

## **Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission**

PO BOX 201706 Helena, MT 59620-1706 (406) 444-3064 FAX (406) 444-3036

Commission members: Janine Pease Pretty On Top Presiding Officer P.O. Box 447 Lodge Grass, MT 59050

Joe Lamson 612 Touchstone Circle Helena, MT 59601 Jack D. Rehberg 2922 Glenwood Lane Billings, MT 59102 Sheila Rice 913 3rd Ave. Great Falls, MT 59401 Gregory Barkus PO Box 2647 Kalispell, MT 59903 Staff: Susan Byorth Fox Research Analyst John MacMaster Attorney

## REDISTRICTING NEWS

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The Commission recently held its first public hearings on proposed legislative district plans in November. The first two hearings for the Northcentral Region were in Great Falls and Browning. Each meeting was well attended and the Commission received testimony that will assist in amending and adopting plans. There will be a third public hearing on the Northcentral Region proposed plans on January 16, 2002, in Havre. The public hearing for the Northeast Region will be held January 17, 2002, in Glasgow. The Commission will accept written testimony on these two regions for three weeks following these hearings, a deadline of February 7, 2002, and will tentatively adopt plans for those two regions in March, 2002.

A mailing of maps and district descriptions will be sent to the Clerks and Recorders, Tribal representatives, Central Committee Chairs, Legislators, and others in the Hill County and Northeastern region the beginning of the year.

The Commission will continue its public hearings in Miles City on February 19, 2002, and on February 20, 2002, in Lewistown. The Commission will meet in Southcentral Montana in March and complete Central and Southwest Montana before heading for Western Montana later next spring.

Staff will conduct information-gathering visits to the Southeast Region in December and in the Southcentral Region in late January.

Please send all written testimony and correspondence to the Districting and Apportionment Commission, PO Box 201706, Helena MT 59620. It will be copied and sent to each Commissioner and the originals retained for the Commission's file.

Please check the Commission's website for more information at the "Redistricting" link on the Legislative Branch website at *leg.mt.gov*. The Northcentral Region maps and proposed district descriptions have been posted. For more information, contact Susan Byorth Fox, (406) 444-3064 or <u>sfox@mt.gov</u>.

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