

**2021 JOINT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING**

**HB 1504**

**Exhibit 32**

## 2021 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Redistricting Committee**  
Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1504  
11/8/2021

A bill relating to legislative redistricting and staggering of terms of members of the legislative assembly and relating to legislative districts and staggering of terms of members of the legislative assembly.

**Chairman Devlin** called the meeting to order at 2:50pm.

Roll call-all present.

LEGISLATORS	PRESENT
Chairman Devlin	Y
Co-Chairman Holmberg	Y
Representative Bellew	Y
Representative Boschee	Y
Representative Headland	Y
Representative Lefor	Y
Representative Monson	Y
Representative Nathe	Y
Representative Schauer	Y
Senator Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Burckhard	Y
Senator Erbele	Y
Senator Klein	Y
Senator Oban	Y
Senator Poolman	Y
Senator Sorvaag	Y

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Subdistricts division
- District boundaries

**Representative Kreidt** distributed proposed amendments 21.1113.02007 (#12169).

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, displayed maps showing Morton County with specifically the city of Judson.

**Senator Anderson** distributed proposed amendments 21.1113.02008 (#12168).

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, displayed maps showing districts. (3:08pm)

**Representative Headland** made a motion to adopt amendment 21.1113.02008.

**Senator Holmberg** seconded the motion.

**Voice vote-motion carried to adopt the amendment.**

**Representative Ertelt** proposed two amendments, 21.1113.02003 (#12167) and 21.1113.02004 (#12166).

**Senator Marcellais** proposed amendments 21.1113.02006 (#12165) with a handout including two maps (#12164).

**Douglas Yankton, Chairman for the Spirit Lake Nation**, testified in opposition (#12163) (3:21pm).

**Jamie Azure, Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians**, testified in opposition (#12162). (3:30pm).

**Representative Nelson** testified in opposition with no written testimony. (3:34pm).

**Representative Boschee** made a motion to adopt **Senator Marcellais'** amendment 21.1113.02006.

**Senator Oban** seconded the motion.

**Voice vote-motion failed.**

**Representative Jones** testified in opposition with no written testimony. (3:57pm)

**Senator Holmberg** explained how the bill could be divided.

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, map presentation.

**Representative Bellew** proposed amendment on page 4 line 12 changing third avenue to fourth avenue. Legislative Council is able to make this correction without a vote.

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, map presentation.

**Chairman Devlin** adjourned at 4:16pm.

**Additional written testimony:**

**Rick Gion, Director of North Dakota Voters First**, testimony in opposition #11790.

*Mary Brucker, Committee Clerk*

21.1113.02008  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Anderson

November 5, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 20, line 13, remove "eighth street southwest, then east on eighth street southwest until  
its"

Page 20, remove line 14

Page 20, line 15, remove "twenty-third avenue southwest until its intersection with"

Re-number accordingly

21.1113.02006  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Marcellais

November 8, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 7, line 12, remove "all of Towner County except that portion"

Page 7, remove lines 13 through 31

Page 8, remove lines 1 through 6

Page 8, line 7, replace "north on United States highway 281 to the point of beginning" with "those portions of Eddy County, Nelson County, and Ramsey County within the Spirit Lake reservation; that portion of Pierce County bound by a line commencing at a point where forty-fifth avenue northeast intersects the north boundary of Pierce County, then east, south, and west on the boundary of Eddy County until its intersection with the centerline of forty-seventh avenue northeast, then north on forty-seventh avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of sixty-ninth street northeast, then west on sixty-ninth street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-fifth avenue northeast, then north on forty-fifth avenue northeast to the point of beginning; that portion of Benson County bound by a line commencing at the point where forty-seventh avenue northeast intersects the north boundary of Benson County, then east, south, east, south, and west along the boundary of Benson County until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-fourth avenue northeast, then north on fifty-fourth avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of thirty-fourth street northeast, then west on thirty-fourth street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-third avenue northeast, then north on fifty-third avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of thirty-sixth street northeast, then west on thirty-sixth street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-second avenue northeast, then north on fifty-second avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-second street northeast, then west on forty-second street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-third avenue northeast, then north on fifty-third avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-third street northeast, then west on forty-third street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-first avenue northeast, then north on fifty-first avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-fifth street northeast, then west on forty-fifth street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fiftieth avenue northeast, then north on fiftieth avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-first street northeast, then west on fifty-first street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-ninth avenue northeast, then north on forty-ninth avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of fifty-third street northeast, then west on fifty-third street northeast until its intersection with the centerline of forty-eighth avenue northeast, then north on forty-eighth avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of United States highway 2, then west on United States highway 2 until its intersection with the centerline of forty-seventh avenue northeast, then north on forty-seventh avenue northeast to the point of beginning"

Page 10, line 25, remove "Fort Totten, Lallie, Lallie North, Lohnes, Minco,"

Page 10, line 26, replace "Mission, Oberon, Rock, Twin Tree, Warwick, West Bay, and Wood Lake Townships" with "that part contained in District 9"

Page 11, line 3, remove "; Atkins, Bethel, Cando, Coolin, Maza,"

Page 11, line 4, replace "Olson, Springfield and Zion Townships in" with "and"

Page 11, line 4, remove "Lallie, Lohnes, Minco,"

Page 11, remove lines 5 through 13

Page 11, line 14, replace "reservation boundary" with "and that portion of Cavalier County bound by a line commencing at a point where the west boundary of Cavalier County intersects with the north boundary of Cavalier County, then east on the north boundary of Cavalier County until its intersection with the centerline of one hundred thirteenth avenue northeast, then south on one hundred thirteenth avenue northeast until its intersection with the centerline of ninetieth street northeast, then east on ninetieth street northeast until its intersection with one hundred fourteenth avenue northeast, then south on one hundred fourteenth avenue northeast until its intersection with the south boundary of Cavalier County, then west on the south boundary of Cavalier County until its intersection with the west boundary of Cavalier County, then north on the west boundary of Cavalier County"

Page 31, line 23, remove "a."

Page 31, line 23, after "senator" insert "and two representatives"

Page 31, remove lines 25 through 28

Renumber accordingly

21.1113.02007  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Kreidt  
November 8, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 22, line 29, after the underscored semicolon insert "that part of East Morton Township in Morton County bound by a line commencing at the point where the centerline of county road 84 intersects with the centerline of old highway 10, then east on old highway 10 until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of thirty-eighth avenue, then south on a straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue, on thirty-eighth avenue, and on an straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of forty-first street, then west on a straight line extended from forty-first street and on forty-first street until its intersection with the centerline of county road 84, then north on county road 84 to the point of beginning."

Renumber accordingly

21.1113.02008  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Anderson

November 5, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

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Re-number accordingly



21.1113.02003  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Ertelt  
November 5, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 33, line 6, remove "four"

Page 33, line 7, replace "thousand one hundred forty-four" with "one thousand six hundred fifty-seven"

Renumber accordingly

21.1113.02004  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Representative Ertelt  
November 5, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 1, line 3, replace "staggering of terms" with "elections"

Page 31, line 22, replace "**Staggering of terms**" with "**Elections**"

Page 31, line 23, remove "odd-numbered"

Page 31, line 25, remove "odd-numbered"

Page 31, line 27, remove "odd-numbered"

Page 31, line 29, remove "A senator and two representatives from districts ten and twenty-six  
must be elected in"

Page 31, remove line 30

Page 32, remove lines 1 through 31

Page 33, remove lines 1 through 7

Page 33, line 8, remove "8."

