

Meeting of the Election Laws Subcommittee

South Carolina House of Representatives

Judiciary Committee

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Myrtle Beach, SC

April 7, 2011

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REP. CLEMMONS: Ladies and gentlemen, if we could have your attention. We seem to have a bit of a problem with our PA system here tonight, so I'm going to try to speak loudly for you. Thank you, Mr. Allen. Is that better?

AUDIENCE: Yes.

REP. CLEMMONS: Perfect. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You got to talk directly into it.

REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for being here. This is our fifth of a series of nine public hearings we're holding across the state of South Carolina. And I must say that we have all, especially myself, looked anxiously forward to tonight being here with you in Horry County and my home district of Myrtle Beach. Thank you so much for being here with us tonight. I know it's been an inconvenience to be here. But, as a friend of ours, a representative, from Newberry told us once during a House debate the juice is certainly worth the squeeze of being here tonight. So thank you all for being here. I first of all have some introductory comments. Before I get to my

1 introductory comments, I would like to
2 recognize a few folks here with me. Of
3 course, I'm Alan Clemmons. I have the honor
4 of chairing the Election Law Subcommittee of
5 the South Carolina House Judiciary Committee.
6 The Election Law Subcommittee is tasked with
7 the job of putting together the first plan and
8 working that plan through the House of
9 Representatives that will redraw our
10 congressional and our state House districts
11 throughout South Carolina. And to work with
12 me in that plan I have here the four other
13 members of our subcommittee who I'd like to
14 introduce to you. To my extreme left, to your
15 right, is Representative Tom Young. Tom comes
16 from Aiken. Next to him is Bakari Sellers.
17 Bakari is also a member of the House. He is
18 from Bamberg County. Between Mr. Sellers and
19 myself is our staff attorney, Mr. Patrick
20 Dennis. To my right is Representative Carl
21 Anderson of Greenville. And -- I'm sorry.
22 Excuse me. Is Carl Anderson here? I didn't
23 mean to steal your personality. Karl Allen
24 from Greenville. And to his right is Jenny
25 Horne from Summerville. We have some other

1 members of the House of Representatives here
2 with us tonight. I saw Kevin Ryan. Kevin,
3 would you stand? Okay. Kevin is there in the
4 back. From Georgetown we have George Hearn,
5 Representative Hearn right here in the front.
6 And Nelson Hardwick. Nelson, okay. We spread
7 ourselves out in the crowd for maximum impact.
8 Do we have any other members of the House that
9 are here with us? Our past experience in
10 these hearings has been that other members of
11 the House will come in throughout this
12 hearing. If that happens I will, between
13 speakers, introduce you to those members of
14 the House. We also have with us a number of
15 elected officials from Horry County Council,
16 from city councils, and other local government
17 officials here tonight. For you local elected
18 officials, would you stand so we can recognize
19 all of you? And we will give you a hand.
20 Thank you for being here tonight.

21 (Applause)

22 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for attending this meeting
23 of the House Election Law Subcommittee. These
24 hearings are only the first step in a long
25 and involved process that must be followed to

1 complete a workable redistricting plan.
2 We hope to start tonight, and at the other
3 hearings throughout the state, by listening to
4 extensive public input and then using that
5 input to form the basis of how we proceed in
6 the redistricting process. From that point
7 this subcommittee must create and submit to
8 the full House Judiciary Committee a plan of
9 how to draw the district lines for the South
10 Carolina House of Representatives, all 124
11 districts and the United States Congress,
12 including the new 7th Congressional District
13 received in the last reapportionment. The
14 full committee must then submit a plan that
15 may or may not be the same as the
16 subcommittee's plan to the full House for
17 consideration. Any plan that gains approval
18 of the House, and later the Senate, must be
19 submitted to the United States Justice
20 Department, pursuant to the Voting Right's Act
21 for what is called pre-clearance. If it is
22 determined by the Justice Department or the
23 courts that the plan does not comply first
24 with the constitutional mandates of one man,
25 one vote and equal protection. And, second,

1 with the statutory requirements of the Voting
2 Rights Act more work may yet need to be done
3 on our plan. Tonight, our goal is to listen
4 to each and every interested party tell us
5 what they would like to see accomplished in
6 the House redrawing of district lines for both
7 the South Carolina House of Representatives
8 and Unites States Congressional districts. We
9 are here tonight to listen to your concerns
10 and your recommendations as to what the
11 subcommittee should consider in this process.
12 As the House undertakes the process of
13 redrawing district lines, public input is
14 indispensable. It helps us shape a House that
15 best represents the people of South Carolina.
16 The House of Representatives is often called
17 the People's House. And in order to continue
18 to earn that distinction we must know how the
19 people, how you, want that House to look, how
20 the people wish to be represented. That is
21 the sole purpose of these hearings tonight: to
22 hear from those, the public, and take their
23 guidance as we shape the House and the
24 congressional districts for the coming decade.
25 We welcome any input that helps us understand

