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2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
EXCERPT OF SENATE PROCEEDINGS  
REGARDING REAPPORTIONMENT

MARCH 15, 2002

9:00 a.m.

SENATE CHAMBER, THE CAPITOL  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

REPORTED BY:

MONA L. WHIDDON

COURT REPORTER

Division of Administrative Hearings

DeSoto Building

1230 Apalachee Parkway

Tallahassee, Florida

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS (850) 488-9675

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 3 SENATOR GINNY BROWN-WAITE, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
 4 SENATOR CHARLIE BRONSON  
 5 SENATOR LOCKE BURT  
 6 SENATOR WALTER G. CAMPBELL, JR.  
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 SENATOR STEPHEN R. WISE

FAYE W. BLANTON, SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

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1 received in the amendment packet that was passed  
 2 out this morning. And drafting that amendment to  
 3 the House resolution, the actual statutory  
 4 language that is to be bar coded will most likely  
 5 be done before the maps.

6 So, from an operational standpoint, the  
 7 printing of the maps will be determined, the time  
 8 in which we will be ready to go back on the floor  
 9 with the Laurent amendment to the House resolution  
 10 that will reflect all agreed-to floor action.

11 We began last July in Tallahassee with a  
 12 hearing at which many organizations proposed  
 13 standards that should guide our redistricting  
 14 process. Those of us who attended the subsequent  
 15 hearings in all different parts of the state  
 16 learned that there's no single, comprehensive set  
 17 of standards that can or should apply statewide.

18 The interests, needs, and concerns of  
 19 Florida's communities are just too diverse for  
 20 that. Each hearing told a slightly different  
 21 story, each area had its own goals and its own  
 22 ideas for achieving them. Our job is not to try  
 23 to fit everyone into districts drawn to serve  
 24 theoretically predetermined criteria. Our job is  
 25 to fit districts to the particular often widely  
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1 PROCEEDINGS  
 2 MR. PRESIDENT: Senators, this is the  
 3 beginning of the first reapportionment bill. The  
 4 first apportionment bill, the one on legislative  
 5 apportionment. I have asked the Senator from the  
 6 17th to approach the well, speak from the well, so  
 7 that you can direct all your questions to him with  
 8 regard to this issue, much as we do in an  
 9 appropriations bill.  
 10 You are recognized, Senator, to explain the  
 11 bill.  
 12 SENATOR LAURENT: Thank you, Mr. President.  
 13 Let me give some general comments on just some  
 14 technical issues. The 36 by 36 redistricting maps  
 15 are in the bill drafting bubble and will be put on  
 16 easels when we take up the Senate resolution. We  
 17 should have one map for the current districts, one  
 18 map for the plan passed out of the committee, and  
 19 one map for each amendment.  
 20 The computer hookup for showing the maps on  
 21 the overhead chamber screen via FREDS, the viewer  
 22 has been tested and is ready to go. We plan to  
 23 provide 8 by 11 maps to back up statistics to all  
 24 members on the final agreed-to plan, just like the  
 25 information they received in committees and

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1 differing needs of as many of our communities as  
 2 it's possible to do.

3 This is our representative task. It is a  
 4 task that calls on all of our accumulated  
 5 experience, our local knowledge, and our  
 6 understanding of community concerns. It is a task  
 7 that we, the elect representatives of all  
 8 Floridians, are uniquely capable of performing.

9 It's true there are some overriding legal  
 10 requirements that we must obey. We are all  
 11 thoroughly aware of the Equal Protection  
 12 requirements of population equality, minority  
 13 representation, non-retrogression, as well as the  
 14 requirements of the Florida Constitution.

15 We know that our work must stand up in court  
 16 and withstand scrutiny by the United States  
 17 Department of Justice in its preclearance process.  
 18 In addition to these legal requirements, the  
 19 people of Florida have also established a strict  
 20 expectation of our performance. They expect  
 21 fairness from us. I believe our constituents  
 22 understand very well the difficulty of meeting  
 23 every expectation with the new districts. They  
 24 understand that not all interests can be  
 25 satisfied, but they demand that we, that in this  
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1 process, they view this process as a public trust  
 2 not for cheap partisan advantage.  
 3 I know that many of us were gratified in the  
 4 course of the hearings by a number of our  
 5 constituents who came forward and spoke of their  
 6 hope to continue our representation in office. It  
 7 was encouraging to learn that a primary public  
 8 concern is the preservation of incumbency. But  
 9 there's another, perhaps, more important point  
 10 here, those comments about keeping local  
 11 representatives were also linked to please -- to  
 12 avoid gerrymandering.  
 13 Our constituents remember very well the  
 14 unseemly bitterness of the 1992 redistricting  
 15 process. They will not tolerate running  
 16 incumbents against one another or using the  
 17 redistricting process for personal political  
 18 advantage. Although most have grown used to their  
 19 strangely-shaped districts, many remember the  
 20 confusion and stress caused to voters when those  
 21 districts were first used. They want no  
 22 repetition of that type of gerrymandering.  
 23 The bill that I bring before you fully meets  
 24 all the legal and constitutional requirements. It  
 25 also fully meets the public expectation of  
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1 fairness. Incumbents are not thrown into  
 2 districts and run against one another. Counties  
 3 are not arbitrarily divided, cities and  
 4 communities are not fragmented simply to meet  
 5 political goals.  
 6 But the plan does much more than avoid  
 7 gerrymandering, it also meets as many as possible  
 8 of the concerns of our state's widely different  
 9 communities. That task, as many of you know from  
 10 a personal experience, has not been easy. Often  
 11 the testimony that we had from one community was  
 12 in conflict with testimony from another. And even  
 13 within the same community we also found ourselves  
 14 dealing with dramatically different points of  
 15 view.  
 16 In general, the three most widely shared  
 17 concerns of most communities was preservation of  
 18 incumbents, maintaining the status quo of district  
 19 lines, protecting communities of interest. The  
 20 difficulty of satisfying these and other concerns  
 21 was particularly troubled by the dramatically  
 22 uneven pace of the growth in the state.  
 23 Flagler County grew by 73.6 percent, and  
 24 Sumter County by 68.9 percent, but Pinellas and  
 25 Putnam Counties both grew by only 8.2 percent and  
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1 Monroe by only by 2 percent. Like it or not,  
 2 therefore, district lines must change to reflect  
 3 the new population numbers, and sometimes, the  
 4 changes must be dramatic because the growth has  
 5 been rapid in one area and very limited in  
 6 another.  
 7 Wherever a change in the lines of one  
 8 district forces changes in the lines of  
 9 neighboring districts, then as lines change in  
 10 response to population pressures, the task of  
 11 protecting incumbents or insuring communities of  
 12 interest becomes more complicated.  
 13 We are proud of the districts we have drawn,  
 14 they are in full compliance with the law, and  
 15 constitute the best available solutions to  
 16 problems and difficulties cited in public  
 17 testimony. They represent the most effective  
 18 adjustments among the competing goals that we have  
 19 heard about at the hearings and they reflect the  
 20 informed judgment and intimate local knowledge of  
 21 the members of the Florida Senate.  
 22 I would like to take a few minutes and go  
 23 through each district in detail. The proposed  
 24 Senate District 1, the district anchored in  
 25 Jacksonville is one of the few districts that  
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1 underwent dramatic change at the request of the  
 2 incumbent in accordance with the testimony at the  
 3 public hearings.  
 4 The district normally included -- formerly  
 5 included population centers in Jacksonville and  
 6 Gainesville. At public hearings in Gainesville  
 7 strong sentiment was expressed for unifying  
 8 Alachua County in a single district and providing  
 9 an opportunity for local Gainesville  
 10 representation.  
 11 The incumbent, the Senator from the 2nd, also  
 12 strongly advocated for pulling the district out of  
 13 Gainesville in Alachua County and reorienting the  
 14 district in a north/south configuration reflected  
 15 in my amendment. In the words of the incumbent at  
 16 the March 12th committee hearing: The new  
 17 configuration unites communities of interest that  
 18 were not present in the Jacksonville, Gainesville  
 19 district.  
 20 If you would look at -- this is a quote, "If  
 21 you would look at the district as it is drawn, you  
 22 go from Duval County to St. Johns County down to  
 23 Flagler to Volusia Counties. They all have a  
 24 tourist attraction because of their beaches, they  
 25 all have higher education institutions that can  
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1 relate in the fact that those communities are  
 2 growing communities and they are African-American  
 3 populations, if you are trying to do a majority  
 4 minority district to have some similarities. And,  
 5 so we tried to find communities that had a common  
 6 interest," close quote.

7 Public testimony from Daytona Beach supports  
 8 linkage with Jacksonville because of communities  
 9 of interest reflected in current Congressional  
 10 District 5, which covers the same area. The  
 11 north/south configuration also makes the district  
 12 more compact.

13 The city of Jacksonville is too big to be  
 14 contained in one district, it must be divided.  
 15 The division reflected in proposed Senate District  
 16 1 is similar to the existing district. The St.  
 17 Augustine and Palatka extensions are also similar  
 18 to the existing district. The district has a zero  
 19 percent population deviation and is a majority  
 20 minority district. African-Americans constitute  
 21 the largest minority group at 50.3 of the total  
 22 population.

23 Proposed Senate District 2, although the  
 24 current district, Senate District 1, needed to  
 25 gain approximately 24,000 people, we were able to  
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1 retain the footprint and core of the current  
 2 district in the proposed District 2 with some  
 3 minor shifting of the lines. The proposed  
 4 district has a zero percent population deviation.

5 Proposed District 3, the current district,  
 6 Senate District 4, needs to lose approximately  
 7 8800 people. The current district represents 18  
 8 counties with no one county constituting a  
 9 majority of the district. The proposed district  
 10 would cover all or part of 13 counties.

11 Five counties that are totally within the  
 12 current district would also remain whole in the  
 13 proposed district. Gilchrist and Nassau Counties  
 14 have been removed from the proposed district,  
 15 however, the district still remains its core. It  
 16 is a predominantly agricultural district with  
 17 strong ties to the nature coast.

18 While the current district splits 11  
 19 counties, the proposed district splits only seven.  
 20 The changes proposed reflect public testimony  
 21 received in Jacksonville asking that Nassau County  
 22 not be included in a Panhandle district. The  
 23 proposed district recognizes the unique  
 24 differences that exist between the coastal areas  
 25 of Citrus County and the interior Citrus County.  
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1 By removing the coastal Citrus County and  
 2 moving the district inward, we were able to  
 3 accommodate public testimony received in Ocala  
 4 requesting that communities of Citrus Springs,  
 5 Citrus Hill, Sugar Mill Woods be made whole. The  
 6 district has a zero percent population deviation.

7 Senate District 4, this is a coastal district  
 8 contiguous to proposed Senate District 2. These  
 9 two districts have been historically linked. The  
 10 current district, Senate District 7, needed to  
 11 lose some population. Again, we were able to make  
 12 the changes necessary to correct the population,  
 13 the population underage, with a very minor  
 14 adjustment to the core of the district.

15 The public testimony we received in both  
 16 Pensacola and Panama City indicated that the  
 17 constituency of those two districts was relatively  
 18 happy with the status quo. The proposed district  
 19 has a zero percent population deviation.

20 The current core district, Senate District 6,  
 21 a slightly under-the-target population. The  
 22 proposed district places all of Nassau County,  
 23 except the coastal areas, into a district with  
 24 Duval, Clay and St. Johns Counties with the  
 25 addition of Nassau County -- with the addition of  
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1 Nassau County, Duval County was reduced somewhat.

2 The proposed district still maintains current  
 3 communities of interest while incorporating public  
 4 testimony and public correspondence, urging the  
 5 placement of Nassau County in a district with  
 6 Duval and Clay. The proposed district is also  
 7 more compact. The proposed district has a zero  
 8 percent population deviation.

9 Current district, Senate District 3, this is  
 10 a proposed Senate District 6, this is the current  
 11 Senate District 3. It is just under the target  
 12 population by approximately 5500 people. The  
 13 proposed district retains the footprint of the  
 14 current district. We were able to work with the  
 15 incumbent to address some concerns he had with the  
 16 area of Panama City that shared a commonality of  
 17 interest with that part of Bay currently  
 18 represented by District 3, but is not currently  
 19 represented by the Senator from the 3rd.

20 The concern echoed public testimony received  
 21 in Tallahassee requesting that the district extend  
 22 further into Panama City. The proposed district  
 23 has a cleaner division between the northern and  
 24 southern parts of Jefferson and Madison Counties.  
 25 The proposed district has a zero percent  
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1 population deviation.  
 2 The proposed District 7 with the changes made  
 3 to current Senate Districts 4, 5 and 6, it  
 4 necessarily followed that changes would need to be  
 5 made to current Senate District 16, which is  
 6 proposed Senate District 7 under this amendment.  
 7 District 16 is currently underpopulated and  
 8 needs to gain approximately 15 to 16,000 people to  
 9 meet the one person, one vote requirement. In  
 10 designing this district we also had to factor in  
 11 current Senate District 2, a minority majority  
 12 district. The proposed district includes parts of  
 13 Clay, Marion, Putnam and Volusia Counties with  
 14 Volusia County making up 62.3 percent of the  
 15 district. The proposed district has a zero  
 16 percent population deviation.  
 17 Proposed Senate District 8. The district  
 18 maintains and strengthens its coastal ties and  
 19 communities of interest. The current district,  
 20 also Senate District 8, needs to lose  
 21 approximately 56,000 people. The proposed  
 22 district is pulled out of Marion County and the  
 23 interior of Flagler County. These changes then  
 24 allow the district to move north along the coast  
 25 to take in the coastal communities of Nassau  
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1 County.  
 2 As a result, the proposed district is also  
 3 more compact. The proposed district is consistent  
 4 with public testimony from both the Jacksonville  
 5 and the Ocala public hearings with residents of  
 6 Nassau County requesting a tie to Duval County and  
 7 residents of Marion County requesting that the  
 8 district not come all the way inland to their  
 9 county.  
 10 The proposed district has a zero percent  
 11 population deviation. Proposed Senate District 9,  
 12 the current district, Senate District 12, needs to  
 13 lose some population, approximately 89,000 people.  
 14 The current district represents four counties:  
 15 Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Volusia. The proposed  
 16 district is taken out of Volusia County and the  
 17 population in Seminole County is greatly reduced.  
 18 The proposed district is still an Orlando-based  
 19 seat but it's more compact.  
 20 Some of the changes made to the district are  
 21 the result of significant changes made to proposed  
 22 South District 19. The proposed district has a  
 23 zero percent population deviation.  
 24 Proposed Senate District 10. The current  
 25 district, Senate District 23, needs to lose  
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1 approximately 13,000 people. The current  
 2 district's primary core is in Hillsborough County  
 3 with a small portion of Polk County. The proposed  
 4 district retains the core of the current district  
 5 but reduces Hillsborough and Polk communities  
 6 while adding communities of interest north of the  
 7 current district in Pasco County. But the  
 8 proposed district has a zero percent population  
 9 deviation.  
 10 Proposed Senate District 11. This district  
 11 encompasses much of what is currently in Senate  
 12 District 19. Although it does form a more  
 13 extensive coastal district, Senate District 19  
 14 needs to gain population of approximately 17,000  
 15 people. District 19 represents Pasco and Pinellas  
 16 Counties with Pinellas comprising 67.6 percent of  
 17 the entire district.  
 18 The proposed District 11 adds the coastal  
 19 communities of Citrus and Hernando Counties. This  
 20 shift northward provides Pasco County with a  
 21 majority of the district at 53.2 percent. This  
 22 district recognizes the unique characteristics and  
 23 demands of the southern nature coast. The  
 24 proposed district also incorporates public  
 25 testimony detailing the strong ties between Pasco  
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1 and Hernando Counties. The proposed district has  
 2 a zero percent population deviation.  
 3 Proposed Senate District 12. The current  
 4 district, Senate District 13, needs to lose  
 5 approximately 10,000 people. The current district  
 6 represents Hillsborough and Pasco Counties. The  
 7 proposed district shifts north to take a – much  
 8 of Pasco County where the population is not as  
 9 dense.  
 10 Public testimony from the Tampa hearings  
 11 describe a community of interest that exists  
 12 between the communities of Lutz and Hillsborough  
 13 County and Land O'Lakes and Pasco County. The  
 14 proposed district recognizes those communities of  
 15 interest as well as St. Leo and Dade City. The  
 16 proposed district has a zero percent population  
 17 deviation.  
 18 Proposed Senate District 13, this is a  
 19 coastal district recognizing Pinellas County. The  
 20 current district, Senate District 22, needs to  
 21 gain population, approximately 55,000 people.  
 22 Adjustments were made to equalize the population,  
 23 but the core of the district remains the same.  
 24 The proposed district has a zero percent  
 25 population deviation.  
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1 Proposed Senate District 14. The current  
 2 district, Senate District 5, is very close to the  
 3 target population. Nine counties are included in  
 4 the current district with Alachua County  
 5 representing 45 percent of the district. The  
 6 proposed district includes eight counties with  
 7 Alachua County representing 54.5 percent of the  
 8 district.

