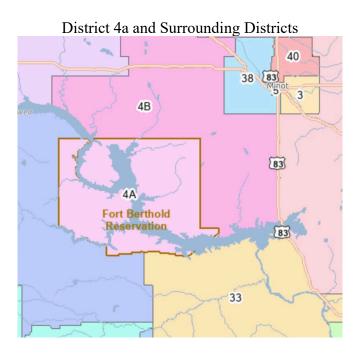
The criteria for traditional principles of redistricting can be found in many sources, including a Congressional Research Service report, the *Gingles* preconditions, and the North Dakota Constitution. ¹⁴ The Congressional Research Service summarized existing law and policy and focused primarily on four criteria: equal population; geographic compactness, contiguity, and protecting communities of interest (Congressional Research Service. 2021). Equal population is required under federal law, and compactness and contiguity are required by Article IV of the North Dakota Constitution. These principles were also emphasized in the legislation that authorized the redistricting process: "[The redistricting committee] shall ensure any legislative redistricting plan submitted to the legislative assembly for consideration must be of compact and contiguous territory and conform to all constitutional requirements with respect to population equality. The committee may adopt additional constitutionally recognized redistricting guidelines and principles" (North Dakota 67th Legislative Assembly. 2021).

To help prepare the legislature for redistricting in 2021, the North Dakota Legislative Council prepared a "Background Memorandum" that listed seven traditional

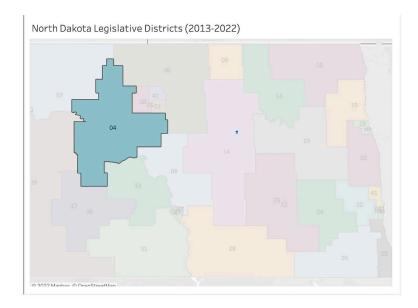
¹⁴ These traditional districting principles and others were presented to the redistricting committee by a speaker from the National Conference of State Legislatures. See: https://www.legis.nd.gov/files/committees/67-2021/23_5024_03000appendixb.pdf They were also presented to the redistricting committee by their counsel. See: https://www.legis.nd.gov/files/resource/committee-memorandum/23.9105.01000.pdf

redistricting principles (Legislative Council. 2021: 10). We can compare these principles to District 4a to assess the extent to which it reflects these principles.

1. <u>Geographic Compactness</u>. District 4a could not be more compact; it is nearly a square, as shown in the map below. It is more compact than the previous single District 4 (see below).



2. <u>Contiguity</u>. District 4a is not only contiguous, but it contains no bizarre shapes, narrow corridors, or isolated areas. It is more regular in shape than the old single District 4, which is seen in the map below.



- 3. <u>Preservation of Political Subdivision Boundaries</u>. District 4a follows the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
- 4. <u>Preservation of Communities of Interest</u>. District 4a encompasses the Fort Berthold Reservation, home to the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara people—clearly a community of interest.
- 5. <u>Preservation of Cores of Prior Districts</u>. The new District 4a was carved out of the old District 4.
- 6. <u>Protection of Incumbents</u>. District 4a did not protect the incumbent, who was not from Fort Berthold and not a member of the MHA Nation. The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) does <u>not</u> list this as a traditional redistricting principle. Instead, NCSL lists "avoiding pairing incumbents," which District 4a accomplished. NCSL also notes "emerging criteria" starting in 2020 that include "prohibition on favoring or disfavoring an incumbent" (National Conference of State Legislatures. 2021). In addition,

protection of incumbents is not listed as a core redistricting principle by either the Congressional Research Service or Article IV of the North Dakota Constitution.

7. <u>Compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act</u>. The creation of District 4a avoided a lawsuit filed by the MHA Nation because it provided, for the first time, an opportunity for tribal members to elect a candidate of their choice.

In short, the new District 4a meets all but one of the traditional redistricting principles listed in the Legislative Council's memorandum, and that single exception is generally not regarded as a traditional redistricting principle by most authorities.

A second measure of tenuousness is the rationale or justification provided for a law. The new sub-districts for District 4 were created in response to a request by the MHA Nation. The tribal chairman Mark Fox as well as four additional tribal members from MHA testified at a Tribal and State Relations Committee in August 2021 and requested that District 4a be created. Chairman Fox also submitted written testimony to the Redistricting Committee on September 28, and tribal member Lisa Finley-Deville also testified before the Redistricting Committee. Their message was clear; the MHA Nation wanted a sub-district consisting of the reservation. In other words, the legislature was responding to input from citizens (Fox. 2021; Finley-DeVille. 2021).

In sum, there is nothing tenuous about the creation of Districts 4a and 4b. The new district complies with all the normal procedures of a redistricting process and was created in response to a request from constituents. In contrast, the failure to create District 4a would have exhibited the traits of a tenuous policy because it lacked the attributes described above.

III. Conclusion

In the *Spirit Lake v. Benson County* case, cited above, the judge noted that "there simply is no more essential duty of a democratic government than to provide open, fair elections that are accessible to all eligible voters" (2010: 7). But Native Americans attempting to access the electoral system have faced daunting challenges and an often hostile political environment, as outlined in this report. The singular exception to this long-term condition is the creation of District 4a on the Fort Berthold Reservation.

This report consists of a comprehensive analysis of the Senate factors and how they affect the ability of Native Americans in North Dakota to elect candidates of their choice. The analysis found that the Senate factors, except for two factors that rarely have a role in contemporary elections, have characterized the relationship between Native Americans and the state of North Dakota for an extended period of time. There is a significant and prolonged history of official and *de facto* discrimination against Native Americans, racially polarized voting and a hostile political atmosphere, significant socioeconomic differences between Native people and non-Native North Dakotans, and a lack of electoral success for Native Americans. The creation of Sub-District 4a on the Fort Berthold Reservation is a stark exception to this list of factors; it was clearly a response by the legislature to provide members of the MHA Nation with an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice. The creation of the new District 4a was not tenuous by any reasonable measure.

In my professional opinion, the creation of District 4a is a significant departure from previous conditions that are reflected in the Senate factors; it has already led to the opportunity of MHA members to elect a candidate of their choice. In contrast, the failure to create District 4a would have exhibited the Senate factors analyzed in this report. This

conclusion is based on evidence gathered from 196 written sources, dozens of interviews, and a large volume of U.S. Census data; it is well-supported. This large body of evidence indicates a strong presence for nearly all of the Senate factors, which stand in contrast to the responsive actions of the North Dakota Legislature to create District 4a.

Daniel Craig McCool, Ph.D.

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Boucher, Merle. 2016. Rolette County Commissioner. In-person interview, Rolette, ND. 5 Mar.

Carbone, Michael. 2016. Director, North Dakota Coalition for Homeless People. Inperson interview, Bismarck, ND. 4 Mar.

Cook, Jennifer. 2016. North Dakota Director of the American Civil Liberties Union. Telephone interview. 7 Mar.

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Doherty, Steven. 2016. Professor of Political Science, Dickinson State University. Telephone interview. 1 Mar.

Eagle, John, Sr. 2016. Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. In–person interview, Fort Yates, ND. 3 Mar.

Greene-Robertson, Nancy. 5 Feb. 2018. Telephone interview.

Hettich, Barb. 2016. Sioux County Auditor. Telephone interview. 14 Mar. 2016.

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McCloud, Ella. 2016. In-person interview, Belcourt, ND. 5 Mar.

McCloud, Matthew. 2016. In-person interview, Sky Dancer Casino, 5 Mar.

Morgan, Kelly. 2016. Tribal Archaeologist. In-person interview, Fort Yates, ND. 3 Mar.

Nordmark, Jason. 2016. Owner and Editor, *Turtle Mountain Star*. In-person interview, Rolla, ND. 4 Mar.

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Nelson, Kjersten. 2016. Professor of Political Science, North Dakota State University. Telephone interview. 8 Mar.

Neumann, Dennis J. 2016. Public Information Director at United Tribes Technical College, Bismarck. Telephone interview. 15 Mar.

Silbernagel, Larry. 2016. County Commissioner, Sioux County. Telephone interview. 15 Mar.

Stromme, Renee. 2016. Director, North Dakota Women's Network. In-person interview, Bismarck, ND. 3 Mar.

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Turcotte, John. 2016. Retired policeman. In-person interview, St. John, ND. 5 Mar.

Turcotte, Catherine. 2016. Small business owner. In-person interview, Rolla, ND. 5 Mar.

Weed, Shelly. 2016. Deputy Auditor, Benson County. Telephone interview (brief). 22 Mar.

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APPENDIX A MORTALITY DISPARITY RATES

American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) in the IHS Service Area 2009-2011 and U.S. All Races 2010

(Age-adjusted mortality rates per 100,000 population)

	AI/AN Rate 2009-2011	U.S. All Races Rate - 2010	Ratio: AI/AN to U.S. All Races
ALL CAUSES	999.1	747.0	1.3
Diseases of the heart (Heart Disease)	194.7	179.1	1.1
Malignant neoplasm (cancer)	178.4	172.8	1.0
Accidents (unintentional injuries)*	93.7	38.0	2.5
Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	66.0	20.8	3.2
Alcohol-induced	50.0	7.6	6.6
Chronic lower respiratory diseases	46.6	42.2	1.1
Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	43.6	39.1	1.1
Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	42.9	9.4	4.6
Influenza and pneumonia	26.6	15.1	1.8
Drug-induced	23.4	15.3	1.5

	AI/AN Rate	U.S. All Races	Ratio: AI/AN to
	2009-2011	Rate - 2010	U.S. All Races
Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome	22.4	15.3	1.5
(kidney disease)			
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	20.4	12.1	1.7
Alzheimer's disease	18.3	25.1	0.7
Septicemia	17.3	10.6	1.6
Assault (homicide)	11.4	5.4	2.1
Essential hypertension diseases	9.0	8.0	1.1

^{*} Unintentional injuries include motor vehicle crashes.

NOTE: Rates are adjusted to compensate for misreporting of American Indian and Alaska Native race on state death certificates. American Indian and Alaska Native age-adjusted death rate columns present data for the 3-year period specified. U.S. All Races columns present data for a one-year period. Rates are based on American Indian and Alaska Native alone; 2010 census with bridged-race categories.

Source: Indian Health Service. https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/factsheets/disparities/

VITA

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (1983) University of Arizona (Political Science) Dissertation: "Indian and Non-Indian Water Development."

Independent Doctoral Minor: Latin American Studies, University of Arizona.

M.A. (1978) University of Arizona (Political Science) M.A. Thesis: "The Budgeting Problems of the National Park Service."

B.A. (1973) Purdue University (Sociology).

Major Fields of Research: voting rights, water resources, American Indian policy

Language Training: Spanish

WORK EXPERIENCE

2017-present	Professor Emeritus, Political Science, University of Utah
1996-2017	Professor of Political Science, University of Utah
2003-2015	Director, Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program
2011-2014	Co-Director, University of Utah Sustainability Curriculum Development
1998-2007	Director, American West Center
1989-1996	Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Utah
1990-1993	Associate Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Science
1987-1990	Director of Public Administration Education, Center for Public Policy and Administration, University of Utah
1987-1989	Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Utah
1983-1987:	Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University
1982-1983:	Visiting Lecturer, Texas A&M University
Spring, 1981:	Lecturer for the American Indian Education Program, University of Arizona

1978-1982: Research and Teaching Associate, Political Science Department, University of

Arizona

June--Oct., 1978: Volunteer English Instructor for Project Ayuda in Cunen, Guatemala (7th, 8th,

and 9th grade Mayan Indian students).

1976-1978: Research Assistant, Political Science Department, University of Arizona.

1973-1974: Research Assistant, Southwest Indian Youth Center, Tucson, Arizona.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Vision and Place: John Wesley Powell & Reimagining the Colorado River Basin (edited), with Jason Robison and Thomas Minckley. University of California Press, 2020. This book is divided into three parts: water, public lands, and Native Americans. Each chapter is divided into three sections: historic, contemporary, and prospective. The editors wrote an introductory chapter to the book and an introduction to each of the three parts.

River Republic: The Fall and Rise of America's Rivers. Columbia University Press, 2012 (paperback 2014). This book tells the story of America's rivers and the movement to bring them back to health and vigor. I develop the theme of a "river republic" by focusing on citizens who become politically active to save a local river. Runner-up, Science Category, Green Book Festival.

The Most Fundamental Right: Contrasting Perspectives on the Voting Rights Act (edited). Indiana University Press, 2012. The book is a "debate in print" over the future of the Voting Rights Act. The chapter authors are the leading voices in that debate.

Native Vote: American Indians, the Voting Rights Act, and the Right to Vote, with Susan Olson and Jennifer Robinson. Cambridge University Press, 2007. This book provides a history and analysis of Indian voting rights, with emphasis on cases brought under the Voting Rights Act. Three case studies are used to illustrate the legal issues in such cases. The final chapter describes contemporary efforts by American Indians to participate in the political system.

Native Waters: Contemporary Indian Water Settlements and the Second Treaty Era. University of Arizona Press, 2002. This book analyzes the first fourteen negotiated settlements that attempted to resolve conflicts over Indian water rights. I argue that these water settlements constitute a second treaty era, analogous to the first treaty era of the Nineteenth Century.

Contested Landscape: The Politics of Wilderness in Utah and the West, with Doug Goodman. University of Utah Press, 1999. This edited book consists of chapters written by graduate and undergraduate students from the University of Utah. My contributions include the Preface, co-authorship of the final chapter ("The Community Context Approach"), and an introduction to each of the four sections of the book.

Staking Out the Terrain: Power Differentials Among Natural Resource Management Agencies, second edition, with Jeanne Nienaber Clarke. SUNY Press, 1996. This book formulates a model of agency power focusing on the ability of agencies to expand resources and jurisdiction. A detailed analysis of seven federal agencies provides support for the model. They are: the Army Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. We are currently working on a third edition.

Public Policy Theory, Concepts, and Models: An Anthology. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1995. This semi-edited book provides a comprehensive overview of the most influential theories, concepts, and approaches in policy studies. It is an anthology of previously published work arranged into conceptual categories. My contributions include: Section One: "The Theoretical Foundation of Policy Studies;" Section 6: "Conflict and Choice in Policy Theory;" and an "Introduction" and "Discussion" to accompany Sections Two through Five.

The Waters of Zion: The Law, Policy, and Politics of Water in Utah. University of Utah Press, 1995. This edited book consists of chapters written by graduate and undergraduate students from the University of Utah. My contributions include: Chapter One: "Politics, Water And Utah;" Chapter Nine: "The CUP Completion Act of 1992;" and an "Introduction" to each of the four sections of the book.

Command of the Waters: Iron Triangles, Federal Water Development, and Indian Water. University of California Press, 1987, re-issued in paperback with a new chapter, 1994, by the University of Arizona Press. This book is concerned with differential rates of water development on Indian and non-Indian lands. Chapter one identifies factors that affect the political viability of iron triangles. The book then examines a traditionally weak iron triangle -- the water development program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and a traditionally powerful iron triangle-- the federal water development program.

Journal Articles:

"Collaboration and the Criteria for Success: A Case Study, and a Proposed Framework for Analysis." With Marian L. Rice. *The Journal of Administration & Society*, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1177/00953997211042564

"Evolution of Water Institutions in the Indus River Basin: Reflections from the Law of the Colorado River." With Erum Sattar and Jason Robison. *Michigan Journal of Law Reform* 51 (Issue 4 Summer 2018): 715-776 (ranked #94 out of 1,549 law journals).

"Indigenous Water Justice." With Jason Robison, Barbara Cosens, Sue Jackson, and Kelsey Leonard. *Lewis and Clark Law Review*: 22 (No. 3, 2018): 841-922 (ranked #40 out of 1,549 law journals).

"Integrated Water Resources Management and Collaboration: The Failure of the Klamath Water Agreements." *Journal of Policy History*. 30, Issue 1 (Jan. 2018): 83-104.

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- > U.S. v. Blaine County. 157 F. Supp. 2d 1145 U.S. Dist. Ct. MT (2001)
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- > Sanchez et. al. v. Cegavske. Case No. 3:16-cv-00523-MMD-WGC U.S. Dist. Ct. NV (2016)
- > Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission v. San Juan County, Utah. Case No. 2:16-cv-00154-JNP-BCW U.S. Dist. Ct. UT (2017)
- > Voto Latino v. Hobbs. CV-05685-PHX-DWL. U.S. Dist. Ct. AZ (2019)
- > DSCC v. Simon. 2nd Jud. Dist. Minn. (Jan. 2020, Supp Rept. April, 2020)
- > Western Native Voice v. Stapleton. Mont. 13th Jud. Dist. (March, 2020, Supp. Rept. Aug. 2020)
- > Corona et. al. v. Cegavske et. al. I. 1st Jud. Ct. in and for Carson City, NV (April, 2020)
- > Crossey v. Boockvar. In the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania (May, 2020)
- > LaRose v. Simon, 2nd Jud. District of Minnesota (July, 2020)
- > Corona et. al. v. Cegavske et. al. II. 1st Jud. Ct. in and for Carson City, NV (July, 2020)
- > League of Women Voters v. LaRose. U.S. Dist. Ct. Southern Dist., Eastern. Div. OH (Aug., 2020)
- > A. Philip Randolph Institute of Ohio v. LaRose. U.S. Dist. Ct. Northern Div. OH (September 2020)
- > Toyukak v. Meyer. U.S. Dist. Ct. for the Dist. of Alaska, AK (April, 2021),
- > Western Native Voice v. Jacobsen. Montana. 13th Jud. Ct., MT (Jan., 2022)
- > Lower Brule Sioux Tribe v. Lyman County, SD. U.S. Dist. Ct. SD (May 2022, November 2022)
- > Turtle Mountain v. Jaeger, U.S. Dist. Ct. ND (November 2022)

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"I Thought I Knew a Lot: Contemplations on SCREE." In: *A River Out of Time*, edited by Thomas Minckley, Patrick Kikut, and Jessica Flock. https://www.blurb.com/b/10871283-a-river-out-of-time 2021.

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"Op-Ed: We've Been Here Before, and the Result Was Devastating." *The Salt Lake Tribune* (Oct. 30, 2016). http://www.sltrib.com/opinion/4515090-155/op-ed-weve-been-here-before-and

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Integrating Climate, Energy, and Air Pollution Policies, by Gary Bryner with Robert Duffy. Perspectives in Politics, 2013.

The New Politics of Indian Gaming, by Kenneth Hansen and Tracey Skopek. American Review of Politics. 2012.

Stealing the Gila, by David DeJong. Pacific Historical Review, Vol. 80, No. 1, 2010.

Dividing Western Waters, by Jack August. Western Historical Quarterly, 2009.

The Silver Fox of the Rockies: Delphus E. Carpenter and the Western Water Compacts, by Daniel Tyler. The Journal of American History. June 2004.

Fuel for Growth: Water and Arizona's Urban Environment, by Douglas Kupel. The Journal of American History. June 2004.

Indian Reserved Water Rights: The Winters Doctrine in Its Social and Legal Context, by John Shurts. Pacific Historical Review (Nov. 2001).

The Struggle for Water: Politics, Rationality, and Identity in the American Southwest, by Wendy Nelson Espeland. In The American Political Science Review, (Fall, 1999).

A Sense of the American West: An Anthology of Environmental History. Edited by James E. Sherow. In Utah Historical Quarterly, (1999).

The Weber River Basin: Grass Roots Democracy and Water Development, by Richard Sadler and Richard Roberts. In The Journal of American History, (Sept., 1995).

The Last Water Hole in the West, by Daniel Tyler. In Western Historical Quarterly, (Aug., 1993).

Senate Elections and Campaign Intensity, by Mark Westlye. In Political Studies, (1993).

Water Resources Management, by David Feldman. In Policy Currents (Aug., 1992).

American Indian Water Rights and the Limits of Law, by Lloyd Burton. In Pacific Historical Quarterly (May, 1992).

The Logic of Congressional Action, by R. Douglas Arnold. In Political Studies (1992).

Breaking the Iron Bonds, by Marjane Ambler. In *Natural Resources and Environmental Administration* (June, 1991): 6-7.

Environmental Politics and Policy: Theories and Evidence, edited by James P. Lester. In Journal of Politics (Aug., 1991): 889.

A Budget Quartet: Critical Policy and Management Issues, by Donald Axelrod. In Western Governmental Researcher (1990).

Envisioning a Sustainable Society, by Lester Milbrath. In Rivers, (1991).

Native American Estate: The Struggle Over Indian and Hawaiian Lands, by Linda S. Parker. In The National Political Science Review (1992).

A Life of Its Own: The Politics and Power of Water, by Robert Gottlieb. In American Political Science Review (Dec., 1989): 1382-83.

As Long as the Rivers Run: Hydroelectric Development and Native Communities in Western Canada, by James B. Waldrum. In Western Historical Quarterly (Feb., 1989): 87-88.

Controversies in Environmental Policy, edited by Sheldon Kamieniecki, Robert O'Brien, and Michael Clarke. In The American Review of Public Administration (June, 1988).

Water in New Mexico, by Ira G. Clark. In New Mexico Historical Review (1989).

INVITED TALKS

Invited Speaker, Confluence: The Colorado River at the Compact's Centennial. University of Arizona, Dec. 6, 2022.

Invited Speaker, Healthy Public Lands Conference, University of Utah, June, 2022.

Invited Speaker, Duke University Law School, Discussion on Race and Voting, September 7, 2021. Zoom.

Invited Speaker, Pacific Summit, "Water in the West" Symposium sponsored by the Waterkeeper Alliance, April 28, 2021. Zoom.

Invited Speaker, Symposium on John Wesley Powell and the Future of the Colorado River Basin, Stegner Center, University of Utah, Feb. 18, 2021. Zoom.

Invited Speaker, "Fighting for the Franchise: Native American Voting Rights in Arizona and Beyond." Arizona Historical Society Conference. Oct. 29, 2020. Zoom.

Invited Participant, "Colorado River Conversations: Integrating Science and Identifying Solutions Conference." University of Arizona, Oct. 28-30, 2019.

Invited Speaker, "The Arid Lands and the Legacy of John Wesley Powell." The Biennial Conference on the Science and Management of the Colorado Plateau & Southwest Region, Flagstaff, AZ, Sept. 9, 2019.

Invited Speaker, "John Wesley Powell Sesquicentennial Symposium." Page, AZ, July 10, 2019.

Invited Speaker, "John Wesley Powell Sesquicentennial Symposium." Moab, UT, June 21, 2019.

Invited Speaker, Groundwater Management Districts Association, Summer Conference, Salt Lake City, June 6, 2019.

Keynote Speaker, "John Wesley Powell Sesquicentennial Symposium." Green River WY, May 23, 2019.

Invited Speaker, "Native American Participation in U. S. Elections." The Carter Center, Atlanta, GA, Dec. 11-12, 2018.

Invited Testimony, The Native American Voting Rights Coalition, public hearing, Phoenix, AZ, Jan. 11, 2018.

Participating Scientist, "The Colorado River Basin Workshop: Building a Science Agenda" Funded by the National Science Foundation and the Janet Quinney Lawson Foundation, Tucson, AZ, Oct. 12-14, 2017.

Keynote Speaker, Constitution Day, East Central University, Ada, OK, Sept. 17, 2017.

Invited Speaker, Symposium on Native Voting Rights, the Carter Center, Atlanta, GA, Dec. 4-5, 2016.

Speaker, Restoring the West Conference, Utah State University, October 18, 2016.

Speaker, Martz Summer Conference, panel on Indigenous Water Justice, University of Colorado, June 9, 2016.

Moderator, Indigenous Water Justice Symposium, University of Colorado, June 6, 2016.

Participant, "Upstream Downstream Voices: Protecting the Colorado River, Moab, UT, May 24, 2016.

Speaker, Utah History Symposium, Salt Lake City, UT, May 12, 2016.

Speaker, Great Salt Lake Issues Forum, Salt Lake City, UT, May 11, 2016.

Speaker, Interagency Regional Wilderness Stewardship Training, St. George, UT, April 26, 2016.

Speaker, Spring Runoff Conference, Utah State University, Logan, UT, April 5, 2016.

Speaker, State of the Rockies Annual Speaker Series, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO, Mar. 28, 2016.

Speaker, Intermountain Sustainability Summit, Weber State University, Nov. 24, 2016.

Keynote speaker, Salt Lake County Water Symposium, Nov. 18-19, 2015.

Speaker, Native Symposium, Weber State University, Ogden UT. Nov. 4, 2015.

Plenary Speaker, National Congress of American Indians, National Conference, San Diego, CA. Oct. 2015.

Keynote Speaker, Indian Voting Rights Symposium. Washington, D.C. May 27-28, 2015.

Debate on Public Lands. Speaker of the House Rebecca Lockhart and Representative Ken Ivory vs. Robert Keiter and Daniel McCool. Southern Utah University, Sept. 18, 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1m631pbW6iU&feature=youtu.be

Debate on "Who Should Manage Utah's Public Lands?" Speaker of the House Rebecca Lockhart and Representative Ken Ivory vs. Pat Shea and Daniel McCool. Salt Lake City, May 14, 2014.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GEoEgBkotvA

Speaker, National Commission on Voting Rights, Las Vegas, NV, April 26, 2014.

Speaker, River Rendezvous, Moab, UT Nov. 9, 2013.

Speaker, Upper Colorado River Conference, Colorado Mesa University, Nov. 7, 2013.

Guest Speaker, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, April 17, 2013.

Keynote Speaker, River Management Society annual conference, Grand Junction, CO, Mar. 12, 2013.

Guest Speaker, the Wild and Scenic Film Festival, Nevada City, CA. Jan. 11-13, 2013.

Guest Lecturer, Carleton College, April 19-20, 2011.

Speaker, League of Women Voters, Panel on the proposed Las Vegas Pipeline, Salt Lake City, UT, Sept. 15, 2010

Speaker, Utah State History Conference, panel on Oral History, Salt Lake City, UT, Sept. 10, 2010.

Speaker, Redistricting Institute, Duke University, July 28, 2010.

Census and Redistricting Institute, Participating Scholar, Atlanta, GA, July 20, 2009

Spring Runoff Conference, Keynote Speaker, Utah State University, April 3, 2009.

Law and Justice Center, Salt Lake City, UT, Feb. 5, 2009.

Special Collections Omnibus Lecture, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, Nov. 5, 2008

Salt Lake Countywide Watershed Symposium, Salt Lake City, Oct. 29, 2008.

The Winters Centennial, Tamaya Resort, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM June 11, 2008.

Panel on Indian voting rights, National Indian Gaming Association, annual conference, San Diego, CA, April 22, 2008.

Panel on "Voting Rights in Indian Country," at the Indigenous Law and Policy Center, Michigan State University College of Law, Jan. 31, 2008.

Conference, "Overview of the Reauthorization and Amendment of the Federal Voting Rights Act." University of California, Los Angeles, Jan. 25-26, 2008.

Symposium on the future of the Colorado River, College of Law, University of Utah, Oct. 25, 2007

Water Resources Seminar, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR, Oct. 10, 2007.

American Comenius, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, U. S. program, Oct. 2, 2007.

"Native Water Law & Public Policy: Critical Issues in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Watersheds." Keynote Speaker, Cornell University, School of Law, Ithaca, NY, Nov. 17-18, 2006.

American Comenius, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, U. S. program, 2006.

Harvard University Law School symposium, "Preserving and Promoting the Native American Vote: A New Look at the Voting Rights Act Renewal Process." Cambridge, MA, April 5, 2006.

American Comenius, University of Groningen, the Netherlands, U. S program, 2005.

Testimony before the National Committee for the Voting Rights Act, Rapid City, SD, September 9, 2005.

River Management Society, annual conference, Keynote speaker, Salt Lake City, UT May 10, 2005.

Colorado Plateau River Guides, annual conference. Cataract Canyon, May 2-5, 2005.

Invited speaker, National Congress of American Indians, national convention, panel on Native Voting Rights, Tulsa, OK, November 2005.

Invited speaker, Biannual Symposium on the Colorado River, sponsored by the Water Education Foundation. Bishop's Lodge, Santa Fe, NM. Sept. 29, 2005.

Symposium: "Changing Directions in Water Law." University of Texas School of Law. Feb. 4-5, 2005.

Mni-Sose Intertribal Water Coalition, board of directors meeting, Rapid City, SD. September 2004

"Water in Utah," sponsored by the Utah Science Center, Public Dialogue Series, September 2004 (aired on KCPW radio, September 20, 2004).

BLM Recreation/Wilderness/Cultural/VRM Workshop, Moab, Utah. September 2004.

Utah State Historical Society, annual meeting, panel on Lake Powell. September 2004.

Mni-Sose Intertribal Water Coalition, Annual conference, Denver, CO. January 2004.

The Utah Environmental Symposium, Salt Lake City, UT, Nov. 2003.

Utah State University, Natural Resources and Environmental Policy Program, November 28, 2001.

U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Indian Water Rights, annual negotiation teams meeting, Seattle, WA, November, 2000.

Conference on "Rivers, Dams and the Future of the West." Sponsored by the Utah Wetlands and Riparian Center, Salt Lake City, UT, November, 1999.

Symposium on "Where the Rivers Flow," sponsored by the Wallace Stegner Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, April, 1999.

Symposium on Tribal Survival, sponsored by Dine' College, Flagstaff, Arizona, April, 1999.

Symposium on "Changing Water Regimes in Drylands," sponsored by the Desert Research Institute. June 10-12, 1997, Lake Tahoe, CA.

Indian Water Rights Symposium sponsored by the All-Indian Pueblo Council, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque, NM, April, 1994.

Symposium on the Future of the Colorado River Plateau, University of Utah School of Law, Sept., 1993.

"Arizona Water 2000," sponsored by the Commission on the Arizona Environment, Sedona, Arizona, Sept. 1992.

Invited Speaker, conference titled "A River Too Far: Water in the Arid West." Sponsored by the Nevada Humanities Committee, Reno, Nevada, 1991.

Symposium on "Water in the 20th Century," Phoenix, Arizona, 1990.

Bureau of Land Management, "Image Enhancement Seminar," Park City, Utah, 1989.

Workshop on Indian Land and Water Rights sponsored by the American Indian Lawyer Training Program, Albuquerque, N. M., 1987.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Integrated Water Resources Management: A Typology of Collaborative Processes, Applied to the Utah Governor's Water Strategy Advisory Team." International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science, Hiroshima, Japan, July 2017.

"Indigenous Water Justice in the Colorado, Columbia, and Murray-Darling Basins." With Jason Robison and Kelsey Leonard. The Waterkeeper Alliance, Park City, UT, June 2017.

"The Voting Rights Act and the Potential for "Bail-in" After *Shelby County v. Holder*." The Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2016.

"Pockets of Discrimination: The Voting Rights Act and the Role of 'Bail-in' After *Shelby County v. Holder*." The International Social Sciences Conference, Split, Croatia, June 2015.

"Creating a 'Water BRAC" Commission to Evaluate Existing Water Projects." American Water Resources Association, Vienna, VA, November, 2014.

"River Policy in Crisis: the Klamath River." American Political Science Association, Washington, D. C. August, 2014.

"Social Science Expert Witness Testimony in Voting Rights Act Cases." With Richard Engstrom, Jorge Chapa, and Gerald Webster. Eighth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Science, Charles University, Prague, The Czech Republic, August, 2013.

"Campus Sustainability in the U. S.: A Comparison of a Research and a Teaching University," with Janet Winniford. 2010 Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability University of Cuenca, Cuenca, Ecuador January 5-7.

"Rivers of the Homeland: River Restoration on Indian Reservations." International Congress of Americanists, Sevilla, Spain, July, 2006.

"From Insanity to Enlightenment: Changing Perceptions of River Restoration and River Restorationists." Transatlantic Workshop on "Restoring or Renaturing." Zurich, Switzerland, July, 2006.

"The Community Context Approach: Cross-Boundary Management and the Protection of Parks and Wild Lands." International Symposium on Society and Resource Management, Sardinia, Italy, 2002.

"The Wilderness Debate in Utah: Using Community Values and Education to Resolve Conflict." International Symposium on Society and Resource Management. Indiana University, 2002.

"Evolving Political Institutions: A New Water Policy and its Impact on the Border Region" Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy, Bi-National Water Program. Rio Rico, AZ, 2002.

"Indian Water Rights in the Settlement Era." American Political Science Association, Washington, D. C. 2000.

"Land Use, Borders, and Environmental Policy: Tribal Autonomy and Ecosystem Management." International Conference on "Nature, Society and History," Vienna, Austria, 1999.

"Two Cultures, Two Communities, One County: Devolution and Retrenchment in Indian Country." With F. Ted Hebert and Doug Goodman. American Political Science Association, 1998.

"Subsystem Theory and the Hierarchy of Conflict." Western Political Science Association, 1997.

"Environmentalists, Tribes, and Negotiated Water Settlements," with Laura Kirwan. American Political Science Association, 1995.

"Successes and Failures of Policy Theory." Western Political Science Association, 1992.

"Indian Water Rights: The End of the Negotiation Era?" Western Political Science Association, 1991.

"Indian Water Rights: Negotiation; Agreement; Legislative Settlement." American Water Resources Association, 1989.

"Using Measures of Budgetary Success to Evaluate Subgovernment Theory: The Case of Federal Water Resource Development." Western Political Science Association, 1988.

"Policy Theory, Policy Typologies, and Decision-making." Midwestern Political Science Association, 1987.

"Federal Water Development: Changing Theoretical Assumptions." Western Political Science Association, 1987.

"Subgovernments, Political Viability, and Budgetary Constraints." Western Political Science Association, 1986.

"Subgovernments, Autonomy, and Stability: The Case of Federal Water Resource Development." Western Social Science Association, 1986.

"Western Water Policy and Federalism: Two Conflicting Doctrines." Southwestern Social Science Association, 1984.

"Contemporary Federal Water Policy: The Battle Over Water Project Expenditures During the Carter and Reagan Administrations." Western Social Science Association, 1983.

"Indian and Non-Indian Water Development: Competition for Water and Water Projects." Western Social Science Association, 1983.

"The Theoretical Origins of the Winters Doctrine." Southwestern Social Science Association, 1982.

"For Richer or for Poorer: A Comparative Approach to the Study of Bureaucracy," with Jeanne Nienaber. Western Political Science Association, 1981.

"Indian Water Rights: The Bureaucratic Response." Arizona Section of the American Water Resources Association, 1981.

"Indian Water Rights, The Central Arizona Project, and Water Policy in the Lower Colorado River Basin." Western Social Science Association, 1980.

"Federal Indian Policy and the Sacred Mountain of the Papago Indians." Southwestern Social Science Association, 1980.

OTHER CONFERENCE ROLES

Roundtable participant, "John Wesley Powell and the Colorado River Basin." Western History Association, Las Vegas, October, 2019.

Discussant, panel on "The Most Fundamental Right: Voting Now and Then, Here and There." The Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2016.

Moderator, panel on "Flood Management." American Water Resources Association, Vienna, VA, November 2014.

Delegate, NASPA Exchange Program with Deutsches Studentenwerk (Germany), February 2014, focusing on campus sustainability.

Presenter, American Water Resources Association, annual meeting, panel on dam removal and river restoration, Seattle, WA, November 2005.

Discussant, panel on "Native Americans in the Twenty First Century." Western Social Science Association. April 2005.

Chair, panel on "Revisions in Policy Subsystem Theory." Western Political Science Association, 1997.

Invited Participant, Moscow State University Symposium on Training Public Administrators, Moscow, Russia, March 1993.

Chair, panel on "Public Policy Theory: Past, Present, Future." Western Political Science Association, 1992.

Invited Discussant, conference on "Innovation in Western Water Law and Management," University of Colorado School of Law, 1991.

Delegate, Citizen Ambassador Program, Environmental Technology Delegation to the Soviet Union, 1990.

Organizer and Moderator, panel on "Hosting the Olympics," National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, 1990.

Invited Discussant, Symposium on "Indian Water Rights," University of Colorado School of Law, 1990.

Invited Discussant, Arizona Historical Society, symposium on Water, Tucson, Arizona, 1989.

Chair, panel on "Executive MPA Programs," National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, 1989.

Discussant, Sixth Annual Women in Public Administration Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1989.

Chair, panel on "Models of Policy Analysis." Western Political Science Association, 1989.

Discussant, panel on "Natural Resource Management in the Post-Reagan Era." American Society for Public Administration, 1989.

Convener and discussant, panel on "Administrative Practice and Organization Theory." Public Administration Theory Symposium, American Society for Public Administration, 1989.

Participant, Minnowbrook II Conference on the Future of Public Administration, Syracuse University, Sept., 1988.

Discussant, panel on "Limited Perspectives: Traditional Methods and Models and the Study of Native American Political Participation." American Political Science Association, 1988.

Chair, panel on "Alternative Models of Environmental Policy Formulation and Implementation." Western Political Science Association, 1988.

Chair, panel on "Policy Models and Theories." American Political Science Association, 1986.

Chair, panel on "Environmental Policy," Western Political Science Association, 1986.

Chair, panel on "Subsystems and Natural Resource Policy." Western Social Science Association, 1986.

Discussant, panel on "Environmental Politics and Policy: A Synthesis and Critique." Western Political Science Association, 1985.

Discussant, panel on "The Political Context of Environmental Policy." Western Political Science Association, 1984.

Chair, panel on "Indian Water Rights and Water Development." Western Political Science Association, 1982.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

On-air guest, Radio West, KUER, Dec. 23, 2022 (topic: Native Americans and the Colorado River Compact) https://radiowest.kuer.org/show/radiowest/2022-12-22/a-more-equitable-colorado-compact

Quoted interview, Deseret News, Dec. 19, 2022 (topic: Native American water rights in the Colorado River Basin)

On-air guest, Radio West, KUER, July 21, 2022 (topic: the Bluff Principles and Native American water) https://radiowest.kuer.org/show/radiowest/2022-07-21/indigenous-ways-of-knowing-water

On-air guest, Radio West, KUER, June 9, 2022 (topic: Water in the American West) https://radiowest.kuer.org/show/radiowest/2022-06-09/its-not-too-late-yet-for-a-new-water-policy

Quoted interview, *The Arizona Daily Star*, Nov. 27, 2021 (topic: The Colorado River)

Quoted interview, *Gizmodo*, November, 2021 (topic: The Colorado River) https://gizmodo.com/its-time-to-drain-lake-powell-1848003413

On-air guest, Radio West, KUER, Sept. 3, 2021 (topic: Drought in the American West)

Quoted interview, Science Magazine, July 1, 2021 (topic: The Colorado River)

Quoted interview, Salt Lake Tribune, April 11, 2021 (topic: Bears Ears National Monument).

Quoted interview, *Inside Climate News*, April 11, 2021 (topic: Bears Ears National Monument).

Quoted interview, High Country News, Jan. 8, 2021 (topic: public land extremists).

Quoted interview, *The Washington Post*, Nov. 1, 2020 (topic: Native American voting rights).

On-air interview, Native America Calling. Oct. 6, 2020 (topic: Native American voting rights).

On-air interview, KCPW radio, Sept. 9, 2019 (topic: Colorado River Basin). http://kcpw.org/blog/in-the-hive/2019-09-12/unquenchable-3-the-fate-of-the-colorado-river/

Quoted interview, Utah Public Radio, Aug. 21, 2018 (topic: Lake Powell Pipeline). http://www.upr.org/post/loving-our-lands-thirsty-cities-and-lake-powell-pipeline

Quoted interview, *Outside Magazine*, Aug. 14, 2018 (topic: Lake Powell Pipeline). https://www.outsideonline.com/2333236/utah-pipeline-water-shortage-st-george

On-air interview, Native America Calling Radio Program, Aug. 14, 2018 (topic: Native American voting rights).

Quoted interview, *ThinkProgress*, June 20, 2018 (topic: Native American voting rights).

Quoted interview, Arizona Republic, Jan. 24, 2018 (topic: public lands).

On-camera interview, America Divided TV show, Jan. 19, 2018 (topic: San Juan County, UT).

Quoted interview, *The New York Times*, Jan. 4, 2018 (topic: American Indian voting rights). https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/04/us/native-american-voting-rights.html

Quoted research, Governing Magazine, July 2017 (topic: Navajo water development).

Quoted interview, High Country News, Sept. 4, 2017 (topic: The Bear River Project).

Quoted interview, *Salt Lake Tribune*, April 28, 2017 (topic: American Indians and the Census). http://www.sltrib.com/news/5216761-155/does-the-us-census-undercount-utah

Quoted Interview, Colorado Pubic Radio, Feb. 23, 2017 (topic: public lands).

Quoted interview, *Mother Jones*, Mar. 25, 2016 (topic: Indian voting rights).

NPR, All Things Considered, recorded interview, Jan. 18, 2016 (topic: Marketing Indian water). http://www.npr.org/2016/01/18/463503934/arizona-tribes-wade-into-the-water-business

Market Place, Oregon Public Broadcasting, quoted interview, Jan. 4, 2016 (topic: public lands). http://www.marketplace.org/2016/01/04/world/how-feds-came-own-west

KRCL, Radioactive Show, on-air interview, Sept. 20, 2015 (topic: Navajo water). http://www.krcl.org/tag/dan-mccool/

CBS Sunday Morning, on-camera interview Aug. 15, 2015 (topic: Navajo water). http://www.cbsnews.com/news/the-water-lady-a-savior-among-the-navajo/

BYU Radio, on-air interview. May 15, 2015 (topic: river restoration and water management). http://www.byuradio.org/episode/b98b846e-feea-4401-a14f-c288370763f4/top-of-mind-with-julie-rose-the-river-republic-straight-talk-parenting

KSRW Radio, Santa Monica, CA. on-air guest, April 3, 2015 (topic: western water). http://kcrw.com/news-culture/shows/to-the-point/a-parched-west-struggles-to-adapt-to-the-realities-of-drought

Trib Talk, on-air interview. Mar. 10, 2015 (topic: Utah water policy). http://www.sltrib.com/blogs/tribtalk/2270151-155/trib-talk-is-bear-river-project

Quoted interview, *Salt Lake Tribune*, March 9, 2015 (topic: The Bear River Project). http://www.sltrib.com/csp/mediapool/sites/sltrib/pages/printfriendly.csp?id=2230808

Quoted interview, Environment, Dec. 11, 2014 (topic: Utah water).

KSUB, Cedar City, UT, Sept. 18, 2014 (topic: public lands).

KUER, Radio West, Salt Lake City, on-air guest, April 23, 2014 (topic: public lands grazing). http://radiowest.kuer.org/post/cliven-bundys-range-war

On-film interview for movie, "Black Hawk." Mar. 2014. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liLXujigjPY

KUER, Radio West, Salt Lake City, on-air guest, Sept. 3, 2013 (topic: Colorado River). http://radiowest.kuer.org/post/sharing-colorado

Quoted interview, Anchorage Press, July 18, 2013 (topic: The Voting Rights Act).

