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PROCEDURAL & REDISTRICTING  
SENATE REAPPORTIONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT AND REDISTRICTING

JANUARY 25, 2002 - 2:30 P.M.  
ROOM 412, KNOTT BUILDING  
FLORIDA STATE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY:  
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COURT REPORTER

Division of Administrative Hearings  
DeSoto Building  
1230 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, Florida

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675

1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE  
 2 SENATOR JACK LATVALA, CHAIRMAN  
 3 SENATOR GINNY BROWN-WAITE  
 4 SENATOR WALTER G. CAMPBELL  
 5 SENATOR ANNA P. COWIN  
 6 SENATOR VICTOR D. CRIST  
 7 SENATOR RUDY GARCIA  
 8 SENATOR DARYL L. JONES  
 9 SENATOR RON KLEIN  
 10 SENATOR LES MILLER  
 11 SENATOR BILL POSEY  
 12 SENATOR DEBBY P. SANDERSON  
 13 SENATOR JIM SEBESTA  
 14 SENATOR RONALD A. SILVER  
 15 SENATOR DONALD C. SULLIVAN, M.D.

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1 that we took one district out of Hillsborough County. We  
 2 had, I think, four districts in Hillsborough County  
 3 previously, or five, and we reduced that to four.

4 We, in the southwest Florida, we used the model of  
 5 District 25 following the coastline, and taking most of the  
 6 population in Collier, Lee, and a little bit in Charlotte.  
 7 I will point out that I had my first contact with the  
 8 Congressman down there this week and despite -- I had to  
 9 call down there, I didn't hear from them -- and a couple of  
 10 things were pointed out that I would like to fix in full  
 11 committee.

12 One was the fact that we had detached the airport in  
 13 Fort Myers from the general population. And the second was  
 14 the fact that we had detached the new university from the  
 15 coastal area and there was some concern raised that we  
 16 bring those back into that district.

17 And I will prepare an amendment for the full  
 18 committee, because this was within the filing deadline so  
 19 we couldn't do it for this hearing, but I'll prepare an  
 20 amendment for the full committee that will take care of  
 21 that. So, slightly change that boundary.

22 The new districts that currently do not have an  
 23 incumbent, a resident incumbent, to the best of my  
 24 knowledge, would be District No. 13, which is Citrus,  
 25 Sumter, Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough and Polk Counties and  
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1 PROCEEDINGS  
 2 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: The committee will come to order.  
 3 The Secretary will call roll.  
 4 (Roll called.)  
 5 THE SECRETARY: A quorum is present, Mr. Chairman.  
 6 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you. We are here to take up  
 7 Senate Joint Resolution 580, which is the Congressional  
 8 reapportionment -- no, I'm sorry, why do I have this?  
 9 Wrong book.  
 10 Senator Campbell is prepared to take up that  
 11 resolution. This is a Senate Bill 594 on Congressional  
 12 redistricting. This, what I would like to do is briefly go  
 13 back over the plan, even although this is very similar to  
 14 the plan that we -- to one of the plans that we looked at  
 15 in our previous workshop.  
 16 You will notice that in -- that we started at one end  
 17 of the state, at the Alabama line, and we came eastward.  
 18 And the first district, we put 639,000 people in it, then  
 19 we drew the next district with 639,000 people, keeping  
 20 things as contiguous as we could.  
 21 And then the next district, which I think is currently  
 22 represented by Congresswoman Thurman, is the next 639,000  
 23 people, and we kind of went from there.  
 24 We, the changes on this map from the plans that we  
 25 looked at in the workshop two weeks ago, you will notice  
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1 District 24, which has Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward,  
 2 Collier, Hendry, Glades, part of Highlands, Charlotte and  
 3 Lee in it in South Florida.

4 We also moved District 15, Senator Posey, a little  
 5 farther into Indian River County. It doesn't have the  
 6 entire county yet, but we are getting close to that. And I  
 7 have given Senator Posey my commitment, that in the  
 8 conference process, that we will endeavor, to the best of  
 9 our ability, to keep Indian River whole. I know there's  
 10 been a lot of concern raised.

11 The other correspondence that I've gotten in the last  
 12 two weeks relates to District 2 and some concern from some  
 13 Hamilton County residents that there's like, they're split.  
 14 Well, you know, if we didn't split Hamilton, we'd split  
 15 Suwannee. If we didn't split Suwannee, we'd split Dixie,  
 16 there's not enough in any of those counties to actually  
 17 round it out.

18 So, when we are trying to get a zero deviation, we had  
 19 to split some county and Hamilton was the -- looked to me  
 20 like to be the most compact unfortunately.

21 So, do we have questions from the members on the map  
 22 or do we need additional explanation on the map? Senator  
 23 Campbell for a question about the map?

24 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. You are recognized.  
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1 SENATOR CAMPBELL: I asked a couple of weeks ago that  
2 we get addresses of incumbents, I haven't gotten those yet.

