

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Alliance of Educational Leaders was formed to bring together the superintendents of the public school districts and the presidents of the regionally accredited public and independent colleges and universities of Southwest Florida encompassing Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance works in partnership to serve the educational needs of students and their families in the five county area; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance recognizes the critical role of the Legislature on both the State and National levels in educational finance and policy; and

WHEREAS, the Alliance firmly believes that its elected representation should be knowledgeable of the area, its uniqueness and its goals; be accessible to its citizens; and be consistently visible and available; and

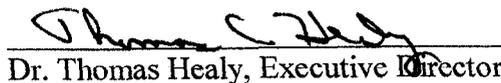
WHEREAS, it is right and necessary that representation of Southwest Florida be from the same region; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alliance of Educational Leaders supports redistricting plans that assure its representatives in the Florida Legislature and United States Congress reside in Southwest Florida and ensure cohesive districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Alliance of Educational Leaders this 5th of September, 2001.



Dr. William Merwin, Chairman
Florida Gulf Coast University President



Dr. Thomas Healy, Executive Director

Alliance of Educational Leaders: Barry University, Charlotte County Public Schools, Collier County Public Schools, Edison Community College, Florida Gulf Coast University, Glades County Public Schools, Hendry County Public Schools, International College, Lee County Public Schools, University of Florida – Institute for Food and Agricultural Science, and Walden University.

THE

**ALLIANCE OF
EDUCATIONAL LEADERS**

REALTOR® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc.

2840 Winkler Avenue
Fort Myers, Florida 33916
(941) 936-3537, Fax (941) 936-2836
Email: association@swflrealtors.com

Jake Slot, Speaker #2
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

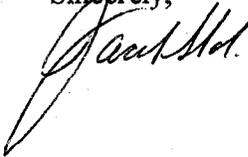
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.



BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

*Speaker #8
Ft. Myers*

Redistricting in S.W. Florida
Public Hearing – September 25, 2001
Florida Gulfcoast University

My name is Michael Reitmann. I am the Executive Vice President of the Lee Building Industry Association, representing 850 building and related industries employing over 25,000 residents in Lee County. Lee BIA is the oldest professional construction trade association in Southwest Florida.

Collier and Lee Counties for the past five years have been first and second in the state of Florida in the number of housing permits obtained per 1,000 residents. In the United States, Collier is number one and Lee is number three in percentage of building permits issued.

The S.W. Florida business community and their families have worked very hard and diligently to create a strong economic base for our community. For years we have sent our money to Washington and Tallahassee and received very little in return for our efforts. We are perceived as the backwater of Florida by our neighbors in Dade and Broward Counties. We are donors of our hard earned money and receive practically nothing from the state and federal governments for education, transportation and social services.

Enough is enough. This past year we have gained political clout in transportation and water resource areas. We have learned that strength lies in forming coalitions and focusing on common goals and quality of life issues for Southwest Florida. We are not going to allow Southwest Florida to be divided and conquered by an East Coast political group which has absolutely no interest in Southwest Florida except political expediency and selfish political power grabbing.

We must take control of our own destiny and demand our rightfully earned place in national and state representative government. We are not requesting representation. We are demanding it based on sound numbers and demonstrated achievement. The United States and Florida governments are based on a federated system of representation. Please govern yourselves accordingly.

Thank you for your attention.



Ronald Inge, Speaker #18
Real Estate Investment Society

McNEW DEVELOPMENT CO., INC.

5571 Halifax Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33912

Phone: (941) 454-4999
Fax: (941) 454-2773

September 20, 2001

The Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

RE: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) Board of Governors voted unanimously to strongly support redistricting plans that assure the interests of the citizens of Southwest Florida. Be it further known that the membership of REIS feels that **local** representation in the Florida State Legislature and the U.S. Congress is essential to the future success of the Southwest Florida region.

REIS supports a "cohesive" district whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. REIS specifically **rejects** redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the East Coast of Florida.

As a supporter of the Real Estate Investment Society, I support the position of the Board of Governors of this organization.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Inge
Vice President

REI/rn



Cecile Johnson-Stevens
Jose Stevens
3717 SW 14th Place
Cape Coral FL 33914
(941) 549-4334

September 25, 2001

The Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

RE: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

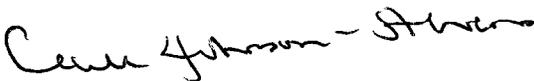
As registered voters and residents of Lee County, we would like you to know that we strongly support redistricting plans that assure that the interest of the citizens of Southwest Florida are met. We are aware that because of growth some redistricting will have to take place, but we would like to see Lee and Collier County included in the same district since many of our issues and concerns are the same.

We feel that local representation in the Florida State Legislature and in the U.S. Congress is essential for the growth and future success of the Southwest Florida region. To ensure this, we support a "cohesive" district whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida and our gulf coast concerns, not one that links us up to any political district on the East Coast of Florida.

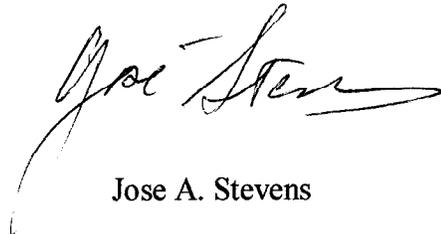
Please also note that your scheduling of these three meetings for Southwest Florida could have reflected more care in trying to reach the average working person as far as location and meeting times are concerned. Meetings at 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M are not convenient for a working person, nor was the FGCU site the most centrally located. A better choice may have been Edison Community College in the heart of Fort Myers. The committee needs to take more care in making sure that these public hearings are truly accessible to all of the citizens.

We encourage you, our lawmakers, to devise a fair redistricting plan that recognizes Southwest Florida's particular needs and one that ensures that the minority vote will not be diluted. We thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Cecile Johnson-Stevens



Jose A. Stevens

*Speaker # 26
H. Myers*

REDISTRICTING MEETING

9/25/01

MY NAME IS KATHLEEN WHITE. I AM A RESIDENT OF CAPE CORAL AND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB OF CAPE CORAL, FEDERATED.