Blog post for Indiana University Press, June 28, 2013 (topic: The Voting Rights Act). http://iupress.typepad.com/blog/2013/06/how-does-shelby-county-v-holder-impact-the-voting-rights-act.html

Indian Country Today, quoted interview, June 28, 2013 (topic: The Voting Rights Act).

Quoted interview, *DebtWire*, May 1, 2013 (topic: Las Vegas pipeline).

Quoted interview, *Huffington Post*, April 8, 2013 (topic: Las Vegas pipeline). http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mobileweb/2013/04/08/utah-nevada-water-deal-colorado-river n 3038477.html KUER, Radio West, Salt Lake City, on-air guest, April 4, 2013 (topic: Las Vegas pipeline). http://radiowest.kuer.org/post/protecting-snake-valley

New York Times, quoted interview, Mar. 26, 2013 (topic: the Pecos River and western drought). http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/27/us/new-mexico-farmers-push-to-be-made-a-priority-in-drought.html?pagewanted=all& r=0

New Books in Political Science, blog, interview with Heath Brown. Feb. 26, 2012 (topic: *The Most Fundamental Right*).

http://newbooksinpoliticalscience.com/2013/02/27/daniel-mccool-the-most-fundamental-right-contrasting-perspectives-on-the-voting-rights-act-indiana-up-2012/

Albuquerque Journal, quoted interview, Feb. 10, 2013 (Topic: Navajo water settlement).

River Management Society Journal, book review of River Republic, Winter, 2012 (Topic: River Republic). http://www.river-management.org/assets/Journals-Newsletters/2012%20winter.pdf

Suburban Wildlife Magazine Blog, interview, January 13, 2013. (topic: *River Republic*). http://blog.suburbanwildlifemagazine.com/2013/01/13/daniel-mccool.aspx

KDVS Radio, Davis, CA, interview, Jan. 5, 2013 (topic: The Wild and Scenic Film Festival).

Western Water, quoted interview, Nov/Dec 2012 (topic: the Colorado River).

Salt Lake Tribune, Editorial, "Protect our Rivers." Dec. 22, 2012.

KSFR Radio, interview with Diego Mulligan on the "Journey Home" Show, Albuquerque, NM, Dec. 11, 2012 (topic: *River Republic*).

KCPW Radio, interview, Oct. 23, 2012 (topic: *The Most Fundamental Right*). http://redthread.utah.edu/take-a-longer-view-of-election-day/7780

The King's English Bookstore, reading, Oct. 18, 2012 (topic: River Republic).

Salt Lake Tribune, featured column, Oct. 4, 2012 (topic: *River Republic*) http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/entertainment2/54996363-223/rivers-america-mccool-utah.html.csp

On-air Interview, Radio West, KUER Radio, Sept. 10, 2012 (topic: *River Republic*). http://www.kuer.org/post/u-professor-optimistic-about-americas-rivers

Interview, The Park Visitor, Sept. 10, 2012 (topic: *River Republic*). http://parkvisitor.com/blog/2012/09/10/daniel-craig-mccools-outdoor-adventure-and-conservation-tips/

Page 99 Blog , September, 2012 (topic: *River Republic*). http://page99test.blogspot.com/2012/09/daniel-mccools-river-republic.html

KCPW Radio, interview, Aug. 20, 2012 (topic: River Republic).

Indian Country Today, quoted interview, June 15, 2012 (topic: Indian voters).

Salt Lake City Weekly, quoted interview, May 9, 2012 (topic: Las Vegas Pipeline).

The New York Times, quoted interview, April 11, 2011 (topic: Indian water rights).

KSL TV News, interview, April 1, 2011 (topic: Colorado River).

Associated Press, quoted statement, Sept. 29, 2010 (topic: Navajo water settlement).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted statement, Sept. 17, 2010 (topic: proposed Green River pipeline).

Tooele Transcript Bulletin, quoted statement, Sept. 16, 2010 (topic: proposed Las Vegas pipeline).

USA Today, quoted statement, Aug. 24, 2010 (topic: Grand Canyon). This article was picked up by 75 newspapers.

The Salt Lake Tribune, quoted statement, Aug. 24, 2010 (topic: Grand Canyon).

KUER Radio, quoted statement, Aug. 23, 2010 (topic: Grand Canyon).

KSL TV news, interview. April 21, 2010 (topic: reservoirs in Utah).

Fox News Utah, news coverage, Feb. 14, 2010 (topic: climate change).

Indian Country Today, quoted interview, Feb. 4, 2010 (topic: Indian voting rights).

Indian Country Today, quoted interview, Oct. 20, 2009 (topic: Indian voting rights).

High Country News blog, quoted interview. Oct. 15, 2009 (topic: Indian voting rights).

KUED "Utah Now" television program, August 21, 2009 (topic: western water policy).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted interview, Nov. 28, 2008 (topic: Navajo water rights).

Indian Country Today, quoted interview, Oct. 26, 2008 (topic: American Indian voting).

KCPW Radio, interview, Oct. 22, 2007 (topic: western water policy).

KUER Radio, interview, Oct. 2, 2007 (topic: water policy in Utah).

Calibre, quoted interview, June 11, 2007 (topic: Indian voting rights).

Los Angeles Times, quoted interview, April 22, 2007 (topic: federal public lands)

The New Standard (national on-line news publication), quoted interview, January 22, 2007 (topic: American Indian water rights).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted interview, Oct. 30, 2006 (topic: global warming and water).

KUSU Radio interview, August 31, 2006. (topic: Utah water).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted interview, August 8, 2006. (topic: Utah water).

KUER, Radio West program, live interview, March 7, 2006 (topic: Women war veterans).

KCPW Radio, live interview, March 7, 2006 (topic: Women war veterans).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted interview, February 16, 2006 (topic: American Indian voting rights).

Native American Times, secondary quote, November 1, 2005 (topic: American Indian voting).

Time Magazine, quoted interview, July 18, 2005 (topic: dam removal).

Salt Lake Tribune, quoted interview, June 23, 2005 (topic: river restoration).

Los Angeles Times, quoted interview, April 26, 2005 (topic: National Park Service).

Associated Press, quoted interview, October 25, 2004 (Nov. 2 in Tri-Valley Central) (topic: dam removal).

Desert Morning News, quoted interview, Aug. 8, 2004 (topic: the law of the river).

East Valley Times (Arizona Tribune), secondary quote, June 4, 2004 (topic: the drought).

Los Angeles Times, quoted interview, May 22, 2004 (topic: American Indian voting rights).

Weather Notebook, Public Radio program, Boise, ID, interview, May 24, 2004 (topic: the impact of drought on western water policy).

Airtalk, KPCC Southern California Public Radio, interview, May 6, 2004 (topic: western water policy).

New York Times, quoted interview, May 2, 2004 (Topic: western water policy).

Rapid City Journal, quoted interview, April 12, 2004 (Topic: Indian voting rights).

High Country News, quoted interview, March 2004 (Topic: Indian water settlements).

Fox News, interview, Sept. 2, 2003 (Topic: Leavitt's appointment to EPA).

KUED Public Affairs Television presentation, "The Price of Water," April 22, 2003.

AP Wire Service, interview, Aug. 29, 2003 (Topic: Leavitt's appointment to EPA).

KSL TV News, interview, Aug. 28, 2003 (Topic: water use in Salt Lake City).

City Weekly, interview, Feb. 13, 2003 (Topic: water policy).

High Country News Radio, interview, Aug. 19, 2002 (Topic: wilderness policy).

Associated Press, June 1, 2002, feature story (Topic: irrigation subsidies).

KSL TV News, May 6, 2002, interview (Topic: water use in Salt Lake City).

KUED Radio interview, April 17, 2002 (Topic: water policy in the Salt Lake Valley).

KUED Radio interview, Nov. 19, 2001 ("Radio West" special program on water policy in Utah).

KRCL Radio interview, Sept. 13, 2001 (topic: Utah water policy).

KCPW Radio interview, Aug. 23, 2001 (topic: Utah water policy).

KCPW Radio interview, August 27, 1999 (topic: BLM wilderness policy).

KUER Radio interview, August 20, 1999 (topic: Utah water policy).

KUED, Civic Dialogue, televised interview, June 20, 1997 (topic: Utah water policy).

ABC Evening News, televised interview, June 4, 1997 (topic: The CUP).

KUER Radio interview, May 23, 1997 (topic: Poverty on Indian reservations).

KRCL Radio interview, January 8, 1996 (topic: Utah water policy).

KCPW Radio interview, January 2, 1996 (topic: Utah water policy).

KRCL Radio interview, August 20, 1995 (topic: American Indian Resource Center).

KUER Radio interview, August 14, 1995 (topic: Northern Ute tribal government).

KTALK Radio interview, May 6, 1995 (topic: taxes).

KCPW Radio interview, July 6, 1994 (topic: the Northern Ute jurisdiction case).

KUER Radio interview, Feb. 16, 1994 (topic: the Northern Ute jurisdiction case).

Special Feature article in the *Utah Government Connection* titled: "The Moscow Kremlin: Closed for Cleaning." Oct., 1993.

Deseret News, quoted interview. April 18, 1993 (topic: Russia).

The Public's Capital, quoted interview, April, 1993 (topic: federal water policy).

Las Vegas Review -Journal, quoted interview, Oct. 31, 1992 (topic: Western Water Policy).

Testimony before the State and Local Affairs Interim Committee of the Utah State Legislature, Jan. 8, 1992 (topic: Utah Navajo Royalty Trust Fund).

Los Angeles Times, quoted interview, Aug. 27, 1990 (topic: Navajo voting rights).

Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report, quoted interview, Jan. 13, 1990 (topic: federal Indian policy).

High Country News, quoted interview, July 30, 1990 (topic: Navajo voting rights).

"The Central Utah Project: A Legacy of Promise and Controversy." *Public Policy Perspective* (newsletter of the Center for Public Policy and Administration, University of Utah), Spring, 1990.

"Recent Events in Treaty Rights." Native American Policy Network Newsletter, July, 1990.

KRCL Radio interview, June 5, 1990 (topic: The Central Utah Project).

KSL Radio interview, Sept. 5, 1989 (topic: Indian water rights).

KTKT Radio interview, Dec. 27, 1989 (topic: taxes).

KUED Television, "Civic Dialogue," Dec. 19, 1989 (topic: Indian water rights).

GRANTS

Co-Principle Investigator, U. S. Geological Survey, Small Grants Program. 2015-18. \$31,480.

Senior Consultant, USAID-funded Pakistan Centers for Advanced Studies in Water, 2014-2016. \$10,000.

Faculty Consultant, "The Western Waters Digital Library: The Foundations of American Water Policy." National Endowment for the Humanities, 2007-2009. Funding = 5% time

Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah. Research Interest Group grant to create a "Nuclear Utah" educational forum, 2006-07. Funding = \$1,200.

Applied Ethics and Human Values, University of Utah. 2005-06. Grant proposal: "Environmental Ethics and the Costa Rican Model of Ecotourism." \$6,200. With Professor Anya Plutynski.

National Endowment for the Humanities, program to create and preserve access to Humanities Collections, to digitize and archive 1,814 oral history interviews of American Indians, 2005-06. \$127,518 matching grant.

Quality Initiative Grant, University of Utah. To perform a complete program assessment of the Environmental Studies Program. 2003-2004. Funding = \$14,200.

Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy, Border Tribes Program. Co-P.I. This federally funded project developed a GIS Environmental Baseline for the Tohono O'odham Nation. 1999-2002. Funding = \$140,000.

Quality Initiative Grant, University of Utah. To create a new curriculum and program for the Red Rock Institute. 2001-2002. Funding = \$17,000.

U.S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Research Act Grant Program. Principle Investigator. "Negotiating Indian Water Rights Settlements: The Efficacy of Negotiation as a Dispute Resolution Strategy." 1992-1995. Funding = \$189,394.

University of Utah Teaching Committee. Awarded in 1996 to fund field trip for Wilderness Policy Class, \$1,200.

College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah. Proposal Initiative Grant. \$4,000. Awarded summer, 1995.

University of Utah Research Committee. Grant to facilitate research on Indian Water Settlements: \$4,409. Awarded 1992.

Rural Utah Grant Program, Center for Public Policy and Administration, University of Utah. Project Title: "Ute and Navajo Water Rights: The Impact on Rural Utah." \$10,000. Awarded 1992-1993.

National Institute for Dispute Resolution, Higher and Professional Education Program, research grant for comparing negotiation and litigation as dispute resolution forums for Indian water rights: \$4,000. Awarded 1990.

University Teaching Grant to develop new course on water policy. University of Utah. Awarded 1989.

The Dean's R&D Fund. Project Title: "Conflict over Western Water: The Impact of 'Landmark' Decisions." College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah. Awarded 1988.

Texas A&M University, Summer Research Grant, for project entitled "Water on the Hill: Subcommittees, Subgovernments, and Federal Water Development": \$5,000. Awarded 1986.

AWARDS

Runner-up, Science Category, Green Book Festival, for *River Republic: The Fall and Rise of America's Rivers*, 2013.

Finalist, College of Social and Behavioral Science, Superior Research Award, 2008, 2009

Finalist, College of Social and Behavioral Science Superior Teaching Award, 2011

Indigenous Day Dinner, Annual Awards, 2007, for "providing leadership for the American West Center on behalf of American Indians in the State of Utah."

University of Utah 2004 Diversity Award, presented to the American West Center.

Second place, "Excellence in Journalism Award," by the Utah Society of Professional Journalists, 1998 for "A River Between Two Cultures." *Catalyst* (August, 1997): 14-15.

Superior Research Award for Junior Faculty, College of Social and Behavioral Science, University of Utah, 1989.

ADMINISTRATIVE INITIATIVES

As co-Director of Sustainability Curriculum Development at the University of Utah:

Created, with my co-directors, the Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability

Created, with my co-directors, the Graduate Certificate in Sustainability

As Director of the Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program:

Created a new Environmental and Sustainability Studies Minor

Directed the administration of an extensive program assessment and evaluation

Redesigned the Introductory course, ENVST 2100, required of all majors

Designed a new introductory field course, ENVST 2000, now required of all majors

Initiated the first Study Abroad program (Costa Rica) for Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Developed a new teaching curriculum, the Red Rock Institute, which explores environmental issues in the West.

Led the development of five new courses that focus on: sustainability science, environmental justice, global sustainability, leadership, and a senior capstone course

As Director of the American West Center:

Organized the 2006 Siciliano Forum. Topic: The Reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act

Negotiated numerous contracts for studies of Indian hunting and fishing rights and tribal archives.

Organized an annual conference called "Women at War," that featured female veterans.

Initiated a new oral history project of Utah's WWII veterans, "Saving the Legacy," with over 500 interviews completed.

Wrote a successful NEH grant application to digitize the entire oral history collection of the Center—approximately 3,000 tapes.

As Associate Dean:

Initiated the effort that led to the establishment of the American Indian Resource Center on campus.

Created a new College grants program, the Proposal Initiative Grant, to help generate externally funded grants for College faculty.

Implemented a computerized search process to help College faculty find potential sources of external funding.

Created a Faculty Research Compendium that identified the major research activities of college faculty.

As Director of Public Administration Education:

Executive MPA: designed a new MPA program for middle- and upper-level administrators.

Public Administration Workshop for the Ute Indian Tribe: designed and implemented an annual intensive-session workshop for Ute tribal administrators.

Conference for Minority Public Administrators: designed and implemented Salt Lake City's first conference for minorities in the public sector work force.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND CONSULTING

Regional Council, National Parks Conservation Association, Southwest Regionalal Council, 2009-present.

Member, Governor's Water Strategy Advisory Team, 2013-2017. http://www.envisionutah.org/images/FINAL Recommended State Water Strategy 7.14.17 5b15d.pdf

Co-author, *amicus* brief, in *Northwest Austin Municipal Utility District Number One v. Holder*, U. S. Supreme Court, No. 08-322, 2009.

Volunteer Tutor, Guadelupe Schools, 2007-2009.

Advisor, Rocky Mountain American Indian Economic and Education Foundation, 2003-2006.

Member, National Council of Scholars, Presidents Park, Williamsburg, VA. 2002-2004.

Consultant, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, research project investigating the use of long-range weather data in water management planning for water conservancy districts and Indian reservations, 1999-2002.

Participating author and consultant, contract to facilitate meetings and research a proposal to divide San Juan County, UT. Final Report titled: "San Juan County Division Study," Prepared by the Center for Public Policy and Administration, University of Utah, 1997.

Member, Board of Directors, the Indian Walk-In Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1994-2000.

Advisory Committee for the American Indian Resource Center, University of Utah, 1990-2000.

EXHIBIT 19

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

CHARLES WALEN, an individual, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Civil No. 1:22-cv-00031

DOUG BURGUM, in his official capacity as Governor of the State of North Dakota, et al.,

Defendants,

and

MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA NATION, et al.,

Intervenor-Defendants.

DECLARATION TO ACCOMPANY THE EXPERT REPORT OF KATE MAGARGAL

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Kate Magargal, declare that:

My name is Kate Magargal. I am an expert witness designated by Intervenor-Defendants in the above referenced case now pending in the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota.

A true and correct copy of my curriculum vitae is attached hereto as a part of my report. The following report, a true and correct copy of which is attached and incorporated herein for all purposes, is a summary of my opinions and conclusions. The materials I relied upon to develop my analyses and opinions are cited therein and/or produced herewith for all counsel.

The court testimony and publications I am required to disclose are described in my attached report and/or curriculum vitae.

My reasonable and necessary hourly rate for my time in this case is \$200.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed this 17th day of January, 2023

Kate Magargal, Ph.D

Expert Witness Report

In the case of

Walen & Henderson v. Burgum & Jaeger

U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota, Eastern Division

prepared by:

Kate Magargal, Ph.D.

Department of Environmental and Sustainability Studies

University of Utah

January 2023

OUTLINE OF THE REPORT

Summary of Findings

- I. Introduction
 - 1. Qualifications
 - 2. Quantitative Socioeconomic Methods
- II. The Senate Factors Applied to North Dakota
 - 3. The extent to which minority group members bear the effects of discrimination which hinder their ability to participate effectively in the political process, by county
 - a. Income
 - b. Poverty
 - c. Educational Attainment
 - d. Computer Ownership and Internet Access
 - e. Home Ownership
 - f. Health Insurance Coverage
 - g. Employment
- III. Conclusion

Summary of Findings:

Eight socioeconomic variables were selected for this analysis: income, poverty, educational attainment, computer ownership and internet access, home ownership, health insurance coverage, and employment (see results in Table 1). The data for these variables were compared for: (1) AIAN residents of Dunn County versus White residents of Dunn County, (2) AIAN residents of McLean County versus White residents of McLean County, (3) AIAN residents of McKenzie County versus White residents of McKenzie County, and

(4) AIAN residents of Mountrail County versus White residents of Mountrail County for a total 32 separate quantitative socioeconomic tests. Figure 1 shows the geographic extent of this analysis.

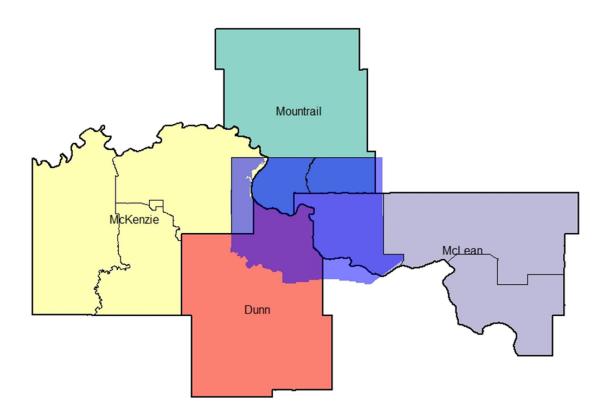


Figure 1: The geographical extent of this analysis includes the four counties that overlap significantly with the Ft. Berthold reservation (shaded dark blue). These four counties are Dunn, McLean, McKenzie, and Mountrail. County boundaries are drawn in bold black lines and represent the units of analysis in this report. Gray lines indicate US Census tracts.

In most cases where statistics were compiled, the AIAN population is at a statistically significant disadvantage when compared to Whites. This includes all statistics examined for McKenzie and Mountrail Counties, and the majority of statistics examined in Dunn and McLean Counties. Overall, AIAN residents earn substantially less household income compared to Whites, are significantly more likely to earn an income under the poverty line compared to Whites, have lower levels of educational attainment, have less access to broadband internet at home compared to Whites, are less likely to own their home, less likely to have health insurance coverage, and more likely to be unemployed. These race-based disparities are, in a word, systemic. AIAN populations are systemically and

significantly at a socioeconomic disadvantage compared to their White neighbors, which hinders their ability to participate in the political process (Senate Report 1982).

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Qualifications

I am a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Environmental Studies & Sustainability Program at the University of Utah. My formal education includes a BS (2004) in Anthropology from the University of Arizona, an MS in Anthropology from the University of Utah, and a Ph.D in Anthropology from the University of Utah.

I have extensive experience in quantitative methods, including spatial, environmental, socioeconomic, demographic, and statistical modeling including the use of geospatial (GIS) methods. My formal research program focuses on investigating the relationship between changing social and environmental conditions and human decision making, particularly as it relates to traditional landscape uses, diets, and energy. My primary research program has produced 5 published articles in the following major peer reviewed scientific journals; The Journal of Human Evolution, The Journal of Archaeological Science, Environmental Archaeology, Frontiers in Earth Science, and the American Journal of Human Biology. All of my publications involve social, demographic, and/or spatial modeling. I use publicly available data from the Census in analyses for my work as well, which is included in a forthcoming paper in the journal Human Ecology. I also taught quantitative methods at a university level to both undergraduate and graduate students, including the methods used in this report. I have been hired by the plaintiffs for this case and I am compensated at the rate of \$200/hour. The results and conclusions I reach in this report are mine alone, are not related to or endorsed by the University where I have an appointment and were reached through an independent process of research and inquiry.

2. Quantitative Socioeconomic Methods

All data used for the quantitative socioeconomic analysis were collected from the 2017-2021 five-year American Community Survey (ACS) for North Dakota by accessing data tables on the Census Bureau website (data.census.gov). Supplementary data is presented from the 2020 redistricting file dataset (generated via Public Law 94-171) and the Kaiser Family Foundation's State Health Facts Report (for the healthcare avoidance

due to cost variable). The two latter datasets are drawn on to provide context to the quantitative analyses. ACS racial variables in the socioeconomic analysis are American Indian and Alaskan Native-alone (henceforth, AIAN) and non-Hispanic White-alone (henceforth, White). Estimates in this analysis incorporate the margin of errors (MOE) given in the ACS detailed tables. All variable estimates include the MOE by listing the upper and lower estimates, the MOE range, and the differences in the MOE ranges between AIAN and White estimates. This "MOE difference" variable compares errors between AIAN and White estimates to determine whether the comparative errors wash out. All statistical analyses were conducted in the R programming environment (R Core Team 2020), which is an open-source programming language used as a statistical software and data analysis tool.

The quantitative methods in this report rely on descriptive and inferential statistics to present data findings and assess whether observed differences in socioeconomic factors are statistically significant and not due to the vagaries of data sampling or random error. The descriptive and inferential statistics used here are standard practice in quantitative analysis and common in every introductory statistics course.

Statistical tests are warranted for the socioeconomic analysis because they evaluate whether the census survey data (samples) are representative of the population at large – the demographic we are interested in evaluating. Without statistical tests we cannot determine whether the observed differences or similarities between the sampled data are representative of some characteristic of the population as a whole and not due to sampling error. Statistical significance is defined here using the established social science alpha parameter of alpha < 0.05 (McKillup 2006). In other words, for a test to be considered statistically significant it must have less than a 5% probability that the observed effect is the result of sampling error. When a statistical test used in this report yields a p-value (the probability of attaining the observed results) of < 0.05, we can conclude that the observed effect is representative of the population as a whole and reject the null hypothesis. For each of the tests in this report, the null hypothesis is that there are no differences in the socioeconomic variables based on race.

In the analyses, I use a single inferential statistical test: The Chi Squared Test of Independence, which produces a statistic that measures the difference between the observed and expected frequencies of an outcome for a set of variables to determine whether they are independent of one another. For example, if a county consists of 50

White residents and 50 AIAN residents, and unemployment is 50%, we expect 25 White residents (50%) and 25 AIAN residents (50%) to be unemployed, these are our "expected" values. If in fact only 10 White residents (10%) are unemployed while 40 AIAN residents (80%) are unemployed (or vice-versa), we can see that the "observed" values do not match our expected values. The Chi Square Test of Independence tests whether the differences between expected and observed values are statistically significantly different, and what the probability is that the difference is due to sampling error.

II. THE FIFTH SENATE FACTOR APPLIED TO NORTH DAKOTA

3. Socioeconomic Analysis

3.1. Dunn County

Eight variables are evaluated in this socioeconomic analysis for Dunn County. As the MOE difference between AIAN population and the Dunn County White population is small for each of the eight analyses (Table 1), we conduct statistical tests only on the primary variable estimates, rather than the lower and upper estimates.

The total estimated population of Dunn County is 4,195. There are 458 AIAN residents and 3,515 White residents (Figure 1).

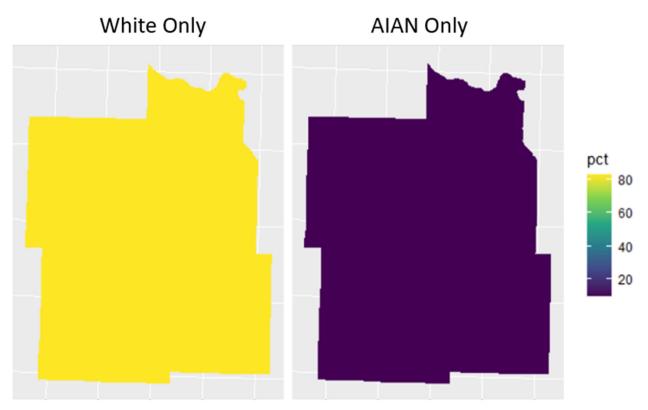


Figure 1. A Census Tract map of the 2021 5-year ACS racial distribution of AIAN and White population in Dunn County, North Dakota. The map includes the Ft. Berthold Reservation population.

3.1a. Median Household Income

The median income for AIAN households in Dunn County is \$53,149, while median household income for Whites is \$87,250. These data show a large race-based discrepancy in income, with White households earning substantially more than AIAN households.

3.1b. Poverty

In Dunn County, 14.3% of AIAN households are below the poverty line compared to 6.2% of White households. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 40.164$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN households significantly overrepresented below the poverty line compared to Whites. Put another way, we have greater than 99.9% confidence that that the sample of income data is representative of the population as a whole and that the null hypothesis (no relationship between race and poverty) can be rejected. A similar degree of confidence is present in all subsequent statistical tests.

3.1c. Educational Attainment

For the AIAN population, 37.9% of adults 25-years and older have a high school diploma or less as the highest level of educational attainment, compared to 44.9% of Whites. 33.9% of the AIAN population attended some college, and 27.9% finished a college degree. This is compared to 35.2% of Whites who attended some college and 19.9% who finished a college degree. There are statistically significant differences in educational attainment by race, with the AIAN population significantly (X² = 19.582, p-value <0.001) overrepresented in lower educational attainment categories although similar in higher educational attainment categories when compared to Whites.

3.1d. Computer Ownership and Broadband Internet Access

In the AIAN community, 95.7% of households own a computer, while 86% of households have broadband internet. For Dunn White households, 97.5% own a computer and 92.6% have broadband internet. Both differences are statistically significant (computer ownership

 $X^2 = 4.5932$, p-value = <.05; Internet Access $X^2 = 20.834$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN households having reduced access to computers and the internet compared to Whites.

3.1e. Home Ownership, Value and Rent Payments

Home ownership in Dunn county does not show substantial bias, as 79.6%% of the AIAN population owns a home and 78.2% of the White population. There is no statistical difference ($X^2 = 0.0795$, p-value >.05).

3.1f. Health Insurance Coverage

In Dunn County, 39.4% of AIAN residents do not have health insurance coverage, compared to 17.1% of Whites in Dunn County. This difference is statistically significant (X² = 125.35, p-value <0.001), with AIAN residents significantly less likely to have health insurance coverage relative to Whites. Native Americans can also access free or reduced cost healthcare without health insurance through Indian Health Service (IHS) programs. But statewide data from North Dakota suggest that IHS is not making up for disparate access to health insurance coverage among Native Americans and Whites. Despite access to IHS services, AIAN in North Dakota, who are over nearly four times more likely than whites to be uninsured, are also over three times more likely than whites to report that they avoided care due to cost, with 3.9% of Whites reporting not seeing a doctor because of cost, compared to 13.9% of AIAN according to the Kaiser Family Foundation's State Health Facts report (KFF 2022). While these are state-wide data, they are the best available data on health care avoidance due to cost.

3.1g. Employment

Of those in the labor pool, 9.2% of AIAN population is unemployed compared to .5% of the Dunn County White population. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 143.05$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN residents more likely to be unemployed relative to the White population. This difference is especially salient given the lack of difference between AIAN and White education levels.

3.2. McLean County

Eight variables are evaluated in this socioeconomic analysis for McLean County. As the MOE difference between AIAN population and the McLean County White population is

small for each of the eight analyses (Table 1), we conduct statistical tests only on the primary variable estimates, rather than the lower and upper estimates.

The total estimated population of McLean County is 9,788. There are 679 AIAN residents and 8,608 White residents (Figure 1).

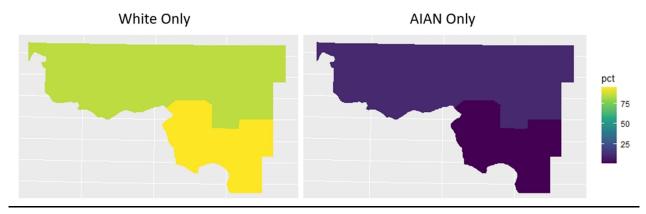


Figure 1. A Census Tract map of the 2021 5-year ACS racial distribution of AIAN and White population in McLean County, North Dakota. The map includes the Ft. Berthold Reservation population.

3.2a. Median Household Income

The median income for AIAN households in McLean County is \$58,625, while median household income for Whites is \$72,526. These data show a large race-based discrepancy in income, with White households earning substantially more than AIAN households.

3.2b. Poverty

In McLean County, 8.5% of AIAN households are below the poverty line compared to 7.6% of White households. This difference is not statistically significant ($X^2 = 0.576$, p-value >.05). AIAN and White households do not experience different levels of poverty in McLean County.

3.2c. Educational Attainment

For the AIAN population, 36.7% of adults 25-years and older have a high school diploma or less as the highest level of educational attainment, compared to 40.1% of Whites. 55% of the AIAN population attended some college, and 45% finished a college degree.

This is compared to 39.1% of Whites who attended some college and 20.7% who finished a college degree. There are statistically significant differences in educational attainment by race ($X^2 = 14.172$, p-value <0.05). Both populations have similar attainment of primary education and AIAN is overrepresented in higher educational attainment categories when compared to Whites.

3.2d. Computer Ownership and Broadband Internet Access

In the AIAN community, 96.4% of households own a computer, while 71.2% of households have access to broadband internet. For McLean White households, 96% own a computer and 86.9% have access to broadband internet. Computer ownership is equivalent between the two groups ($X^2 = 0.2996$, p-value = >.05). Access to internet at home, however, is significantly different ($X^2 = 193.54$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN households having reduced access to the internet compared to Whites.

3.2e. Home Ownership, Value and Rent Payments

57% of the AIAN population owns a home compared with 84.6% of the White population. Home ownership is statistically different between the two groups ($X^2 = 130.5$, p-value <.001), with a significant lower portion of AIAN renting rather than owning their home.

3.2f. Health Insurance Coverage

In McLean County, 6.2% of AIAN residents do not have health insurance coverage, compared to 4.7% of Whites. There is no statistically significant difference between AIAN and White levels of health insurance coverage in McLean County. ($X^2 = 3.1355$, p-value >0.05).

3.2g. Employment

Of those in the labor pool, 3% of AIAN population is unemployed compared to .8% of the McLean County White population. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 29.564$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN residents more likely to be unemployed relative to the White population. This difference is especially salient given the lack of difference between AIAN and White education levels.

3.3. McKenzie County

Eight variables are evaluated in this socioeconomic analysis for McKenzie County. As the MOE difference between AIAN population and the McLean County White population is small for each of the eight analyses (Table 1), we conduct statistical tests only on the primary variable estimates, rather than the lower and upper estimates.

The total estimated population of McKenzie County is 14,704. There are 1,894 AIAN residents (12.9% of the total population) and 10638 White residents (72.4% of the total population, see Figure 4).



Figure 4. A Census Tract map of the 2021 5-year ACS racial distribution of AIAN and White population in McKenzie County, North Dakota. The map includes the Ft. Berthold Reservation population.

3.3a. Median Household Income

The median income for AIAN households in McKenzie County is \$76,607, while median household income for Whites is \$81,538. These data show a large race-based discrepancy in income, with White households earning substantially more than AIAN households.

3.3b. Poverty

In McKenzie County, 31% of AIAN households are below the poverty line compared to 7.5% of White households. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 758.43$, p-value <.001) with AIAN households experiencing higher levels of poverty than White households.

3.3c. Educational Attainment

For the AIAN population, 13.7% of adults 25-years and older have a high school diploma or less as the highest level of educational attainment, compared to 5.7% of Whites. 49% of the AIAN population attended some college, and 20% finished a college degree. This is compared to 34.4% of Whites who attended some college and 27.4% who finished a college degree. There are statistically significant differences in educational attainment by race ($X^2 = 152.95$, p-value <0.001). AIAN have lower educational attainment than Whites.

3.3d. Computer Ownership and Broadband Internet Access

In the AIAN community, 98.3% of households own a computer, while 86.7% of households have access to broadband internet. For McKenzie White households, 96% own a computer and 92.1% have access to broadband internet. Computer ownership is statistically higher among AIAN ($X^2 = 17.994$, p-value = <.001), however access to internet at home, significantly lower for AIAN than Whites ($X^2 = 151.32$, p-value <0.001).

3.3e. Home Ownership, Value and Rent Payments

36.3% of the AIAN population owns a home compared with 66.8% of the White population. Home ownership is statistically different between the two groups ($X^2 = 138.5$, p-value <.001), with home ownership significantly lower among AIAN compared to Whites.

3.3f. Health Insurance Coverage

In McKenzie County, 44.4% of AIAN residents do not have health insurance coverage, compared to 13.2% of Whites. A statistically significant portion of AIAN in McKenzie County lack health insurance coverage as compared to Whites (X² = 887.53, p-value <.001).

3.3g. Employment

Of those in the labor pool, 5% of AIAN population is unemployed compared to .6% of the McKenzie County White population. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 155.44$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN residents more likely to be unemployed relative to the White

population.

3.4. Mountrail County

Eight variables are evaluated in this socioeconomic analysis for Mountrail County. As the MOE difference between AIAN population and the Mountrail County White population is small for each of the eight analyses (Table 1), we conduct statistical tests only on the primary variable estimates, rather than the lower and upper estimates.

The total estimated population of Mountrail County is 9,809. There are 2,840 AIAN residents (29% of the total population) and 5,706 White residents (58% of the total population, see Figure 5).

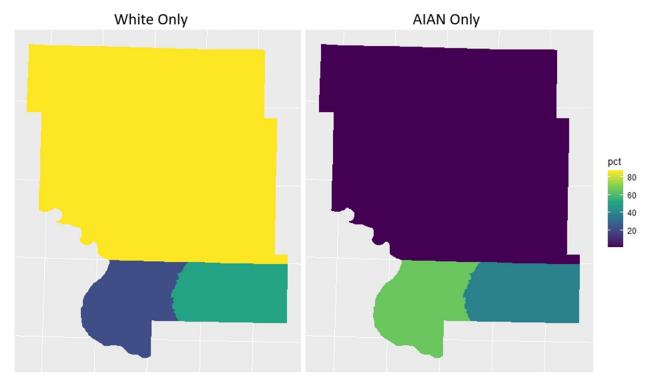


Figure 5. A Census Tract map of the 2021 5-year ACS racial distribution of AIAN and White population in McKenzie County, North Dakota. The map includes the Ft. Berthold Reservation population.

3.4a. Median Household Income

The median income for AIAN households in Mountrail County is \$54,271, while median household income for Whites is \$89,677. These data show a large race-based discrepancy in income, with White households earning substantially more than AIAN

households.

3.4b. Poverty

In Mountrail County, 26.8% of AIAN households are below the poverty line compared to 6.7% of White households. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 656.81$, p-value <.001) with AIAN households experiencing higher levels of poverty than White households.

3.4c. Educational Attainment

For the AIAN population, 44.5% of adults 25-years and older have a high school diploma or less as the highest level of educational attainment, compared to 40.1% of Whites. 35.4% of the AIAN population attended some college, and 20.1% finished a college degree. This is compared to 36.9% of Whites who attended some college and 23% who finished a college degree. There are statistically significant differences in educational attainment by race ($X^2 = 1224.5$, p-value <0.001). AIAN have lower educational attainment than Whites.

3.4d. Computer Ownership and Broadband Internet Access

In the AIAN community, 93.8% of households own a computer, while 74.1% of households have access to broadband internet. For Mountrail White households, 96.4% own a computer and 88.1% have access to broadband internet. Both computer ownership ($X^2 = 30.718$, p-value = <.001) and access to internet at home ($X^2 = 259.03$, p-value <0.001) are statistically lower among AIAN than Whites. AIAN in Mountrail county have lower access to computers and internet at home.

3.4e. Home Ownership, Value and Rent Payments

51.9% of the AIAN population owns a home compared with 67.9% of the White population. Home ownership is statistically different between the two groups ($X^2 = 64.555$, p-value <.001), with home ownership significantly lower among AIAN compared to Whites.

3.4f. Health Insurance Coverage

In Mountrail County, 29.1% of AIAN residents do not have health insurance coverage,

compared to 12.5% of Whites. A statistically significant portion of AIAN in Mountrail County lack health insurance coverage as compared to Whites ($X^2 = 320.79$, p-value < .001).

3.4g. Employment

Of those in the labor pool, 4% of AIAN population is unemployed compared to 1.9% of the Mountrail County White population. This difference is statistically significant ($X^2 = 46.4$, p-value <0.001), with AIAN residents more likely to be unemployed relative to the White population.

III. CONCLUSION

For the majority of analyses (24 out of 28), there is race-based bias that disadvantages the AIAN population when compared to Whites. Table one provides a complete overview of the descriptive and inferential statistics for more quantitative context. These disparities are systemic – meaning they reach into multiple aspects of day-to-day life – and hinder the ability of AIAN tribal members to participate effectively in the North Dakota political process (Senate Report 1982).

13

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Kaiser Family Foundation (2022). State Health Facts. https://Kff.org/statedata

R Core Team, (2020). R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria.

Senate Report (1982), No. 97-417, accompanying the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982.

County: Dunn	County: Dunn									
		upper	lower	MOE		upper	lower	MOE	MOE	p-
Variable	AIAN	estimate	estimate	range	White	estimate	estimate	range	difference	value
Total population	11.2				80					
Median										
household										
income (\$)	53149	54114	52184	965	87250	96857	77643	9607	-8642	
Below Poverty										
Line (%)	14.4	20.7	8	12.7	6.2	8.6	3.8	4.8	7.9	<.001
Education: lower										
than High school										
(%)	12.1	21.8	2.3	19.5	8.7	12.6	4.9	7.7	11.8	<.001
Education: High										
School (%)	25.8	39.6	12.1	27.5	36.2	43.4	29	14.4	13.1	
Education: Some										
College (%)	33.9	46.3	21.5	24.8	35.2	41.5	28.8	12.6	12.2	
Education:										
College degree										
(%)	27.9	40.3	15.4	24.8	19.9	25.2	14.6	10.6	14.3	
Owns a										
computer (%)	95.7	104.5	86.9	17.7	97.5	100	95	5	12.7	<.05
Broadband										
internet (%)	86	97.5	74.5	23	92.6	95.9	89.4	6.5	16.5	<.001
Owns a home										
(%)	79.6	99.3	59.9	39.5	78.2	86.5	69.9	16.6	22.9	>.05
No health										
insurance (%)	39.4	55.4	23.4	32	17.1	22.8	11.3	11.5	20.6	<.001
Unemployed (%)	9.2	23.7	-5.3	29	0.5	1.5	-0.5	2	26.9	<.001

County: McLean	County: McLean									
		upper	lower	MOE		upper	lower	MOE	MOE	p-
Variable	AIAN	estimate	estimate	range	White	estimate	estimate	range	difference	value
Total population	8.3				86					
Median										
household										
income (\$)	58625	79026	38224	20401	72526	77460	67592	4934	15467	
Below Poverty										
Line (%)	8.5	14.3	2.7	11.6	7.6	9.2	6.1	3	8.5	>.05
Education: lower										
than High school										
(%)	10.8	18.8	2.8	16	7.3	9.4	5.3	4.1	11.9	<.01
Education: High										
School (%)	25.9	38.9	13	25.9	32.8	36.4	29.2	7.2	18.7	
Education: Some										
College (%)	42.1	54	30.2	23.8	39.1	42.7	35.6	7.1	16.7	
Education:										
College degree										
(%)	21.2	30.9	11.4	19.4	20.8	23.5	18.1	5.3	14.1	
Owns a										
computer (%)	96.4	108.6	84.1	24.5	95.9	96.9	94.9	2	22.5	>.05
Broadband										
internet (%)	71.2	84.6	57.7	27	86.9	89	84.7	4.3	22.7	<.001
Owns a home										
(%)	57	71.3	42.6	28.7	84.6	87.6	81.6	5.9	22.8	<.001
No health										
insurance (%)	6.2	12.3	0.1	12.2	4.7	6.6	2.8	3.9	8.3	>.05
Unemployed (%)	3	12.1	-6.1	18.2	0.8	1.7	0	1.7	16.5	<.001

County: McKenzie

		upper	lower	MOE		upper	lower	MOE	MOE	p-
Variable	AIAN	estimate	estimate	range	White	estimate	estimate	range	difference	value
Total population	12.9				72.3					
Median										
household										
income (\$)	76607	106420	46794	29813	81538	97786	65290	16248	13565	
Below Poverty										
Line (%)	31	44.3	17.8	26.5	7.5	11	4	7.1	19.4	<.001
Education: lower										
than High school										
(%)	13.7	25	2.4	22.6	5.7	8.5	2.9	5.7	16.9	<.001
Education: High										
School (%)	16.8	25.6	7.9	17.7	32.5	37.9	27.1	10.8	6.9	
Education: Some										
College (%)	48.9	67.5	30.2	37.3	34.4	39.9	28.8	11.1	26.2	
Education:										
College degree										
(%)	20.6	32.4	8.9	23.5	27.4	33.4	21.5	11.9	11.6	
Owns a										
computer (%)	98.3	113.2	83.4	29.8	96	97.7	94.3	3.4	26.4	<.001
Broadband										
internet (%)	86.7	103.3	70.2	33.1	92.1	94.4	89.8	4.7	28.4	<.001
Owns a home										
(%)	36.3	51.1	21.6	29.5	66.8	71.9	61.7	10.2	19.3	<.001
No health										
insurance (%)	44.4	62.2	26.6	35.7	13.2	18.3	8.1	10.2	25.5	<.001
Unemployed (%)	5	13.7	-3.8	17.4	0.6	1.5	-0.4	1.9	15.5	<.001

County:	County:									
Mountrail										
		upper	lower	MOE		upper	lower	MOE	MOE	p-
Variable	AIAN	estimate	estimate	range	White	estimate	estimate	range	difference	value
Total population	29				58.2					
Median										
household										
income (\$)	54271	68845	39697	14574	89677	100794	78560	11117	3457	
Below Poverty										
Line (%)	26.8	33.7	19.8	13.9	6.7	9.2	4.1	5.1	8.8	<.001
Education: lower										
than High school										
(%)	18.5	26.2	10.9	15.4	5.8	7.5	4	3.5	11.9	<.001
Education: High										
School (%)	26	33.8	18.3	15.5	34.3	39.6	29	10.6	4.9	
Education: Some										
College (%)	35.4	43.7	27	16.6	36.9	42.5	31.4	11.1	5.6	
Education:										
College degree										
(%)	20.1	26.6	13.5	13.1	23	28.4	17.7	10.7	2.4	
Owns a										
computer (%)	93.8	98.9	88.7	10.2	96.4	97.7	95.2	2.5	7.7	<.001
Broadband										
internet (%)	74.1	82.3	65.9	16.4	88.1	90.7	85.6	5.1	11.3	<.001
Owns a home										
(%)	51.9	60.7	43.1	17.6	67.9	73.1	62.6	10.5	7.1	<.001
No health										
insurance (%)	29.1	35.5	22.7	12.7	12.5	17.1	7.9	9.2	3.5	<.001

Table 1. Descriptive and inferential statistics for all eight socioeconomic variables including primary estimates and margin of errors (MOE) for the three counties.