3 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: We don't have them all. There's,  
4 you know, some difficulty in getting them all, and we have  
5 not been able to get them all.

6 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Could we get the ones we have got?

7 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: I guess we could. We'll do the  
8 best we can, but we have not -- you know, we haven't --

9 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Call them up and ask them where  
10 they live.

11 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: All right. We'll try to do that  
12 for you. Other questions about the map? For a question  
13 about the map, Senator Miller?

14 SENATOR MILLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Miller.

16 SENATOR MILLER: Can you explain what you did -- what  
17 was done with the three seats that are held by  
18 African-Americans?

19 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, Senator Miller. We, each of  
20 the three current districts, District 3, District 23 and  
21 District 17, lost a significant amount of population. In  
22 District 3, that district lost 108,000 or it was 108,000  
23 people short; however, we were able to increase the  
24 African-American population percentage from 50.2 to 52 and  
25 the black voting age population from 46.2 to 47.8 as part  
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1 of the effort to keep the racial minorities together and  
2 not dilute their influence.

3 In District 23, that district was a little more  
4 difficult. It lost 76,000 residents, but we were still  
5 able to keep the black population at 53.6 percent, which is  
6 a majority and the black voting age population at  
7 47.8 percent.

8 District 17 lost 117,000 people from the norm;  
9 however, we were able to slightly increase the black  
10 population in that district from 60.8 to 61.1. And the  
11 voting age population stayed the same, 57.4. Senator  
12 Silver, a question about the map or the statistics? You  
13 are recognized.

14 SENATOR SILVER: Thank you. I don't see here on the  
15 explanation of the districts and maybe I'm missing it,  
16 which could be the case, the breakdown, like in, for  
17 instance, in Congressional District 20, which is the one  
18 that I reside in currently, the breakdown between the  
19 Broward voting pattern and the Dade County voting pattern.

20 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Can you pull that up on the screen  
21 for us, for District 20, broken down by county? Can you  
22 see that far, Senator Silver?

23 SENATOR SILVER: No.

24 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. In District 20, we -- in  
25 Broward County, the total population is 520,915 and in  
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1 Miami-Dade County is 118,380. Was that the figures you  
2 wanted, do you want something further?

3 SENATOR SILVER: Well, actually, that's enough for my  
4 purposes right now, but I would like to get them at some  
5 time, whatever breakdowns you can give me on that would be  
6 helpful. But I don't need to have that right at this  
7 particular moment.

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: We'll print those out. Would you  
9 print those out and deliver them to Senator Silver, please?  
10 Thank you.

11 Further questions on the map? Senator Posey for a  
12 question about the map.

13 SENATOR POSEY: Mr. Chairman, if you don't mind, I  
14 just want to applaud your leadership and tell you how much  
15 I appreciate you bringing that line down, and how much I  
16 appreciate your commitment to bring it down all of the way.  
17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you, Senator Posey. And, you  
19 know, this is an evolving process and we all have to start  
20 somewhere when we know we're going to conference, and I  
21 appreciate your indulgence with trusting me on that issue.  
22 Are there further questions about the map? Senator Klein  
23 for a question about the map or the statistics?

24 SENATOR KLEIN: For a question about the map, Mr.  
25 Chairman.

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1 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Klein, you're recognized  
2 for that purpose.

3 SENATOR KLEIN: Thanks. I got a call yesterday from  
4 Congressman Thurman's office and I wanted to get an  
5 understanding of what we have done with her, where she  
6 lives as it relates to where the seat is that she's  
7 currently serving on versus the new map where she would  
8 run, presumably, if given the opportunity, and which one  
9 would be more of a favorable seat for her.

10 She lives right now in District -- her current  
11 district I understand is 5. As presently constituted on  
12 the map presented has her living in District 13. Is that  
13 right?

14 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: No, that's not right.

15 SENATOR KLEIN: Can you tell me --

16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: To the best of my knowledge,  
17 District 3 on the map, which is the purple district, as you  
18 will see it goes down into the eastern part -- I'm sorry,  
19 the western part of Marion County and has Dunnellon in it  
20 and that's where I believe Senator --

21 SENATOR KLEIN: You mean 13?

22 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Isn't 3 the purple one? I'm sorry,  
23 my eyes are not that good either. Okay. The current  
24 District 5 on this map, you will see goes down into western  
25 Marion County and that's where Senator -- I mean,

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1 Congressman Thurman lives.  
2 Congressman Thurman, to the best of my knowledge,  
3 currently represents four or five of those counties that  
4 are on there. She currently represents -- Alachua County  
5 is the largest county in her current district.

6 SENATOR KLEIN: Does anybody have a record of where  
7 she lives?

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, I know where she lives.

9 SENATOR KLEIN: She doesn't live in Marion County.

10 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, she lives in Dunnellon. Her  
11 husband used to be a circuit judge in Dunnellon. She lives  
12 in Dunnellon.

