

From: Leonard Plaizier
To: Becky Edwards, Brad Wilson, Curtis Oda, Jim Nielson, Paul Ray, Roger Barrus, Stewart Barlow, Steve Handy, Dan Liljenquist, Stuart Adams, Jerry Stevenson
Date: 10/18/2011 2:59:44 PM
Subject: Congressional Redistricting
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Davis County Utah State Legislators,

A special thank you to Rep. Edwards and Rep. Wilson for voting NO on congressional boundaries bill 19SSB 3002 on Monday night 10/17/2011.

I have been involved in the process of drawing congressional maps for the last several months. Until last night I thought that is was a good process. As I listened to the House discuss substitute 19 map, I was hoping that a representative from Davis county would stand up and say

1. We have had a good fair process. Let's not stop now. We have had less than a hour to review this map. The public has not had a chance to comment. After all this time and work we can give it one more day. We will have to live with the results for ten years. [This map was not online long enough for the newspapers to get a copy for the Tuesday morning paper.]
2. This map has not been drawn with the same quality as the other maps. More cities are split up than in most maps. The sponsor did not know that Salt Lake City was split until it was pointed out to him on the floor. If we are going to do it let's do it right.
3. Davis county must remain whole. There is no North Davis or South Davis but only one Davis county. You may want to balance Salt Lake City with Davis, alright; but Davis can not be split up!

Davis as the 3rd largest county should be a leader in the state. Davis is the largest county in any district map when it is kept whole.

My splitting up Davis into two districts, Davis is not the big fish in the pond but just another fish. In new district 1, Weber is the largest county with Davis second. In new district 2, Salt Lake is the largest county, with Washington second and Davis third.

I heard a meeting of the redistricting committee where the public was requesting that Davis county be kept whole. Rep. Barrus told them that they were wrong that it would be better if Davis was split right down the middle. That is not right. Just ask Salt Lake and Utah counties. They know how important it is to be the largest county in a district.

Ten years is a long time to be separated.

The district split detail data is below.

What a sad finish to a long well ran race.

Leonard Plaizier
H20 S23

P.S. Rep. Edwards, you are the only Davis legislator who has ever responded to one of my emails. Thanks you!

Utah Congressional District Splits

Passed Utah Senate and House on October 17, 2011

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Total Population

District 1

Box Elder County 49,975

Cache County 112,656
Daggett County 1,059
* Davis County 196,793
Duchesne County 18,607
Morgan County 9,469
Rich County 2,264
Summit County 36,324
Uintah County 32,588
Weber County 231,236
District 1 Total 690,971

District 2

Beaver County 6,629
* Davis County 109,686
Garfield County 5,172
Iron County 46,163
* Juab County 880
Kane County 7,125
Millard County 12,503
Piute County 1,556
* Salt Lake County 264,896
* Sanpete County 16,448
Sevier County 20,802
Tooele County 58,218
Washington County 138,115
Wayne County 2,778
District 2 Total 690,971

District 3

Carbon County 21,403

Emery County 10,976

Grand County 9,225

* Salt Lake County 177,165

San Juan County 14,746

* Utah County 433,927

Wasatch County 23,530

District 3 Total 690,972

District 4

* Juab County 9,366

* Salt Lake County 587,594

* Sanpete County 11,374

* Utah County 82,637

District 4 Total 690,971

* indicates split

User: lplaizier Date: Tue Oct 18 10:28:35 GMT-0600 2011

Plan: Congress - SB3002S19 Plan No.: 70021

From: Peggy Burdett <2010.delegate@gmail.com>
BC: Paul Ray, Paul Ray
Date: 10/18/2011 7:03:22 PM
Subject: Utah Legislature commits crime against humanity
Attachments: Mime.822

http://www.heraldextra.com/news/opinion/article_d4150f15-ac14-50ac-9c3e-50e43ae71db9.html

IN OUR VIEW

Opinion: Utah legislature commits crime against humanity

Posted: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 11:45 am

The Utah Legislature has committed a crime against humanity.

On Monday night, both houses adopted a map for Utah's representatives to Congress that would border on the laughable if it didn't hurt so many communities.

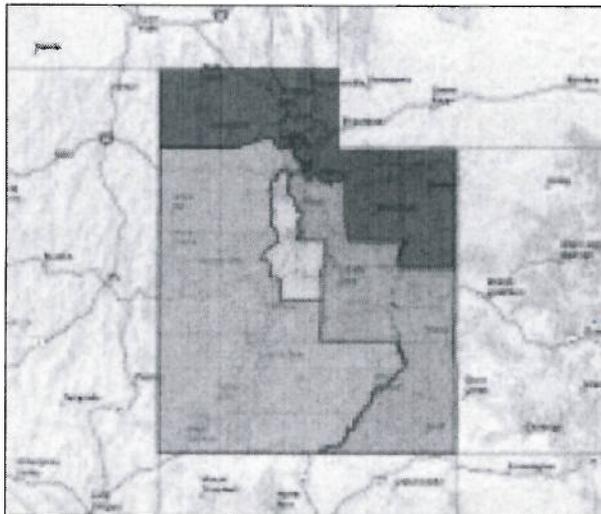
The view from space may look reasonable, but when you get down to street-level details, the map is awful.

