

Pensacola Public Input Meeting  
June 21, 2011 – 10 a.m.  
Post-Public Input Meeting Report

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The purpose of this document is to summarize specific district map-drawing suggestions from the Pensacola public meeting on June 21, 2011. Therefore, the comments in this document will focus on specific instructions provided by Florida residents participating in these meetings.

Other comments that were either not specific on how to draw a map or that were editorial in nature will not be included in this document. For all of the comments in their entirety, please see the meeting transcript, video and/or podcast via [www.floridaredistricting.org](http://www.floridaredistricting.org).

The following encapsulates comments from persons who spoke and/or submitted written comments for the Pensacola public meeting. To make it clear, these are the public's suggestions. This document does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Florida Legislature.

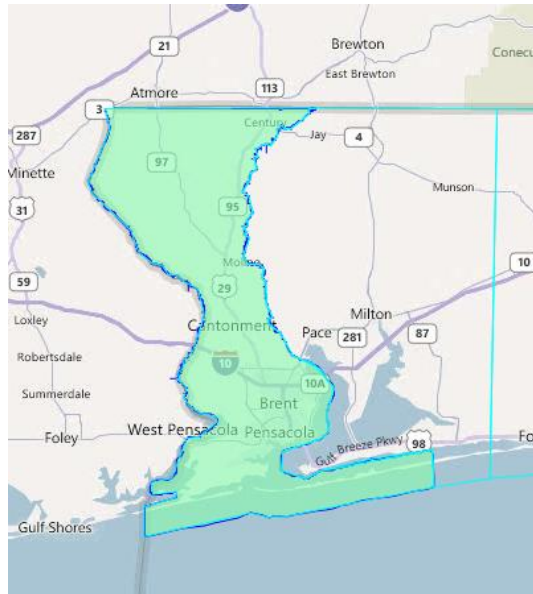
## Specific Map-Drawing Testimony-Pensacola Public Hearing

June 21, 2011

**NW-8:** Keep Escambia County Whole Within a Senate District

**Description:** Put Escambia County in One Senate seat.<sup>1</sup>

**Visual:** Escambia County whole within a Senate district would look like this:



### Policy Issues:

- With a population of 297,619, Escambia County is too small to meet the ideal population for a Senate district. 172,413 more people from other communities would need to be added to it.

**NW-9:** Horizontal Districts vs. Vertical Districts

**Description:** Some residents of the area expressed that legislative districts should be built horizontally which would unite the communities of the southern end of the panhandle counties and unite the communities of the northern end of the counties; while others suggested that they should be drawn vertically in an attempt to follow county boundary lines.

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<sup>1</sup> Lynn Laird of Pensacola

**Visual:**

Horizontal District vs. Vertical Districts	
Reasons Presented in Favor of Horizontal Districts	Reasons Presented in Favor of Vertical Districts
Keep the horizontal districts. The rural areas should have a voice. <sup>2</sup>	I am concerned about horizontal districts for many reasons. Please draw them vertically. <sup>3</sup>
If you don't do horizontal districts, you'll leave the rural areas out and they won't have a voice. It's important for us to have a voice, too. <sup>4</sup>	Keep the counties whole by drawing vertical district lines. <sup>5</sup>
Vertical district lines don't work in the panhandle. It would create a huge district East of Santa Rosa County. <sup>6</sup>	Vertical districts would encourage the integration of our counties to maximize our potential and build our economy. <sup>7</sup>
Vertical lines may lead to less representation for some of the smaller counties. <sup>8</sup>	Drawing districts where all counties are together would encourage public participation. <sup>9</sup>

**Policy Issues:**

- If horizontal districts are drawn, districts will have to cross county lines in order to meet the ideal population, and each county in the region would have at least two representatives.
- If vertical districts were drawn along county lines and that county's population did not line up with the ideal population for a district, then the county would either need to be split into at least two districts (if the county's population is too large) or the district would need to be within a part of a second county (if the county's population is too small).
- If vertical districts were drawn along county lines, communities that share similar industries and economic issues such as agricultural lands or beach communities could possibly be split.
- Is there a way to build a compromise map of a hybrid of horizontal districts when appropriate and vertical districts when appropriate?