13 SENATOR KLEIN: So the district she would run is --  
14 what percentage of her current district is in that  
15 district?

16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: As a matter of fact, put that --  
17 put the lines back on there you just had on there. You see  
18 down in the lower left-hand corner Marion where you see  
19 that extra line; see just that little corner there?

20 SENATOR KLEIN: The triangle at the bottom?

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: In Marion County, there is a box  
22 there, that is her current part of Marion County.

23 SENATOR KLEIN: Where the little symbol is?

24 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Right. Right in there. And that's  
25 where she lives. And that's the reason that that was cut  
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1 would sort of be left without a representative, so, we sort  
2 of fill as we go.

3 SENATOR KLEIN: Mr. Chairman, what are the counties  
4 that she, and maybe some of the members that live in that  
5 area can help me with this, what are the counties that she  
6 currently represents that are being taken out and being put  
7 into a new district?

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. A little -- if you go to the  
9 south, you'll see Citrus, Hernando, and the western part of  
10 Pasco, so her district is pulled to the north. Now, if  
11 you're concerned -- would you like to know political  
12 numbers?

13 SENATOR KLEIN: No, I'm not so much interested in that  
14 at this point, I'm just --

15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Because I think actually her  
16 registration in her own party is improved --

17 SENATOR KLEIN: Is it? Okay.

18 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: -- not that we would consider that.

19 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you. I appreciate that. I'm  
20 just looking right now just at the map to make sure I  
21 understand where she's at on the map. All right.

22 So, basically, she's moving north and about half of  
23 her district is -- her current district is in the new  
24 district as it's proposed right now?

25 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, the largest county in her  
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1 out ten years ago, is that is the part of Marion County she  
2 lived in.

3 SENATOR KLEIN: And what percentage of her new  
4 district is the same as her old district?

5 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Follow, Mollie, if you will  
6 take the map -- I mean, take the pointer, and she currently  
7 has the Marion County, follow the little hand, Marion  
8 County, she currently has that part of northern Citrus  
9 County that's in her district.

10 Now, go to the west. Okay. She currently has Levy  
11 County, which is right there, she currently has Alachua  
12 County, and she currently has Columbia County.

13 SENATOR KLEIN: So, on a population basis, what  
14 percentage of the district is the same as before?

15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Just unscientifically, adding it up  
16 quickly, I would say about half of her current district  
17 would be in the new district. But if you will notice, the  
18 problem that we have -- go back to the wide view.

19 When you start at the western border of the state of  
20 Florida and you come east, you know, we haven't done  
21 anything out of the ordinary, we have just taken the  
22 population as it breaks.

23 So, if we left her in the counties that she currently  
24 represents, then the people of Dixie County, the people of  
25 Gilcrest County, the people of Suwannee County, you know,  
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1 current district is Alachua County --

2 SENATOR KLEIN: Right.

3 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: -- which we have retained in whole  
4 in the new district, and that has 217,000 people in it.

5 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Senator Miller, for what  
7 purpose?

8 SENATOR MILLER: For a question from my non-serving  
9 member. Mr. Chairman, Senator Holsendorf, who does not  
10 serve on this committee, has some concerns about District 5  
11 and I think District 3. She is right behind me, and if you  
12 don't mind, if we can let her ask those questions.

13 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Holsendorf, would you like  
14 to ask a question? You are recognized for a question.

15 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
16 Chairman, I guess my concern with the way the map is, is  
17 the lack of inclusion in District 3 of some of the  
18 population in Duval County and the fact that the Fifth  
19 District now wraps around Duval County and Nassau County,  
20 instead of the Fourth District going in there as it did  
21 before.

22 And I guess that gives Duval County three  
23 Congressional persons and I don't understand why that's  
24 necessary.