Renumber accordingly

21.1113.02006  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
Senator Marcellais

November 8, 2021

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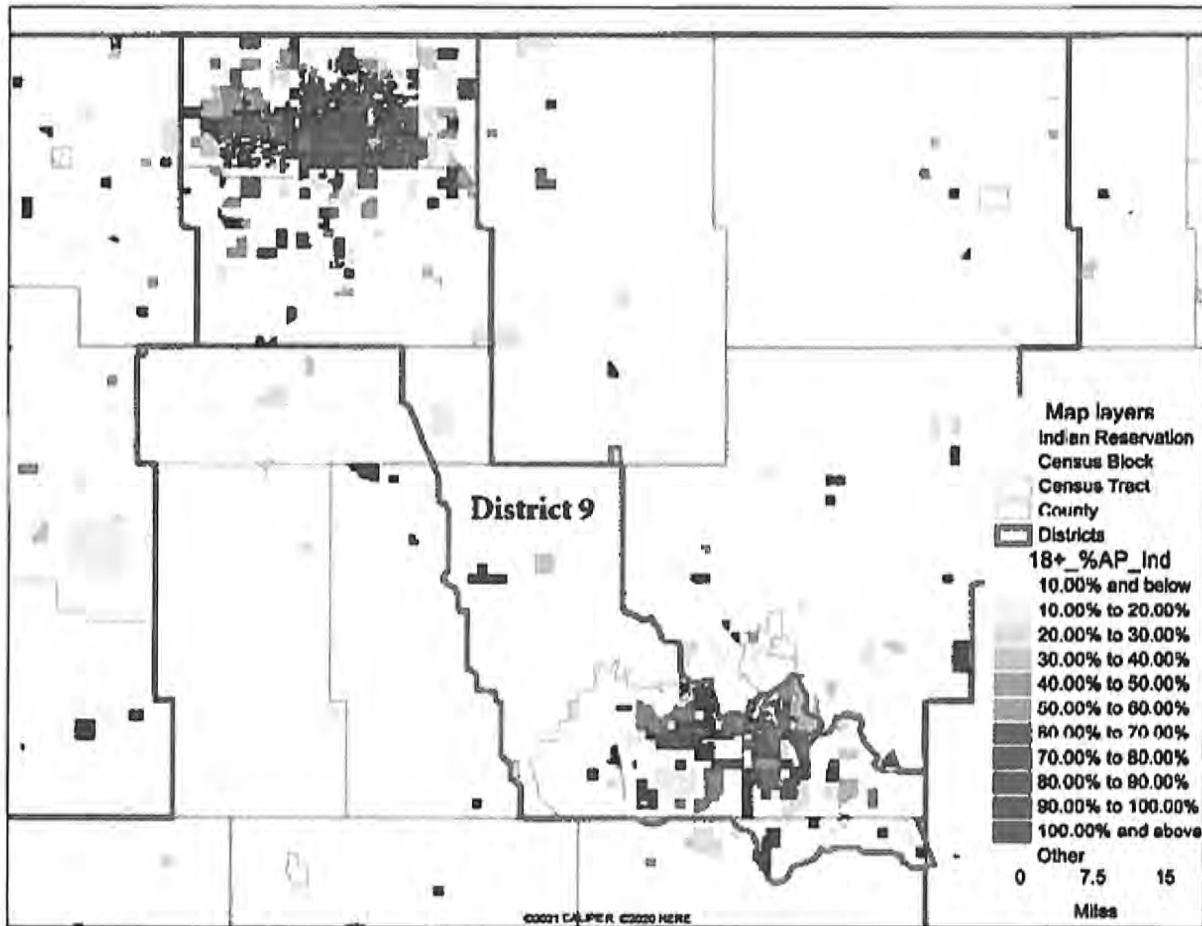
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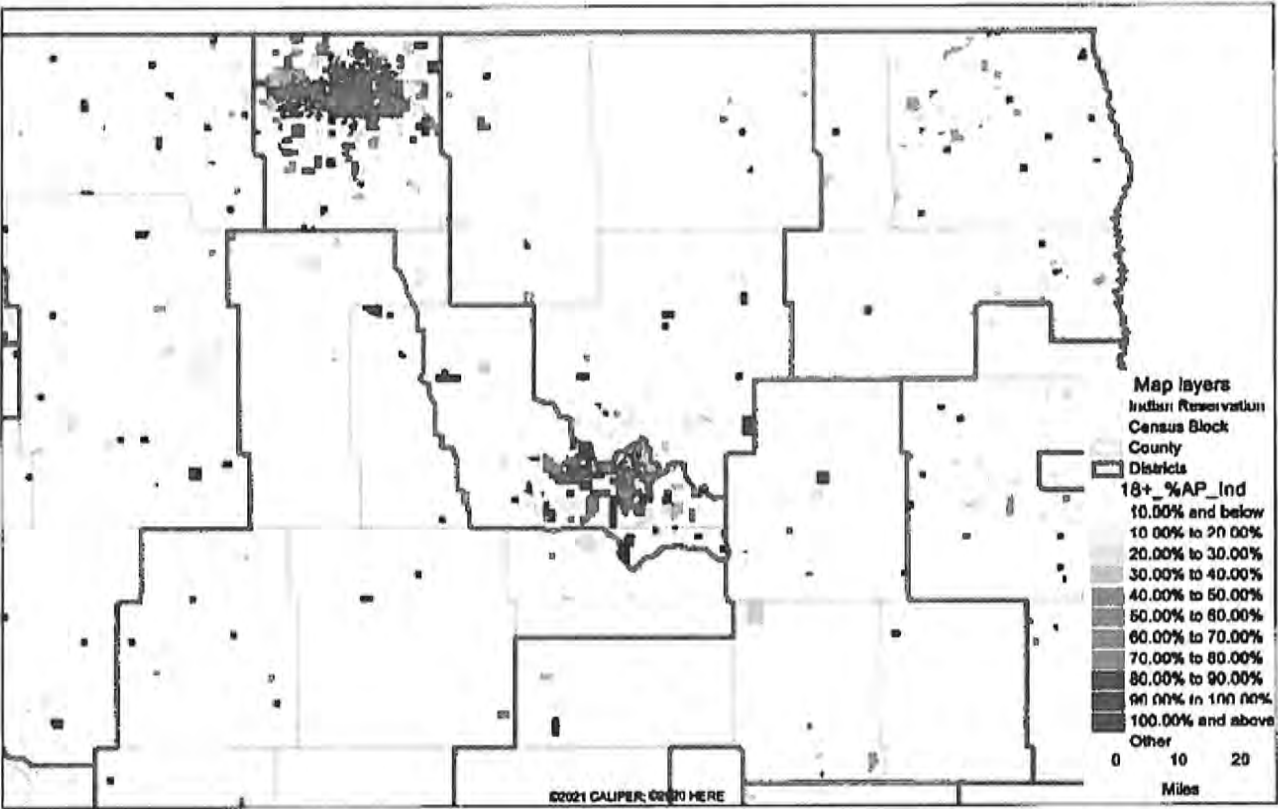
Renumber accordingly