8.1

1.9

4.4

-0.1

8

Unemployed (%)

<.001

5

-0.6

Kate Magargal

Curriculum Vitae

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I am an environmental anthropologist focused on human ecology in western North America with expertise in ethnography, archaeology, botany, mathematical modeling, and inter- and trans- disciplinary approaches to teaching. My goal is to produce research and train students to understand the past in a way that addresses contemporary social and environmental issues with a focus on current and ancient land management and Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

Appointments

Associate Instructor Environmental & Sustainability Studies, UU. August 2022 - present. Associate Instructor Honors College, UU. August 2022 - present.

Postdoctoral Research Associate Environmental and Sustainability Studies, University of Utah (UU), Salt Lake City (SLC), UT.July 2022 - present.

Postdoctoral Research Associate Department of Anthropology, UU. February 2019 - June 2022.

Associate Instructor City and Metropolitan Planning, UU. January 2020-May 2022.

Associate Instructor Department of Anthropology, UU. January 2020 - May 2022.

Assistant Director UU Archaeological Center, UU. August 2015-May 2016.

Education

Ph.D. Anthropology, UU, 2019, Salt Lake City, UT. Thesis: Subsistence Fires Mediate Human Ecological Relationships; Committee: Brian Codding (chair), Duncan Metcalfe, James F. O'Connell, Lisbeth Louderback, Andrea Brunelle, Joan Brenner-Coltrain.

M.S. Anthropology, UU, 2014, Salt Lake City, UT

B.A. Anthropology, University of Arizona, 2004, Tucson, AZ

Summary

Teaching/Mentoring: 2 M.S./M.A., and 13 B.S./B.A. students since 2015 (students noted with * below).

Courses: 7 courses taught, incl. topics in basic science, community engaged approaches, and synthetic approaches to scientific themes.

Publications: 7 published peer-reviewed articles, 3 in prep, 2 technical reports.

Citations: 39 citations, h-index of 3, i10-index of 1 (Google Scholar, accessed 11/9/22). Field Experience: >2 years working, directing, and teaching field methods in Utah, Nevada, and California.

External Funding: Staff on 2 federal research grants, 2 private foundation grants, and 1 teaching fellowship totaling >\$2 million since 2012.

Internal Funding: PI/Staff on 8 research grants and 2 fellowships totaling >\$100,000 since 2012.

Teaching

Teaching Interests: Community engaged learning, applied behavioral and ecological sciences, quantitative data analysis and research methods, human ecology, Native North America (ethnography and archaeology), cultural resource management, Pleistocene and Holocene archaeology of the world, conservation & sustainability, ethnoarchaeology, GIS/spatial analysis, teaching in non-conventional environments such as in the field.

Courses as Instructor/TA

Instructor, ENVST5000 Undergraduate Research (Independent Study). UU Environmental Studies & Sustainability.

Instructor, HONOR2285 Energy. UU Honors College.

Instructor, ENVST2100 Introduction to Environment & Sustainability. UU Environmental Studies & Sustainability.

Instructor, ANTH1030 Prehistoric Archaeology. Spring 2022. UU Anthropology.

Instructor, CMP3851 Nightscapes. Spring 2022. UU City & Metropolitan Planning.

Co-Instructor, ANTH1030 World Prehistory. Fall 2021. UU Anthropology.

Co-Instructor, CMP3851 Nightscapes. Spring 2021. UU City & Metropolitan Planning.

Instructor, ANTH5850 Quantitative Analysis of Archaeological Data. Spring 2020. UU Anthropology.

Co-Instructor, CMP3851 Nightscapes. Spring 2020. UU City & Metropolitan Planning.

Co-Instructor, ANTH4341 Fundamentals of Archaeology. Fall 2016. UU Anthropology.

Instructor, ANTH 1030-009 World Prehistory: An Introduction (online section of the course). Spring 2016. UU Anthropology.

Teaching assistant, ANTH 1030-001 World Prehistory: And Introduction. Spring 2016. UU Anthropology. Supervisor: Brian Codding 801-581-8663

Instructor, ANTH 5711, Student Individual Research Group (guiding undergraduates in the compilation of data and report writing of an archaeological field project). Fall 2015. UU Anthropology.

Guest Lecturer

Guest Lecturer & course co-developer, CMP 3850 Dark Sky Studies 1: Lightscapes. Fall 2019 & Fall 2020. UU City and Metropolitan Planning. Instructor: Vellachi

Ganesan 801-696-6108.

Guest Lecturer, UU School of Architecture Design Build Bluff Program, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020.

Guest Lecturer, ENVST 3365 Environmental Justice. Fall 2018, 2020. UU Environmental and Sustainability Studies. Instructor: Adreinne Cachelin 801-213-1013.

Pedagogical Training/Experiences

Trainee, UU Undergraduate Mentoring Program, Spring 2020. Instructor: Elizabeth Archuleta 801-581-5499.

Project Mentor, ENVST 3365 Environmental Justice. Fall 2017 - present. UU Environmental and Sustainability Studies. Instructor: Adrienne Cachelin 801-213-1013

Lecturer and Field Guide, Bonderman Field Station at Rio Mesa, Fall 2012-Spring 2019. UU Office of the Vice President of Research. Developed and conducted on-site field experiences in archaeology and astronomy for a variety of visiting student groups. Director: Zach Lundeen 801-585-3177.

Course development team member, Fall 2019 - present. UU Honors College. Work with a team of instructors to develop new tracks of study and courses for honors students. Supervisor: Sylvia Torti, 801-581-7383.

Dark Sky Scholar, Spring 2018-present. UU School of City and Metropolitan Planning. Develop curricula and associated outreach efforts as part team of new Minor in Dark Sky Studies (approved by the UU Academic Senate in Spring 2020). PI: Stacy Harwood, 801-581-8255.

Student, CTLE 6000 Teaching in Higher Education. Spring 2017. UU Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence. A course focused on implementing pedagogy in college courses.

Teaching Assistant. UU Wasatch Experience 2016-2017. A year-long workshop seminar focused on incorporating topics of sustainability into teaching content and practices.

Fellow, "Think Globally, Learn Locally" NSF-GK12 Fellowship. 2012-2014. Classroom Science Mentor in AP Environmental Science and 8th Grade Integrated Science. Supervisor: Holly Godsey, 801-587-7865.

Wilderness Field Instructor, 2009-2010. Aspen Achievement Academy, Loa, UT. Teach high school curricula to teenage clients of an at-risk youth program in the outdoors.

Publications

Published peer-reviewed works

Magargal, K. (2022). The cost of cooking for foragers. Journal of Human Evolution, 162, 103091. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhevol.2021.103091

L. Brock James*, Kaley Joyce*, **Kate Magargal**, Brian Codding. (2022). A stone in the hand is worth how many in the bush? Applying the Marginal Value Theorem to understand optimal toolstone transportation, processing, and discard decisions. *Journal of Archaeological Science*.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jas.2021.105518

Brian F. Codding, Joan Brenner Coltrain, Lisbeth Louderback, Kenneth Blake Vernon, **Kate E. Magargal**, Peter M. Yaworsky, Erick Robinson, Simon C. Brewer, and Jerry D. Spangler. (2021). Socioecological Dynamics Structuring the Spread of Farming in the North American Basin-Plateau Region. *Environmental Archaeology*. https://doi.org/10.1080/14614103.2021.1927480

Matthew N. Goodell*, Takara E. Truong*, Stephanie R. Marston*, Brett J. Smiley*, Elliot R. Befus*, Alex Bingham*, Kent Allen*, Joseph R. Bourne*, Yi Wei, **Kate E. Magargal**, Vellachi Ganesan, Daniel L. Mendoza, Anil C. Seth, Stacy A. Harwood, Marc Bodson, Tucker Hermans, and Kam K. Leang. (2020). Autonomous light assessment drone for dark skies studies. Paper accepted to *Proceedings of Dynamic Systems and Control Conference 2020*, American Society of Mechanical Engineers. https://doi.org/10.1115/DSCC2020-3205

Power, M. J., Codding, B. F., Taylor, A. H., Swetnam, T. W., Magargal, K.E., Bird, D. W., & O'Connell, J. F. (2018). Human Legacies on Ecological Landscapes. Frontiers in Earth Science, 6, 151. https://doi.org/10.3389/feart.2018.00151

Magargal, K.E., Parker, A.K., Vernon, K.B., Rath, W*., and B.F. Codding. (2017) The ecology of population dispersal: Modeling alternative Basin-Plateau foraging strategies to explain the Numic Expansion. *American Journal of Human Biology*, 29.4. e23000. https://doi.org/10.1002/ajhb.23000

Holberg, J.B., Magargal, K. and P. Bergeron. (2003) Finding the Cool Companions to the DA White Dwarfs in the Palomar-Green Survey. American Astronomical Society Meeting 203, #54.06; Bulletin of the American Astronomical Society, Vol. 35, p.1294. https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2005ASPC..334..419H/abstract

Articles under review

Kate Magargal, Jonah Yellowman, Shaniah Morning Star Chee*, Molly Wabel*, Shane Macfarlan, Brian Codding. Firewood and energy sovereignty on Navajo Nation. Targeted for *Under review at Human Ecology*.

Articles in prep

Kate Magargal, Mickey Campbell, Phil Dennison, William Anderegg, Brian F. Codding. (in prep) How far to go for the good stuff? Trade-offs between travel cost and biomass availability for Diné woodhaulers. Targeted for *Nature Climate Change*

Kate Magargal, Shaniah Chee*, Jonah Yellowman, Brian Codding, Adrienne Cachelin. The impacts of climate change, energy policy, and traditional ecological practices on firewood availability for Diné (Navajo) People. Targeted for Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B.

Other written works

Magargal, Kate. (2021) Review of Spirit Lands of the Eagle and Bear: Numic Archaeology and Ethnohistory in the Rocky Mountains and Borderlands. Robert H. Brunswig, ed. Louisville: University Press of Colorado, 2020. Journal of Archaeological Research 77(4). https://doi.org/10.1086/716755

Codding, Brian F., **Kate E. Magargal**, Kenneth Blake Vernon, Paul E. Allgaier, Jesse Valdez, and Ron Goode (2018) *Preliminary Archaeological Investigations at the Jack Kirk Site, Mariposa Creek, California*. Submitted to the North Fork Mono Tribe.

Louderback, L., Herzog, N., Baker, M., **Magargal, K.**, and B. Pavlik. (2016) *Archaeobotany of the Sigurd to Red Butte Data Recovery Project, Utah*. Report prepared for SWCA Environmental Consultants.

Conference presentations

Papers

- 2022 Kate Magargal & Brian Codding. (2022, September). Indigenous Woodland Management and Energy Sovereignty on Cedar Mesa, Utah. 16th Biennial Conference of Science & Management on the Colorado Plateau & Southwest Region, Flagstaff, AZ.
- 2022 **Kate Magargal** & Brian Codding. (2022, March). Political Ecology of Energy Sovereignty on Navajo Nation. 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology, Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2021 Magargal, K.E. (2021, April). Seasonality and a risk trade-off in the firewood harvest on northern Navajo Nation, Utah. Paper presented at the 86th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, held virtually.
- 2021 Magargal, K.E. (2021, March). Forests of Fuel: Firewood harvest as a driver of social and ecological change. Paper presented at the 2021 Society of California Archaeology Annual Meeting, held virtually.

- 2020 Magargal, K.E. (2020, October). Forests of fuel: Firewood harvest as a driver of social and ecological change. Paper presented at the 2020 Society of California Archaeology Data Sharing Meeting, held virtually.
- 2019 Magargal, K.E. (2019, April). How Firewood Access Structures Settlement Patterns. Paper presented at the 84h Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 2018 Magargal, K.E. (2018, October). Variation in Numic adaptations across the Great Basin. Paper presented at the Great Basin Archaeological Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
 - Magargal, K.E. (2018, April). The ecology of cooking with firewood. Paper presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington D.C.
 - Parker, Ashley, Lisa Johnson, **Kate Magargal**, Marianna Di Paolo and Brian F. Codding (2018, April) When Is a Horse Not a Horse? It Depends on Your Local Ecology. Paper Presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington D.C.
- 2016 Codding, Brian F., Rebecca Bliege Bird, **Kate E. Magargal** and Douglas W. Bird (2016, December). *Modeling Country: How econmoic decisions by Aboriginal foragers produce complex emergent phenomena*. Presented at the 115th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
 - Codding, Brian F. and **Kate E. Magargal**. (2016, May) Numic Fires: Ethnography, Biogeography, and Archaeology of Anthropogenic Disturbance in the Intermountain West. Paper presented at the Human Ecological Dynamics Workshop, SMU in Taos, New Mexico, USA

Posters

- 2018 Magargal, K.E., and Brian F. Codding. (2018, October). Foraging for energy in the forest: Modeling ecosystem dynamics between firewood economics and woodland health. Poster presented at Northwest Evolution Ecology and Human Behavior 5th Annual Symposium, October 19-21, 2018, Boise, ID.
 - Vernon, Kenneth Blake, **Kate Magargal**, D. Craig Young, David Zeanah and Brian F. Codding (2018, April) Prearchaic Land Use in Grass Valley, NV: A Novel Statistical Implementation of Optimal Distribution Models. Poster Presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, April 11-15, Washington D.C., USA.
- 2017 Magargal, K.E. (2017, February). Did prehistoric people affect fire regimes in southern Utah? Poster presented at Global Change and Sustainability Annual Research Symposium, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

- 2016 Magargal, K.E., Parker, A.K., Vernon, K.B., Rath, W.*, & B.F. Codding. (2016, October). Food, Fire, and Free Space: New Tests of the Numic Expansion. Poster presented at the Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Reno, Nevada.
 - Parker, A. K., Johnson L., **Magargal K. E.**, Rath, W.*, Di Paolo M., & Codding, B. F. (2016, October). When is a horse not a horse? It depends on your local ecology. Poster presented at the Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Reno, Nevada.
 - Magargal, Kate E., Ashley K. Parker, Will Rath*, Kenneth B. Vernon, and Brian F. Codding (2016, April) Food, fire, and free space: New tests of the Numic Expansion. Poster presented at the 85th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Atlanta, GA.
 - Magargal, Kate E., Ashley K. Parker, Will Rath*, Kenneth B. Vernon, and Brian F. Codding (2016, February) *Numic Fires: Modelling the Effects of Anthropogenic Fire on Foraging Decisions in the Great Basin.* Poster presentation at the Global Change and Sustainability Center Symposium, SLC, UT.
 - Agardy, Savanna*, Brock James*, Anna Roberts*, Anastasia Rath*, Will Rath*, Kate E. Magargal, Tom Flanigan, & Brian F. Codding (2016) Archaeological Investigations of Red Butte Canyon. Poster presented at the Environment and Sustainability Interdisciplinary Research Symposium, February 2, University of Utahy; also presented at the Utah Professional Archaeological Council (Student Poster Award Winner), March 4-5, Rio Grande, Utah Division of State History; the University of Utah Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 12, Olpin Union; and the College of Social and Behavioral Science Student Research Day, April 22, Orson Spencer Hall, University of Utah, UT, USA.
- 2015 Magargal, Kate E. (2015, April) Fetching Firewood: Access to fuels as a constraint for prehistoric settlement. Poster presentation at the Society for American Archaeology 80th Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
 - Magargal, Kate E. (2015, March) A Fire History of Upper Valley near Escalante, Utah. Poster presentation at the 27th Pacific Climate Workshop. Pacific Grove, CA.
 - Magargal, Kate E. (2015, February) Fetching Firewood: Access to fuels as a constraint for prehistoric settlement. Poster presentation at the Global Change and Sustainability Center Symposium, SLC, UT.
 - Parker, Ashley, Kate E. Magargal, & Brian F. Codding (2015) Numic Fires: Biogeography of Foragers and Fire in the Great Basin. Poster presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Francisco, CA, USA.
 - Vernon, Kenneth B., Kate E. Magargal, Ashley Parker, Will Rath*, & Brian F. Codding (2015) Numic Fires: Modeling the Effects of Anthropogenic Fire on Foraging Decisions in the Great Basin. Poster presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, San Francisco, CA, USA.

- Parker, A. K., Magargal, K. E., & Codding, B. F. (2016, February). Burning the West: Biogeography of Foragers and Fire in the Great Basin. Poster presented at the Global Change and Sustainability Center Symposium, Salt Lake City, Utah. And presented at (2015) the College of Social and Behavioral Science Student Research Day, Salt Lake City, Utah. And presented at (2015) the the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California. And presented at (2014) the Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Boise, Idaho.
- 2014 Magargal, Kate E. (2014, April) Fetching Firewood: Exploring the Relationship Between Site Locations and Fuel Sources. Poster presentation at the Society for American Archaeology 79th Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.
 - Magargal, Kate E. Firewood Collecting and Diet Breadth. (2014, March) Poster presentation at the Northwest Evolution, Ecology, and Human Behavior Symposium, Boise State University.
- 2007 Moore, Chad, Dan Duriscoe and **Kate Magargal**. (2007, March) A Ground-Based Photometric System of Detecting Artificial Light. National Park Service Night Sky Team Methods and Results exhibit at the International Dark Sky Association General Meeting, Tucson, AZ.

Grants & Awards

- Bureau of Land Management Award L20AC00267. "Archaeological Survey of Cottonwood Wash, San Rafael Desert, Emory County, Utah". Brian F. Codding (PI), Jerry Spangler (Co-PI), **Kate Magargal (Post-Doc Researcher)**, Kenneth B. Vernon (PhD Researcher), Peter M. Yaworsky (PhD Researcher), Paul E. Allgaier (PhD Researcher), Kurt M. Wilson (PhD Researcher), Louis Brock James (MS Researcher), Roxanne-Lois Lamson (MS Researcher) (\$18,698)
- Keck Foundation. "Illuminating Dark Sky Studies': A transdisciplinary focus on the disappearing dark." Stephen Goldsmith (PI, UU City & Metropolitan Planning), Bryan Boulanger (Senior Personnel [SP], UU Civil and Environmental Engineering), Cord Bowen (SP, UU Multi-disciplinary Design Program), Kelly S. Bricker (SP, UU Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism), Amy Bronson (SP, UU Film and Media Arts), Erin Carraher (SP, UU Architecture), Katharine Coles (SP, UU English), David Kieda (SP, UU Physics & Astronomy), Kate Magargal (SP, UU Anthropology), Daniel Mendoza (SP, UU Atmospheric Sciences), Anil Chandra Seth (SP, UU Physics & Astronomy), Amanda Smith (SP, UU Mechanical Engineering), Gregory Smoak (SP, UU History), Elpitha Tsoutsounakis (SP, UU Mulit-disciplinary Design), Jim Vanderslice (SP, UU Family and Preventive Medicine). (\$450,000)
- National Science Foundation, "CNH-L: Dynamic Impacts of Environmental Change and Biomass Harvesting on Woodland Ecosystems and Traditional Livelihoods",

- Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems, DEB-1714972. Brian F. Codding (PI, UU Anthropology), William Anderegg (Co-PI, UU Biology), Courtenay Strong (Co-PI, UU Atmospheric Sciences), Philip E. Dennison (Co-PI, UU Geography), Simon Brewer (SP, UU Geography), Shane Macfarlan (SP, UU Anthropology), Kate Magargal (Postdoc, UU Anthropology), in collaboration with Ramesh Shrestha (PI, University of Houston, National Center for Airborne Laser Mapping), and Gavin Noyes (PI, Utah Diné Bikéyah) (\$1,470,534)
- Resources Legacy Fund. "Firewood Research in Bears Ears National Monument", collaboration between Utah Diné Bikéyah (UDB) staff Gavin Noyes (Executive Director), Kevin Madalena, Woody Lee, Nizhone Meza, Cynthia Wilson, and UU researchers **Kate Magargal (PhD Student, UU Anthropology)**, and Brian F. Codding (Faculty, UU Anthropology) (\$40,000)
- Society, Water, and Climate Seed Funding Program, UU, "Can we predict the next Syria: Quantifying the climate-agriculture-conict nexus", William Anderegg (PI, Biology), Brian F. Codding (Co-PI, Anthropology), Courtenay Strong (Co-PI, Atmospheric Sciences), Shane Mcfarlan (Co-PI, Anthropology), Adrian Bell (Co-PI, Anthropology), and **Kate Magargal (PhD Researcher)** (\$5,000, plus \$4,000 matching funds from the College of Science and Department of Biology)
- Global Change and Sustainability Center Graduate Research Grant. *People and Fire in Prehistory in the Upper Escalante Watershed, Utah.* Brian F. Codding (Faculty Sponsor), **Kate Magargal (PhD Researcher, Project Supervisor)**(\$2500)
- 2015 CSBS Herbert W. Gustafson Graduate Fellowship, UU. (\$7,000)
- Global Change & Sustainability Center and the Friends of Red Butte Creek, UU, "Archaeology and Prehistoric Human Ecology of Red Butte Creek". Tom Flanigan (Co-PI), **Kate Magargal (Field Director)** and Brian F. Codding (PI) (\$5,000)
- 2015/16 Don Currey Research Grant, UU Geography. Bramble Valley Fire History. (\$950, \$450)
- 2015 Global Change and Sustainability Center Travel Grant, UU. (\$500 x 2)
- Funding Incentive Seed Grant, UU Research Foundation, Burning the Basin: Ethnoecology and Paleoecology of Anthropogenic Fire in the Intermountain West. Brian F. Codding (PI), Kate Magargal (PhD Researcher) (\$33,000)
- Global Change and Sustainability Center Graduate Research Grant. UU. Fetching Firewood: Access to fuels as a constraint for prehistoric settlement. Brian F. Codding (Faculty Sponsor), Kate Magargal (PhD Researcher, Project Supervisor)(\$2500)
- 2014 Rio Mesa Young Scholar Grant, UU Bonderman Field Station at Rio Mesa. Fetch-

- ing Firewood: Access to fuels as a constraint for prehistoric settlement. Brian F. Codding (Faculty Sponsor), Kate Magargal (PhD Researcher, Project Supervisor)(\$2500)
- 2012/13 Think Globally, Learn Locally NSF-GK12 Fellowship. UU. (\$30,000x2)
- 2003 President's Award for Undergraduate Research. University of Arizona. (\$500)
- 2003 1st Place Award for Student Research in Agriculture. University of Arizona. (\$200)
- 2003 Janet Upjohn Stearns Foundation Scholarship. University of Arizona.
- 2003 Honors College Undergraduate Research Grant. University of Arizona. (\$1000)

Research & Field Experience

- 2019- Postdoctoral Research Associate. "Dynamic Impacts of Environmental Change and Biomass Harvesting on Woodland Ecosystems and Traditional Livelihoods." PI: Brian Codding. (10 months of ethnographic fieldwork)
- 2017 Research Associate, Utah Diné Bikéyah. "Firewood Research in Bears Ears National Monument." Resources Legacy Fund Grant Award. (3 months of ethnographic fieldwork)
- 2015- Archaeological Field Supervisor and Project Coordinator. Lower Dolores River 2017 Watershed Archaeology project. PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663 (4 weeks archaeological fieldwork)
- 2017 Archaeology Intern. Project: Archaeological Site Impact Assessment along Moab Travel Routes. Bureau of Land Management, Moab Field Office. PI: M. Jared Lundell 435-259-2137. (11 weeks archaeological fieldwork)
- 2017 Research Assistant, University of Utah Anthropology Department. "Can we predict the next Syria: Quantifying the climate-agriculture-conflict nexus." Funding Incentive Seed Grant, University of Utah Research Foundation. (4 weeks computational data analysis)
- Field Director. Grass Valley, NV. Project Title: "Prearchaic foraging adaptations in the convergence of women's and men's foraging decisions," University of Utah. (NSF #1632522) PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663 (10 days archaeological fieldwork)
- 2017 Research Assistant, University of Utah Anthropology Department. "Collaborative Research: Prearchaic foraging adaptations in the convergence of women's and men's foraging decisions." (NSF #1632522, 2 semesters)

- PhD Researcher, University of Utah Anthropology Department. Ethnographic and ecological data collection in collaboration with members of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe quantifying piñon (*Pinus monophylla*) pine nut harvest yields relative to natural abundance as part of a long-term project coordinated with PI Brian Codding (University of Utah) and PhD. researcher Ashley K. Parker (University of Utah), Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada. (4 days ethnographic fieldwork)
- 2015/16 Archaeolgical Technician. Preliminary Excavations at Grass Valley, NV. University of Utah. PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663 (3 weeks archaeological fieldwork)
- 2015 Research Assistant, University of Utah/Utah Museum of Natural History. Archaeobotany of the Sigurd to Red Butte Data Recovery Project, Utah. PI: Lisbeth Louderback 801-585-2634. (1 semester palynology lab work)
- Field Director, University of Utah Archaeological Center. "Archaeology and Prehistoric Human Ecology of Red Butte Creek." Archaeological survey in Red Butte Canyon, Wasatch Front, Utah with Brian Codding (PI, 801-581-8663) and Tom Flanigan (Co-PI, USFS & University of Utah). Pilot research project designed to provide graduate and undergraduate field experience and test feasibility for local, place-based archaeological education (1 week archaeological fieldwork)
- Archaeological Crew Lead. Cattle EIS Archaeological survey and revisit project. Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument/Colorado Plateau Archaeological Allicance. PI: Matt Zweifel, mzweifel@blm.gov, 435-644-1218. (2.5 months archaeological fieldwork)
- 2015 Archaeological Technician. Excavation project at CA-SLO-51, Diablo Canyon Lands, San Luis Obispo County, California. California Polytechnic Field School. PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663 (1 week archaeological fieldwork)
- 2014/15 Research Assistant, University of Utah Anthropology Department. Burning the Basin: Ethnoecology and Paleoecology of Anthropogenic Fire in the Intermountain West. PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663. (2 semesters)
- PhD Researcher, University of Utah Anthropology Department. Pilot ethnographic work and outreach with Nevada Paiute and Shoshone Tribes (South Fork, Duck Valley, Duck Water, Yomba and Stillwater) in collaboration with Brian Codding (PI, 801-581-8663) M. Di Paolo (Shoshoni Language Project PI, University of Utah), and Ashley K. Parker (PhD Student, University of Utah) (1 week ethnographic fieldwork)
- 2013 Archaeological Technician. Excavation project at CA-SLO-5, Diablo Canyon Lands, San Luis Obispo County, California. California Polytechnic Field School. PI: Brian Codding 801-581-8663 (1 week archaeological fieldwork)

- Archaeological Technician, Red Canyon Survey Project, St. George, UT. Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance. 2529 Jackson Ave. Ogden, Utah 84401. Supervisor: Jerry Spangler 801-392-2646 (1 week archaeological fieldwork)
- 2013 Archaeological Technician, Johnson Canyon Survey Project, Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance. 2529 Jackson Ave. Ogden, Utah 84401. Supervisor: Jerry Spangler 801-392-2646 (1 week archaeological fieldwork)
- 2012 Archaeological Technician, Bureau of Land Management, Moab Field Office. 82 East Dogwood, Moab, Utah 84532. Supervisor: Don Montoya, dmontoya@blm.gov, 435-259-2149. (3 months archaeological fieldwork)
- 2010/11 Archaeological Technician, Capitol Reef National Park. HC 70 Box 15, Torrey, UT 84775. Supervisor: Dava McGahee (retired) (2 months archaeological fieldwork)
- 2006-2009 Physical Science Technician, National Park Service Night Sky Program. Full time employment focused where primary duties were fieldwork planning for 4 person team and data management and analysis.
- Undergraduate Research Experience and Primate Ecology at La Suerte Biological Research Station, Costa Rica. University of Arizona Anthropology Dept. Mentor: Dr. M.E. Morbeck (Emeritus), morbeck@email.arizona.edu (1 month primatological fieldwork)
- 2002-2005 Lab Aide, University of Arizona Lunar and Planetary Laboratory. Part-time student position in data management and analysis.

Service, Outreach, and Other Activities

- 2021 Co-chair of 86th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, "Life is Risky: Human behavioral ecological approaches to variable outcomes".
- Guest Lecturer, Four Corners Lecture Series, hosted by the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Cortez, CO.
- 2019 Guest Lecturer, Far Westerns Occasional Speaker Series, Davis, CA.
- 2018/19 Scientist Pen Pal. Letters to a Pre-Scientist. http://www.prescientist.org/.
- 2018/20 Article Referee, Journal of Hunter Gatherer Research.
- 2016/17 Education and Outreach specialist. Bonderman Field Station at Rio Mesa, UU. Supervisor: Zachary Lundeen: 801-585-3177
- 2016 Host, UU Archaeological Center, Archaeology Open House public outreach event, Utah Archaeology Week, Utah State History, May 7, 2016.

2016	Presenter with Brian Codding, Savanna Agardy* and Brock James* on "En-
	gaging Students in Research on Human Ecosystem Dynamics", UU College of
	Social and Behavioral Science Advancement Board Meeting, September 16.

2015 Host, UU Archaeological Center, Archaeology Open House public outreach event, Utah Archaeology Week, Utah State History, May 2, 2015.

Article Referee, Journal of Archaeological Science.

Field Trip Guide, Salt Lake Center for Science Education, AP Environmental Science Fire Ecology Field Trip. October 23, 2014.

Host, UU Archaeological Center, Archaeology Open House public outreach event, Utah Archaeology Week, Utah State History, May 3, 2014.

Host, Outreach with Project Youth Day, hands-on tour of REDlab, sponsored by UU. April 10, 2014.

Host, Outreach with Bennion Elementary school students, hands-on tour of the Archaeological Center, Sponsored by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, UU, March 4, 2014.

2011–2019 Instructor, Astronomy and Archaeology, UU Bonderman Field Station at Rio Mesa.

2009–2013 Chapter Leader (Volunteer), International Dark Sky Association.

Professional Affiliations

2021-pres. Society for Applied Anthropology, Member.

2012-pres. Society for American Archaeology, Member

2018-2020 American Anthropological Association, Member

2017-2019 500 Women Scientists, Moab Pod Member.

Skills and Certificates

Programs and program languages: R and RStudio, ArcGIS, GitHub, NetLogo

FAA UAS (drone) Pilot certificate

EXHIBIT 20



Transcript of Charles Leander Walen

Date: December 7, 2022

Case: Walen, et al. -v- Burgum, et al.

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            IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
              FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
2
3
                      EASTERN DIVISION
4
5
    CHARLES WALEN, an individual; :
6
    and PAUL HENDERSON, an
7
    individual,
8
        Plaintiffs,
9
                                  : Case No.
       V.
    DOUG BURGUM, in his official : 1:22-CV-00031-CRH
10
    capacity as Governor of the :
11
    State of North Dakota; and :
12
    ALVIN JAEGER, in his official:
13
14
    capacity as Secretary of :
15
    State of North Dakota, :
16
       Defendants,
17
     (Caption continued on next page)
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19
            Deposition of CHARLES LEANDER WALEN
20
                    Conducted Virtually
21
                 Wednesday, December 7, 2022
22
                        2:02 p.m. EST
23
    Job No.: 473885
    Pages 1 - 37
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25
    Reported by: Debra A. Whitehead
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3
         and
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    MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA
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    NATION, CESAR ALVAREZ, and :
6
    LISA DEVILLE,
         Intervenor-Defendants. :
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9
         Deposition of CHARLES LEANDER WALEN, conducted
10
    virtually.
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          Pursuant to notice, before Debra Ann Whitehead,
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14
    E-Notary Public in and for the State of Maryland.
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1	APPEARANCES
2	ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS:
3	PAUL R. SANDERSON, ESQUIRE
4	RYAN J. JOYCE, ESQUIRE
5	EVENSON SANDERSON
6	1100 College Drive, Suite 5
7	Bismarck, North Dakota 58501
8	(701) 751-1243
9	
10	ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS:
11	DAVID R. PHILLIPS, ESQUIRE
12	BAKKE GRINOLDS WIEDERHOLT
13	300 West Century Avenue
14	Bismarck, North Dakota 58503
15	P.O. Box 4247
16	Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-4247
17	(701) 751-8188
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED
2	ON BEHALF OF INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS:
3	MARK P. GABER, ESQUIRE
4	MOLLY E. DANAHY, ESQUIRE
5	NICOLE HANSEN, ESQUIRE
6	CAMPAIGN LEGAL CENTER
7	1101 14th Street, NW, Suite 400
8	Washington, DC 20005
9	(202) 716-2200
10	- and -
11	ALLISON NESWOOD, ESQUIRE
12	MICHAEL S. CARTER, ESQUIRE
13	NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND
14	1506 Broadway
15	Boulder, Colorado 80301
16	(303) 447-8760
17	- and -
18	SAMANTHA B. KELTY, ESQUIRE
19	NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND
20	1514 P Street, NW, Suite D
21	Washington, DC 20005
22	(202) 785-4166
23	
24	
25	

1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED
2	ALSO PRESENT:
3	KRISTIN HOERTER, Paralegal, NARF
4	LAURIE STIRLING, Paralegal, NARF
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8	(none)	
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	CHARLES LEANDER WALEN,
3	having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
4	EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR
5	INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS
6	BY MR. GABER:
7	Q Mr. Walen, my name is Mark Gaber. I'm a
8	lawyer for the intervenor-defendants in this case,
9	and I will be asking you some questions.
10	I'll start, can you state your name, for
11	the record.
12	A Charles Walen.
13	Q And have you been deposed before?
14	A Yes.
15	Q How many times?
16	A One time that I can remember, and it was
17	for a work-related reason.
18	Q About how long ago was that?
19	A Fifteen-plus years ago.
20	Q All right. So I'll spend just a couple
21	of minutes here with some ground rules since it's
22	been a while since you've done this. The main one
23	is to be cognizant that we have a court reporter
24	who is taking down all of our words. So that
25	makes it important that we endeavor to talk slowly

1	and that we not talk over each other. That, you
2	know, can be awkward sometimes because that's not
3	how one has a normal conversation. But for her
4	benefit please keep that in mind, and I'll also do
5	my best not to talk over you when you're giving an
6	answer.
7	Does that make sense?
8	A Yes, that does.
9	Q And then another is that you have to give
10	verbal responses to my questions. She can't take
11	down, you know, head nods and the like. And since
12	we're doing this remotely, that's even harder, I
13	imagine, than it might be if we were in the same
14	room with one another. So do try, though again at
15	times it can be awkward to give a verbal response
16	to each question. Okay?
17	A Understand.
18	Q I will assume that you understand my
19	questions unless you say something. So, you know,
20	if I ask you a question and you don't understand
21	it or I do a poor job of asking it, please just
22	let me know, and I will clarify so that we are
23	both on the same page.
24	Okay?
25	A I will do so.

1	Q I don't anticipate us taking much of your
2	time today. But if we do need a break or if you
3	need a break, please let me know, and we can go
4	ahead and take one. The only thing that I ask is
5	if that's the case, that you answer any question
6	that is pending, and then we can go ahead and take
7	a break.
8	Does that sound good?
9	A That sounds good. And I am at work, so
10	just bear that in mind.
11	Q Okay.
12	A I'm in a private office.
13	Q All right. Well, I'll try not to keep
14	you too long from your job.
15	Someone, one of the other attorneys might
16	object to a question that I ask. If they do, you
17	know, let them state that objection, but then you
18	can go ahead and answer my question.
19	Does that make sense?
20	A Yes.
21	Q And is there any reason that you can't
22	answer my questions today truthfully and fully?
23	A No.
24	Q Now, you mentioned you're at your office.
25	Is there anyone else in the room there

1	with you?
2	A No.
3	Q And did you bring any notes with you
4	today?
5	A Yes.
6	Q What's the nature of those notes?
7	A They were from the deposition this
8	morning with Paul. I just took some notes then so
9	that any questions that might be similar, I'll
10	have the answer.
11	Q Well, I would it's probably best if
12	I know you were present this morning. You know, I
13	don't know, maybe I'll direct this to your
14	counsel. Typically if someone has notes, you
15	know, we are entitled to see those. I don't know
16	if you would rather he not have those notes or if
17	you're fine producing them.
18	THE WITNESS: The only thing that's on
19	the notes are names and dates.
20	MR. GABER: So then it sounds like you
21	may be fine producing them.
22	I don't know, Paul, if you have a
23	preference.
24	MR. SANDERSON: I don't doesn't
25	matter. You can make a request. Shouldn't be a

1	problem.
2	MR. GABER: Okay. That sounds good.
3	Q And, Mr. Walen, other than the Zoom
4	screen that's open, are there any other screens,
5	e-mail, anything like that, that are open on your
6	computer?
7	A My company e-mail is open because I
8	cannot I'm not supposed to close it.
9	Q That's fine with me. I just ask that you
10	not, like, e-mail someone to get answers to
11	questions during the deposition. But I don't want
12	to get you in trouble with your job.
13	What did you do to prepare for today's
14	deposition?
15	A I read through the interrogatories that I
16	had before, and then I watched the deposition this
17	morning.
18	Q Did you meet with your counsel before
19	today's deposition?
20	A By phone only.
21	Q And when was that?
22	A Yesterday and today.
23	
24	Q Did you meet with your counsel after this morning's deposition?
25	
25	A For one question only.

1	Q And I don't want to know what the
2	question and answer were.
3	Did you review any documents in
4	preparation for the deposition?
5	A Yes.
6	Q And when were those documents?
7	A I as because of this morning's
8	deposition I looked at my e-mail and my text
9	messages so that I could answer that question.
10	Q And can you just be a little bit more
11	specific. What in particular were you looking
12	for?
13	A To see if I had anything in those areas
14	that pertained to this case.
15	Q And what did you do to make that
16	determination? Did you run a search, or what was
17	your process?
18	A I did a just I did a search based on
19	lawsuit and I did a search based on redistricting.
20	Q And that was in your personal e-mail?
21	A Correct.
22	Q What's that e-mail address?
23	A ChuckWalen@Gmail.com.
24	Q And did you find documents?
25	A The only documents that are in there are

1	between my attorney and myself.
2	Q And what about with respect to your text
3	messages?
4	A There was only one outside of the
5	attorney.
6	Q And what was that text message?
7	A Paraphrasing, it said, I understand that
8	you're that we redistricted, there may be a
9	lawsuit, I'm willing to help.
10	Q Who was that communication with?
11	A Jay Sandstrom.
12	Q Jay Sandstrom?
13	A Yes.
14	Q And who is he?
15	A He is a member of our district.
16	Q Did you say a member of your district?
17	A Yes. Or constituent of our district.
18	Q You reached out to him?
19	A No; he reached out to me.
20	Q When you say a constituent of your
21	district, is he like is he affiliated with the
22	Republican party, or is he what's his role?
23	A He is a member of the Republican party.
24	Q Does he hold any official position with
25	the party?

1	A No.
2	Q When was that text message? Or when was
3	that text exchange?
4	A I don't know the date. I'd have to look
5	back at the records.
6	Q Okay.
7	A It was after the redistricting.
8	Q And for both your texts and your e-mail,
9	that was by searching for the word "lawsuit" and
10	searching for the word "redistricting"?
11	A Correct.
12	Q Besides those two search terms, did you
13	search for anything else?
14	A No.
15	Q What kind of cellphone do you use?
16	A Smartphone, Samsung.
17	Q Samsung? Okay.
18	So other than looking through and
19	searching through your e-mail and your text
20	messages, did you review any other documents to
21	prepare for today?
22	A Other than the deposition, no. The
23	interrogatories that were asked.
24	Q And where do you live?
25	A 422 Eagle Drive, New Town.

1	Q And what county is that in?
2	A Mountrail.
3	Q How long have you lived there?
4	A Eleven years.
5	Q Did you say seven or 11?
6	A Eleven.
7	Q Where did you live before that?
8	A West Fargo, North Dakota.
9	Q And do you have any other residences
10	besides the House in New Town?
11	A No.
12	Q And you're registered to vote at that
13	address?
14	A We're not required to register in North
15	Dakota.
16	Q I'm sorry, I actually knew that. That is
17	the address you use to vote?
18	A Yes.
19	Q And that am I right that that's in
20	Legislative District 4 for the state Senate and in
21	District 4A for the State House?
22	Is that right?
23	A Correct.
24	Q What do you do for work?
25	A I am an accountant.

1	Q And where do you work?
2	A At United Quality Cooperative.
3	Q And what's the nature of that business?
4	A Restate question.
5	Q What's the nature of that business?
6	A It is a truck stop, fuel, bulk fuel,
7	grocery store, lumberyard, elevator. It's a Cenex
8	place.
9	Q And how long have you worked there?
10	A Eleven years.
11	Q What's your educational background?
12	A High school graduate and come college.
13	Q Do you hold any positions with any
14	political parties?
15	A Yes.
16	Q And what are those?
17	A I'm the District chair for District 4,
18	I'm the Northwest regional chair for the state
19	party, Republican party.
20	Q How long have you been the District 4
21	Republican chair?
22	A Approximately ten years.
23	Q And that's a position elected by the
24	local party members?
25	A Yes.

