

From: [Heath, Linda](#)
To: [OE.Elections.Reapportionment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fairly counting population on the Big Island
Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 12:42:58 PM

Aloha Commissioners,

I am a resident of the Big Island, and I am concerned about the representation of our population in the upcoming state census review, especially in reference to the non-residents who are counted as full-time residents of O'ahu. In 2011, many non-resident students and the temporary military members who were living on O'ahu for short periods of time were included in the count as full residents, rather than temporary residents, leading to an over-count of the permanent O'ahu population and an under-count of the Big Island population.

Please ensure the numbers only include permanent residents so the state benefits that flow to our island will accurately reflect the number of residents here compared to other islands.

Mahalo,

Linda Heath
29-2281 Hanamalo Loop
Hakalau, HI 96710

From: [Cory Harden](#)
To: [OE.Elections.Reapportionment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] testimony for Aug 26
Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:18:19 PM

Aloha Commissioners,
Thank you for your volunteer service.
Please ensure Hawai'i Island has fair representation, by accurately counting the number of non-permanent residents (NPRs). As you know, undercounting of NPRs in 2011 led to a Supreme Court rejection of the results.
Mahalo!
Cory Harden, Hilo

From: [Kiyoko Nanni](#)
To: [OE.Elections.Reapportionment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair outcome desired on the upcoming Reapportionment
Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:22:47 PM

Dear Committee Members,

Aloha from Kona on the Big Island! I am presenting my written testimony to make an appeal for fair reapportionment and herewith, draw your attention, in particular to how many Non-Permanent Residents (NPR) will be deducted by the Commission from the total population numbers released by the 2021 US Census Bureau?

Will it again be a minimal extraction as was done in 2011 when the number of NPRs on Oahu was undercounted, resulting in keeping a state House district which otherwise should have been transferred to the residents of the Big Island, Hawaii.

The big unknown for this current cycle is whether the Commission will rightfully extract enough NPR military to make the transfer of that House seat to Hawaii County.

I implore that this rightful action is what the Commission will malama pono to. Do the right thing, please and not be tempted a repeat of what was done in 2011.

Mahalo nui loa,
Kiyoko Nanni
Holualoa, Kona, Hawaii
West Hawaii



The Senate
August 24, 2021
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MEMORANDUM

To: Hawaii Reapportionment Commission
c/o Scott Nago, Chief Elections Officer
Office of Elections
802 Lehua Avenue
Pearl City, HI 96782

RE: Accuracy and Transparency in Determining Non-permanent Resident Numbers

Aloha e Chair Mugiishi and Reapportionment Commission Members,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony today and for your collective efforts to engage in the duties of the reapportionment commission.

I am writing today to amplify the voices of those who have reached out to our office with specific concerns about the accurate extraction of non-permanent residents (NPR) from the population count that will be used during the redistricting process. These concerns stem from a significant difference in the military NPR count used in 2011, which was 95,447, and this commission's projection of 64,415 for this same population in 2021.

In order to arrive at an accurate count and avoid litigation, the commission must justify how it arrived at a count that represents a 32% decline in the military NPR population. Is this estimated decline backed up by data from the Defense Manpower Data Center of USPACOM or the equivalent military data?

Given the shortened time frame that resulted from the delayed release of Census numbers, it is of utmost importance that the commission follow the precedent set in Solomon v. Abercrombie when determining the NPR count. The state election process cannot spare the additional time a court challenge would require.

This is a formal request for clarification on how the NPR count is being determined by commission staff and this body. It is essential that the commission make every effort to inform the public and dispel notions that it is acting with impropriety. In this matter, and all of the commission's business, the data, methods and deliberations influencing the redistricting process must be transparent and shared freely with the public.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Acasio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Laura Acasio
Senate District 1 – Hilo
Hawaii State Senate
415 S. Beretania Street, Suite 203
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-6821

From: [Maki Morinoue](#)
To: [OE.Elections.Reapportionment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] A Fair Representation
Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 8:59:58 AM

Aloha Commissioners,

Thank you for your time.

As a Big Island resident and a community advocate for our kupunas, children, better medical care, mental healthcare, parks, roadways and public schools, I am very concerned with ensuring that we get our fair share of representation at the State level.

As basic reviews of the 2020 Census data show that we have an increase of 15,550 new residents on Hawai'i Island we want to see that reflected in your redistricting counts. We also do not want a repeat of the undercounting issues in regards to non-permanent residents on O'ahu regarding students and members of the military that occurred in 2011. Please withdraw the accurate number to ensure that we are counting only permanent residents.