9 While the core of the district is retained,  
 10 the proposed district places all of Alachua County  
 11 in one district, thereby assuring Alachua County a  
 12 resident Senator. The proposed district is far  
 13 more compact. The proposed district has a zero  
 14 percent population deviation.

15 Proposed Senate District 15. The proposed  
 16 district incorporates much of the current District  
 17 10 while also creating a strong agricultural  
 18 district, which provides representation for key  
 19 environmental concerns such as the Green Swamp, a  
 20 region of critical concern. And current District  
 21 10 represents Hernando, Pasco, Polk and Sumter  
 22 Counties.

23 The proposed district would represent  
 24 Hernando, Lake, Osceola, Polk and Sumter Counties.  
 25 The proposed district has a zero percent  
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1 population deviation.

2 Proposed Senate District 16. The current  
 3 district, Senate District 20, needs to gain  
 4 population, approximately 62,000 people. The  
 5 district represents Hillsborough County and  
 6 Pinellas County. While the proposed district  
 7 still maintains the core of the current district  
 8 in Pinellas County, similarly situated communities  
 9 from Hillsborough have been added to equalize the  
 10 population.

11 The overall footprint of the current district  
 12 remains in place. The proposed district has a  
 13 zero percent population deviation.

14 Proposed Senate District 17. Currently,  
 15 Senate District 17 represents Highlands,  
 16 Okeechobee and Polk Counties. The district needs  
 17 to pick up approximately 30,000 people. In  
 18 response to the need to add population, and a good  
 19 amount of public testimony asking for a strong,  
 20 heartland, agricultural Senate district, District  
 21 17 as proposed would represent Desoto, Glades,  
 22 Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, Polk and St. Lucie.  
 23 Many of these communities have expressed a desire  
 24 to be part of an interior district, with few or no  
 25 ties to coastal communities.  
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1 Hardee County is a Section 5 Voting Rights  
 2 county; therefore, it's important to avoid  
 3 retrogression. The district maintains the  
 4 benchmarks for both the Hispanic and black  
 5 populations in Hardee County.

6 Currently, Hardee County is linked to the  
 7 coastal community in Manatee County with vastly  
 8 different socioeconomic and cultural  
 9 characteristics, the proposed district recognizes  
 10 the commonalities that exist between Hardee,  
 11 Desoto, Highlands and Okeechobee Counties that was  
 12 talked about frequently during the public  
 13 testimony in Wachulla. The proposed district has  
 14 a zero percent population deviation.

15 Proposed District 18. The predecessor to  
 16 this district was drawn from the Florida Supreme  
 17 Court and precleared by the United States  
 18 Department of Justice. Subsequently, the district  
 19 was modified to its current configuration by a  
 20 Federal court order and upheld by the United  
 21 States Supreme Court. It's located partially in  
 22 Hillsborough County, a county covered by Section 5  
 23 of the Federal Voting Rights Act.

24 Section 5 requires that the voting strength  
 25 of minority residents in covered counties not be  
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1 diminished through redistricting. The current  
 2 district in this area, Senate District 21, needs  
 3 to gain about 63,000 persons. Territory was added  
 4 to this district and traded with surrounding  
 5 districts to balance population to preserve  
 6 minority voting strength to the extent possible.

7 Thus, the new district is a total majority  
 8 minority group. The single largest minority group  
 9 is African-Americans at 42 percent of the  
 10 population, followed by Hispanic persons at about  
 11 18 percent of the population. The district, which  
 12 has elected an African-American Democrat, Les  
 13 Miller, remains strongly Democratic in  
 14 registration.

15 Although there was some conflicting testimony  
 16 at public hearings in Tampa, much of the testimony  
 17 supports the current configuration of this  
 18 district and the other districts in Hillsborough  
 19 County.

20 Such testimony noted that the coastal areas  
 21 of Hillsborough and Manatee have common interests,  
 22 that southwest Hillsborough has very little in  
 23 common with northwest Hillsborough, that Plant  
 24 City has strong ties to Polk County, that Lutz,  
 25 Land O'Lakes and Pasco County share common  
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1 interests, and that St. Petersburg benefits from  
 2 being divided between districts and that Sun City  
 3 Center should be kept whole. The district has a  
 4 zero percent population deviation.  
 5 Proposed Senate District 19. The existing  
 6 district in this area, Senate District 14, needs  
 7 to gain about 7,700 people. The new district,  
 8 Senate District 19, is based in part on the main  
 9 body of the existing district in the northern  
 10 Orlando portion of Orange County.  
 11 Existing Senate District 14 includes narrow  
 12 tentacles that extended from the district's core  
 13 across an adjacent county to get the pockets of  
 14 minority population. The new district replaces  
 15 those narrow tentacles with a compact area of  
 16 Orlando previously located in an adjacent  
 17 district.  
 18 This is now entirely an Orlando area  
 19 district. The district links areas of like voters  
 20 and observes the growing minority influence in the  
 21 Orlando area by creating a 63 percent total  
 22 minority district that is 51 percent Democratic in  
 23 registration.  
 24 The public testimony we heard in Orlando  
 25 advocating the need for recognizing the growing  
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1 Hispanic population in central Florida that  
 2 performs more Democrat, the proposed district has  
 3 a zero percent population deviation.  
 4 Proposed Senate District 20. The current  
 5 district, Senate District 11, needs to lose  
 6 approximately 53,000 people. The proposed  
 7 district retains the core of the district, Lake  
 8 County and the villages.  
 9 The proposed district is pulled out of Citrus  
 10 County altogether. It also removes a good deal of  
 11 Marion County with the exception of the area  
 12 contiguous to the villages of Lake and Sumter  
 13 Counties.  
 14 The proposed district does not extend into  
 15 the interior of Volusia County which is consistent  
 16 with testimony from the Daytona Beach public  
 17 hearing where a request was made to bring the  
 18 communities of Deland, Lake Helen and Cassadaga  
 19 together in one district. The proposed district  
 20 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 21 Proposed Senate District 21. The current  
 22 district, Senate District 26, needs to lose 8600  
 23 people. The current district represents Desoto,  
 24 Hardee, Highlands, Manatee and Sarasota Counties.  
 25 The proposed district represents Charlotte,  
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1 Desoto, Lee, Manatee and Sarasota Counties.  
 2 The current district is pulled out of Hardee  
 3 and Highlands Counties entirely and out of most of  
 4 Desoto County. The core of the district in  
 5 Manatee County remains intact. The proposed  
 6 district picks up communities of interest in  
 7 Charlotte and Lee Counties.  
 8 Many of the changes made to the interior of  
 9 the current district were made to expand and  
 10 strengthen the heartland, agricultural district.  
 11 The proposed district has a zero percent  
 12 population deviation.  
 13 Proposed Senate District 22. The current  
 14 district, Senate District 9, needs to gain some  
 15 population, approximately 15,000 people. The  
 16 current district represents Orange and Seminole  
 17 Counties. In shifting the district north we were  
 18 able to gain population to make the district more  
 19 compact while still maintaining established  
 20 communities of interest. The proposed district  
 21 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 22 Proposed Senate District 23. The core of the  
 23 current district, Senate District 24, remains  
 24 intact. It's primarily a Sarasota County-based  
 25 seat. The current district represents Charlotte,  
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1 Lee, Sarasota Counties. The proposed district  
 2 represents Charlotte, Manatee and Sarasota  
 3 Counties.  
 4 The current district is pulled out of Lee  
 5 County and takes in coastal communities of  
 6 interest. In Manatee County, the proposed  
 7 district is more compact. The proposed district  
 8 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 9 Senate District 24. The current Senate  
 10 District 15 needs to gain slightly in population  
 11 of approximately 3200 people. Currently, the  
 12 district represents Brevard, Indian River and St.  
 13 Lucie Counties. The proposed district represents  
 14 Brevard, Orange and Seminole Counties.  
 15 Brevard County remains the majority county in  
 16 the proposed district; the changes made to the  
 17 district add some compactness. The proposed  
 18 district has a zero percent population deviation.  
 19 Proposed Senate District 25. The current  
 20 district, Senate District 31, needs to gain  
 21 population, approximately 51,000 people. Both the  
 22 current and the proposed districts encompass  
 23 largely coastal areas in Broward and Palm Beach.  
 24 Under the proposed district, the seat would  
 25 shift population advantage from Broward to Palm  
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1 Beach. The configuration of this district is  
 2 driven to a large extent by the population shifts  
 3 of Senate District 30, which is a majority  
 4 minority seat. The proposed district has a zero  
 5 percent population deviation.  
 6 Proposed District 26. Current Senate  
 7 District 18 needs to lose approximately 9,000  
 8 people. The current district represents Brevard  
 9 and Osceola Counties. The proposed district  
 10 represents Brevard, Indian River, Osceola and St.  
 11 Lucie Counties. The district's Brevard population  
 12 was reduced significantly to accommodate changes  
 13 that needed to be made to proposed District 24,  
 14 which is current District 15. With the proposed  
 15 changes, both districts are more compact. The  
 16 proposed district has a zero percent population  
 17 deviation.  
 18 Senate District 27. The current district,  
 19 Senate District 35, needs to lose approximately  
 20 7400 people. Currently, the district represents  
 21 parts of Charlotte, Lee, Martin, Okeechobee and  
 22 Palm Beach Counties, and all of Glades County.  
 23 Palm Beach County comprises 55.8 percent of  
 24 the district in population. The proposed district  
 25 moves Martin and Okeechobee Counties and adds  
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1 Hendry County, although the area incorporated has  
 2 zero population.  
 3 Palm Beach County comprises 58.8 percent of  
 4 the proposed district population. The proposed  
 5 district has a zero percent population deviation.  
 6 Proposed Senate District 28. The current  
 7 district, Senate District 27, needs to lose  
 8 population, approximately 20,000 people. The  
 9 district encompasses parts of Indian River,  
 10 Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie Counties.  
 11 The proposed district brings all of Martin  
 12 County into the district and reduces the number of  
 13 Palm Beach County coastal communities that bring  
 14 the population into target range. The core of the  
 15 district remains intact. The proposed district  
 16 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 17 Proposed Senate District 29. The current  
 18 district, Senate District 30, in this area needs  
 19 to gain about 42,000 people to satisfy one person,  
 20 one vote. The new district gathers the population  
 21 while remaining faithful to the footprint of the  
 22 current district in the area. The district  
 23 includes cities in central and south Palm Beach  
 24 County, they move south into Broward County where  
 25 it ends in Ft. Lauderdale.  
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1 The district is a majority black district at  
 2 63 percent. The significant percentage of the  
 3 speakers at the public hearings in Ft. Lauderdale  
 4 supported maintaining the current district with as  
 5 little change as probable. The proposed district  
 6 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 7 Proposed Senate District 30. The current  
 8 district, Senate District 28, needs to lose  
 9 population, approximately 63,000 people. The  
 10 current district represents Broward and Palm Beach  
 11 Counties, although Palm Beach comprises  
 12 94.4 percent of the district's population.  
 13 The proposed districts retain significant  
 14 amounts of the core of the district, the extent  
 15 possible given the population coverage. Under the  
 16 proposed district, Palm Beach comprises  
 17 86.7 percent of the district's population. The  
 18 proposed district has a zero percent population  
 19 deviation.  
 20 Proposed Senate District 31. The current  
 21 district, Senate District 29, needs to lose  
 22 population, approximately 6300 people. The  
 23 district – the current district represents parts  
 24 of Charlotte, Collier and Hendry Counties. The  
 25 proposed district is entirely within Broward  
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1 County. The proposed district is more compact.  
 2 The proposed district has a zero percent  
 3 population deviation.  
 4 Senate District 32. The current district,  
 5 Senate District 33, needs to lose approximately  
 6 39,000 people. The district is wholly within  
 7 Broward County. The proposed district retains the  
 8 core of the current district where it shifts for  
 9 population consideration. The proposed district  
 10 has a zero percent population deviation.  
 11 Proposed Senate District 33. The current  
 12 district, Senate District 36, needs to gain  
 13 population, approximately 65,000 people. The  
 14 district is contained wholly within Dade County.  
 15 Under both the current and proposed  
 16 districts, it is an African-American majority  
 17 minority seat. The proposed district retains the  
 18 core of the current district while adding  
 19 communities that have common interests with the  
 20 current district. The proposed district has a  
 21 zero percent population deviation.  
 22 Proposed district, Senate District 34. The  
 23 current district, Senate District 32, needs to  
 24 lose a significant amount of population,  
 25 approximately 119,000 people. The current  
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1 district represents Broward and Miami-Dade with  
 2 Broward County comprising 81.8 percent of the  
 3 district's total population.  
 4 The proposed district also represents Broward  
 5 and Miami-Dade, although the configuration of the  
 6 district is changed with the reduction of  
 7 population. The proposed district does retain a  
 8 large number of communities of interest  
 9 represented in the current district while  
 10 incorporating some underpopulated areas of  
 11 Miami-Dade. The proposed district has a zero  
 12 percent population deviation.  
 13 Proposed District 36. The current district,  
 14 Senate District 38, needs to gain population,  
 15 approximately 33,000 people. The current district  
 16 represents only Dade County. To gain population,  
 17 the proposed district moves north into Broward  
 18 County, although Dade still comprises a majority  
 19 of the district's population.  
 20 The district is primarily a coastal seat and  
 21 the core of the district is retained. The  
 22 proposed district has a zero percent population  
 23 deviation.  
 24 Proposed Senate District 36. This is a Dade  
 25 County district. The current Senate district in  
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1 this area, Senate District 34, needed to gain  
 2 64,000 people. Population of the district is  
 3 diverse economically and culturally. Lower  
 4 income, older age bracket neighborhoods where  
 5 Spanish is the primary, and often only, language  
 6 is the core of the district. While rebuilding the  
 7 district to meet equal population requirements,  
 8 the core community of lower and lower to middle  
 9 class income persons was retained in matching  
 10 communities on its northern border were added.  
 11 To further increase the community's  
 12 homogeneity of the district, similar areas in  
 13 Coral Gables were excluded. The district contains  
 14 most of the city of Miami. Of the Dade County  
 15 districts, this one has the oldest population with  
 16 31 percent over the age of 65.  
 17 The district is primarily urban and  
 18 incorporated with the unique features of many  
 19 neighborhoods and multigenerational homes.  
 20 Proposed Senate District 36 is a Hispanic majority  
 21 district. The proposed district has a zero  
 22 percent population deviation.  
 23 Proposed Senate District 37. The current  
 24 district, Senate District 25, needs to lose a  
 25 significant amount of population, 96,457 people.  
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1 Both the current and proposed districts represent  
 2 Lee and Collier Counties. In order to reduce  
 3 population, the inland areas of the current  
 4 district are reduced, making primarily the  
 5 district primarily a coastal district.  
 6 We are able to include Ft. Myers in a Lee  
 7 County district, which was something that was  
 8 brought to light during the Ft. Myers' public  
 9 hearing. Although changes had to be made to  
 10 accommodate the population overage, the core of  
 11 the district remains largely intact. The proposed  
 12 district has a zero percent population deviation.  
 13 Proposed Senate District 38 is also a Dade  
 14 County district. Its predecessor district,  
 15 District 37, needed to gain only 5700 people;  
 16 therefore, the shape of the new district is very  
 17 similar to the current district. This is a very  
 18 stable residential community that's primarily  
 19 suburban in character. There are no incorporated  
 20 cities within its boundaries and it depends on its  
 21 county commissioners and legislators for local  
 22 services.  
 23 Much of the district is relatively new  
 24 development and it has a younger population than  
 25 some of its neighboring districts, but an  
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1 important feature of the district is its senior  
 2 centers and historical family ties.  
 3 The population is solidly middle class.  
 4 There's also a -- this is also a Hispanic majority  
 5 district. The proposed district has a zero  
 6 percent population deviation.  
 7 Proposed District 39, the new district,  
 8 includes the existing districts, Senate District  
 9 40, needs to gain about 66,000 persons. The new  
 10 district includes Collier and Hendry Counties.  
 11 These two counties are joined with Monroe County,  
 12 as they share the rural community characteristics,  
 13 the Everglades National Park and Wildlife  
 14 Management areas and Big Cypress National  
 15 Preserve, just to name a few.  
 16 There was also considerable public testimony  
 17 opposing the current linkage of Hendry County and  
 18 inland Collier County with the populated portions  
 19 of Broward County. Collier, Hendry and Monroe are  
 20 protected by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act;  
 21 therefore, it is important to avoid retrogression.  
 22 The district maintains the benchmarks for  
 23 both the Hispanic and black populations in Monroe  
 24 County and enhances the voting strength of  
 25 minorities in Collier and Hendry Counties. It  
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1 maintains the 1990s linkage of Collier, Hendry and  
2 Broward and agricultural Palm Beach Counties and  
3 joins these areas with the Everglades' portions of  
4 Dade County.