1	Q And how long have you been the Northwest
2	regional chair for the party?
3	A Four years.
4	Q Is that also elected?
5	A Yes.
6	Q Do you have any other positions with the
7	North Dakota Republican party?
8	A No.
9	Q What about the national Republican party;
10	do you have any involvement there?
11	A No, none.
12	Q And any other political organizations?
13	A No.
14	Q Have you worked on political campaigns?
15	A Yes; in my district.
16	Q And which types of campaigns?
17	A The legislative for Senator and for
18	Congress for North Dakota.
19	Q I'm going to circle back to your
20	conversation that you had with Mr. Sandstrom.
21	What did he say on that conversation?
22	A I don't he just asked if there's any
23	way he could help.
24	Q Did you speak with him by phone in
25	addition to the text exchange?

1	A Other than his reaching out to me by his
2	text, I talked to him by phone.
3	Q And what did you discuss in that
4	conversation?
5	A I don't remember. That's over a year
6	ago.
7	Q Have you run for office other than the
8	party positions?
9	A Yes.
10	Q What offices?
11	A West Fargo School Board. I won.
12	Q Anything else?
13	A No.
14	Q How did you become involved in this
15	lawsuit?
16	A I did not like the fact that I lost a
17	representative to represent me, so talking with
18	people within my district, we decided that I
19	should be the one to represent the people of
20	District 4.
21	Q And did someone I know you had this
22	text exchange with Mr. Sandstrom.
23	He reached out to you.
24	Is that right?
25	A He reached out to me after seeing the

1	redistricting process, yes.
2	Q I guess did you generate the idea or did
3	someone come to you as a group or, you know
4	kind of just give me the sort of your explanation
5	of who talked to who and who was involved and how
6	that came about, please.
7	A Myself, Terry Jones, Donita Bye, and
8	Jordan Kannianen were the executive committee of
9	District 4. We discussed what options would be.
10	Q So I think it would be helpful for the
11	court reporter if you could spell those, the last
12	two names at least. I think Terry Jones, and then
13	I believe there were two other names of the
14	executive committee folks?
15	A Donita Bye is D-O-N-I-T-A, B-Y-E. Jordan
16	Kannianen is J-O-R-D-A-N, K-A-N-N-I-A-N-E-N. He's
17	also my son-in-law.
18	Q Well, it's good that you got his name
19	spelled right.
20	So the four of you was this while
21	redistricting was still ongoing in the
22	legislature, or was this after the bill had been
23	passed?
24	A It would be after the bill was passed.
25	Q And aside from Representative Jones and

1	the other two folks you mentioned, was anyone else
2	involved in conversations about the potential to
3	file a lawsuit?
4	A No.
5	Q And Jordan, is it Kannianen?
6	A Kannianen.
7	Q Jordan K, is he a member of the state
8	legislature?
9	A He is the state Senator.
10	Q Okay.
11	A District 4.
12	Q When did you first get in touch with your
13	attorneys in this case?
14	A I will defer to them on that question.
15	Don't remember the date exactly.
16	Q So if you don't know exactly, sort of
17	roughly when would that have been? Was it during
18	the legislative process or afterwards, this year,
19	last year?
20	A It would be short very shortly after
21	the redistricting.
22	Q And did you reach out to them or did they
23	reach out to you?
24	MR. SANDERSON: Object to the form, to
25	the extent it calls for attorney-client

1	communications.
2	And, Charles, I'd instruct you not to
3	discuss or testify to any communications you've
4	had with counsel in this deposition.
5	Q And just to be clear, I only mean I
6	don't want you to tell me what was said or
7	anything like that. I just mean, you know, who
8	generated the who initiated the contact?
9	A I don't remember.
10	Q Who is paying for your legal counsel?
11	A I'm not sure who is all paying. I know a
12	few that are.
13	Q Who can you identify?
14	A Paul Henderson, Terry Jones, Jay
15	Sandstrom. Those are the ones I remember.
16	Q And is there an agreement among that
17	group of people to split, it's like an equal
18	share, or what's the arrangement?
19	A I don't know what the arrangement is.
20	Q Are you aware of whether or not you
21	know the name, are you aware that if there are
22	other people or groups who are contributing?
23	A I don't know if there are or not.
24	Q What members of the legislature have you
25	discussed this litigation with?

1	A Terry Jones, Jordan Kannianen
2	and (inaudible.)
3	Q We missed the third one.
4	A Clayton Fegley, who is the 4B
5	representative currently.
6	Q And what have you I guess roughly when
7	have you spoken with those three people?
8	A I talk to them regularly, as I'm the
9	District chair.
10	Q And what form does that communication
11	take? Do you ever text with those folks?
12	A All it's always verbal. Terry lives
13	one about three houses away from me, and
14	Jordan, I see him very often.
15	Q Makes sense. Family.
16	A Right.
17	Q Any other legislators that you have
18	spoken with about this lawsuit?
19	A No.
20	Q Why did you decide to become a plaintiff?
21	A Decide to become a what?
22	Q Why did you decide to become a plaintiff?
23	A Because I feel that someone needs to
24	represent District 4.
25	Q And you're cutting out a little bit. It

1	looks like you said something after "someone needs
2	to represent District 4."
3	A No. That was the end.
4	Q So your objection is that you have you
5	get to vote for one state representative rather
6	than two state representatives.
7	Is that correct?
8	A Correct. And now I'm not I'm not
9	being represented by two, like I have been in the
10	past. When the rest of the state gets two, I only
11	get one.
12	Q So that's your complaint, that you think
13	you should be able to have two representatives,
14	not just one?
15	A Yes, that is the complaint.
16	Q Is there anything else about the
17	redistricting plan that you object to?
18	A No.
19	Q And the extent of the unequal treatment
20	that you think the plan has is that you're
21	represented by one person rather than two?
22	A Correct.
23	Q And that's the sole reason why you'd like
24	to see the district changed to be one full
25	district?

1	A Correct.
2	Q Would you also like to see the district
3	be represented by two Republicans in the State
4	House?
5	A I would like that personally, yes.
6	Q Did you vote in the 2022 election?
7	A Yes.
8	Q And do you regularly vote in elections?
9	A Yes; every election since I was 18.
10	Q Where does so you said that I think
11	you said Terry Jones has a house down the street
12	from you.
13	Is that right?
14	A Yes.
15	Q How frequently does he stay there?
16	A All the time. He lives there.
17	MR. GABER: I'm going to take a short
18	break, if that's okay. Maybe ten minutes.
19	THE WITNESS: Okay.
20	(A recess was taken.)
21	MR. GABER: Well, Mr. Walen, I don't have
22	any further questions for you. Thank you for your
23	time. Mr. Phillips, representing the Governor and
24	the Secretary of State, I think will have some
25	questions.

1	Q Would it be fair to say you don't
2	consider yourself to be an American Indian?
3	A Correct.
4	Q I may jump around here a little bit, my
5	apologies in advance. I just wanted to clarify a
6	few things that you testified to earlier.
7	You had talked earlier about running and
8	winning a seat on the West Fargo School Board.
9	Is that correct?
10	A Yes.
11	Q I just want to follow up briefly.
12	What years were you on the school board?
13	A Approximately well, it would be in the
14	1990s.
15	Q For how many years?
16	A Four years.
17	Q And a few other clarifications.
18	If I recall correctly, did you say you
19	voted in every election since you were 18?
20	A Yes.
21	Q Were all of those elections in the State
22	of North Dakota?
23	A Yes.
24	Q And would that include all state
25	legislative elections?

1	A Yes.
2	Q And all other state-wide elections?
3	A Yes.
4	Q The home that you're in in New Town, do
5	you own or rent that home?
6	A Own.
7	Q And do you live there all year round, or
8	do you leave for part of the year?
9	A I live here all year round.
10	Q The home that you live in now, is that in
11	the subdistrict that's known as Subdistrict 4A?
12	A Correct.
13	Q Have you ever lived in the subdistrict
14	that's known as Subdistrict 4B?
15	A No.
16	Q In this case the defendants and the
17	intervenors have served what's known as written
18	discovery. Those are interrogatories and requests
19	for production of documents.
20	Do you remember participating in
21	answering those?
22	A Yes.
23	Q And did you sign at the bottom of those
24	answers?
25	A Yes.

1	Q Earlier today you talked about some
2	searching that you did today on your phone and
3	your e-mail.
4	Did you do any searching of electronic
5	records before today for purposes of responding to
6	discovery requests?
7	A No.
8	Q Have you reviewed the legislative record
9	about the 2021 redistricting that's found on the
10	website of our state legislature?
11	A Only to the extent to know what the
12	boundaries were.
13	Q In other words, looking at the boundary
14	maps?
15	A Correct.
16	Q Have you watched any of the videos in the
17	legislative record dealing with the 2021
18	redistricting?
19	A No.
20	Q Other than the maps, have you looked at
21	any other documents in the legislative record?
22	A Yes. I try to look at them when they're
23	in session.
24	Q Which documents would those have been?
25	A Daily it would be the videos of the

1	sessions, and then I just watch bits and pieces.				
2	Q Those videos, did you watch those live as				
3	they were taking place during the redistricting				
4	process?				
5	A No.				
6	Q Other than the videos, have you reviewed				
7	any documentation, either before or after the				
8	commencement of this lawsuit, generated at the				
9	legislature relating to redistricting?				
10	A No.				
11	Q You had testified earlier about some				
12	conversations that you had with North Dakota				
13	legislators. And you had mentioned Terry Jones,				
14	Clayton Fegley. My handwriting is horrible and				
15	the spelling was difficult. Who were the other				
16	names again?				
17	A Jordan Kannianen.				
18	Q And if I				
19	A (Inaudible.)				
20	Q Say that one more time?				
21	A Senator Jordan Kannianen.				
22	Q And was there one more?				
23	A No; it was just those three.				
24	Q Correct me if I'm wrong. If I remember				
25	your testimony, I believe you said that those				

1					
1	conversations all took place after the				
2	redistricting was completed at the state in 2021.				
3	Is that correct?				
4	A I talk with them regularly as the				
5	district chair.				
6	Q Did you talk with them				
7	A Only related to this lawsuit, it would be				
8	after.				
9	Q Related to the lawsuit, after.				
10	What conversations did you have with				
11	Terry Jones during the redistricting process?				
12	A Just discussed bound you know, asking				
13	what our boundaries would be.				
14	Q Did you have any discussions about the				
15	issues you're raising in this lawsuit?				
16	A Yes, we could have.				
17	Q Do you know how many times you talked to				
18	Terry Jones during the redistricting process?				
19	A I talked to him almost four or five times				
20	a week.				
21	Q What about Clayton Fegley; how many times				
22	did you talk to Clayton during the redistricting				
23	process?				
24	A Two, three times, maybe four at most.				
25	Q And what did you talk about with Clayton?				

1	A How the process was going.				
2	Q Do you remember anything that Clayton				
3	told you about how the process was going?				
4	A No.				
5	Q Do you remember anything that you told to				
6	Clayton during those conversations?				
7	A Yes.				
8	Q What did you tell Clayton, that you can				
9	recall?				
10	A That depending on how the redistricting				
11	turned out, that we'd look at what legal action we				
12	could take to keep it together, if they decided to				
13	split it.				
14	Q When you say "keep it together," do you				
15	mean not subdistricted?				
16	A Correct.				
17	Q How many conversations during the				
18	redistricting process did you have with Jordan,				
19	and I won't attempt the last name.				
20	A Regarding the lawsuit, not that many. He				
21	is my son-in-law, so I communicate with him daily.				
22	Q And during the redistricting process you				
23	had multiple conversations with him?				
24	A Yes.				
25	Q And do you remember anything that he told				

you in those conversations during the					
redistricting process about the redistricting					
process?					
A No.					
Q Do you remember anything that you told					
him during the redistricting process about the					
redistricting process?					
A That if that if the district got					
split, that we'd look at what legal actions we					
could take to keep it together.					
Q Did you have any conversations with any					
of those three individuals during the					
redistricting process about the Voting Rights Act?					
A No.					
Q Have you ever had a conversation with					
anyone employed with the North Dakota Legislative					
Council about the 2021 redistricting process?					
A No.					
Q Have you ever had a conversation with					
anyone else who's employed by or is an agent of					
the State of North Dakota about the 2021					
redistricting process?					
A No.					
Q Did you, personally, attend or provide					
any testimony at any of the committee hearings or					

1	debates on redistricting in 2021?				
2					
	A No.				
3	Q Have you hired an expert to testify at				
4	trial about the Voting Rights Act in this case?				
5	A I have not.				
6	Q Were you aware of whether or not the				
7	plaintiffs have done so, including you or your				
8	co-plaintiffs?				
9	A You'll have to ask the attorneys.				
10	MR. PHILLIPS: Let's take a short break.				
11	We'll go off the record for just a few minutes.				
12	(A recess was taken.)				
13	BY MR. PHILLIPS:				
14	Q You testified earlier about going through				
15	and searching your e-mails and texts today.				
16	Since the commencement of this lawsuit,				
17	have you deleted any texts that have been deleted				
18	and wouldn't have shown up in your results?				
19	A No.				
20	Q Do you keep all of your text messages				
21	without ever deleting them?				
22	A They're after a period of time they're				
23	automatically deleted. I don't know what that				
24	time frame is.				
25	Q From your Samsung phone?				

1	A Correct.					
2	Q And what about your e-mails; are they					
3	have they been deleted either automatically or by					
4	you since the commencement of this lawsuit?					
5	A Not that I'm aware of.					
6	Q So we will likely be making a followup					
7	request in this case. And so I would ask that you					
8	preserve and don't make any deletions, to the					
9	extent it's already happened don't do any further					
10	deletions of any texts on your phone or any					
11	e-mails so that we can make that request and that					
12	they don't get inadvertently deleted.					
13	And additionally, I would also ask, we'll					
14	likely make a request for the notes that you					
15	discussed earlier that you took in the last					
16	deposition today, the first deposition today, I					
17	should say. I'd request that you keep those and					
18	hold on to them, too, because we'll likely be					
19	making a request for a copy of those.					
20	A I will send those to the attorney, to our					
21	attorneys.					
22	Q Perfect.					
23	MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you. I have no					
24	further questions.					
25	Mr. Gaber?					

1	MR. GABER: Nothing further from me.				
2	Thank you, Mr. Walen, I appreciate it.				
3	MR. SANDERSON: And, Chuck, you have the				
4	right to read and sign your deposition or you can				
5	waive that right. It's up to you. Paul waived				
6	his earlier, if that's what you want to do.				
7	THE WITNESS: I can waive it.				
8	MR. SANDERSON: All right. Chuck, thank				
9	you for your time.				
10	COURT REPORTER: Mr. Phillips, same order				
11	as earlier?				
12	MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.				
13	COURT REPORTER: Mr. Sanderson, same				
14	order as earlier?				
15	MR. SANDERSON: Same order, please.				
16	COURT REPORTER: Thank you.				
17	(Off the record at 2:57 p.m. EST.)				
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
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25					

1	ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT				
2	I, CHARLES LEANDER WALEN, do hereby				
3	acknowledge that I have read and examined the				
4	foregoing testimony, and the same is a true,				
5	correct and complete transcription of the				
6	testimony given by me, and any corrections appear				
7	on the attached Errata sheet signed by me.				
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10	(DATE) (SIGNATURE)				
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2	I, Debra A. Whitehead, the officer before whom the
3	foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify
4	that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct
5	record of the proceedings; that said proceedings
6	were taken by me stenographically and thereafter
7	reduced to typewriting under my supervision; that
8	reading and signing was not requested; and that I am
9	neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any
10	of the parties to this case and have no interest,
11	financial or otherwise, in its outcome.
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
13	affixed my notarial seal this 16th day of December,
14	2022.
15	
16	My commission expires:
17	April 30, 2023
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19	Duly alwhited
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21	E-NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE
22	STATE OF MARYLAND
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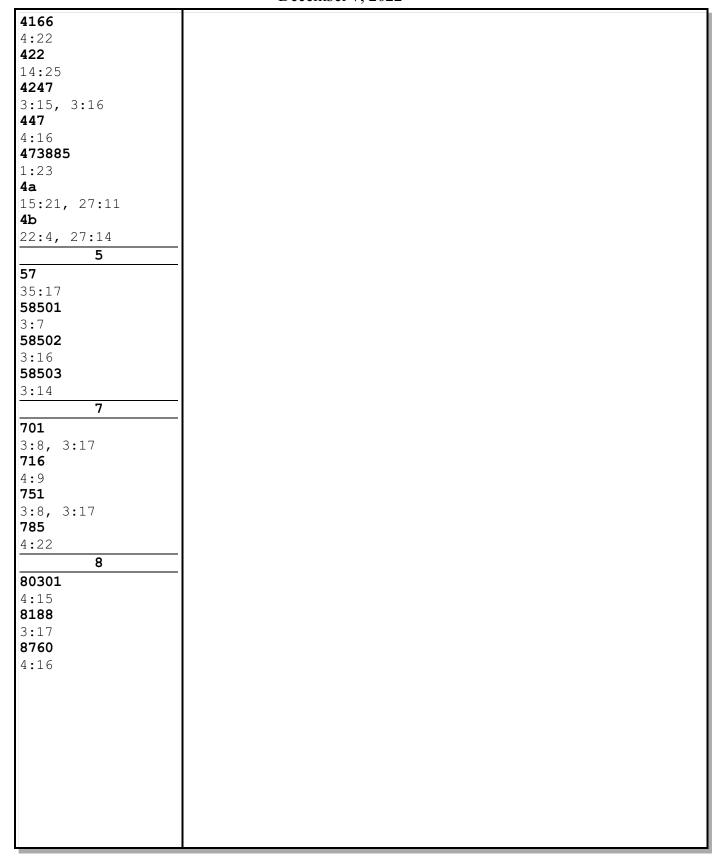


EXHIBIT 21



Transcript of Paul Henderson

Date: December 7, 2022

Case: Walen, et al. -v- Burgum, et al.

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            IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
              FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
2
3
                      EASTERN DIVISION
4
5
    CHARLES WALEN, an individual; :
6
    and PAUL HENDERSON, an
7
    individual,
8
        Plaintiffs,
9
                                  : Case No.
       V.
    DOUG BURGUM, in his official : 1:22-CV-00031-CRH
10
    capacity as Governor of the :
11
    State of North Dakota; and :
12
    ALVIN JAEGER, in his official:
13
14
    capacity as Secretary of :
15
    State of North Dakota, :
16
        Defendants,
17
     (Caption continued on next page)
18
19
                Deposition of PAUL HENDERSON
20
                    Conducted Virtually
                 Wednesday, December 7, 2022
21
22
                        9:15 a.m. EST
23
    Job No.: 473885
    Pages 1 - 47
24
25
    Reported by: Debra A. Whitehead
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(Caption continued from previous page)
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2
3
         and
4
    MANDAN, HIDATSA AND ARIKARA
5
    NATION, CESAR ALVAREZ, and :
6
    LISA DEVILLE,
         Intervenor-Defendants. :
8
9
         Deposition of PAUL HENDERSON, conducted
10
    virtually.
11
12
          Pursuant to notice, before Debra Ann Whitehead,
13
14
    E-Notary Public in and for the State of Maryland.
15
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1	APPEARANCES
2	ON BEHALF OF PLAINTIFFS:
3	PAUL R. SANDERSON, ESQUIRE
4	RYAN J. JOYCE, ESQUIRE
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8	(701) 751-1243
9	
10	ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANTS:
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12	BAKKE GRINOLDS WIEDERHOLT
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19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED
2	ON BEHALF OF INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS:
3	MARK P. GABER, ESQUIRE
4	MOLLY E. DANAHY, ESQUIRE
5	NICOLE HANSEN, ESQUIRE
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10	- and -
11	ALLISON NESWOOD, ESQUIRE
12	MICHAEL S. CARTER, ESQUIRE
13	NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND
14	1506 Broadway
15	Boulder, Colorado 80301
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17	- and -
18	SAMANTHA B. KELTY, ESQUIRE
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22	(202) 785-4166
23	
24	
25	

1	APPEARANCES CONTINUED
2	ALSO PRESENT:
3	LAURIE STIRLING, Paralegal, NARF
4	CHUCK WALEN
5	
6	
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	PAUL HENDERSON,
3	having been duly sworn, testified as follows:
4	EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR
5	INTERVENOR-DEFENDANTS
6	BY MR. GABER:
7	Q Good morning, Mr. Henderson. My name is
8	Mark Gaber. I am one of the attorneys for the
9	defendant-intervenors in this case.
10	And could you just please state your
11	name, for the record.
12	A Yes. It's Paul Henderson.
13	Q And have you been deposed before?
14	A I have not.
15	Q So I'll go over a couple of the ground
16	rules, in that case.
17	The deposition is a little bit different
18	than a normal conversation because we have a court
19	reporter here. She is transcribing everything
20	that we say. So it's important that we both talk
21	slowly so that she can get the words down, but
22	also that we not interrupt each other. And that
23	can sometimes be hard, because in a normal
24	conversation you would anticipate what someone is
25	saying, and maybe interject?

In this case I just ask, I will do my 1 2 best not to interrupt you. I will probably 3 violate that rule more than you will. But we both 4 should try to be cognizant of the fact that she is 5 here and taking our words down, and that that's 6 not an easy task if we talk over each other. 7 Is that okay with you? 8 Α Yeah, very good. 9 Another is that it's important to give 0 10 verbal responses. Nodding of the head or uh-huh is hard for the court reporter to take down and 11 12 get a clear transcript. So please do give verbal 13 answers. 14 And those are, you know, I think for our 15 court reporter, those are the two most important 16 I'd also say that if at any point you 17 need a break, please let me know. I would just 18 ask that if there is a question pending, that you 19 give the answer to that question and then, you 20 know, we can go ahead and take that break, if

I don't anticipate that we're going to be taking a whole lot of your time this morning. And so hopefully the break issue won't be as much of one as it can be when these things go on for seven

2.1

22

23

24

25

necessary.

hours. So just let me know if you need that,
though.
A Very good.
Q I will assume that you understand my
question unless you say otherwise. So if you
don't understand please say so, and I'll do my
best to clarify.
Does that work for you?
A Yes.
Q And you have counsel here. There's
counsel for the state here. If folks don't like
the way I have asked my question, they may object
after I ask it. Unless you're instructed by your
counsel not to answer for attorney-client
privilege reasons, which I don't anticipate
needing to get into that issue, you should just
wait for the objection and then go ahead and
answer my question.
Does that make sense?
A Yes.
Q Is there any reason that you can't answer
my questions fully and truthfully today?
A No.
A No. Q Now, obviously we're doing this

1	a couple of questions that I wouldn't if I were in
2	the room with you.
3	I gather you are at your counsel's law
4	office.
5	Is that right?
6	A That's correct.
7	Q And who is in the room with you?
8	A It's Paul Sanderson and Ryan Joyce.
9	Q Anyone else in the room?
10	A No.
11	Q And Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Joyce, are they
12	seated to the side of you or across from you?
13	A Ryan is seated across from me, and Paul
14	is seated to my right.
15	Q And do you have any notes in front of
16	you?
17	A I will be taking notes, yes.
18	Q But do you have any notes in front of you
19	now?
20	A No, I do not.
21	Q And on the computer screen, are there any
22	windows open, other than this Zoom screen?
23	A I don't know.
24	Q None that you're looking at on the
25	screen?

1	A I guess not. I don't know how to I'm
2	not a tech guy, so I don't know that.
3	Q I just want to make sure there's not,
4	like, e-mail or some sort of messaging software or
5	anything.
6	But it sounds like if it were there, you
7	wouldn't even know what to do with it.
8	Am I right?
9	A That's correct.
10	Q What, if anything, did you do to prepare
11	for this deposition?
12	A Not really anything. I knew that it was
13	coming, and I'm confident in my ability to answer
14	any questions. I didn't
15	Q Did you have any meetings with your
16	counsel, for example?
17	A I did, yeah. Just because I've never
18	done this before.
19	Q And when did that meeting occur?
20	A We met yesterday for a small period of
21	time.
22	Q And that was in person or over the phone?
23	A It was in person.
24	Q Who was present for that meeting?
25	A Ryan.

1	Q	Anyone else?
2	A	No.
3	Q	Did you review any documents to assist
4	you in get	tting ready for today?
5	А	I did not.
6	Q	Did you talk to Mr. Walen at all in
7	preparing	for today?
8	А	I did not.
9	Q	What was your what do you do for work?
10	А	I own and operate a farm here in North
11	Dakota.	
12	Q	And where in North Dakota is that?
13	А	It's in a small village of Calvin, on the
14	edge of th	ne small village of Calvin.
15	Q	And that's
16	А	In North Dakota.
17	Q	Is that in Cavalier County?
18	А	It is.
19	Q	And how long have you had that farm?
20	А	My entire life.
21	Q	Was that passed down from family, or did
22	you start	that?
23	А	Not relevant. But, yeah, it was passed
24	down.	
25	Q	Do you have any what sort of roles in

1	the community do you play? Are you involved in	
2	local government at all?	
3	A Yeah. I mean, I'm on my township board.	
4	I'm on the county zoning board. I'm a volunteer	
5	fire department volunteer. I've been an EMT	
6	for in the past. And I've also been involved	
7	in local politics as a participated in all the	
8	Republican side of the meetings. And I was the	
9	chairman in District 10 for about nine years.	
10	Q Are the town board and the well, the	
11	town board position, is that an elected position?	
12	A The township board is elected, yes. The	
13	zoning board is an appointed position.	
14	Q How long have you been on the town board?	
15	A Twenty-five years probably.	
16	Q And how frequently are those elections?	
17	A They're every year. But there's	
18	Q Are they partisan or	
19	A They're staggered.	
20	No, they're not partisan. They're	
21	nonpartisan.	
22	Q And what is the I know you said	
23	Calvin, but that's the city that is nearby. Is	
24	the township different?	
25	A Yeah, the township would be Glen Isle	

1	Township, but the down is, kind of for reference
2	
	point, we only live a couple blocks away from that
3	town, so that's kind of what we say we're from.
4	Q Right. And who appointed you to the city
5	zoning or I'm sorry, to the county zoning
6	board?
7	A One of the commissioners.
8	Q Now, you said you were the chair of the
9	District 10 Republican party.
10	Is that right?
11	A That's correct.
12	Q And that was obviously prior to
13	redistricting.
14	Do you hold a position within your
15	current district for the Republican party?
16	A I do not. I do not.
17	Q Did you run for a position for the for
18	your current district party?
19	A No. There was no reorganization after
20	the redistricting, so that was not available.
21	Q Now, I know there was some controversy, a
22	meeting of the Republican party related to
23	redistricting and the positions.
24	Is this along the lines of that issue
25	that happened?

1	A Yeah. I mean, that there was some
2	controversy because we weren't allowed to reorg.
3	Q Do you know why that was the case?
4	A Yeah. The leadership of the Republican
5	party in the state interpreted a law that was
6	passed in November saying that you if you had
7	more than 25 percent population change in your
8	district, because of redistricting, you were
9	mandatorily you had to you had to reorganize at
10	that point.
11	But there was really nothing this was
12	a new law. And historically if you changed the
13	boundaries, you were allowed to reorganize. So
14	there was some controversy there.
15	Q There was a meeting where folks walked
16	out.
17	Is that right?
18	A That was a different meeting. That was a
19	state meeting that was in, I want to say December
20	of last year. So that
21	Q And was that also related to the
22	boundaries of the district chairs and whatnot?
23	A Yes.
24	Q And what was your you were one of the
25	participants that walked out.

1	Is that right?
2	A I was.
3	Q And what was your view on what was
4	happening there?
5	A It was very unprofessional, and we were
6	not allowed to get our views across to the body
7	that were there. And so at some point we decided
8	that we would, as a block we would remove
9	ourselves.
10	Q And you were attending as a proxy for
11	District 9.
12	Is that right?
13	A I was, yeah.
14	Q Whose proxy did you have?
15	A Tim Litvin's.
16	Q And is he the current chair for the
17	Republicans for District 9?
18	A He's not.
19	Q Who is that?
20	A That's a good question. I'm kind of
21	terrible with names, so
22	It may come to me; it may not.
23	Q Okay. When will be the sort of election
24	for those positions?
25	A They will come due in the new year, from

1	January to April, I believe, is the time slot for
2	reorganizations in North Dakota.
3	Q And do you intend to run for a position
4	when that happens?
5	A I haven't decided yet, but it's possible.
6	Q Other than that position as the chair of
7	the District 10 for the Republicans, have you held
8	any other positions within the state Republican
9	party?
10	A Yeah. I was on the executive board as a
11	regional chairman for a couple of terms, which
12	gave me the ability to be on the executive
13	committee.
14	Q And when was that?
15	A Again, I think it was probably a
16	four-year stint. But it was probably five years
17	ago.
18	Q What about on the national Republican
19	party?
20	A I was available to the national
21	Republican party for a couple of conventions. I
22	served as the resolution committeeman in 2012 in
23	Tampa.
24	Q What does the resolution committeeman do?
25	A He takes the resolutions that are in the

1	national Republican party and reviews them and
2	brings forth any relevant new resolutions that
3	might be relevant to the party in the new election
4	cycle.
5	Q Did you work on the party platform as
6	part of
7	A That's what it is, yes.
8	Q Aside from your official roles in the
9	state and national Republican party, are you a
10	part of any other political organizations?
11	A No.
12	Q Have you worked on any political
13	campaigns?
14	A Certainly.
15	Q And how many, would you say?
16	A Twenty-five.
17	Q So whenever there's an election, are you
18	pretty actively involved
19	A Yeah.
20	Q and working on
21	A Yes.
22	Q And has that been exclusively for
23	Republican candidates?
24	A It has.
25	Q Never worked for a Democratic candidate?

1	А	No.
2	Q	What about an independent candidate?
3	А	No, I haven't.
4	Q	Now, I understand that your wife is Donna
5	Henderson	
6		Is that right?
7	А	Correct.
8	Q	And she ran for and was elected as the
9	new repre	sentative for House District 9B, as in
10	boy.	
11		Is that right?
12	А	That's correct.
13	Q	Had she run for office before this
14	election?	
15	А	Not the State House.
16	Q	What other office had she run for?
17	А	She ran for a position at the state party
18	a couple	of years ago.
19	Q	Did she get elected to that position?
20	А	She did not.
21	Q	And I should ask, aside from the elected
22	position	you have on the county or, sorry, the
23	town boar	d, have you held any other elected
24	office?	
25	А	No.

1	Q Just the I guess the District 10 for
2	the Republican party.
3	That's elected. Right?
4	A That is elected, correct. And so is the
5	regional chairmanship. That's an election as
6	well.
7	Q But you have never run for the state
8	legislature?
9	A No. I was I did in I ran in our
10	endorsing convention in 2018, but I was
11	unsuccessful.
12	Q And can you just explain for me the
13	endorsing convention versus I know you all have
14	primary elections as well.
15	What is the role of the endorsing
16	convention?
17	A The endorsing convention is a political
18	party function. And so all the constituents that
19	want to declare that they're Republicans go to an
20	endorsing convention in the district and vote on
21	who they want to run as a candidate.
22	Q And if you don't get the endorsement, can
23	you still run, you know, with the state, on the
24	primary?
25	A Certainly.

1	Q It's just a matter of who, you know, gets
2	the official endorsement of the local party.
3	Is that the idea?
4	A Yes.
5	Q In the most recent election for your
6	wife, did she have the endorsement at the
7	convention for District 9B?
8	A She did.
9	Q And was that over an incumbent state
10	representative?
11	A Correct.
12	Q What was that person's name?
13	A Charles Damschen.
14	Q And had he been the incumbent for what
15	was formerly District 10?
16	A Correct.
17	Q Do you know how long he was in that
18	position?
19	A I want to say 12 years.
20	Q Okay.
21	A I think he served 12 years.
22	Q What motivated your wife to run this
23	time?
24	A Well, we had talked about running, you
25	know. It's kind of a personal choice. And our

1	time of life was ready for a to take a run at
2	the State a State House position.
3	Q Did she have any issue with the incumbent
4	that was part of the motivation?
5	A Well, I don't think that was that
6	wasn't any time you run against an incumbent,
7	there's that. But that wasn't the primary reason,
8	I believe.
9	Q Did the redistricting play a role in her
10	decision?
11	A Well, only reason that that would play a
12	role is that, again with Donna and I, just our
13	personal conversations, when they dissolved
14	District 10 and moved us into District 9, she had
15	worked in the Town of Rolla for 14 years, and so
16	she was better positioned, I think, to run against
17	an incumbent, you know, district-wide than I would
18	have been.
19	Q So you guys were sort of deciding as
20	between the two of you who should run.
21	Is that correct?
22	A Yeah. I think so. I think we would have
23	ran. If all things would have stayed the same,
24	you know, one of us would have ran in District 10.
25	Q And given her work in Rolla, you guys

1	decided that she probably would have a better
2	chance with the name recognition.
3	Is that the idea?
4	A Correct. And she's better looking as
5	well.
6	Q And from my experience in Wisconsin, the
7	State House races are more on the radio than they
8	are on the televisions.
9	A True. True.
10	Q I see on her website she says that, you
11	know, with the recent redistricting process, our
12	district border has changed, and now I'm very
13	excited about the new District 9B. And she
14	mentions having worked in Rolla.
15	Did you share her sort of view and
16	excitement about the new boundaries for 9B?
17	A We did.
18	Q What in particular did you like about
19	them?
20	A I think the opportunity was that by
21	moving a great portion of District 10, and
22	combining it with Rollette and Towner Counties,
23	that it gave it gave a Republican a chance to
24	win.
25	Q And that in your view was an improvement?

1	A It was the reality. I don't know if it
2	was an improvement, but it was a reality of what
3	we saw as far as the
4	Q And I'm sorry. Continue.
5	A I mean, that's we looked at the
6	numbers, and we felt that it was a good
7	possibility that we could pull it off and she
8	could win.
9	Q Your former district, District 10, that
10	was a district that also favored Republicans.
11	Is that right?
12	A Correct. Correct.
13	Q And your view is that 9B does as well?
14	A It's a lot closer to 50/50, but it is
15	there is a slight advantage I think to the
16	Republicans. It just depends on who comes out to
17	vote. I mean, I can't I can't sit here and
18	tell you what the vote percentages are, because
19	we've only had one election cycle.
20	Q Donna won by a large margin. Right?
21	A She ran I mean, she won handily, yes.
22	Q I think she 56.5 percent against an
23	incumbent. Right?
24	A Correct.
25	Q The incumbent, Marvin Nelson, he had run

1	for governor before. Right?
2	A He did.
3	Q What was your impression in Cavalier
4	County of folks' thoughts on him?
5	A I don't really know that. I mean, I
6	it's not something I had conversations with people
7	about more then.
8	Q I gather from the vote totals, they liked
9	your wife better?
10	A Yeah. Yeah. Well, we worked hard, too,
11	so there's that.
12	Q So how did you become a plaintiff in this
13	case?
14	A Well, I became aware that the split was
15	going to happen. And I think I had a conversation
16	with Terry Jones on the phone one day, and we
17	talked about it. And, you know, this was
18	something that was brand-new, and that raised red
19	flags for me right away. And I just latched onto
20	the constitutional argument that's that I will
21	stick with, that in District 9, during our
22	election I got to vote for one representative, and
23	the rest of the 47 or 45 districts in the state
24	got to vote for two representatives. So I felt
25	like that was probably not equal application of

1	constitutional law.
2	Q So I just want to to clarify for the
3	record. When you say "the split," you mean
4	District 9 being split into two subdistricts?
5	A Correct.
6	Q And you said you had a conversation with
7	Terry Jones. Mr. Jones was an incumbent state
8	representative from District 4.
9	Is that correct?
10	A That's correct.
11	Q And did he reach out to you?
12	A He did.
13	Q How do you know Representative Jones?
14	A I don't really know him.
15	I mean, I know of him because he was in
16	the House. But I didn't I don't have a
17	personal relationship with Terry.
18	Q What was the did he call you, did he
19	e-mail you? How did he reach out?
20	A I believe he called me.
21	Q And what did you talk about?
22	A Just the just the split of the
23	district and how that how that was going to
24	affect us going forward.
25	Q When was that conversation?

1	A Oh, I would say November, December of
2	last year, somewhere in that area.
3	Q And did he ask you if you would be
4	willing to be a plaintiff?
5	A No.
6	Q What did he say?
7	A We just generally talked about the split
8	and how both him and I picked up on the fact that
9	it was probably unconstitutional. And that was
10	pretty general. Pretty general conversation.
11	Q Do you know how he got your name or why
12	he reached out to you?
13	A I don't.
14	Q He didn't tell you who had said that he
15	should call you?
16	A He did not. But you've got to realize
17	that it's a small state, and I've been in the
18	politics for 25 years. So it's not like I'm
19	unknown.
20	Q And you were the at the time you were
21	the Republican chair for what was District 10,
22	which covered this part of this territory. Right?
23	A Correct.
24	Q And just I think we I think this was
25	implied, but you live in the Subdistrict 9B.

1	Is that right?		
2	A That's correct.		
3	Q And I think you explained it a little		
4	bit, but make sure I'm right.		
5	Your concern is that you're unable to		
6	vote for two state representatives at large; but,		
7	rather, you vote for one that's dedicated to your		
8	subdistrict.		
9	Is that your concern?		
10	A That's correct.		
11	Q And in terms of, you know, you mentioned		
12	that you thought it was unconstitutional. I		
13	gather that your complaint is that it's unequal		
14	for you to get one when other voters in the state		
15	get two representatives that they vote for.		
16	Is that correct?		
17	A Yeah. I'm not a lawyer, but I know		
18	enough to know that that's my experience.		
19	Q And when you say you thought it was		
20	unconstitutional, is that the unequal treatment		
21	that you were concerned about?		
22	A Correct.		
23	Q Do you have any other objections or		
24	complaints about the redistricting plan?		
25	A I guess I don't. I just that's what		

1	I'm basing my participation in, is that it's		
2	unconstitutional, in my view.		
3	Q And would you like to see the map		
4	changed?		
5	A I would like to have the opportunity to		
6	vote for two representatives, yeah.		
7	Q If that change made it harder for		
8	Republicans to win the district, would you like to		
9	see that?		
10	A It wouldn't matter.		
11	Q And aside from the fact that you cast		
12	your ballot for just one rather than two		
13	representatives, is there any other way in which		
14	you were affected by the way the map lines are		
15	drawn?		
16	A No. I guess that would be the height of		
17	my complaint.		
18	Q Did you cast a ballot in the 2022		
19	election? I assume your wife would have made you.		
20	A Yes, that is a correct statement.		
21	Q Do you regularly vote?		
22	A I do.		
23	Q Is there an election you've missed?		
24	A Not since I was 18. That's a long time		
25	ago.		

1	Q Do you recall that you were the			
2	parties in the case were sent some document			
3	requests?			
4	A I don't understand that question. Go			
5	ahead.			
6	Q Sorry, that's the way we talk to each			
7	other.			
8	Did you look at any sort of document that			
9	had been sent by me or my colleagues or for the			
10	state for requests for production of the documents			
11	that you might have?			
12	A Yes. Yes, I perused those. Yes.			
13	Q What did you do, what was your process			
14	for determining whether you had material that			
15	would respond to those requests?			
16	A Just my memory.			
17	Q Did you look through any e-mail or look			
18	through your phone at all to see whether you had			
19	text messages or other materials that might			
20	respond?			
21	A I didn't. I just I don't text much			
22	and I don't e-mail much, so I didn't do any of			
23	those things.			
24	Q So you just thought about it, and that			
25	was basically the extent of it?			

A Yeah.			
Q During the course of the campaign with			
your wife, did you guys text message each other?			
A I don't think so. We just talked.			
Q What kind of phone do you have?			
A Well, I had a Google phone, but I lost			
it. And I have an Apple phone now.			
Q Is that an iPhone?			
A Yeah. Don't ask me what flavor it is,			
though, because I couldn't tell you.			
Q Well, they're very expensive. I just had			
to get a new one. Not great.			
In your role as the Republican party			
chair for when it was for District 10, how did			
people, how did your sort of constituents or			
colleagues or party folks, how did they reach out			
to you? How do you all communicate?			
A Normally it was on by phone.			
Q Do you sometimes share text messages or			
back and forth over written communication with			
those folks?			
A No.			
Q Never?			
A I don't believe so.			
Q Who is paying for your attorneys in this			

1	matter?		
2	A That would be me and a few others.		
3	Q Is that like an hourly rate, or is that		
4	sort of a lump sum, capped amount? What is the		
5	arrangement there?		
6	A I believe it's an hourly rate.		
7	Q And who are you said you and some		
8	others. Who are the other people?		
9	A I don't actually have that in front of		
10	me. I mean, I know that Chuck is Chuck Walen		
11	has signed on to this complaint. I haven't really		
12	asked him how much money that he's put into the		
13	kitty.		
14	Q Any other people that you can identify?		
15	A I'm sorry to say I don't I don't know		
16	that.		
17	Q Do you know whether there are other		
18	people and you just don't know who, you can't		
19	think of who they are? Is that the case?		
20	A Yeah. I think there's there's some		
21	other donors, but I don't have their names in		
22	front of me.		
23	Q And what do you know about them? Are		
24	they individuals or are they any sort of entities		
25	or organizations?		

1	A I think they're all people.		
2	Q Is the Republican party contributing any		
3	funds to pay for the case?		
4	A No. No, they're not.		
5	Q Have you discussed this lawsuit with any		
6	legislators?		
7	A Besides Terry, I don't believe I have.		
8	Q I suppose when is your wife sworn in?		
9	Is that January?		
10	A They actually got sworn in yesterday.		
11	Q Oh.		
12	A And, so, but this is all preliminary		
13	stuff. The actual session starts in January.		
14	MR. GABER: I am going to have us take a		
15	short break, if you don't mind. I don't think I		
16	have a ton more questions for you, but I want to		
17	think a little bit and talk to some folks. So		
18	maybe just a ten-minute break. Ten- or 15-minute		
19	break sound good?		
20	MR. SANDERSON: Yeah, that's fine.		
21	MR. GABER: Thank you.		
22	(A recess was taken.)		
23	MR. GABER: I do not have any further		
24	questions for you.		
25	I am going to pass the witness to		

1	Mr. Phillips.			
2	MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you.			
3	EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANTS			
4	BY MR. PHILLIPS:			
5	Q Still good morning, Mr. Henderson. I'm			
6	doing the questioning second today, so I will do			
7	my best not to repeat any of the questions you've			
8	already been asked. But if I do ask something			
9	you've already answered, please just bear with me.			
10	I am David Phillips. I'm not sure if we			
11	have met before specifically, but I represent the			
12	Governor in this case and the Secretary of State.			
13	And I will be doing the followup questions today.			
14	A Hello.			
15	Q I wanted to do just a few followups to			
16	clean up some of the matters that I heard you			
17	testify to earlier and to add a little bit more			
18	detail.			
19	I want to start with your background.			
20	Where did you go to high school?			
21	A I went to a now defunct high school			
22	called Border Central.			
23	Q Border Central. Where is that located?			
24	A In Calvin. Or it was.			
25	Q What year did you graduate?			