1 specific issues of this area in which
2 identifying neighborhoods, political
3 subdivisions and other areas that we believe
4 the subcommittee or that you believe the
5 subcommittee should take into consideration
6 when drawing political lines. Resulting from
7 this series of hearings, this subcommittee
8 plans to adopt a set of criteria drawn
9 primarily from what we hear and in our other
10 public hearings. These criteria will be the
11 guiding principles by which the House will
12 redraw district lines. As you all know, the
13 plan that is ultimately produced must, more
14 than anything else, assure the principle of
15 one man, one vote, meaning that we are
16 required to have as equal a population in each
17 district as possible. But beyond those
18 requirements this subcommittee is particularly
19 interested in what political subdivisions or
20 smaller communities have in common, or do not
21 have in common that would suggest that they be
22 placed into one or multiple districts. While
23 this hearing is being conducted tonight in
24 Horry County to allow residence of the
25 immediate area an opportunity for input, the

1 subcommittee is happy to hear testimony from
2 anyone in any part of the state or the state
3 as a whole. Because tonight's hearing will
4 become part of the record in this matter, this
5 proceeding is also being recorded and it will
6 be transcribed. To make sure that we have a
7 clear record, I would ask that each witness
8 come to the microphone, clearly state your
9 name and give us your address. Speak slowly
10 and succinctly and share with us the
11 information that you wish to share. If you
12 are appearing tonight on behalf of a group,
13 such as a political party, a public interest
14 group or other organization, please let us
15 know that information as well. I, and other
16 members of this committee, may make comments
17 and ask questions about particular areas which
18 may not reflect the intentions or the
19 recommendations of this committee or of the
20 House of Representatives. We will also be
21 glad to answer general questions about the
22 process, if we can. However, because this is
23 the first part of a long, involved process of
24 gathering information from around the state,
25 we may not be able to answer specific

1 questions at this time. I anticipate that
2 this meeting will last approximately two
3 hours, and while we want to hear everything
4 that anyone has to offer, we do reserve the
5 right to limit individual testimony to ten
6 minutes. I would ask that each person as
7 they offer testimony be considerate of others
8 who are here to offer their opinions as well.
9 I'd also like to share with you that we have
10 extensively advertised this public hearing
11 tonight. We have done that through the state
12 wide media, we've done it through local media.
13 We have sent out emails to all of the folks
14 that have registered as interested parties.
15 We have sent out information to all the major
16 political parties and minor political parties
17 or third party groups that we have information
18 about. We hope that we have contacted a wide
19 swath of the community and that tonight the
20 public input that we hear will be
21 representative of the thoughts, concerns and
22 recommendations of the entire region in
23 and around Horry County. We also would ask
24 that if any previous speaker shares the
25 comments that you intend to share as a

1 speaker, if you would come tell us who you
2 are, give us your address and instead of
3 restating things that have already been said,
4 for the sake of time and respect for other's
5 comments, that you just -- that you endorse
6 those comments that you previously heard.
7 This committee will also be pleased to receive
8 any written documents that you may have, maps,
9 letters, anything in writing that you wish to
10 submit to us to make it part of the public
11 record. We will be pleased to make those
12 writings part of the public record. We only
13 ask that you print your name and your mailing
14 address on each such exhibit before handing
15 them to us. We have seated at the table in
16 front of us Ms. Emma Dean, who I neglected to
17 introduce before, who is also one of our very
18 capable staff attorneys. She and Mr. Dennis
19 will be assisting us tonight. If you have
20 documentary information you'd like to share
21 with us, we'd ask that you hand it to Ms. Dean
22 when you come up to speak. We will also be
23 receiving written information. We are
24 receiving written information everyday
25 concerning people's thoughts and input. We

1 leave this record open and we would ask that
2 any information that you would like to share
3 with us or that your friends, neighbors or
4 family would like to share with us with regard
5 to the intent of this hearing tonight that
6 they put their thoughts in writing and they
7 send those thoughts to us. We look forward to
8 hearing from all of you tonight who wish to be
9 addressed. We look forward to hearing your
10 comments and incorporating those comments in
11 the criteria by which the political districts
12 will be formed for South Carolina in congress
13 and South Carolina House of Representatives
14 for the next decade. With that said, the time
15 is now yours and I will be --

16 REP. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman?

17 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, Mr. --

18 REP. SELLERS: I would move to have security. We
19 had someone ease in. Some gentlemen just
20 eased to the front, and I'd have security move
21 him --

22 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Allen, thank you very much, but
23 he is one of us. Mr. Viers, welcome. We
24 don't need an introduction of Thad Viers, but
25 welcome Mr. Viers.