5 This district is linked by an interstate  
6 freeway. The district has an open seat and past  
7 performance indicates that minority voters will  
8 have a fair opportunity to elect a candidate of  
9 their choice. The proposed district has a zero  
10 percent population deviation.

11 Proposed Senate District 40. This district  
12 was developed primarily by reducing the  
13 populations of current Senate District 39 which  
14 had about 74,000 too many people. This occurred  
15 primarily in the southern part of the district  
16 which contained agricultural areas that were  
17 dissimilar to the more urbanized north of the  
18 district. This change made the district much more  
19 compact and homogeneous.

20 The new district includes incorporated  
21 cities, unincorporated territory and industrial  
22 areas. The new district unites the cities of  
23 Miami Lakes and Hialeah which were divided between  
24 the existing districts.

25 There are many high poverty areas. A large  
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1 portion of the population is new immigrants whose  
2 needs are different from the other established  
3 communities in the counties. People live and work  
4 in the community and neighborhoods are  
5 characterized by extended family relationships.  
6 Because of the high level of family participation  
7 and local schools, the district has some of the  
8 finest schools in the state.

9 The district also has unique environmental  
10 concerns because of its geographic features. The  
11 district is also home of the historic Hialeah race  
12 track. New Senate District 40 is a majority  
13 Hispanic district. The proposed district has a  
14 zero percent population deviation.

15 Mr. President, that is a brief explanation of  
16 the plan.

17 MR. PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. Are  
18 there questions for the Senator from the 17th  
19 before we go to the amendatory process? Seeing  
20 none -- Senator, we -- Senator Laurent, we need an  
21 order in which you would like to take up the  
22 amendments.

23 If you could quote it by bar codes. Senator  
24 for the 2nd, for which purpose do you rise?

25 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: A question, Mr.  
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1 President, of the sponsor.

2 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized and he  
3 yields.

4 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Senator Laurent, I was  
5 having difficulty following because you were  
6 changing numbers. On Senate District 30, what did  
7 that number become?

8 SENATOR LAURENT: Current District 30 becomes  
9 Senate District 29.

10 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Thank you.

11 MR. PRESIDENT: Further questions? Seeing  
12 none, Senator, what amendment would you like to  
13 take up first, which amendment first?

14 SENATOR LAURENT: Amendment number 24.

15 MR. PRESIDENT: Please read amendment number  
16 24.

17 SENATOR LAURENT: It is S17S0024, it is Tab 1  
18 in the packet.

19 MR. PRESIDENT: There is a little clerical  
20 difficulty, Senator, so we are going to  
21 temporarily pass the May substitute for Senate  
22 Joint Resolution 580. And let's go back -- are we  
23 ready?

24 THE SECRETARY: Yes.

25 MR. PRESIDENT: Once again, read the joint  
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1 resolution, please, the May substitute for Senate  
2 joint resolution because I temporarily passed it.  
3 Please read it, the joint resolution.

4 THE READING CLERK: Committee substitute for  
5 Senate Joint Resolution 580, a bill to be  
6 entitled, A map relating to reapportionment.

7 MR. PRESIDENT: All right. Now, Senator, do  
8 you have the -- we have the correct amendment  
9 before us?

10 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes.

11 MR. PRESIDENT: Read the first amendment.

12 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 751138 by  
13 Senator Laurent. Delete everything after the  
14 resolving clause and insert lengthy amendment.

15 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th is  
16 recognized to explain the amendment.

17 SENATOR LAURENT: Senate District 24 is  
18 basically the amendment that we passed out of  
19 committee. There were a number of changes. We  
20 made a change in the Panhandle between Senator  
21 Clary, Senator Peaden, this area in the Panhandle.  
22 There were some changes to the Senator's  
23 district from Senate District 1 and Senate  
24 District 7 and the changes only affected their  
25 districts. There was a change on the space port  
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1 which impacted Senate District 18 and Senate  
 2 District 15. There was a change with Senate  
 3 District 37 and Senate District 32.  
 4 There was a -- the districts of those current  
 5 Senators, there was a change in the Senate number  
 6 for the Senator from the 21st district. There was  
 7 a change for the Senator from the 28th. There was  
 8 a significant change to the seat represented by  
 9 the Senator from the 35th district.  
 10 MR. PRESIDENT: The Senator from the 17th, if  
 11 I may ask you a question, you are referring to the  
 12 district numbers of the existing Senators rather  
 13 than the, for convenience of the members so they  
 14 will understand, rather than referring to the new  
 15 Senate numbers, correct?  
 16 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes, that's correct. I was  
 17 trying to apprise the members of how it impacted  
 18 the current members' districts, if at all.  
 19 SENATOR LAURENT: Zero into the Panhandle  
 20 area. I will be glad to answer any question, Mr.  
 21 President.  
 22 MR. PRESIDENT: Are there questions for the  
 23 Senator from the 17th on the amendment? There are  
 24 no questions, Senator, so, do you wish to  
 25 temporarily pass this amendment or do you wish to  
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1 have it adopted?  
 2 SENATOR LAURENT: I would like to temporarily  
 3 pass the amendment.  
 4 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment  
 5 temporarily passed. What amendment would you like  
 6 to be read next, Senator?  
 7 SENATOR LAURENT: That would be, on my list,  
 8 was the number 25. They have it.  
 9 MR. PRESIDENT: All right. Read the  
 10 amendment.  
 11 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 592390 by  
 12 Senators Holzendorf and Meek. Delete everything  
 13 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
 14 amendment.  
 15 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 2nd is  
 16 recognized to explain the amendment.  
 17 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Thank you,  
 18 Mr. President. I'm not sure that is the amendment  
 19 that I want to deal with right now. I would like  
 20 to withdraw that amendment.  
 21 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment withdrawn.  
 22 Which amendment would you like to read next,  
 23 Senator?  
 24 SENATOR LAURENT: I would like to -- it would  
 25 be amendment number 26.  
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1 MR. PRESIDENT: Read the amendment.  
 2 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 430266 by  
 3 Senators Laurent and Geller. Delete everything  
 4 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
 5 amendment.  
 6 MR. PRESIDENT: Who would like to explain the  
 7 amendment? Senator from the 17th or the Senator  
 8 from the 29th?  
 9 SENATOR LAURENT: I would like to TP that  
 10 amendment.  
 11 MR. PRESIDENT: Show that amendment  
 12 temporarily passed. Read -- what amendment do we  
 13 want to read next, Senator?  
 14 SENATOR LAURENT: Number 27.  
 15 MR. PRESIDENT: Read the amendment.  
 16 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 804098 by  
 17 Senator Webster. Delete everything after the  
 18 resolving clause and insert lengthy amendment.  
 19 MR. PRESIDENT: The Senator from the 12th is  
 20 recognized to explain the amendment.  
 21 SENATOR WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. President.  
 22 This amendment is -- affects several districts in  
 23 Broward County, or at least the portion of  
 24 districts that are in that particular county. And  
 25 in doing so it helps maintain what I believe to be  
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1 communities of interest. It protects an incumbent  
 2 and it does basically the three principles that  
 3 were listed as Senator Laurent expressed them.  
 4 And if we don't adopt the amendment, I think  
 5 we are missing on those particular three  
 6 principles. It was what was done, I attended all  
 7 24 of the hearings and that is what was expressed  
 8 at those hearings, that we protect incumbents,  
 9 that we protect the communities of interest and we  
 10 keep the status quo. This would do that.  
 11 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
 12 on the amendment? Senator from the 29th, for what  
 13 purpose do you rise?  
 14 SENATOR GELLER: Negative debate on the  
 15 amendment.  
 16 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
 17 SENATOR GELLER: Thank you. Mr. Chair, I  
 18 certainly always hesitate to speak against the  
 19 Chairman of the reapportionment committee on  
 20 anything affecting reapportionment. And some of  
 21 the principles he set forth may have been things  
 22 that we could have done.  
 23 Unfortunately, with our procedure the way we  
 24 have it, if we adopt this amendment, it serves the  
 25 purpose of wiping out the other amendments that  
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1 Senator Laurent has just referred to in amendment  
2 24, which was sponsored by Senator Laurent and  
3 myself.

4 So, we have done extensive work with a number  
5 of members, including the Senator from the 35th.  
6 And in order to adopt this amendment, it would  
7 wipe out the fix to the amendment from the Senator  
8 from the 35th. It would also wipe out all of the  
9 other amendments that have been done around the  
10 state.

11 Now, if the Senator from the -- if the  
12 Senator from the 12th is able to get an agreement  
13 with other members of the reapportionment  
14 committee to make a change affecting the district  
15 of the Senator from the 31st, then we can always  
16 do.

17 But adopting this particular amendment,  
18 because of our procedure, and I need to caution  
19 all of the members that have had little changes  
20 made to their districts or their successor's  
21 district in amendment 24, that this amendment, if  
22 adopted, because it's inconsistent with the  
23 others, as opposed to the amendment, for example,  
24 the Senator from the 34th amendment is not  
25 inconsistent with the others, this one would be  
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1 Independents, everybody said they want three  
2 Senators, resident Senators in Palm Beach County.

3 We have never had that before, we're entitled  
4 to it, and this amendment would not do that.  
5 Amendment 24 does and I would urge the body to  
6 reject this amendment because of that reason.  
7 Thank you very much.

8 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
9 on the amendment? Senator from the 17th is  
10 recognized to discuss the amendment.

11 SENATOR LAURENT: And to some extent, it is  
12 the nature of the process we have, but this  
13 amendment does not include the fix we did in the  
14 Panhandle, it does not include the fix we did for  
15 the space port, it doesn't include a fix we did  
16 between Villalobos and Wasserman Schultz, it does  
17 not have the Miller and Klein number change and  
18 does not have the change we did to the change to  
19 the Senator from the 25th district.

20 MR. PRESIDENT: Further on the amendment?  
21 Senator from the 39th, for what purpose do you  
22 rise?

23 SENATOR GARCIA: Mr. Chairman -- Mr.  
24 President, a question of the rules chairman.

25 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, you are recognized,  
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1 inconsistent and would serve to wipe out all of  
2 the changes that have been made, most especially  
3 to that of the Senator from the 35th.

4 So, I would urge the members to vote against  
5 this amendment.

6 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
7 on the amendment? Senator from the 35th, for what  
8 purpose do you rise?

9 SENATOR ROSSIN: To debate the amendment,  
10 oppose it.

11 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

12 SENATOR ROSSIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

13 One of the things, and I'll speak to this later at  
14 the end of the process, but one of the things that  
15 I pledged to my home county this year and the last  
16 two or three years, is that Palm Beach County has  
17 1.2 million people. And the average number of  
18 people in each Senate district this year is  
19 399,000, or 400,000 people if you round it off.

20 That entitles Palm Beach County, yes, they  
21 deserve three resident Senators, and that's a  
22 pledge that I feel very strongly about. If  
23 anything was clear in the testimony that was given  
24 in Palm Beach County and surrounding areas, it was  
25 that one thing, Republicans, Democrats,  
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1 Senator. The Senator from the 23rd yields.

2 SENATOR GARCIA: Thank you, Mr. President.  
3 Mr. Chairman, the question that I have is, I  
4 thought we were supposed to be amending a  
5 particular plan yesterday and now we have a new  
6 plan before us. How procedurally -- what should  
7 we do at this point?

8 My point is, this amendment by the Senator  
9 from the 12th district was written to the plan  
10 that I believe was the one that you said we had to  
11 draw to and now I believe we are on a different  
12 plan that we are discussing today.

13 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th, I  
14 think, might be best to reply to that, if that's  
15 all right, Senator. Senator from the 17th is  
16 recognized.

17 SENATOR LAURENT: Each plan and each  
18 amendment that we have before us is a complete  
19 plan. And when any plan is adopted, it will  
20 replace any other plan in its totality.