1	A 1980.		
2	Q After high school did you attend any		
3			
	college?		
4	A Yeah. I took two years of at NDSU,		
5	and then I did one semester at NDSCS in Wahpeton.		
6	Q What did you study at NDSU?		
7	A Agronomy.		
8	Q And did that result in a degree?		
9	A It did not.		
10	Q What about in Wahpeton? You took one		
11	semester. Did you have any degree at the		
12	conclusion of that?		
13	A I did not.		
14	Q What did you study in Wahpeton?		
15	A Well, my wife was going there for dental		
16	hygiene, so I studied her quite a bit. Actually,		
17	it was an agronomy, it was an agronomy semester as		
18	well.		
19	Q Have you had any other education since		
20	high school in terms of technical training or any		
21	other formal education?		
22	A I just, I went through the EMT basic		
23	course. You know, that's probably 20 years ago.		
24	I was an EMT for seven years.		
25	Q Where did you do the EMT course?		

1	A In Rolla.	
2	Q What do you do currently for a living?	
3	A I'm in agriculture.	
4	Q And are you employed or self-employed?	
5	A As the owner and operator of a farm.	
6	Q What's the name of the operation?	
7	A There is no technical name. It's all	
8	under my name.	
9	Q How long have you been doing that?	
10	A Since I was 18.	
11	Q And you just farm the property around	
12	your residence in Calvin?	
13	A Yeah. I mean, there's it's spread out	
14	a little bit. But, yeah, it's around.	
15	Q I'm at a point where I'm likely to jump	
16	around between topics just because I've crossed	
17	things off my list that Mr. Gaber already covered	
18	with you. So please bear with me on that.	
19	What do you consider to be your race or	
20	ethnicity?	
21	A White, I guess.	
22	Q Do you consider yourself to be Native	
23	American?	
24	A No.	
25	Q And what's the race or ethnicity of your	

1	' C. O		
	wife?		
2	А	I believe she would be white as well.	
3	Q	Is she Native American?	
4	А	She is not.	
5	Q	I believe you had said in your testimony	
6	earlier that you voted in all of the elections		
7	since you	were 18.	
8		Am I remembering that correctly?	
9	А	That's correct.	
10	Q	Would that include all state-wide	
11	elections in North Dakota?		
12	А	As to the best of my recollection, yes.	
13	Q	And all state legislative elections?	
14	А	Correct.	
15	Q	What's your current address?	
16	А	7980 99th Street, Northeast, Calvin with	
17	a C, C-A-	L-V-I-N, North Dakota, 58323.	
18	Q	And do you live there all year round?	
19	А	I do.	
20	Q	Do you own any other homes at all?	
21	А	I don't.	
22	Q	Some people spend part of the year down	
23	south. A	re you that type of person, or do you	
24	live		
25	А	Haven't got there yet. We will be	

1	renting a place here in Digmarck for the duration				
	renting a place here in Bismarck for the duration				
2	of the session.				
3	Q Have you already found a place to rent?				
4	A We have.				
5	Q And have you signed a lease?				
6	A No.				
7	Q So I take it you have not yet moved to				
8	Bismarck?				
9	A We have not.				
10	Q Your current address, is that in what's				
11	currently districted as Subdistrict 9B?				
12	A That's correct.				
13	Q Have you ever lived in the area that's				
14	subdistricted as Subdistrict 9A?				
15	A No.				
16	Q Has your wife lived with you the entire				
17	time you've been married?				
18	A She has.				
19	Q How long have you been married?				
20	A Changes every year. I think it's 39, but				
21	don't quote me on that, because I could get in				
22	trouble.				
23	Q That's fair.				
24	And has she lived there continuously that				
25	whole 39 years?				

1	A Yeah.					
2	I mean, we may have taken some vacations					
3	and that type of thing, but our residency has					
4	always been Calvin.					
5	Q In this lawsuit, is it correct to say					
6	that you're seeking to eliminate the subdistrict					
7	seat in District 9?					
8	A That would be the end result, yes.					
9	Q Are you concerned in terms of what that					
10	would mean for your wife's current seat in the					
11	legislature?					
12	A I mean, obviously it's a concern, but I					
13	don't it doesn't raise itself to the level of					
14	overcoming my principles for the					
15	unconstitutionality of the process here.					
16	Q Do you know what the effect would be if					
17	the subdistricts were eliminated on your wife's					
18	seat?					
19	A I don't. I mean, it's never been done					
20	before. We don't know what's the court going to					
21	rule. I mean, that's, we don't know. If we					
22	could talk about what-ifs, I guess. But, I mean,					
23	I don't know.					
24	I don't know. I just I mean, it's					
25	possible that they would require a new election in					

1	2024 over the whole district. And if that					
2	happens, I guess we will work hard for					
3	re-election.					
4	Q Mr. Gaber had asked you earlier about					
5	your written discovery responses.					
6	Do you remember those questions?					
7	A Yeah. I mean, I looked at them.					
8	Q And did you sign those written discovery					
9	responses?					
10	A Yes. Yes.					
11	Q Did you look for documents to produce in					
12	response to those discovery requests that were					
13	made in this case?					
14	A No. I didn't really look a lot because I					
15	don't text and I don't e-mail a lot. I don't do					
16	that. Most of my communication is in person or					
17	over the phone.					
18	Q Did you look for any physical paper					
19	documents?					
20	A I don't have those, so I didn't look. I					
21	mean, I just I know I didn't write any letters					
22	or correspond with anybody in that vein, so					
23	Q Have you looked at the legislative record					
24	in this case on the legislative assembly website?					
25	A I					

1	Q I'm sorry, I cut you off. Go ahead.				
2	A I have not.				
3	Q You haven't looked at any of the				
4	documents or other materials on the legislative				
5	website relating to redistricting?				
6	A I have not.				
7	Q Did you look at those in preparing the				
8	answers to the written discovery?				
9	A No.				
10	Q Earlier I believe you had testified about				
11	a conversation that you had with Terry Jones.				
12	Do you recall that?				
13	A Vaguely. I mean, it was a year ago, so I				
14	don't I can't get specific what we exactly				
15	talked about. Generally, though, we talked about				
16	this, the unconstitutionality of the split.				
17	Q You had mentioned the discussion of the				
18	split.				
19	Do you have any recollection of any				
20	specific statement that you made during that call?				
21	A I don't.				
22	Q And do you have any recollection of any				
23	specific statement that Mr. Jones made during that				
24	call?				
25	A Specifically, no.				

1	Q Do you remember any details at all from				
2	that call, other than it involved the split of the				
3	districts?				
4	A No.				
5	Q Have you ever had any conversation with				
6	any other North Dakota legislator about the 2021				
7	redistricting?				
8	A No. Not to my recollection.				
9	Q Have you ever had a conversation with				
10	anyone employed with the North Dakota Legislative				
11	Council about the 2021 redistricting?				
12	A No.				
13	Q And that would include Claire Ness. If				
14	you had a conversation with her?				
15	A I don't know who that is.				
16	Q What about Emily Thompson?				
17	A No.				
18	Q And also Samantha Kramer; have you had a				
19	conversation with her?				
20	A Not that I'm aware of, no.				
21	Q Other than the conversation with Terry				
22	Jones, have you had any conversation with any				
23	other employee or agent of the State of North				
24	Dakota about the 2021 redistricting?				
25	A No.				

1	Q Did you, personally, attend or provide				
2	any testimony at the redistricting hearings at the				
3	legislature?				
4	A I did not.				
5	Q Did you, personally, attend the House or				
6	Senate floor debate on the redistricting?				
7	A I did not.				
8	Q Have you ever reviewed the videos of any				
9	of those hearings or debates of the redistricting				
10	that took place in 2021?				
11	A No.				
12	Q Have you ever reviewed transcripts of				
13	those proceedings?				
14	A I have not.				
15	Q Have you reviewed any documentation at				
16	all during the course of this litigation?				
17	A Just the I signed the complaint and				
18	I've read that. And of course we had meetings				
19	with counsel.				
20	Q I don't want you to tell me about				
21	anything that you talked about with your counsel.				
22	But anything else that you've reviewed? Documents				
23	you've reviewed or materials you've reviewed?				
24	A No.				
25	Q Have you retained an expert to testify at				

1	trial in this case regarding the Voting Rights				
2	Act?				
3	A I would have to defer to counsel on that.				
4	I don't know.				
5	MR. PHILLIPS: Can we take just a				
6	few-minute break. I want to review a few things.				
7	I may be done, but I just want to check my notes.				
8	Let's go off the record briefly.				
9	(A recess was taken.)				
10	MR. PHILLIPS: I don't have any further				
11	questions, Mr. Henderson.				
12	THE WITNESS: Okay.				
13	MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you.				
14	MR. SANDERSON: Any further questions,				
15	Mark?				
16	MR. GABER: No, nothing from me.				
17	Thank you for your time, sir.				
18	MR. SANDERSON: All right. I have no				
19	questions.				
20	Mr. Henderson, you have the right to read				
21	and sign your deposition, or you can waive that				
22	right. It's your choice. What would you like to				
23	do?				
24	THE WITNESS: I will waive today.				
25	COURT REPORTER: Mr. Phillips, do you				

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1
     need a copy of the transcript?
2
               MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.
3
               COURT REPORTER: Mr. Sanderson, do you
4
     need a copy of the transcript?
5
               MR. SANDERSON: Yeah. Electronic
6
     condensed, please.
7
               MR. PHILLIPS: I'll second that,
     electronic condensed is fine.
8
9
               (Off the record at 10:36 a.m. EST.)
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1	ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT				
2	I, PAUL HENDERSON, do hereby acknowledge				
3	that I have read and examined the foregoing				
4	testimony, and the same is a true, correct and				
5	complete transcription of the testimony given by				
6	me, and any corrections appear on the attached				
7	Errata sheet signed by me.				
8					
9					
10	(DATE) (SIGNATURE)				
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SHORTHAND REPORTER - NOTARY PUBLIC
2	I, Debra A. Whitehead, the officer before whom the
3	foregoing proceedings were taken, do hereby certify
4	that the foregoing transcript is a true and correct
5	record of the proceedings; that said proceedings
6	were taken by me stenographically and thereafter
7	reduced to typewriting under my supervision; that
8	reading and signing was not requested; and that I am
9	neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any
10	of the parties to this case and have no interest,
11	financial or otherwise, in its outcome.
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
13	affixed my notarial seal this 16th day of December,
14	2022.
15	
16	My commission expires:
17	April 30, 2023
18	TOTAN .
19	Nulus alweithed
20	
21	E-NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE
22	STATE OF MARYLAND
23	
24	
25	

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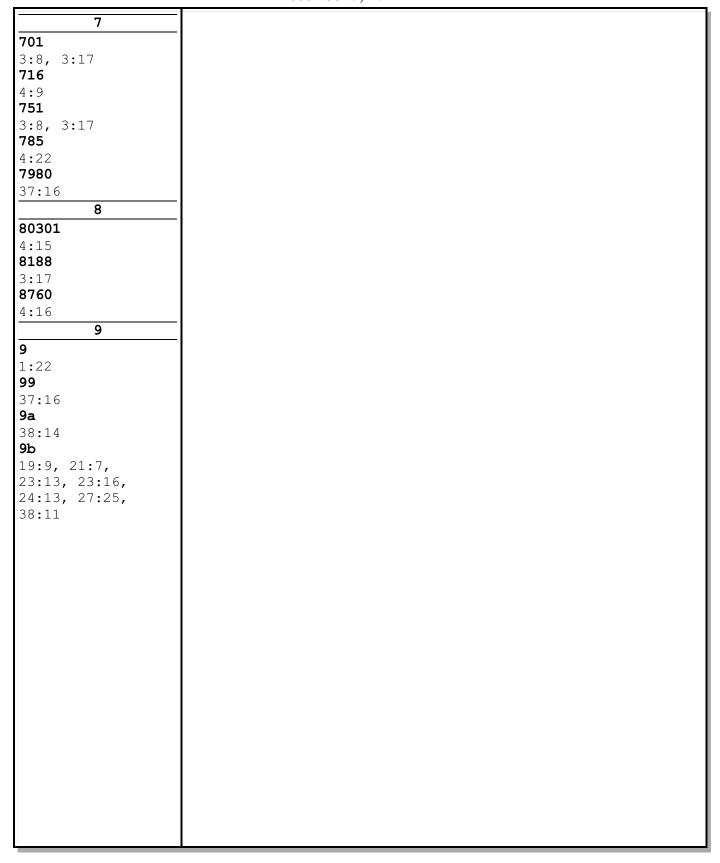


EXHIBIT 22

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1
              IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
               FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
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3
    Charles Walen and Paul
    Henderson,
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                Plaintiffs,
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                                 FILE NO. 1:22-cv-31
            VS.
6
    Doug Burgum and Alvin
7
    Jaeger,
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               Defendants,
9
    and
    Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara )
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    Nation, Lisa DeVille,
11
    and Cesareo Alvarez, Jr., )
12
       Intervenor Defendants. )
13
                            PARTIAL
14
15
                      TRANSCRIPT
16
                              OF
17
                     PROCEEDINGS
18
                 (Testiony of Terry B. Jones)
19
               MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION
                          May 5, 2022
20
21
                          Pages 1-37
22
    HELD AT: QUENTIN BURDICK UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
             655 FIRST AVENUE NORTH
23
             FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58102
24
    BEFORE: THE HONORABLE RALPH R. ERICKSON, PETER D. WELTE
             AND DANIEL L. HOVLAND
25
    COURT REPORTER: KELLY A. KROKE
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PROCEEDINGS

(May 5, 2022: The following proceedings commenced at 9:00 a.m.:)

JUDGE ERICKSON: We'll go on the record in a case entitled Charles Walen, et al. Versus Doug Burgum, et al. It's File No. 1:22-cv-31. The record should reflect that -- well, all counsel are here. And why don't we go ahead and do this: Why don't we have counsel for the plaintiffs go ahead and identify themselves for the record.

MR. SANDERSON: Good morning, Your Honor.

My name is Paul Sanderson. I represent the plaintiffs,

Charles Walen and Paul Henderson. At counsel table with

me is Attorney Ryan Joyce and Attorney Robert Harms.

JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. And for the defendants Burgum and Jaeger, Mr. Wrigley, do you wish to speak first?

MR. WRIGLEY: Speak first?

JUDGE ERICKSON: Well, no, I mean, I just want to -- you are the Attorney General. Excuse me, I'm sorry. You are the Attorney General. I thought I'd ask you first.

MR. WRIGLEY: I keep forgetting to -- nice to see you this morning.

JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. And do you want

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to identify other counsel appearing on behalf of the
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    State employees, State defendants?
                MR. PHILLIPS: David Phillips, Your Honor,
3
    Special Assistant Attorney General. The Solicitor
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    General Matt Sagsveen is also present and the Deputy
    Secretary of State Jim Silrum is present today.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. And then we
    have -- who's appearing by video? I'm sorry.
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9
                MR. GABER: Mark Gaber for the intervenors,
    Your Honor.
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11
                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. Okay. And who
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    else -- is anyone else appearing on behalf of the
    intervenors? Oh, I'm sorry, there you are. I kept
13
    looking around saying I can't see where everybody is.
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15
                MR. CARTER: Good morning, Your Honor.
    Michael Carter on behalf of the intervenors along with
16
17
    Samantha Kelty and Emily deLisle assisting.
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                THE COURT: Thank you. All right.
                                                     I am a
    United States Circuit judge and so obviously this whole
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    presiding over a real proceeding is a little complicated
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    for me. But now that we've got the hard part done and
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    that is have all of the attorneys identified for the
23
    record, I think I'll lay out just kind of in general
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    order the way that I see the proceedings.
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                I believe that the parties do have some
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additional evidence or cross-examinations that they wish to present and so we'll take up all evidence from any party who wishes to present evidence at this hearing first. Following that we'll likely take a short recess and then come back and take argument on the legal matters. I presume that we'll not -- that we will not be in a position to rule from the bench so we'll probably take it under advisement and look to get something out in writing shortly thereafter.

The issue before the Court obviously is we're here on the motion for a preliminary injunction and the factors that we need to consider both the substantive law relating to the Voting Rights Act and to the issuance of preliminary injunctions is well-known and so I won't summarize the law for you because I'm pretty confident that you've got that piece of it down so far.

All right. I say "so far" because we all know that Courts have a tendency to, you know, get to a place that is somewhat unexpected and so we'll see where we go from there. All right. So at this point it's the movants' case to present any additional evidence that they wish.

A couple of general rules. I would like whoever is going to examine the witness to examine from

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the podium or the lectern so that they're closer to the
witness and so that the line of sight for the court
reporter is straight and because we have people sitting
over here on the left it just will be a problematic
otherwise, okay?
            And so I don't know who's going to speak
first for the movants but they may call their first
witness.
            MR. SANDERSON: Thank you, Your Honor.
                                                    The
movants would call Representative Terry Jones.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Representative Jones, if
you would please come forward, stand before the clerk,
raise your right hand and take the oath.
            (Witness sworn.)
            THE COURT: Representative Jones, the
microphone in front of you is directional so it would be
helpful if you talk directly into it. It'll pick you up
a little bit better.
            Thank you. You may proceed.
            MR. SANDERSON: Thank you, Judge.
                    TERRY B. JONES,
   HAVING BEEN FIRST DULY SWORN TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE
   WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, RELATIVE TO
   SAID CAUSE, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:
                  DIRECT EXAMINATION
BY MR. SANDERSON:
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- Q. Good morning, Representative Jones. Could you please state your full name and address for the record.
- A. Terry Burton Jones, 413 Eagle Drive in New Town,

 North Dakota, 58763.
 - Q. And, Representative Jones, are you currently one of the elected North Dakota House of Representatives from District 4?
 - A. Yes.
- 9 Q. What year were you first elected to the 10 Legislative Assembly?
- 11 A. 2016.

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- Q. And could you just briefly explain the areas -
 the geographical areas that District 4 covers.
- A. It's a huge district. It goes all the way from
 Kenmare up against the Canadian border down to Halliday
 and Dunn Center. It reached clear over just underneath
 Minot. They've changed it here just recently and
 shrinked it a little bit but it's a huge district,
 covers a lot of country.
 - Q. And does District 4 also include the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation?
 - A. It does.
- Q. When was your most recent election in District 4?
- A. We just were reelected in 2020.
- 25 \downarrow Q. How long a term were you elected for in 2020?

- A. I was elected for a four-year term.
- Q. And currently are you up for election in 2022?
- A. Yes. Because of the subdistricts, we had to run again this year.
 - Q. Now, Representative Jones, I want to ask you a few questions. You're aware that the Redistricting Committee of the legislature met in 2021?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Were you a member of the Redistricting Committee?
- 10 A. No, I was not.
- 11 Q. Did you attend Redistricting Committee meetings?
- 12 A. I did.
- Q. How many Redistricting Committee meetings did you attend?
- 15 A. I believe I attended either two or three towards
 16 the end of the redistricting work.
 - Q. Why would you as a representative of District 4 attend the Redistricting Committee meetings in 2021?
 - A. There was information coming to me from members on the Redistricting Committee that they were considering subdistricts in Districts 4 and District 9. At first I wasn't too concerned about it but towards the end the members on the committee were telling me that it was getting very serious. It looked like it was going to move forward.

- Q. Did you testify before the Redistricting Committee?
 - A. I did.

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- Q. And what was the purpose of your testimony before the Redistricting Committee?
- A. I'm a representative from District 4 and I represent members, the district members. And the information I was getting as I was studying was that what was happening was not appropriate, was unconstitutional. So in order to both uphold my oath to support the Constitution of North Dakota and my job to represent and serve the District 4 people, I attended those meetings to try to make sure that we didn't do something that was wrong.
- Q. In addition to attending meetings, did you discuss with members of the Redistricting Committee your concerns about the redistricting process and subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9?
 - A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Based on your attendance in the meeting and your testimony at the Redistricting Committee hearings, do you have an understanding of why the Redistricting Committee recommended subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9?
 - A. I do.
 - Q. And based on your observations, why did the

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Redistricting Committee recommend subdistricts in their maps for Districts 4 and 9?

A. Redistricting is a complex thing and there's been some history with this particular issue here in District 4. Previous redistricting attempts ended up causing a lawsuit to occur and that lawsuit when it was tried it was discovered that the first prong of the Gingles case criteria had not been met. And so the judge in that case said because the first prong hasn't been met he dismissed it.

Somehow the members of the committee that had been involved with that got the interpretation that if the numbers were ever met that it was inevitable that you would have to have a subdistrict. Somehow in my discussions with them and in the stuff that I was watching them discuss they missed the point that you had to meet all three of those things, and so I was desperately trying to explain to them that there's more than just one criteria that had to have been met. And so that's what was my main focus for attending the meetings and visiting them with.

Q. And, Representative Jones, you indicated that there was a prior lawsuit the State of North Dakota was involved in. Was it your understanding that prior lawsuit involved the Voting Rights Act claim?

A. Yes, it was.

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Q. And based on your observations and attendance at the subdistricting committee -- or the districting -- Redistricting Committee meetings, was race a predominant factor the committee determined in creating the subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9?

MR. PHILLIPS: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion.

JUDGE ERICKSON: It does call for a legal conclusion in part. However, I think his understanding of what the process was as a member of the legislature is relevant, and I'll hear it for what it's worth. I mean, this is a bench proceeding. We understand that ultimately we'll be the people drawing that legal conclusion.

You may answer.

THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

- A. It was my understanding that their concern was based almost entirely on race of the group inside the boundaries.
- Q. (Mr. Sanderson continuing) Now one of the things you testified a moment ago to, Representative Jones, was the <u>Gingles</u> factor and you're referring to U. S. Supreme Court case <u>Thornburg v. Gingles</u>; is that correct?
- A. That is correct.

- Q. Okay. Based on your observations and attendance at the Redistricting Committee meetings, did the Redistricting Committee ever retain or consult an expert regarding voting patterns in Districts 4 and 9 during the redistricting process?
 - A. They did not.

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- Q. Based on your observations and attendance at the redistricting hearings, did the Redistricting Committee ever review any previous election results in Districts 4 or District 9?
 - A. To my knowledge they did not.
- Q. Now again based on your observations and attendance at the Redistricting Committee hearings, did the Redistricting Committee do any studies analyzing voting results in Districts 4 and 9?
 - A. They did not.
- Q. And along those same lines based on your observation and attendance at those meetings, was there ever any discussion regarding precinct voting analysis in District 4 or District 9?
 - A. There was no discussion that I'm aware of.
- Q. Now you're aware that the Redistricting Committee passed maps that included subdistricts for Districts 4 or 9 and sent that to the House floor, correct?
- 25 A. That is correct for recommendation -- or with a

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2.1

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recommendation.
   Q. As a member of the North Dakota Legislative
Assembly and the House of Representatives, were you
present on the House floor on November 9, 2021 when the
Redistricting Committee's proposed maps containing
subdistricts in District 4 and District 9 were debated?
   A. Yes, I was.
       During the floor debates was the topic of
   Q.
subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9 addressed?
       Yes, it was.
   Α.
       When the topics of subdistricts in Districts 4
   Ο.
and 9 were addressed that day, did you speak on the
floor?
   A. Yes, I did.
   Q. At this point we'd like to show a video to
Representative Jones.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
            (Unidentified video played.)
            JUDGE WELTE: Counsel, could you pause the
video?
            Are you able to do anything about the
        I believe Lori has it maxed out here.
volume?
            MR. SANDERSON: I don't know why our
computer's not going through the Court's system.
            JUDGE WELTE: And I would not be a good
```

```
person to answer that either but thank you.
1
2
                 (Unidentified video played.)
3
           (Mr. Sanderson continuing) Representative Jones,
       Q.
    following your floor testimony on November 9, 2021, did
4
    the House vote on the Redistricting Committee's proposed
5
    redistricting maps which includes subdistricts in
6
7
    Districts 4 and 9?
       A. Yes, they did.
8
           And what was the result of the House floor vote?
       Q.
           We passed the redistricting bill with
10
11
    subdistricts included.
12
       Q. Now following the passage of that bill and it
13
    being signed into law by Governor Burgum in this case,
    what district are you currently located in?
14
       A. District 4.
15
          And what subdistrict are you currently located
16
       Ο.
    in?
17
18
           I'm in district -- Subdistrict 4A.
       Α.
           And does your Subdistrict 4A, is it -- does it
19
       Q.
20
    contain the entire boundary of the Fort Berthold
2.1
    Reservation?
22
       A. Yes, it does. The boundary is the boundary of
23
    Subdistrict 4A.
24
       Q. Okay. And when you say that, 4A is comprised
25
    solely of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation?
```

That is correct. 1 Α. 2 Okay. Now, Representative Jones, are you opposed Q. to the idea of subdistricts in North Dakota? 3 4 A. Absolutely not. If you felt the Gingles factors had been 5 demonstrated by the Redistricting Committee and the 6 7 evidence required, would you support the creation of subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9? 8 9 A. Yes, I would. MR. SANDERSON: I have no further questions 10 11 of this witness. 12 JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Cross by the State defendants? 13 14 MR. PHILLIPS: No questions, Your Honor. 15 JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Cross by the 16 intervenors? 17 MS. KELTY: Yes, Your Honor. 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION 19 BY MS. KELTY: 20 Q. Hi, how are you? 2.1 Fine, thank you. Α. 22 Representative Jones, I'm Samantha Kelty. I Q. 23 represent the Defendant Intervenors MHA Nation, Lisa DeVille and Cesareo Alvarez. 24 25 Representative, you did not sit on the

Redistricting Committee, did you?

A. I did not.

2.1

- Q. And how would the new map of District 4 affect you in your election?
- A. It changes the representation for District 4 subdistricts divided into two groups, 4A and 4B, and the concerning part for me is that it leaves those people that are in District 4 with only one representative where previously they had two representatives representing them.
- Q. Are you aware of the testimony submitted to the committees describing past election results and the presence of racial bloc voting?
 - A. Could you repeat the question?
 - Q. Sure. Are you aware of the testimony that was submitted to the Redistricting Committee describing past election results and the presence of racial bloc voting?
 - A. No, I'm not aware of it. I heard the discussion in the committee meetings that I was in but I was not aware of the testimony in its entirety.
 - Q. So you did hear some of the discussion, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Are you aware of North Dakota's recent voter ID law that discriminates against Native American voters?
- 25 A. Could you explain how the new law discriminates

```
1
    against Native American voters?
2
           Are you aware of the law that I'm referring to?
3
           I'm not aware of any law that we've passed that
       Α.
    discriminates against Native American voters so I would
4
5
    like you to explain how it discriminates so I can
6
    understand which law you're referring to.
7
       Q. Sure, Representative Jones. I'm just going to
    ask you the questions here, okay?
8
9
                Are you aware of the voter ID law,
    Representative?
10
11
       Α.
           Yes.
12
           And did you vote for that?
       Q.
13
       Α.
          Yes.
14
           Let's talk about the MHA Nation. In the House
       Ο.
15
    you served on the Tribal and State Relations Committee,
16
    didn't you?
17
       A. Yes.
           Since 2021?
18
       Ο.
19
       Α.
           Yes.
20
       Q.
           And part of that committee studies -- an
2.1
    assignment was to study tribal/state issues, correct?
22
       Α.
           Yes.
23
       Q.
           And you're familiar with the MHA Nation?
24
       Α.
           Yes.
25
           The Three Affiliated Tribes?
       0.
```

```
1
       Α.
           Yes.
 2
           And the MHA Nation has a unique political status,
       Q.
 3
    doesn't it?
            I don't know what you mean "unique."
 4
       Α.
 5
            Is the MHA Nation a sovereign entity?
       Q.
 6
           MHA Nation is a sovereign entity, yes.
       Α.
7
           And you're familiar with the MHA people?
       Q.
 8
       Α.
           Yes.
 9
           The MHA people have a distinct history, right?
       Q.
10
       Α.
           Yes.
11
           And MHA people have unique economic interests as
       Ο.
12
    well, don't they?
13
       Α.
           No.
14
           Well, some of their economic interests arise from
       Q.
15
    the Nation's location on the Bakken Oil Formation,
16
    correct?
17
       Α.
           Correct.
18
           And MHA people have their own languages; is that
       Q.
19
    right?
20
       Α.
           Yes.
21
           And they have a distinctive culture, correct?
       Q.
22
       Α.
           Yes.
23
       Q.
           The MHA people are a distinct population, right?
24
       Α.
           Yes.
25
           And as a representative during the redistricting
       Q.
```

```
process, you learned about redistricting?
1
2
           I missed the question. What did you say?
3
           Did you learn about redistricting during the
       Q.
    redistricting process?
4
           Yes, I did learn more about it.
5
           And one of those trainings was from the National
6
7
    Conference of State Legislatures, correct?
           I'm not even sure if I attended that. I'm not
8
       Α.
9
    sure which training you're referring to. There's a lot
    of stuff going on. I assume it's during session and I
10
11
    can't recall exactly any particular training from that
12
    organization.
       Q. I understand. I sometimes can't remember last
13
14
    month.
15
                So if we could, Your Honor, I'd like to pull
    up a copy of the NCSL PowerPoint.
16
17
                JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
18
                MS. KELTY: Thank you. And let the record
19
    reflect I've previously provided a copy to the other
20
    counsel and we're looking here, this is ECF doc 21-1 and
2.1
    it's starting at page 50 of the ECF doc 21-1.
22
       Q.
           (Ms. Kelty continuing) Representative, do you
23
    recognize this?
24
       A. It looks familiar, yes.
```

Q. Okay. What is this?

```
1
           It's a presentation to the North Dakota
       Α.
2
    legislature on redistricting.
3
       Q.
          By who?
           NCSL.
 4
       Α.
5
          Were you shown this?
       Q.
6
       Α.
          I believe so, yes.
7
       Q.
           Okay. When?
           Beginning of the session in the Brynhild Haugland
8
       Α.
    Room if I recall correctly.
10
       Q. And it says there August 26, 2021; is that
    correct?
11
12
       A. Correct.
13
       Q. Does that sound about when you were shown this?
14
       Α.
           No.
           So when were you shown it?
15
       Q.
16
           If I recall it was the beginning of the session,
       Α.
    which would have been closer in the December time.
17
18
       Q. Okay, understood. And for what purpose were you
19
    shown this?
20
       Α.
           To assist us as legislators in understanding the
2.1
    redistricting process.
22
       Q. Okay. Let's take a look at page 85 of the ECF,
23
    85 of the PDF.
24
                JUDGE ERICKSON: Before we do that I wonder
25
    if we should not either stipulate that the exhibits that
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have been filed and attached can be received and
considered by the Court or have an offer. And I think
we should have done the same thing with the video;
although the video I think we could have let in for
refreshing recollection. But it just seems to me that
if we're going to try and get this record so it's clean,
you know, if an appeal is taken we should know what
we're able to consider.
            So let's start with the movants. First of
all, have you talked amongst yourselves about what you
would want in or not want in as evidence or should we
handle each exhibit just as being in an exhibit?
            MS. KELTY: We did not, Your Honor.
arrived a little late. If we had a few seconds that
would be great.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Why don't we take a couple
minutes, five minutes, and let's see if we can't hammer
out how we want to handle the exhibits, all right?
Because at this point what we've got in the record are a
bunch of things that haven't been marked and -- but we
do know where they are in the record so, I mean, it's
not a complete lost cause but I think we ought to arrive
at some consensus. We'll stand in recess for five
minutes.
            (Recess taken; 9:25 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.)
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JUDGE ERICKSON: We'll go back on the
record. All counsel of record are present. They've had
a chance to discuss the -- a potential stipulation on
the exhibits.
            Have the parties reached an agreement?
            MS. KELTY: We have, Your Honor, and we
appreciate that time to do so. We've stipulated to the
admission of all exhibits that have been submitted into
the record in addition to Intervenors' Exhibit 1 that
we've marked, which is an updated copy Dr. Loren
Collingwood's CV.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. And so --
            MS. KELTY: And the video, excuse me.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: We'll receive Intervenors'
Exhibit No. 1. I should have confirmed that the
stipulation has been accurately stated.
            On the part of the movants?
            MR. SANDERSON: Yes, Your Honor, other than
we talked about the video we showed. That's a public
record taken off the North Dakota legislature's website
and we do have a couple others we intend to show but our
understanding is that we have an agreement that those
will be admissible. That's our understanding.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. Thank you.
                                                     And
does the State agree with the stipulation as noted?
```

MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Your Honor. 1 2 JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. The Court will 3 receive all of the previously marked exhibits. I have received Intervenors' 1. We will receive every video 4 5 that is shown during the course of this proceeding. other videos of the Redistricting Committee hearings are 6 7 a matter of public record. And I should note for the record that I know that I've reviewed them and I suspect 8 my fellow judges on the panel have reviewed them as 9 well. And so that's where we're at on this. 10 11 And Representative Jones remains on the 12 stand and now we can go back to asking him some questions. 13 MS. KELTY: Thank you, Judges, and thanks 14 for that clarification. 15 (Ms. Kelty continuing) Before we took a break we 16 0. 17 were taking a look at what is in the record as document 18 21-1 and I believe we were looking at page 50 of 109 of that document. As reflected in the record the parties 19 20 have stipulated to the admission of the entirety of 2.1 document 21-1. Is it not displaying? Okay. For some 22 reason it's not connecting. Thank you, Lori. 23 And, Representative Jones, I have a hard copy

here. Would you like to take a look at that or -- in

24

25

addition to the video?

- A. This will be fine, thank you.
- Q. Great. We'll save some paper here. So does this refresh your recollection as you stated that you did receive a PowerPoint presentation from NCSL on redistricting, Representative?
- A. Yes.

- Q. And so during this training you learned that maintaining a community of interest is a traditional redistricting principle, correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And let's take a look at page 85 of 109 of this document. And here, Representative, this is the first part of the presentation that speaks to the criteria/principles. What does that say there in the top left-hand corner of the screen?
 - A. "Criteria/Principles: Compactness."
- Q. And let's scroll down to page 89 of 109 and what is the topic -- what is the topic of this slide,
- 19 Representative?
 - A. It says, "Other critical (sic) NCSL tracks."
- 21 Q. "Other criteria NCSL tracks?"
- 22 A. "Other criteria," sorry.
- Q. I know. I forgot my glasses so I'm having a hard time seeing that. And what is the first bullet point there?

```
1
           "Preserving communities of interest."
       Α.
2
           Okay, great. And we can take this down.
                                                       Thank
       Q.
3
    you.
                Representative, let's talk about the Fort
4
5
    Berthold Reservation. You live here in North Dakota,
6
    correct?
7
           I live on the reservation in fact.
       Α.
          Oh, okay, good to know. So how long have you
8
       Q.
    lived on the reservation?
10
           I've been close to or onto it for 11 years.
11
       Q. Wow, that's incredible. So you're familiar with
12
    the reservation?
       A. Yes.
13
14
           And that's the reservation on which the MHA
       Ο.
15
    Nation is located, correct?
16
          Yes, the Three Affiliated Tribes.
       Α.
17
           And it's a community there, right?
       Q.
18
          Yes.
       Α.
19
           An independent community?
       Q.
20
       Α.
           Several communities actually.
2.1
           Right. Several distinct communities within the
       Q.
    reservation, correct?
22
23
       Α.
          Yes.
24
       Q.
          And it's governed by its own government?
25
       A. Several governments.
```

```
Q. And can you please explain your answer there?
```

- A. Yes. There seems to be some confusion here about the reservation. There's several towns in there that are including my town which is New Town. There's Parshall. There's several other towns included in the reservation. The reservation boundary was moved up in about 1972 six miles to include those towns. So you're asking me to say that there's one form of government on the reservation when in fact we have North Dakota citizens, North Dakota property, taxpayers of North Dakota, all of that represented within the boundaries of that reservation as well as the tribal nation, the Three Affiliated Tribes, and their government.
- So you're asking a very complicated question in a very simplistic way.
- Q. I think you did reply to my question so, yeah, I appreciate that. I was referring to the tribal government so thanks for clarifying.
- That tribal government has a Tribal Business
 Council, correct?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. And a chairman?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. And MHA Nation is a federally recognized tribe?
- 25 A. Yes.

2.1

```
And the Nation exercises sovereign authority,
1
       Q.
2
    right?
3
       Α.
           Yes.
           And you live on the reservation so you're
4
       Ο.
    familiar with the reservation's boundaries?
5
6
       Α.
          I am.
           Its geographical boundaries?
7
       Q.
8
       Α.
           Yes.
9
           And its boundaries are different from state
       Q.
    boundaries, right?
10
11
       Α.
           They're included in the state boundaries.
12
           But they are different. They are distinct from
       Q.
    the state boundaries; is that right?
13
14
       Α.
           Yes.
           And they are distinct from county boundaries,
15
       Q.
    right?
16
17
           Correct.
       Α.
18
           And they are also different from municipal
       Ο.
    boundaries, right?
19
       Α.
          Correct.
20
2.1
           And, Representative, during redistricting the
22
    Redistricting Committee created a policy to not split
23
    reservations; is that right?
24
       Α.
           That has been a standing policy for many years.
25
       Q. And during this year's redistricting at least the
```

```
1
    committee chairman repeated this policy?
2
       Α.
           Yes.
3
       Q.
           Numerous times?
 4
       Α.
           Yes.
           And you're familiar with House Subdistrict 4A as
5
       Q.
6
    you testified in your direct, right?
7
       Α.
           Yes.
           And Subdistrict 4A follows the reservation's
8
       Q.
9
    boundaries, right?
10
           Correct.
       Α.
11
           In fact, it precisely follows the reservation's
       0.
12
    boundaries, right?
13
       A. Yes.
14
           The lines of HD 4A do not deviate from the lines
       Ο.
15
    of the reservation, right?
16
           Correct.
       Α.
           And as a representative during the redistricting
17
18
    process you also learned about other redistricting
19
    principles, correct?
20
       A. Yes.
2.1
           And so respecting political boundaries is a
22
    redistricting principle, right?
23
       Α.
           Yes.
24
       Q.
           A traditional redistricting principle.
25
       Α.
           Yes.
```

```
1
                MS. KELTY: I have no further questions.
2
                JUDGE ERICKSON:
                                  Thank you. Redirect from
3
    the movants?
 4
                MR. SANDERSON: Yes. We're going to need to
    show a video here for a second.
5
6
                      REDIRECT EXAMINATION
7
    BY MR. SANDERSON:
           Representative Jones, you were asked about
8
       Q.
    document 21-1 and that was a presentation on
10
    redistricting to the North Dakota Legislature by Ben
11
    Williams from the National Council of State
12
    Legislatures, correct?
       A. Yes.
13
          And that was on August 26, 2021, correct?
14
       Q.
15
           The document is dated that and I just don't
       Α.
    recall meeting in August to go over that. I thought
16
17
    maybe it was presented closer in the December time frame
18
    but I could be -- I could be off on that.
19
           Representative Jones, I'm going to show you
       Q.
20
    briefly a video from the presentation Attorney Williams
2.1
    presented to the Redistricting Committee on August 26,
22
    2021, and then I want to ask you a few questions about
23
    it.
24
                (Unidentified video played.)
25
           (Mr. Sanderson continuing) Now, Representative
       Q.
```

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2.1

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Jones, I just played to you a portion of Attorney
Williams' presentation to the Redistricting Committee
regarding the Gingles factors and you heard him discuss
the Gingles factors and the need for regression studies
based on precinct data. You heard that testimony?
   Α.
       I did.
      And again, Representative Jones, are you aware of
   Q.
the Redistricting Committee ever performing any
regression studies based on precinct data to meet the
Gingles criteria?
   A. No.
      Are you aware of any outside parties presenting
   Q.
any regression study analysis to the Redistricting
Committee during their deliberations for creation of
subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9?
   A. No.
            MR. SANDERSON: Representative Jones, I have
no further questions. Thank you.
                             Thank you. From the State
            JUDGE ERICKSON:
defendants?
            MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor, I would like to
consult with my client.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
            MR. SANDERSON: Your Honor, before we move
on to the State may I ask another question of
```

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Representative Jones? I know I rested and passed but
would ask the Court's permission to briefly address one
other topic that I overlooked.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Any objection from the
State defendants?
            MR. PHILLIPS: No objection.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: From the intervenors?
            MS. KELTY: No objection.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
       (Mr. Sanderson continuing) Representative Jones,
   Ο.
you also attended -- during the time you attended the
subdistricting committee meetings, were you also aware
that North Dakota Legislative counsel was present at
those meetings?
   Α.
       Yes.
      Okay. And during one of the meetings Legislative
   Q.
Council Attorney Clair Ness spoke to the committee about
the Gingles factors. Were you present during that?
   Α.
      Yes.
   Q.
       I'd like to play a brief video for you from a
Redistricting Committee hearing in this matter.
            (Unidentified video played.)
            MS. KELTY: Just asking for a bit of
foundation to verify who's speaking in this video.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Just a second. Okay.
                                                    Ι
```

```
think the objection is it's not clear who was speaking.
1
2
    I suspect I know but it's not my position to make that
3
    finding so do you want to clarify who was actually
    asking the question of Miss Ness?
 4
           (Mr. Sanderson continuing) And, Representative
5
       Q.
6
    Jones, do you recognize the representative that asked
7
    the question of Legislative Council Attorney Clair Ness?
           Yes, I do.
8
       Α.
9
           And who was that individual?
       Q.
10
           Representative Austen Schauer.
       Α.
11
           And was Representative Schauer a member of the
       Ο.
12
    Redistricting Committee in 2021?
       Α.
13
           Yes.
           And the video we're seeing, is that a legislative
14
       Ο.
15
    Redistricting Committee meeting that occurred in 2021?
16
       Α.
           Correct.
17
           Okay. And so we'll replay the video from the
18
    start for clarification but the video's going to show
19
    Representative Schauer asking a question regarding the
20
    Gingles factors to Legislative Council Attorney Clair
2.1
    Ness.
22
                 (Unidentified video played.)
23
       Q.
           (Mr. Sanderson continuing) And, Representative
```

Jones, my follow-up question there, are you aware of

Legislative Council ever performing any analytical data

24

```
on prior voting or precinct voting in Districts 4 and 9
1
2
    and presenting that to the Redistricting Committee at
3
    any time?
           No. I'm not aware of any of that being
 4
    presented. And I asked multiple times if that had been
5
6
    done and I was assured it had not been done.
7
       Q. And when you say you'd asked, who did you request
    whether voting data had been compiled for the
8
    Redistricting Committee?
           Members of the Redistricting Committee.
10
11
           Okay. And when you said had that been done, were
       0.
12
    you referring to whether Legislative Council had
13
    performed those analyses for the Redistricting
14
    Committee?
15
       Α.
           Correct.
       Q. And your understanding is Legislative Council
16
17
    never performed any past voting data or precinct data
18
    historical elections in Districts 4 and 9 for the
    Redistricting Committee?
19
20
       A. Correct.
2.1
                MR. SANDERSON: I have no further questions.
22
    Thank you.
23
                JUDGE ERICKSON:
                                  Thank you. From the State
    defendants?
24
25
                MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor, if we could?
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1
                JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
2
                MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you. Your Honor, I do
3
    have a few questions.
 4
                JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
5
                MR. PHILLIPS: Just a few questions.
                         RECROSS-EXAMINATION
6
7
    BY MR. PHILLIPS:
       Q. Did you attend all three public meetings of the
8
    Interim Tribal and State Relations Committee?
       A. I assume you're asking about this year 2021-2022?
10
11
    Yes, I have.
12
       Q. You attended all three?
13
       Α.
          Yes.
          Did you attend all six public meetings of the
14
       Q.
    Interim Redistricting Committee?
15
16
       A. No.
17
       Q. Did you attend both meetings of the Joint
18
    Redistricting Committee?
           I believe I did towards the end, the two of them
19
       Α.
    that I did attend.
20
2.1
       Q. Do you know which ones?
           I do not other than it was the last two at the
22
       Α.
23
    end of the process.
24
       Q. There was some discussion in your testimony
    earlier and a video where Clair Ness was speaking. Do
25
```

```
1
    you remember that?
2
       Α.
           Yes.
3
           Have you ever talked to Clair Ness about analyses
       Q.
    that she may have run?
4
5
       Α.
           Yes.
6
           You have spoken with her?
       Q.
7
       Α.
           Yes.
           When did you speak with her?
8
       Q.
           I can't say exactly the time but it was during
       Α.
    this time when we were working on this stuff to find out
10
11
    what had been done.
12
       Q. You don't remember the time that you spoke with
    her?
13
           I believe I already said no, I do not know
14
15
    specifically the time.
16
       Q. You'd indicated earlier that someone told you
17
    that Legislative Council did not perform a data
18
    analysis; is that correct?
19
          Yes.
       Α.
20
       Q.
           Who told you that?
2.1
           I was talking to Austen Schauer and I was talking
       Α.
    to the chairman of the committee.
22
           Did they tell you whether they had spoken with
23
24
    Clair Ness or anyone else with Legislative Council?
25
       A. I don't recall.
```

```
1
                MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you. No further
2
    questions.
                JUDGE ERICKSON: From the intervenors?
3
                MS. KELTY: Could I have one moment, Your
4
    Honor?
5
6
                 JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
7
                MS. KELTY: Thank you. No further
8
    questions, thank you.
9
                 JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. You may step
10
    down, Representative Jones.
11
                MR. JONES: Thank you.
12
13
                 (Further proceedings reported but not
14
    transcribed herein.)
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER I, Kelly A. Kroke, a duly appointed Registered Professional Reporter; DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I reported in shorthand the foregoing proceedings had and made a record at the time and place indicated. I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached (37) typewritten pages contain an accurate partial transcript of my shorthand notes then and there taken. Dated this 29th day of November, 2022. /s/ Kelly A. Kroke KELLY A. KROKE - RPR, RMR United States District Court Reporter District of North Dakota Eastern Division

EXHIBIT 23

```
1
              IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
               FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
2
3
    Charles Walen and Paul
    Henderson,
4
                Plaintiffs,
5
                                  FILE NO. 1:22-cv-31
            VS.
6
    Doug Burgum and Alvin
7
    Jaeger,
8
                Defendants,
9
    and
    Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara )
10
    Nation, Lisa DeVille,
11
    and Cesareo Alvarez, Jr., )
12
      Intervenor Defendants.
13
14
15
                      TRANSCRIPT
                             OF
16
17
                     PROCEEDINGS
18
            MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION (VOL. 2)
19
                         May 5, 2022
20
                        Pages 39-176
21
22
    HELD AT: QUENTIN BURDICK UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
             655 FIRST AVENUE NORTH
23
             FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58102
24
    BEFORE: THE HONORABLE RALPH R. ERICKSON, PETER D. WELTE
             AND DANIEL L. HOVLAND
25
    COURT REPORTER: KELLY A. KROKE
```

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2.1
22
23
2.4
25
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PROCEEDINGS 1 2 3 (Further proceedings reported but not transcribed herein: May 5, 2022, the following 4 proceedings continued at 9:59 a.m.:) 5 JUDGE ERICKSON: The movants will call their 6 7 next witness. MR. SANDERSON: And, Your Honor, at this 8 9 time the movants have no further witnesses for the 10 hearing. 11 JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. The State will 12 call its first witness. MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, Your Honor, I'd call Jim 13 Silrum. 14 15 THE COURT: If you would please step forward, stand before the clerk, raise your right hand 16 and take the oath. 17 18 (Witness sworn.) 19 JUDGE ERICKSON: I'll once again remind you 20 that the microphone is directional. When you get seated 2.1 in the witness stand, if you would please state your 22 full name for the record and spell your last name, sir. 23 THE WITNESS: Good morning. My name is 24 Irwin James Narum Silrum. My last name is spelled 25 S-i-l-r-u-m.