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<sup>2</sup> Mike Godwin of Walnut Hill

<sup>3</sup> Diane Mack of Pensacola

<sup>4</sup> Jerry Davis of Perdido Key

<sup>5</sup> David Nelson of Pensacola

<sup>6</sup> Jeremy Evans of Cantonment

<sup>7</sup> David Nelson of Pensacola

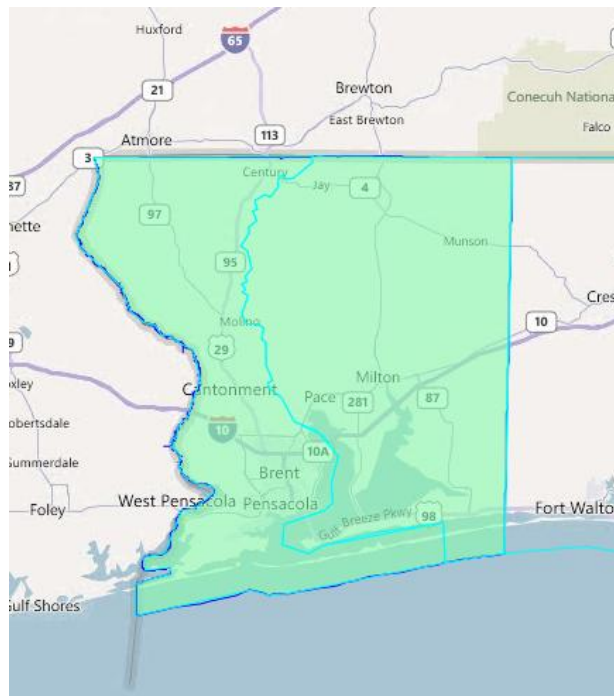
<sup>8</sup> Don Richards of Gulf Breeze

<sup>9</sup> Gail Honea of Pensacola

**NW-10:** Combine Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties into a Senate district.

**Description:** Put Escambia and Santa Rosa into a Senate District.<sup>10</sup> Together, Escambia and Santa Rosa counties should have three Representatives (two in Escambia and one in Santa Rosa) and one the majority of one Senate district. We have our own identity and a synergy between the counties.<sup>11</sup>

**Visual:** Combining Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties into a Senate district would look like this:



**Policy Issues:**

- With a population of 448,991, the district above is too small for the ideal population for a Senate district. 21,041 more people from another community or communities would be needed for it to be complete.

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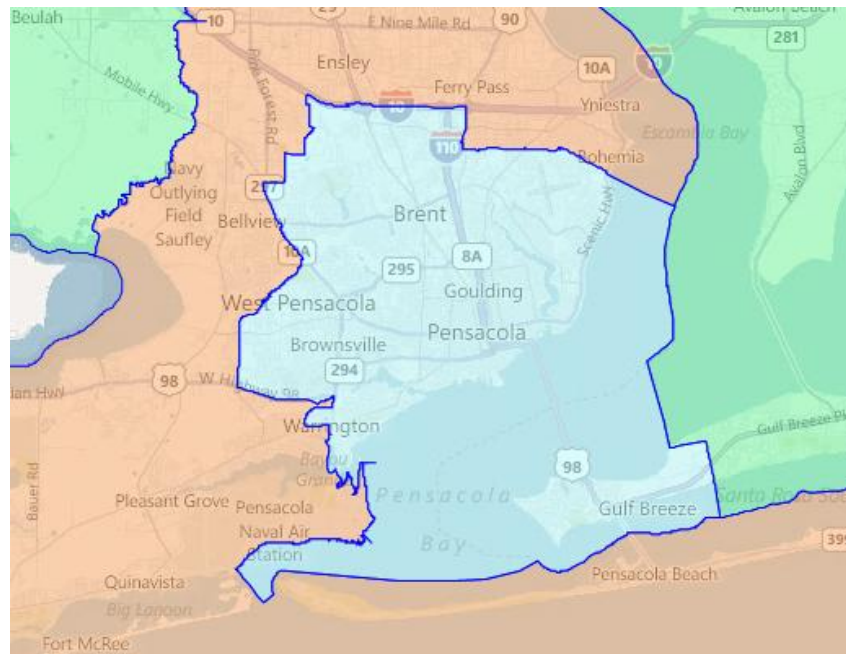
<sup>10</sup> Janet Delorge of Cantonment

<sup>11</sup> Jeff Bergosh of Pensacola

**NW-11:** Put the Wedgewood and Lincoln Park Communities into House District 3

**Description:** 10 years ago, the Wedgewood and Lincoln Park communities were removed from House District 3 and Gulf Breeze was added. Those are two heavily Black communities and they should be a part of that district.<sup>12</sup>

**Visual:** Currently, House District 3 looks like this (in blue):



**Policy Issues:**

- During the testimony that was given, the parameters of the Wedgewood and Lincoln Park communities were not clear. More clarification may be needed.

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<sup>12</sup> Johnny Blackmol of Pensacola