I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF OUR 139 MEMBERS & ASSOC. MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASKED ME TO STRESS TO YOU THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING OUR SOUTHWEST FLORIDA DISTRICTS INTACT.

THE CITY OF CAPE CORAL IS THE LARGEST CITY IN THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA DISTRICT WITH A POPULATION OF 102,000 – AND WE ARE STILL GROWING. WE DESPERATELY NEED SOMEONE WHO REPRESENTS US, THAT LIVES IN THE AREA AND FULLY RECOGNIZES THE PROBLEMS OF THE AREA.

SOMEONE THAT IS CLOSE ENOUGH THAT THEY CAN ATTEND OUR MEETINGS, AS THEY ARE DOING RIGHT NOW, KEEPING OUR MEMBERS UP TO DATE AND INFORMED.

SOMEONE THAT IS CLOSE BY, THAT WE CAN GO TO THEIR OFFICE WITH OUR PROBLEMS OR COMMUNITY NEEDS AND SPEAK TO THEM ON A ONE ON ONE BASIS, INSTEAD OF HAVING TO TRAVEL ACROSS THE STATE.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE CITY OF CAPE CORAL HAVE ONE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND NOT BE SPLIT AMONG THE DISTRICTS. WE NEED FULL REPRESENTATION, NOT LESS REPRESENTATION.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO YOU TODAY.

2001 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Tracy L. Hayden
a Rock Industries
1155 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 108.7
Fort Myers, Florida 33908

VICE PRESIDENT

Neale Montgomery
Pavese, Haverfield, Dalton,
Harrison & Jensen, L.L.P.
P.O. Drawer 1507
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-1507

TREASURER

Brian Sabean
U.S. Home Corporation
10481 Six Mile Cypress Parkway
Fort Myers, Florida 33912-6406

SECRETARY

Jake Slot
REALTOR Association of Greater
Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc.
2840 Winkler Avenue
Fort Myers, Florida 33919

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Barbara Barnes-Buchanan
WilsonMiller, Inc.
4571 Colonial Boulevard, Suite 100
Fort Myers, Florida 33912-1062

Donald E. Brooks
Brooks & Freund, LLC
6281 Metro Plantation Road
Fort Myers, Florida 33912-1260

Larry Johnson
Old Florida Bank
6321 Daniels Parkway
Fort Myers, Florida 33912

Mettingill
RE/MAX Realty Group
13241 University Drive
Fort Myers, Florida 33907-1109

Robbie B. Roepstorff
Edison National Bank
13000 South Cleveland Avenue
Fort Myers, Florida 33907

Bruce A. Stephan, M.A.I.
Stephan & Associates
1919 Courtney Drive, Suite 9
Fort Myers, Florida 33901-9029

Susan Wunderlich
Executive Title Insurance
Services, Inc.
12800 University Drive, Suite 175
Fort Myers, Florida 33907-5336

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Charles J. Basinait
Henderson, Franklin,
Starnes & Holt, P.A.
P.O. Box 280
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-0280

Tracy Hayden, Speaker #2, President
Real Estate Investment Society

September 21, 2001

The Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

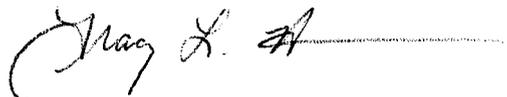
Dear Chairman Byrd:

The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) Board of Governors, voted unanimously to strongly support redistricting plans that assure the interests of the citizens of Southwest Florida. Be it further known, that the membership of REIS feel that **local** representation in the Florida State Legislature and the U. S. Congress is essential to the future success of the Southwest Florida region.

REIS, supports a "cohesive," district whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. REIS specifically **reject** redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the East Coast of Florida.

As an active member of the Real Estate Investment Society, I support the position of the Board of Governors of this organization.

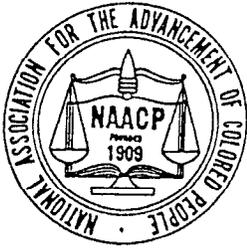
Sincerely,



Tracy L. Hayden
President



*Speaker # 43
Ft. Myers*



National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
Lee County Branch #5110
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 61604, Fort Myers, Florida 33906-1604
(941) 275-7078 * Pager (941) 479-2213
E-mail: cega1956@aol.com

Carletha E. Griffin
President

**STATEMENT
FOR THE FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARING
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 25, 2001**

Good afternoon, my name is Carletha E. Griffin. I serve as the President of the Lee County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). First, let me thank the Committee for the opportunity to make this brief statement for the record of this hearing. The Florida State Conference of Branches 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 its constituencies 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.

"DEVELOPING A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND UNITY FOR ALL"

Carletha E. Griffin, President
Lee County Branch of the NAACP
September 25, 2001
Page 2

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 NAACP believes that the redistricting process must preserve the concept of minority representation.

The redistricting process that you will undertake 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 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.

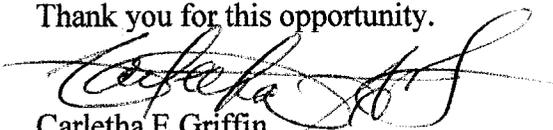
Carletha E. Griffin, President
Lee County Branch of the NAACP
September 25, 2001
Page 3

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.

The NAACP looks 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 the constituencies 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.



