

David Helmick – Testimony

As a resident of Mahoning County and a staunch Republican, I am slightly disappointed with SB 258.

I am glad that the Senate proposal keeps the Mahoning Valley, which consists of Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana Counties together in one district and undivided.

However, the Mahoning Valley is a distinct region that is currently the center of a potential electric vehicle revolution. Therefore, our member of Congress should be focused entirely on aiding this industry that is still in its infancy.

A member of Congress can't divide their time efficiently between two very different regions, especially when the 6th district is as big as it is.

Therefore, I am asking the committee to create a new 13th district that would consist of the entirety of Mahoning, Trumbull, Columbiana, Ashtabula, Jefferson, and Carroll Counties along with portions of Stark.

If the members of the General Assembly decide not to give the Mahoning Valley its own district, then I urge the committee to adopt the Senate version of the 6th district because it keeps all three counties in the region together.