**Figure 1 – Proposed District Including Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain Reservations**

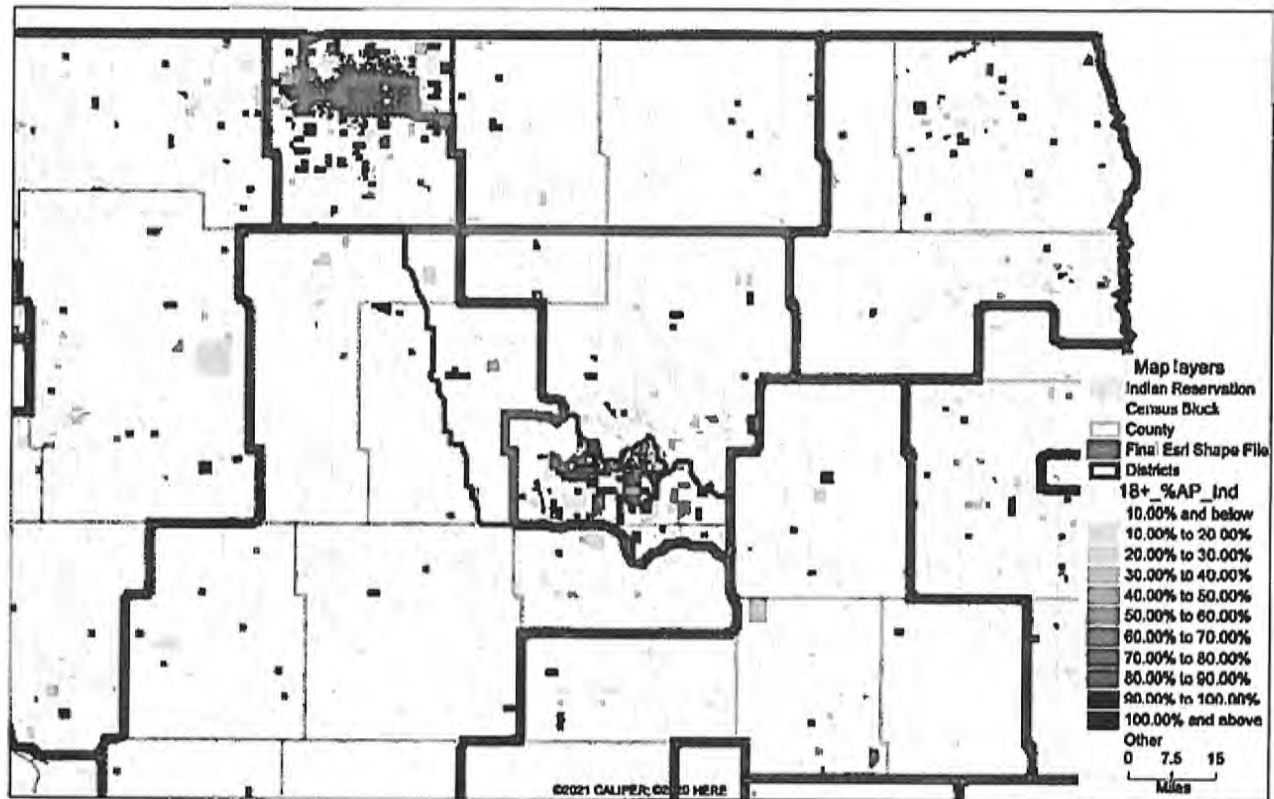


District	Population	Deviation	%Deviation	18+ Native American Population	% 18+Native American Population
9	17,341	765	4.62%	7,887	69.06%

**Figure 2 – Proposed District as Incorporated Into State-Wide District Map**



**Figure 3 – Our Proposed District as Incorporated into State-Wide Map (Dark Brown Lines), Overlaid with and the Redistricting Committee's Map (Green Lines)**



**Testimony of Spirit Lake Nation Chairman Douglas Yankton, Sr.  
Before the North Dakota Legislative Council Redistricting Committee  
November 8, 2021**

Members of the Redistricting Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today. I am Douglas Yankton, Sr., Chairman of the Spirit Lake Nation. Spirit Lake is a sovereign nation and a federally recognized Indian Tribe with over 7,500 enrolled members. The Spirit Lake reservation is located mostly in Benson County, but also in portions of Eddy, Ramsey, Wells and Nelson counties.

I am here to ask that the Committee slightly revise its map to draw a single legislative district that includes the Spirit Lake Nation reservation and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa reservation. This request was originally conveyed through a letter from myself and Chairman Azure, submitted to the Governor and Legislature on November 1st. I have attached a copy of the letter to my testimony. The letter includes a map of the proposed district, as well as maps showing how the proposed district could easily be incorporated into the Committee's approved map with very little change.

Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain have many shared interests. We are the only two federally recognized Tribes in the North Eastern part of the state. We have similar economic interests, as well as cultural and political values. We both deal with the federal government on a government-to-government basis. We live just over an hour's drive from each other, and, because the boundaries between our two

**November 8, 2021 Testimony of Chairman Douglas Yankton, Sr.**

**Page 2 of 2**

reservations are less than 55 miles apart as the crow flies, the district would be geographically compact. Additionally, a strong majority of the district's voters would be Native American, which means subdistricts would not be required for this district. Finally, we believe that joining our Tribes together into a single legislative district will improve the government-to-government relationships between our Tribes and with the State. In short, as sovereign tribal governments we have unique communities that have uniquely shared values. It only makes sense for us to have a shared political district.

I hope the Committee will give full consideration to this request. I thank you for your time today, and will stand for any questions the Committee may have.



November 1, 2021

The Honorable Doug Burgum  
Governor of the State of North Dakota  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Joshua Boschec  
Minority Leader  
North Dakota House of Representatives  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Kim Koppelman  
Speaker  
North Dakota House of Representatives  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Rich Wardner  
Majority Leader  
North Dakota State Senate  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Chet Pollert  
Majority Leader  
North Dakota House of Representatives  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Joan Heckaman  
Minority Leader  
North Dakota State Senate  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Governor Burgum, Speaker Koppelman, and Leaders Pollert, Boschec, Wardner and Heckaman:

On behalf of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians ("Turtle Mountain") and the Spirit Lake Nation ("Spirit Lake"), we write to express concerns with the proposed legislative map to be considered for approval by the State Legislature on November 8, and to respectfully request that our Tribal Nations be incorporated into the same legislative district.

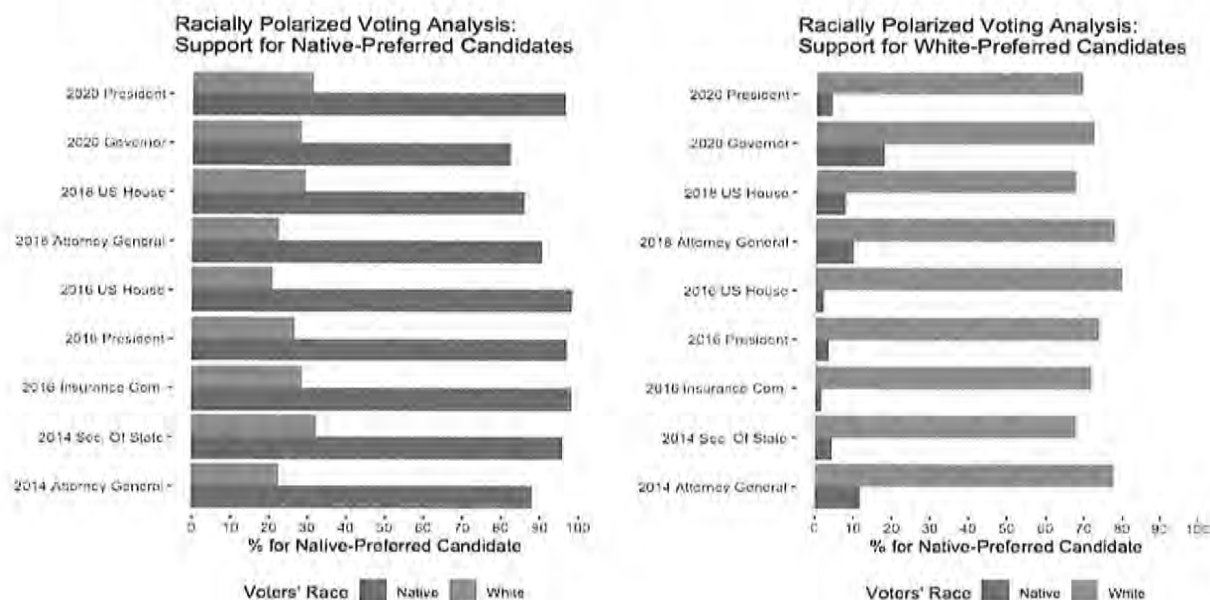
Throughout the redistricting process, the Tribes of North Dakota made numerous requests to the Legislature's Redistricting Committee to hold redistricting hearings on and near reservations to allow tribal members an opportunity to be heard on how their state legislative representation will be guided for the next ten years. Those requests fell on deaf ears. Many of our tribal members lack the means to travel to Bismarck and were therefore shut out of the redistricting process. Also concerning was the Redistricting Committee's position that the Tribal and State Relations Committee could report back to it if any redistricting comments happened to be brought up during the Tribal and State Relations Committee meetings. That approach was wholly inadequate. 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. Of course, given the short notice, not all of the Tribes were able to make it to Bismarck to attend the hearing. Indeed, we as tribal leaders are governing in the middle of a pandemic with limited resources, and so one day's notice is far from sufficient.