Carletha E. Griffin
President of the Lee County Branch of the NAACP
P.O. Box 61604
Fort Myers, FL 33906-1604
(941) 275-7078 (Tel)
(941) 939-3938 (Fax)
(941) 479-2213 (Pager)
Email: cega1956@aol.com



9/25/2001

Redistricting Council

The Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral Board of Directors has taken an official stance regarding the redistricting of congressional seats in southwest Florida. "We the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral supports "cohesive," districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. We firmly believe that there are many geographical distinctions between the east coast and west coast of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, we specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida and support those plans that would keep Lee and Collier counties together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Quaintance", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Mike Quaintance, President



Douglas St. Cerny
Chairman, Lee County Board of
County Commissioners

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Writer's Direct Dial Number: (941) 335-2227

Bob Janes
District One September 10, 2001

Douglas R. St. Cerny
District Two Honorable Burt Saunders

Ray Judah
District Three The Florida Senate
3301 E. Tamiami Trail
Administration Building, Suite 304
Andrew W. Coy
District Four Naples, FL 34112

John E. Albion
District Five **RE: Redistricting – Lee County**

Donald D. Stilwell
County Manager Dear Senator Saunders:

James G. Yaeger
County Attorney

Diana M. Parker
County Hearing
Examiner

Every 10 years, after the Census has been completed and data has been delivered to the Governor, the majority and minority leaders of the state legislature, the process of redrawing federal, state and local legislative districts can begin. The census data allow state officials to realign congressional and state legislative districts in their states, taking into account population shifts since the last census (in 1990) and assuring equal representation for their constituents in compliance with the "one-person, one-vote" principle of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

From the census data compiled, Florida will increase from 23 seats to 25 in Congress. Florida's Constitution authorizes a maximum of 40 State Senate Districts and 120 House of Representatives Districts. Where will the two additional seats be drawn? How will the State Senate and House of Representatives' districts be carved out? We don't know, but as leaders of this community we are gravely concerned about this process.

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously on September 7, 2001, to send to you and the members of the Florida Legislature a strong message, "**Keep Lee County Intact**" when establishing new legislative and congressional district boundaries. Lee County has a population of 440,888 citizens. Congressional guidelines call for districts to have 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants. We strongly oppose Lee County being divided. It is essential to the future success of our community that we have local representation in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C.

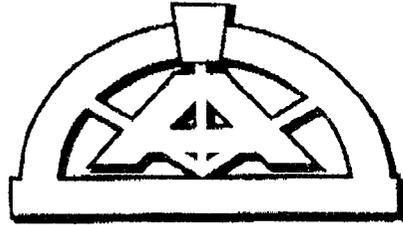
It is the expressed desire of the members of the Lee County Board of County Commissioners that you support our efforts and "**Keep Lee County Intact!**" It is important to our citizens and our community that we remain as one to ensure that we have a voice in Congress and Tallahassee for the next decade and beyond.

Sincerely,

Douglas R. St. Cerny, Chairman
Lee County Board of County Commissioners

DSC/ns

cc: Honorable Andrew W. Coy, Vice Chairman, District #4
Honorable Bob Janes, District #1
Honorable Ray Judah, District #3
Honorable John Albion, District #5
Donald D. Stilwell, County Manager
James G. Yaeger, County Attorney



**AUBUCHON
HOMES, INC.**

BUILDER OF BETTER IDEAS

Lic. # CGC 059630

Office: 941-549-6358

Fax: 941-549-1858

4724-A Vincennes Blvd. • Cape Coral, FL 33904

Effective Late 2001: 4707 S.E. 9th Placc • Cape Coral, FL 33904

September 20, 2001

Cape Coral Chamber of Commerce
P.O Box 100747
Cape Coral Parkway East
Cape Coral, FL 33910

Re: Congressional Redistricting Statement

Aubuchon Homes, Inc. has taken an official stance regarding the redistricting of congressional seats in Southwest Florida. "We, Aubuchon Homes, support "cohesive," districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. We firmly believe that there are many issues that are geographically distinct between the East coast and West coast of Florida and that by combining East and West coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, we specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the East coast of Florida."

Sincerely,

Gary Aubuchon
President
Aubuchon Homes, Inc.



Kobayashi Dojo, Incorporated
Hayashi-Ha Shito-Ryu Kai, Florida Office



Monday, September 24, 2001

To whom it concern,

The Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral Board of Directors has taken an official stance regarding the redistricting of congressional seats in southwest Florida. "We the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral supports "cohesive," districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. We firmly believe that there are many issues that are geographical distinct between the east coast and west coast of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, we specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida."

Sincerely,

Bernard J. Dougherty
President, Kobayashi Dojo, Inc.
Board Member
Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral Board of Directors





September 19, 2001

Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral
P.O. Box 100747
Cape Coral, FL 33910

Dear Mike:

As a business owner in Cape Coral for 17+ years and an active member of this community, I actively support and affirm the stance adopted by the Chamber Board of Directors as regards the proposed redistricting of the South Florida legislative districts. I support geographically distinct districts that would correctly represent the demographics of each of the areas, and believe that combined east/west districts would not appropriately represent either area. Specifically, I am in full agreement with the following Chamber position:

"We the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral supports "cohesive," districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. We firmly believe that there are many issues that are geographical distinct between the east coast and west coast of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, we specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida."

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Jacobsen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Kristi Jacobsen
President

The Law Firm Of
Thomas E. Shipp, Jr. & Associates, P.A.
4223 Del Prado Boulevard
Cape Coral, Florida 33904

TEL (941) 542-1131 * FAX (941) 549-9862
EMAIL: shippslaw@att.net

September 19, 2001

VIA FACSIMILE
549-9609

Mike Quaintance, President
CAPE CORAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
2051 Cape Coral Parkway
Cape Coral, FL 33904

RE: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING STATEMENT

Dear Mike:

As a member of the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral, I support "cohesive" districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. I firmly believe that there are many issues that are geographically distinct between the east coast and west coast of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, I specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida.

Sincerely,



THOMAS E. SHIPP, JR.