1 JUDGE ERICKSON: You may. 2 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you. 3 IRWIN JAMES NARUM SILRUM, 4 HAVING BEEN FIRST DULY SWORN TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, RELATIVE TO 5 SAID CAUSE, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS: 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION 7 BY MR. PHILLIPS: O. Mr. Silrum, are you employed by the State of 8 9 North Dakota? 10 Α. I am. 11 And what is your position? Q. 12 Α. Deputy Secretary of State. 13 Q. How long have you served at deputy secretary of state? 14 15 Α. Eighteen and a half years. Were you appointed by the North Dakota Secretary 16 Q. of State Alvin Jaeger? 17 18 A. Yes. Q. With respect to elections, what is the role of 19 20 the North Dakota secretary of state? 2.1 The secretary of state is the chief election Α. 22 official for the State of North Dakota. 23 Q. And what are your duties specifically as the 24 deputy? 25 A. With just two exceptions, I have all the same

responsibilities as the secretary of state.

2.1

- Q. Is it fair to refer to you as a state election official?
- A. Absolutely, as opposed to a local election official.
- Q. From your perspective as a state election official, when did the 2022 primary election begin?
- A. We normally say that an election begins on January 1st of an election year because state law requires that precincts be established by December 31st of the year prior. However, this year with the redistricting bill that was signed by the governor and the secretary of state on November 12th, we began in earnest on the redistricting work at that time to associate all the voters in the state to their correct legislative districts, and then the precincts were established after that.
- Q. Are you generally aware of what the plaintiffs are asking the Court to order in this preliminary injunction motion?
 - A. I believe I am.
- Q. What's your understanding of what the plaintiffs are asking for?
 - A. The removal of subdistricts in Districts 4 and 9.
- Q. Is it your understanding they're asking that to

```
1
    be done prior to the conclusion of the 2022 elections?
           It's my understanding they're asking for it to be
2
3
    done before the 2022 elections begin or occur.
       Q. As a state election official, do you have any
4
    concerns about that?
5
6
       A. I do.
7
           Did you express some of those concerns in your
       Q.
    Affidavit that was filed in this case?
8
       A. I did.
           I'm going to refer to your Affidavit which was
10
    already filed in this case as document 19 with attached
11
12
    exhibits documents 19-1 through 19-5. Do you recognize
    that document?
13
14
       Α.
           I do.
15
           Is this the Affidavit that you prepared and
       Q.
    signed in this case?
16
17
       Α.
           It is.
18
           When did you sign this Affidavit?
       Q.
19
          I believe it was April 7th.
       Α.
           Of 2022?
20
       Q.
2.1
       Α.
           Yes.
22
           Before we get into some of the specifics on your
       Q.
    Affidavit, I'd like you to give the Court a bit of an
23
```

update on things that might have changed since you

24

25

signed this Affidavit.

2.1

Have any election deadlines passed since you signed this on April 7th?

A. For the June 14th primary election nearly all of them have passed because voters are already voting in the election. So therefore the candidate filing deadline, which was 64 days before the election which occurred at 4 p.m. on April 11th, has passed. Last Friday military and overseas voters were sent ballots according to federal law and just today all those people who have requested absentee ballots, people like you and me, would receive our absentee ballots. They're being sent in the mail today.

Prior to that legislative districts have all met to endorse their candidates and then the candidates who were not endorsed were given the opportunity to circulate their petitions and gather enough valid signatures to gain ballot access that way. So nearly all of the deadlines have passed except for election day itself.

- Q. Aside from those legal deadlines, what else have state and county election officials already completed with respect to the June primary?
- A. In March we held a legally required state-wide election official training and as a part of that we conducted the first of the mock elections that we

conduct for prior to every election because elections are an absolute. You need to get it 100 percent correct or you don't -- if you receive a failure you don't let it go forward. So we have to make sure that everything is going to be working seamlessly before election day occurs and the votes are tallied.

- Q. Let's talk about some of the specific deadlines that are mentioned in your Affidavit. The deadline for candidates to file petitions with signatures, has that deadline passed?
- A. Yes. That was at 4 p.m. on April 11, 2022.
- Q. Would it be too late today under North Dakota law for a candidate to submit additional petition signatures?
 - A. Absolutely.

- Q. What about the deadline to -- and you mentioned this before but I'll ask you a few follow-ups. The deadline to send out ballots to military and overseas voters, has that deadline passed?
- A. Yes. Last Friday was the deadline for military and overseas ballots.
 - Q. Have the ballots actually been mailed out then?
- A. Yes, and the last I looked ballots had actually been returned.
- 25 Q. Would this include ballots being mailed to

1 military and overseas voters who were voting in 2 Districts 4 and 9 and their subdistricts? 3 A. Yes. Q. Are there both federal and state laws that affect 4 5 military and overseas voters? Α. Yes. 6 7 Q. What does federal law specifically require with respect to military and overseas voters? 8 9 A. Federal law requires that for every military or overseas voter who applies prior to the 45th day before 10 11 an election they must be sent a ballot on that day. 12 therefore ballots must be -- must be prepared prior to 13 that deadline. In North Dakota we say the 46th day. The law says 46th day because the 45th always occurs on 14 15 a Saturday, and so we wanted to be far more generous to military and overseas voters. 16 17 Q. And did that date pass on April 29th? 18 Yes. Α. What about the deadline to send ballots to other 19 Q. 20 absentee voters, has that passed? 2.1 That's actually today. So anyone who has applied Α. 22 for an absentee ballot prior to today is being sent an

absentee ballot today.

Q. Have ballots already been mailed out then to those absentee voters?

23

24

- A. I would assume so, yes.
- Q. Would that include being mailed to voters who are voting in Districts 4 and 9 and the subdistricts?
 - A. The entire state, yes.
- Q. For the ballots that have already been mailed to voters, to date do those ballots reflect the current subdistricts contained within Districts 4 and 9 and the candidates running for office in those subdistricts?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Are the ballots that are sent to voters in one subdistrict different than the ballots that are sent to voters in a different subdistrict?
- 13 A. Absolutely.
 - Q. How are they different?
 - A. In one subdistrict there would be a contest for the House candidate for that subdistrict and in another subdistrict they would have a different contest for the House candidate in that subdistrict. But aside from that ballots are different in every precinct because of the changes that exist. So, yes, they are very different.
 - Q. Would those other differences be, for example, city elections or school board elections?
 - A. City, school, vector districts, ambulance districts, library districts. There's a whole myriad of

reasons why ballots change from one jurisdiction to another.

Q. I'm going to ask you some questions about paragraph 12 in your Affidavit. That starts on page 5 of document 19. I'm not going to ask you to read it but maybe you can explain to the Court what you were talking about in this paragraph in your Affidavit.

A. There are two means by which candidates can gain access to the ballot for a political party office and that would be either being endorsed by the local district party of the candidate's choice or else circulating petitions to gather enough signatures to gain ballot access that way.

North Dakota law requires that the number of signatures required for a district, a legislative district, is one percent of the resident population of that district. And so we do a calculation -- secretary of state I should say does a calculation of what all those numbers are across the state so that candidates will know how many signatures they would need. Because Districts 4 and 9 were subdivided, those who are running for the House are only running in approximately half of the district so, therefore, they would only be required essentially half the number of signatures that let's say the Senate candidate from the same district would need

2.1

```
to gain ballot access. And those signatures must be valid signatures from electors of that district, qualified electors of that district.
```

- Q. Was there a concern that if this Court were to eliminate the subdistricts that some candidates might no longer qualify to be on the ballot if they didn't collect sufficient signatures for a whole district?
- A. That was my concern expressed in paragraph 12, yes.
- Q. In paragraph 12 you didn't identify any specific candidates, correct?
 - A. Correct, because the time that I submitted this was prior to the candidate filing deadline.
 - Q. Since you signed this Affidavit, have there been any developments with respect to any specific candidates?
 - A. Yes. In Districts 9, 9A and 9B, two candidates who did not get the endorsement of their district party, one a Republican and the other a member of the Democratic NPL, submitted signatures on their petitions to qualify for the ballot in those districts.

A woman by the name of Jayme Davis from

District 9A, if she had needed to submit for the entire

district I believe I remember that would have been 161

valid signatures. She submitted less than that because

```
it -- she was only required to do half of that.
1
2
                Another individual currently seated
3
    legislator, Charles Damschen, submitted signatures in 9B
    and he also submitted less than the number needed for
4
    the entire district but enough for the subdistrict.
5
6
           Do you recall how many signatures he needed --
7
    would have needed for a full district?
       A. For a full district it would be the same, 161
8
9
    valid signatures.
       Q. Do you recall how many signatures he actually
10
11
    submitted?
12
           I do not remember the exact numbers but I could
       Α.
    provide that to the Court if it's needed.
13
       Q. If I represented to you that it was 98, does that
14
15
    sound correct to you?
16
       A. Yes.
17
       Q. Are candidates Jayme Davis and Chuck Damschen
18
    currently qualified to be on the ballot in the June
    primary?
19
       A. Yes.
20
2.1
       Q. Have they been certified for the June primary
    ballot?
22
23
       A. Yes.
          How does that certification work?
24
       Q.
```

When the paperwork comes in from any candidate

25

Α.

for offices that must file their candidate paperwork with the secretary of state, our staff reviews those thoroughly to make sure that all of the paperwork is filed and complete, for example, the statement of interests is filed and complete. The Affidavit of candidacy is filed and complete. And then for those that are endorsed that the proper endorsements were made on the endorsing paperwork. For those that filed by petition the signatures are all reviewed to make sure that they are indeed residents of that subdistrict or district as the case may be to make sure that they are valid signatures.

- Q. Have Jayme Davis and Chuck Damschen's names already been printed on the ballots for the June primary?
- A. Yes, they have. And they were -- they along with every other candidate that filed with the secretary of state received certification paperwork from our office that said that they were certified for the ballot.
- Q. Have these printed ballots with their names on it been mailed to voters yet?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Which voters?
- A. Well, all voters across the state but certainly in Districts 4 -- 4A, 4B, 9A, 9B.

- Q. And that would include the military and overseas and absentee voters, correct?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. If this Court issues an order eliminating the subdistricts in District 4 and District 9 at this time as the plaintiffs have requested, would candidates Jayme Davis and Chuck Damschen be qualified to be on the June primary ballot?
- A. In my opinion not according to state law because if the subdistricts cease to exist their valid signatures that they submitted would be considered insufficient because they were -- there were not enough for the entire district.
- Q. Would their names need to be removed from the ballot?
- A. It's unclear at this point because state law does not -- does not cover that but it would certainly enter into the complicated election procedure a number of problems that would be hard to -- hard to address.
- Q. If this Court issues an order eliminating the subdistricts in District 4 and District 9, would ballots need to be reprinted?
 - A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Why?
- 25 A. Well, because the -- currently the -- those

voters who live in let's say, for example, 4A receive a ballot that has the House candidate in the two political parties that are represented on the ballot for just that House subdistrict. So if the -- if the subdistricts were removed the ballots would have to be reprinted so that there would be a single contest that is a vote for two for the House districts -- House district.

- Q. What efforts would election officials have to undertake to get the ballots reprinted now?
- A. They would have to essentially recycle all the ballots that they've already received, create new ballots. They would have to adjust the programming that is for the voting system tabulators that tabulates the votes correctly. And then for all people who have been sent ballots they would need to be sent brand new ballots along with a notice saying the election has changed. You need to -- you need to vote this new ballot. If you haven't already sent in your previous ballot, please discard that and send in the new one.

It would -- there would also have to be some sort of a mechanism put in place so that the local election officials could tell the envelope of a revised ballot from the envelope -- return envelope of the initial ballot because there's no way that they could look at the ballot itself because privacy of voting is

sacred in this situation so somehow the ballot envelopes, return envelopes would have to be different.

And then we would have to make sure that the programming is correct. We would have to indeed conduct another mock election as a part of our logic and accuracy testing. So the list goes on. It's a very time-consuming process.

- Q. If you were to resend ballots to voters along with a note that you mentioned, as an election official do you have any concerns about voter confusion?
- A. Absolutely. I would have no idea if they're going to make sense of that note. Some -- for example, some voters might think: Well, the rest of my ballot must have been okay so on this new ballot I will just vote the contest in question. And then you would have a situation where only one ballot from a voter can be counted in the election and so presumably the second ballot would have to be counted, but that would disenfranchise them if they had only voted for the House contest in thinking that their other votes would be counted on the prior ballot that they already returned. There's just a whole number of reasons why voters could be confused over this.
 - Q. Could that result in voter disenfranchisement?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

Q. How so?

2.1

A. As I said, if they -- if the voter misunderstands the communication and only votes for the House contest thinking that's the only thing that's changed from the other one, then all of their other votes would be -- would not be counted. So therefore they would not have the chance to express their opinions in the primary for offices like attorney general or secretary of state or all of the other -- and more seriously, because it's the June election, cities and schools, this is their general election. There is not a primary election so essentially you would be eliminating those people from their ability to express their opinions on who should be their mayor, their city council members, their school board members if they make a mistake in this process.

- Q. Is there also a concern that a voter might not receive or be able to send back the second ballot?
- A. Yes. Actually for military and overseas voters there is something that is referred to as the federal write-in absentee ballot and primarily that is for those individuals who are in harm's way who are just not able to receive or return their ballot as needed.

For example, someone who is serving on the USS North Dakota may have -- which is a submarine, may have requested and received their absentee ballot and

2.1

returned that and they did so simply because they know that they're currently headed underwater for the next three to six months. If they are not able to receive their secondary ballot, they would be -- they would be disenfranchised because their original ballot coming back in would -- decisions would have to be made that are not clear at this point as to how those votes from that contest -- those contests would be counted.

- Q. Are there any other steps that election officials would have to take if the Court were to eliminate the challenged subdistricts in this case?
- A. Yes. Just like after the redistricting session was over in which election officials across the state reviewed all -- more than 47,000 street files that exist in the state's central voter file to make sure that the voters are associated to their correct legislative district, correct precinct, correct split of a precinct, that sort of thing. Those would all have to be done again in Districts 9 and Districts 4.

The other concern that I would have there is the simple elimination of the districts -- subdistricts. I would wonder how they would be interpreted by the counties that make up districts that are a part of Districts 9 and 4 simply because they -- those district county commissions might say to themselves: You know,

we established the precincts for the county based on the fact that subdistricts existed. Now that subdistricts don't exist they might change -- decide to change those precinct boundaries and then Katy bar the door, we have all kinds of problems that would exist there. There's just no controlling rule or law over that that would prevent that from happening.

- Q. If this Court didn't make any changes at all with respect to the June primary but instead eliminated the subdistricts in advance of the general election in November, would you have any concerns about that?
- A. I do.

- Q. What are your concerns?
- A. Simply because the individuals who are given the chance to vote for the nomination of their party's candidates in Districts 4A, 4B, 9A, 9B would suddenly be expanded to the entire district. So the people who nominated them in the primary would possibly have their votes diluted because of the entire district voting.

Additionally, in -- I believe it is in 4A there are presently -- well, there are two Democratic NPL candidates whose names are on the ballot. As it stands right now, only one of those will move forward to the general election. If subdistricts were eliminated then -- especially since there isn't a Democratic NPL

```
candidate running in 4B, that would mean the Democratic
1
2
    NPL party would be at a disadvantage because they would
3
    only have one candidate on the ballot. However, in the
    Republican district party of 4, there are candidates in
4
5
    4A and 4B and they would presumably both go forward. So
6
    I think it would be unfair to a political party but also
7
    unfair to the voters of those subdistricts.
       Q. Does North Dakota law provide any quidance in how
8
9
    to handle a situation like that?
           None whatsoever.
10
       Α.
11
                MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you, deputy secretary.
12
    I have no further questions.
13
                JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Cross from the
14
    intervenors?
15
                MS. KELTY: No, Your Honor.
                JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. From the
16
    plaintiffs?
17
18
                MR. SANDERSON: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.
19
                       CROSS-EXAMINATION
    BY MR. SANDERSON:
20
2.1
           Good morning, Mr. Silrum. My name's Paul
22
    Sanderson. I represent the plaintiffs in this case.
23
                Now you began your testimony if I'm correct
24
    that you said normally a primary election begins on
25
    January 1st, correct?
```

A. Correct.

1

2

3

5

6

7

8

- Q. You said, however, for the upcoming 2022 elections the primary election began on November 12th.
- 4 Was that your testimony?
 - A. That is correct.

on November 12th, correct?

- Q. Okay. And just to be clear the bill we're here talking about that was signed by the governor on November 11th was then filed with the secretary of state
- 10 A. Correct.
- Q. And so it became law. The law creating the subdistricts went into effect on November 12th, correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- Q. The same day your office began the primary election process, correct?
- 16 A. Correct.
- Q. And you would agree then, Mr. Silrum, that
 Plaintiffs Charles Walen and Paul Henderson would not
 have had any opportunity to file an action between the
 time the bill -- or the law went into effect creating
 the subdistricts and the time your office began primary
 election proceedings.
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. I want to start with Exhibit D of your
 Affidavit. Do you recall that where you've listed out

```
the 47 districts, including the population of each of
1
2
    the districts?
3
       A. I believe I recall that, yes.
4
       Ο.
           I'm going to put it on the Elmo (indicating).
                                                            Do
5
    you recognize this as Exhibit D to your Affidavit?
       Α.
           Yes.
6
7
           And is this a document you prepared?
       Q.
8
       Α.
           Yes.
9
           And you've -- to be clear I want to start with
       Q.
    District 4. The total population of the newly designed
10
    District 4 as part of the 2021 redistricting was 16,469;
11
12
    is that correct?
13
       A. Correct.
       Q. And would you agree generally, Mr. Silrum, that
14
15
    that 16,469 generally fell close to the middle of the
    population of the 47 districts?
16
17
           I have not analyzed that completely but I would
18
    suspect that legislative counsel made sure of that.
           And I think we could go -- then I did -- there
19
20
    are a number of districts such as District 3 that have
2.1
    15,000 plus members in their district and there are
22
    other districts such as we see District 6 that have
23
    17,000 plus members. You see that?
```

A. I do.

24

25

Q. By my calculation, I went through your Exhibit D,

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

14

15

17

18

19

20

```
I had -- nine of the 47 districts had in the 15,000
    population and I believe 17 districts had 17,000
    population.
                Would that kind of coincide with your
    understanding of where the population base was?
       Α.
           I'll take your word for it.
           And certainly we would agree --
       Q.
                JUDGE WELTE: Mr. Sanderson, if I may
9
    interrupt, do you have a lapel mic you could use?
                MR. SANDERSON: I don't. I can put one on,
11
    Judge.
12
                JUDGE WELTE: Thank you very much.
           (Mr. Sanderson continuing) And, Mr. Silrum, the
13
       Q.
    population district in District 4 of 16,469 is certainly
    not an outlier in the 47 districts, correct?
16
           It is not.
       Α.
           Okay. And similarly with respect to District 9
    of 16,158 residents, that also is not an outlier in the
    total population of the 47 districts.
         Correct.
       Α.
2.1
           Okay. And you would agree, Mr. Silrum, that the
       Q.
22
    subdistricts in Districts 4A and 4B do not change the
23
    exterior boundaries of District 4, correct?
24
       A. I agree.
          Okay. And if the Court were to remove the
       Ο.
```

```
subdistrict boundaries, the exterior boundaries of
1
    District 4 would remain the same, correct?
2
3
       A. Correct.
       Q. And District 4 again would then have a total
4
    population of 16,469.
5
6
       Α.
           Correct.
7
       Q. And, Mr. Silrum, I want to ask you about
    specifically District 9 -- or, excuse me, District 4.
8
    When was the last election in District 4 for the House
    of Representatives?
10
11
       A. Even numbered districts were on the ballot in
12
    2020.
       Q. Okay. And we're correct the only race election
13
    that's affected by the subdistricts is the House of
14
    Representatives in Districts 4 and Districts 9, correct?
15
16
           In District 4 that would be true but in
       Α.
17
    District 9 there are -- so, yes. The answer -- if I
18
    understand your question correctly now, the answer would
19
    be yes.
20
       Q. Okay. Out of all the different election options
2.1
    on the ballot, the only one that the subdistrict applies
    to in Districts 4 and 9 are to the House of
22
23
    Representatives election in those two districts,
24
    correct?
25
       A. Correct.
```

- Okay. Now one of the things we see on your Q. Exhibit D is you have the last column "District Political Parties Must Reorganize." And am I correct in understanding that certain districts the population changed to a significant amount that that district had to have a new election?
 - That is correct. Α.
- Okay. And we see in District 4 that you have Q. highlighted in green that their population did not change to a significant enough extent where they would have had to have a new election in District 4, correct?
- I would -- I would clarify that by saying the Α. district parties did not need to reorganize in 4.
 - Okay. Am I correct the reason that District 4 is Ο. up for election in 2022 is because of the creation of subdistricts in District 4?
- 17 A. Yes.

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- 18 Okav. And if this Court were to remove the Ο. 19 subdistricts in District 4, the two House of 20 Representative members that were elected in 2020 could 2.1 finish their four-year -- constitutional four-year term, correct? 22
 - I would have to address my legal counsel on that.
- Okay. Well, they certainly don't -- they're 25 certainly not one of the districts such as District 8

that had to have a new election because of political party or reorganization, correct?

- A. I believe you're misunderstanding the point of this particular chart. This was not a particular chart determining which of the districts needed to have reelections. It was specifically created so that district political parties would need to know whether or not they needed to reorganize, which means they needed to have a publically-noticed meeting to determine who would be their chairman, who would be their vice-chairman, vice-chairwoman, secretary, treasurer, and the board because state law specifically speaks to that in Chapter 16.1-03, I believe the section is 17 and subsection 2.
- Q. And maybe the easier way -- and I probably could have asked you a more direct question. The only reason that District 4 is up for election is because of the creation of the two subdistricts, correct, on the House of Representatives side?
 - A. That is the reason it is on the ballot, yes.
- Q. Okay. Now I want to talk about you -- you mentioned some of the impacts that would occur if the subdistricts are removed and kind of leading to the voter confusion and voter disenfranchised that you testified to earlier.

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I want to ask you: If the subdistricts are removed by this Court in District 9, there's no requirement that the exterior boundaries of District 9 would need to be redrawn; is that correct? Correct. Α. And if the exterior boundaries of District 9 do Ο. not need to be redrawn, there would be no need to redraw the precincts in District 9, correct? Α. I cannot say that, no. Well, every person that would vote at a precinct Ο. in District 9 currently, whether in 9A or 9B, would then be voting for just District 9 as a total, correct? Α. As I stated earlier, county commissions are given responsibility under law to establish precincts, and precincts were more than likely established simply because of the subdistrict boundaries as well. Therefore, there is no quarantee that a county wouldn't change its precinct boundaries because those subdistricts no longer exist. Q. Every voter in District 9 or 9A or 9B belongs to a precinct, correct? Α. Currently, yes. And every voter in that precinct, whether in 9A or 9 -- the total 9 with the subdistricts removed their

vote would count. Changing the subdistricts wouldn't

```
remove a voter from being able to vote in a precinct.
1
2
    Is that fair?
3
          As long as the precincts don't change.
       Α.
           Now I want to ask you a little bit about in
 4
       0.
5
    your -- you set forth a timeline in your Affidavit,
6
    correct?
7
       A. Yes.
           And Governor Burgum signed House Bill 1397 on
8
       Q.
9
    April 21, 2021, correct?
10
       Α.
           If you say so.
11
           And House Bill 1397 established the Interim
       Ο.
12
    Legislative Management Redistricting Committee, correct?
       A. I believe so.
13
14
           And the purpose of that Redistricting Committee
       Ο.
15
    was to draw and implement the redistricting plan based
16
    on the 2020 census, correct?
17
       Α.
           Correct.
18
           The -- certainly there was no -- there's no law
       Ο.
19
    or rule in North Dakota that would prevent Governor
20
    Burgum from signing and appointing -- signing a bill and
2.1
    appointing the Redistricting Committee earlier than
22
    April 21, 2021, correct?
23
       Α.
           I suppose it could have been done at any time --
24
       Q.
           Okay.
25
          -- during the session.
       Α.
```

- Q. The interim -- and according to your Affidavit the Interim Redistricting Committee did not begin holding its first meetings until July 29th of 2021, correct?
 - A. That sounds correct.
- Q. And the Redistricting Committee met six times during the redistricting process according to your Affidavit, correct?
 - A. Correct.

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- Q. There was no provision in North Dakota law that would have prevented the Redistricting Committee from meeting earlier than July 29, 2021, correct?
- A. There was no provision except for the fact that the census data was not available by that earlier date.
 - Q. Certainly. And the full census data came available in August of 2021, correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
 - Q. Yet the Redistricting Committee had already begun meeting in July before the full census data had taken place, correct?
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. I mean, you're aware they began meeting July 29th of 2021 before the full census data, correct?
- A. Okay, yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. And October 29, 2021 Governor Burgum

1 signed his bill appointing a special session, correct?

A. Yes.

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- Q. There was -- there's no law or regulation under

 North Dakota law that would have prevented Governor

 Burgum from calling the special session and signing that

 bill prior to October 29, 2021, correct?
 - A. Not that I'm aware of.
- Q. Okay. And the special session began on November 8, 2021, correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And again there's no law or rule in North Dakota that would have prevented that special session from occurring earlier than November 2021.
- A. No. Precedence is that that's when it usually happens.
 - Q. And you're not aware of any statute that would -under North Dakota law that would prevent an earlier
 special session?
 - A. No.
 - Q. Now I want to talk about you testified to some of the things that would be very time consuming for your office if another election had to be held. One of them you said ballots would have to be reprinted.
 - A. Correct.
- 25 Q. Could ballot -- that's something your office can

```
do is reprint ballots, correct?
1
2
       A. Actually that's done by the individual counties.
    We assist the counties in the preparation of their
3
    ballots but that is their responsibility.
4
       Q. Okay. And certainly you believe that counties
5
    could reprint ballots for a House election in District 9
6
7
    if requested?
       A. Yes, they can, but not as quickly as one might
8
9
    think.
       Q. Okay. You said notice would need to be sent with
10
11
    the ballots. That's something that could be done by
12
    either your office or the county for District 9,
    correct?
13
       A. It would have to be done by the county because
14
15
    our office does not send out a single ballot.
       Q. So the county certainly has the ability to send
16
    out a notice for a special election in District 9 if so
17
    requested?
18
       A. We would not refer to it as a special election
19
20
    but, yes, they would have to be the ones to send out a
2.1
    notice.
22
       Q. Well, let's talk about special elections. You're
23
    familiar with the state election code obviously,
```

25 A. A little bit.

correct?

- Q. And are you aware that North Dakota election code has provisions for holding special elections?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Has your office taken any steps to look at holding a special election in District 9?
- A. No.
 - Q. You're aware in the past North Dakota has held special elections, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And on multiple occasions North Dakota has held special elections?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And included in the power under the North Dakota election code would be the ability to hold a special election for a primary election, correct?
 - A. I would have to check on that to be honest because generally a special election is considered a -- in the same regards as a general election. So I could not answer the Court honestly on that based on my knowledge.
 - Q. Okay. Now if a special election was going to be held, new ballots issued and a notice prepared by the counties, that's something that can be done, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And your office could assist counties in

preparing a notice explaining to voters for the House of Representatives election in District 9 what the requirements were of that ballot?

A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Okay. Local election officials would need to revise the ballot and programming would be done to correct and tabulate the results of that ballot, correct?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And that's something that could be done by local election officials with the help of your office?
- A. With the help of our office and also with the assistance of a number of others, yes.
 - Q. Now one of the things you mentioned was voter confusion. Would you agree that a properly written notice would help cure any voter confusion with respect to a special election for a House race in District 9?
 - A. I would argue that it could but based on my experience with the way people read and do not read instructions I would say there's a good question that they would not.
 - Q. Has your office taken a look at any potential notices if a special election were needed for a House race in District 9?
- A. No.

- Q. Now one of the things you testified to earlier is the problem with issuing new ballots would be there were a number of other elections that took place on that ballot other than just House race in District 4 and District 9, correct?
 - A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. Would not -- would a simple solution not be simply to accept all the election results in Districts 4 and 9 other than House race and issue a special election for that? Would that not solve your concerns with respect to those other elections?
- A. I have not given that any thought so I -- I could not answer the Court honestly.
- Q. Well, as you sit here today one of the things you mentioned I believe was that in District 9 there would be school board elections, correct?
- A. Correct.
 - Q. Wouldn't a solution to this be accepting the results of the school board election and just having a special election solely on the House of Representatives race in District 9?
 - A. As I stated earlier, I cannot explain to the Court with all honesty that I know that a special election can be held for a primary. Therefore, I would need to consult to know whether or not that could even

1 happen. 2 Okay. Well, one of the things you talked about 3 was -- one of the big issues is a 64-day candidate filing deadline, correct? 4 (Nods head.) 5 Α. Q. Is that a yes? 6 7 Α. Yes. And not to be rude but just to make sure we have 8 Q. 9 a record with a verbal response. And you said for the June primary the 64-day filing notice was April 11th I 10 11 believe, correct? 12 That is correct. Α. So just kind of throwing out -- and I know you 13 Q. probably don't have these. I'll just kind of ask you to 14 take my word. But let's say a primary election was 15 going to be held. Special primary election in District 16 17 9 was going to be held on August 9th. The 64-day 18 candidate filing for that would be June 6th. Does that kind of seem right that you'd meet that by June 6th? 19 20 A. Yes. 2.1 Another issue you said was 46-day overseas and Q. 22 military ballots. That's a deadline that's important, 23 correct? 24

A. Correct.

25

Q. And for an August 9th primary special election

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primary in District 9 the 46-day overseas and military
1
2
    ballot would be June 24th.
3
       A. I'll take your word for it.
           So it's possible to meet those deadlines by
 4
       0.
5
    pushing out a primary election to a later date such as,
6
    let's say, August, correct?
7
       A. Provided that a special election can be a primary
    election.
8
       Q. Okay. Now I know you're in North Dakota. You
    specialize in North Dakota election law. But are you
10
11
    aware of other states and when their primaries are held?
12
       A. Yes. Some have already occurred, some will occur
    after ours, and some occur right around the same time as
13
14
    ours.
15
       Q. And, for example, in the state of Wisconsin are
    you aware that their primary's in August of 2022?
16
17
       A. That sounds right.
18
                MR. SANDERSON: Okay. Mr. Silrum, I have no
    further questions. Thank you.
19
20
                JUDGE ERICKSON: For the state defendants,
2.1
    redirect?
22
                MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, thank you. I have a few
23
    questions.
24
                JUDGE ERICKSON: How long do you expect this
25
    to go? I think we probably are close to where we need
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to take a break. 1 2 MR. PHILLIPS: I don't expect to take long 3 for this portion. JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. 4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 5 BY MR. PHILLIPS: 6 7 Q. Mr. Silrum, remind me again when the redistricting became law in North Dakota in this 2020 8 round. It became law when filed with the secretary of 10 11 state on November 12th. 12 Q. Are you familiar with the past redistrictings that have taken place every 10 years? 13 A. Yes. I've been fortunate to be involved in them 14 as an election official. 15 Q. Is the completion of redistricting in North 16 Dakota following the 2020 census consistent with the 17 18 historical trend for when the redistricting was completed? 19 20 A. Yes. 2.1 This is even though the state did not receive Q. 22 census data until late this year, correct? 23 A. Yes. I would actually say it was a miracle that 24 it happened in November because of the lateness of the 25 data.

- Q. Did that data come late from the federal government because of COVID issues?
 - A. Absolutely.
- Q. Can redistricting be completed without census data from the federal government?
 - A. No.

2.1

- Q. The opposing counsel asked you some questions about elimination of the subdistricts. If this Court sends this matter back to the state legislature to do the redistricting, do we know whether or not the state legislature would simply remove the subdistricts?
- A. I'm not a member of that branch of government.