21 The Senate as a body will have to decide  
22 which amendment or which plan it ultimately wants  
23 to vote for. There are, as you can see, numerous  
24 amendments. If you adopt, you know, basically,  
25 whichever is the last amendment adopted is the  
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1 plan. Some of these amendments are inconsistent  
2 with each other. I mean, I don't know how else --  
3 I mean, did I answer your issue?  
4 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 39th,  
5 further?  
6 SENATOR GARCIA: Mr. President, I think the  
7 only concern that I had is as we are trying to fix  
8 the issue of a particular Senator, in this case  
9 the Senator from the 31st district, we would try  
10 to fix her district, but the target continues to  
11 move as we move forward. And I don't know at this  
12 point how we could try to accomplish that goal.  
13 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, let me offer a comment,  
14 Senator, we're not trying to fix anyone's  
15 districts, any member of this body. We are trying  
16 to fairly and accurately represent the will of the  
17 people in this body. And this process that we are  
18 going through today is the process of drawing  
19 district lines so that that can be accomplished,  
20 and that's very important to keep in mind.  
21 This process is a complicated one, and in the  
22 final analysis, we will be able to incorporate any  
23 amendments into a final map.  
24 And, Senator, did you explain that we  
25 temporarily passed this bill at one point? Okay.  
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1 We will, at one point, temporarily pass this bill  
2 after this body has decided upon the amendments  
3 that it wants to adopt and then those amendments  
4 will be incorporated in one map that we will all  
5 have a chance to vote on.  
6 Senator from the 23rd, for what purpose do  
7 you rise?  
8 SENATOR LEE: I just want, Mr. President, for  
9 a comment regarding the question raised by the  
10 Senator from the 39th.  
11 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
12 SENATOR LEE: And I just want to correct the  
13 record, Senator. We did not instruct you or any  
14 member of the Senate to file your amendment  
15 through any particular vehicle, whether it be the  
16 committee substitute or the strike everything that  
17 Senator Laurent had filed.  
18 What we did say is we wanted a full map so  
19 that everyone knew what your amendment would do to  
20 the full state. And in Paragraph 3 of the letter  
21 we submitted -- or we presented it here in the  
22 chamber, the memorandum, we suggested that it  
23 might be easiest for the members who were filing  
24 amendments to explain those amendments if they  
25 drew them to the strike everything that was in the  
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1 computer at the time.  
2 But you are free to file whatever amendments  
3 you want as a member of the Senate to whatever  
4 vehicles are properly before the Senate when we  
5 come in, just like any other bill, Senator.  
6 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 11th, for  
7 what purpose do you rise?  
8 SENATOR COWIN: Question of the Senator from  
9 the 17th.  
10 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized and he  
11 yields, Senator.  
12 SENATOR COWIN: In going through this  
13 process, could you tell me, is there a way of  
14 incorporating, let's say, and this is an example,  
15 the recommendation of the Senator of the 12th in  
16 this Broward area, based on his comments of area  
17 of interest and all those other comments, into the  
18 other changes that you have made in the map that  
19 you said does not include those changes?  
20 SENATOR LAURENT: One of the things that we  
21 are considering is, as we go through the process,  
22 if there are amendments adopted that basically  
23 affect a very small portion of the state, that we  
24 would TP that amendment or series of amendments  
25 and then whichever amendment is adopted, if there  
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1 are some minor changes to that, what we would do  
2 would then, that the body wishes to adopt, we  
3 would then adjourn. Not adjourn, we would go into  
4 recess -- I'm sorry, I shouldn't have used the  
5 word "adjourn," for a couple of hours, put  
6 those -- try to incorporate those changes into the  
7 base map and then we would explain whatever those  
8 changes are and then the body as a whole would  
9 have to make a decision if that's what they want  
10 to do.  
11 MR. PRESIDENT: Further from the Senator from  
12 the 11th?  
13 SENATOR COWIN: Yes. If I then could ask  
14 Mr. President, if we could get a little  
15 discussion, for example, since there is some  
16 interest on the Senator from the 12th's map, if we  
17 could just get a little understanding as to what  
18 the difference is between this map and, let's say,  
19 the last map that was TP'd by the Senator for the  
20 17th, that would help us understand, I think, if  
21 there is a way of incorporating some of these  
22 changes without causing much problem to the rest  
23 of the map.  
24 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, I think you need to  
25 direct your question to the Senator from the 17th  
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1 and I'm sure he will yield to answer them. You  
2 are recognized to ask questions from the Senator  
3 from the 17th.

4 SENATOR COWIN: Okay. I guess to the Senator  
5 from the 17th then, the changes that are  
6 incorporated in this map that was proposed by the  
7 Senator from the 12th, other than the Broward  
8 changes that are down in that southeast part,  
9 could the other changes in your map still be part  
10 of this map if we adopted this final?

11 SENATOR LAURENT: Well, I want to make sure  
12 you understand. Those changes could be adopted  
13 and would affect, basically -- it would affect the  
14 Senators from the 35th's district and it would  
15 affect -- I mean, yes, it can be incorporated, it  
16 will have an impact on some other members. For  
17 example, those members from the Palm Beach area  
18 are very interested -- have agreed to, or like  
19 the -- how the Palm Beach seats are laid out in my  
20 amendment.

21 If you change this, then you change the  
22 number of Senate districts in Palm Beach that have  
23 a majority population in Palm Beach, which causes  
24 some concerns to those Senators. So, it's not an  
25 innocuous change, but it is a change that you can  
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1 incorporate any change into the map.

2 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
3 debate? Senator from the 27th -- I'm sorry,  
4 before I call on you, Senator from the 37th was up  
5 earlier, so Senator from the 37th. For what  
6 purpose do you rise?

7 SENATOR VILLALOBOS: For debate on the  
8 amendment, Mr. President.

9 MR. PRESIDENT: You're recognized, Senator.

10 SENATOR VILLALOBOS: Thank you, Mr.  
11 President. You know, members, one of the things  
12 that I think is most important about doing a plan  
13 is, again, the will of the people and making sure  
14 that communities stay intact. And the reality is  
15 that, you know, the people voted in the general  
16 election less than two years ago and there was a  
17 Senator in Palm Beach, part of Broward County  
18 that, true, if this amendment were adopted, it  
19 would affect other members, but it would also  
20 affect a particular district in Broward and a  
21 little bit of Palm Beach.

22 That the people have already spoken. I mean,  
23 the people already have said that the member  
24 that's there was obviously worthy of  
25 representation of that community. And I think if  
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1 we would support this amendment, we would be doing  
2 nothing other than supporting what the people of  
3 the area have already voted on.

4 So, I would urge your support of this  
5 amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

6 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
7 debate? Senator from the 29th, for what purpose  
8 do you rise?

9 SENATOR GELLER: I guess more to answer, to  
10 provide additional information to the Senator from  
11 the 11th.

12 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

13 SENATOR GELLER: Senator from the 11th, the  
14 problem -- and, again, I believe the Senator from  
15 the 17th commented on this, if there's an  
16 amendment that is made, for example, I'm looking  
17 at the map between the Senator from the 23rd and  
18 the Senator from the 21st, that, and that was  
19 filed as a strike everything.

20 Under the procedures, rules set forth by the  
21 Rules' Chair, that would be a separate and  
22 discrete amendment, and even though it would also  
23 qualify as a strike everything, at the conclusion  
24 of the process, we would be able to incorporate  
25 all of the amendments together because they are  
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1 not conflicting off of the base map which we are  
2 working off of, which is S22.

3 The problem with the issue raised by the  
4 Senator from the 12th, and let me be clear, I'm  
5 not dealing whatsoever with the merits of his  
6 issue or the merits that the Senator from the 37th  
7 was just commenting on the Senator from the 31st.  
8 I'm not dealing -- this does not deal with any of  
9 those merits, but procedurally, the amendment 24  
10 by Senator Laurent and myself, it deals with the  
11 same counties in a completely different way.

12 It affects the seat of the Senator from the  
13 27th, it affects the seat of the Senator from the  
14 35th. It affects the seat of the Senator from the  
15 28th. The other amendments being offered by the  
16 Senator from the 12th would also affect my seat.  
17 I believe it would affect the seat of the Senator  
18 from the 32nd.

19 So, the problem is that the change that is  
20 being made is inconsistent and completely  
21 different. Now, if the Senator from the 12th is  
22 able to get support for this, I mean, this could  
23 have been addressed but, unfortunately, doing it  
24 as an amendment to amendment 24 is simply  
25 inconsistent with that one, and because of the  
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1 inconsistency, I don't know how we can adopt that  
2 and 24.

3 And, again, if you adopt that, this amendment  
4 instead of 24, it would also wipe out all of the  
5 other amendments in 24 such as the space coast  
6 area, such as the Panhandle area, et cetera, so  
7 because of that I think that we have to vote  
8 against it.

9 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
10 on the amendment? Seeing none, Senator from the  
11 12th, you are recognized to close on the  
12 amendment.

13 SENATOR WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. President.  
14 I would like to tell everyone three things. One  
15 is that something happened to me about ten and a  
16 half years ago, it affected my family and it  
17 affected my life and it is about to happen again.

18 The second is, it was wrong ten years ago and  
19 it is wrong today.

20 And the third is, unless we adopt this  
21 amendment, it is going to happen again.

22 Ten and a half years ago, I got a call at my  
23 business office. It was from a staff person here  
24 in the capitol in the House of Representatives on  
25 the redistricting committee. And they asked me,  
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1 But then, third, it is going to happen again,  
2 and it is going to happen today unless we adopt  
3 this amendment. And I will tell you this, you may  
4 say, Well, this amendment is not -- I mean, the  
5 way it is today may not be quite the same in that  
6 the House is not out of the district, no, it is  
7 just the people move. It is the exact same  
8 principle.

9 I attended, like I said, 24 of the public  
10 hearings, there were 24. I listened to every  
11 single word spoken by every single person that  
12 came. Of the 3500 people that showed up, about  
13 1200 of them spoke. And as testified by our  
14 subcommittee Chair, Senator Laurent has done a  
15 fantastic job of listening to gripes and  
16 complaints and whatever else is out there, and I  
17 appreciate what he's done, it is an unbelievable  
18 job.

19 As he said, there are three principles, three  
20 things that were said at those public hearings,  
21 three prime -- and the primary one was protect  
22 incumbents. And I heard it over and over and over  
23 again. And this bill may do that except in one  
24 case.

25 Secondly, it said, Keep the status quo, and  
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1 We would like to know exactly where you live, we  
2 want to pinpoint it on the computer so we can  
3 begin to build your district. I naively did that  
4 for them, and identified where I lived. And she  
5 did build it all right.

6 The problem is that the district that I might  
7 be able to represent in the House was one vacant  
8 lot away from where I lived. And I will tell you,  
9 I packed up my family and we moved. I didn't want  
10 to do that, I didn't want to have to do that. And  
11 you say, Well, it was just a mistake. No, it  
12 wasn't a mistake. It was purposeful, it was  
13 willful, and it was done to me and it happened to  
14 me. And I'll tell you what, I did not like it.  
15 And it hurt.

16 You know what though, if it were you, I don't  
17 think you would like it either. If it were  
18 happening to you, I don't believe you would accept  
19 it because of just what I said, it's wrong. And  
20 you know what, it is wrong if it happens to  
21 someone else also. And you ought to feel the same  
22 way.

23 If it happened to you, think of it that way.  
24 But on the other hand, if it happens to someone  
25 else, it ought to matter just as much.

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1 this bill may do that, except in one case. And  
2 the third was, Protect the communities of  
3 interest, and this bill may do that, except in one  
4 case, the one that this amendment addresses today.

5 Every member, even though it's been said, and  
6 it's pretty hard to keep up if you've got to file  
7 your amendment at 5 and the amendment that you are  
8 fighting is at 5 also, it's very difficult.  
9 Technology can help us, but it can also be a  
10 hindrance, and in this case it was.

11 And it's not that this amendment can't be  
12 incorporated, it can. It can be incorporated with  
13 any plan, and it will not affect the outcome of  
14 any election of those affected by it, but it does  
15 if we don't adopt it. It happened before.

16 Actually, there are some members in this  
17 chamber that made it happen to me and there's some  
18 members in the chamber that fought so it wouldn't  
19 happen to me. And, you know, it was wrong and by  
20 voting yes, you can personally stop it from  
21 happening again.

22 Every one of you, your personal vote, can  
23 right this wrong. I don't speak very often and I  
24 don't ask very little -- I ask very little from  
25 this chamber or the other chamber that I used to

