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11   SENATE REDISTRICTING SUBCOMMITTEE WORKSHOP

12   THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011

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20   Transcribed by:

21   CLARA C. ROTRUCK

22   Court Reporter

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1   T A P E D   P R O C E E D I N G S

2   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: The Senate

3   Redistricting Subcommittee meeting will come to

4   order. Katie, will you call the roll, please?

5   THE CLERK: Representatives Boyd?

6   REPRESENTATIVE BOYD: Here.

7   THE CLERK: Caldwell?

8   REPRESENTATIVE CALDWELL: Here.

9   THE CLERK: Crisafulli?

10   REPRESENTATIVE CRISAFULLI: Here.

11   THE CLERK: Cruz?

12   REPRESENTATIVE CRUZ: Here.

13   THE CLERK: Eisnaugle?

14   REPRESENTATIVE EISNAUGLE: Here.

15   THE CLERK: Ford?

16   REPRESENTATIVE FORD: Here.

17   THE CLERK: Hukill?

18   REPRESENTATIVE HUKILL: Here.

19   THE CLERK: Jenne?

20   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Here.

21   THE CLERK: Kiar?

22   REPRESENTATIVE KIAR: Here.

23   THE CLERK: Logan?

24   REPRESENTATIVE LOGAN: Here.

25   THE CLERK: Rouson?

1   REPRESENTATIVE ROUSON: Here.

2   THE CLERK: Stargel?

3   REPRESENTATIVE STARGEL: Here.

4   THE CLERK: Williams, A.?

5   Williams, T.?

6   REPRESENTATIVE T. WILLIAMS: Here.

7   THE CLERK: Workman?

8   REPRESENTATIVE WORKMAN: Here.

9   THE CLERK: Chair Nehr?

10   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Here.

11   THE CLERK: A quorum is present.

12   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Thank you.

13   Before we get started, I would like

14   everybody to welcome Representative Eisnaugle

15   to our committee. Representative, glad to have

16   you on board. And if -- just for the record,

17   Representative Williams, Al Williams, has an

18   excused absence.

19   Members, today we are work-shopping two

20   proposed State Senate maps, and the first of

21   which is the map proposed by our counterparts

22   in the Florida Senate, the second being the

23   public submission to the -- from the Florida

24   State Conference of the NAACP.

25   Everyone received an e-mail last Friday

        1   from Redistricting Committee Chair Weatherford

        2   outlining why we are work-shopping these two

        3   proposals today.

        4   Co-Chair Hukill and I want to reiterate

        5   one point from Tuesday's meeting of the

        6   Redistricting Committee. When Chair

        7   Weatherford simply noted that while this is a

        8   change in what we are work-shopping, the big

        9   picture expectations of passing a legally

       10   compliant and thoughtful work product are the

       11   same, and as such, you the members of this

       12   committee, will still ultimately decide what

       13   this subcommittee chooses to send to the

       14   Redistricting Committee. As this is a

       15   workshop, there will be no votes taken today.

       16   This is a time for you to ask questions, make

       17   suggestions and discuss options.

       18   After today, we are still set for voting

       19   as a subcommittee around the first week of

       20   session, and so that everyone gives -- excuse

       21   me, so that gives everyone here a full month to

       22   share these maps with your constituents,

       23   discuss them with your colleagues in the House

       24   and possibly even craft amendments if you feel

       25   compelled to do so.

1   Now, just to make sure we are in the

2   correct technical posture, at our next meeting

3   it is currently our intent to consider and vote

4   on the Senate's proposed map in the form of a

5   PCB. Of course, if there are any amendments

6   filed, we will consider those and proceed as we

7   would with any other legislation.

8   If you do wish to file an amendment,

9   please -- and I will say please and please

10   again -- work with our staff in advance of the

11   meeting before filing the amendment.

12   Are there any questions? Seeing no

13   questions, with that said, members, Jason

14   Poreda will be giving today's presentation.

15   Members, I would suggest that we allow Jason to

16   finish a region at a time before we ask

17   questions of him, so that if you do have a

18   question, just get my attention, I will

19   recognize you at the next pause in the

20   presentation. And members of the audience, if

21   we have time at the conclusion of today's

22   presentation, we will take public input. So if

23   you wish to speak and have not already filled

24   out an appearance card, please make sure that

25   you do so.