 I'm in the executive branch so I wouldn't even hazard a guess.
- Q. When the subdistricts were created, does substantial population equality have some impact on the shape and size of the larger districts around it?
- A. That is my understanding but you would need to ask that of legislative -- the legislative branch who's responsible for redistricting.
- Q. If we went back to the legislature they may make a different decision if the subdistricts are no longer allowed with respect to the shape and size of the larger district, correct?
- 25 A. I suppose.

```
The county officials make decisions with respect
1
       Q.
2
    to creation of precincts, correct?
3
           County commissions specifically.
       Α.
           And the counties print the ballots?
 4
       Ο.
           Correct.
5
       Α.
           You're not testifying today as a county official,
6
7
    correct?
8
       Α.
           I am not.
9
           As we sit here today and stand here today, people
       Q.
    have already voted in the elections being held in the
10
11
    subdistricts that are being challenged, correct?
12
       Α.
           Correct.
13
       Q.
           And they've been sent ballots?
14
       Α.
           Yes.
15
           If a special election is held, will those same
       Q.
    people receive a second ballot?
16
17
           They would have to, yes.
       Α.
18
           Is there any risk of voter confusion in that
       0.
    scenario?
19
20
       Α.
           I believe so.
2.1
           How so?
       Q.
22
           For the reasons previously stated. If you'd like
23
    I can reiterate them.
24
                 JUDGE ERICKSON:
                                  That's fine.
25
                 MR. PHILLIPS:
                                Thank you. No further
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1 questions. 2 JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Ms. Kelty? 3 MS. KELTY: No questions, Your Honor. JUDGE ERICKSON: Mr. Sanderson? 4 RECROSS-EXAMINATION 5 6 BY MR. SANDERSON: 7 Mr. Silrum, the ballots you talked about that Q. were sent out to voters, were the ballots for voters in 8 Districts 4 and Districts 9 different with respect to the election of the House representatives than every 10 11 other voter in other districts in the state? 12 Α. Yes. And was that because voters in the subdistricts 13 in Districts 4 and Districts 9 only got to submit a vote 14 15 for one representative? 16 Α. Yes. 17 With the ballots that went out to the voters in 18 Districts 4 and Districts 9, did the secretary of state or the county election officials send any notice 19 20 explaining to voters in Districts 4 and Districts 9 why 2.1 they're only voting for one representative? 22 Α. Not to my knowledge. 23 Q. Why was that not done? 24 Α. I don't have an answer for that. 25 Q. Now the North Dakota secretary of state's office

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has the resources to assist with a special election if
one needs to be done in District 9, correct?
       Correct.
   Α.
       You could assist with preparing a notice to
voters as to why a special election has to be held in
District 9 for the House of Representatives seat?
      As I already answered, yes.
   Α.
      You could make postings and put notice on your
   Q.
website as to why a special election in District 9 for
the House of Representatives would need to occur?
   Α.
      Yes.
   Q. Your office could perform local training of
election officials to assist them in understanding and
explaining to voters why a special election for the
House in District 9 would need to occur?
      Yes, we could.
   Α.
      Your office could assist in publishing notices in
local newspapers as to the reasons why a special
election in District 9 for the House of Representatives
needed to occur?
   A. Yes, we could.
            MR. SANDERSON: I have no further questions.
Thank you.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. You may step
down, Mr. Silrum.
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1
                We'll go ahead and take a break at this
2
    point until 11:15.
3
                 (Recess taken; 10:55 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.)
 4
                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. We'll go back
5
    on the record. All counsel of record are personally
6
    present. When we broke Mr. Silrum had just finished
7
    testifying.
8
                Does the -- do the government defendants
9
    have anyone further to call?
                MR. PHILLIPS: No, Your Honor.
10
11
                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. And, Ms. Kelty,
12
    do the intervenors have a witness to call?
13
                MS. KELTY: Yes, Your Honor. We'll call
14
    Dr. Loren Collingwood.
15
                JUDGE ERICKSON: Very good.
                Dr. Collingwood, if you please would step
16
17
    forward, take the oath, and once again the microphone's
18
    directional. When you get on the stand if you would
19
    just state your full name and spell your last name, I'd
20
    appreciate it.
2.1
                 (Witness sworn.)
22
                THE WITNESS: My name is Loren Collingwood,
23
    C-o-l-l-i-n-q-w-o-o-d.
24
                       LOREN COLLINGWOOD,
25
       HAVING BEEN FIRST DULY SWORN TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE
       WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, RELATIVE TO
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SAID CAUSE, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MS. KELTY:

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- Q. Thank you, Dr. Collingwood. And what do you do for a living?
- A. I'm a political scientist. I'm an associate professor of political science at University of New Mexico.
- 9 Q. Do you have any experience with voting rights and redistricting in the United States?
- 11 A. Yes. I've probably worked in 15 or 17 states
 12 doing that.
 - Q. All right. Let's talk about that experience. What are your general fields of academic expertise?
 - A. The overriding field I work in is American politics and political behavior, voting, elections. I also do a lot of research in race and ethnicity as well as applied statistics and so racially polarized voting is a subset of that discipline.
 - Q. Have you published on these topics?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Can you tell us about some of those publications?
 - A. Well, I've published 39 articles, peer-reviewed articles, two books with Oxford University Press. Most of my publications do revolve around race and ethnicity

in the United States to some degree.

- Q. And any chapters, Dr. Collingwood?
- A. About a dozen book chapters.
- Q. Have you served as an expert witness on voting rights or redistricting in other cases?
- A. Yes.

2.1

- Q. What are you typically asked to do as an expert in voting or redistricting cases?
- A. Probably most of the time people ask me to evaluate the Voting Rights Act, what's known as the Gingles criteria.
 - Q. And just broadly what does that look like?
- A. Well, there's three prongs. Some of that has been discussed today. One is the presence or absence and the ability to draw a majority-minority district in a certain area. And then <u>Gingles</u> prongs two and three revolve around the concept of racially polarized voting. That in a layperson's perspective that effectively means if a particular group of voters or racial or ethnic group is voting generally for one set of candidates and a different group of voters, another racial group, is voting for another set of candidates consistently we see that pattern. We can establish the presence of racially polarized voting.
 - Q. And over the course of your entire career so far,

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how many times would you say you've performed an
analysis similar to the one that you performed in this
case?
  Α.
      Thousands.
           MS. KELTY: Dr. Collingwood, let's take a
look at your CV, if we could pull that up. And for the
record we have marked this as Intervenors' Exhibit 1.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Yes. One has been
received.
          We have it.
           MS. KELTY: When all else fails we have
paper. So may I approach?
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may. Why don't we get
a lapel mic on you too if you're going -- you're going
to have him testify from there or are you going to have
it on the Elmo?
           MS. KELTY: I'm just going to hand it to him
and walk right back.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Oh, okay. That's fine.
           MS. KELTY: Thank you, Your Honor. I'll
stay stationary for you.
      (Ms. Kelty continuing) Do you recognize this,
  Q.
Dr. Collingwood?
   Α.
      Yes.
   Q.
      What is this?
   A. This is my CV.
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Is this current?
       Q.
       Α.
           Yes.
                MS. KELTY: And, Your Honor, the parties
    have stipulated to the admission of Intervenor
    Defendants' Exhibit 1.
5
6
           (Ms. Kelty continuing) Dr. Collingwood, does
7
    this include your current experience and qualifications
    in entirety?
       A.
           Yes.
                MS. KELTY: And at this time, Your Honor, I
11
    would like to offer Dr. Collingwood as an expert in the
12
    field of American politics, voting behavior, race and
    ethnicity including racially polarized voting and
13
    political methodology. And I'll note that the
    plaintiffs have agreed to stipulate to the
15
    qualifications of Dr. Collingwood.
16
17
                JUDGE ERICKSON: I don't ordinarily receive
18
    experts anymore. What I'll do is I'll say I'll receive
    the testimony and he is qualified to testify on the
19
20
    matters under consideration in this case.
2.1
                MS. KELTY: Thank you, Your Honor.
22
       Q.
           (Ms. Kelty continuing) Dr. Collingwood, could
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- you briefly summarize what the defendant intervenors asked you to analyze in this case.
 - Well, my task here was to evaluate effectively Α.

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Gingles two and three. So the first prong is to
establish whether there is or is not racially polarized
voting in District 4. The second task that I was asked
to do was to evaluate how the different districts
perform for different types of candidates.
            And so what I generally found was in the
first analysis of racially polarized voting that voting
is very racially polarized in District 4 and that when
you take the preferred candidates of, say, the Native
American population versus the white population, in the
full district the white preferred candidate is going to
win in every single election I looked at except for
maybe one or two and that the subdistricts are
necessary.
      And did you prepare a report setting forth your
   Q.
analyses?
   Α.
     Yes.
            MS. KELTY: And let's take a look at your
report, Dr. Collingwood. I assume technology is still
MIA.
            May I approach, Your Honor?
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may.
   Q.
       (Ms. Kelty continuing) Dr. Collingwood, do you
recognize this (indicating)?
      Yes. This is my report.
   Α.
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Q. And again the parties have stipulated to the admission of Dr. Collingwood's report here.

Dr. Collingwood, did you reach any conclusions here?

- A. Yes, I did. Again the main conclusion is that of all the elections I looked at this is a very clear-cut case of racially polarized voting present in District 4 between the Native American population and the non-Native primarily white population. They prefer different types of candidates routinely.
- Q. And are those conclusions set forth in your report?
- A. They are.

Q. Let's talk first about your racially polarized voting analysis. I want to focus first on your conclusion that voting in North Dakota is racially polarized.

Before we get there can you help us -- for the Court help us define "racially polarized voting"?

A. Yes. It's a very simple concept. From a numerical perspective we could begin with, say, 50 plus one percent of voters of, say, the Native American population. If you get at least 51 percent of voters voting one way and 51 percent of voters of another racial population voting another way, obviously it can

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go all the way up to a hundred on either side, that's the basic way that we think about racially polarized voting.

But I should note we also want to consider many elections, not just one election for various specific campaign dynamics that could occur sometimes that are, say, at odds with what you see in the overall pattern. So it's -- we try to establish this with a lot of elections.

- Q. So what sort of analysis do you do to arrive at your conclusions about racially polarized voting and what sort of analysis did you do here to arrive at your conclusion that voting in North Dakota is racially polarized?
- A. So the general process is to gather precinct vote returns either from the secretary of state's office or some other -- some other entity that produces those and then that data is joined with demographic data, in this case census or American community survey data but there's other types of data so that in every precinct we at least have a sense of the share of the racial distribution in that area and we can conduct a variety of different statistical analyses. One people have referred to as regression analysis. That's one common method. But there's many methods and the method that I

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use is typically seen as an improvement upon what's known as the Goodman Regression, which is the ecological inference method of conducting racially polarized voting analysis.

- Q. And what is "ecological inference"?
- A. So again it's this idea -- the key with a lot of this is to try to take as much information we can from every precinct. So you might have a precinct or a voting tabulation district that has -- 80 percent is a racial minority population, 20 percent white and we see, okay, look, that precinct is tending to vote for a democratic candidate or for Biden, for example.

We have another situation where we might have it more mixed, fifty-fifty, or another situation that's predominantly white, Anglo white as we would maybe saying in New Mexico. And in that situation we might see a different set of voting patterns, and putting all of that together using these different estimation techniques we can arrive at a reliable estimate as to how different groups of voters vote.

- Q. And is this racial bloc voting analysis standard in voting cases?
 - A. Yes. This is the exact method that we use.
- Q. Have you done racial bloc voting analysis before in other cases?

A. Yes.

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- Q. About how many times would you say you've done that analysis?
- A. Well, I've done ecological inference analysis, like I said, thousands of times and several other cases this year recently and in previous years.
- Q. All right. Let's talk a little bit more about ecological inference, otherwise known as EI. Has EI been approved by the Courts?
- A. Yes. It's one of the predominantly approved methods that Courts use to evaluate the efficacy of these analyses.
- Q. And you mentioned earlier the regression analysis as well. Can you just give us a little bit of a comparison between regression versus EI?
- A. Well, EI is built specifically for this type of phenomenon generally where you're dealing with ecological data where you don't actually know: Is it that specific white person that voted that specific way? We don't know that as we've discussed earlier.
- Goodman's Regression or regression analysis is built just kind of as a general linear model. It's not specific to ecological data or precinct data. And so given that the assumptions of data distribution on race in different precincts and geographic units here,

ecological inference would be the more appropriate method.

Q. And let's talk about data a bit. Earlier you said that you use data from election precincts from the secretary of state's office and the American Community Survey.

Are those data standard for this kind of analysis?

A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Let's talk about the elections that you analyzed here and turning now to page 8 of 39 of your report. What elections did you consider in your racial bloc voting analysis?
- A. I looked at all top-of-the-ticket candidate elections that were located on the secretary of state's website from 2020 to 2014.
- Q. And why did you look at state-wide elections?
 - A. The predominant reason is districts and precincts might change over time and so I also conduct what's known as an electoral performance analysis. So one of the general approaches that I do is to use the same set of elections that allow me to look at both racially polarized voting and then also move into the electoral performance analysis which deals with precinct changes and stuff like that that makes it harder to, say, look

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1 at just a little smaller election or something like
2 that.
3 Q. Is it common in your field for state-wide
4 elections to be used in this kind of analysis?
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A. Yes.

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- Q. And do you find the use of state-wide elections to be reliable indicators of future voting patterns?
- A. Yes, especially in this case where there's 27 contests, it allows us to really get a full picture of voting in this area.
 - Q. Which state-wide elections did you consider here?
- A. Well, again we have examples ranging from the 2020 presidential contest, U.S. House, governor, auditor, treasurer, public services commissioner, and then in 2018 some of the same types of contests including U.S. Senate, attorney general, secretary of state, agricultural commissioner. There's also a public service commission either two term -- or two-year, tax commissioner. So these are the types of offices that really does capture a range of different elections.
 - Q. And what election cycles did you review?
 - A. 2020, 2018, 2016, 2014.
- Q. Why those election cycles?
- A. Well, in general I want to capture elections that are most proximate to the time period, which is going to

be 2020. And as I started moving down the pattern is so consistent of the establishment of racially polarized voting in this area that, say, moving down to 2012 or 2010 elections that are going back farther the data is getting a bit more challenging to work with because changes to county precincts and stuff like that can introduce more challenges. That's -- 27 elections is definitely enough to -- as an analyst to know kind of what's going on here.

Q. All right. Dr. Collingwood, let's talk about your findings and the results of your racial bloc voting analysis. Turn to page 12 of 39 of your report. What conclusions, if any, did you draw?

A. As you can see or not but hopefully the Court can see the report here just to quickly walk through these findings and we really only need to go over one contest and maybe a couple sidebars to that because the results are just so consistent.

In general I am finding that the non-Native, which is primarily the -- almost overwhelmingly the white population in this area is tending to vote for the Republican candidate or in this case Donald Trump, we're looking at the first one, around 80 percent of the time, okay? So what does that mean? I'm estimating here that 81.3 percent of white voters who live in District 4 are

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supporting Donald Trump. Meanwhile, just 18.2 percent
of Native American voters are backing that same
candidate.
            Drop down to support for the Biden here.
You can see the pattern is almost identically reversed
where 18.7 percent of non-Native voters in this area are
backing Biden. Meanwhile 81.8 percent of Native
American voters are backing Biden. Okay. So this is
clearly passing on both sides the 50 percent plus one
threshold. The error bars as you can see those kind of
error bands, confidence bands, are never crossing the
threshold at 50 percent. This is a very clear-cut case.
            MS. KELTY: And, Your Honor, I would draw
your attention now that we have technology to the screen
because it shows the colors here. It might be a little
easier to review.
   Q. (Ms. Kelty continuing) Can you explain a little
bit more, Dr. Collingwood, about the confidence
intervals?
   A. So these methods do require a -- there's a margin
of error. We're looking at a set of precincts, right?
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of error. We're looking at a set of precincts, right?
We're joining data together and we're effectively
conducting simulations to arrive at this 80 percent and
so what we can do with that simulation approach is each
time we make a simulation or an estimate as to what the

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vote is and we can build that up over time and generate what's known as a -- effectively called as a posterior distribution. And the point that's the most likely estimate here is what we call the point estimate and that is the end of that bar, right?

So in the case of the first election it's 81.3 but we know that there's some statistical error around that and so here we can sort of make the assessment that that range of the kind of likely outcomes as, say, 77 to 85, okay? So that's kind of the confidence that we can have in that. And this is a wide discussion that we have in my field but that's the general -- the point of that.

- Q. And now let's look at the figure here that deals with the 2016 election. I believe it would be Figure 4 a few pages down. And here I want to draw your attention to three races that featured Native American candidates: Iron Eyes for U.S. House, Beaubrun for public services commissioner and Buffalo for insurance at the bottom. What are your findings here?
- A. Well, I do a lot of racially polarized voting in a variety of places and one thing that is -- that can tell you something is the race or ethnicity of the particular candidate, and these three candidates are Native American candidates. And so what you can

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identify here with these three candidates, take Iron Eyes for example, the Native population -- I'm estimating the native vote is 97 to 98 percent in support of I believe Chase Iron Eyes. That's higher than what you typically see among even the Native American vote for, say, non-Native candidates.

And then you see a very similar pattern when you go down to Hunte Beaubrun, around the same percentage. Fully 95 percent plus I'm estimating of Native American voters are backing this candidate. Finally down on Ruth Buffalo you see a very similar trend.

And so it does appear that the Native

American vote, when there is a Native American candidate

running, the support is going to be even a little bit

higher than what we might typically anticipate if it's a

white candidate or a non-Native candidate running.

- Q. And overall, Dr. Collingwood, how does this level of racial polarization you found here compare to other jurisdictions you've been involved in?
- A. I've worked in many jurisdictions and this is on the very high end, particularly in the case when there's a Native American candidate that is running. There's just strong support within that community for that type of candidate it does appear at least based on this. And

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so I would say this is on the very high end of what we tend to see on racially polarized voting.

- Q. Now let's talk about your performance analysis, turning now to page 18 of your report and looking at Figure 7. Can you explain for us just at a high level what you're trying to do with a performance analysis?
- A. So the first analysis that I conducted establishes the presence of racially polarized voting. But under the Voting Rights Act if there's racially polarized voting but that you can't draw a district, you say there is white bloc voting but say it's fairly small. And basically there's -- the whites are not blocking the Native vote enough of the time, what that might mean is that the Native-preferred candidate might still be able to win some of the time, okay? So that's the test on the <u>Gingles</u> three.

And so what we do with an electoral performance analysis is we look at different district configurations and how the Native-preferred or the non-Native or white-preferred candidate does because we already know how they have -- we already know under Gingles test two how they tend to vote.

And so take, for example, the U.S. House contest -- or let's stick with the presidential election. Cruising down to line 4 there we see

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"President." The green line, that's support for Donald Trump. That's the white-preferred candidate. And then the blue line or navy blue line is the Native-preferred candidate, which in this case is Joe Biden. So what we're estimating here under the full district is that Donald Trump would win that district almost two to one if the subdistricts were removed. The Native population would not be able to elect their preferred candidate because you can see that green bar going down. Each time it's further to the right, okay?

Then when we move over to "ND 4A," the middle panel, that's the panel my understanding that is surrounding the Native American reservation. There we actually see the efficacy of the subdistrict in action. You can see there that the Native-preferred candidate, those blue lines, are winning every single time under my reconstituted performance analysis.

Switching over to "ND 4B," the second subdistrict, you can see it's basically a blowout victory here for the white-preferred candidates in every single election. It's not close at all.

- Q. So how do you go about making this analysis?
- A. So we have the precincts and voter tabulation districts. We know what the shape file is like, what the map is like for the different configurations. So we

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have the full ND 4, we have 4A, 4B. We can determine where the voters live based on the precincts that they're located in and then once we have that established we simply sum down the vote for Trump, sum down the vote for Biden. That's the general process.

And so you can do this with any election.
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- Q. Did you make any conclusions here?
- A. The clear conclusion, based on my performance analysis, is that the subdistricts are necessary in this case to effectively clear <u>Gingles</u> three of the Voting Rights Act.
- Q. And so, Dr. Collingwood, based on your analysis in this case, your training as a political scientist and your experience with redistricting, have you formed any opinion on whether Native Americans are politically cohesive?
- A. They're absolutely politically cohesive. That's incontrovertible.
- Q. And have you formed an opinion on whether whites vote sufficiently as a bloc to block Native Americans from electing candidates of their choice at the full District 4 level?
- A. Yes. As you can see here on the panel on the left, that's a very consistent finding. The white majority will block the Native American minority in this

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particular voting context of being able to elect
candidates of choice at the full district level.
      And in your opinion would eliminating the
   Q.
subdistricts violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act?
       That's my professional opinion.
   Α.
   Q.
       How so?
      As I've just stated, there's a presence -- the
   Α.
subdistrict creates an ability to draw a
majority-minority seat. That's Subdistrict 4A.
                                                 As I've
demonstrated here previously also in the full area,
there's racially polarized voting. That's Gingles two.
And Gingles three, which is this analysis, effectively
shows that the Voting Rights Act will not be violated if
this 4A is in place but it will be if it's taken away.
            MS. KELTY: No further questions.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you.
            Mr. Sanderson?
            MR. SANDERSON: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.
                  CROSS-EXAMINATION
BY MR. SANDERSON:
       Dr. Collingwood, my name is Paul Sanderson.
represent the plaintiffs in this case. I just have a
couple quick questions for you.
            The report and opinions you prepared in this
case are limited to Legislative District 4, correct?
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A. That's correct.
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- Q. Okay. You're not offering any opinions on voting -- racial polarized voting in District 9, correct?
- A. Not in this report.
- Q. Okay. And looking at the report you offered into evidence in this case, it is dated April 7, 2022, correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. And your April 7, 2022 report regarding racial polarized voting was not presented to the North Dakota Redistricting Committee during the 2021 redistricting process, correct?
- A. Correct.
- Q. And you did not testify at any redistricting
 hearings regarding your opinions on racially polarized
 voting in 2021, correct?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And you've not reviewed any expert reports on racially polarized voting presented to the Redistricting Committee in 2021, correct?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And just to be clear your expert report on coming up with the conclusions and the elections you evaluated in forming your opinions do not contain any prior

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District 4 House of Representative election results,
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    correct?
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       Α.
           That's correct.
                MR. SANDERSON: No further questions.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you.
                MR. PHILLIPS: No questions, Your Honor.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. Thank you,
    Mr. Phillips.
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                Did you have any redirect, Miss Kelty?
                           No, Your Honor.
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                MS. KELTY:
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. You may step
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    down, sir. Thank you for your time.
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                THE WITNESS: Thank you.
                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. Do you have any
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    further witnesses to call, Miss Kelty?
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                MS. KELTY: No, Your Honor. We rest.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: All right. Here's the
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    story. We have a couple of commitments over noon
    from -- on the part of a couple of judges so what we'll
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    do is we'll break at this point. We'll go ahead and
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    reconvene at 1:30 to take argument on all the legal
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    issues, okay? All right. Thank you.
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                (Recess taken; 11:50 a.m. to 1:35 p.m.)
                JUDGE ERICKSON: We're back on the record in
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    a case entitled Walen versus Burgum. It's File
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No. 1:22-cv-31. The record should reflect that all
counsel are present. That's not quite true.
Mr. Wrigley has -- is no longer with us but otherwise
everyone else is present.
            When we broke we were about to take the
closing arguments. Mr. Sanderson, are you going to
argue on behalf of the plaintiff/movants?
            MR. SANDERSON: Yes, I am, Your Honor.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You may proceed.
            MR. SANDERSON: Thank you. May it please
the Court, counsel: I'm here today on behalf of Charles
Walen, a representative of District 4, and Paul
Henderson, a representative of District 9, who are
seeking -- who filed this lawsuit seeking an injunction
and declaratory action against the defendants, Governor
Doug Burgum and Secretary of State Al Jaeger, regarding
the newly created subdistricts in Districts 4 and
Districts 9.
            The plaintiffs in this case assert that the
newly created subdistricts are -- constitute racial
gerrymandering in violation of the Equal Protection
Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. And currently we're
here today on the plaintiffs' motion for a preliminary
injunction under Rule 65 seeking to enjoin the
defendants from conducting any elections in the
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subdistricts until a final determination on the merits can be made.

In this case with respect to our preliminary injunction there are four factors that the plaintiffs must prove: substantial likelihood of success, irreparable harm absent the injunction, public interest and balance of the equities. And I'll address each of these. But as this Court has recently ruled while no one factor is controlling certainly the substantial likelihood of success on the merits is the most important factor of these four.

So with respect to the merits of this case under the Fourteenth Amendment Equal Protection Clause states are prohibited from separating citizens into voting districts on the basis of race absent sufficient justification. Now again plaintiffs have brought a racial gerrymandering case and to prove racial gerrymandering first plaintiffs bear the burden to establish that race was a predominant factor motivating the decision to place voters within a particular district. If the plaintiffs meet that burden the burden then shifts for element No. 2 to the state that the drawing of the districts were narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling government interest, otherwise known as strict scrutiny.

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Now following the filing of our preliminary injunction motion in this case at the beginning of March the United States Supreme Court issued a decision which is directly on point to the issues you're presented with in this case. The <u>Wisconsin Legislature</u> case was issued by the U. S. Supreme Court on March 23, 2022, and the issues and basically the facts are identical to what were presented here today.

In that case the governor argued that race-based districts in Wisconsin were required by Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The U. S. Supreme Court found that the evidence presented by the governor failed to meet the <u>Gingles</u> -- the <u>Thornburg v. Gingles</u> three preconditions that we've talked about. And in that case the Court walked through the framework that the State must show it had a strong basis in evidence in order to pass such racial gerrymandering in compliance with their compelling interest in complying with the Voting Rights Act.

But most importantly on March 23, 2022,
United States Supreme Court remanded that issue back to
Wisconsin to fix the issues before the upcoming
elections in 2022. And we'll talk about -- and I
certainly am going to address the State's <u>Purcell</u>
arguments later but one thing to remember and that we'll

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discuss in much more detail towards the end of my closing argument, at no point -- <u>Purcell</u> principle was not applicable in the <u>Wisconsin Legislature</u> case because the Supreme Court would not allow an unconstitutional election to proceed. So we'll address that like I said in more detail.

So we bear the burden in this motion to show that race was the predominant factor in the legislature's determination. And the United States Supreme Court has set forth the ways that a plaintiff can go about showing or proving that race was a predominant factor.

First, No. 1, it can be established through circumstantial evidence regarding the district's shape or demographic makeup. This Court needs to look no further than Subdistrict 4A and Subdistrict 9A. The boundaries of those subdistricts are completely following the outer boundaries of two reservations. And let's not forget the state of North Dakota has 47 legislative districts. Only two such districts were selected for subdistricts because they contained the Turtle Mountain Reservation and the Fort Berthold Reservation, and --

JUDGE ERICKSON: Does it matter at all that in the long history of the United States we have

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traditionally said that being an Indian is a political
status as opposed to a racial classification? And when
we're looking at a reservation, it's a tribal entity
that has inherent attributes of sovereignty and it also
is a dependent domestic nation in a quardian/ward
relationship with the United States government.
            And so is it -- is it necessarily so that
the classification is race-based as opposed to, you
know, political status-based?
            MR. SANDERSON: And, Judge, I think that's
one of the arguments asserted by the intervenors and
both the State is that this is more a traditional
redistricting purpose trying to keep this community
together.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Yeah. They've argued
mostly culture, right? They've not really argued as
much that the independent status of the tribe as being a
different entity. It's not -- the intervenors have
argued that.
            But, I mean -- but at the end of the day my
question is: Does that matter and, if not, why not?
            MR. SANDERSON: It doesn't matter for
purposes of the analysis that the Supreme Court has set
forth. Whether the community would be Native American,
whether the community would be black, whether it would
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be a religious community that you wanted to keep
together, the fact that it's being done on the basis of
race is the most important factor.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: But I think that's the
          Is it actually being done on the basis of
race or is it being done on the basis of Indian status?
            MR. SANDERSON: And the uncontroverted
evidence, as I'm going to get to here momentarily,
Judge, will show that race was the predominant factor.
And this factor that the North Dakota Legislative
Assembly relied upon solely was they wanted to avoid a
Section 2 voting rights claim made by the tribes in this
case. And the evidence submitted by the State in
support with their Affidavit from Miss Thompson contains
testimony, written testimony submitted at some hearings.
And in there the tribes threaten a voting rights claim
case.
            Not only, I mean, as the Court is aware
Judge Welte's sitting on a voting rights case from the
Turtle Mountain Tribe regarding the subdistricts in
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Judge Welte's sitting on a voting rights case from the Turtle Mountain Tribe regarding the subdistricts in District 9. So, you know, to your point whether it was done that way or not or whether it was considered, that wasn't the predominant factor. The predominant factor was solely race and solely on the basis to avoid a Section 2 voting rights case because South Dakota just

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got hit with a voting rights case and the legislature wanted to avoid that.

So with respect to -- I want to go to the demographic makeup because you're going to hear some testimony here momentarily about that. But not only were the boundaries drawn specifically on the reservation borders, they were drawn specifically in that -- with respect to Turtle Mountain Tribe and Fort Berthold Tribe because the demographic makeup of those two tribes was sufficient in number to constitute a majority in those districts. Again showing why race was done that way.

The legislature didn't draw subdistricts around the Standing Rock Tribe. They didn't draw subdistricts around the Spirit Lake Tribe because again those tribes do not have sufficient population or demographic makeup to support a majority in the subdistrict. So those factors -- this Court needs to look no further than that circumstantial evidence to know that race was a predominant factor in this.

But also the second point of how we meet our burden in this case is that through legislative history statements by elected officials. And that legislative history is used by Courts throughout and that's what we attempt and will show here. The legislative history in

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    this case shows race was a predominant factor.
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    morning you heard the testimony of Representative Terry
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    Jones, the House representative from District 4, who
    attended the subdistrict -- or the Redistricting
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    Committee meetings regarding the subdistricts. He
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    testified at those. He spoke to the Legislative
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    Council. He testified on the floor. And Mr. Jones --
    Representative Jones' testimony, as you heard today,
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    race was the predominant factor.
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                Now in our motion we submitted some
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    hyperlinks to various testimony to support race was a
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    predominant factor and, you know, we were criticized by
    the intervenors and the State as to being cherry-picking
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    random comments from certain legislators out of context.
    Following is a video from Joint Redistricting Chairman
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    Representative Devlin where he will state unequivocally
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    race was the predominant factor.
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                (Unidentified video played.)
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                MR. SANDERSON: Our burden's met.
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    chairman of the Joint Redistricting Committee testified
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    on the floor of the House: We are putting in
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    subdistricts because it is the requirement of the Voting
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    Rights Act.
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                We've met our burden with respect to
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    condition one. And let's not forget, complying with the
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Voting Rights Act is a compelling state interest and
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    they can do that. They can do that based on race. But
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    if they do that they have to meet the Gingles factors
    that we'll talk about.
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                 (Unidentified audio/video played.)
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                MR. SANDERSON: Two of the tribes in the
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    state of North Dakota meet the criteria and the criteria
    he's referring to is being sufficiently large enough to
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    comply with the first requirement of Gingles for a
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    Voting Rights Act claim.
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                Now again you're going to hear from
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    Redistricting Committee Member Headland who states the
    subdistricts were drawn on the basis of race.
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14
                 (Unidentified audio/video played.)
15
                MR. SANDERSON: I have issues dividing
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    subdistricts on the basis of race and I can't support
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    this subdivision. Redistricting Committee Monson in a
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    committee hearing, Representative Monson admitting the
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    subdistricts are being drawn on the basis of race.
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                JUDGE WELTE: Counsel, before you play this
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    could you do something about the volume because I'm not
    able to hear it? Thank you.
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23
                MR. SANDERSON: I apologize, Judge.
                                                      Thank
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    you.
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                (Unidentified audio/video played.)
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MR. SANDERSON: Committee Representative
Monson just said: We gerrymandered to give Native
American populations the opportunity to win elections.
And this is what's referred to in the Courts as
affirmative racial gerrymandering, but it's still racial
gerrymandering and it still must meet the statutory and
constitutional framework set down by the U.S. Supreme
Court.
            Finally another committee member,
Representative Schauer, a Redistricting Committee
member, admitting that race is a predominant factor and
the reason we did this is because they now meet the
population requirements to meet the first prong of
Gingles.
            (Unidentified audio/video played.)
            MR. SANDERSON: These are not cherry-picked
testimony from random legislators taken out of context.
These are committee members. This is a committee member
on the floor advocating for the passage of this bill and
the sole reason is to comply with Section 2 of the
Voting Rights Act and that's race based.
            The argument that Representative Schauer
just made regarding the sufficient population was
directly addressed on March 23rd by the U. S. Supreme
Court. Arguments that minority population was now
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sufficiently large and compact to meet the Voting Rights Act, Section 2, is just the sort of uncritical majority-minority district maximization that we have expressly rejected.
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The governor -- to go on the governor of Wisconsin provided almost no other evidence or analysis supporting the voting rights claim. Strict scrutiny requires much more. We've met our burden to show race was a predominant factor. So now the burden switches to the State to show that they have met the -- if race is a predominant factor and complying with the Voting Rights Act is a predominant factor, then the burden now shifts to the State to withstand strict scrutiny. And to do that the U. S. Supreme Court has set forth the framework in Thornburg v. Gingles, the three conditions that must be met.

Now we're going to address the <u>Gingles</u>
factors or preconditions but let's not forget that's
just the starting point. That's not the end of the
analysis. Now our position in this case those clearly
aren't met. There's absolutely no evidence. But even
if they were met there were additional factors that need
to be taken care of.

So the three <u>Gingles</u> preconditions, first, the minority group is large and geographically compact

to constitute a majority in the district. There's nobody here arguing that Subdistrict 4A and Subdistrict 9A meet the first <u>Gingles</u> factors. What we're here today and the basis of -- the entire basis of this racial gerrymandering case are the next two factors.

Factor No. 2 of <u>Gingles</u>, the minority group is politically cohesive and, factor No. 3, the district's majority vote must vote as a bloc to defeat the minority's preferred candidate. Unless these three factors are established there neither has been a wrong nor can there be a remedy created by the legislature.

And one thing that's very important when considering whether the factors two and three of Gingles were met is they must be met at the time the districts were drawn, meaning they must be met at the time the Redistricting Committee created those subdistricts back in November 2011. And again this was just again confirmed a month and a half ago by the Wisconsin Legislature. The determination of whether there's substantial evidence must be done at the time of imposition. Attempting to rewrite the legislative history or rejustify what or why it was done doesn't count.

Most telling this is going to be from the floor debate and one of the Redistricting Committee

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members is Representative Nathe and he is asked a
question by Representative Hoverson following
Representative Jones' testimony that you heard this
morning saying this is what is required. A racial
polarization study must be done.
            (Unidentified audio played.)
            MR. SANDERSON: Committee Member Nathe
admits they did not do any polarization studies.
Instead they relied on -- and what he's referring to the
Tribe, Chairman Fox says -- it's again attached to the
exhibits of Miss Thompson in this case, submitted some
written testimony that he lost a school board election
in 1990 and that the two intervenors in this case lost
the election in 2020. That is the extent of past
historical evidence that was provided to the committee.
And, as we've cited in our briefs, lay testimony from a
party seeking racial gerrymandering is not sufficient.
There has to be substantial evidence.
            Not only on the House floor was this
discussed but Senator David Hogue testified that the
Gingles preconditions had not been met in the Senate.
            (Unidentified audio/video played.)
            JUDGE HOVLAND: So, Mr. Sanderson, I've got
a question. I'm just curious why you would not have
hired an expert witness in this case and I'll have the
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same question for the State. I think these cases cry out for some expertise.
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MR. SANDERSON: And, Judge, I respectfully disagree with -- you know, with the assumption that this case is prime for expert testimony. This is a sufficiency of the evidence case. What was presented to the legislature at the time? We don't get to come in and back door in sufficient evidence and say: Oh, but the legislature could have considered this. It's what they considered at the time. And the record is absolutely void of any evidence to meet factors two and three of <u>Gingles</u>.

Had they done that, had there been sufficient evidence we wouldn't be here. But they didn't follow the statutory framework. And this was --

JUDGE ERICKSON: There are some cases that say that you don't necessarily need a scientific study but it still has to get to substantial evidence, right?

And so the question is: If we listen to what was presented to the Redistricting Committee -- and there's a lot of things that were said, there's some testimony that was received, there's a number of written statements that were received. The question is: Are they merely anecdotes or are they sufficiently detailed to constitute substantial evidence? And I know what

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    your answer is. I want to know why it is that.
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                MR. SANDERSON: The Supreme Court has been
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    very clear on what is required to be substantial
    evidence for -- to meet the Gingles factors, and I think
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    Dr. Collingwood is Exhibit A for our case.
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    Dr. Collingwood's report, that racial polarization
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    study, is exactly the type of evidence that the
    legislature needs to rely on to support this. But it
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    wasn't.
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                And we're not here to -- we're not here,
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    nobody's here arguing whether or not there's racial
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    animus in District 4 or District 9. That's not the
    issue. The issue is: Did the legislature have evidence
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    in front of it to support that? I'm not here -- while I
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    disagree with the methodology, some of the methodology
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    Dr. Collingwood used, that's not an issue for us and the
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    intervenors would not have had to go out and hire
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    Dr. Collingwood if there was any evidence they could
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    rely on.
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                Let's talk about -- we've pointed
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    out Representative Nathe admitting there was no evidence
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    to meet those. So let's look at -- this case was filed
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    on February 16th.
                       The State submitted its brief -- and
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    they know our main argument. The entire purpose of this
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    case is: Have the two Gingles factors been met? Page
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19 of the State's brief, here is their response to the Gingles factors: The Court has identified three preconditions, the Gingles preconditions which are necessary to proceed under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act, citing the Cooper Supreme Court case that we rely on heavily. One sentence: "If a State has good reason to think that all the 'Gingles preconditions' are met, then so too it has good reason to believe that Section 2 requires drawing a majority-minority district."
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That is the only evidence the State of North Dakota is presenting to you that they've met sections two and three of <u>Gingles</u>. Where's the citation in the record to any evidence, any study, any voting rights? And one of the things when we cite the <u>Abbott</u> case -- and U.S. Supreme Court <u>Abbott</u> opinion is really clear on what is necessary and they -- they're very clear about making sure that not only do you have to look at past historical voting data, you specifically need to look at past voting data with respect to the districts at issue. And that's where we take issue with Dr. Collingwood on it but again that's not here.

But there's no district data. There's no precinct data that the legislature relied on.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Is there any requirement

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that the precinct data be specifically analyzed and
    reported on?
                MR. SANDERSON: Absolutely, Judge.
    there's just case after case both from the Supreme Court
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    and, you know, more detailed from some of the federal
    district courts that have analyzed this. They said --
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: There's no question that
    there's a lot of data in these cases and there's a lot
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    of studies in these cases. The question is -- and those
    studies are by and large analyzed and Courts determine
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    whether or not that is sufficient evidence.
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                Is there a requirement in any case, however,
    that says that that sort of granular analysis precinct
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    by precinct is necessary?
                MR. SANDERSON: Yes, absolutely.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: And so which case is that?
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                MR. SANDERSON: The Abbott case we cited, I
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    believe the Wisconsin Legislature case we cited, they
    both say that. You have to look at specific precinct
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    data. Generalizations about election results are not
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    sufficient. And it just wasn't done.
                And again Dr. Collingwood's expert report is
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    Exhibit A to that fact. There would be no need to hire
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    an expert in April of 2022 if the legislature had that
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    in front of it. The intervenors or the State would be
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putting that up right in front of you showing this is what the legislature relied upon to meet that. But that wasn't done, and certainly not in District 9.

Absolutely no evidence in District 9 and, in fact, we have the tribe opposing the subdistrict in District 9.

Senator Richard Marcellais, an enrolled member of the tribe who has won the last six elections in District 9, voted against this subdistrict and spoke against the subdistricts on the floor.

The undisputed evidence before you shows the Gingle factors have not been met by the North Dakota
Legislature in creating the subdistricts in order to comply with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and for that reason the plaintiffs will prevail on the merits just as the plaintiffs in the Wisconsin case prevailed earlier.

Just quickly with the remaining injunction factors, the second factor, irreparable harm absent the injunction. This Court has recently said: An injury regarding constitutional right to vote is irreparable because there is no redress once the election occurs.

And in this case if my clients are not entitled to their two representatives like everyone else in the state, they'll miss an entire policy-making, an entire legislative session that only occurs once every two

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years. That is irreparable harm sufficient to meet these factors.
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And then the public interest and balance of equities, with respect to the public interest the public has a huge interest in a right to fair constitutional elections and their right to vote in those elections.

And then we get to -- and this is taking us into the Purcell argument here but the balance of equities.

We're talking about a deprivation of my clients' constitutional rights to vote, a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment Equal Protection Clause against the State's argument that it's a significant impact to the election process and those workers and it would be a hassle.

JUDGE HOVLAND: So tell me how you get around <u>Purcell</u> and the most recent pronouncement of the Supreme Court in Alabama.

MR. SANDERSON: You're referring to the Merrill case and I'll get there. The State's argument in this is six months is not enough time to fix the unconstitutional election.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Well, really what they might be arguing is that people have already started voting and, you know, if you look around the country and you look at election law challenges that have been

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brought everywhere for all sorts of reasons over the last, you know, five or six years, the one cardinal bright shining light, the cardinal rule is when they start voting we quit deciding.
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And so why should we decide that issue rather than letting at least the primary play out?

MR. SANDERSON: And, Judge, I'll respond to it this way and we'll address it <u>Purcell</u>. We are unable to find a single case where a Court has applied <u>Purcell</u> to let an unconstitutional election proceed. They've applied <u>Purcell</u> to stop voting rights changes, you know, statutory changes, rules. But not once -- and neither the State nor the intervenors have cited one case in their briefs where an unconstitutional election is allowed to go forward. And what they're asking --

JUDGE ERICKSON: Do you have a case where after people have started voting a Court has entered an order to stop an unconstitutional election that's been affirmed on appeal?

MR. SANDERSON: Judge, I -- we cited a number of cases and mostly federal court cases where three, four, five months is sufficient time. I'm not sure -- I can't stand in front of you right now and say whether the voting process had started at that time. I would suspect, you know, just knowing the timelines it

likely had.

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But <u>Purcell</u> is not an absolute bar on an injunction. It is just one factor that this Court must weigh against others. And in this case you're weighing the <u>Purcell</u> timing and inconvenience against a party's constitutional rights.

And one thing that's lost in this, and I want to make sure the framework of this is really clear, the State is arguing we're coming in trying to change election laws. We're not. We're asking -- my clients are asking that the status quo be maintained. Voters in North Dakota have elected two representatives in their district for decades as far as back as we can possibly find, if not a hundred years but for decades. The State of North Dakota attempted to change that on November 12th of 2021 and they want to change that process. It's them asking for a change close to the timing within a year of the election. So this Court's Self-Advocacy Solutions v. Jaeger decided in 2020 Purcell does not apply when injunction would not fundamentally alter elections and there's no risk of voter confusion.

The concerns that trouble the Court in Purcell are not present in this instance. There's no voter confusion. There's no dissuasion from voting.

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All these things -- all those issues remain the same when weighing the impact of the threat to the constitutional fundamental right to vote outweighs the inconvenience to voters. In this case if this Court were to remove the subdistricts every person in District 4 would get to vote. Every person in District 9 would get to vote. The precincts don't have to change. The outer boundaries don't have to change. There would be no confusion because this is how voters have voted for the last hundred years in this state.

JUDGE WELTE: It isn't just confusion, and certainly whether or not there's confusion is still at issue here, but isn't it also cost or hardship amongst -- upon the voters as well? Shouldn't those be considerations?

MR. SANDERSON: And certainly those can be considerations. I haven't heard any testimony nor seen any in this case of what the cost of printing additional ballots would be, what the cost of holding another special election. But I would really contend that those -- that monetary cost is far outweighed by the 16,000 voters in District 9 who are going to have their constitutional rights violated if an election on unconstitutional subdistricts proceeds. The State's entire <u>Purcell</u> argument is based on an erroneous

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assumption also that this Court does not have the power to go in and change it. A big piece of their argument is you have to remand this back to the legislature.

They could change everything. They could change the districts. It could throw the whole state off. That is simply not correct.

Courts -- and this is the <u>Covington</u> case which they actually cite, a 2018 U.S. Supreme Court opinion. The District Court has its own duty to cure illegally gerrymandered districts through an orderly process in advance of elections. Courts have a duty to make sure an unconstitutional election does not proceed. We are six months out from the November election. There is sufficient time to fix this.

And again although -- the U. S. Supreme

Court said in the <u>Upham</u> case, although Courts must refer

to the legislative judgments on these issues as much as

possible, it's forbidden to do so when the legislative

plan will not meet the special stands of population

equity or racial fairness that are applicable to

Court-ordered plans. This Court has every power and

authority to go in and fix this election and there are a

number of ways that that can be done.

But, Judge Hovland, to your point I want to address the <u>Merrill</u> case you brought up. <u>Merrill</u> was

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decided on February 7, 2022, a month and a half before the <u>Wisconsin Legislature</u> case. And one of the very important things in <u>Merrill</u> was in <u>Merrill</u> Justice Kavanaugh outlined four factors which if established would overcome the <u>Purcell</u> doctrine: One, the underlying merits favor the plaintiff; two, the plaintiff would suffer irreparable harm absent injunction; three, the plaintiff is not unduly delayed bringing the Complaint; and four, the changes in question are feasible before the election.

And in Merrill Judge Kavanaugh said the plaintiffs had failed to meet at least two of those and he said in the Merrill opinion in February that the plaintiffs haven't even shown that they would prevail on the merits let alone a substantial likelihood they would prevail on the merits. And then too the changes are feasible before the election. One of the things -- this was -- Merrill was completely redrawn the entire state of Alabama and one of the things Justice Kavanaugh pointed out in that opinion is we're in a situation where candidates don't even know what district they're in. Incumbents don't know what -- they don't even know what district they live in at this stage. And they said that is not sufficient and Purcell would apply to that. And that again was a voting rights claim.