25 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Well, Senator Holsendorf, if your  
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1 question is that, all that I can point to is the fact that  
 2 for the last ten years Duval County has had three  
 3 Congresspeople also.  
 4 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: I know that.  
 5 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: So we've done nothing different.  
 6 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: But they have represented  
 7 different portions of the county, and the way you are  
 8 putting that in, we had Stearns and Ander and Corrine, and  
 9 now you are giving us, you are taking Stearns and giving us  
 10 Thurman, who goes from one coast to the next coast.  
 11 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Do you have a problem with  
 12 Congressman Thurman, Senator Holsendorf?  
 13 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: I don't have a problem with any  
 14 Congresspeople, but I think stretching them from the  
 15 Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf Coast might be a problem in  
 16 terms of the concerns that we would have to take to  
 17 Congress.  
 18 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Thank you very much.  
 19 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: And the numbers don't add up  
 20 either, Mr. Chairman.  
 21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Oh, I'm not sure that I would agree  
 22 with you on that. Mollie, what is the deviation in this  
 23 plan, four people statewide?  
 24 MS. WILSON: Yes, sir.  
 25 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: So, the deviation from zero  
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1 area.  
 2 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You are recognized for a question.  
 3 SENATOR KLEIN: Can you, Mr. Chairman, can you pull up  
 4 the detail of Districts 22 and 23 that's along the coast?  
 5 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: And which detail would you like?  
 6 SENATOR KLEIN: Just a little closer than we have  
 7 there.  
 8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: So you want to see a map a little  
 9 further, right?  
 10 SENATOR KLEIN: Well, I want --  
 11 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: I'm not sure we can zoom in on that  
 12 any more, you won't be able to see the full length of it.  
 13 SENATOR KLEIN: Well, I guess the point that I want to  
 14 communicate to the committee from the constituents I have  
 15 heard back home, Mr. Chairman.  
 16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You can.  
 17 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you. Is that the district lines  
 18 of District 22, which is the -- I can't tell what color  
 19 that is, what is that, Mollie, pink? Okay. The pink  
 20 district that starts in west Broward and really does some  
 21 major meandering up the coast there is really very, very  
 22 difficult to follow.  
 23 As a matter of fact, you know, Congressman Hastings'  
 24 district which is to the west of that, which I fully  
 25 support, you know, in making sure that that continues to be  
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1 deviation in this plan is four people statewide?  
 2 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: Mr. Chairman, can I ask you a  
 3 question? Why are we using a zero deviation? In order to  
 4 get a minority district in the northeast area, is a zero  
 5 standard deviation the way to go?  
 6 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Well, Senator Holsendorf, you may  
 7 have gotten here after I answered Senator Miller's  
 8 question, but in the minority district, District 3,  
 9 represented by your good friend, Congressman Brown, we have  
 10 actually increased the minority population in that district  
 11 by almost two full percentage points, so -- despite the  
 12 fact that that district lost 108,000 people.  
 13 So, we have been able to meet your objective there  
 14 with the way we have done this map. Are there other  
 15 questions?  
 16 SENATOR HOLSENDORF: Mr. Chairman, I don't want that  
 17 to go in the record as a fact because what you have  
 18 increased is minorities which includes something called  
 19 multiracial. The African-American population of this  
 20 district has decreased.  
 21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Well, I will take that --  
 22 that's very good advice, I will check into that, Senator  
 23 Holsendorf. Members of the committee, for what purpose,  
 24 Senator Klein?  
 25 SENATOR KLEIN: I've got another question about my  
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1 an African-American seat -- we lost it. Well, can you go  
 2 back to what you had there?  
 3 The district before was a long, drawn out district,  
 4 Congressman Hastings' district, but it was fairly vertical.  
 5 Now, it's very much meandering and Congressman Shaw's  
 6 district comes way into west Broward, which I don't think  
 7 he represented before. And I think the people who live in  
 8 that area are not going to be well served in really being  
 9 represented by knowing who their Congressman is. And I  
 10 think that is probably a tough map to follow.  
 11 And I am just expressing it because I have heard it  
 12 back home and I want to make sure the committee is aware of  
 13 that. I understand what certain objectives are, but it is  
 14 really a very difficult map to follow.  
 15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you, Senator Klein. Are  
 16 there any further questions by the members? For what  
 17 purpose, Senator Campbell?  
 18 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Comment.  
 19 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You are recognized for a comment.  
 20 SENATOR CAMPBELL: For the record, we have two new  
 21 Congressional districts, 24, and the other one was 16, 13,  
 22 correct?  
 23 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, Senator Campbell, that is  
 24 correct.  
 25 SENATOR CAMPBELL: And as I see this map now, 24 goes  
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1 from south Miami-Dade all the way up to Highlands County  
2 and includes the western portions of Broward County,  
3 Collier County, Hendry County, Charlotte County, Glades  
4 County, and I guess the question I have to put on the  
5 record is, what in God's creation do the folks in Dade  
6 County have, as far as a community of interest, with the  
7 folks up in Highlands County or Glades County?

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Campbell, we took into  
9 consideration all the factors that are included in the  
10 software, we took into consideration the testimony we  
11 received and we, frankly, took into consideration where the  
12 people are and, you know, sometimes when you start at one  
13 end of the state and go to the other end and you put them  
14 in clumps of 639,000 people so that you have no deviation,  
15 you end up with some areas longer than the others.

16 SENATOR CAMPBELL: If I could have staff just tell us  
17 how many folks from each one of those counties are in  
18 District 24, I would appreciate it.

19 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Put that up on the computer,  
20 please.

21 SENATOR CAMPBELL: So, Miami-Dade is 260,000 out of  
22 that. And I've got one follow-up question, if I could,  
23 Mr. Chair.

24 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Go ahead. Senator Campbell, you  
25 are recognized for a question.

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1 what purpose?

2 SENATOR SEBESTA: To ask a question, Mr. Chairman.

3 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You're recognized, Senator Sebesta.

4 SENATOR SEBESTA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to  
5 be sure I understand this correctly. With a population of  
6 16 million people, this plan has a deviation of four?