1   With that, Jason, you are recognized to

2   begin the presentation.

3   MR. POREDA: Thank you, Chairman Nehr.

4   As the Chairman said, we will be

5   work-shopping two maps today, Senate

6   Reapportionment Committee's proposal and the

7   public submission from the NAACP. We will be

8   primarily looking at the Senate Reapportionment

9   Committee's proposal, and only looking at the

10   NAACP map for specific districts. The reason

11   for this is when we looked at the NAACP map as

12   a whole, there are some problems that stand out

13   with it that we didn't feel like we could

14   consider the map in the whole. The first

15   problem is the population deviation is very,

16   very high. The total deviation is 9.96

17   percent, a little over 20,000 voters, plus or

18   minus, which in comparison to the Senate

19   proposals map, which is about three percent, it

20   is about 2.9 percent. Also, the high amount of

21   county and city breaks, 41 of the 67 counties

22   were broken in that particular map, and 121

23   cities of the 411 cities we have here in

24   Florida. Also, Hendry County, which is a

25   Section 5 county, covered under Section 5, in

1   the current plan, 100 percent of that county is

2   included in a minority district, District 39,

3   that has a black voting age population of 29.1

4   percent and a Hispanic voting age population of

5   43 percent. The NAACP proposed plan puts all

6   of Hendry County in District 27 on their map

7   with a black voting age population of 10.1

8   percent and a Hispanic voting age population of

9   22.6 percent, which would significantly

10   diminish that county -- the minority

11   population's ability to elect a candidate of

12   choice there. It also has a lot of

13   similarities to the current plan, and as we

14   have traveled through all the meetings

15   throughout the state and received tons of

16   public input expressing the public's kind of

17   concerns with how the current map looks. So

18   with all of those points in mind, that's why we

19   are not going to be looking at the NAACP map in

20   full, but just looking at it specific -- for

21   specific districts.

22   And, again, as the Chairman said, I will

23   kind of be presenting the map regionally with a

24   brief look at the current map just to kind of

25   give you an idea of where we are starting from

1   and then go from there. So with that, you can

2   see on the screen right now -- and everything

3   that I am presenting is in your packets that

4   you can -- with printouts and screen shots of

5   all the districts and all the data, but

6   currently you can see here on the screen, these

7   are the current congressional districts in the

8   Panhandle, Districts 2, 4 and 6. I will go

9   over to the Senate's proposed map, and you can

10   see that Districts 2 and 4 I will kind of

11   present together, those districts were drawn

12   horizontally, sharing a border that follows the

13   Intracoastal Waterway, the Yellow River,

14   Interstate 10 and the eastern boundary of Bay

15   County and the southern boundary of Jackson

16   County.

17   There was public testimony in Pensacola,

18   Ft. Walton Beach and Panama City supporting

19   drawing Panhandle districts of a similar

20   orientation, and there were several public

21   submissions that also drew maps in a very

22   similar way.

23   District 4 links cities along the coast by

24   State Route 98. District 2 is primarily linked

25   by Interstate 10.

1   An example of some of the public plans

2   that drew districts in a similar way, I won't

3   read them all, but public plan submission 7,

4   number 80, 90, 99, among others, drew districts

5   in this very similar way.

6   Moving further to the east, you can see

7   District 6 is currently constituted entirely of

8   11 whole counties and doesn't break any of

9   those county lines, Gadsden, Calhoun, Gulf,

10   Liberty, Franklin, Taylor, Wakulla, Jefferson,

11   Leon, Madison and Hamilton Counties. They are

12   linked together primarily by I-10, along with

13   several other state routes that go into those

14   counties, and there are also proposed maps by

15   the public that draw a very similar district in

16   that area.

17   Moving further to the east, kind of

18   finishing up the Panhandle, District 3 -- I

19   will try to shrink this down so we can see the

20   whole district -- District 3 combines rural

21   counties in north Florida and the Nature Coast.

22   It also contains part of Marion County. Just

23   outside of -- the border of the district kind

24   of goes down I-75 within Marion County and goes

25   around the City of Ocala.