TES:dlg

Spiro & Waites

Advertising · Marketing · Public Relations

To Whom It May Concern,

The Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral Board of Directors has taken an official stance regarding the redistricting of congressional seats in Southwest Florida. "We the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce of Cape Coral supports "cohesive", districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. We firmly believe that there are many issues that are geographical distinct between east coast and west coast of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be as well served. Therefore, we specifically reject redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida."



Christopher T. Spiro
CEO & Creative Director of Spiro & Waites

The Fort Myers Republican Women's Club, Fed.
Dedicated To Political Awareness

September 7, 2001

The Honorable Johnnie Byrd
Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Dear Chairman Byrd

The members of the Ft Myers Republican Women's Club, Fed., have asked me to write and express our concern over current plans for redistricting. Although the lines won't be drawn until 2002, it is imperative that the people who reside in Southwest Florida remain a cohesive political district running north-south.

While we are sure the elected representatives across this state are wonderful people, they won't truly understand our distinct and complex issues as well as someone who lives here. We really have very little in common with the east coast - other than sunshine.

As your committee meets, please consider the many requests you have and the wishes of the residents of Southwest Florida.

Sincerely



Marilyn Stout
President



"SORA"

Capt. Anthony & Marilyn Stout
~~2927~~ SW 29th Ave.
Cape Coral, FL 33914

September 20, 2001

The Honorable Johnnie Byrd
Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

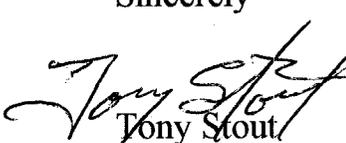
Dear Chairman Byrd

We have been in business in Lee County since 1984. Mostly we do fishing charters and our customers stretch from Charlotte County south to Collier County. We have no connection whatever with the east coast of Florida. We request your committee understand our concern with a redistricting plan that joins us with an area with entirely different coastal and fishing clientele and interests.

Please consider our concerns as you move forward with the lines you draw for our representation.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely


Tony Stout
Captain


Marilyn Stout
Co-Owner



BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

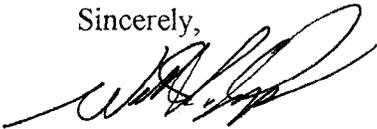
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name of the sender, written in a cursive style.

CHUCK BUNDSCHU, INC.®

P.O. Box 7326

Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

Tel: 941-481-0300 • Fax: 941-481-3349

E-Mail: chuck@chuckbundschi.com

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

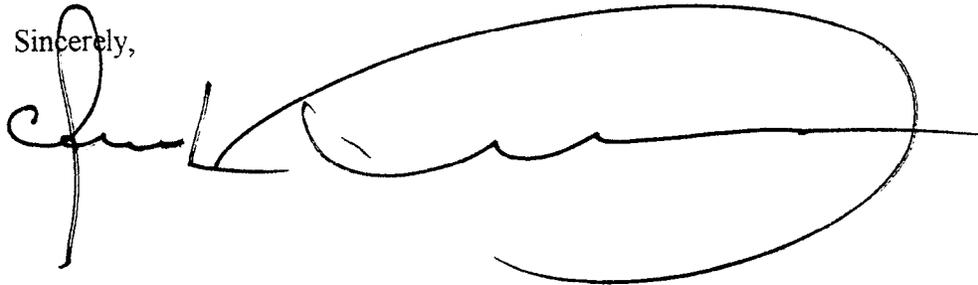
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Bundschu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

JACK
MACDONALD'S AUTO SALES

4008 Palm Beach Boulevard
Fort Myers, Florida 33916
941-694-2111

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

Glee Duff
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Glee A. Duff

20635 Armada Ct.

Esterro, FL 33928

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

John Griffith
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,


John Griffith
4317 S Pacific Cir
Ft Myers FL 33903

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

L. Miller
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

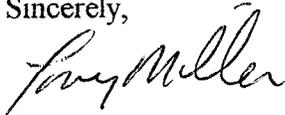
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

Elizabeth Neeholson
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

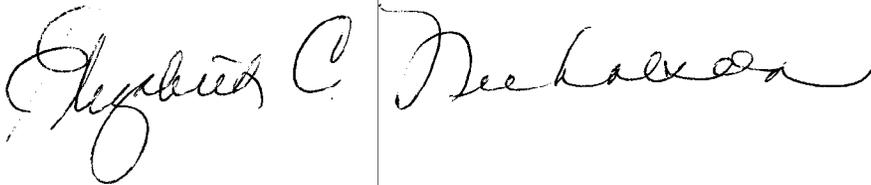
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth C. Neeholson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Elizabeth C. Neeholson".

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

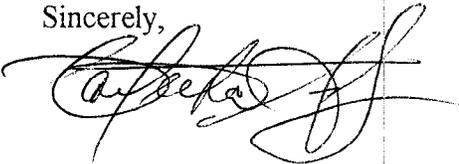
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. Byrd", written over a horizontal line.



Monarch Properties

John Poole
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001. We strongly think that the interests of Lee County are best served by keeping the district on the Gulf Coast.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Poole
President & CEO

Enclosure

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

Marilyn Staub
BUPAC

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Stout

Ken Swarty
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken Swarty". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Ken Swarty" in the header of the document.

Gary Lee
EUPAC



GARY A. LEE
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
EMERITUS

September 10, 2001

Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural and Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

RE: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday, August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this Resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary A. Lee".

Gary A. Lee

Enclosure

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

Ronald Wilkins
BUPAC

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

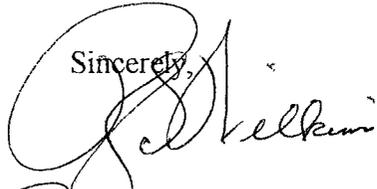
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



RONALD G. WILKINS
8511 YORKSHIRE LAKE
FORT MYERS, FL 33919-1806

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties, including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Margie Black Willis
Sincerely,

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties; including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tim's Fly'n Charter
Fort Myers FL



The Chamber of Southwest Florida represents regional employers in Lee, Charlotte, Hendry, Glades and Collier Counties. Our interest is to see representation for Southwest Florida from Southwest Florida.

