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From: Pervez Siddiqui <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 6:19 PM
To: Public Testimony
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Redistricting CD 47 and CD 48

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My name is Pervez Siddiqui, and I have been a Community Pharmacist since 1995 in District 47 and District 48, and over the years, I have gotten to know the local Pakistani American community very well, and they have gotten to know me as a staunch activist for the Pakistani American community.

In Addition, I am also the Founder and Chairman of APNA Community Center, a 501C3 organization located at 236 Neptune Ave Brooklyn, NY 11235. Apna Community Center came into existence in 2017 due to a growing number of Pakistani American communities in southern Brooklyn and the need for a local organization to understand the local communities' cultural, linguistic, and religious needs and priorities. And although APNA has been only around since 2017, we have been active in this community since 2012, immediately after the Hurricane Sandy disaster. And in 2020, there was a massive effort by the Pakistani American communities throughout both CD 47 and CD 48 to actively participate in the census to ensure our communities were counted.

We have noticed that the Pakistani American community has remained marginalized throughout the last ten years and has been unable to advocate for the community's betterment effectively. Our observation is that most of the Pakistani American community resides in Coney Island, Brighton Beach, Beach Haven, Bath Beach, and Warbasse housing. It does not make sense for our community to be split up between District 47 and District 48. It is most appropriate that all those areas mentioned where most of our community resides in District 48 should be moved to District 47, where the rest of the community lives so that we can get proper representation in the electoral process.

Regards,

Pervez Siddiqui

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