7 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes, Senator Sebesta, I think  
8 Mollie did a great job.

9 SENATOR SEBESTA: That's absolutely mind-boggling.  
10 And I congratulate you for doing that, that is  
11 extraordinary. I don't know how in the world you did that.

12 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Well, I didn't, Mollie did.

13 SENATOR SEBESTA: Well, whoever did, we congratulate  
14 you. I mean, that is an extraordinary job.

15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: To put us in the proper posture,  
16 let me explain the amendment. We are going to take up the  
17 amendment. We have the amendment in the book behind tab  
18 number one. The -- there are, as you will notice, we --  
19 the amendment in the book does not include pages, certain  
20 pages that refer to Pages 3 through 153 of the amendment  
21 are just the descriptive language that is reflective of the  
22 map.

23 We have copies of that on each end of the table, it is  
24 150-some-odd pages. It is on the Internet and has been on  
25 the Internet for a day or two.

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1 SENATOR CAMPBELL: And I do realize that political  
2 parties in power have certain rights, responsibilities and  
3 get certain privileges, but was there an attempt to make  
4 one of the Congressional districts Democrat and one of the  
5 Congressional districts Republican, the two new districts?

6 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Campbell, that is a  
7 question of the Chair?

8 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: What we did was we started at one  
10 end of the state and we went and found 639,000 people, and  
11 we put them in a district, and we kept going from there,  
12 with the exception of the existing minority access seats,  
13 which by law, we made sure we did not have any  
14 retrogression in.

15 So, in so doing, you know, that creates some of the  
16 odd shapes and sizes that we are dealing with. And the  
17 effect of what we have got in front of us, I guess could be  
18 open to interpretation on the politics of it. I'm not sure  
19 District 24 is a reliable seat in either particular party  
20 or actually from actually District 14, living up in that  
21 neck of the woods, I think you would see a wide variation  
22 in the voting behavior in District 13 from one year to the  
23 next.

24 SENATOR CAMPBELL: Thank you, sir.

25 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: All right. Senator Sebesta, for  
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1 Now, to put us in the proper posture, we will take up  
2 the amendment first, and we have a couple of members of the  
3 public that we'll let testify before we take up the  
4 amendment. First of all, Mr. Bill Jones, a representative  
5 of the League of Women Voters of Florida.

6 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A couple of  
7 comments with respect to maps. Since we don't have any  
8 formal standards that you adopted as you went through the  
9 plan, it would appear to us that what you have tried to do  
10 is to take communities of interest and beaches throughout  
11 most of the state.

12 But the question would arise, if we are going to  
13 observe beach communities or view that movement throughout  
14 the state, we would also -- you seemed to apply  
15 compactness, for example, when you first started drawing  
16 the districts in west Florida. And if I'm correct, does  
17 that district in Pensacola, every beach community, covered  
18 as a beach community by a new district? Was that a  
19 standard that this committee tried to adopt to try to keep  
20 beach communities intact?

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Mr. Jones, I think you are looking  
22 at it wrong. Zoom in on west Florida. All of those  
23 counties are totally and completely included in the  
24 district. We have got the water. Take the water off of  
25 there. All that does is show the water, see?

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1 MR. JONES: But as you go down the state, you have  
 2 created some beach districts with respect to trying to draw  
 3 districts that would follow coastal areas. And so, the  
 4 question that League would have is if we were trying to  
 5 observe in certain areas beach communities, you observed  
 6 compactness in west Florida and did a good job with trying  
 7 to draw those and keep the deviations there intact and then  
 8 observe these other communities of interest, the question  
 9 would be, are certain beach communities in Florida  
 10 different than others that they wouldn't all want to be  
 11 together?

12 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: The answer to your question is  
 13 where we observed the beach districts was in response, A,  
 14 to the testimony that we had in the hearings in Naples and  
 15 Ft. Myers on District 25 where there was an overwhelming  
 16 amount of testimony on keeping Lee and Collier Counties  
 17 together.

18 Now, because of the population in Lee and Collier  
 19 Counties, there's 60 or 70 or 80,000 too many people  
 20 between -- in those counties for those counties to be kept  
 21 together. So, then we could not do that, but with the  
 22 objective of doing that, we tried to then use a  
 23 secondary -- a secondary factor being the communities of  
 24 interest on the beach and we tried to keep the coastal  
 25 areas of Lee and Collier together.

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1 The other places where you see a coastal district is  
 2 preserving an existing district.

3 MR. JONES: Okay. The second is kind of a compliment.  
 4 We agree with you that the legal principle in trying to  
 5 hold the majority/minority districts, you know, together in  
 6 the state and I think you have done your best to do that  
 7 and we also appreciate, having put a plan out there, how  
 8 problematic it is to then observe compactness around there.

9 In our perspective in drawing the districts in and  
 10 around that, it would seem that some other standard or some  
 11 other kinds of forms might have been used with respect to  
 12 the state in that, for example, we were able to get to some  
 13 more compact districts.