At that redistricting hearing, representatives from the Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Three Affiliated Tribes advocated for the creation of legislative subdistricts to improve their representation. Of these requests, only a subdistrict for the Three Affiliated Tribes reservation area was approved by the Redistricting Committee. The Committee, however, also decided to create subdistricts in the Turtle Mountain reservation area, even though no subdistricts were ever requested by Turtle Mountain to the Redistricting Committee.

As a result of the poor outreach to our Tribal Nations, despite our repeated requests, the Redistricting Committee's proposed District 9, containing the Turtle Mountain reservation, is illegally drawn and we believe will be struck down in court if it is adopted by the State Legislature. To remedy this situation, and to also allow the members of Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake to be able to elect the representatives of their choice in accordance with federal law, we have developed a proposed district containing the Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake reservations. (**Attached as Figure 1**).

Given that our Tribal communities together would be sufficiently large and geographically compact to form a majority-minority district, and given the racially polarized voting that exists when comparing our communities to the surrounding areas, our proposed district satisfies the Voting Rights Act, and would negate the need for a subdistrict. To illustrate, the below charts show the differences between Native American and non-Native American voting patterns in 2016 and 2020 state-wide elections for the precincts within the district we have proposed. Our Tribal communities have voted cohesively in favor of clearly identified Native American preferred candidates. On the other hand, the non-Native American voters have, without exception, overwhelmingly voted against the Native American candidate of choice.




The disparity is even more severe when Native American candidates have run for office. In the 2016 election for the United States House of Representatives, a Native American candidate, Chase Iron Eyes, was preferred by an estimated 98 percent of Native American voters, but received only 21 percent of the vote from white voters. The vast majority of white voters rallied behind the eventual winner of the race, Kevin Cramer, who received only an estimated 2 percent of the Native American vote. A similar pattern is visible in the 2016 race for Insurance Commissioner, where an estimated 98 percent of Native American voters cast a ballot in favor of the Native American candidate, Ruth Buffalo, while being favored by only 28 percent of white voters.

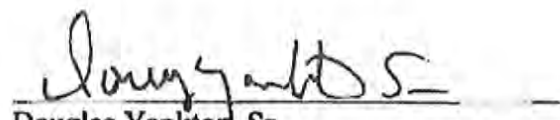
Not only will adopting the district proposed by our Tribes allow the State of North Dakota to forgo costly litigation (which would likely result in the Redistricting Committee's map being overturned anyway), the proposed district can also be incorporated into the overall state-wide redistricting map very easily, with minimal impacts to the districts proposed by the Redistricting Committee for the rest of the state. We have taken the additional step of drawing a full state-wide map that incorporates our proposed district. (**Attached as Figure 2**). To illustrate this minimal impact, we have additionally provided a map that shows the lines of a proposed state-wide map that incorporates our proposed district, overlaid with the lines of the Redistricting Committee's proposed map. (**Attached as Figure 3**). As you can see, incorporation of our proposed district only creates small changes to the other districts proposed by the Redistricting Committee, and only in the northeast corner of the state.

We respectfully bring this request forward, not only as the leaders of sovereign Tribal Nations, but as fellow citizens of the State of North Dakota. All citizens deserve to have their voices heard and to be treated fairly and equally under the law. Our proposed district accomplishes this, which benefits our Tribes as well as the State of North Dakota and all of its citizens. We appreciate your thorough attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

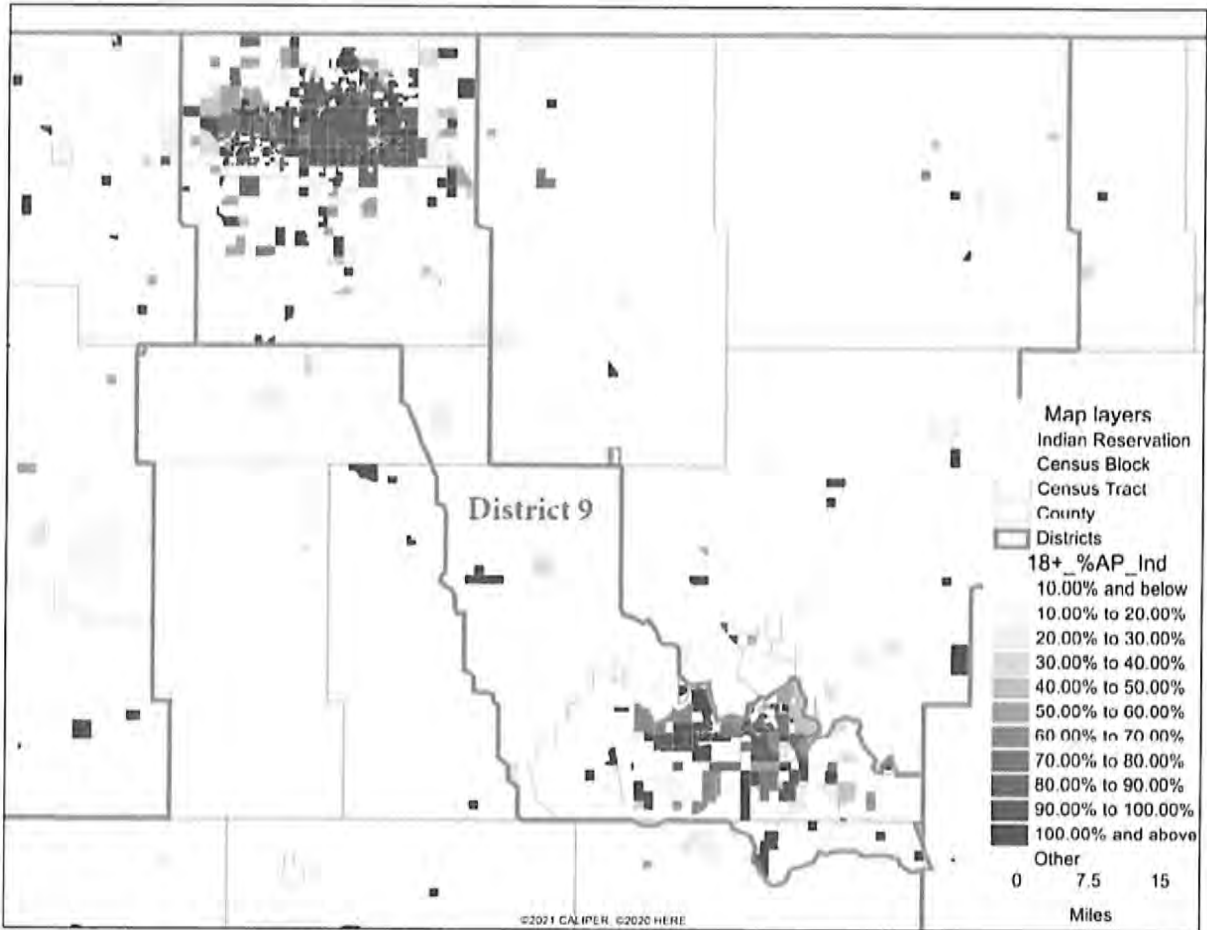


Jamie Azure  
Chairman  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians



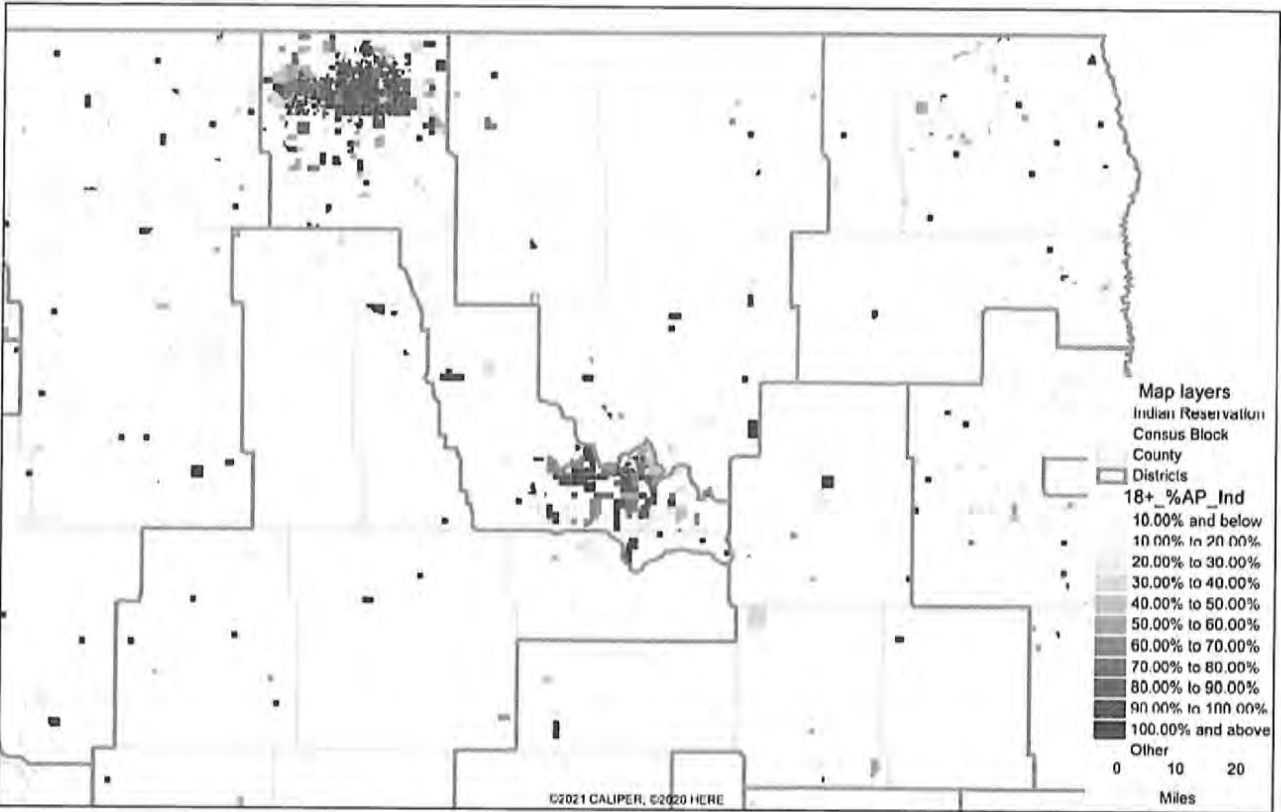
Douglas Yankton, Sr.  
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Spirit Lake Nation

**Figure 1 – Proposed District Including Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain Reservations**

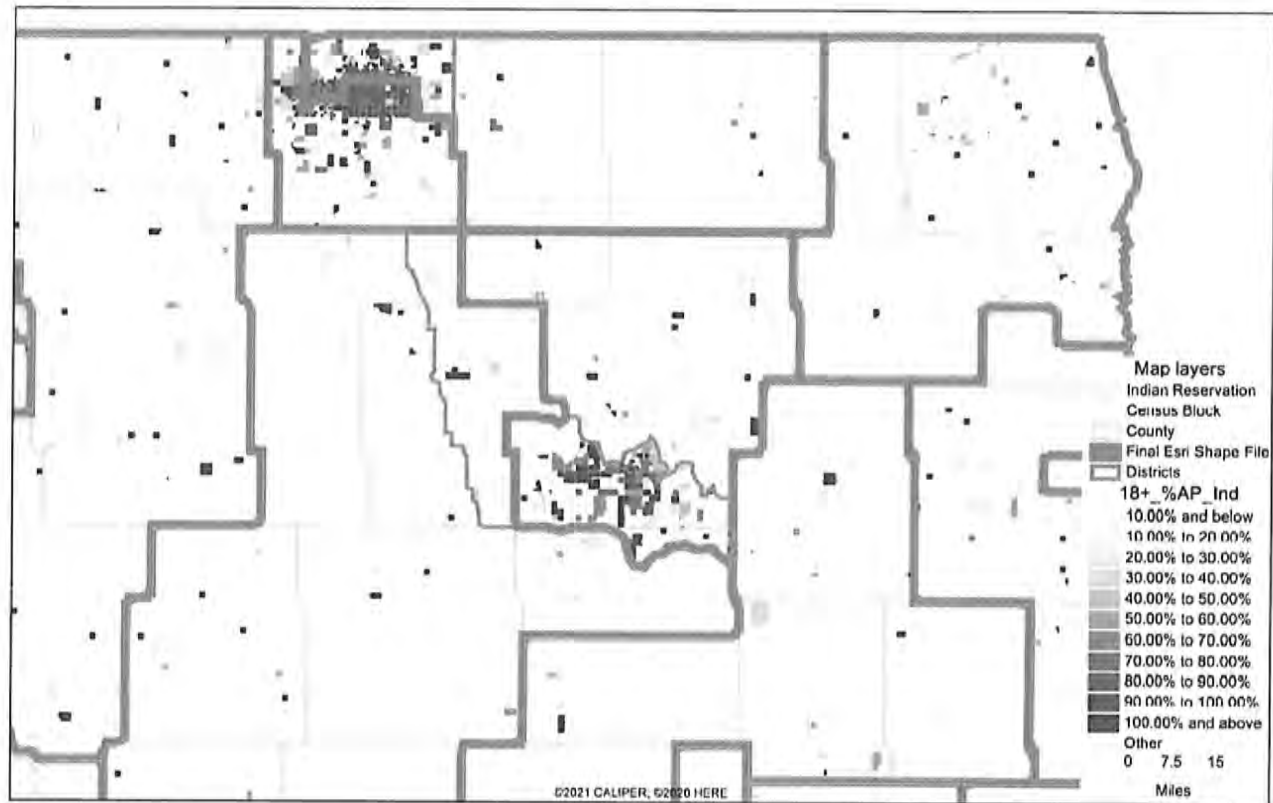


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**Figure 2 – Proposed District as Incorporated Into State-Wide District Map**



**Figure 3 – Our Proposed District as Incorporated into State-Wide Map (Dark Brown Lines), Overlaid with and the Redistricting Committee’s Map (Green Lines)**



**Testimony of Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Chairman Jamie Azure  
Before the North Dakota Legislature Redistricting Committee  
November 8, 2021**

Members of the Redistricting Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today. I am Jamie Azure, Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. Turtle Mountain is a federally recognized Indian Tribe with over 30,000 enrolled members. The Turtle Mountain reservation is located entirely within Rolette County with our Tribal Headquarters located in Belcourt. The reservation is seventy-two square miles and is one of the most densely populated reservations in the United States. Turtle Mountain operates the Sky Dancer Casino, and founded the Turtle Mountain Community College.

Today, I come before the Committee to ask that you honor the request of Turtle Mountain and the Spirit Lake to approve a legislative district that includes both of our communities. As you know, this request was submitted to the Legislature on November 1st through a joint letter from Chairman Yankton and myself. I have attached a copy of the letter to my testimony. If approved, this district would be the first of its kind in North Dakota, by allowing two Tribal Nations to share one voice in the State's Senate and House elections.

I am very concerned about the Committee's proposed District 9 that encompasses the Turtle Mountain reservation. The Committee's proposed district would dilute the Native American vote, would not provide our tribal members with

the ability to elect the 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.

Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake have many shared interests. We are the only two federally recognized Tribes in the North Eastern part of the state. We have similar economic interests, as well as cultural and political values. We both deal with the federal government on a government-to-government basis and we both have federal Bureau of Indian Education Schools on our reservations. Due to the short distance between our two reservations, the district would be geographically compact; and due to sufficient Native American voter population in the district, subdistricts would not be required. Joining our Tribes together into a single legislative district will improve the government-to-government relationships between our Tribes and with the State. As sovereign tribal governments we have unique communities that have uniquely shared values; therefore, it makes sense for us to have a shared political district.