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1 be a member, but today I am asking. But even  
 2 more, I am appealing, I am appealing to your  
 3 conscience and I'm appealing to your good sense of  
 4 right and wrong, vote for this very good  
 5 amendment.  
 6 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 12th having  
 7 closed on the amendment, the question incurs on  
 8 the amendment. All in favor say yea. All  
 9 opposed, nay.  
 10 (Voice vote taken.)  
 11 MR. PRESIDENT: The amendment fails for  
 12 adoption. Read the next amendment. What  
 13 amendment would you like to read next, Senator?  
 14 SENATOR LAURENT: Amendment number 28.  
 15 MR. PRESIDENT: Read amendment number 28.  
 16 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 723084 by  
 17 Senators Holzendorf and Meek. Delete everything  
 18 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
 19 amendment.  
 20 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 2nd is  
 21 recognized to explain the amendment.  
 22 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Thank you, Mr.  
 23 President. Similar, I guess, to Senator Webster,  
 24 it was difficult for me to get into the computer  
 25 and I'm not a geography major so I did an entire  
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1 map.  
 2 My concern, Mr. President, and I want to  
 3 simply say that if you are looking at the maps  
 4 that are proposed today, you will see that Senate  
 5 District 2, 1, 6, whatever the numbers have been  
 6 given to that district, they are basically the  
 7 same. If you look at the statistics, they are  
 8 basically the same.  
 9 And I want to thank Senator Laurent, because  
 10 I worked for him a number of months to get that  
 11 district to look and to perform the way that it  
 12 does. And I want to simply say that he has  
 13 created a majority minority district that goes  
 14 from Duval County to Nassau County with the same  
 15 identical performance and statistical numbers as  
 16 existed in the previous district that went to  
 17 Alachua County.  
 18 So, I want to make that perfectly clear.  
 19 However, my concern with the map goes to central  
 20 Florida, and if you look in the Orlando area,  
 21 there was considerable testimony, and unlike  
 22 Senator Webster, I didn't attend all the hearings,  
 23 but I have read all of the information that's been  
 24 placed on the Internet. There was considerable  
 25 testimony regarding a need to protect and maintain  
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1 Hispanic and black communities of interest.  
 2 And so, what this map, what I was attempting  
 3 to do with this map was to put that area into the  
 4 map for the purposes of creating that district. I  
 5 think Senator Meek will probably discuss what  
 6 happened in the south Florida area relative to  
 7 this map.  
 8 But, Senators, you know, I was very moved by  
 9 the comments of Senator Webster. When I came here  
 10 ten years ago, the Senators over here told me that  
 11 I was the rabbit coming in the briar patch and  
 12 that all bars were removed and that whatever  
 13 happened to reapportionment to remember, if you  
 14 are sitting next to your sister or your brother,  
 15 that that's not your friend when you are doing  
 16 reapportionment.  
 17 Now, that was the message I got from the  
 18 Senator that was sitting over there in the corner  
 19 over there in the 7th and he was my Senator and he  
 20 traded me in the deal. So, that's why I ended up  
 21 in Alachua County, but I served that district.  
 22 And I just want to say to people that if you get  
 23 it, you will serve it, that's all that I can tell  
 24 you. You will have to, particularly if you want  
 25 to stay in this process.  
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1 So, I'm offering this map as a fairness map  
 2 to try to get the districts as compact as  
 3 possible, it has a standard deviation of 3.7,  
 4 which far exceeds the standard deviation of  
 5 Senator Laurent's map. However, we do have  
 6 contiguous districts and we did attempt very hard  
 7 to do communities of interest and provide the  
 8 kinds of districts that reapportions the state of  
 9 Florida.  
 10 MR. PRESIDENT: Further on the amendment?  
 11 Senator from the 17th recognized on the amendment.  
 12 SENATOR LAURENT: Senator Holzendorf, do you  
 13 want to withdraw your amendment or do you want to  
 14 debate it? Okay.  
 15 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 36th is  
 16 recognized to debate the amendment.  
 17 SENATOR MEEK: Yes. Mr. President, I think  
 18 it's important as it relates to this amendment,  
 19 and I just want to share with the members some of  
 20 my comments here.  
 21 We believe that in this fairness map that's  
 22 being presented today in this amendment, it is a  
 23 fair proposal. It was drawn to utilize the  
 24 legally-accepted redistricting criteria. The  
 25 proposed amendment is also respectful of the  
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1 public hearings and testimonies that were  
 2 feasible, protective of incumbents and incumbents'  
 3 interests and minority voting rights.  
 4 The plan also attempts to protect communities  
 5 of interest and keep counties and cities whole to  
 6 the further extent possible. The proposed  
 7 amendment also looks at the state's registered  
 8 voters, which is partially split evenly.  
 9 Also, the plan -- the plan also develops --  
 10 in this plan, it develops a fairness for  
 11 minorities based on furthermore -- I mean, to  
 12 further the proposed plan that creates the  
 13 following districts. There are four majority,  
 14 total population, non-Hispanic, African-American  
 15 districts: District 2 at 49.61, District 21 at  
 16 40.8, District 30 at 61.7 and 36 at 63.8.  
 17 The plan creates four total majority -- I  
 18 mean, four total majority population Hispanic  
 19 districts. Those districts are 34, District 34's  
 20 percentage is 72.5; District 37, 78.5; District  
 21 39, 77.1; and District 40 at 34.6.  
 22 The plan also creates two Hispanic and black  
 23 access seats. Access seats that have been  
 24 traditionally defined as districts with voting age  
 25 populations of over 30 percent. These are  
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1 District 14, which has a black voting age  
 2 population of 32.9; and District 38, which has a  
 3 Hispanic population of 35.3.  
 4 Politically fair, this map is. It creates 20  
 5 majority Democratic districts and 20 majority  
 6 Republican districts. According to the Bush/Gore  
 7 version -- I mean, Bush versus Gore election,  
 8 these districts would elect 23 Republicans and 17  
 9 Democrats.  
 10 Also, Mr. President, this past summer, the  
 11 joint committee of Senate and House members  
 12 traveled throughout the state and held public  
 13 hearings on the reapportionment and redistricting.  
 14 There were 24 in all; however, many of these  
 15 public hearings were held at times and locations  
 16 that did not provide the greatest participation by  
 17 our state that -- state's diverse population.  
 18 Many of these meetings were held during  
 19 working hours and in locations that were not very  
 20 accessible to many of our diverse citizenry. For  
 21 example, there was no public hearings in St.  
 22 Petersburg, which is one of the largest cities in  
 23 Florida, and has a significant African-American,  
 24 Hispanic population.  
 25 Although many of our citizens were unable to  
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1 participate in the public hearing process, those  
 2 that were able to attend and testify provided the  
 3 committee with input that should be considered and  
 4 where feasible -- that are feasible to implement  
 5 in the plans, that we should adopt them.  
 6 I attended many of the public hearings. I  
 7 also reviewed testimony of the public hearings.  
 8 And if I may add, Mr. President, the testimony  
 9 included the following: In the Panhandle, the  
 10 hearing, the testimony indicated that residents of  
 11 Gulf and Franklin Counties and Calhoun County, and  
 12 Liberty County wanted to keep themselves together.  
 13 In Gadsden County, Leon County wanted to keep  
 14 the whole in one district. There was also  
 15 testimony concerning bringing District 3 eastward  
 16 out of Panama City, and overall, the citizens in  
 17 the Panhandle did not want their counties  
 18 unnecessarily split.  
 19 The fairness map is respectful of all the  
 20 testimony. The testimony that -- the fairness map  
 21 is respectful to these -- to the testimony than  
 22 the Laurent map, the fairness map than the Laurent  
 23 map. The fairness map does not split Leon County  
 24 and Bay County, while the Laurent map splits Leon  
 25 County. The Laurent map also splits Bay County  
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1 into three districts.  
 2 In north Florida, the hearing testimony  
 3 indicated that residents in Wakulla, Putnam and  
 4 Alachua Counties did not want their counties  
 5 split. Public testimony was they did not want  
 6 Citrus County, Levy County, and Sumter County  
 7 divided.  
 8 There was also testimony concerning keeping  
 9 Crystal River intact. The fairness map abides by  
 10 the testimony provided to the committee for north  
 11 Florida, Wakulla, Alachua, Citrus, Levy is kept  
 12 intact. Citrus is the only one that is split  
 13 between two, Districts 2 and 5.  
 14 The Laurent map splits between two districts.  
 15 It also splits Marion between districts, it also  
 16 splits Citrus County. In central Florida, the  
 17 hearing was held after working hours as well and  
 18 was well attended. There was a considerable  
 19 amount of testimony regarding the need to protect  
 20 a mountain -- a mountain of the Hispanic and  
 21 black -- the mounting of Hispanic and black  
 22 communities.  
 23 The fairness map keeps attempting to keep the  
 24 Hispanic and African-American communities intact  
 25 in Senate District 14. In southeast Florida, the  
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1 public hearing was uniform in their request to  
 2 have St. Lucie County represented by one Senator.  
 3 The fairness map keeps it intact into one  
 4 district, District 27.  
 5 The public -- the public also requested that  
 6 Indian River be kept in one district. The  
 7 fairness map keeps Indian River in one district,  
 8 District 15.  
 9 In southwest Florida there was overwhelming,  
 10 unanimous testimony concerning not linking  
 11 southwest Florida with southeast Florida. The  
 12 residents of Charlotte, Lee, Collier, and one  
 13 region -- into one region.  
 14 The Laurent map ignores the citizens'  
 15 testimony and creates a stretch from east to west.  
 16 These districts are eventually devoid of  
 17 community's interest and I think it's important,  
 18 Mr. President, that the members put the fairness  
 19 map into -- into this overall bill.  
 20 I think it's important, I think it's very  
 21 fair for the people of the state of Florida; it is  
 22 respectful of the testimony that we speak so  
 23 highly of in this chamber. I think also, as it  
 24 relates to our public input, and we talked about  
 25 process the other day in committee, that we let  
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1 the people of Florida know that we take their  
 2 comments and concerns to the utmost and that we  
 3 are willing to follow out their will and also have  
 4 a politically fair and also a -- within a state  
 5 where we have Democrat and Republican registers.  
 6 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
 7 debate on the amendment? Senator from the 29th,  
 8 for what purpose do you rise?  
 9 SENATOR GELLER: Debate on the amendment, Mr.  
 10 President.  
 11 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
 12 SENATOR GELLER: Mr. President, I reluctantly  
 13 have to rise to speak against the amendment. The  
 14 Senator from the 2nd and the Senator from the 36th  
 15 have both agreed to accept an amendment of mine to  
 16 their map which would eliminate my concerns with  
 17 their map. Unfortunately, because of technical  
 18 reasons, which we will get into momentarily in my  
 19 map, that amendment has not yet been made.  
 20 So, let me explain the effect of their map  
 21 on, again, speaking parochially, Broward County,  
 22 without that amendment. Currently, the district  
 23 that I have been honored by my constituents to  
 24 represent, as you can see up there -- Lennie, if  
 25 you can move that down just a little so they can  
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1 see the northern portion of it. Thank you, that's  
 2 good.  
 3 There are two problems, reasons. Again,  
 4 speaking for the constituents currently of Senate  
 5 seat 29. Number one, if you look at that, you  
 6 will see that the southern portion of the district  
 7 connects to the northern portion of the district  
 8 only by airboat. It connects through the  
 9 Everglades where there are no roads connecting the  
 10 southern and the northern portion.  
 11 In order to get from the southern to the  
 12 northern by car you have to drive through Senator  
 13 Dawson's district, Senator Sanderson's district,  
 14 Senator Campbell's district, Senator Klein's  
 15 district.  
 16 Additionally, that does put the city of  
 17 Hallandale into a Dade County based seat, and the  
 18 city of Hallandale has passed a resolution  
 19 opposing that. And there are other letters in the  
 20 record from elected officials.  
 21 Now, I do want to thank the Senator from  
 22 the -- Senator from the 2nd and the Senator from  
 23 the 36th, they have agreed to change those. And  
 24 once those changes are made, I would then be able  
 25 to support the map, but until those changes are  
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1 made, I'm not currently able to support the map.  
 2 Thank you, Mr. President.  
 3 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate?  
 4 Senator from the 32nd, for what purpose do you  
 5 rise?  
 6 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: For the  
 7 amendment, Mr. President.  
 8 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized.  
 9 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: Thank you,  
 10 Mr. President. If I could draw your attention,  
 11 Senators, to Broward County in this proposal, and  
 12 District 32. While I have great respect for the  
 13 Senator from the 29th, I do differ with him  
 14 somewhat on the integrity of this map,  
 15 particularly as it relates to the comparison to  
 16 the Laurent, the Laurent proposal that we have had  
 17 on the floor today.  
 18 If you look at Senate District 32 under the  
 19 Senator from the 2nd's proposal, Senator from 32,  
 20 as I said in committee, right now, has 119,000 too  
 21 many people. And there are many ways -- it is the  
 22 biggest district in the state, it is the one that  
 23 I represent. And there are many ways that you can  
 24 change District 32. There is the way that it's  
 25 been done by the Senator from the 17th in his  
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1 proposal and then there's this way.  
 2 In this way it preserves the integrity almost  
 3 entirely of the existing districts, instead of  
 4 reconfiguring it completely and making it look  
 5 fairly odd, in fact it nibbles around the edges of  
 6 that district, so essentially the main body of  
 7 that district is kept intact.  
 8 The people that live in that district will  
 9 have continued familiarity with the person that  
 10 represents them, with the member of the Senate  
 11 that they have elected. There's far more  
 12 confusion when you reconfigure districts so  
 13 drastically and make it so that people don't  
 14 understand who it is that represents them.  
 15 That is a big part of the reapportionment  
 16 process, I believe. And Senator from the 2nd's  
 17 proposal does that more consistently across the  
 18 board, particularly as it relates to Senate  
 19 District 32, comparatively, to the Laurent, excus  
 20 eme, to the Senator from the 17th's proposal.  
 21 But, across the board, if you looked at  
 22 district-by-district comparisons, preserving the  
 23 integrity of existing districts and communities of  
 24 interest and compactness so that people are  
 25 familiar with the person who represents them.  
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1 That is, after all, what it is that they wanted us  
 2 to do and be able to do and it is an important  
 3 part of this process. So that's why I would urge  
 4 you to support this amendment from the Senator  
 5 from the 2nd.  
 6 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
 7 on the amendment? Senator from the 40th, for what  
 8 purpose do you rise?  
 9 SENATOR JONES: In support of the amendment,  
 10 Mr. President.  
 11 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, senator.  
 12 SENATOR JONES: As far as Senate District 40  
 13 is concerned, this is the best map of the day.  
 14 Senate District 40 is in Dade and Monroe  
 15 Counties -- and the reason is because Senate  
 16 District 40 currently is in Dade and Monroe  
 17 Counties. And this map keeps Senate District 40  
 18 in Dade and Monroe Counties.  
 19 Senate District 40 is the longest district in  
 20 the state. It takes me four hours to drive from  
 21 one end, from the north end, down to the southern  
 22 end to Key West. Under Senator Laurent's map, and  
 23 I'll reiterate this when we get to it again and we  
 24 are on the map as amended, it expands to District  
 25 40 to include four more counties. It also  
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1 includes Broward, Palm Beach, Collier, and all of  
 2 Hendry Counties. And it is going to take  
 3 somewhere, because of the roads that you have to  
 4 travel, about 5 and a half to 6 hours to go from  
 5 one end of that county to the other, that district  
 6 to the other.  
 7 If I were the State Senator coming back to  
 8 represent the district in Senator Laurent's map,  
 9 you would see me on top of my desk stomping and  
 10 screaming because it's already tough enough to get  
 11 from one end to the other now, and the district in  
 12 Senator Laurent's map makes it not only the  
 13 longest district in the state by far but also the  
 14 largest geographical district in the state as  
 15 well.  
 16 And while I think it is an honor to represent  
 17 the most, the largest portion of the state of  
 18 Florida, I would also think it's not realistic to  
 19 have excellent representation for the people in  
 20 Hendry County, which I think they so fervently  
 21 deserve.  
 22 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion or debate  
 23 on the amendment? Senator from the 28th, for what  
 24 purpose do you rise?  
 25 SENATOR KLEIN: To comment on the amendment.  
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1 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
 2 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I  
 3 would also like to rise in support of the  
 4 amendment in particular because of the areas that  
 5 I'm most familiar with, which is the Palm Beach  
 6 County area and Lake Okeechobee.  
 7 The Palm Beach County area in District 28,  
 8 the area I represent, it certainly meets the  
 9 standards that we all know are case law standards  
 10 that require contiguity, compactness and  
 11 communities of interest. Particularly, in  
 12 District 28, which is mostly senior citizens and  
 13 working families, it ties them all together in a  
 14 very compact area.  
 15 Also, District -- Senator Rossin's current  
 16 district, 35, also becomes a district that ties  
 17 together the cities and areas of West Palm Beach  
 18 together with the communities of the agriculture,  
 19 also part of Palm Beach County, and then work  
 20 around the lake in a way that ties together nicely  
 21 folks that have interests in water issues and  
 22 agricultural issues as opposed to a district under  
 23 the amendment number 24, Senator Laurent's, which  
 24 takes the proposed District 39 from Key West all  
 25 the way up into the Broward, Palm Beach area,  
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1 picks up Belle Glades and South Bay, which would  
 2 end up having a representative that is probably  
 3 from south Miami.  
 4 Not that that person would not be a good  
 5 Senator, but in terms of the communities of  
 6 interest, I think that they are extremely divided.  
 7 So, I think this map does take into account  
 8 the interests of Palm Beach County by having  
 9 compact districts and interests of communities of  
 10 interest relating to agriculture and water  
 11 interests.  
 12 In Senator Rossin's district and in my area  
 13 it also take into account interests of senior  
 14 citizens and people interested in education and  
 15 large urban areas. So, I would rise in support of  
 16 the amendment.  
 17 MR. PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. Further  
 18 discussion, further debate? Senator from the  
 19 17th, you are recognized.  
 20 SENATOR LAURENT: Thank you, Mr. President.  
 21 I would ask that this amendment not be adopted.  
 22 And I would ask the members, you know, this is one  
 23 of those things that you ought to pay attention.  
 24 This amendment is dramatically different than what  
 25 we have been discussing through the process, and I  
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1 would suggest that you look through the books and  
 2 see how this amendment impacts your local  
 3 communities and your constituents, and I would  
 4 recommend a no vote.  
 5 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
 6 debate? Senator from the 36th, do you wish to  
 7 close or do you want the --  
 8 SENATOR MEEK: I just want to address a few  
 9 concerns and then I'm going to turn it over to the  
 10 Senator from the 2nd, but I understand that  
 11 another Senator wants to say --  
 12 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, why don't you go ahead,  
 13 Senator. I'll recognize you and then I'll  
 14 recognize the Senator from the 8th and then I'll  
 15 recognize the Senator from the 2nd to close.  
 16 So, the Senator from the 36th, you are  
 17 recognized.  
 18 SENATOR MEEK: Thank you, Mr. President. I  
 19 want to just quickly, to the members, address one  
 20 of the issues that the Senator from the 29th  
 21 brought out in his unreadiness as it relates to  
 22 this amendment, to this legislative  
 23 reapportionment map, or Senate reapportionment  
 24 map.  
 25 We had that information and we couldn't, we  
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1 couldn't actually get into it due to the 5 o'clock  
 2 deadline, so, you know, Senator from the 29th,  
 3 we're respectful and understand exactly what you  
 4 want to do, and we want to do it. It's just the  
 5 fact that we had a 5 o'clock deadline, there were  
 6 a lot of issues that were going on and we couldn't  
 7 fit it into the map to meet the deadline. I just  
 8 want to first put, say, put that on the record.  
 9 The second thing I think is important,  
 10 members, this map brings about the very  
 11 representation that we provide to the citizens of  
 12 the state of Florida. As you heard in my earlier  
 13 comments, I talked about public testimony. I  
 14 mean, there was a reason why we went through that  
 15 process, to hear from the public.  
 16 I think to not only in the light of being  
 17 respectful, but carrying out the will of the  
 18 people of the state of Florida and also being  
 19 respective to the people that are in this chamber,  
 20 incumbents, I think is very, very important and is  
 21 reflective in this amendment.  
 22 I think what we are looking at here, in all  
 23 due respect to our Chair that's worked very, very  
 24 hard on helping to put together a map that  
 25 hopefully and possibly in the future to try to  
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1 reflect the will of those individuals, this map  
 2 truly, based on what the people of Florida has  
 3 said, based on the fact of using the principles of  
 4 redistricting, reflects that to the utmost.  
 5 This is not a 50 percent or 80 percent, or  
 6 what have you, work product. This is a 100  
 7 percent work product. And I think that it's  
 8 important that you take it into strong  
 9 consideration, this amendment. And I urge you,  
 10 members, to please vote up this amendment and make  
 11 it a part of our Senate redistricting plan, to be  
 12 able to, not only be legally where we need to be,  
 13 but carrying out the will of the people of the  
 14 state of Florida, and I think that's something  
 15 that we should hold up to the utmost.  
 16 Thank you very much, Mr. President, for the  
 17 opportunity.  
 18 MR. PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. Further  
 19 discussion, further debate? Senator from the 8th,  
 20 for what reason do you rise?  
 21 SENATOR KING: To discuss the amendment, Mr.  
 22 President.  
 23 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
 24 SENATOR KING: Members, I want you to pay a  
 25 little bit of attention here because, you know,  
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1 quite frankly, this amendment when it was first  
2 offered most of us thought that it was going to be  
3 withdrawn, and so, consequently, we haven't gone  
4 through all of the balancing of the demographics  
5 as well as the numbers.