New Congressional and Legislative districts for Southwest Florida must be geographically cohesive and not attached to east coast districts.

Policy statement on Redistricting

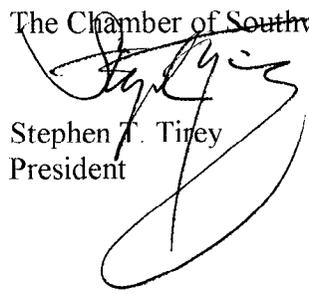
The Chamber of Southwest Florida, board of directors officially supports redistricting plans that assure its representatives in the Florida Legislature and U.S. Congress reside in SW Florida.

Further, the CSWF supports “cohesive” districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. The Chamber specifically rejects redistricting plans that may link SW Florida with any political districts on the east coast.

The CSWF believes our rapid growth and approach to problem solving reflects the unique character of our area. We urge organizations, associations, chambers and individual voters to speak up at public hearings in September and to urge our lawmakers to draw boundaries that preserve or enhance opportunities for representation from the Southwest Florida coastal counties and those immediately adjacent to us.

*Adopted by majority vote of the Board of Directors of The Chamber of Southwest Florida
July 16, 2001*

The Chamber of Southwest Florida


Stephen T. Tirney
President

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. ...". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

BUPAC
Business People United for Political Action Committee
Post Office Box 7326
Fort Myers, Florida 33911-7326

This Congressional Redistricting Resolution was presented and passed unanimously by the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, Florida on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the year 2000, U.S. Census has allotted the State of Florida two additional U.S. Congressional Districts to represent the population increase over the past ten years.

WHEREAS, Lee, Collier, and Charlotte Counties are unique geographically and distinct Southwest Floridian in many respects, such as, integration by common transportation networks, joint involvement in regional agencies and taxing authorities, local economies tied to similar resources, and many other aspects.

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Congressional District has represented Lee, Charlotte and Collier Counties, including 565,000 constituents in the years 1990-2000.

WHEREAS, the present population of Lee, Collier and Charlotte Counties is 833,892, which exceeds the new Congressional guideline of 630,000 to 650,000 inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Charlotte County would be below the new Congressional guideline.

WHEREAS, the population of Lee and Collier County would be above the new Congressional guidelines.

WHEREAS, a new U.S. Congressional District that would be wholly contained within the boundaries of Lee, part of Charlotte and Collier Counties, would be within the new guidelines for determining the size of congressional districts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that a U.S. Congressional District be one that represents a unique and distinctly Southwest Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is the expressed desire of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, that all members of the legislative delegation who represent Lee County are requested to draft, introduce, sponsor, and actively seek passage of legislation in their respective legislative bodies that the uniqueness of Southwest Florida be represented within the U.S. Congress.

August 27, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

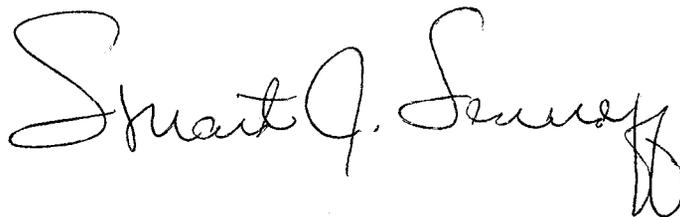
Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

As an active member of the Business People United for Political Action Committee of Lee County, I strongly support the Resolution on Redistricting in Southwest Florida. This Resolution passed unanimously on Tuesday August 27, 2001.

Please find attached a copy of this resolution for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart J. Seney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "S".

This letter was submitted by Peggy Hummel, CEO, REALTOR Association of Greater Fort Myers and The Beach, Inc, at the Redistricting Public Hearing, 1:00 PM, September 25, 2001, WGCU-TV, The Broadcasting Building, Ft. Myers, Florida

Similar letters submitted by 282 members of the REALTOR Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc.

REALTOR® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc.
2840 Winkler Avenue
Fort Myers, Florida 33916
(941) 936-3537, Fax (941) 936-2836
Email: association@swflrealtors.com

September 3, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capitol, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

The Board of the Directors of the REALTOR® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc. voted unanimously on July 26, 2001 to strongly support redistricting plans that assure its representatives in the Florida Legislature and U.S. Congress reside in Southwest Florida.

This association supports "cohesive," districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. This association specifically rejects redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida.

As an active member of the REALTOR® Association of Greater Fort Myers and the Beach, Inc. I support the position of the Board of Directors of this association that the representative for the 14th Congressional District shall be a resident of southwest Florida.

Sincerely,

Pepper Hummel

Place Your Business
Business Card Here



This letter was submitted by Dave Eaton, President Elect, Sanibel and Captiva Island Association of REALTORS, at the Redistricting Public Hearing, 1:00 PM, September 25, 2001, WGPU-TV, The Broadcasting Building, Ft. Myers, Florida

Similar letters submitted by 72 members of the Sanibel and Captiva Island Association of REALTORS.



SANIBEL • CAPTIVA • FORT MYERS

A RESORTQUEST™ COMPANY

September 3, 2001

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

RE: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

The Board of Directors of the Sanibel and Captiva Island Association of REALTORS® strongly support redistricting plans that assure its representatives in the Florida Legislature and U.S. Congress are residents of Southwest Florida.

This association **supports** "cohesive", districts whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. This association specifically **rejects** redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts of the east coast of Florida.

An active member of the Sanibel and Captiva Islands Association or REALTORS®, I support the position of the Board of Directors of this association that representatives of the 14th Congressional District shall be residents of Southwest Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Priscilla Murphy", written over a white background.

