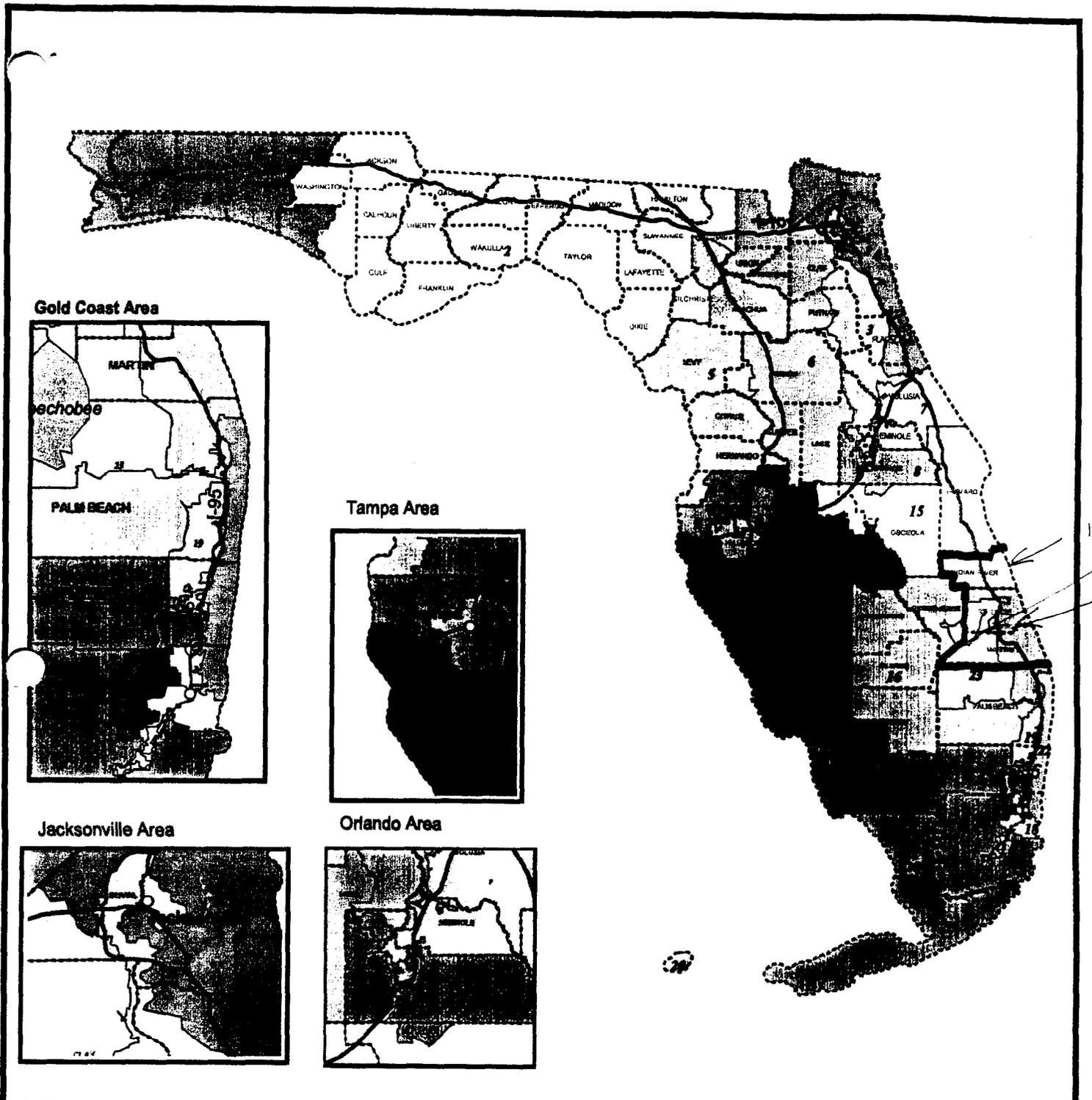


## REAPPORTIONMENT HEARING REPORT

My name is Joy Lurken and I come to speak in behalf of the American Association of University Women, as the Florida State Director of Public Policy. I live in the Florida Congressional District 15, Senate District 27 and House District 80. I am grateful for the opportunity to speak at this hearing for reapportionment.

I oppose separation of Indian River County in redistricting, and feel the county should be maintained compact for the best interest of the community. I live in the beach area and I could not vote for the State Senator candidate that the majority of Indian River County residents voted for in the last election. Many voters went to the polls and were unfamiliar with the candidate on the ballot. This is because of gerrymandering by self interest groups. I was with a women consortium in Tallahassee when the Reapportionment Committee was instructed by computer experts on how a simple click of the computer mouse could get information on how many Republicans, Democrats or Independents were in a small area, and how easily a district could be changed. I object that taxpayers money was spent on this encouragement of gerrymandering.

The American Association of University Women of Florida are part of a consortium to have an impartial committee to select districts in the future, because we feel each county in the state should be maintain as a compact unit. We ask that Indian River County remain compact to respect the vote of each person.



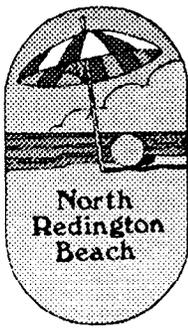
# FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| County Boundary    | Local Road          |
| Interstate Highway | Shoreline or Stream |
| Primary Road       | Hospital            |
| Secondary Road     | Airport             |

70 0 70 Miles

Map Produced by:  
 Public Planning and Management  
 Florida Center for Policy  
 Studies  
 1111 University Center  
 Tallahassee, FL 32306-2001  
 904/904-1000  
 www.flcenter.org

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Harold Radcliffe, Speaker #40  
Mayor, Town of N Redington Beach

**Town of North Redington Beach**  
190 – 173<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
North Redington Beach, Florida 33708

August 27, 2001

**MAYOR**  
HAROLD RADCLIFFE

**COMMISSIONERS**  
R. JEFF BUSCH  
GARY D. CURTIS  
RAYMOND D. JAGIELSKI  
DAVID F. YOST

**TOWN CLERK**  
HELENA G. REID, CMC/AE

**TOWN ATTORNEY**  
EDWIN PECK  
259 – 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE N.  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL.