6 I was somewhat surprised to see that it was  
7 not withdrawn. And even the early stages of,  
8 while we were evaluating the aspects of the  
9 amendment, showed that it did some pretty  
10 draconian things that we were kind of concerned  
11 about and would have gone to the sponsor, but we  
12 thought that it was going to be withdrawn.

13 I would hope that we can vote down this  
14 amendment because I do think it has the ability to  
15 really skew what we had tried to keep in  
16 perspective on the other maps that have been drawn  
17 and the other amendments that are before you.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
20 debate on the amendment? Senator from the 2nd is  
21 recognized to close on the amendment.

22 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Mr. President, this is  
23 reapportionment and I am a seasoned veteran, so I  
24 just would like to call for a vote.

25 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 2nd having  
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1 to do that.

2 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, Senator, I didn't see  
3 five hands, I'll take you at your word. I saw  
4 your hand, I saw the Senator from the 39th's hand,  
5 the Senator from the 37th's hand, the Senator from  
6 the 31st. But I didn't see five. But I will be  
7 happy to take you at your word because I know --  
8 you were perhaps obscured by the Senator from the  
9 17th standing here. So, do you have a motion,  
10 Senator?

11 SENATOR WEBSTER: No, Mr. President.  
12 Usually, if there's a call for a vote, and if  
13 there's a voice vote and if that fails or passes  
14 based on your hearing, and there's five hands,  
15 then the next thing you do is, if you raise those  
16 five hands, is to open the board and allow that to  
17 take place.

18 Sometimes, I believe the process is made so  
19 that the benefit goes to the one that's the  
20 presenter of an amendment or a bill in that that's  
21 why they get -- I think that's why the rules allow  
22 them to close after everyone has spoken, and then,  
23 the vote is taken immediately, I think, at least  
24 to give them full advantage of passing their  
25 particular amendment or bill.

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1 closed on the amendment, the question occurs on  
2 the amendment. All in favor of the amendment,  
3 signify by saying yea. All opposed, nay.

4 (Voice vote taken.)

5 MR. PRESIDENT: The amendment fails adoption.  
6 Okay. What amendment would you like to read next?  
7 Read amendment number 30, please.

8 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 750120 by  
9 Senator Posey. Delete everything after the  
10 resolving clause and insert lengthy amendment.

11 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 15th is  
12 recognized to explain the amendment. Senator  
13 Posey, you are recognized to explain your  
14 amendment.

15 SENATOR POSEY: Thank you, Mr. President, I  
16 would like to withdraw the amendment.

17 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment withdrawn.  
18 Senator from the 12th, for what purpose do you  
19 rise?

20 SENATOR WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. President.  
21 On an issue that we had, which was an amendment,  
22 that was actually, the Senate number's S12S0027,  
23 that I offered and closed on, there were more than  
24 five hands up to have that a board vote and that  
25 didn't take place, and so we would like to be able  
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1 And that moment is somewhat gone, but I think  
2 just the moment is; we would vote.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, Senator, the  
4 amendment's already been ruled as failed for  
5 adoption.

6 SENATOR WEBSTER: Yes, and that's what --  
7 MR. PRESIDENT: So, Senator, the motion you  
8 need to make if you wish to go back to the issue  
9 is a motion to reconsider.

10 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Do you -- well, let me  
11 just inquire of the Chair. You make a call every  
12 time there's a voice vote. And then if there's  
13 five hands, I don't think the Constitution says,  
14 When you see those five hands, it just says, If  
15 there's a showing of five hands, then we would  
16 vote again to see if that was actually the proper  
17 call.

18 I don't know what motion I would make to --  
19 because that seems to me the proper call.

20 MR. PRESIDENT: Well, Senator, if you took  
21 your suggestion to the extreme, that could mean  
22 five hands could pop up over an extended period of  
23 time, say, in a 6 to 8-day period of discussion,  
24 and then once somebody said, Well, there were  
25 really five hands, then you would have to go back

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1 to potentially every single vote that this chamber  
2 had.

3 What we can do, and the Secretary informs me  
4 to be procedurally correct, and I know that you  
5 respect the rules as much as I do, and I didn't  
6 see five hands. And that is, you can make a  
7 motion to reconsider, which is what the Secretary  
8 tells me we have to do.

9 I think everybody in this body understands  
10 your passionate feeling for this issue, and your  
11 words are still in our memory, so I don't think  
12 that even though this debate, motion, if you make  
13 it, is not debatable, I don't believe that folks  
14 would forget your position.

15 So, if you wish to make that motion, you may.  
16 Senator from the -- I certainly don't want to  
17 violate our rules. Senator from the 5th, for what  
18 purpose do you rise?

19 SENATOR SMITH: Mr. President, in light of  
20 this dispute, but in light of what I believe the  
21 Chair is -- I know that I was on what I believe to  
22 be the prevailing side and I move to reconsider.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: It doesn't matter whether you  
24 were prevailing or not, it's a voice vote,  
25 Senator, but if you wish to make that motion, you  
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1 MR. PRESIDENT: Motion to reconsider is  
2 adopted.

3 So, we are now back on the amendment. Read  
4 the amendment.

5 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 804098 by  
6 Senator Webster. Delete everything after the  
7 resolving clause and insert lengthy amendment.

8 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 12th, may I  
9 suggest that you reclose on the amendment? We can  
10 have the additional -- I want to extend whatever  
11 courtesies you think are appropriate. We -- you  
12 can just reclose or we can have entire debate  
13 again. What would you like to do?

14 CHAIRMAN WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. President,  
15 I could just close.

16 MR. PRESIDENT: All right. Senator from the  
17 23rd, for what purpose do you rise?

18 SENATOR LEE: For a question to clarify  
19 exactly where we are at, Mr. President.

20 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

21 SENATOR LEE: We are now on the amendment  
22 that failed earlier by a voice vote by the Senator  
23 from the 12th, that the subcommittee Chair spoke  
24 against. We've now moved to reconsider and he's  
25 closing on that amendment, correct?

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1 may. Do you make a motion?

2 SENATOR SMITH: Yes.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 5th has  
4 moved to reconsider a vote by which the amendment  
5 -- what is the amendment, Madam Secretary? The  
6 Senator from the 5th moves that we reconsider the  
7 vote by which amendment number 1, which is bar  
8 code 804098 passed.

9 All in favor of that motion, say yea. All  
10 opposed, nay.

11 (Voice vote taken.)

12 MR. PRESIDENT: Motion passes. We are now  
13 back on the amendment, by which it failed, I'm  
14 sorry.

15 All right. Let me restate that correctly.

16 Pardon me, may I have the -- new territory all of  
17 the time.

18 Senator from the 5th moves that we reconsider  
19 the vote by which amendment number 1, which has  
20 bar code 804098, failed of adoption. All those  
21 that wish to reconsider would vote, yes, all those  
22 that don't wish to reconsider would vote, no.

23 All of those in favor of reconsideration, say  
24 yea. All opposed, nay.

25 (Voice vote taken.)

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1 MR. PRESIDENT: That's correct, unless -- I'd  
2 want to make sure that everybody gets a chance to  
3 speak that wants to speak. So, if you wish to  
4 speak, Senator, and if anyone wishes -- well, let  
5 me do it this way.

6 Who would like to speak on this amendment? I  
7 see no one, therefore, Senator from the 12th, you  
8 are recognized to close on the amendment.

9 SENATOR WEBSTER: Thank you, Mr. President.

10 Like I said earlier in the illustration I used, it  
11 did happen to me before. And I know there's a lot  
12 of questions about process and about other areas  
13 of the state and does this amendment affect that.

14 You can say yes, but I say no, because I  
15 believe all of those changes, the changes in the  
16 District 27 that's in the plan now and other  
17 things that were part of maybe another  
18 consideration or another agreement to vote for or  
19 against the bill, those could all be incorporated;  
20 this amendment doesn't do that.

21 It just rights a wrong. It was wrong ten  
22 years ago, it is wrong today. And by voting for  
23 this, as I said before, you can personally -- you  
24 can personally make it right, you can personally  
25 correct that wrong.

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1 And again, I would make that same appeal to  
2 your conscience and appeal to your good sense of  
3 right and wrong. And I would ask you to support  
4 what I believe to be a very good amendment, well  
5 intentioned and not meaning any harm to any other  
6 district.

7 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 12th having  
8 closed on the amendment, all in favor of the  
9 amendment, signify by saying yea. All opposed,  
10 nay.

11 (Voice vote taken.)

12 MR. PRESIDENT: Amendment fails of adoption.

13 Do I see five hands? One, two, three, four,  
14 five, six, seven hands. The Secretary will unlock  
15 the machine and members will prepare to vote.  
16 Have all members voted? Secretary, lock the  
17 machine and record the vote.

18 THE READING CLERK: Seven yeas, 32 nays, Mr.  
19 President.

20 MR. PRESIDENT: So, the amendment fails of  
21 adoption. Senator from the 17th, what amendment  
22 would you like read next?

23 SENATOR LAURENT: Amendment number 31.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: Okay. And because sometimes,  
25 particularly in the far left side or the far right

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1 side, I can't see hands, if anyone really wants a  
2 vote, make sure you stick up your hands high.  
3 Read amendment number 31.

4 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 400478 by  
5 Senator Diaz de la Portilla. Delete everything  
6 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
7 amendment.

8 MR. PRESIDENT: The Senator from the 34th is  
9 recognized to explain the amendment.

10 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Thank you, Mr.  
11 President. Senators, I think the Senator from the  
12 17th, actually this is an entire map of the state,  
13 so, we only tweak a little part of Dade County,  
14 the Senator from the 36th and the Senator from the  
15 30th is impacted by these minor changes that we  
16 made. They have both agreed to them.

17 So, we are in agreement that we need to fix  
18 those three districts and just tweak them a bit.

19 The actual amendment includes the entire state.  
20 So, I think that when the Senator explains his  
21 other amendment we will be able to give you more  
22 detail of exactly what we are doing across the  
23 state.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: Is there debate or discussion  
25 on the amendment? Senator from the 40th, for what

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1 purpose do you rise?

2 SENATOR JONES: For discussion on the  
3 amendment, Mr. President.

4 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

5 SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, I just wanted  
6 to let the members know, to clarify my position on  
7 the amendment, the amendment doesn't change the  
8 district at all with respect to access. In fact,  
9 it probably even enhances it. But I still would  
10 like to register my same concern about the  
11 district being such an expansive one.

12 It will be the largest geographical and  
13 longest district to travel and, right now, it  
14 has -- right, and it has -- the district was  
15 already a very diverse one in the past in that it  
16 had Deering Estates and Overtown and Key West, but  
17 it also now has got Hendry County, as well and  
18 parts of Palm Beach County and Collier County and  
19 Broward County, although there's no population  
20 from Broward.

21 And it's going to be a very difficult  
22 district for the next Senator to represent. And  
23 so, I just wanted to register that concern, Mr.  
24 President, to the members.

25 MR. PRESIDENT: Discussion or debate on the  
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1 amendment? Senator from the 36th, for what  
2 purpose do you rise?

3 SENATOR MEEK: Mr. President, on the  
4 amendment.

5 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

6 SENATOR MEEK: As it relates to the change  
7 that this amendment brings about, it was shown to  
8 me, I just want it on the record, I'm not in  
9 support of the overall map, as you know, with my  
10 amendment.

11 But what this Senator is doing, I just don't  
12 want it to be on the record as though I love and  
13 am willing to do everything in my power to make  
14 sure that this amendment -- if it's the will of  
15 the body, go ahead and do it, I just wanted to be  
16 able to say that to my good friend and Chairman.

17 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th is  
18 recognized to speak on the amendment.