           1   Testimony was heard in the Gainesville

           2   meeting supporting the grouping of many of

           3   these counties together, and additional

           4   testimony was heard in support for keeping as

           5   much of the Nature Coast counties together as

           6   possible. And that kind of finishes up the

           7   Panhandle before we finish moving into the

           8   northeast Florida or -- now -- Chair, now would

           9   be a good time to pause for any questions.

          10   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Does anyone have any

          11   questions?

          12   Seeing no questions, continue.

          13   MR. POREDA: Okay. The next district,

          14   moving into northeast Florida, is District 14.

          15   It is another district made up entirely of

          16   whole counties, three counties: Alachua,

          17   Bradford and Clay County. In the Jacksonville

          18   and Gainesville public meetings, there was

          19   support for keeping these counties together.

          20   Wholly, individually, this district keeps them

          21   all together by combining them. Public plan

          22   143 and 121 draw a similar district in this

          23   area. And then moving to the north to District

          24   5, District 5 keeps all of Nassau County and

          25   then part of Duval County together to make up

1   the proper population necessary for a Senate

2   district. At the Jacksonville public meeting,

3   we heard from residents of Nassau County

4   expressing their interest to be kept together

5   in whole. This district does that.

6   Moving a little bit to the south, and I

7   will zoom out a little bit so we can see the

8   whole district, District 1 preserves the core

9   of an existing district that has long elected

10   an African-American member of the Senate. The

11   district connects northeastern portions of the

12   state from the St. Johns River Basin between

13   Jacksonville and Daytona Beach along Interstate

14   95. Testimony was heard in Jacksonville urging

15   the maintenance of such a district to preserve

16   the minority voting opportunities in the

17   region. The black voting age population for

18   the district is 47.85, which is very similar to

19   the current district as it is today, 46.88

20   percent.

21   And this is one of the districts that we

22   will take a look at the NAACP map to see what

23   they did. This district, you can see that the

24   borders of the district are similar in that

25   they go from the Duval/Jacksonville area kind

1   of down Interstate 95 all the way to Daytona

2   Beach, picking up some city populations along

3   the way. The NAACP's map has a voting age

4   population for this -- black voting age

5   population for this district of 47.15.

6   The next district in this area is District

7   8, you can see right here. It connects coastal

8   cities along I-95 and Route A1A from the

9   Jacksonville beaches to Daytona Beach down in

10   Volusia County. Testimony was heard in St.

11   Augustine and the Daytona Beach meeting urging

12   keeping St. Johns and Flagler Counties together

13   in some capacity. Public plans 143, 146 and

14   155 drew a similar district that you see here

15   on the Senate proposed map -- I'm sorry, the

16   Senate proposed map, including the NAACP map.

17   District 20 now, moving to the other side

18   from District 1, this district connects Marion

19   County with Putnam County and the northeast

20   part of Lake and Sumter Counties. Testimony

21   from The Villages public meeting supported

22   keeping the incorporated part of The Villages

23   in Sumter County with Lady Lake and Lake County

24   and the southern part of Marion County

25   containing Summerfield, which make up a compact

 1   community in the area, and there were several

 2   public plans that drew a similar district in

 3   this area as well.

 4   District 7 is made up -- contains the

 5   majority of Volusia County, and a lot of public

 6   testimony was heard in Daytona Beach in support

 7   of a district that would be primarily based in

 8   Volusia County. And it also keeps a lot -- a

 9   number of cities within Volusia County whole,

10   and the district boundary within Volusia County

11   takes those city boundaries into account.

12   Public plans 84 and 146 drew a very similar

13   district in the area.

14   And this is another good opportunity,

15   before we move into the Orlando/Orange County

16   area, to take a break and ask questions, if

17   anyone has any.

18   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Members, does

19   anybody have any questions?

20   No questions. Jason, you can move on.

21   MR. POREDA: Okay. Moving into the

22   central Florida area, District 22 contains the

23   majority of Seminole County, as well as parts

24   of Orange County, necessary to attain the

25   necessary population for a Senate district.

1   Public plans 64, 72 and 146 drew a very similar

2   district containing the majority of Seminole

3   County in the central Florida area.

4   District 24, just south of that -- I might

5   have zoomed in a little too much there --

6   creates a new majority-minority Hispanic

7   district in central Florida with a Hispanic

8   voting age population of 50.53. It keeps the

9   City of Kissimmee whole while connecting it

10   with similar areas in Orange and Polk Counties.