1 (Applause)

2 REP. CLEMMONS: Any other matters of business before
3 we begin public input? Thank you Mr. Allen.
4 With that, the early bird today was Dennis
5 DiSabato, the first to sign in. So Mr.
6 DiSabato if you'll come forward to the
7 microphone and share with us your -- if I
8 pronounced your name correctly or not and your
9 mailing address and share your comments with
10 us.

11 MR. DISABATO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You did get
12 my name right. I'm here today speaking with
13 two hats, one as a concerned citizen of
14 Carolina Forest, but also as the president of
15 the Carolina Forest Civic Association
16 basically to let the committee know the civic
17 association's position with regard to Carolina
18 Forest. We are currently -- well, portions of
19 what are considered Carolina Forest are
20 currently being represented by Representative
21 George Hearn and Representative Thad Viers.
22 While they both do very good work for our
23 community, their central focus of their
24 districts are both Socastee and Conway,
25 respectively. We feel in Carolina Forest we

1 have needs and concerns that need to be
2 addressed and don't necessarily coalesce with
3 those of Conway and Socastee and feel that we
4 are deserving of a House district in and of
5 itself so that we can have centralized focus
6 representation in Columbia for our needs.
7 Just looking at the numbers, and I hadn't had
8 a real chance to take a look at what was
9 drawn up here for the House districts
10 statistics. It looks like cutting off
11 portions of each we would be almost filling
12 the 2010 ideal House district numbers by
13 ourselves. We've had a 506 percent population
14 increase in Carolina Forest alone from the
15 2000 census to the 2010 census. I believe we
16 went from roughly 3400 full-time residents to
17 nearly 21,000 full-time residents. And, quite
18 honestly, our infrastructure and other needs
19 in that area have not kept pace with the
20 growth that we've had. So I think it's
21 important to take a close look at Carolina
22 Forest to determine whether or not there's a
23 need for some centralized and focused
24 representation in that area. Thank you.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. DiSabato. Mr. Billy

1 Huggins.

2 MR. HUGGINS: Thank all of you for this opportunity.

3 I had no idea I'd be here tonight. I was
4 contacted by numerous neighbors and relatives
5 and voters and property owners from Murrells
6 Inlet. For those of you who aren't familiar
7 with Murrells Inlet, we are part of -- we're
8 the northern most part of the Waccamaw neck
9 that you hear reference to many times. Our
10 area is divided. We have our neighborhoods
11 are divided. Our community is divided between
12 Georgetown and Horry County and we've learned
13 to live with that confusion. But we do have
14 an opportunity, we believe, through this
15 redistricting to ask you to consider taking
16 the natural barrier for our community, which
17 is Brookgreen Gardens, and north of there,
18 move that into I guess it would be 106, which
19 is Nelson Hardwick's district. Nothing
20 against the other representatives, but we're
21 so far north in the district when we need
22 something done, we migrate to Representative
23 Hardwick who is only a couple of miles away.
24 So when you look at that community he serves,
25 you have Surfside, Garden City and Murrells

1 Inlet. We all go to church together, we
2 worship together, our children play together
3 until it's school time and then they have
4 divide and go to two different counties for
5 schools. All we're asking, and as you look at
6 this jigsaw puzzle you have to put together,
7 that you take a hard look at considering
8 taking that natural geographical barrier where
9 there are no residents north of Brookgreen
10 Gardens and move that in to the district that
11 Nelson Hardwick represents. And we would
12 greatly appreciate it. And right now there's
13 several hundred people that it has grown to in
14 just two days that will be following up with
15 letters and emails. So appreciate the time.
16 Thank you.

17 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Huggins.

18 REP. ALLEN: What district is --

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Huggins, could you come back to
20 the microphone for just one moment? Mr. Allen
21 has a question.

22 MR. HUGGINS: Oh, yes, thank you.

23 REP. ALLEN: What district are you currently in and
24 who represents you?

25 MR. HUGGINS: Well, we're divided between Nelson's

1 and it used to be Vida Miller's. Now it's
2 Kevin Ryan. Nothing against Kevin. But our
3 natural progression as property owners and
4 residents, we call Nelson.