19 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes, this amendment is  
20 drawn to the Laurent/Geller amendment, which has  
21 all of the changes that we had previously  
22 discussed. If it were adopted, it would not -- it  
23 would not harm the plan. It does include the  
24 Panhandle, the space port, the Villalobos, the  
25 numbers -- I'm sorry, I keep using the name, sir,

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1 the change in Dade involving District number 37,  
 2 it does have a number change for the Senators from  
 3 the 21st and the 28th, and it does have the  
 4 changes to the Senator from the 35th.  
 5 I had staff check the amendment and the only  
 6 changes are the changes as represented on the  
 7 floor. And I had instructed the Senator from the  
 8 34th to make sure that the other two Senators that  
 9 were affected agreed to the changes, and I have no  
 10 objection to the amendment being adopted. We  
 11 should probably TP it though, right?  
 12 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 34th, for  
 13 what do you rise?  
 14 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Just for a few  
 15 points, Mr. President, on the amendment. Just to  
 16 make a few points on the amendment --  
 17 MR. PRESIDENT: You're recognized.  
 18 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: -- to emphasize  
 19 some of the things that Senator Laurent said.  
 20 Thank you, Mr. President. Senators, I want you to  
 21 make sure you understand, the Chairman of the  
 22 committee is in agreement with this amendment.  
 23 It really only impacts -- since the amendment  
 24 had to be a complete map, statewide, it  
 25 incorporates all of the changes agreed to in the  
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1 last two or three days. It also tweaks a little  
 2 bit Senate District 34, Senate District 36, and  
 3 Senate District 40. All three Senators are in  
 4 agreement with these changes.  
 5 Finally, I would like to say that it is a  
 6 good amendment, it's good for our community, it  
 7 puts together communities of interest, and what we  
 8 need to understand that Senator Meek will not have  
 9 to learn how to salsa as a result of this  
 10 particular amendment.  
 11 We will keep good communities of interest  
 12 together and we will put some good communities of  
 13 interest back in Miami.  
 14 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 8th, for  
 15 what purpose do you rise?  
 16 SENATOR KING: Mr. President, I was going to  
 17 make some comments, but if that was a close, I --  
 18 MR. PRESIDENT: I didn't recognize him to  
 19 close, Senator.  
 20 SENATOR KING: That's fine, thank you.  
 21 Senators, for the record, at the direction of the  
 22 Chairman, I met with the Senator from the 34th,  
 23 the Senator from the 40th, and the Senator from  
 24 the 36th, and we went over what those changes  
 25 were. The Senator from the 40th and the Senator  
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1 from the 36th agreed to those changes, we were not  
 2 egregious to what their intents were.  
 3 I then met with the staff and the counsel of  
 4 the committee and was told that the changes that  
 5 were being made were within keeping of the -- of  
 6 the numbers that they had already previously  
 7 agreed to.  
 8 So, I don't want anybody to think that the  
 9 people who were involved did not know the changes  
 10 were occurring and did not themselves agree to  
 11 those changes.  
 12 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 29th, for  
 13 what purpose do you rise?  
 14 SENATOR GELLER: Question of the Senator from  
 15 the 37th.  
 16 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized. Of the  
 17 37th?  
 18 SENATOR GELLER: Oh, I'm sorry, wrong Alex.  
 19 The Senator from the 34th.  
 20 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized and he  
 21 yields, Senator.  
 22 SENATOR GELLER: Thank you, Mr. President.  
 23 Senator from the 34th, why do you think that the  
 24 Senator from the 36th can't salsa now?  
 25 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized.  
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1 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Well, I have  
 2 seen him dance and he really doesn't have much  
 3 rhythm from what I've seen, so it would be rather  
 4 difficult to have him learn how to salsa, it's a  
 5 very complicated dance. I know you know how to do  
 6 it especially after what -- what your new district  
 7 looks like though.  
 8 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
 9 debate? Senator from the 34th is recognized to  
 10 close on the amendment.  
 11 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Mr. President,  
 12 Senators, the Senator from the 17th has informed  
 13 me we need to TP this amendment so we can take up  
 14 his -- he can explain his amendment, which is  
 15 statewide, and then bring it back up and adopt my  
 16 amendment after we adopt his.  
 17 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment  
 18 temporarily passed. Thank you, Senator.  
 19 Senators, there are two more amendments and the  
 20 Senator from the 23rd moves that we extend the  
 21 hour of recess until completion of debate on those  
 22 two amendments. With that adoption, show that  
 23 motion passing. Which amendment would you like to  
 24 read next, Senator?  
 25 SENATOR LAURENT: My number is number 29.  
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1 MR. PRESIDENT: Read amendment number 29.  
 2 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 560584 by  
 3 Senator Geller. Delete everything after the  
 4 resolving clause and insert lengthy amendment.

5 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 29th is  
 6 recognized to explain the amendment.

7 SENATOR GELLER: Thank you, Mr. President.  
 8 Mr. President, this is the amendment that would  
 9 have been an amendment to amendment 28 that  
 10 Senator Holzendorf and Senator Meek agreed to  
 11 accept.

12 There was an error on the part of the staff  
 13 here where I submitted a map in a timely fashion,  
 14 with two maps on one disk, and instead, staff  
 15 produced two copies of the same map and did not  
 16 submit the correct -- the correct map even though  
 17 it was filed timely by me.

18 In an effort not to gum up any of the works,  
 19 after I briefly explained it, I'm going to  
 20 withdraw this and reoffer it on third reading  
 21 because it wasn't going to pass on second reading,  
 22 it's not going to pass on third reading. All that  
 23 this amendment would do is solve the changes to  
 24 the Holzendorf/Meek map that both of them have  
 25 already agreed to accept.

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1 SENATOR LAURENT: Number 33.

2 MR. PRESIDENT: Read amendment number 33.

3 SENATOR LAURENT: I believe amendment 33 has  
 4 been withdrawn.

5 MR. PRESIDENT: All right. Amendment 33 has  
 6 been previously withdrawn. Could you please tell  
 7 me which amendment you would like us to read next,  
 8 Senator.

9 SENATOR LAURENT: I would like to go back to  
 10 amendment number 31, which was the amendment filed  
 11 by the Senator from the 34th, which is the  
 12 amendment that I have previously explained and  
 13 that the Senator from the 29th and I crafted.

14 MR. PRESIDENT: So, we would like to read  
 15 amendment number 34, correct-- 31, I'm sorry.  
 16 Read amendment number 31.

17 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 400478 by  
 18 Senator Diaz de la Portilla. Delete everything  
 19 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
 20 amendment.

21 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 34th is  
 22 recognized to explain the amendment.

23 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Thank you, Mr.  
 24 President. Senators, this is the amendment that I  
 25 previously explained and that Senator Laurent had  
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1 However, as I said, since it would not be  
 2 fair to the members to ask them to vote on a map  
 3 that nobody else has seen because of a staff  
 4 error, at this point in time, Mr. President, I  
 5 will be withdrawing the amendment. I will be  
 6 reoffering it on third reading, where it'll be  
 7 voted down, but I did just want to point out that  
 8 it was timely filed and it was an error on the  
 9 part of staff, not on my part.

10 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 29th, I was  
 11 distracted; you withdrew the amendment?

12 SENATOR GELLER: Yes, sir.

13 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment withdrawn.  
 14 What is next? Read amendment number 32.

15 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 562874 by  
 16 Senators Laurent and Geller. Delete everything  
 17 after the resolving clause and insert lengthy  
 18 amendment.

19 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th is  
 20 recognized to explain the amendment.

21 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes, we will withdraw this  
 22 amendment.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the amendment withdrawn.  
 24 Which amendment would you like to read next,  
 25 Senator?

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1 explained.

2 I do, Mr. President, Senators, want to take a  
 3 brief opportunity to thank Dawn Roberts and Lennie  
 4 Zeiler from the reapportionment staff who put up  
 5 with me over the last ten days and weekends and  
 6 everything working on these maps, and they worked  
 7 very, very hard and I want to commend them and  
 8 thank them for the help that they gave me in  
 9 understanding this process and the technical help  
 10 that Lennie in particular gave me. So, thank you  
 11 very much for all the work you did.

12 And, Mr. President, Senators, I think the  
 13 amendment has been explained and the overall plan  
 14 has been explained, this is basically the Laurent  
 15 plan, and I move the amendment.

16 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th, you  
 17 are recognized on the amendment.

18 SENATOR LAURENT: Folks, this is the  
 19 amendment that we have been working on for the  
 20 last several months, this is the amendment that I  
 21 have spoken to, that I have had a lot of member  
 22 input on. In fact, we have had an enormous amount  
 23 of member input on.

24 We have attempted to incorporate all of those  
 25 issues and concerns that the public testimony --  
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1 what we received, the input from the members. And  
2 we have talked about what's required  
3 constitutionally, what's required by Section 2 of  
4 the Voting Rights Act and Section 5 of the Voting  
5 Rights Act.  
6 But I want you to know when we've  
7 incorporated the members' issues, there's -- a  
8 certain member wanted his mother's house in his  
9 district, another member wanted his father's house  
10 in his district. We have tried to address the  
11 needs of the members.  
12 I was here ten years ago, and I fully  
13 understand the statements of Senator Webster, and  
14 one of the reasons I asked for this job is I did  
15 not want this to turn out like it did ten years  
16 ago.  
17 Similarly, I was in a district in southern  
18 Polk County, my district -- and I was a freshman  
19 Senator in Bartow and there was a freshman Senator  
20 in Apollo Beach, who was a good friend of mine,  
21 and we wound up in the same district. We had to  
22 sit there and decide who was going to run, whether  
23 two good friends would run against each another,  
24 and the Senator from Apollo Beach decided to drop  
25 out.  
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1 I couldn't leave my driveway and stay in my  
2 district. And when I -- and I have had to vote in  
3 another town for the last ten years, in Eagle  
4 Lake, because most of my hometown was taken out of  
5 my district. And I fully understand the  
6 frustrations of that.  
7 I tried to do what was correct for the  
8 membership. I understand that there are a couple  
9 of Senators who are not happy with their  
10 districts, and for that, I am truly sorry. It is  
11 bipartisan and -- but we have done the best job we  
12 can with the constraints that we have. And when  
13 this amendment does come up for a vote, I would  
14 appreciate your support.  
15 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 23rd moves  
16 that we extend the hour of recess until completion  
17 of debate on committee substitute for Senate Joint  
18 Resolution 500. Without objection, show that  
19 passing.  
20 Is there further debate on the amendment?  
21 Further discussion, further debate? Seeing none,  
22 all in favor of the amendment, say yea. Oh, I'm  
23 sorry, excuse me, I didn't see -- I might need a  
24 new pair of glasses, but I didn't see the Senator  
25 from the 26th. You are recognized. For what  
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1 purpose do you rise?  
2 SENATOR KLEIN: For a comment or debate on  
3 the amendment.  
4 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.  
5 SENATOR KLEIN: Thank you. I know that there  
6 are a number of members that have different  
7 feelings on this amendment. I think there are  
8 questions that a number of us have raised and will  
9 continue to raise about the conformance with the  
10 legal standards, the conformance with the  
11 testimony that was given by folks that came to our  
12 hearings around the state.  
13 I know that one way to approach that would  
14 just be to take this up in third reading in terms  
15 of full debate on the bill. But I guess what I  
16 would say is that, at this point, I think many of  
17 our members are going to reserve their comments on  
18 this amendment, if this amendment is going to be  
19 the one that becomes the bill, and we will reserve  
20 all of the comments for third reading.  
21 MR. PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. Further  
22 discussion, further debate? Seeing none, all in  
23 favor of the amendment, say yea. All opposed,  
24 nay. Show the amendment passing.  
25 We have three amendments that are still  
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1 pending, Senators, and I'm told by the Secretary  
2 that you wish to have them withdrawn. Senator  
3 from the 17th and the Senator from the 29th have  
4 bar code 430266. Do you wish that withdrawn?  
5 Show that withdrawn.  
6 Senator from the 17th, you also have bar code  
7 751138. Do you wish that withdrawn? Show that  
8 withdrawn. And you also have amendment number  
9 932244. Do you wish that withdrawn? Show those  
10 three withdrawn. Are there further amendments?  
11 THE SECRETARY: None on the desk,  
12 Mr. President.  
13 MR. PRESIDENT: Show the bill temporarily  
14 passed. Senators, we are going to -- we have  
15 lunch in the back. We are going to recess for  
16 lunch and then when we come back, after the staff,  
17 together with Senator Laurent, have reviewed the  
18 bill, the concurrent committee substitute for  
19 Senate Joint Resolution 500 as amended, if no  
20 further amendments are necessary, then we'll order  
21 the bill engrossed and place the bill on the  
22 calendar for third reading, but we want to be sure  
23 we have got it correct.  
24 Before I recognize a motion for recess, are  
25 there any motions or announcements any Senators  
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1 would like to make? Senator from the 35th, for  
2 what purpose do you rise?

3 SENATOR ROSSIN: Just to inquire of the  
4 Chair, Mr. President.

5 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, you are recognized.

6 SENATOR ROSSIN: This afternoon, after you  
7 order the engrossment of that bill, what -- do you  
8 have -- I mean, do we know what we are going to do  
9 this afternoon?

10 MR. PRESIDENT: We have bills on third  
11 reading and we have a special order calendar,  
12 Senator.

13 SENATOR ROSSIN: So, you intend to go through  
14 third reading and the special order calendar?

15 MR. PRESIDENT: If this body wishes to do so,  
16 yes, sir. And we can discuss that at lunch, too,  
17 if you'd like.

18 SENATOR ROSSIN: Thank you, sir.

19 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 26th, for  
20 what purpose do you rise?

21 SENATOR KLEIN: Mr. President, 28th.

22 MR. PRESIDENT: Twenty-eighth, I'm sorry.  
23 Actually, I'm 26. We are trading places.

24 SENATOR KLEIN: It is going back and forth  
25 with reapportionment. Just to go back to the  
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1 SENATOR LAURENT: Thank you, Mr. President.  
2 That amendment will require no changes and no work  
3 to what we adopted. It was incorporated in the  
4 map that the Senator from the 29th and I had.

5 All of that is identical. It made a change  
6 between those three districts and there needs to  
7 be no changes to the map.

8 SENATOR KLEIN: So, to follow up,  
9 Mr. President, for the Senator from the 17th.

10 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, sir, you are recognized.

11 SENATOR KLEIN: So, my understanding is, we  
12 had your amendment, his amendment, no changes had  
13 to be made, we are just going to go back to be 100  
14 percent sure that nothing has changed and there's  
15 nothing else we have to do other than that; is  
16 that correct?

17 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes.

18 MR. PRESIDENT: And we may decide also to  
19 withdraw House joint resolution and substitute, so  
20 we need to look at that, Senator, as you and I  
21 previously discussed.

22 SENATOR KLEIN: Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: Just housecleaning, basically  
24 house cleaning items. Further questions,  
25 announcements? Seeing none, Senator from the  
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1 reapportionment issue in terms of the timing  
2 procedure, the amendment we adopted, the amendment  
3 number 24, which was Senator Laurent's map --

4 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, sir.

5 SENATOR KLEIN: -- and we adopted Senator  
6 Diaz de la Portilla's amendment as well.

7 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes.

8 SENATOR KLEIN: Did we adopt anything else in  
9 terms of conforming the two?

10 MR. PRESIDENT: No, sir, we have not at this  
11 time, and that's why we would like to break for  
12 lunch and see if there are any other amendments  
13 that might be needed for adoption.

