

# NEW YORK CITY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION TESTIMONY TIPS & RESOURCES

## Testimony Script Template

### Introduction (30 seconds)

*"Greetings to Commissioners of the New York City Redistricting Commission and thank you for allowing me to speak on behalf of the communities I/we represent."*

### Organizational/Individual Connection (1 minute)

*"I come today to speak on behalf of [insert organization/individual name] and the Latinx community at large in [insert area organization serves/wishes to represent]."*

*"I/We serve Latinos in (area) of current City Council districts(s) \_\_\_\_ and particular community neighborhoods\_\_\_\_\_."*

*"As a voter/constituent/resident/community-based organization in this area, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to testify and share my/our perspective on..."*

### Latinx Community Impact (1-1.5 minutes)

*"The current maps have affected our organization/community in \_\_\_\_\_ ways which have created issues in accessing and distributing critical resources/political representation/outreach/accountability."*

*"More specifically, the proposed maps will affect my/our community in \_\_\_\_\_ ways which creates \_\_\_\_\_ issues."*

*"I'll get to the point since we are time limited. We support / or do not support the Commission's \_\_\_\_\_ mapping in districts # \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_."*

*Here the goal is to explore what potential impact line drawing process will have on your organization and its work. If supporting any alternative district lines or maps from organization or other allies, want to take a chance here to emphasize the significance of those differences and why the commission should support/consider those differences.*

➤ **Closing (15-30 seconds)**

*"Thank you once again to the Commissioners for taking time to listen."*

*Insert compelling closing statement wrapping up your testimony*

➤ **Closing (15-30 seconds)**

- *Latinx individuals represent 28.3% of New York City's total population, drawing these lines must ensure that the Latinx community is rightfully accounted for by ensuring access to candidates of choice that represent their community's interests and needs.*
- *High proportions of the population in the community that I serve are Latinx making it imperative that the lines be drawn to maintain and respect the political representation of our community members.*
- *Given that a large part of our community members are Latinx our work will be impacted in [X ways] if lines were drawn to split our community.*
- *Our organization and constituents define our community as [insert how organization/community members define community including boundaries, landmarks, etc.]*
- *Increasing transparency is a key goal to our work within our community and beyond. Transparency in the redistricting process will allow members of my community to be engaged and aware of a process that determines their access to resources and political representation.*
- *Fairness must be at the center of the redistricting process. Given the increase of Latinx populations across the state in the past 10 years it is vital that the redistricting process fairly draw lines representative of changes that reflect our community's growth.*

## **Additional Resources/Guidance:**

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- [Current Maps](#)
- [NYC Districting Site](#)



### **Developed by:**

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