Hello, my name is Lois Gundrum and I'm here to offer my input as an individual who has grown up in the Capital Region. In 1880, my grandfather got off of a boat and settled in Watervliet. My family has lived there ever since. The house I currently live in has been occupied by my family for about 135 years. So, it is with this background that I speaking.

First, with regard to the Congressional District maps. I grew up hearing about the tri-city area ... the three cities being Troy, Albany, and Schenectady. As kids, we took the bus and shopped in Troy and Albany. Later, when I had a car, I shopped at the Mohawk Mall and went to productions at Proctor's in Schenectady. As time has passed, this concept of the Capital Region has extended to Saratoga Springs, where I have gone for acupuncture, yoga, horseback-riding and lunch so many times.

Fast forwarding, over the past 10 years, I’ve been active in organizations that have introduced me to people from what all refer to as the Capital Region. For example, the Audubon Society of the Capital Region, the Coalition of Capital Region Progressives, the Capital Area Climate Network. Many businesses and healthcare providers in this geographic region identify themselves in this way.

When I looked at the letter and names versions of the Congressional district maps being addressed at this hearing, I was totally shocked and dismayed that our current Congressional District 20 was essentially decimated in both versions. These maps wipe out one of the most cohesively networked districts in NYS and disenfranchise our current Congressman who lives in Amsterdam, which is outside my proposed district in both versions. I implore you to reconsider your treatment of the Capital Region in the Congressional district maps and preserve its integrity.

Both the letters and names draft versions of the NYS Senate map seem to preserve the essence of my current district number 44, which I am very happy about. Overall, I like the **Letters** Upper House map the best because the districts created in this east central portion of NYS seem to be the most coherent.

As for the two draft versions that have been proposed to replace the current 108th NYS Assembly District that I live in, I think the **Names** Lower House version best preserves the associations that we in Watervliet have grown used to. We are located on the shores of the Hudson River and our types of homes and neighborhoods, as well as our economy, have far more in common with Troy than with Guilderland.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my reactions to these draft maps as a concerned citizen. In summary, I feel I have been well served by the districts I currently live in and the representatives that serve these districts. Please consider preserving the essence of these districts as you draw your new lines.