*Place your business
card here*



P. O. Box 57 • 1019 Periwinkle Way • Sanibel Island • Florida • 33957
941-472-1511 • Toll Free 800-233-8829 • Facsimile 941-472-1292

E-mail: islandsales@pmrrealty.com



This letter was submitted by Elaine Hamilton, Executive Vice President, Bonita Springs Board of REALTORS, at the Redistricting Public Hearing, 1:00 PM, September 25, 2001, WGPU-TV, The Broadcasting Building, Ft. Myers, Florida

Similar letters submitted by 49 members of the Bonita Springs Board of REALTORS.

BONITA SPRINGS BOARD OF REALTORS®
MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE OF BONITA SPRINGS

27313 Old 41 Road, S. E. • Bonita Springs, Florida 34135
(941) 992-6771 • FAX (941) 947-9573 • EMAIL: info@bonitaspringsrealtors.com

September 15, 2001

President
Bruce Mazzola

President-Elect
Marilyn Plath

Secretary
Betty Jean Christensen

Treasurer
Dave Morton

Directors
Sheila Chapa
Vickee Douglas
Cheryl Stancil Mease
Ron Sanson
Robert A. Schmidt
Mary Lou Witsken

Past President/Director
Rudy Zant

Board Attorney
John D. Spear

**Executive
Vice President**
Elaine Hamilton

Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300

Re: Congressional Redistricting in Southwest Florida

Dear Chairman Byrd:

I am an employee of the Bonita Springs Board of REALTORS. I strongly support the position they have taken -- that only redistricting plans which will ensure that our representatives in the Florida Legislature and U.S. Congress reside in Southwest Florida.

I **support** cohesive boundary lines that stay in Southwest Florida. I specifically **reject** redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the east coast of Florida.

As an active business person and resident of Southwest Florida, I support the position taken by the Bonita Springs Board of Realtors, and want to go on record that the representative for the 14th Congressional District must be a resident of southwest Florida.

Sincerely,

Elaine Hamilton



This letter was submitted by Jim McMenamy, a member of The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS), at the Redistricting Public Hearing, 1:00 PM, September 25, 2001, at WGCU-TV, The Broadcasting Building, Ft. Myers, Florida.

Similar letters submitted by 51 other members of REIS.

RE/MAX Realty Group

7910 Summerlin Lakes Drive
Fort Myers, Florida 33907
Office: (941) 489-0444
Fax: (941) 489-1504
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

RE/MAX®

September 17, 2001

*The Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
House Procedural & Redistricting Council
The Capital, Room 418
402 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300*

Dear Chairman Byrd:

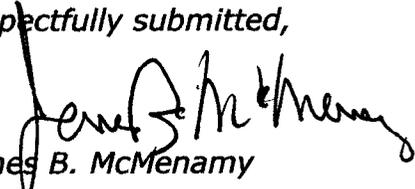
RE: CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

*The Real Estate Investment Society (REIS) Board of Governors voted unanimously to strongly support redistricting plans that assure the interests of the citizens of Southwest Florida. Be it further known that the membership of REIS feels that **local** representation in the Florida State Legislature and the U.S. Congress is essential to the future success of the Southwest Florida region.*

*REIS supports a "cohesive" district whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. REIS specifically **reject** redistricting plans that may link Southwest Florida with any political districts on the East Coast of Florida.*

As an active member of the Real Estate Investment Society, I support the position of the Board of Governors of this organization.

Respectfully submitted,


James B. McMenemy

/baf



ESTERO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 588, Estero, FL 33928
948-7990

August 23,2001

Mr. Johnnie Byrd, Chairman
Representative, District 62-R
P.O. Drawer E
Plant City, Florida 33564

Dear Mr. Byrd:

The Board of Directors of the Estero Chamber of Commerce has taken action to officially support redistricting plans that assure its representatives in the Florida Legislature and U.S. Congress reside in SW Florida.

We call on our lawmakers to draw boundaries that preserve and enhance opportunities for representation from the Southwest Florida coastal counties and those immediately adjacent to us.

The Estero Chamber of Commerce believes that the rapid growth of our community and our ability to work with our elected officials reflects the unique character of the area. We encourage The Estero Civic Association, the Estero Rotary Club, the Estero Historical Association to urge their members to speak up at public hearings in September and to urge our lawmakers to draw boundaries that preserve the character of Southwest Florida.

Very truly yours,

Eileen C. Galvin
Executive Director



Quality Life Center of Southwest Florida, Inc.
P. O. Drawer 1290, Fort Myers FL 33902-1290
Tel. (941) 334-2797 / Fax (941) 334-3599
E-Mail-qlcswfla@peganet.com

STATEMENT BEFORE THE FLORIDA REDISTRICTING PUBLIC HEARINGS
September 25, 2001 – Fort Myers, Florida
Submitted by A.H. Muhammed, Executive Director
Quality Life Center of Southwest Florida, Inc.

The Quality Life Center of Southwest Florida, Inc. strongly urges the Florida State Legislature to maintain the representational integrity of Southwest Florida. The responsibility to provide fair and equal representation to each voter carries with it the responsibility to guarantee that each district reflects cohesive patterns of life.

The Quality Life Center provides programs targeting areas defined by area codes 33916, 33905, and 33901. Beginning in 1991 and operating today, we have provided services to thousands of children and families in Fort Myers. We work with people who report the lowest median family incomes, lowest education levels, highest juvenile arrest rates, and highest unemployment rates in the county.

Our programs focus on children – their development, the development of their family, and the development of the community. We provide comprehensive youth enrichment, improving academic proficiency, building self-esteem, enhancing life skills such as anger management, and providing self development through the performing arts.

We reach out to those who mentor and provide support for the children – siblings and parents. We provide job placement and training, intensive career management, and self-development workshops. We work with community and government agencies to provide a comprehensive system of services that meet the unique needs of our community.

This system needs to be flexible in order to meet changing circumstances, perhaps caused by increased population or by external, unavoidable economic pressures. The strength of what we provide is in the ability to react to the specific environment of our homes, city, and county.