14 SENATOR KLEIN: Can I follow up?

15 MR. PRESIDENT: Yes, sir.

16 SENATOR KLEIN: And what I understand is that  
17 the Diaz de la Portilla, Senator Diaz de la  
18 Portilla amendment, was one which was remote in  
19 location -- I mean, it could be done without a lot  
20 of conformity in the works?

21 MR. PRESIDENT: I'll let the Senator from the  
22 17th react to that question. And that's exactly  
23 the kinds of things we'd like to check during the  
24 lunch hour, Senator. Senator Laurent is  
25 recognized to respond.

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1 23rd, you are recognized for a motion.

2 SENATOR LEE: Thank you, Mr. President. I  
3 move that we recess until the hour of 1:15 or upon  
4 a call of the President.

5 MR. PRESIDENT: Without objection, show that  
6 motion passing, we are in recess, Senators.

7 (Lunch recess.)

8 (Quorum call.)

9 THE SECRETARY: A quorum is present,  
10 Mr. President.

11 MR. PRESIDENT: Will you please come to  
12 order. Senator from the 17th, are you prepared to  
13 proceed on the legislative apportionment bill?  
14 Well, why don't you approach the well again. Why  
15 don't you approach the well again and then the  
16 members will pay a little bit more attention at  
17 that point.

18 Senator from the 17th is recognized to  
19 discuss -- well, first, let's read the joint  
20 resolution.

21 THE READING CLERK: Committee substitute for  
22 Senate Joint Resolution 580, a bill to be  
23 entitled, A map relating to apportionment.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: Which was temporarily passed.  
25 Senator from the 17th is recognized to inform the

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1 members of progress on the joint resolution.

2 SENATOR LAURENT: Thank you, Mr. President.  
3 What we have is the joint resolution that we  
4 passed out this morning with no changes at all to  
5 the joint resolution. We checked it and  
6 everything, it is in order. It would be our --  
7 Mr. President, do you want me to explain about  
8 taking up the --

9 MR. PRESIDENT: Please, Senator, please.

10 SENATOR LAURENT: And what we intend to do is  
11 take up the House joint resolution that we have in  
12 our possession, amend it, amend our Senate map  
13 from a House joint resolution, and leave their  
14 House map on their joint resolution.

15 MR. PRESIDENT: So, do you want to make that  
16 motion, Senator?

17 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes, I would move to waive  
18 the rules by voice vote and withdraw HJR 1987  
19 plans H62H001 and H062S001 from the committees on  
20 reapportionment and rules in calendar, and  
21 substitute it with amended Senate joint  
22 resolution.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: The Senator from the 17th  
24 moves that we withdraw House Joint Resolution  
25 1987, plans H62H001 and H062S001 on committees of  
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1 have, following script, I should have had that  
2 explained first. Are there any objections to the  
3 motion? Seeing no objections, read the House  
4 resolution twice, please.

5 THE READING CLERK: House Joint Resolution  
6 1987, a bill to be entitled, A map relating to  
7 apportionment. House Joint Resolution 1987, a  
8 bill to be entitled, A map relating to  
9 apportionment.

10 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 17th, you  
11 are recognized for a motion.

12 SENATOR LAURENT: I would move to adopt the  
13 HJR9 -- excuse me. I would move to adopt my  
14 amendment.

15 MR. PRESIDENT: Do we have an amendment?

16 THE READING CLERK: On my desk,  
17 Mr. President.

18 MR. PRESIDENT: Read the amendment, please.

19 THE READING CLERK: Bar code number 321850 by  
20 Senator Laurent on Page 232, Line 28, through Page  
21 335, Line 15, delete those lines and insert  
22 lengthy amendment.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: The Senator of the 17th is  
24 recognized to explain the amendment. Senators,  
25 this is the amendment as you voted on it today.  
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1 reapportionment rules and calendar and substitute  
2 for the amended Senate joint resolution.

3 All in favor of the motion, say yea. All  
4 against, nay. Show it passing. Read the joint  
5 resolution.

6 THE READING CLERK: House Joint Resolution  
7 1987, a bill to be entitled, A map relating to  
8 apportionment.

9 MR. PRESIDENT: Now, Senator, I should have  
10 asked you to explain the differences before  
11 because I don't think that you quite did that, did  
12 I? Can you explain the difference between the  
13 House and the Senate joint resolution? Let's  
14 explain those to the members and explain exactly  
15 what's going on.

16 SENATOR LAURENT: Okay. On the Senate joint  
17 resolution, we adopted a Senate map this morning,  
18 we have not adopted a House map. The House joint  
19 resolution, which is in your packet, has adopted a  
20 House map and a Senate map. And we are going to  
21 put our Senate map onto the House joint -- to  
22 substitute it for the map that the House passed  
23 out to the Senate.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: That's correct. And the  
25 motion passed. Would anybody, having -- I should  
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1 SENATOR LAURENT: Yes, I will be glad to  
2 answer any questions, but this is the exact  
3 amendment that we have talked about all day.

4 MR. PRESIDENT: Are there questions for the  
5 Senator? Senator from the 5th, for what purpose  
6 do you rise?

7 SENATOR SMITH: Question.

8 MR. PRESIDENT: Question. He yields and you  
9 are recognized, Senator.

10 SENATOR SMITH: Senators, as I understand  
11 this, to be clear, we are now going to take and  
12 superimpose, if you will, substitute for, the  
13 Senate side. We are not going to touch anything  
14 to do with the House. That doesn't, however,  
15 imply our approval or disapproval of the House,  
16 just that we are not addressing the House map at  
17 all?

18 SENATOR LAURENT: That's correct.

19 SENATOR SMITH: So, for purposes of some  
20 later argument, the Senate is not approving their  
21 map as being the right map, the Senate is simply  
22 saying they are going to draw their map?

23 SENATOR LAURENT: That's correct.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: Further debate? Senator from  
25 the 35th, for what purpose do you rise?

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1 SENATOR ROSSIN: Just on the same comment if  
2 I could.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized, Senator.

4 SENATOR ROSSIN: Yes, I just want to make it  
5 very clear that, and I don't want to speak for the  
6 entire caucus, but I -- the Democratic caucus, but  
7 I can tell you that the House map that's over here  
8 is not a satisfactory map for us, and we want to  
9 express that very clearly.

10 We don't necessarily have to yell or  
11 anything, but that's the position of the caucus  
12 and that's an unacceptable map to us. And since  
13 it's put together, you know, you have to vote the  
14 way you're going to vote, but that's the  
15 situation.

16 MR. PRESIDENT: I think we understand your  
17 objection. Senator from the 34th, for what  
18 purpose do you rise?

19 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: For a question  
20 for the Senator from the 17th.

21 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized and he  
22 yields, Senator.

23 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Senator, just  
24 so we understand, or I understand what we're doing  
25 here, we took up the House joint resolution, we  
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1 MR. PRESIDENT: Of the sponsor?

2 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Of the sponsor.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized and he  
4 yields, Senator.

5 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: Thank you. Senator  
6 Laurent, if we are going to vote for our map,  
7 which is a Senate map, don't we have to take a  
8 vote on their House map since they have taken a  
9 vote on the Senate map in order for us at least to  
10 go on record? I mean, we can't just send it back,  
11 can we?

12 SENATOR LAURENT: What we are doing is  
13 amending the House joint resolution, it does  
14 contain the House map. Ultimately, if you vote on  
15 the joint resolution you will be voting on the  
16 Senate map that we adopted and the House map that  
17 they adopted.

18 MR. PRESIDENT: Further questions? Senator  
19 from the 2nd, further questions?

20 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: We can't separate them?

21 MR. PRESIDENT: No, it has to be in one  
22 resolution, Senator. I understand your concern,  
23 but we have limitations with regard to the rules  
24 and procedure.

25 Senator from the 4th, for what purpose do you  
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1 are attaching the Senate map that we adopted  
2 earlier today, and we are sending it back to the  
3 House without touching their House districts; is  
4 that correct?

5 SENATOR LAURENT: That's correct.

6 MR. PRESIDENT: Are they going to touch our  
7 Senate Districts when it gets over there?

8 SENATOR LAURENT: I mean, there's no way that  
9 we, as a body, can prevent the other body from  
10 doing anything. It's going to be -- it's been my  
11 position, and I think it's been the Senate's  
12 position, and this is the way it's always  
13 happened, the Senate draws a Senate map and the  
14 House draws a House map.

15 That's the way reapportionment has always  
16 been done, and I assure you that is going to be, I  
17 believe, the Senate's position throughout the rest  
18 of the process.

19 MR. PRESIDENT: And if I may add, we are not  
20 sending the House joint resolution back to the  
21 House today, Senator. At the appropriate time, we  
22 will. Senator for the 2nd, for what purpose do  
23 you rise?

24 SENATOR HOLZENDORF: For a question, Mr.  
25 President.

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1 rise?

2 SENATOR MITCHELL: Question of the sponsor.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: You're recognized and he  
4 yields, Senator.

5 SENATOR MITCHELL: I'm just a little curious  
6 as to what procedural steps we went through to  
7 decide that we are not going to draw a House map.  
8 I have a lot of constituents who would probably  
9 object to the House map as it currently stands a  
10 great deal. And why did the Senate choose not to  
11 offer an alternative to the House -- on the House  
12 map?

13 SENATOR LAURENT: It's been my contention,  
14 and I believe the Senate's contention from the  
15 very beginning, that in this process, ultimately  
16 what it boils down to is each chamber should draw  
17 their own map.

18 We could have played games with the House, we  
19 could have produced a House map that put three  
20 House members in the same district and did  
21 whatever we wanted to do to send a message to the  
22 House, but if we are going to be consistent in our  
23 position that each chamber should do their own  
24 plan, and that they should not be drawing Senate  
25 Districts and we should not be drawing House

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1 districts, I didn't think it was appropriate for  
2 us to just create a map out of whole cloth, which  
3 was not an real map, just to posture.

4 MR. PRESIDENT: Further?

5 SENATOR LAURENT: Thank you, Mr. President.

6 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 34th, for  
7 what purpose do you rise?

8 SENATOR LAURENT: Question of the sponsor.

9 MR. PRESIDENT: You're recognized and he  
10 yields, Senator.

11 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: Thank you, Mr.  
12 President. And, Senators, I don't want to belabor  
13 the point, but my understanding is that the House  
14 actually has a Senate map; is that correct?

15 SENATOR LAURENT: That's correct. For  
16 follow-up, Mr. President.

17 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized.

18 SENATOR DIAZ de la PORTILLA: And what is the  
19 status of that Senate map right now in the  
20 process?

21 SENATOR LAURENT: We are about to basically  
22 abolish the Senate map, their version of the map,  
23 by adopting ours.

24 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
25 debate? Senator for the 5th, for what purpose do  
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1 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: Thank you. So,  
2 essentially, what we're saying our position is in  
3 the Senate is that there isn't going to be a  
4 conference of the legislative plan, we are telling  
5 -- we're saying to the House by stripping their  
6 Senate map off, You take our Senate map and we'll  
7 take your House map, but there will not be a  
8 conference.

9 (Laughter.)

10 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: That's what I  
11 said, that's what I thought.

12 MR. PRESIDENT: My legal counsel tells me the  
13 ball is in their court.

14 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: Thank you.

15 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
16 debate? Then seeing none, Senator from the 17th  
17 having closed on the amendment, all in favor of  
18 the amendment, signify by saying yea. Opposed,  
19 nay. Show it passing. Are there further  
20 amendments?

21 THE READING CLERK: None on the desk, Mr.  
22 President.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion,  
24 is there further debate? Any further comments,  
25 Senator?

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1 you rise?

2 SENATOR SMITH: Question, please.

3 MR. PRESIDENT: You are recognized. Of the  
4 sponsor?

5 SENATOR SMITH: Of the sponsor.

6 MR. PRESIDENT: He yields and you are  
7 recognized.

8 SENATOR SMITH: Senator, as I understand it,  
9 we are taking ours, as I said before, and  
10 replacing the Senate side of this joint  
11 resolution, effectively, with ours. If it goes  
12 back over and they should on the House side,  
13 should in any way, touch the configuration of our  
14 Senate map, nothing we do today would preclude at  
15 some later time, if it were to come back changed,  
16 our readdressing the question of the House map?

17 SENATOR LAURENT: Absolutely not.

18 MR. PRESIDENT: Further discussion, further  
19 debate? Senator from the 32nd, what question do  
20 you rise?

21 SENATOR WASSERMAN SCHULTZ: For a question of  
22 you, Mr. President, or the Senator from the 17th.

23 MR. PRESIDENT: You're recognized. We'll  
24 figure out who the best answerer is, so you are  
25 recognized.

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1 SENATOR LAURENT: No, Mr. President.

2 MR. PRESIDENT: Then pursuant to --

3 SENATOR LAURENT: I do have to comment on the  
4 staff on this. I know we are not finished with  
5 this process, I don't know if the membership knows  
6 what we do to the reapportionment staff. They  
7 were there last night until 3 o'clock, 4 o'clock  
8 in the morning. I'm not sure if some of them  
9 actually went home, but they have done a yeoman's  
10 job and I would be remiss if I didn't speak and  
11 let you-all know the great job that our staff has  
12 done on this.

13 MR. PRESIDENT: And, Senator, how many nights  
14 were you here past midnight too working hard on  
15 this?

16 SENATOR LAURENT: Well, a few.

17 MR. PRESIDENT: You have worked very hard.  
18 And if I may, Senator from the 32nd, while as I  
19 jokingly said, as our legal counsel whispered to  
20 me, the ball is in their court. This is just like  
21 any other joint resolution or just like any other  
22 piece of legislation. And the House can chart its  
23 own course as we will chart ours.

24 Seeing no further comments or discussions  
25 pursuant to Rule 4.19, the bill is already

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1 engrossed and placed on the calendar. The bill is  
2 on the third reading. Thank you, Senator.

3 The majority leader has told me that -- I  
4 asked the majority leader to check with the  
5 minority leader to see how many, how long you-all  
6 would like to stay here today and he suggested  
7 that we complete the bills on the special order  
8 calendar, which is about 10 or 15 bills at this  
9 point.

10 So, with that, let us still show committee  
11 substitute for Senate Bill 594 temporarily passed.  
12 Senator from the 27th, are you prepared on Senate  
13 substitute for Senate Bill 1360? Read that bill.

14 THE READING CLERK: Committee substitute for  
15 committee substitute for Senate Bill 1360, a bill  
16 to be entitled, A map relating to property tax  
17 administration.

18 MR. PRESIDENT: Senator from the 27th is  
19 recognized.

20 (End of legislative session excerpt regarding  
21 reapportionment.)  
22  
23  
24  
25

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1 CERTIFICATE  
2

3 STATE OF FLORIDA:

4 COUNTY OF LEON:

5 I, MONA L. WHIDDON, Court Reporter, certify  
6 that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the  
7 foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true  
8 and complete record of my stenographic notes.

9 DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.  
10

11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 MONA L. WHIDDON  
13 Court Reporter  
14 Division of Administrative Hearings  
15 1230 Apalachee Parkway  
16 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3060  
17 (850) 488-9675 Suncom 278-9675  
18 Fax Filing (850) 921-8453  
19 www.doah.state.fl.us  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

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