Florida House Redistricting Committee  
Room 203, House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Committee Members:

As Mayor of the Town of North Redington Beach, I respectfully request that all ten beach communities in Pinellas County, Belleair Beach, Belleair Shore, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, Redington Shores, North Redington Beach, Redington Beach, Madeira Beach, Treasure Island and St. Pete Beach, be included in the same House district.

I agree that common interests and community identification are important factors in determining the policy of establishing the new lines. The beach municipalities, by virtue of their proximity to the beach, their reliance on tourism, their unique transportation issues, etc. already constitute a unique community.

Thank you in advance, on behalf of the citizens and businesses of North Redington Beach for your consideration of this request. I look forward to the public hearing on August 27 in Clearwater on this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

TOWN OF NORTH REDINGTON BEACH

Harold Radcliffe  
Mayor

TELEPHONE: (727) 391-4848 FAX: (727) 393-0803

**STATEMENT FOR  
THE FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING  
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA  
August 27, 2001**

**Good afternoon, my name is Leon W. Russell. I serve as Chairperson of the Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches, Committee on Redistricting. First, Let me thank the Committee for the opportunity to make this brief statement for the record of this hearing. The Florida State Conference will make a full statement to this body prior to the conclusion of these hearings in October.**

**There are a number of things that concern us about the redistricting process. The most important element at this point is the nature of the standards that the Florida Legislature will use in drawing legislative and congressional districts.**

**The standards you establish will impact this state and your constituents for the next ten years. These standards will determine whether this state adheres to the concept of one person – one vote and they will certainly determine whether all of the voters of this state have an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice to the state house, the state senate and to the United States Congress.**

**It is equally important to the NAACP that you develop a process that respects the principle of “no regression”. The past two redistricting sessions created a number of opportunities that allowed various communities to be able to elect candidates of their choice for the first time in the modern history of the state. We believe that those opportunities must be protected and enhanced.**

**The redistricting process that you will under take will drastically reshape the political map of this state. The growth in population and the accompanying need to increase the population of legislative districts is significant. A brief review of the current maps show that most of the districts currently considered to be majority minority districts will are currently under-populated. It is important that care be taken to insure the character of these districts and to insure that communities with common interest be kept together. The people who will be served by these districts must influence the determination of common interests.**

**It is also important as you provide these public opportunities for input into the way the process will be carried out, that you provide an equal opportunity for input in the actual process of drawing districts. There are any number of groups that will seek to influence this activity. It is very important that you provide every opportunity through as many avenues as possible to allow all interested parties to actually participate in crafting the districts, which will serve them during the next ten years.**

**I look forward to working with the members of this committee and your staff persons during the next few months on behalf of the National Association for the**

**Advancement of Colored People. It is important that when this process is complete that your constituents are convinced that there is power in their vote. This means that they must be clearly able to influence the election of those people who will make public policy in their communities. This means that the standards that you apply to this process as well as the process itself must be true to our democratic principles.**

**Thank you for this opportunity.**

**Leon W. Russell, Chair  
Redistricting Committee  
Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches  
6311 ½ North Central Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33604  
[Lwrussell@aol.com](mailto:Lwrussell@aol.com)  
813-239-2739  
727-464-4880 - Day**

Ward Fiszolowski, Mayor  
City of St. Pete Beach

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August 9, 2001

Florida House Redistricting Committee  
Room 203, House Office Building  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Committee Members:

On behalf of the citizens of the City of St. Pete Beach, I respectfully request that the City of St. Pete Beach be included in the same State House district as the other nine Gulf Beach municipalities in Pinellas County. We are aware that both commonality of interests and community identification are important factors in determining the policy of establishing the new lines.

Although the beach communities stretch for more than 15 miles, we believe that we have more issues in common with each other than with the municipalities and unincorporated areas on the mainland. In recent years, we have worked with our state representatives, Dennis Jones followed by John Carassas, on beach renourishment, tourism, transportation, coastal development, and a number of other issues. We think of ourselves, all ten beach municipalities, as members of a unique community.

Committee Members, the residents and businesses in the City of St. Pete Beach and I thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ward J. Friszolowski  
Mayor

WF/tm

**Statement by U.S. Rep. C. W. Bill Young**

**August 27, 2001**

**Mr. Chairman, I want to welcome you and the members of your Committee to Pinellas County this evening and thank you for holding this public hearing on the redistricting process for our Congressional and state legislative districts. You are to be commended for holding similar hearings throughout the state to give the public the opportunity to offer their thoughts and their suggestions.**

**Having been a part of this process as a member of the state Senate and as a member of Congress, I have always found that the state legislature has done a good job in completing the difficult task of drawing the boundaries for Congressional districts. It is not only a technically difficult job, but also a politically difficult job and I would not attempt to suggest to you how to do your job.**

**There are some parameters, though, that are set out in the law that I believe are important to follow, most notably that the districts must be drawn so that members of Congress each represent an equal number of people.**

**In addition to the obvious population requirement, I believe it is important to create Congressional districts that are as compact as possible and, to the maximum extent possible, preserve the integrity of city and county boundaries.**

**Again, let me thank you for the work you are undertaking to fulfill the Constitutional requirement to create fair and equally populated districts. Although this process occurs only once every 10 years, it is an important part of our democratic form of government and I offer my assistance in any way possible.**