## Jeffrey K. Ilseman

619 Crawford Circle Longmont, CO 80504 email: Ilseman@comcast.net

July 11, 2011

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners,

My name is Jeff Ilseman and I am a 12 year resident of Longmont and House District 12. I am a member of the Public Policy Committee of the Longmont Chamber of Commerce. I sit on the board of a Longmont-based non-profit, serving adults with autism and other developmental disabilities throughout Boulder and Jefferson Counties. Last year, I ran for the open seat in House District 12.

I am here today to represent the disenfranchised voters of Longmont.

When my family and I moved to Longmont in 1999, Longmont had it's own House District. It was a very competitive House District that had gone back and forth between the two major parties for decades.

In 2001, Longmont was sliced and diced in a crass political move that made a mockery of the very criteria you are trying to follow. The competitive Longmont House District was destroyed. This divide and conquer strategy combined each part of Longmont with Democrat constituencies from far away cities. From 2003 – 2010, Longmont was represented by a city of Boulder resident and a Louisville resident even though Longmont had more than enough people for it's own House District.

I call on all fair-minded commissioners to take this opportunity to undo the egregious gerrymandering of House Districts in Boulder County and to restore Longmont's own House District.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey K. Ilseman

July 1 2011

Colorado Reapportionment Commission Mario Carrera, Chair 1313 Sherman Street Suite 122 Denver, CO 80203

Dear Reapportionment Commission Members:

The state reapportionment process for Colorado is an important exercise that ensures all Coloradoans' voices are heard fairly and evenly in the Colorado General Assembly. For the last decade, the city of Longmont has been split between two state house districts, being represented in districts 11 and 12. In addition, rural areas around Longmont are included in another two districts. We ask the commission to carefully consider the City of Longmont when deciding on state house district boundaries for the next decade.

The Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce does not support candidates for office, and is actually prohibited from doing so per our by-laws. However, we recognize the importance of smart business policy and regularly call upon our elected officials to vote on legislation that we trust will further economic prosperity for our city and state.

We believe that our voice in the Colorado House of Representatives could be heard more evenly and fairly with one district more exclusive to Longmont. Until the recent election of Longmont resident Deb Gardner in 2010, Longmont a city of over 86,000 persons, did not have a city resident in the Colorado House of Representatives.

In addition, our voice is shared with the communities of Boulder, Lafayette and Louisville. Rural areas around Longmont share a district with communities as far away as Idaho Springs and Georgetown. Not one current house district represents a unified Longmont voice.

We understand that the population of Longmont prohibits us from having a sole district seat. However, a quick look at two other northern Colorado cities larger than Longmont, Fort Collins and Greeley finds that both are represented by multiple seats but each has a district almost exclusive to their city or immediate environs. We request commission members adhere to the spirit of Colorado law and recognize the City of Longmont as a community of geographic, cultural and economic interest and that the house districts for our area be as contiguous and compact as possible.

Sincerely,

The Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce

thlien Meher-Warding

Kathy Weber-Harding

President/CEO

Scott Cook

Member Services/Public Policy Director

Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Committee

Sue Bridgeman St. Vrain Manor

Eve Bruce Express It!

Joel Champion Boulder County GOP

Stacy Cornay Communication Concepts

Kathy Crowder Re/Max Alliance

Marvin Dyer Dyer Realty Inc.

Josh Goldberg, Chair Left Hand Brewing

Sue Ellen Grimaud Prudential Real Estate of the Rockies

John Hunter Prime Real Estate Services

Jeff Ilseman Chestor House

Ryan Jenkins Wells Fargo Bank

Joey Kee Marriott Hotels

Randy Lis Cornerstone Mortgage Co

Jackie List Safe Shelter of the St Vrain Valley

Claudia Maciuk Volk & Bell Associates Nick McElhiney Ergonomic Evolution

Trip Merklein St. Vrain Valley Education Association

Mandy Myers SOS Staffing

Jennifer Paris State Farm Insurance

Steven Olson B2B CFO

Marty Quigley ERA Herman Group

Alex Sammoury Longmont Entrepreneurial Network

Carol Schack, Vice Chair Prudential Rocky Mountain Realtors

Ben Weir Ben Weir Consulting

# 2011 Board of Directors – Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce (Updated 6- 2011)

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## Mr. Don Haddad (RE: 2013)

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#### Mr. Todd Isaacson (RE: 2011)

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#### Mr. Paul Kelley (RE: 2013)

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## Eric Kittelberger (RE: 2014)

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#### Mr. Brandon Knudsen (RE: 2013)

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#### Ms. Debby Paris (RE: 2011)

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## Ms. Carol Schack (RE: 2013)

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## Ms. Liz Smokowski (RE: 2011) (replaced Rob Archer)

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## Mr. Kyle Snyder (RE: 2014))

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## \*\*Mr. Ben Weir (RE: 2014)

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## Ms. Kathy Weber-Harding

Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce 528 Main Street Longmont, CO 80501 720-864-2874 kharding@longmontchamber.org

(RE: Date) = Eligible for re-election for 3-year term (TL: Date) = Term limit effective end of that year 
\*\* = Members of Executive committee