As you can see from our letter, adopting our proposed district would (1) require very little change to the map already approved by the Committee; (2) comply with redistricting laws; and (3) not require subdistricts.

Thank you for your attention. I can address any questions the Committee may have.



November 1, 2021

The Honorable Doug Burgum  
Governor of the State of North Dakota  
600 East Boulevard Ave.  
Bismarck, ND 58505

The Honorable Joshua Boschec  
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Dear Governor Burgum, Speaker Koppelman, and Leaders Pollert, Boschec, Wardner and Heckaman:

On behalf of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians ("Turtle Mountain") and the Spirit Lake Nation ("Spirit Lake"), we write to express concerns with the proposed legislative map to be considered for approval by the State Legislature on November 8, and to respectfully request that our Tribal Nations be incorporated into the same legislative district.

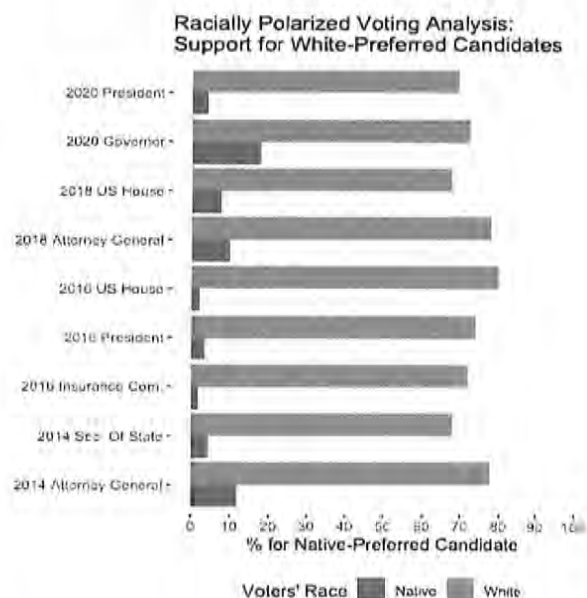
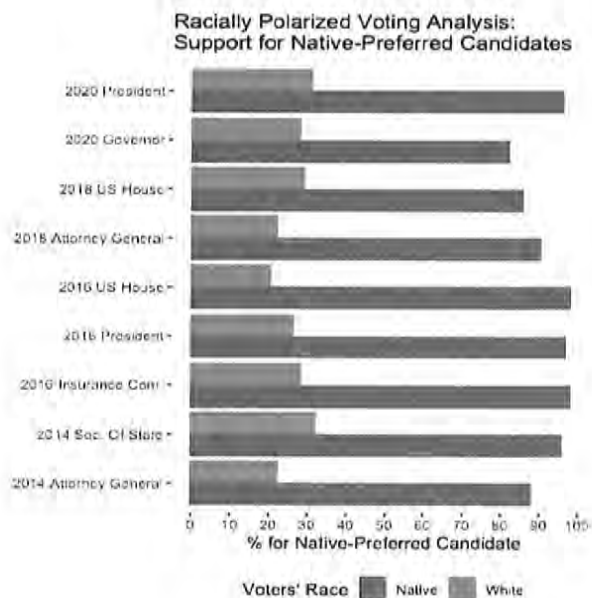
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At that redistricting hearing, representatives from the Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Three Affiliated Tribes advocated for the creation of legislative subdistricts to improve their representation. Of these requests, only a subdistrict for the Three Affiliated Tribes reservation area was approved by the Redistricting Committee. The Committee, however, also decided to create subdistricts in the Turtle Mountain reservation area, even though no subdistricts were ever requested by Turtle Mountain to the Redistricting Committee.

As a result of the poor outreach to our Tribal Nations, despite our repeated requests, the Redistricting Committee's proposed District 9, containing the Turtle Mountain reservation, is illegally drawn and we believe will be struck down in court if it is adopted by the State Legislature. To remedy this situation, and to also allow the members of Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake to be able to elect the representatives of their choice in accordance with federal law, we have developed a proposed district containing the Turtle Mountain and Spirit Lake reservations. (**Attached as Figure 1**).

Given that our Tribal communities together would be sufficiently large and geographically compact to form a majority-minority district, and given the racially polarized voting that exists when comparing our communities to the surrounding areas, our proposed district satisfies the Voting Rights Act, and would negate the need for a subdistrict. To illustrate, the below charts show the differences between Native American and non-Native American voting patterns in 2016 and 2020 state-wide elections for the precincts within the district we have proposed. Our Tribal communities have voted cohesively in favor of clearly identified Native American preferred candidates. On the other hand, the non-Native American voters have, without exception, overwhelmingly voted against the Native American candidate of choice.




The disparity is even more severe when Native American candidates have run for office. In the 2016 election for the United States House of Representatives, a Native American candidate, Chase Iron Eyes, was preferred by an estimated 98 percent of Native American voters, but received only 21 percent of the vote from white voters. The vast majority of white voters rallied behind the eventual winner of the race, Kevin Cramer, who received only an estimated 2 percent of the Native American vote. A similar pattern is visible in the 2016 race for Insurance Commissioner, where an estimated 98 percent of Native American voters cast a ballot in favor of the Native American candidate, Ruth Buffalo, while being favored by only 28 percent of white voters.

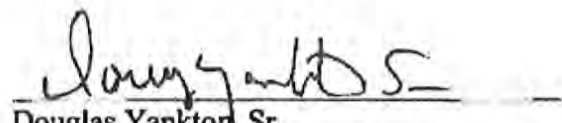
Not only will adopting the district proposed by our Tribes allow the State of North Dakota to forgo costly litigation (which would likely result in the Redistricting Committee's map being overturned anyway), the proposed district can also be incorporated into the overall state-wide redistricting map very easily, with minimal impacts to the districts proposed by the Redistricting Committee for the rest of the state. We have taken the additional step of drawing a full state-wide map that incorporates our proposed district. (**Attached as Figure 2**). To illustrate this minimal impact, we have additionally provided a map that shows the lines of a proposed state-wide map that incorporates our proposed district, overlaid with the lines of the Redistricting Committee's proposed map. (**Attached as Figure 3**). As you can see, incorporation of our proposed district only creates small changes to the other districts proposed by the Redistricting Committee, and only in the northeast corner of the state.

We respectfully bring this request forward, not only as the leaders of sovereign Tribal Nations, but as fellow citizens of the State of North Dakota. All citizens deserve to have their voices heard and to be treated fairly and equally under the law. Our proposed district accomplishes this, which benefits our Tribes as well as the State of North Dakota and all of its citizens. We appreciate your thorough attention to this matter.