The Big Island residents are paying attention and alerting our community at large in this progress as this would mean we might finally have support for a long list of struggles we face on the Big Island due to population increase. It currently does not seem to reflect the support it needs. For instance our Hospitals, the most basic of concerns is the fears that our residents are fit enough to even be airlifted to Honolulu for proper medical care. Our Hospitals are overrun due to a facility that doesn't reflect our growing population while we make room for tourists and snowbirds in our facilities due to COVID or otherwise that continue to support offshore profits while adding stress to current facilities. Our Public Schools have shown to be challenged with a steady increase in attendance and have been in need for more *timely* support in maintenance and expansion to ensure the schools have a decent learning environment. Our kupuna programs will need more support as the younger generation will continue to struggle to support our elders properly in their basic medical, physical, social and mental healthcare needs and their ability for independence when they are no longer driving as our public bus system grossly lacks support in many pockets of our rural communities around our island.

I look forward to educating myself and our community on the Big Island on Item IV on August 26th at 11am via [Zoom](#)

Mahalo in advance for the work you are doing to ensure a *fair* representation.

Aloha
Maki Morinoue
96725

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Maki Morinoue

Share your ALOHA

"Aloha Spirit" is the coordination of mind and heart within each person. It brings each person to the self. Each person must think and emote good feelings to others. In the contemplation and presence of the life force, "Aloha,"

From: [Jaime](#)
To: [OE.Elections.Reapportionment](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fair representation
Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 9:39:57 AM

Aloha Reapportionment Commission,

My name is Jaime and I am a resident of the Big Island. I believe we desperately need representation for our island regarding multiple areas of concern. Medical care, infrastructure, schools, parks, mental health, and kupuna care are among these concerns.

Our island has been and is currently undergoing a large increase in residents. Our current health care and infrastructure cannot support the number of people moving here. Coupled with the large number of visitors, we are grossly lacking the support and maintenance of our hospitals, roads, etc. Local residents are paying the price.

We need someone to represent our island at the state level who is aware of and cares about the needs of our community. We need fair representation.

We as an island cannot afford the repeat of undercounting residents that occurred in 2011. Please count only permanent residents to ensure that representation is distributed fairly among our islands.

Please consider fair and impartial counts that will allow for fair and even reapportionment.

Mahalo nui for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Jaime Funakoshi

TESTIMONY TO HAWAII STATE REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

Thursday, August 26, 2021

Bart Dame
710 West Hind Drive, Honolulu

Testifying as an Individual.

Aloha Chair Mugiishi and members of the Commission,

I will focus my testimony on the proposed extractions of non-permanent residents and the apportionment of legislative seats between the four counties that will result from using different figures for arriving at the constitutionally mandated “Permanent Resident” numbers as the basis for both Apportionment and, later, for redistricting within each Basic Island Unit (county).

I was somewhat stunned when I saw the estimates for non-resident military and students in the Powerpoint presentation by Royce Jones at the last meeting. I was further shocked when there was absolutely NO DISCUSSION about how these numbers are so much smaller than those used by the Commission in 2011-12. Did the Commissioners not notice the significant drop? Why did no one ask any questions? Had members of the public been able to ask questions AFTER the presentation, I would have asked for an explanation. I think you folks dropped the ball by remaining silent.

PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS IN THE PUBLIC SESSIONS!

I have attached four charts which form the backbone of my testimony.

ATTACHMENTS

This first chart contrasts the Extraction of non-permanent residents in 2012, after the State Supreme Court rejected the extreme “under-extraction” the Commission had used for drawing up its initial plan.

HERE ARE THE POPULATION ADJUSTMENTS MADE BY THE 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

NON-PERMANENT RESIDENTS (NPR) EXTRACTED FROM 2010 CENSUS DATA FOR HAWAII

NPR	State	BIU-Oahu	BIU-Hawaii	BIU-Maui	BIU-Kauai
NPR military	95,447	95,007	89	133	218
NPR students	13,320	11,611	1,394	247	68
NPR Total	108,767	106,618	1,483	380	286

HERE ARE THE ADJUSTMENTS BEING PROPOSED FOR THE 2021 PLAN

NON-PERMANENT RESIDENTS (NPR) TO BE EXTRACTED FROM 2020 CENSUS DATA FOR HAWAII

NPR	State	BIU-Oahu	BIU-Hawaii	BIU-Maui	BIU-Kauai
NPR military	64,415	64,010	40	117	248
NPR students	6,747	6,094	496	108	49
NPR Total	71,162	70,104	536	225	297

NOTES:

The Hawaii State Constitution requires the Commission draw up districts based upon a count of "Permanent Residents," which means they must make a Good Faith effort to identify and extract identifiable "Non-Permanent Residents" from the Census population count.

The 2011 Commission initially submitted a Plan based upon a Population from which only 16,458 NPRs had been extracted. The Hawaii Supreme Court quickly rejected the initial Plan, forcing them to make a more serious effort, resulting in the extraction of an additional 92,309 NPRs.

I am not convinced the current Commission has applied the same rigor and determination to the task of extraction as they finally did in 2012, when they were under the close scrutiny of both the Court and the general public. These proposed numbers merit close scrutiny, first by the public and, if that is not sufficient, then by a lawsuit filed with the Supreme Court. Hopefully, we can avoid that.