Many cities have been illogically split, including Lehi, Springville, Payson, Spanish Fork, Santaquin, Park City and many others.

Sanpete County was divided so that Mt. Pleasant is in the new Fourth District and Ephraim and Manti are in the Second. Eagle Mountain was joined far north to West Jordan.

And these are just a few examples of the idiocy. We wouldn't wonder but that a majority of the legislature might have passed through Provo on Sunday to take advantage of the new beer sales, except that Utah beer would not explain this. They must have been drinking something harder.

Anybody who thinks that communities of interest and intact communities do not belong in the redistricting process should think again. These are the very fiber of our political system.



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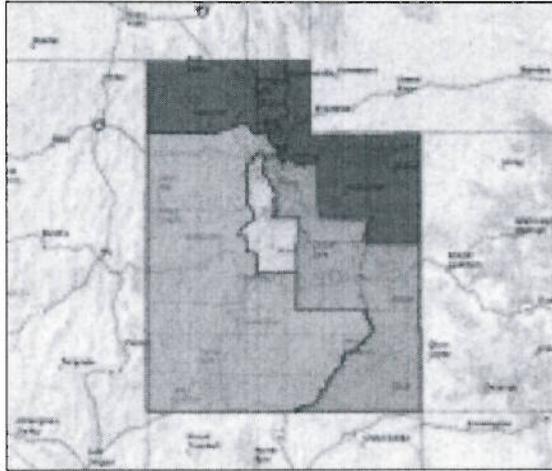
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Anybody who thinks that communities of interest and intact communities do not belong in the redistricting process should think again. These are the very fiber of our political system.

To divide the state's natural communities in this way -- largely motivated by a desire to give advantage to one political party -- is enough to bring James Madison howling from the grave. The House voted 50-19; the Senate 20-5.

The people of Utah ought to rise up and wring legislators' necks like Thanksgiving turkeys. This is a colossal foul-up, which is what always happens when you undertake a major task like redistricting with impure motives. The urge to gerrymander won out over statesmanship. It's a low point for the state of Utah.

Now we're going to have to listen to lawmakers defend themselves in the

most syrupy, persuasive voices they can muster. We already have a headache.

One sign of how bad things had gotten with the process was Monday's lame attempt by the Dave Clark Five to carve out a district seemingly custom-made for somebody from Santa Clara to win a seat in Congress. That proposal would have split Provo at Center Street, with Clark's hometown of Spanish Fork falling in with St. George.

Fortunately, the Senate was having none of that, but what it adopted was just as bad.

The outcome is a slap in the face to the people of Utah. The process was little more than a charade that excluded legitimate voices -- not only Democrats but a majority of Utahns who are unaffiliated with any party. There have been too many secrets, too much decision-making behind the fig leaf of Republican caucuses. The doors were closed too often.

Republicans have been blinded to their duty and even to good sense. Closed meetings make for closed minds, as proved by this outcome, which can only be described as farce. (Well, that's not the only description, but we can print it.)

The GOP should have brought Democrats to the table and invited them to have a real voice. That's essential, and what was offered was not sufficient. Steamrollers are always unhealthy. After all, this was not a moral issue but one of fairness.

Genuine bipartisanship in this case would have helped the Republicans in the long run. Trying to gerrymander districts to benefit selected members (Wimmer for Congress, anyone?) will only blacken the party's reputation, which has already taken some hits this year.

They're slow learners, these Republicans. May James Madison haunt them all.

From: Peggy Burdett <2010.delegate@gmail.com>
To:
BC: Paul Ray
Date: 10/19/2011 6:43:02 PM
Subject: Governor Should Veto the Map
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

http://www.heraldextra.com/news/opinion/article_a2bbeca5-72c3-54f2-ae95-d6ceb1e5423e.html

IN OUR VIEW

Opinion: Governor should veto the map

Posted: Wednesday, October 19, 2011 11:00 am

Gov. Gary Herbert should take a close look at the congressional district map delivered by the Utah Legislature on Monday, and then veto it for what he finds.

He should not stand for the dissection of Utah communities, regardless of the partisan advantages of doing so. A veto would bring the legislature's foolishness into full public view.