11   Testimony from the Orlando public meeting

12   supported the idea of a similar orientation and

13   demographic district in this area, and we

14   received numerous publicly submitted plans that

15   had a similar district with a similar

16   orientation. Public plans 92, 95, 102 and

17   others had a similar district in the central

18   Florida area.

19   Moving a little bit more north to District

20   19, which connects the largely urban and

21   minority parts of Orlando, Ocoee, Winter

22   Garden, Apopka, Maitland, Winter Park, Sanford

23   and Eatonville. Public testimony was heard in

24   the Orlando meeting for supporting a district

25   that joined these areas together. The current

1   District 19 has traditionally elected a

2   minority candidate of choice, and this district

3   maintains that likelihood with a black voting

4   age population of 40.01 and a Hispanic voting

5   age population of 20.73.

6   The NAACP map drew this district -- I will

7   zoom down to that. As you can see, that is the

8   District 19 that the NAACP map has, and their

9   -- on their district, the black voting age

10   population is 38.73 percent and the Hispanic

11   voting age population is 22.12 percent,

12   compared to the Senate maps of 40.01 for black

13   voting age population and 20.73 of the Hispanic

14   voting age population.

15   Now, District 9 contains kind of the

16   remaining part of the western Orange County, as

17   well as part of -- kind of the southern part of

18   Lake County, and these areas are linked by the

19   Florida Turnpike and I-4. And these similar --

20   a similar district to this was drawn by the

21   public in plans 84, 143 and 146, and I know I

22   didn't do it before we moved into this area,

23   but the current map, just to kind of give you a

24   basis of what the map currently looks like in

25   that area -- so you can see those are what the

 1   districts look like as they currently are on

 2   the current map, and we will go back to the

 3   Florida Senate proposed map so you can see the

 4   changes there.

 5   And now I will talk about District 15 just

 6   to the south, which contains the majority of

 7   Osceola County and connects it with Orange

 8   County and Polk Counties. There was publicly

 9   submitted plans that drew a similar district in

10   this area, plans 143, 146 and 147.

11   And that would now -- we kind of finish

12   that Orlando, kind of central Florida area.

13   Now would be a good time to pause and take any

14   questions, if there are any.

15   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Members, does anyone

16   have any questions about this particular area?

17   Seeing no questions, you can move on.

18   MR. POREDA: Okay. Thank you, Chairman.

19   And we will move on to the Tampa Bay area

20   map. I will quickly show the Committee what

21   the current map looks like in that area. So

22   there you can see what the current makeup of

23   the Tampa Bay area looks like as it is today.

24   And then moving over to the Florida Senate's

25   proposed proposal, you can see District 11

1   keeps Hernando County whole and connects it

2   with a majority of Sumter County and part of

3   Pasco County just to the south of Hernando

4   County. I-75 and Route 19 and Suncoast Parkway

5   link all of these areas together. In Wesley

6   Chapel, we heard support for a district that

7   would join Sumter and Hernando and Pasco

8   Counties together, and this district

9   accomplishes that. Public plans 80, 105 and

10   108 have a similar district orientation in this

11   area of the state.

12   Moving a little bit south to District 12,

13   this connects south central and eastern parts

14   of Pasco Counties, the Cities of Land O'Lakes,

15   Wesley Chapel and western Hillsborough County.

16   Testimony was heard from the Wesley Chapel

17   public meeting supporting the idea of a

18   district that connected these areas together,

19   and there's public plans that drew similar

20   districts in the area as well.

21   Moving a little bit into Pinellas County,

22   this district, 13, was drawn entirely within

23   Pinellas County, and actually doesn't break any

24   city boundaries within the county, which I can

25   say is an accomplishment with the city

1   boundaries in Pinellas County. There was much

2   public testimony and submissions wanting a

3   district wholly within Pinellas County. Public

4   submissions 7, 56, 83, 91 and others drew a

5   very, very similar district.

6   District 16 joins part of Tampa and St.

7   Petersburg along with other cities in Pinellas

8   County. I-275 connects the two portions -- the

9   two counties together, and district -- plans

10   117, 91 and 83 drew a similar district that

11   joined the bays together.