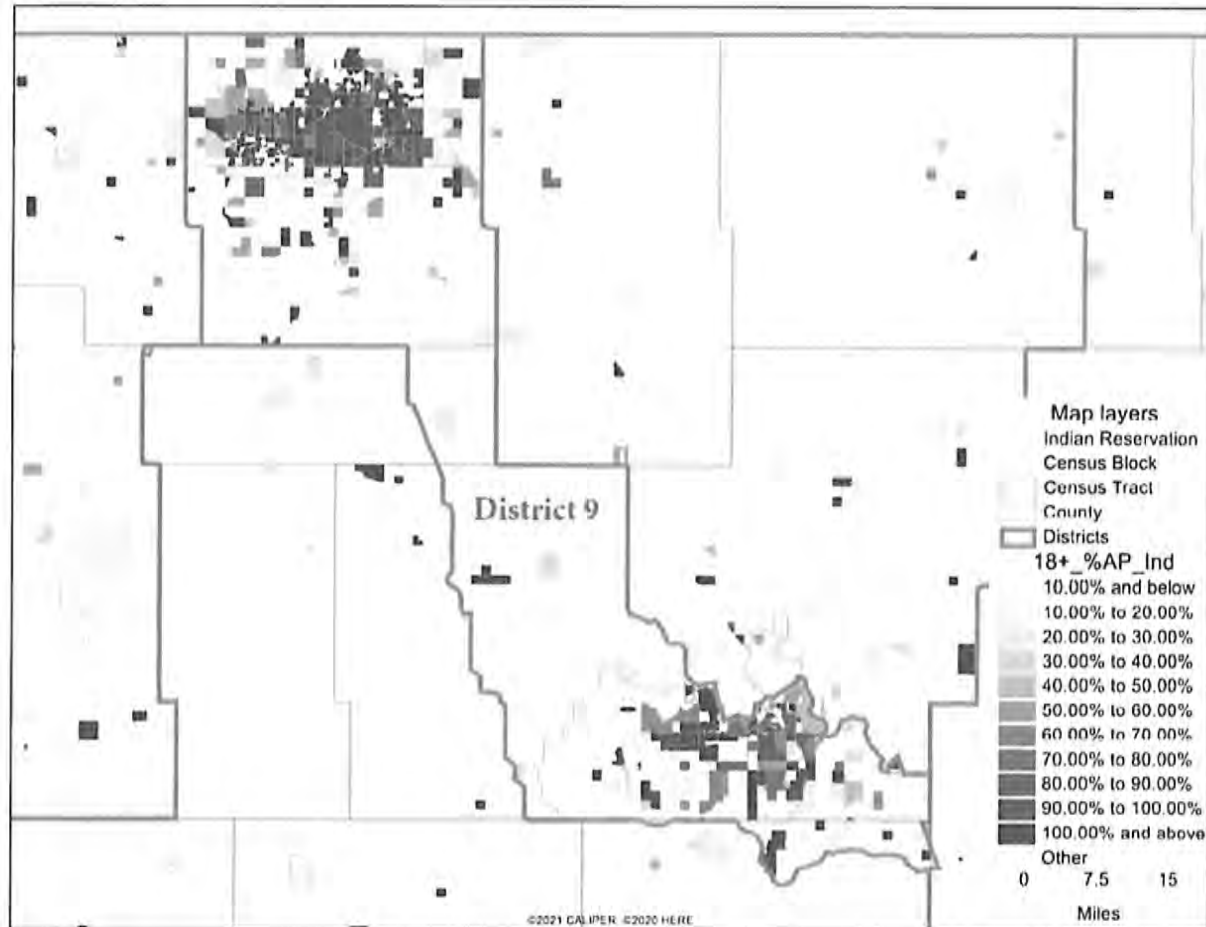
Sincerely,



Jamie Azure  
Chairman  
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

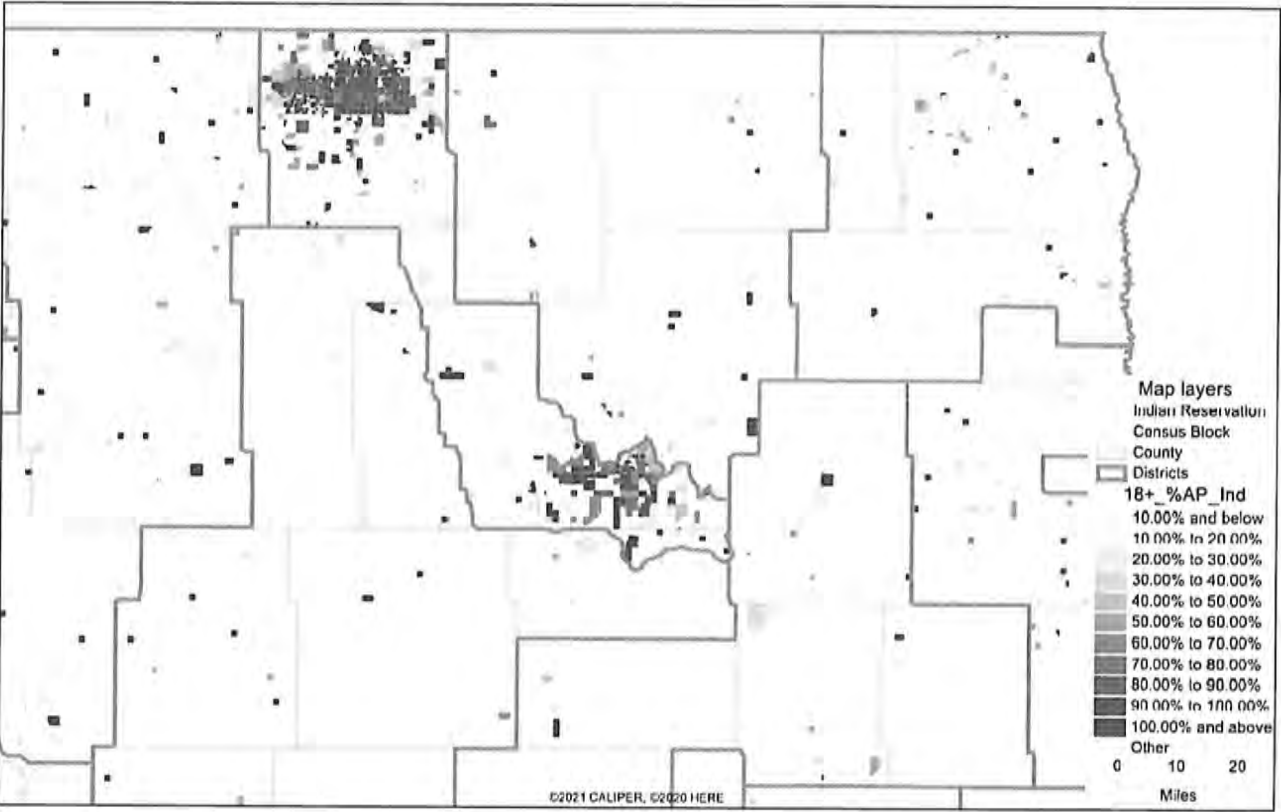


Douglas Yankton, Sr.  
Chairman  
Spirit Lake Nation

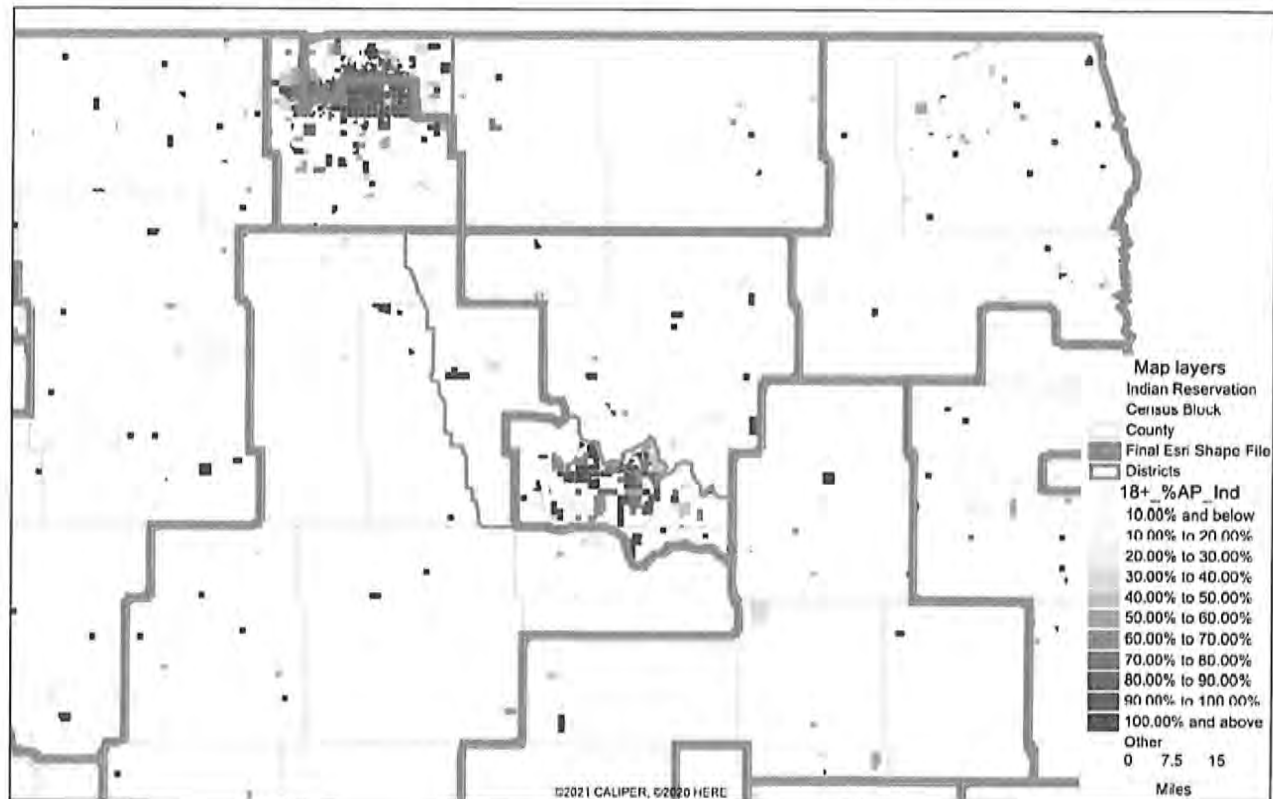
**Figure 1 – Proposed District Including Spirit Lake and Turtle Mountain Reservations**