We hope Herbert will take the high road of statesmanship and invite his fellow Republicans to begin to rehabilitate their shattered reputation. And this is coming from the unabashedly conservative Daily Herald.



Senator Ben McAdams, D-Salt Lake City, told the news media that each district in the new map is at least 62 percent Republican, which is either a mathematical miracle or proof that the Republicans' claims of fairness are nothing but an alibi.

Well, it's not a mathematical miracle.

To disregard community cohesion is to commit assault and battery on the democratic process. In Utah County and elsewhere, residents will be carved away from their neighbors arbitrarily. The map splits Lehi in two along Interstate 15, for example -- and American Fork, and Springville, and Spanish Fork, and Payson, and even little Santaquin.

But while a highway may provide a physical pretext for division, it provides a poor standard for understanding the more important dynamics of a city. Social cohesion is the warp and woof of our fabric of self-government.

In light of this, the Utah Legislature's use of roads to set congressional districts is lazy at best. It achieves a cold numerical balance without taking into account the crucial element of a vibrant political system: the common ground upon which people stand. It does violence to the idea of shared interests, of communication over a back fence or at a grocery store or gas station.

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Roads in this case provided cover for political mischief -- the creation of four congressional districts that are now virtual certainties for Republican control and devised in secret for the express purpose of suppressing competing points of view. Very clever work.

We, too, would like to see more conservative votes in Washington. But it matters how this is achieved. While it's true that a majority party can stomp a jackboot and force an issue, it is also true that majorities

should be extremely careful in the exercise of this power -- at least if we want a healthy America and not a polarized, political Gulag. Respect for others and a willingness to listen is always better than secrecy and scorched earth.

Statesmanship can work wonders. It did in 2006 when a redistricting committee worked up a four-seat map in response to the proposed trade that would give Washington, D.C., a voting member. The bipartisan vote was 11-1. The committee's work was hailed as good for Utah.

Unfortunately, there are few members of the legislature anymore with the skills of statesmanship and the maturity required to achieve the inclusiveness and goodwill that has long made America special. What we have instead is an increasingly hardening view -- the view that might makes right.

By far the worst feature of the new map is its chopping up of cohesive communities, many of them in Utah County, and assigning the parts to different representatives. A little nick here and there might be defensible to make a map work, but plowing wholesale paths along a highway is unconscionable.

Take tiny Santaquin, for example. It has development emerging on both sides of I-15. An artificial strip of asphalt and concrete does not prevent warm-blooded people from moving daily from one side of town to the other, or from talking to one another, or from going to church or school together. Nor does the freeway inhibit or channel commerce to such a degree that by living on either side residents become creatures of different worlds. In California, perhaps, but not in Santaquin. People on the east side must still go west to buy groceries.

We see no reason that Santaquin could not have been left intact, with the district boundary drawn hard against the mountain, just as Provo's district boundary was drawn hard against Utah Lake. The same applies to all the other communities in Utah that were dissected for the sake of a plan hatched in secret.

A similar atrocity was committed in Sanpete County, one of the oldest and most historically insular communities in Utah. Fairview and Mt. Pleasant find themselves in the awkward dogleg of a new fourth district, while their sister cities, Ephraim and Manti, are mapped in the second district, giving them different representation in Washington.

This plainly shows that the Utah Legislature had absolutely no concern for cultural ties, either historical or modern. It was all about 62 percent. Gov. Herbert should refuse to go along with it.

Big changes need strong justifications but the Republicans have offered only flimsy ones. They had the gall to claim that the final map had been submitted by a citizen, David Garber of Provo. But Garber quickly revealed the perjury by posting a notice that "other than the outline of Utah, this proposal bears no resemblance to my own."

Legislators also claimed there was plenty of review time. But in fact only one hour elapsed between the time the final map was introduced in the House and the vote. Likewise, the Senate didn't get but a momentary glance.

There was no need to ram it through. No harm would have been done by waiting a few days so that all members of the legislature and public could conduct a careful examination. After all, the map is supposed to be good for 10 years, until the next Census. If it's good enough to stand for a decade, it would have been good enough to stand for a few more days.

As it turns out, the map looks fine from a high level; but at street level it's horrific. And somehow we suspect that Republican leadership knew this.

An apparently serious senior House staffer even told the Herald that cities might just as well be split because they're going to grow beyond their current boundaries anyway, creating a population and demographic mismatch to whatever districts are devised today.

This is pure mush. City boundaries grow outward relatively slowly, which is why we have a Census once every decade to make adjustments. By contrast, abruptly balkanizing established communities by legislative fiat is an exercise of power worthy of the world's best socialists.