12   District 18, I will zoom out a little bit

13   so we can get a full view of the district.

14   This district joins mostly the urban and

15   largely minority areas of Tampa, St. Petersburg

16   and Bradenton. The current District 18 has

17   traditionally elected a minority candidate of

18   choice, and this district maintains that

19   likelihood with a black voting age population

20   of 37.32 percent and a Hispanic voting age

21   population of 27.5 percent. Today the district

22   is 39.46 percent black voting age population

23   and 23.31 percent Hispanic voting age

24   population. This is another district that

25   we'll move to the NAACP map to see how they

1   drew this area. You can see that they drew a

2   district -- they drew district boundaries very

3   similar to what the Florida Senate has

4   proposed, and the breakdown of their

5   demographic numbers are a black voting age

6   population of 35.46 percent, and 30.6 percent

7   Hispanic voting age population.

8   Moving to District 10, which is kept

9   entirely within Hillsborough County, and at the

10   Tampa meeting there was testimony supporting a

11   district -- a Senate district that remained

12   completely within Hillsborough County, keeping

13   such areas as Bradenton and Apollo Beach

14   together. And there's public plans that drew a

15   similar district, although none of those

16   publicly submitted plans kept it entirely

17   within Hillsborough County, but the vast

18   majority of it was. But it is very similar to

19   how it is oriented on the Florida Senate's

20   proposal.

21   And now District 21 will be the last

22   district before I ask for questions. This

23   contains the majority of Manatee County with --

24   the majority of Manatee County, as well as

25   parts of eastern Hillsborough County and

1   western Polk Counties. The Cities of Anna

2   Maria, Bradenton Beach, Holmes Beach, Mulberry

3   and Plant City are entirely kept within this

4   district, and there is a -- public plan 143

5   drew a similar district of similar orientation.

6   And that kind of completes the Tampa Bay

7   region, if we will take a break for questions

8   if anyone has any.

9   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Members, does anyone

10   have a question for -- you are recognized,

11   Representative.

12   REPRESENTATIVE T. WILLIAMS: Thank you. I

13   guess I could just question Senate District 18

14   and how that complies with Amendments 5 and 6,

15   because that just looks like gerrymandering to

16   me. How do you --

17   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: You are recognized

18   to answer the question.

19   MR. POREDA: Thank you, Chairman.

20   That district -- I should have mentioned

21   when I presented the district, so thank you,

22   Representative Williams, for pointing it out.

23   Hillsborough County is a Section 5 county

24   protected under the Voting Rights Act, so in

25   order -- that district needs to be redrawn so

1   the minority representation in that area is not

2   diminished, and that is why -- the reason why

3   that district was drawn the way it was.

4   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Representative

5   Williams, follow-up? No. Thank you.

6   Anyone else have any questions?

7   You can move on, Jason.

8   MR. POREDA: Thank you, Chairman.

9   We will now move down southwest Florida,

10   starting first with kind of the central

11   district and then moving southwest so you can

12   see on the current map -- I will zoom out a

13   little bit so you can get a full view of the

14   area. So that is how southwest Florida is

15   currently situated on the map. Now moving to

16   the Senate's proposed map, as you can see,

17   District 17 is made up entirely of the counties

18   in the center of the state. DeSoto, Glades,

19   Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee Counties are kept

20   whole, as well as parts of Charlotte County,

21   Martin, Polk and St. Lucie County. In the

22   Wauchula meeting, there was supported testimony

23   that -- to keep the joining of all these

24   central counties together and keeping them

25   together. District -- public plan 72 drew a

1   similar district that you see here on the

2   proposal.

3   District 23 is made up entirely of

4   Sarasota County, as well as the coastal areas

5   of Charlotte County. I-75 and Route 41 join

6   this area together very -- very well. There

7   were several people in the Sarasota meeting who

8   testified supporting the idea of keeping

9   Sarasota whole. There was also additional

10   testimony supporting the idea of joining the

11   coastal areas of these counties together.