District	Population	Deviation	%Deviation	18+ Native American Population	% 18+Native American Population
9	17,341	765	4.62%	7,887	69.06%

**Figure 2 – Proposed District as Incorporated Into State-Wide District Map**



**Figure 3 – Our Proposed District as Incorporated into State-Wide Map (Dark Brown Lines), Overlaid with and the Redistricting Committee’s Map (Green Lines)**





Joint Redistricting Committee written testimony  
2021 special session of the Legislature  
November 8, 2021

Chairman and members of the committee,

My name is Rick Gion, speaking on behalf of the North Dakota Voters First board of directors. I live in Fargo, ND.

North Dakota Voters First is 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.

We commend the 2021 Redistricting Committee for their hard work and prudent decision to comply with the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965 by creating two House subdistricts. We are aware that this provision may be separated from the current redistricting bill, so please continue to advocate for these split districts if that's how a floor vote transpires.

As you know, North Dakota Voters First remains committed to House subdistricts throughout the whole state to bring elected officials closer to their voters. This isn't a new idea. It was discussed at length during the 2001 North Dakota redistricting process. Our neighbor to the east, Minnesota, uses this system. It was also recently endorsed by the Bismarck Tribune.

Throughout the redistricting process, leaders from our organization and other local voting rights groups have had concerns with the 2021 redistricting process. Our concerns include incumbent protection, scheduled time periods for public comment not being adhered to, agendas not being posted in a timely fashion, and draft maps not being posted prior to most meetings. This was unfortunate and disappointing. For these reasons and more, we feel that an independent redistricting commission would benefit the state and its citizens in future legislative redistricting.

Thank you for your time and hard work.

Sincerely,

Rick Gion  
Fargo, ND  
Lobbyist #1086

## 2021 JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Redistricting Committee**  
Room JW327E, State Capitol

HB 1504  
11/9/2021

A bill relating to legislative redistricting and staggering of terms of members of the legislative assembly and relating to legislative districts and staggering of terms of members of the legislative assembly.

**Chairman Devlin** opened the meeting at 8:00am.

Roll call-all present.

LEGISLATORS	PRESENT
Chairman Devlin	Y
Co-Chairman Holmberg	Y
Representative Bellew	Y
Representative Boschee	Y
Representative Headland	Y
Representative Lefor	Y
Representative Monson	Y
Representative Nathe	Y
Representative Schauer	Y
Senator Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Burckhard	Y
Senator Erbele	Y
Senator Klein	Y
Senator Oban	Y
Senator Poolman	Y
Senator Sorvaag	Y

### **Discussion Topics:**

- District division

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, distributed and explained proposed amendment per yesterday's discussion, 21.1113.02009 (#12175).

**Senator Bekkedahl** made a motion to adopt this amendment 21.1113.02009.

**Representative Nathe** seconded the motion.

**Voice vote-motion carried.**

**Representative Bellew** proposed an amendment on page 26 starting on line 24 changing fourth avenue northwest to third avenue northwest and "also identified as third avenue northwest" can be eliminated.

**Representative Bellew** made a motion to adopt this amendment.

**Senator Burkhard seconded the motion.**

**Voice vote-motion carried.**

**Emily Thompson, Legislative Council**, discussed Secretary of State's clarifications.

**Senator Holmberg made a motion for a Do Pass as Amended.**

**Senator Burckhard seconded the motion.**

**Roll call vote-16-0-0. Motion carried.**

<u>LEGISLATORS</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Chairman Devlin	Y
Co-Chairman Holmberg	Y
Representative Bellew	Y
Representative Boschee	Y
Representative Headland	Y
Representative Lefor	Y
Representative Monson	Y
Representative Nathe	Y
Representative Schauer	Y
Senator Bekkedahl	Y
Senator Burckhard	Y
Senator Erbele	Y
Senator Klein	Y
Senator Oban	Y
Senator Poolman	Y
Senator Sorvaag	Y

**Chairman Devlin** adjourned the meeting at 8:12am.

*Mary Brucker, Committee Clerk*

21.1113.02009  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
the Joint Redistricting Committee  
November 8, 2021

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 22, line 29, after the underscored semicolon insert "that part of East Morton Township in Morton County bound by a line commencing at the point where the centerline of county road 84 intersects with the centerline of interstate highway 94, then east on interstate highway 94 until its intersection with the centerline of Sweet Briar Creek, then south on Sweet Briar Creek until its intersection with the centerline of old highway 10, then east on old highway 10 until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of thirty-eighth avenue, then south on a straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue, on thirty-eighth avenue, and on a straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of forty-first street, then west on a straight line extended from forty-first street and on forty-first street until its intersection with the centerline of county road 84, then north on county road 84 to the point of beginning;"

Renumber accordingly

**Image Corresponding to Amendment 21.1113.02009**

21.1113.02010  
Title.03000

Adopted by the Joint Redistricting Committee

November 9, 2021

*Handwritten:*  
Done  
11/10/21  
Lof

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1504

Page 4, line 13, after "of" insert "fourth avenue northwest, then east on fourth avenue northwest until it becomes"

Page 20, line 13, remove "eighth street southwest, then east on eighth street southwest until its"

Page 20, remove line 14

Page 20, line 15, remove "twenty-third avenue southwest until its intersection with"

Page 22, line 29, after the underscored semicolon insert "that part of East Morton Township in Morton County bound by a line commencing at the point where the centerline of county road 84 intersects with the centerline of interstate highway 94, then east on interstate highway 94 until its intersection with the centerline of Sweet Briar Creek, then south on Sweet Briar Creek until its intersection with the centerline of old highway 10, then east on old highway 10 until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of thirty-eighth avenue, then south on a straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue, on thirty-eighth avenue, and on a straight line extended from thirty-eighth avenue until its intersection with an extended line from the centerline of forty-first street, then west on a straight line extended from forty-first street and on forty-first street until its intersection with the centerline of county road 84, then north on county road 84 to the point of beginning;"

Page 26, line 24, after "of" insert "third avenue northwest until it becomes"

Page 26, line 24, remove "also"

Page 26, line 25, remove "identified as third avenue northwest,"

Renumber accordingly

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**HB 1504: Joint Redistricting Committee (Rep. Devlin, Co-Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (16 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1504 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 4, line 13, after "of" insert "fourth avenue northwest, then east on fourth avenue northwest until it becomes"

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Renumber accordingly

21.1113.02009  
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for  
the Joint Redistricting Committee  
November 8, 2021

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Renumber accordingly

**Image Corresponding to Amendment 21.1113.02009**