14 What were some of the standards that you used beyond  
 15 observing the minority district and that of compactness  
 16 that you would have reached districts such as Senator Klein  
 17 was pointing to, that kind of, you know, meanders its way  
 18 all over the place with respect to that?

19 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: We are here to hear your testimony  
 20 on what you think we ought to do.

21 MR. JONES: Well, I think what we ought to do is apply  
 22 a little bit more compactness. And I understand even  
 23 though you're vetting this out that this is a work in  
 24 progress, we appreciate works in progress, we have been  
 25 there many times before.

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1 I would say that if we -- at least we are explicit  
 2 along the way of why we have done different things in  
 3 different areas, if we are not going to observe compactness  
 4 as a standard throughout the state, that at least we are  
 5 explicit. Like, we have been, you have been with respect  
 6 to the minority districts, but in areas where we are not,  
 7 that we explicitly let the public know what was the  
 8 criteria we were using in that particular district to draw  
 9 it that way, whether it was to protect an incumbent,  
 10 whether it was -- you know, whatever means or shape or form  
 11 which we come up with that plan.

12 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. What other testimony would  
 13 you like to offer?

14 MR. JONES: That's it.

15 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Okay. Thank you. This next person  
 16 who testified was second, I guess, and then last is Glenel  
 17 Bowden from Lake City. Did I pronounce that right?

18 MR. BOWDEN: Yes, sir. You did a good job.

19 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you. Welcome to the Florida  
 20 Senate.

21 MR. BOWDEN: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I  
 22 have been attending the meetings since you began and I just  
 23 have a question, so -- as I follow, I remember that data  
 24 and looking at it, I remember when you posted it and  
 25 thought I had a good understanding and appreciate what you

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1 did in terms of minorities, but I have a question, because  
 2 until we get this question answered, then I won't have a  
 3 real appreciation for it being an increase in  
 4 African-Americans.

5 It says, Non-Hispanic blacks, including multiracial.  
 6 For me, as an African-American man to have a real  
 7 appreciation for that, I need to understand the definition  
 8 for multiracial first. And what percentage of that  
 9 52 percent is actually African-American, black daddy, black  
 10 mama.

11 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: We use the census definitions, we  
 12 don't -- we didn't take the census and we didn't classify  
 13 folks, we just have to use the best data that we have  
 14 available to us.

15 MR. BOWDEN: I guess my point, Mr. Chairman, is when  
 16 you responded to Senator Les Miller's question about  
 17 whether or not the African-American district had been  
 18 increased, that may not be factual in terms of black folk.

19 So, can I be told, then, Mr. Chairman, what was the  
 20 actual percentage of African-Americans excluding  
 21 multiracial; is that possible to know?

22 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Again, Mr. Bowden, we have what the  
 23 census tract -- what the Census Bureau sends us and the  
 24 classifications that they have. Multiracial is a  
 25 self-identified classification, but that's screwed together

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1 by the Census Bureau and that's the statistics that we have  
 2 to use.

3 MR. BOWDEN: A final question then. Well, why would  
 4 that group necessarily be attached to non-Hispanic black;  
 5 why wouldn't that group be attached to, say, a race white,  
 6 if the parent was a white parent and a black parent, why  
 7 then is that person considered multiracial and has to be  
 8 attached to a black population? Why couldn't it be  
 9 attached to the white population?

10 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: I don't know, I don't know. That's  
 11 something that we just deal with the product that we are  
 12 given and the statistics we're given and I guess that  
 13 decision was made in Washington somewhere along the line.  
 14 Sorry.

15 MR. BOWDEN: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you. Okay. On the  
 17 amendment, is there discussion on the amendment? Is there  
 18 a discussion on the amendment?

19 SENATOR BROWN-WAITE: We move the amendment,  
 20 Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Senator Klein, for what purpose?

22 SENATOR KLEIN: To discuss the amendment, Mr.  
 23 Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Are you recognized, Senator Klein,  
 25 to discuss the amendment?

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1 SENATOR KLEIN: Yes. First of all, thank you,  
 2 Mr. Chairman. And thank you, for I know you have reached  
 3 out to members and have asked us if we are getting  
 4 communications from our Congressional colleagues in  
 5 Washington and I have attempted to get those.

6 I know that from my part of the state, the  
 7 communications are becoming a little slow, they were out of  
 8 session for a while and traveling and I've just,  
 9 unfortunately, got their communications over the last  
 10 couple of days and they are not even complete at this  
 11 point.

12 But just a couple of observations and a couple of  
 13 concerns, because I know this is a work in progress, and  
 14 that you are open to continuing this dialogue. In south  
 15 Florida, the area that I mentioned, and when we talk about  
 16 trying to create beach districts or common interests on the  
 17 beach and we're all trying to focus on communities of  
 18 interest, and I look at the district where District, now  
 19 District -- proposed 20, which I think is Peter Deutsch's  
 20 district, which runs all the way out west, then comes in  
 21 and picks up a number of beach communities, I'm not sure I  
 22 see a consistency there.