12   Public plan 7, 90, 92, as well as others drew a

13   similar district connecting cities such as

14   North Port, Venice, Port Charlotte and Grove

15   City.

16   District 27 joins the southern part of

17   Charlotte County, including all of the Cities

18   of Punta Gorda, and then in Lee County, the

19   entire City of Ft. Myers. It is primarily

20   linked by I-75. At the Lehigh Acres meeting,

21   there was support for keeping the City of

22   Bonita Springs whole, as well as Lehigh Acres

23   whole, and in a district that is primarily

24   based in Lee County, which this district

25   accomplishes. And public plan number 60 drew a

1   very similar district.

2   District 37 contains the coastal areas of

3   Collier County and Lee County. The district

4   contains all of the Cities of Cape Coral,

5   Everglades, Ft. Myers Beach, Marco Island,

6   Naples and Sanibel. And just like a lot of the

7   districts in the southwest, it is joined mostly

8   by I-75 and then the Tamiami Trail.

9   And that kind of finishes the southwest

10   portion of the state. I pause for any

11   questions.

12   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Members, any other

13   questions?

14   Seeing no questions, if you would move on

15   to the next section, please.

16   MR. POREDA: Great. Thank you, Chairman.

17   With that, again, I will move quickly back

18   to the current map and we will start by kind of

19   going through the Space Coast area of the east

20   coast and move down into Miami-Dade and Monroe

21   County.

22   So you can see this is what the current

23   area looks like in Brevard and Indian River

24   Counties kind of going down the east coast of

25   Florida. On the Senate proposed map, you can

1   see the difference -- I will flip back quickly

2   since I had to move the map around. That is

3   what it looks like today, and this is what the

4   proposed map suggests.

5   District 26 on the map is made up

6   primarily of Brevard County, the southern part

7   that is not included in the District 7 to the

8   north, and western Indian River Counties. It

9   breaks no city lines. In the Melbourne

10   meeting, there was support for keeping a Senate

11   district primarily based in Brevard County, and

12   this district -- by also recognizing that

13   Brevard County had to be split into two Senate

14   districts just based on population, so this

15   accomplishes that. And just like for the rest

16   of the districts going down the east coast of

17   Florida, I-95 is the primary transportation

18   route for this district, and there were several

19   plans that drew a similar district -- publicly

20   submitted plans, I'm sorry, that drew a similar

21   district as this.

22   District 28 is a district that joins the

23   coastal regions of Indian River, St. Lucie,

24   Martin and a small part of Palm Beach County.

25   At the Stuart meeting, Stuart public

1   meeting, there was testimony that supported the

2   idea of a district of similar orientation that

3   would keep these areas of the Treasure Coast

4   together. And, again, publicly submitted plans

5   64, 108 and 120 drew a similar district in this

6   area.

7   Looking a little bit further south into

8   Palm Beach County, District 25 joins the

9   coastal areas of Palm Beach and Broward

10   Counties together from Jupiter in Palm Beach to

11   the border -- northern border of Ft.

12   Lauderdale. At the Boca Raton and Davie

13   meetings, there was many people who testified

14   in support of a district that connected the

15   cities along the coast of Broward and Palm

16   Beach County together, cities such as Pompano

17   Beach, Boca Raton, Delray Beach and Palm Beach,

18   among others. Publicly submitted plans 89,

19   123, 147 and 155 drew a similar district in

20   this area.

21   As we move to now District 29, which also

22   connects Palm Beach and Broward Counties, it

23   unites largely the urban and minority areas

24   along Interstate 95 and U.S. 1, connecting the

25   two counties together, preserves the core of an

1   existing district that has consistently elected

2   candidates of preference by minority voters.

3   The black voting age population in this

4   district is 55.7. Today that district is black

5   voting age population of 60.73.

6   On the NAACP's map, we will move over to

7   that area, we can see they drew a very similar

8   district in orientation, and their District 29

9   contains a black voting age population of

10   57.68. This district also includes the entire

11   City of Lauderhill and Lauderdale Lakes, paying

12   attention to those city boundary lines. And

13   several members of the public supported

14   maintaining the idea of a district like this,

15   as well as many of the publicly submitted

16   plans.

17   District 30 just to the west of District

18   29 is entirely within Palm Beach County, is

19   oriented along the principal transportation

20   routes within the county that run north-south,

21   and at the meetings in the area in Boca Raton,

22   there was an interest for keeping this area

23   together since it is so condensely populated.