We witness every day the need to be flexible to shape the program to the needs. This same responsibility lies on the shoulders of our representatives in the state and national legislatures. We strongly urge you to keep Southwest Florida intact when redesignating the legislative and congressional districts.



Owen-Ames-Kimball Company 11941 Fairway Lakes Drive, Fort Myers, Florida 33913-8338 Voice 941-561-4141 • Fax 941-561-1996

September 24, 2001

House Redistricting Committee
203 HOB
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing regarding current redistricting considerations for the current 14th Congressional District in Florida and adjacent areas.

From January 1, 1991 through December 31, 1996, I had the pleasure of serving as a Director of the Miami Branch of the Atlanta Federal Reserve—the Sixth Federal Reserve District. That seven-member board, meeting in Miami, took responsibility for Federal Reserve activity for all of South Florida, sharing the balance of the State with the Jacksonville branch office. In all, the Sixth District services Tennessee, Georgia, significant portions of Alabama and Mississippi, and all of Florida with five branches boards, Miami being one.

During the course of six years of analysis and policy recommendations, I was the lone representative of Southwest Florida while the other six members came from the eastern region of our district. In those years we had occasion to both “dig out” of a recession and serve during stable economic times.

Based on that experience I have no hesitation in offering clear opposition to any re-districting that would enact a bi-coastal approach.

The reality is that the economies, business drivers, heritage, and social structures of Southwest Florida are distinctly unique in comparison with the other coast of Florida. As such, a cross-state Congressional District would be close to impossible to represent in a consistent and even-handed fashion.

It is my opinion, based on actual experience serving within the Federal Reserve system, that construction of a bi-coastal district would have no legitimate rationale if we are truly seeking quality representation for the whole of that created district.



Owen-Ames-Kimball Company 11941 Fairway Lakes Drive, Fort Myers, Florida 33913-8338 Voice 941-561-4141 • Fax 941-561-1996

Should there be questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am unable to speak at the public hearings on this matter as they have been scheduled but do think my thoughts and observations are pertinent to the issue.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Shimp", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Steven C. Shimp, P.E.
President, Owen-Ames-Kimball Company



City of Cape Coral

POLICE DEPARTMENT



September 21, 2001

Congressman Porter Goss, 14th District
Fort Myers District Office
2000 Main Street, Suite 303
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Dear Congressman Goss:

As a proud resident of the greater Southwest Florida area and the City of Cape Coral in particular, I felt compelled to submit my individual input into the very important issue of congressional redistricting.

As a long term resident of the east coast, it is my opinion that it is politically infeasible and highly improbable that an east coast resident will represent the interests of Southwest Florida with the same fervor and commitment as they would the interest of their east coast constituents. The fact is that Southwest Florida's political interests are, in many respects, different from those espoused by east coast residents. As such, it would be quite unrealistic to expect a representative from that side of the state to support or represent our interests over those of their friends, associates, neighbors, and east coast constituents in general.

Southwest Floridians deserve to have congressional representation in the person of a Southwest Florida resident who shares the same interests as the constituents he/she is elected to represent. Therefore, it is vitally important that Southwest Florida continue to remain a separate congressional district.

Sincerely,


Arnold A. Gibbs
Chief of Police

AAG/cr

City of Cape Coral • P.O. Box 150027 • Cape Coral, Florida 33915-0027
(941) 574-3223 • Fax (941) 574-6315

Co-County Seat - Lee County, Florida



**RESOLUTION
OF
GREATER FORT MYERS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.**

WHEREAS, a primary objective of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce, Inc. is to focus upon and respond to issues that affect the Greater Fort Myers Area; and

WHEREAS, Reapportionment, or Redistricting, of Florida's United States Congressional Districts and of both the Florida House and Senatorial State Districts, as mandated by the United States and Florida Constitutions, is in progress; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce that the Florida House and Senate Committees undertaking such Redistricting have, are or will consider including portions of the Southwest Florida counties of Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades ("Southwest Florida"), within state and federal districts dominated by counties located on the east coast of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the right of the citizens of Southwest Florida to full and fair representation, including convenient access to their representatives, in the United States Congress, the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, depends upon the ability of those citizens to choose representatives for themselves who live and work in Southwest Florida ; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of all or any portion of the Southwest Florida counties of Lee, Charlotte, Collier, Hendry and Glades, within state or federal districts dominated by counties located on the East coast of Florida is a disservice to the citizens of Southwest Florida; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Southwest Florida are entitled to be included within state and federal voting districts which are geographically compact and economically and politically cohesive; and

WHEREAS, such unfair redistricting, as the inclusion of all or any portion of the Southwest Florida within state or federal districts dominated by counties located on the East coast of Florida, would only be considered in order to serve the personal political interests of certain individuals residing on Florida's East coast; and

WHEREAS, it would be fair, right, and strongly desirable for citizens of Southwest Florida to be represented in the United States Congress, the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate by persons living and working within their own community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Greater Fort Myers Chamber of Commerce, Inc. that:

1. The Chamber whole heartedly supports a plan of Congressional and state Redistricting which does not link or otherwise include any portion of Lee, Collier, Charlotte, Hendry or Glades counties within a voting district dominated by voters residing outside of Southwest Florida; and

2. The Chamber strongly urges that the current representatives of Southwest Florida, serving in the United States Congress, the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate, take all action or actions they deem necessary to prohibit the dilution of of the rights of the citizens of Southwest Florida, who are entitled to fair and equal representation in these governing institutions.


William Valenti, Chairman


Marietta Mudgett, Executive Director

Et. Myers

CITY OF CAPE CORAL
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Howard Kunik, Interim City Manager *HK*
DATE: September 21, 2001
SUBJECT: Redistricting

Please see the attached "Talking Points for Public Hearings on Reapportionment in Southwest Florida" for your information. You might find this information useful should you wish to attend the Tuesday, September 25, 2001 Public Hearing on this matter to be held at the WGPU-TV Studios located at Florida Gulf Coast University beginning at 1:00 p.m. Let's discuss this at the Council meeting on September 24.