23 I mean, I know what went on, I know there's a movement  
 24 of Congressman Shaw's district to eliminate the portion of  
 25 the beach in that section and then to move them farther

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1 north. But I'm not sure there is a strong community of  
 2 interest in the west Broward and the beach area.

3 Also, again, I just want to state for the record my  
 4 concern about the -- not only the meandering, but the  
 5 question of communities of interest of District 22 going  
 6 all the way up and in and out of so many different  
 7 communities, part of which are in my district, and I know  
 8 I've heard from a number of people concerned about they're  
 9 not going to know who their representative is.

10 So, you've got a lot of different interests and  
 11 communities there of, some are seniors, some are  
 12 African-Americans, some are Hispanics, and I think we can  
 13 probably do a better job of fixing that. But, again, I  
 14 know, we are going to continue to work on this.

15 Also, and again, I made this comment the first time,  
 16 but I can say this, I guess, strictly from my perspective  
 17 as being a member of the Democrats in the Senate is that,  
 18 you know, we have a state that's pretty evenly registered  
 19 in Democrats or Republicans and, of course, a number of  
 20 Independents as well.

21 But the Congressional delegation, as it stands right  
 22 now, has 15 Republicans and 8 Democrats. We are continuing  
 23 to even make that more disparate by creating two new seats  
 24 that, at least by virtue of the numbers that we have on  
 25 FREDS here, looks like the District 24 that Senator  
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1 Campbell was asking about, when she was asking about, you  
 2 know, what are the connections between Miami-Dade County  
 3 and Hendry and Highlands County, that looks pretty  
 4 Republican to me.

5 I mean, that's a 60 percent Jeb Bush victory in the  
 6 last election and Representative, Congressman McCullum  
 7 received 52.4 percent, so I think that's going to perform  
 8 as a Republican district and most likely, the one in  
 9 Orlando as well.

10 So, again, I'm just saying as a matter of fairness  
 11 from my perspective as a Democrat in this state making sure  
 12 there's fair and equal representation for all Floridians,  
 13 which I think is our goal, I would have liked to have seen,  
 14 and I would like to continue to work for having at least  
 15 one of the new Congressional seats to allow for a Democrat  
 16 to serve and represent that community and maybe that can be  
 17 done in the context of working through these maps.

18 So, Mr. Chairman, again, a work in progress,  
 19 appreciate your work up to this point, I appreciate your  
 20 openness, and we will continue work on it.

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you, Senator Klein. Senator  
 22 Silver, for what purpose?

23 SENATOR SILVER: To comment --

24 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You are recognized.

25 SENATOR SILVER: -- on the map. Senator Klein just  
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1 brought up the fact that he doesn't see the community of  
 2 interest in Congressional District 20, but I don't know if  
 3 he's been to that area recently, because I know he's far up  
 4 north and he doesn't get down to the north Dade area very  
 5 much, but let me tell you, a lot of the people that used to  
 6 live on the oceanfront now live in the western part of  
 7 Broward County.

8 There's more, I would suggest to you, a community of  
 9 interest on the way this map is drawn currently than there  
 10 is if you went up and took into account Dania Beach and the  
 11 other areas north of that. There's more of an interest  
 12 between people in those particular areas, like interests,  
 13 than there would be any other way that you could do this.

14 So, I think there is a substantial community of  
 15 interest there.

16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you very much, Senator  
 17 Silver. Is there further discussion? Senator Sanderson,  
 18 for what purpose?

19 SENATOR SANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just  
 20 wanted to make a comment on District 22 as well.

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You are recognized for discussion.

22 SENATOR SANDERSON: I think those are areas of  
 23 interest, it goes up the coast in the western portion.  
 24 It's quite interesting. I know that Senator Klein was  
 25 involved in drawing the districts, the present Senate  
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1 districts, and it's very similar to the Senate district  
 2 that I presently have the privilege of representing. It  
 3 makes a big "J" going out to the west and I don't think  
 4 that there will be any problem in Congressman Shaw being  
 5 able to represent that and the areas of interest, and  
 6 particularly along the coastal area. I think there should  
 7 be no problem at all. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Thank you very much, Senator  
 9 Sanderson. Is there further discussion on the amendment?  
 10 Senator Brown-Waite has moved the amendment. Is there any  
 11 objection to the amendment? Without objection, the  
 12 amendment is adopted.

13 Now, on the bill. Is there further discussion on the  
 14 bill? Okay. Senator Silver moves the bill as a committee  
 15 substitute. The Secretary will call the roll on Senate  
 16 Bill 594 as a committee substitute.

17 THE SECRETARY: Senator Brown-Waite.

18 SENATOR BROWN-WAITE: Yes.

19 THE SECRETARY: Senator Campbell.

20 SENATOR CAMPBELL: I want to go last.

21 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: You can't go last.