24   And now, moving a little bit to the west,

25   District 34 on the proposed map is made up of

1   western Palm Beach and Broward Counties. In

2   the Boca Raton meeting, there was support for a

3   district joining these two areas of the

4   counties together. U.S. 27, 98 and Route 441

5   make up the primary transportation route that

6   really joins this whole area and these two

7   counties together.

8   Moving a little bit south, you can see

9   District 32 is entirely within Broward County.

10   It is a very geographically concentrated

11   district that contains all of the Cities of

12   Tamarac, North Lauderdale, Coral Springs,

13   Margate, Coconut Creek and Parkland. Testimony

14   was heard in the Davie meeting supporting that

15   these areas be kept together because of their

16   geographic proximity. And public plans also

17   drew very similar districts, but it being so

18   geographically compact.

19   District 31, this district is also

20   entirely within Broward County. It -- travel

21   through the district is facilitated by

22   Interstate 75 and 95, as well as 595 and

23   several other thoroughfares that run east-west.

24   And, again, at the Davie meeting, there was a

25   lot of support for the idea of joining of the

1   cities of Cooper City and Davie, which this

2   district does.

3   And before we continue south and finish

4   out south Florida, I can pause and ask for any

5   questions about what we just --

6   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Any questions on

7   these sections of the presentation?

8   Seeing no questions, you are welcome to

9   move on.

10   MR. POREDA: Thank you, Chair.

11   I will quickly kind of take the current

12   map down and show you the area I just showed

13   you, as well as the area of Miami-Dade, so you

14   can see what it currently looks like on the

15   map.

16   So you can see these are the districts

17   within Miami-Dade County, and then if I move

18   north into Broward County and Palm Beach

19   County, you can see the area that I just went

20   through after going through the Space Coast on

21   the current map.

22   We will next move to District 33, which

23   has a history of electing a candidate preferred

24   by minority voters. The district includes all

25   of the Cities of Miami Gardens, Opa-Locka,

1   Biscayne Park, West Park, Pembroke Park, plus

2   portions of North Miami, North Miami Beach,

3   Hallendale Beach and Holly- -- Hollywood,

4   Miramar and Pembroke Pines. The black voting

5   age population in this district is 57.75.

6   Today that district is 59.22 percent. And on

7   the NAACP map, if I go to that area, you can

8   see their District 33 right there is a very

9   similar orientation, a very geographically

10   compact district, and its current -- its black

11   voting age population on their map is

12   60.13 percent.

13   Moving now to another geographically

14   compact district on the proposal, if I go back

15   to the Senate proposed map, District 40, this

16   is a geographically concentrated district and

17   contained entirely within Miami-Dade County.

18   This is a majority-minority Hispanic district

19   with a Hispanic voting age population of 86.87.

20   Today this district is 90.45 percent Hispanic

21   voting age population. This concentrated area

22   is made up of the Cities of Hialeah, Hialeah

23   Gardens, Medley, Miami Lakes, Miami Springs,

24   Virginia Gardens and a part of Doral. There is

25   support in the Miami public meeting for keeping

1   these cities together because they are so

2   geographically concentrated, and to preserve

3   the -- preserve the ability for the minority

4   candidates to be elected.

5   District 35 runs along the coast of

6   Miami-Dade County and is entirely within the

7   County of Miami-Dade. There was significant

8   testimony supporting the idea that -- of Miami

9   Shores being included in a coastal district

10   within Miami-Dade County. This district

11   contains 13 whole cities and parts of seven

12   others, and is actually a -- on the Senate's

13   proposed map, this brings the Hispanic voting

14   age population above 50 percent for the first

15   time. It is 50.53 percent. And the publicly

16   submitted map 85 drew a very similar district

17   as this on the map.

18   Zooming back in, District 36 is also

19   entirely within Miami-Dade County and is also a

20   majority-minority Hispanic district with a

21   voting age population of 83.43 percent. Today

22   that district is 79.16 percent. It includes

23   all of South Miami and West Miami, and there

24   was testimony in the South Miami meeting for

25   keeping these areas together to preserve the

1   likelihood of electing a minority candidate of

2   choice.