Next, I tried to find evidence to support the idea that the military presence has dropped dramatically since the last census, thereby justifying a much smaller extraction than that used in 2012.

HAS THE MILITARY POPULATION IN HAWAII SHARPLY DECLINED SINCE 20

**Table 1.03-- RESIDENT POPULATION, BY MILITARY STATUS:
2010 TO 2020**

NOTE: [Population Estimates for July 1, 2020 were created without incorporation or consideration of the 2020 Census results]

Date	Total resident population	Military population		
		Armed Forces	Military dependents	Combined Military
2010: April 1	1,360,304	40,800	65,063	105,903
July 1	1,364,004	39,377	62,322	
2011: July 1	1,379,562	39,797	59,849	
2012: July 1	1,395,199	43,083	60,271	
2013: July 1	1,408,822	46,143	60,490	
2014: July 1	1,415,335	47,202	63,228	
2015: July 1	1,422,999	48,198	64,493	
2016: July 1	1,428,885	47,576	64,342	
2017: July 1	1,425,763	46,660	58,548	
2018: July 1	1,423,102	45,282	60,383	
2019: July 1	1,415,615	45,285	60,654	
2020: July 1	1,407,006	45,283	55,311	100,594

I remembered in 2011-12, the Commission came up with four very different estimates of the size of the Non-Permanent Resident Population.

THE FOUR DIFFERENT EXTRACTION PROPOSALS CONSIDERED IN 2011-12

<u>Extraction A</u>		<u>Extraction B</u>		<u>Extraction C</u>		<u>Court-Ordered Extraction</u>	
Oahu	15,660	Oahu	72,609	Oahu	78,524	Oahu	106,618
Hawaii	793	Hawaii	796	Hawaii	921	Hawaii	1,483
Maui	4	Maui	4	Maui	178	Maui	380
Kauai	1	Kauai	143	Kauai	198	Kauai	286
	<u>16,458</u>		<u>73,552</u>		<u>79,821</u>		<u>108,767</u>

REMINDER: during the 2011-2012 deliberations of the Reapportionment Commission, they considered four very different calculations on the number of Non-Permanent Residents present in Hawaii.

When I see the current proposal to only extract 71,162 people from the Census population, I have to wonder if this figure corresponds to Extraction B or C from 2011 rather than the final numbers that resulted after the Supreme Court ordered

the Commission to make a determined and good faith effort.

The following chart shows the consequences of using a smaller or larger estimate of non-resident military. Using the under-extraction being proposed by staff, results in Oahu retaining all its House seats, using a larger estimate, one that accepts the explanation that significant numbers of out-of-state students were not present on April 1, 2020, but NOT accepting the idea that the military population has shrunk 32.5% since 2010, would shift a House seat to the Big Island. I do not know the most accurate numbers, but am DEEPLY skeptical about those being proposed.

1	"EXTRACTION A" New Census Data, Using Staff Proposed Extraction					
2						
3	Description	Statewide	Honolulu	Big Isle	Maui	Kauai
4	Census Data newly released	1,455,271	1,016,508	200,629	164,754	73,298
5	Proposed NPR Military Extraction	64,415	64,010	40	117	248
6	Proposed NPR Student Extraction	6,747	6,094	496	108	49
7	adjusted	1,384,109	946,404	200,093	164,529	73,001
8	Percent of State population	1.0000	0.6838	0.1446	0.1189	0.0527
9						
10	House seats with fraction	51	34.87	7.37	6.06	2.69
11	House seats whole numbers	51	35	7	6	3
12	Senate seats with fraction	25	17.09	3.61	2.97	1.32
13	Senate seats whole numbers	25	17	4	3	1
14	Pop per House District if O has 35 seats	27,139.39	27,040.11	28,584.71	27,421.50	24,333.67
15	Variance= 5.7		-0.37	5.33		
16						
17	"EXTRACTION B" Using 2012 Military Number and 2021 Proposed Student Number					
18						
19	Description	Statewide	Honolulu	Big Isle	Maui	Kauai
20	Newly Released Census Data	1,455,271	1,016,508	200,629	164,754	73,298
21	Extract 2012 Military Numbers	95,447	95,007	89	133	218
22	Extract Staff's Proposed Student Number	6,747	6,094	496	108	49
23	Adjusted Population	1,353,077	915,407	200,044	164,513	73,031
24	% of State Population	1	0.6765	0.1478	0.1216	0.0540
25						
26	House seats with fraction	51	34.50	7.54	6.20	2.75
27	House seats whole numbers	51	34	8	6	3
28	Senate seats with fraction	25	16.91	3.70	3.04	1.35
29	Senate seats whole numbers	25	17	4	3	1
30	Pop per House seat with O 34 H8	26,530.92	26,923.74	25,005.50	27,418.83	24,343.67
31	Variance: 7.23		1.48	(5.75)		

I urge Commissioners to discuss this OPENLY, in public view rather than behind closed doors. If you approve the lower estimate, it means you believe the military population has declined by 32.5% since 2010.