22 SENATOR CAMPBELL: I vote yes to move it along.

23 THE SECRETARY: Senator Cowin.

24 SENATOR COWIN: Yes.

25 THE SECRETARY: Senator Crist.  
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1 SENATOR CRIST: Yes.

2 THE SECRETARY: Senator Garcia.

3 SENATOR GARCIA: Yes.

4 THE SECRETARY: Senator Jones.

5 SENATOR JONES: No.

6 THE SECRETARY: Senator Klein.

7 SENATOR KLEIN: No.

8 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Hold on one second. You skipped  
 9 some people on the roll call. You need to call everybody  
 10 whether they are here or not.

11 THE SECRETARY: Okay. Sorry for that. Senator  
 12 Dawson. Senator Diaz de la Portilla. Senator Dyre. We  
 13 will continue with Senator Miller.

14 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Did Senator Garcia -- voted --  
 15 THE SECRETARY: Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes. Senator Jones voted no.

17 THE SECRETARY: Senator Klein, no.

18 SENATOR KLEIN: No.

19 THE SECRETARY: And Senator Miller.

20 SENATOR MILLER: No.

21 THE SECRETARY: Senator Posey.

22 SENATOR POSEY: Yes.

23 THE SECRETARY: Senator Sanderson.

24 SENATOR SANDERSON: Yes.

25 THE SECRETARY: Senator Sebesta.  
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1 SENATOR SEBESTA: Yes.

2 THE SECRETARY: Senator Silver.

3 SENATOR SILVER: Yes.

4 THE SECRETARY: Senator Sullivan.

5 SENATOR SULLIVAN: Yes.

6 THE SECRETARY: Chairman Latvala.

7 CHAIRMAN LATVALA: Yes. By your vote, the bill is  
 8 recommended favorably. Now, before everyone gets up, I  
 9 would just like to make a couple of remarks. You know, at  
 10 the beginning of each legislative session or term of  
 11 office, one of the things that I remember on each of those  
 12 terms has been an admonition by the President that we leave  
 13 our partisan politics at the door of the Senate.

14 And I think in many instances the, and in most  
 15 instances, the Senate has been able to do that and that's  
 16 one of the reasons that I'm so proud to be in the Senate.

17 There was not anybody on this committee that has more  
 18 of a partisan background in their private life than I did  
 19 and I think I've done a pretty good job personally of being  
 20 bipartisan, nonpartisan, since I've been in this Senate in  
 21 working with every member of the Senate regardless of  
 22 policy -- of party.

23 You know, 60 days ago, I went to the minority leader  
 24 of the Senate, Senator Rossin, I asked for input on this  
 25 plan. I asked -- I offered the auspices of our office, our  
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1 staff, if there would be any interest in drawing a plan,  
2 any assistance or help needed, any observations that needed  
3 to be expressed on behalf of our minority members, and that  
4 was about 60 days ago and I haven't had any concerns  
5 expressed.

6 About 30 days ago, I went to our, I guess our next  
7 Democratic leader and designee, who is a member of the  
8 committee, Senator Klein, and I had a similar conversation  
9 and offered if the minority office of the Democratic party  
10 would check with any of the incumbents, bring us any input  
11 that they had, feel free to come up with a map or  
12 amendments to the plan, that we would certainly be  
13 receptive to working on those.

14 I personally have talked to six of the eight  
15 Democratic members of the Congressional delegation myself.  
16 As of today, as we vote this plan out of this subcommittee,  
17 I have had no written correspondence from any Democratic  
18 member of Congress or any Democratic member of this Senate  
19 with objections to the plan that was just voted out of  
20 subcommittee.

21 It's obvious that we haven't had any amendments today  
22 presented or considered or any alternative maps considered  
23 by anyone who is not satisfied with our product today. And  
24 I think it's been, you know, kind of surprising and  
25 perplexing, frankly, that we haven't had any witnesses at  
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1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF FLORIDA:

3 COUNTY OF LEON:

4 I, MONA L. WHIDDON, Court Reporter, certify that I  
5 was authorized to and did stenographically report the  
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1 the subcommittee level with anyone who has come forward  
2 with specific alternatives to this map, except Common Cause  
3 which, you know, we have had them, but anybody from the  
4 minority party or any of the Democratic Congressmen coming  
5 forward with any observations or any objections.

6 And so, you know, I would say that I'm fairly  
7 disappointed that we would have, you know, so many negative  
8 votes on this bill with no negative testimony or no  
9 alternative plans presented. And, you know, it's -- that's  
10 just a personal statement from me as one who has tried very  
11 hard to work with every member of the Senate and I think I  
12 tried very hard to develop a product here that was  
13 representative of the Senate as a whole.

14 So with that, Senator Brown-Waite moves we rise.  
15 (Meeting concluded.)  
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