3   Chair, I will pause at this time for any

4   questions.

5   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Are there any

6   questions on this particular section of the

7   map? Representative Jenne.

8   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Thank you,

9   Chairman. And my question really is more of a

10   curiosity question. As I look at District 35

11   in the south end on the water there, why does

12   it extend like that in that semi-circular -- do

13   you see where I am talking about?

14   MR. POREDA: I do. That is just simply

15   where the census block lines take the --

16   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Okay.

17   MR. POREDA: -- take it up to the coast.

18   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Okay. I was just

19   curious, because I know it is not a geological

20   feature, so I didn't know what it was. Thank

21   you.

22   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Thank you. You can

23   move on.

24   MR. POREDA: Absolutely. Thank you,

25   Chairman.

1   District 38 right next to District 36 is

2   also entirely within the County of Miami-Dade

3   in another geographically compact area,

4   containing all of the Cities of Sweetwater, but

5   also includes the areas of Kendall and The

6   Hammocks. There was public testimony in the

7   Miami meeting for supporting of keeping these

8   areas together to preserve the ability to elect

9   minority candidates of choice. This is a

10   majority Hispanic district with a voting age

11   population of 83.48 percent. Today this

12   district has a voting age population --

13   Hispanic voting age population of 81.78. And

14   there was public plans that drew a similar

15   district.

16   Finally, I will zoom out so we can see all

17   of District 39, or most of it. This district

18   preserves the core of an existing district that

19   has consistently elected a candidate preferred

20   by minority voters and is also covered by

21   Section 5 of the Federal Voting Rights Act by

22   including all of Hendry County, Monroe County

23   and a part of Collier County, all Section 5

24   counties. The black voting age population in

25   this district is 35.11. The Hispanic voting

1   age population is 39.54 percent. Today that

2   district is 29.14 percent black and 43.03

3   percent Hispanic. And on the NAACP map, you

4   can see they drew a similar district

5   orientation, but as I mentioned before, this is

6   the district that they removed from Hendry

7   County, but just as a reference, the district

8   that they drew had a black voting age

9   population of 35.04 percent and a Hispanic

10   voting age population of 39.62 percent.

11   And that concludes the presentation of the

12   map, Chairman. I will take any questions, if

13   there are any.

14   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: Members, does

15   anybody have any questions of the map in

16   general?

17   Being no questions, Jason, that was an

18   excellent and well-prepared presentation.

19   Thank you very, very much.

20   Now we move on to the public comments.

21   Does anybody in the audience have any comments

22   that they would like to make about the map?

23   Seeing none, so members, so, again, in

24   January, approximately the first week of

25   session, we intend to take this map up as a

1   proposed Committee Bill. Are there any

2   questions regarding that? Representative

3   Jenne.

4   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Since we are

5   looking at two maps, which map would that be

6   specifically?

7   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: The Senate Bill, we

8   are looking at the Senate Bill.

9   REPRESENTATIVE JENNE: Thank you.

10   REPRESENTATIVE NEHR: You're welcome.

11   Are there any other questions?

12   Seeing no other questions, I just want to

13   make a comment about that everybody should have

14   a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

15   Does anyone on the Committee have any

16   comments to make?

17   Seeing no comments, seeing no questions,

18   seeing nothing else, Representative Eisnaugle

19   moves we rise.

20   (Whereupon, the proceedings were

21   concluded.)

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 1              C E R T I F I C A T E

 2   STATE OF FLORIDA    )

 3   COUNTY OF LEON      )

 4           I hereby certify that the foregoing transcript

 5   is of a tape-recording taken down by the undersigned,

 6   and the contents thereof were reduced to typewriting

 7   under my direction;

 8           That the foregoing pages 2 through 34 represent

 9   a true, correct, and complete transcript of the tape-

10   recording;

11           And I further certify that I am not of kin or

12   counsel to the parties in the case; am not in the

13   regular employ of counsel for any of said parties; nor

14   am I in anywise interested in the result of said case.

15           Dated this 16th day of February, 2012.

16

17

18                          _____

19                          CLARA C. ROTRUCK

20                          Notary Public

21                          State of Florida at Large

22                          Commission Expires:

23                          November 13, 2014

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