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October 26, 2021

NYS Independent Redistricting Commission:

Please accept my comments in opposition to the current redistricting to Senate District 45.

The exclusion of the Town of Queensbury and the City of Glens Falls is extremely ill-conceived by the Commission from the long-existing 45th District.

Glens Falls and Plattsburgh have long been the primary cities in our North Country, sharing similar needs and problems. The City, undergoing a very successful downtown revitalization, is becoming more and more important to our major industry of tourism, with its Cool Insuring Arena and hotel a major asset to our amenities. Their delegates serve on the County Board as well sharing services and other vital interests.

Separation in the Senate district would distance them from our County and leave them as an oasis in our tourist activities, support and interest.

Removing the Town of Queensbury makes no sense to me at all and ranks as one of the worst political concepts I have experienced in my 52 years as mayor.

Queensbury’s interest and importance to our total tourism industry is extremely vital and must remain under one representative as the remainder of our North Country.

Their growth with additional hotels, restaurants, attractions and amenities has been important to our region’s tourism.

The Great Escape Amusement Park, all the outlets stores all use Lake George as their address and to remove them from the present district make no sense.

We share similar services, transportation, Chamber of Commerce, infrastructure, numerous committees and businesses under the present district. We need one Senator representing this important area that is so vital to New York’s economy and needs.

We think of Queensbury as our partner in so many initiatives and speak as one voice when we pursue our needs in Albany.

Do not destroy our present district by cutting off our right arm as we move forward to further our tourism-related industry so vital to New York State as a whole.

Thank you for your time and concerns.