HK/tl(Redistricting)

Attachment

C: Department Directors
City Manager's Staff

- Bob Crosson
- Laurel Czerwinski
- Helen Darby
- Arnold Gibbs
- Charlie Johnson
- Bonnie Mazurkiewicz
- Chuck Pavlos
- Steve Pohlman
- Harry Roberts

TALKING POINTS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON REAPPORTIONMENT IN SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

SEPT. 24 AND 25

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA IS A CONTIGUOUS AND COMPACT AREA

- Presently the 14th Congressional District includes the counties of Charlotte, Collier and Lee located on the west coast of Florida. However, the Southwest Florida region encompasses several additional, adjoining inland counties.
- Southwest Florida is a community of common interest with an integrated transportation system; a regional educational network via Florida Gulf Coast University; joint involvement in regional agencies including the southwest Florida Regional Planning council; and a local economy that is regional in nature, with a strong reliance on service and tourism industries in all counties.
- Our current Congressional district has demonstrated that it is geographically compact, and economically and politically cohesive with no history of thwarting minority-group interests.
- Since 1982, our counties have been well served by preserving a continuity of representation familiar with the common needs and economic interests of the region.

GROWTH OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

- The 2000 Census shows Florida with a growth rate of 23 percent.
- Southwest Florida has experienced a growth rate significantly greater than the state average, making the 14th Congressional District the second fastest-growing in the state.
- Collier had a 65.27 percent growth rate from 1990 through 2000, with another 5 percent since the 2000 Census, making it the second fastest-growing county in the United States.
- Lee County experienced a growth rate of 31.56 percent during the same period.
- Charlotte County exceeds the state statistics with a growth rate of 27.62 percent.
- Hendry County likewise exceeded state growth with a rate of 40.5 percent from 1990 through 2000.
- So, based on the growth criteria, Southwest Florida deserves additional Congressional, state senate and state house seats, not fewer.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

Synopsis

1. Collier and Hendry counties are covered jurisdictions under the provisions of Section 4(b) of the Federal Voting Rights Act, and will remain so until the year 2007.
2. The Act requires any covered jurisdiction to pre-clear any changes in its electoral laws and "any voting qualification or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure with respect to voting" with the U.S. Department of Justice before any change could take effect. The Justice Department uses this authority to require that redistricting plans be pre-cleared.
3. To obtain pre-clearance, a jurisdiction has the burden of establishing that any voting change or a change in the boundaries of a voting unit "does not have the purpose and will not have the effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race, color, or membership in a language minority group."

Because Collier County is a voter's rights county, certain preferences and standards need to be considered.

As such, minority groups from Southwest Florida should not be disenfranchised and should be represented by someone familiar with their needs and interests.

The needs of the Southwest Florida minority communities would not get the attention or focus they deserve if they needed to compete for grants, funds and recognition against the East Coast of Florida or other geographical regions within the state.

CONCLUSION

Splitting Southwest Florida could result in disenfranchised voters who are not represented by people who live and work in their community.

It could also result in Southwest Florida being represented by people who cannot effectively represent the interests of the residents.

A new, unbalanced district system will not improve on the representative district now in place and will not further the interests of residents in Southwest Florida.



Handwritten signature and initials, possibly "Ray", written in black ink.

RESOLUTION 55 - 01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A COHESIVE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND OPPOSING ANY REDISTRICTING THAT WOULD INCLUDE LEE AND COLLIER COUNTIES IN ANY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WITH BROWARD, MIAMI/DADE OR MONROE COUNTIES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution defines the obligation to reapportion the United States House of Representatives following each decennial census "according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons;" and,

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 8 of the Florida Constitution establishes that "each decennial census of the State taken by the United States shall be the official census of the state;" and,

WHEREAS, the primary federal statutes which must be considered in redistricting are the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 United States Code, 1973, and Public Law 94-171, providing for the uses of decennial-census population data in reapportioning and redistricting United States House of Representatives congressional districts; and,

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has been in receipt of Public Law 94-171 population data from the 2000 United States Census since March 27, 2001 and has begun the process of drawing new boundaries for Florida's twenty-five (25) United States House of Representatives congressional districts; and

WHEREAS, since 1992, Lee and Collier Counties have been included in Congressional District 14 and have been well served by Congressman Porter Goss, a representative familiar with the common needs and economic interests of the Southwest Florida Coast; and

WHEREAS, Congressional District 14 has demonstrated that it is geographically compact, and economically and politically cohesive with no history of thwarting minority group interests; and,

WHEREAS, existing District 14 respects existing political boundaries and shared topographical features designed with strict adherence to the equal population, one person-one vote rule; and

WHEREAS, Collier and Lee counties are located in southwest Florida with communities of interest shared commonly with its neighboring west coast counties; and

WHEREAS, including Lee and Collier Counties in a new congressional district with southeast Florida's Broward, Miami/Dade, and/or Monroe counties would create an asymmetric district inconsistent with standards important to the existing district's citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Cape Coral Florida as follows:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Cape Coral, Florida supports a cohesive congressional district whose geographic boundaries reflect the demographics of Southwest Florida. The Council firmly believes that there are many issues that are geographically distinct between the east and west coasts of Florida and that by combining east and west coast districts, those districts would not be well served. For this reason, the City Council of the City of Cape Coral, Florida opposes any redistricting plan that may link Southwest Florida with any political district from the east coast of Florida.

Section 2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by City Council.

ADOPTED AT A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING THIS 10th DAY OF September 2001.


ARNOLD E. KEMPE, MAYOR

ATTESTED TO AND FILED IN MY OFFICE THIS 14th DAY OF September 2001.


BONNIE J. MAZURKEWICZ
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


MARILYN W. MILLER
ACTING CITY ATTORNEY
res/congressredistrict