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JUDGE WELTE: Mr. Sanderson, you mentioned before the status quo and you just spoke to the factor about the changes being feasible before the election.

When you talk about District 4 and you talk about District 9, District 4 and District 9 in 2022, are they the same as they were in 2020? Because that's not the status quo. If they aren't the same, if District 4 in 2022 is not the same as it was in 2020, is that the status quo?

MR. SANDERSON: I think your point, Judge, has the outer boundaries changed somewhat on District 4? I can't answer that completely. I expect that there may be some sort of change. But what hasn't changed is their fundamental right to vote for two representatives as every other person in the 47 districts in North Dakota. That has not changed.

So we talked about Merrill here. That was in February. A month and a half later the Wisconsin

Legislature case goes in front of the U. S. Supreme

Court and the difference -- the critical difference is the Wisconsin Legislature case is a constitutional challenge. The Wisconsin Legislature case a month and a half later on March 23rd does not mention Purcell at all. The dissent doesn't even raise Purcell as a reason, and they said: You have time, in March 23 of

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2022 before the August primary, to go back and fix this because they're not going to allow an unconstitutional election to proceed.
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So when looking at the <u>Merrill</u> case, Judge, and looking at what just came down in Wisconsin, I think you can draw a clear line. And so with respect to the <u>Merrill</u> exception to <u>Purcell</u> in this case we meet all four of these. Again we've talked about the merits. They're clear-cut. There's no dispute on this. They suffer irreparable injury if they're not entitled to the same equal rights that all other voters have.

I want to address the undue delay argument briefly but you heard the testimony of Jim Silrum here today. They began primary election work on November 12th, the same day the law went into effect. If we would have -- on November 12th. If we would have filed on November 13th they'd be making the same argument that this is -- this process -- it would take three months to get here just like it did. We filed 96 days after the law went into effect. And let's not forget it was the State that asked for a 44-day extension to answer so they could prepare transcripts in this case. The plaintiff has not delayed in bringing this case.

So the changes -- then it comes down to

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We've met the first three factors of the Merrill
this.
exception to Purcell. So then it comes down to the
fourth factor. The changes in question are feasible
before the election. One thing that I hope was
perfectly clear if this Court finds that the
subdistricts were drawn unconstitutionally in Districts
4 and 9, District 4 does not need to have another
election. They would not be up for election in 2022
but for the unconstitutional subdistrict as Mr. Silrum
            Their population didn't change enough that
mentioned.
they needed to go through reorganization.
            So we take District 4 off.
representatives from District 4 who were
constitutionally elected to a four-year term get to
finish out their four-year term. So all we are dealing
with is one election in District 9, a House of
Representatives election, if you remove the subdistrict.
And all this talk about having to redo the entire
election, every other election issue or contest on that
ballot could stay the same. Those results could be
tabulated just like that. All that has to be done --
well, there's infinite -- numerous possibilities but
just looking at holding a special election.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You know, the problem is
that as I look at 16.1-13 I'm not seeing any basis
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statutorily to call a special election in the absence of a vacancy. And so you're asking us to as a federal court do something that's quite extraordinary and that is you're asking us to direct a state to conduct an election that does not seem to be authorized by the statute. And there seems to be a federalism issue there that's a little troubling to me.

MR. SANDERSON: I disagree. I don't think it is troubling, Your Honor. I think this Court instructing the State to not proceed with an unconstitutional election should be exactly what this Court should be doing. There are six months to ensure that my clients and 16,000 other voters' constitutional rights are not violated and they don't miss out on two years of representation, an entire legislative session where all kinds of policy decisions will be made where they don't have an equal footing at the table. That far exceeds any inconvenience that's being asserted.

I believe -- and I also disagree that it's unprecedented. Federal courts routinely order elections, redraw districts. Federal court's job is to ensure that unconstitutional elections do not proceed and that should be the driving force here, our constitutional rights. We have six months to fix this, nine months from the day we filed our Complaint. To

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argue that nine months is not sufficient time and your constitutional rights should be buried for two years, it just doesn't make sense; nor can they cite a single Purcell case that has upheld the Purcell principle over a plaintiff's constitutional right to a fair election.

the power to do that. There's all kinds of remedies that could be done. The Court could allow -- the Court could strike the 64-day candidate. The Court could strike the requirement -- the biggest one is that the -- those two individuals in District 9 that did not get the party endorsement that went out and required signatures to get on the ballot do not have sufficient signatures to run in the entire district. The State's saying we should put those two candidates' rights over the 16,000 members of District 9 and their constitutional rights, and that's just absurd. That just should not be what this Court endorses when we have six months to fix that problem.

So there are a number of ways this Court could say for the House election in November the requirement that they meet the 164 signatures is not necessary. They can get on the ballot. The parties can go back and renominate. There's all kinds of things that can be done. There's an infinite number of

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possibilities to rectify this situation without violating my clients' constitutional rights. And special elections have been held and I believe there's statutory authority and this Court certainly has the inherent power to ensure that an unconstitutional election does not proceed.
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Members of the Court, my clients believe they have met their burden on the merits. They have established that the sole reason or predominant reason for the legislature's creation of subdistricts in District 4 and District 9 was to comply with the Voting Rights Act, which was a race-based decision. Courts -- or the legislature certainly has the right. That's a compelling reason. But when they exercise that justification they are subject to strict scrutiny, and they failed to meet the strict scrutiny because the failed to meet the Gingles factors. My clients will prevail on the merits of this case if it moves forward, and the -- certainly the inequities between the plaintiffs' constitutional rights and the State's claim of the inconvenience it faces in the election certainly favor granting an injunction in this case.

And for those reasons the plaintiffs ask that an injunction be granted, the status quo be maintained, that members of District 9 and District 4

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are allowed to elect two representatives to the House in North Dakota and that a full determination of the merits can be heard before the State implements the race-based subdistricts.

And again we believe the <u>Purcell</u> doctrine does not apply. Ample time exists through the cases we've cited for an election that's not unconstitutional to take place within the next six months.

So with that I thank you for your attention and we ask that the injunction be granted in this case.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you.

Mr. Phillips?

MR. PHILLIPS: May it please the Court:

First and foremost the State defendants are requesting that this Court apply the <u>Purcell</u> principle and refuse to issue the preliminary injunction that's requested because the 2022 election cycle has already started.

Regardless of the merits of the plaintiffs' case, the State defendants have introduced the testimony of Deputy secretary of state Jim Silrum both by Affidavit and by live testimony today explaining the problems with making a change to the districts right now and this would include either just eliminating the subdistricts or potentially having the districts redrawn altogether by the state legislature.

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Some of these problems have very significant implications for the rights of nonparties, including candidates and including voters. For example, as Mr. Silrum testified there are two candidates who collected enough signatures to be on the ballot for the House in their subdistricts. They don't have enough signatures to be on the ballot in a whole district. Those candidates are Jayme Davis in Subdistrict 9A and Chuck Damschen in Subdistrict 9B. These two candidates have already been certified to get onto the ballot in North Dakota. Their names are printed on the ballots and those ballots have been mailed to voters, some of who have returned those ballots. This election is currently underway as we sit here today. JUDGE HOVLAND: So do you agree with Mr. Sanderson that a federal court can waive those requirements? MR. PHILLIPS: I think that -- I wouldn't deny that the federal court has significant power. However, in this case it's not even really a waiver of a There is no state law that accounts for the elimination of subdistricts in the middle of an election. We have a scenario where the districts were created by the legislature. The election started and what's being contemplated by the plaintiffs is that the

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boundaries of the districts are going change in the middle of the election.

So it's tricky because I'm not entirely sure even what North Dakota law this Court might waive as I don't know that there is a process or procedure to deal with this situation.

that the election's going to be unconstitutional and that because it's failed to meet the <u>Gingles</u> preconditions that there's still time to fix this, right? And I think their argument essentially is -- I think that if you listen to the testimony they really think that we can strike the subdivision line, leave the districts as they are, and that we can compel a compacted voting process by compelling a special election, right? And, you know, I asked them whether or not there was any statutory authorization and they're basically arguing that it's within the inherent powers of the Court to call this special election because it is necessary to protect the constitutional rights of the citizens of Districts 4 and 9.

And why are they wrong?

MR. PHILLIPS: I don't deny that the Court has significant power to correct violations of the constitution. I would ask this Court to consider the

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constitutional rights of the voters who risk
disenfranchisement if they're confused in this election.

I would ask the Court to consider the voters as well in terms of sort of upending an election as it's proceeding.

Mr. Silrum testified to the importance of elections being as perfect as possible. The <u>Purcell</u>
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elections being as perfect as possible. The <u>Purcell</u> doctrine exists for a reason and it's to not make last-minute changes in an election that must go on sort of regardless of what happens. And so there are other rights at stake here besides just the plaintiffs' and those should be considered. It's why the <u>Purcell</u> doctrine exists, which is to say that the Court's will enforce constitutional law and will protect constitutional rights but it will not throw out the rights of all voters in pursuit of that immediately before an election.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you.

MR. PHILLIPS: With respect to these candidates that are problematic in District 9, it's not really clear what should be done. They could be kept on the ballot. If that happens then there's a violation of North Dakota law with respect to signatures. Certainly other candidates may cry foul who did receive enough signatures. There are candidates in North Dakota who

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submitted signatures but didn't have enough valid signatures to be on the ballot. They were rejected.

Leaving these candidates on the ballot while having rejected others is problematic because the contrary is true as well. Removing these candidates from the ballot will be removing them from the ballot by changing a rule after it's too late for these candidates to comply.

JUDGE ERICKSON: What I'm hearing you argue is there's an equal protection problem with the people that have circulated petitions in a subdistrict, acquired enough signatures to be on the ballot in that subdistrict, and that somehow if you were to say that, yeah, we changed the rules and now you're going to run in the whole district and that you allow them to remain on the district that that would somehow violate equal protection with all the other people who failed to acquire enough signatures to get on the ballot, which by the way is a number we usually don't know because they don't file anything and tell us anything about it.

But in order for that to be a real problem, don't they have to be equally situated? And they're not because on one hand you have people that have made a de jure signature gathering attempt and have filed the correct number of signatures to get on the ballot as it

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existed and on the other you have people who just were
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    de facto short of the number of signatures they needed.
                And drawing a distinction between those two
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    classes of people, wouldn't that pass just any kind of
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    rational analysis? And since none of these are based on
    a protected class that's what we'd be doing, right?
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                MR. PHILLIPS: It's problematic because
    voters have a right to select and nominate their
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    candidate of choice, and this series of events and
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    what's being asked for by the plaintiffs is a series of
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    events that they're asking to lead towards the removal
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    of candidates from the ballot. That has obvious
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    implications to voter rights. We're talking about
    kicking -- we're not talking about just who were
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    certified. We're talking about candidates that are in
    ballots in the hands of voters today and removing them.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: Well, either that or
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    saving:
            We're going to waive the signature requirement
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    and they stay on. I mean, in this world where we're
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    talking about -- we're exercising rather extraordinary
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    federal powers, right? And wouldn't it seem far more
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    reasonable to say everybody stays on the ballot than
    saying, okay, everybody's off?
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                MR. PHILLIPS: Yeah, it's -- it also
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    implicates, you know, which candidates ran in the first
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place. You know, we have some candidates that are nominated by the parties. We have others that are seeking petitions. If you are actually running by petition, you're limited to the signatures of the people in your subdistrict.

There are a myriad of factors that might have come into play had this change been made early on in terms of where they could seek those signatures, whether they could get nominated by the party for the district-at-large instead of moving forward by petition. As I said, there are so many unknowns we just don't know the problems that may have existed. And the Purcell doctrine is what guides the Court not to jump in and make massive changes with so many unknowns that -- while we don't know all of the harmful effects there will be, there will be many known harmful effects and many unknown harmful effects both to candidates and to voters.

I don't want to downplay the risk to voter confusion by sending second ballots to the same voters or by holding a second special election for the same election that was already held. I'm not really aware of legal authority to order that special election anyway that's being asked for. But all of the issues that Mr. Silrum talks about and testified to in terms of

voter confusion apply in that scenario. We're at a stage where voters are voting and the plaintiffs are asking to have those voters revote.

Mr. Silrum also testified in his Affidavit to numerous other actions that have taken place since the redistricting. It is important that, you know, this is a redistricting year. It's not a normal election in the sense that there is a huge machinery in any election that kicks into gear many months before an election. It kicks into gear even earlier in a redistricting year. And in his Affidavit and his testimony I hope we've established the many interrelated factors that are impacted by a change of districting now. And all of those actions that had to be taken by county officials, by state officials since the redistricting was done, many of those may have to be redone. They took months. This law was passed in November.

In addition, Your Honors, the claims of the plaintiff in this case or the plaintiffs shouldn't be looked at in a vacuum. We are asking this Court to take into account that there are multiple redistricting cases in North Dakota at the moment. As a quick update I have spoken with counsel for the other parties and a joint motion to consolidate we think will be entered into and filed by all parties except for the plaintiffs in the

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Walen case asking to consolidate these two cases at least for purposes of scheduling.

What's important here is that the current Walen case involves a constitutional challenge. The other case, the Turtle Mountain case, involves only a Voting Rights Act challenge. One of those cases the plaintiffs have moved for preliminary injunction and so the only thing before the Court is the issue relating to the constitutional violation. And the plaintiffs are pushing to move forward as fast as possible regardless of the consequences to the election to remedy that alleged violation of the constitution.

As far as these two cases, I certainly am not going to concede that the plaintiff is likely to be successful in either of them but I have to acknowledge that there's a risk that one or more of these plaintiffs may be successful. If that's the case we have argued that this Court should send the matter back to the state legislature as the appropriate body to redo a redistricting. It's nonsensical to send the case back -- send it back to the State to do an entire redistricting, you know, numerous hours of legislative hearings and everything else that goes into that process only to address the constitutional issue and only because the Court hasn't yet gotten to the Voting Rights

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Act claims that have been brought in the other case.

This sort of piecemeal decision-making with respect to the constitutional claims and the Voting Rights Act claims has the potential to send the matter back for redistricting to remedy an alleged violation of the constitution. A later order of the Court in the other case may turn -- may show the results that that map that was drawn violates the Voting Rights Act.

So we have a situation where if this is going to be sent back to the State at any point, and I'm not conceding that it should be, but if it is the legislature should have the benefit of the Court's orders with respect to the alleged constitutional violation and with respect to the Voting Rights Act so that any redistricting that is redone would comply with all applicable laws and all orders of the Court.

There's no reason to push this case through well in advance of the other case just to remedy this alleged constitutional violation, which that remedy may turn out to be a violation of federal law for all we know. That issue hasn't yet been adjudicated.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Well, obviously I'm not part of the Voting Rights Act case but as I'm sitting here thinking about it it's like if the problem in this particular case is a <u>Gingles</u> problem, a pre-conditional

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constitutional problem, well, there's a Voting Rights

Act problem kind of by definition at that point, right?

It's going to have to be thought about.
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And if we look at what the Gingles pre-conditional findings are that we're concerned with, the Gingles factors if you prefer, you know, the first thing we've got to figure out is like, well, what legislative facts were ever found, right? And as I look at this record there's all kinds of anecdote. all kinds of testimony. There's all kinds of things that are in the record. There's no report from any expert that ties that evidence plus the elections together, right? And then there are no legislative Findings of Fact. And it's not even one of those cases where, you know -- we can find cases where a single legislator stands up in either the Redistricting Committee or on the floor of the House or Senate and they go through and they say: Here are the Gingles factors as we considered and found them. And federal courts have said that's a sufficient finding.

And I've kind of looked through this record and combed through it and I'm not seeing anything where anybody actually ever made a finding legislatively that we can defer to, right? And so what you're asking us to do in a case that requires the application of strict

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scrutiny is to examine the whole record and by inference
draw that the findings were made. And if -- you know,
on the other side here they keep showing clips of people
saying: It's not in the record. It's not in the
record. It's not in the record, you know, which may
undermine that argument.
            So, you know, how are we supposed to go
about doing that without any specific fact finding on
the part of this committee?
            MR. PHILLIPS: To be clear, Your Honor, I am
not conceding that race was the predominant factor in
this redistricting and so I don't concede that the
Gingles factors should have been analyzed by the
legislature or was required to.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: I get that piece. I mean,
I'm not -- I mean, I understand that we were contesting
every single piece. What I'm looking at is there are no
fact findings legislatively.
           MR. PHILLIPS: I would suggest, Your Honor,
that that actually may be evidence that race was not the
predominant factor and we actually have significant data
in the record and requests in the record to treat the
reservations as communities of interest and to respect
the political boundaries of the tribal lands.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: I get that and then the
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question becomes: What about this imprecise language that's being used by any number of members of the Legislative Assembly, which do tend to indicate that decisions were being made based on a racial classification as opposed to the Indian status and the nature of the tribal status as an independent political community with a cultural cohesiveness that ought to be kept together when possible?

MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor, our position is
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MR. PHILLIPS: Your Honor, our position is that the plaintiff has not met its burden of establishing the legislative record. He made the comment that our position is that they've cherry-picked and that is our position. You know, if I was to submit a deposition transcript to this Court in support of a motion, I would submit the whole transcript because, you know, if you have a snippet of a transcript or a 30-second video we don't know what was said before, we don't know what was said after.

And in this case there were, I believe it says in the Affidavit, over 40 hours of testimony, debate and so forth. And so was race discussed?

Clearly. There are some videos of that. Was race the predominant factor? Our argument is that, no, and the plaintiffs have not established that it was.

And by the way discussion of race and

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discussion of the Voting Rights Act is to be expected of legislatures. They have to account for it and they even talk about whether or not it applies, whether they conclude it does or doesn't.
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So snippets that mention race are not convincing that race was the predominant factor. These 40 hours of hearings are public records. They're all online. There's no reason we don't -- that the plaintiffs didn't submit a transcript or other sufficient information for this Court to be able to parse out whether it was the predominant factor as opposed to random comments from legislators.

In this case they also presented a single legislator in terms of his memory of the events and of these hearings. He clearly was not present at all of them and got some of his information by talking to others. This is not a sufficient record. So I want to be clear that our position is that the record isn't complete and that's -- that would have been the responsibility of the plaintiffs and we deny that they've met that initial hurdle of showing race was the predominant factor. And so they are not likely to succeed for that reason alone.

And nothing else springs from that. I mean, if there's not a finding that race was a predominant

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factor, then the Gingles factors are not relevant.
Those only become relevant to meet the strict scrutiny
test once race was used as the predominant factor.
            JUDGE HOVLAND: I realize, Mr. Phillips, you
came into this probably late in the game as an outside
counsel, Special Assistant attorney general, but do you
know why the State or Legislative Assembly, the
Legislative Council, the secretary of state would not
have hired an expert witness, would not have done -- had
some statistical analysis done? I mean, it could have
easily been done.
           MR. PHILLIPS: I would say that I'm not
convinced the record is complete enough to say that it
didn't exist. I don't know the answer to that question
but I'm not going to concede that more data and analysis
doesn't exist in the legislative record or --
            JUDGE HOVLAND: Well, counsel for the
Legislative -- or the legislative counsel that spoke at
that hearing said there hadn't been any statistical
analysis done, hadn't hired an expert witness.
                          Again I would fall back on a
            MR. PHILLIPS:
cherry-picked --
            JUDGE HOVLAND: Sure, fair enough.
           MR. PHILLIPS: I don't know the answer to
that. But I would say again it does fall in line with
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our main argument with respect to the merits, which is
that the plaintiffs haven't proved that race was the
predominant factor, in which case there's discussion of
race certainly but not enough to establish that that was
the predominant factor that triggered the further
analysis under Gingles.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: You've suggested that the
plaintiffs had an obligation to come forward with the
full record, sufficient transcripts for us to review it.
The committee hearings are all online. They're all
residing on the State's website.
            Is it improper in your world for the Court
to go back and to do its independent review of the
Redistricting Committee hearing recordings and make its
own decision, or is that outside the record such that it
at this point needs to be ignored?
            MR. PHILLIPS: I believe that it is outside
the record. It's the plaintiffs' burden to establish
the record in this court of law, and they've failed to
do so.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: And we could take judicial
notice of things like the law or a fact that can't
reasonably be computed or -- or in fact it can be.
                                                    You
know, what was the temperature on August 4, 2021?
            But are we free to go back and just review
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the entire legislative process and make our own
independent findings? I know you're going to say no,
you can't do that. But if that's true how is it that we
look at all sorts of legislative history to inform our
decisions elsewhere?
           MR. PHILLIPS: This is a key issue in the
case, Your Honor. If something is in the record that is
important and that the Court finds important, that the
parties might have found important, we should have been
arguing about it today. We had witnesses on the stand
today. We're having oral argument today.
            The plaintiffs didn't meet their burden.
                                                      As
the North Dakota Supreme Court often says: Judges are
not ferrets that go looking for the evidence on behalf
of parties, and that's what I would suggest in this
case.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: So essentially you would
say failing to argue those facts would constitute a
waiver of that factual argument?
           MR. PHILLIPS: Correct, Your Honor.
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Very good.
           MR. PHILLIPS: I will point out, Your Honor,
as well Judge Hovland asked a question about retaining
of experts and one thing to bear in mind is that in this
matter my client is the secretary of state and the
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governor and they actually aren't members of the
legislature and so some of that information might not be
available to my client in terms of their own files.
Although, I would suggest that all of the evidence
that's there is public record that the plaintiffs could
have obtained and presented to the Court.
            JUDGE WELTE: Mr. Phillips, would you agree
that if the Court needs to make a determination as to
whether race was a predominant factor then the Court
should know all of the factors that were considered to
determine if one was predominant or if they were equally
considered?
            MR. PHILLIPS: The Court should know that.
I don't think this record is sufficient though for this
Court to make that determination.
            JUDGE WELTE: You don't believe that the
record's sufficient to determine all of the factors that
were actually considered --
            MR. PHILLIPS: Correct.
            JUDGE WELTE: -- and that that's just simply
the plaintiffs' burden?
            MR. PHILLIPS: We were not going to meet the
plaintiffs' burden of the initial factor and so we
didn't introduce an entire record. That entire record
would have included that as well.
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JUDGE WELTE: Thank you.

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MR. PHILLIPS: And I do want to be clear that there is a record in this case of testimony introduced by the defendants of specific requests, numerous specific requests for the reservation lands to be treated as communities of interest and for the political boundaries to be respected. That is in the record. Are those predominant factors? You know --JUDGE ERICKSON: Would have been nice if somebody in the legislature would have told us that. MR. PHILLIPS: Importantly it doesn't trigger a constitutional analysis. The plaintiffs argue that they're deprived of representation by having one representative in the House instead of two. argument has been made a couple of times in passing in the briefing and in the oral argument, and just to be clear legislative subdistricts are permitted by the North Dakota Constitution, explicitly in Article IV, Section 2, and the plaintiffs haven't cited any case law suggesting that that's impermissible under the federal constitution. Those subdistricts have, as much as practicable, the same population as half of the full district and so representation is proportional. half the number of people voting for half the number of representatives. So that fact alone does not establish

a violation of the constitution.

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Overall, Your Honors, balancing the harm to voters, to candidates, to election officials, the harm that would come in upending an election right now we would argue that even if there was a constitutional violation with respect to the plaintiffs, it weighs in favor of denying the preliminary injunction.

Wisconsin Legislature case at the U. S. Supreme Court. I would like to point out a couple of important distinguishing factors between this case and that one. In that case it was a situation where the governor and the legislature had reached an impasse in terms of districting maps. It went to the Court to choose the appropriate map.

That is not the situation in North Dakota where the political process did come to a resolution on districting maps, enacted them into law, and then county and state election officials sprung into action to implement that law. It makes a certain amount of sense that a Court needs to step in and make last-minute changes when the political process failed to timely create districting maps. It's a different situation where a plaintiff is coming in after the political process worked and asking for a last-minute change in an

election.

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I will also point out that that case did go up to the United States Supreme Court in March for an August primary and the Court found that under the law in Wisconsin that was sufficient time. There's less time in this case and we've presented significant evidence as to why in North Dakota based on North Dakota's unique requirements it would be harmful to upend the election right now and that there isn't sufficient time to make changes. People have voted and are voting today.

In addition, Your Honors, I would argue and as we have argued in the briefs that this Court should not simply erase the subdistrict lines. That is a map that the state legislature never approved. The legislature has never had a map that looks like it does today just without the subdistricts. In this case if the matter were sent back to the State we don't know how the legislature would respond. We don't know what maps they would draw. I mean, an important factor in redistricting is population equality, substantial population equality. If the political bodies made the decision that the reservations constitute a community of interest and they want to draw a subdistrict line around that reservation, that naturally constrains how the line can be drawn in the larger district because you have to

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have half the population in that subdistrict and so your
outer boundary is going to change if you didn't make the
political decision to do subdistricts.
            So if we sent it back to the state
legislature, we don't know that that's the remedy they
would impose. They may decide something different.
would ask that this Court defer and allow the State to
exercise its duties if it was going to take action
rather than imposing a map that was never vetted through
the political process. And if our state legislature did
make a decision to alter the outer district lines and
not just the subdistricts, that would have cascading
effects throughout North Dakota. It would change
basically every district in the state in order to
maintain that population equality. Making that kind of
a change would require substantial work at the county
and state level, everything from redesignating the
precincts and beyond.
            I'd be happy to answer any questions.
Otherwise I will rest.
            JUDGE HOVLAND: I have none, thank you.
            MR. PHILLIPS:
                          Thank you.
            JUDGE ERICKSON:
                             Miss Kelty? Oh, I'm sorry.
            Mr. Carter, you may proceed.
            MR. CARTER: May it please the Court:
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afternoon, Your Honors. I am Michael Carter appearing today on behalf of the defendants-intervenors MHA Nation as well as individual MHA tribal members Lisa DeVille and Cesareo Alvarez. From the outset I just want to reiterate something that has been made clear in our briefing to this point which is that intervenors' interest in this case is only limited to District 4 and so my arguments will be limited to such.

I have three main points that I want to make to the Court this afternoon and first is that

District 4 -- the formation of District 4 follows traditional redistricting principles; second, that the district's formation is justified and required under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act; and, third, that the plaintiffs are requesting an unlawful remedy of this Court.

So our first two arguments focus on the two-step analysis that was provided in the <u>Cooper v.</u>

<u>Harris</u> case saying that the plaintiffs must first prove that race was the predominant factor motivating the legislature's decision to draw a particular district and then second if racial decisions did predominate whether the district is still nevertheless required under -- to ensure compliance with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

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For the first step plaintiffs have failed to meet their burden to prove that District 4 was drawn predominantly based on race. As our brief contends, Subdistrict 4A follows traditional redistricting principles of compactness and respect for political boundaries and respect for the MHA Nation as a community of interest. Those were all types of traditional redistricting principles that were provided in the slide show earlier I think in the PowerPoint.

And so I want to impress upon the Court the burden that is on the plaintiffs in order to prove that traditional redistricting principles were subordinated by notions of race. In the Abbott v. Perez case that plaintiffs cite to, the Supreme Court stated that plaintiffs have the burden to overcome the presumption of legislative good faith and show that the legislature acted in bad faith to racially gerrymander. In the Cooper v. Harris case, the Supreme Court stated that the plaintiffs' burden here is a demanding one here and that a Court must be very cautious about imputing racial motive to a state's redistricting plan.

So that is the background for the burden that plaintiffs have to meet in order to prove racial motive was predominant in a redistricting plan. This burden cannot be met by showing that the legislature was

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aware of race or that the legislature considered race in its decision-making. In fact, those types of considerations I think are probably present in most redistricting analyses and decision-making that legislatures have to make, but that does not mean that race predominated the decision-making.

establish such predominance. The cases plaintiffs rely on involve districts that were bizarrely shaped, not compact, including land bridges and appendages sometimes over a hundred miles long. Those characteristics are not met in this case and in fact it's quite the opposite.

As you can see on the screen, we provided a picture of District 4. You can see the darker-shaded area to the south is the Subdistrict 4A which directly -- or precisely follows the reservation boundaries, which I think is possibly the most compact district in the state or subdistrict.

And so as I said the Subdistrict 4A precisely follows the political boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation that is home to the MHA Nation. The district is geographically compact and the district respects the MHA as a community of interest. In fact, it was a stated goal, as was testified to earlier, of

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the Redistricting Committee to respect the political boundaries of the reservations in the state, and that's what the Redistricting Committee and the legislature did here, similar to the way that county lines have been respected throughout the redistricting map whenever feasible based on population.

The legislature received testimony regarding how these traditional redistricting principles apply to MHA. Specifically MHA Chairman Mark Fox testified how the reservation is a community of interest with shared customs and traditions that distinguish it from the surrounding area. The lack of evidence from plaintiffs on this issue, being unable to rebut the fact that these factors are present, the compactness, the respect for political boundaries and the respect for the community of interest, should leave this Court with no other option but to determine that plaintiffs have failed to meet their burden.

And the second step of the <u>Harris</u> analysis if this Court is inclined to believe that race predominated the decision-making of the legislature when adopting District 4, even if that is so plaintiffs do not meet the burden -- I'm sorry, the subdistricts are justified regardless and required under the Voting Rights Act, Section 2. So compliance with Section 2 of

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the Voting Rights Act has been held -- as was stated previously, has been held by the Supreme Court as a basis for drawing districts predominantly based on race.
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The Court has ample evidence showing the necessity for the Subdistrict 4A in this case as required by the Voting Rights Act through application of the <u>Gingles</u> analysis. Our brief details the testimony that was provided to the legislature during the redistricting process. Experts testified -- election experts testified regarding the VRA and <u>Gingles</u> requirements generally. Tribal members and tribal leaders testified before the Redistricting Committee describing the application of the <u>Gingles</u> preconditions to the proposed subdistrict. Specifically MHA Chairman Mark Fox testified to the <u>Gingles</u> preconditions and the existence of racial bloc voting in the area regarding school districts, House elections across multiple elections.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Are you suggesting that because a presumption that the legislature acts in good faith and given the evidence in the record that the absence of any specific legislative findings -- I mean, even something as simple as just a summary by the chair saying: Here's the factor that we considered. Here's how we got there. In the absence of that if we have

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that presumption of good faith we can look at the record
and say these facts support the conclusions here and
that -- you know, that this is therefore required.
            MR. CARTER: Well, Your Honor, I would say
that there was a finding by the Redistricting Committee
and the legislature that --
            JUDGE ERICKSON: Because they drew the map,
right, or more than that?
            MR. CARTER: Well, it was stated by the
Redistricting Committee that the -- that regardless the
map would be required as is because of the Voting Rights
Act. Because of the Gingles requirements, that was
specifically stated.
            THE COURT: Yeah, that part is -- and that's
a conclusion but there's no -- there's actually no
specific findings that relate to the factors themselves,
I mean, and it may be because I'm a judge who looks at
other judges' work all the time. I'm used to seeing
specific factual findings and that legislative fact
finding is inherently different, right?
            MR. CARTER: That's correct, Your Honor.
And I would -- my response to that is to say that they
were provided with the testimony from the tribe
regarding the Gingles factors and then came to the
conclusion based on that testimony that the VRA required
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the subdistrict. So they had the legislative background they needed to make that conclusion and then made that conclusion on the record.

I'd also say that plaintiffs reliance on the Wisconsin Legislature case that was recently decided by the Supreme Court is misplaced. Besides the timing issues that counsel for the State discussed and the differences in the timing that go to the Purcell type arguments, plaintiffs also use that case to say it's analogous to our case regarding legislative findings or Gingles analysis under the VRA.

However, in that case the Court was considering a map that was submitted to it by the Wisconsin governor, and as I think was in the slide show by plaintiffs there was no -- there was nothing in the record regarding VRA analysis or requirements unlike what we have here. And so based on essentially no evidence regarding Voting Rights Act given by the governor to the Court, then that was what distinguishes our case, why that case was remanded.

And just quickly to respond to something that was stated by plaintiffs, it was stated as though there was some kind of a rule saying that it's -- you cannot meet <u>Gingles</u> requirements unless you analyze precinct level data. I've not seen that held by a Court

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saying that's a specific rule. In fact, the Supreme

Court in the Abbott case did approve one of the

districts they were reviewing that did not have any kind

of hypertechnical analysis done on precinct level data.

But even in that case the district was not compact. It

was -- there was a land bridge connecting two minority

populations within different metropolitan areas and that

district was still upheld.

As well regarding the <u>Abbot v. Perez</u> case that the plaintiffs have used I think stated this in both their initial motion and their reply stating the proposition that lay testimony cannot be used to go toward a Section 2 analysis. That again is also not something that is a holding in any case that I'm aware of. The <u>Abbott-Perez</u> case did not say that. In that case what the Court was referring to was the fact that an outside group was demanding that the subdistrict -- I'm sorry, that the district be established, be drawn. It was simply a demand without any further analysis. They were saying that simply a demand cannot meet the requirements of the VRA, and that again is not what we have in our case.

In our case besides requesting that the district be created by those who testified, though as I said before there was VRA specific testimony that was

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provided to and considered by the legislature so therefore the record shows that the creation of the subdistrict is warranted under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.
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And that gets into my final point, Your
Honor, is that what the plaintiffs have asked for in
their -- as a remedy in their briefing is unlawful.
What they have asked for is for this Court to dissolve
the subdistrict lines and then proceed with the
elections as what they call status quo. We contend that
this is a crucial issue for this Court to consider
before issuing any order in this case. Again the remedy
they're asking for is essentially for this Court to
dissolve the subdistrict lines in B4. That's really the
only remedy request that I've seen in the pleadings.
Today I've heard about sending it back to the
legislature and those kinds of things, which were not
briefed as far as I can tell.

I would also say that plaintiffs have dismissed Dr. Collingwood's report and testimony as irrelevant because the legislature did not have that information, did not have his report or testimony when adopting their redistricting map. However, given both the legislative record that I've already discussed as well as Dr. Collingwood's report, it has been shown to

this Court that the subdistrict is in fact required under the Voting Rights Act. Plaintiffs did not contest the report. Dr. Collingwood stated unequivocally that the Subdistrict 4A is required under the Voting Rights Act and went through the analysis why it is required, how it meets every <u>Gingles</u> precondition, and none of that was questioned by any party here today.

Therefore, granting plaintiffs' requested remedy to dissolve the subdistrict lines would create a new map not approved by the legislature that would dilute the voting strength of the MHA tribal members in violation of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The Court would essentially be performing a line item veto to the redistricting bill that the legislature approved creating a new district that the legislature did not approve that has been shown to violate the Voting Rights Act.

Even if the Court is inclined to agree with that, that the plaintiffs have overcome all of the hurdles to get to the point of the remedy, the remedy they've requested would violate the Voting Rights Act and cannot be put into place. So we contend that a holding by this Court consistent with this premise would negate the need to even get to the merits of plaintiffs' motion because their requested remedy is unlawful on its

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                In conclusion, Your Honors, plaintiffs again
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    have failed to show that District 4 was drawn
    predominantly based on race, failed to show that the
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    subdistrict is not required under the Voting Rights Act
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    and have requested an unlawful remedy. Therefore, we
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    request that the motion for preliminary injunction be
    denied and I'm happy to address any questions the judges
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    may have.
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                JUDGE HOVLAND: Has there been any discovery
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    undertaken in this case to date?
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                MR. CARTER: No, Your Honor.
                JUDGE HOVLAND: And when did MHA Nation
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    intervene and when was Collingwood retained and hired in
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    this case to prepare a report?
                MR. CARTER: Your Honor, I don't have the
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    dates off the top of my head as far as intervention.
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    Obviously after the case was filed for intervention and
    for the completion of the report, I think it was early
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    April I believe that the report was completed.
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                JUDGE HOVLAND:
                                 Thank you.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: No further questions.
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    Thank you.
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                MR. CARTER:
                             Thank you, Your Honor.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: Do you have rebuttal,
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    Mr. Sanderson?
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                MR. SANDERSON: Yes, I do briefly, Your
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    Honor.
                JUDGE ERICKSON: How long will it take?
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                MR. SANDERSON: I don't think this is --
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    five to ten minutes.
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                JUDGE HOVLAND: Brief is always in the eyes
    of the beholder.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: Is that okay, Kelly?
                THE REPORTER: Yes.
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                MR. SANDERSON: You know me too well.
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                Judge Erickson, I'd like to start with the
    question you'd asked me before. You'd asked me what
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    provisions under North Dakota law allow for special
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    elections? And I believe you -- special elections to
    fill a vacancy, 16.1-13-14, that's certainly one of
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    them. But special elections, that's a specific special
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    election. If you go to 16.1-13-12 --
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                THE REPORTER: Please slow down.
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                MR. SANDERSON: Now I'll probably be eight
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    minutes, Judge. I gotta slow down.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: That's okay.
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                MR. SANDERSON: It talks about special
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    elections in other context and that. But more
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    importantly, Judge, and what I should have referred you
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to when you asked that question, is specifically
Chapter 16.1-11, primary elections. And that's most --
the special election we need here would be a primary
election to rectify this.
            But before I get into that I want to make
one thing clear. Mr. Phillips said, you know, part of
the remedies that we're -- the series of events that
we're asking for, the only event that the plaintiffs are
asking for in this case is their constitutional rights
not be violated by an unconstitutional racial
gerrymandering. So I want to be clear we were just
proposing with the special election the idea of remedies
that this Court could order, not that this is what we're
demanding. We're demanding the -- our clients'
constitutional rights not be violated.
            So back to the issue of primary elections,
16.1-11, specifically 16.1-11-01, primary elections,
it's when held nomination of candidates and nominations
for special elections and the last sentence of that
says: "In special elections nominations for the
officers enumerated in this section must be made as
provided in this title."
            So clearly the North Dakota Legislature
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contemplated that special elections can be held for

primaries. And then I next turn your attention to

16.1-11-15, "Nominating petition not to be circulated prior to January first - Special Election." And that's the statute, Judge, that says, you know, for a normal primary you can't begin collecting signatures before January 1st. But the last -- again the last sentence says: "A nominating petition for a special election may not be circulated or signed more than thirty days before the time when a petition for the special election must be filed."

So that statute alone indicates the legislature has contemplated that special elections for primaries may be held and that different rules could apply for them. Now again I don't think the statute goes further to explain all the situations that were raised by Mr. Silrum. But it does show to your question, Judge Erickson, that there is a statutory process in place for a special election for a primary and the North Dakota Legislature certainly has contemplated it. So you do have that.

One of the most troubling things that was -was indicated by the State in this is the election
process has already started. We don't have a remedy.

And Mr. Silrum's talked about the day this law went into effect the election process started. What they're essentially hiding behind <u>Purcell</u> is my clients have

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absolutely no remedy for the constitutional violation.
There's just not enough time. That cannot be what this
Court stands for. It's a -- because the election
process has started, yup, sorry, your constitutional
rights no longer apply and you have no remedy until the
next election.
            We filed this case nine months before the
November election. Ample time exists. The holding of a
special primary election is not insurmountable.
not some cascading events that can't be accomplished.
We are talking about one election for the House of
Representatives in District 9. That can be done.
Certainly some deadlines have to be moved. Some things
have to be complicated. Ballots have to be printed,
other things. But again comparing that to the
constitutional rights of the plaintiffs and 16,000 other
voters in that district is not insurmountable.
            One of the interesting things Mr. Phillips
mentioned was that the plaintiffs have been pushing this
forward as fast as possible. Yes, we have. Their
constitutional rights are at stake. And let's be very
clear, the constitutional right that was asked of
Mr. Phillips is not that we have -- the constitutional
issues and right is not that we have two elected
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representatives. It's that we are not subjected to

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reside in a racially gerrymandered district and that's the constitutional issue. And the effect of that is that we would have equal protection with everyone else but the remedy and the harm is being subject to a racially gerrymandered district that has no justification.
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Now the State and the intervenors have both argued that we didn't meet -- race wasn't the predominant factor. It wasn't an issue. Yet they turn to the Gingles factors and start talking about the legislative -- you know, counsel's presentation on Gingles, all the testimony on Gingles. If race wasn't the predominant factor you would never get to Gingles. Yet the legislative history of this bill on the subdistricts is replete with testimony on Gingles and there's only one reason you get to Gingles. Because race was a predominant factor for a Section 2 voting rights claim and that's why Gingles is there. why they hired an expert to talk about the Gingles factor. So, you know, this argument that race wasn't there, there would be no need to be discussing the Gingles factor if this was traditional redistricting principles.

On the traditional redistricting principles, we cited in our reply brief the U.S. Supreme Court case

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Bethune-Hill v. Virginia State Board of Elections, the 2017 case, noting that traditional redistricting principles are numerous and malleable. A state cannot escape the consequences of unconstitutional racial gerrymandering by arguing after the fact that gerrymandered districts complied with traditional redistricting principles.

And I simply ask you: What evidence was presented here by either the State or the intervenors to show traditional redistricting principles were applied by the North Dakota Legislature in creation of the subdistricts? There was none because that wasn't. It's an after-the-fact attempt to rewrite the history to avoid the voting rights claim in this case.

Now both the State and the intervenors want to talk that we have failed to meet our burden that race was a predominant factor and again saying we cherry-picked legislative history. But again as we've pointed out that is not the only way to show race is a predominant factor, the circumstantial evidence showing the boundaries of the subdistricts and the composition of the demographics. There's no other inference you can draw than the creation of the subdistricts around two reservations to allow for them to both have majority population on this, and that alone shows race is a

predominant factor.

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Now if they want to bring up District 4, let's not forget the Turtle Mountain -- excuse me, the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation has been in District 4 for decades. At no other point in time have they attempted to draw a subdistrict to preserve the cultural identity of that. Why was it done now? For one reason after this census: to avoid a voting rights claim.

within District 9 for decades. Again no attempt to subdistrict -- subdivide that was done before until the tribe showed up and threatened voting rights actions. So the circumstantial evidence alone, what witness did you hear evidence from today regarding race as a predominant factor? We called Representative Terry Jones. It was undisputed. He said race was the predominant factor for this decision. What evidence did the State or the intervenors present that contradicted that? None.

So then third -- the third step, we've shown you the legislative history. And when -- again the cherry-picking argument, when the chairman of the Redistricting Committee says on the floor these subdistricts were created because of the Voting Rights Act, there's nothing more you need. Creating

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subdistricts under the Voting Rights Act is inherently based on race as courts throughout this country including the Wisconsin court just said.
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So this argument that we have not met our burden, we've presented all the evidence to show that.

What witness, what testimony, what piece of legislative history have they shown -- has either party shown to rebut the evidence we've presented?

There was also a question -- and, Judge Erickson, this goes back to a question you asked me and I think was kind of responded to. And I know I referred you to the Abbott case and your question specifically was: Well, what specific evidence do we need to meet the Gingles factors? In the Abbott case, and it's 138 Supreme Court 2305 starting right after -- on page 2332. The Court says: "We have made clear that redistricting analysis must take place at the district level," citing the Bethune-Hill case. "In failing to perform that district-level analysis, the District Court went astray." They go on on the next page: "North Carolina pointed to two expert reports on 'voting patterns throughout the State,' but we rejected that evidence as insufficient. Texas has pointed no actual 'legislative inquiry' that would establish the need for its manipulation of the racial makeup of the district."

2.1

The Supreme Court in <u>Abbott</u> -- and we've cited numerous other cases that have established what is necessary to meet the <u>Gingles</u> preconditions, and lay testimony that the intervenors argue is sufficient is simply not enough. And there's numerous cases in our brief citing that as <u>Abbott</u> has also cited that.

So with that again on behalf of Mr. Walen and Mr. Henderson we ask the Court protect their constitutional right of equal protection in the upcoming election. Sufficient time exists to prevent an unconstitutional election for moving forward and we would ask that the preliminary injunction motion be granted. Thank you for your time.

JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Does the State have anything? I'd give you three minutes if you feel like there's something you have to say.

MR. PHILLIPS: Very briefly, Your Honor, there is -- was discussion of state law respecting special elections. There's no state law that accounts for stopping an ongoing election in the middle of it, for changing the boundaries of districts in the middle of an election, for changing names on the ballots that have already been printed and sent to voters, for essentially starting over a current election that's ongoing with a second election that's a special

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    election.
                So broad, you know, powers to have a special
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    election does not give the State or this Court the
    authority to order the State to hold a special election
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    that's being asked for by the plaintiffs in this case.
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    Thank you.
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                JUDGE ERICKSON: Thank you. Anything from
    the intervenors?
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                MR. CARTER: No, Your Honor.
                JUDGE ERICKSON:
                                  Thank you very much.
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    matter is taken under advisement. I want to thank you
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    very much for your time here today. The evidence and
    the arguments have been helpful. We'll get something
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    out as soon as possible.
                 (Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER I, Kelly A. Kroke, a duly appointed Registered Professional Reporter; DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I reported in shorthand the foregoing proceedings had and made a record at the time and place indicated. I DO HEREBY FURTHER CERTIFY that the foregoing and attached (138) typewritten pages contain an accurate transcript of my shorthand notes then and there taken. Dated this 18th day of January, 2023. /s/ Kelly A. Kroke KELLY A. KROKE - RPR, RMR United States District Court Reporter District of North Dakota Eastern Division