Legislators appear to be slow learners. Their freight-train approach reflects the same attitude of contempt for the people of Utah that showed up last session with the passage of HB-477, which would have closed significant parts of government to public scrutiny. The citizen outcry was loud and sustained in that case, and it should be here, too.

Adding insult to injury is that Utah County has been treated as a pawn, notwithstanding House Speaker Becky Lockhart's keeping her own city -- Provo -- intact at the expense of other communities. (In fairness, she had no alternative. The Dave Clark Five were pressing their own agenda, and compromise was required.)

But Utah County is arguably the most staunchly conservative enclave in the United States. And what does it get? Cut into pieces, and not for some higher good but merely to serve the dubious goal of absolute party dominance.

If this map is signed off by the governor, many residents of cities along the I-15 corridor and elsewhere will be divided from their neighbors in Congress. That is wrong. Intact communities matter if we want our representatives to be beholden to anybody in particular.

Yesterday we said legislators should have their necks wrung like turkeys. But that's unfair to turkeys. The birds didn't do anything wrong. Republicans in the legislature, by contrast, are committing a serious wrong against all Utahns by playing an exclusionary game. They are willing to tear the social fabric for "light and transient causes" against which we have been so eloquently warned. Convinced of the rectitude of majority rule over statesmanship, sadly, they don't see the problem.

We will now see whether Gov. Herbert is statesman enough to stand up. If he does, the people of Utah will stand up with him.

From: Allyson Isom
To: Allyson Isom
BC: Paul Ray
Date: 10/20/2011 4:27:31 PM
Subject: Governor Signs Final Special Session Bills
Attachments: 10.20 Final Special Session Bills Signed.pdf

The attached contains the following content:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2011

Contact: Ally Isom
Deputy Chief of Staff
801.538.1503 desk
801.864.7268 cell
aisom@utah.gov

Governor Signs Final Special Session Bills

SALT LAKE CITY—Governor Gary R. Herbert signed the remaining pieces of legislation from the recent special legislative session. The bills signed were:

- S.B. 3001s03 Utah State Senate Boundaries and Election Designation (Sen. Okerlund)
- S.B. 3002s19 Congressional Boundaries Designation (Sen. Okerlund)
- S.B. 3005 Lieutenant Governor District Determinations (Sen. Okerlund)

Governor Herbert issued the following statement regarding Utah’s redistricting effort:

“Redistricting is an emotional and complex issue. For more than six months, the State Legislature engaged members of the public in an unprecedented way. I find that the Legislature followed the law, and the outcome, although not entirely satisfactory to everyone, is reasonable. Let us remember, in the final analysis, our representatives are not chosen by lines drawn on a map; they are elected by the people of Utah.”

###



GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GREG BELL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2011

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From: Peggy Burdett <2010.delegate@gmail.com>
BC: Paul Ray, Paul Ray
Date: 10/21/2011 3:08:29 PM
Subject: Utah Redistricting splits homes in half ABC4 News
Attachments: Mime.822

<http://www.abc4.com/content/news/state/story/EXCLUSIVE-Oops-Redistricting-legislators-split/z2hk0EpjGUOSZbk>

EXCLUSIVE: Oops! Redistricting legislators homes in half

ABC 4 News) - What if, in their haste to pass new political boundaries, Utah Legislators had accidently split homes and put each half into a different congressional district?

Sound far-fetched?

Well, wait until you find out what we found out.

In the late Monday night debate over new congressional districts, it occurred to some that not even the legislators knew exactly what was in his new and final map.

So ABC 4 took a closer look on the internet.

We were surprised to find several Utah houses actually split in half on the congressional maps.

Now, we couldn't get a comment from the owner of the split house we visited, so, instead, we went to see who we suspected might have a thing or two to say about divided houses.

"There is a half a house! There is a half a house!"

This is how the clearly startled Chairman of Utah's Democratic Party reacted when we showed him the split half-houses.

But, once he came to his senses, Jim Dabakis immediately blamed Republicans for drawing last minute doors,

"You end up with stupid mistakes like this. That's what happens with closed caucuses."

ABC 4 found nearly a dozen houses where new congressional boundaries split homes.

And there certainly could be more half-houses we didn't find.

<http://www.abc4.com/content/news/state/story/EXCLUSIVE-Oops-Redistricting-legislators-split/z2hk0EpiGUOSZbkkOUdCOw.csp>

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Dabakis, sensing an opportunity, immediately (and somewhat sarcastically) labeled Republicans as being anti-family.

"Another half a house! This is going split up families and the Democratic Party is for keeping families together."

Now, ABC 4 is being assured this half-house mess will be corrected.

When we asked how...

We were told that often the voters end up in the congressional district that the house's bedroom is in.

Seriously.

Follow Chris Vanocur on Twitter: @cvan4