

Good morning Mr. Chairman and commissioners.

My name is Vuka Mitchell. I have lived in Longmont for 4 years and I am a resident of House District 11. I am a wife and a stay at home mother of a 9 year old boy.

Would you allow the government to divide your house into 4 rooms, only allowing you to live in one room and forcing you to share your room with people from a faraway city that have belief systems completely contrary to yours?

This is an example of how House District 11 was reapportioned from 2002 through the present. House District 11 looks like a crescent wrench with Boulder at the base of the handle, and Longmont at the top getting screwed by the one at the base.

The area is not compact. This extreme gerrymandering violates the intent of the Colorado Constitution on the criteria the commission is obliged to follow.

Longmont's belief systems are vastly different from Boulder's. Therefore, Longmont has not been able to elect representatives of its choice, and is unable to reject issues that the city of Boulder champions.

I appeal to the commission now to draw Longmont into one district, since the latest Census shows the city to bear over 86,000 people. This number is considerably more than necessary to sustain its own House District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in front of this commission.