Chairman Croft, Vice Chair Ralph, Ranking Member Burroughs, and all committee members:

My name is Noah Erichsen and I live in Ellsworth, Kansas. I am writing to you today to express my approval for the new District 109. Due to our loss in population in rural Kansas, I know you all had to take District 108 and place it in the east. District 109 is a perfect fit for us due to our similar communities, values, and lifestyles.

Next, I would highly encourage you, as you have already done, to keep Ellsworth County whole. There was talk of splitting the county, and this would be a terrible decision. Our county has been very fortunate to recently start an economic development program. From the county seat, this program helps all towns in our county: Lorraine, Wilson, Holyrood, Kanopolis, Ellsworth, and others. One representative would help our county be united and under one representative as we continue in the next 10 years. This representative can advocate for the district as a whole.

Thank you for your time, and once again, I would like to express my approval of the new District 109 and the decision to keep my home united.

Thank you,

Noah Erichsen