5 REP. ALLEN: All right. Thank you. Thank you.

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Huggins. Daniel S.
7 Cochran. Mr. Cochran is the vice chair of the
8 Carolina Patriots.

9 MR. COCHRAN: Thanks for having this hearing and
10 thanks for letting me speak. I'm speaking
11 partly on behalf of the Carolina Patriots and
12 partly for the folks that live in and around
13 Coastal Carolina University. I'd like to
14 expand upon what Dennis said just a little
15 bit. Let's not centralize that House so much
16 in Carolina Forest, but kind of look to go to
17 East Conway. What I look at is basically kind
18 of the 501 corridor from once you're coming
19 out of Conway to the waterway. Please don't
20 put us on the other side of the waterway.
21 Those people are so much weirder than us.
22 Their needs are totally different than the
23 people who are having to deal with the -- on a
24 Thursday or Friday night in heavy summer
25 traffic 501 can take you an hour to travel two

1 miles down the road and back to drop people
2 off a Carolina Forest and come back to Coastal
3 Carolina University. I'm not knocking any of
4 the Reps, but, obviously, we need to, you
5 know, get some infrastructure in there. And
6 Carolina Forest needs the same type of
7 infrastructure fixing. They got a two lane
8 road running through there that pumps way too
9 much traffic. I know. I drive on it and it
10 backlogs. That's why I'm saying on this side
11 of the waterway we support with our work and
12 effort -- efforts, you know, what's on the
13 other side of the waterway. But we like to
14 live on this side because we don't like to pay
15 the insurance that they have to pay. You
16 know, anyhow, I won't go into that. But just
17 consider that. But the real reason why I
18 wanted to come up here was to just touch on a
19 thought that was brought up in Monday's nights
20 meeting by Viers. Dennis, myself and a couple
21 other people that spoke to the Senate that
22 were there in regards to the new District 7.
23 We'd like for you to -- I'm sorry, I'm going
24 to read this at this point because I wrote it
25 and it makes sense and if I talk I'll stumble

1 over my tongue. We'd like for you to consider
2 drawing the 7th District which the state has
3 not had since 1913 close to the old Pee Dee
4 District 6 lines which include Horry,
5 Georgetown, Williamsburg, Florence, Marion,
6 Dillon, Marlboro and if not the whole at
7 least part of Darlington County. We've looked
8 at the census numbers and that provides a bit
9 over the 660 that you're looking for as a
10 minimum, but it's not, you know, into the
11 700,000s. It's definitely our feel that the
12 demographics of the area much better reflect
13 what we have in our little upper corner which
14 is quite frankly we're very agro. As much as
15 we like to tout the tourist, if you look at
16 those counties as a whole, they're very agro.
17 Now, Florence has a lot of distribution and if
18 Georgetown was included and we could get our
19 harbor taken care of down there then with 73,
20 if that ever happens, then we could actually
21 have a good corridor for bringing stuff out of
22 Georgetown and let them build up their
23 industries that they already had in place that
24 have been shut down over the last couple of
25 decades. Because the needs up here, our upper

1 corner, are a little bit different than that
2 what they like down there in Charleston, you
3 know. And right now since the reps always
4 come out of Charleston we have to call up
5 Charleston say, hey, could you please, you
6 know, we got a harbor, could you dredge it?
7 Oh, well, you know, we got this other thing
8 down here. We'll get to you guys some time.
9 So it would be nice to have our own rep. The
10 other key point that I was looking at and is
11 our federal court is in Florence. If we have
12 to go to federal court we -- that area I just
13 spoke of is covered by three U.S. House reps.
14 Wouldn't it be a lot more convenient for us to
15 be able to only talk to one House rep if we
16 have to deal with federal courts? So please
17 take that into consideration. And, yeah, I
18 live at 1041 Colonial Lane in Conway. Thank
19 you.

20 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you very much, Mr. Cochran.
21 Steven Neeves, Coastal Carolina Association of
22 Realtors. Welcome Mr. Neeves.

23 MR. NEEVES: Thank you, Mr. Chair and committee.
24 Good to see all of you here. Just want to
25 throw some quick notes out. The first one,

1 and I do support the idea of looking back at
2 the old District 6, speaking of congressional
3 districts, first. Having been blessed to grow
4 up in Horry County, but right now I'm learning
5 about Georgetown County and going through
6 their leadership program with their chamber.
7 And it has amazed me how connected they are
8 economically, historically and just
9 culturally. So I know one of the ideas that
10 was played with was breaking off Horry County
11 and taking the top counties. I would
12 encourage you to look past that and look at
13 Horry and Georgetown as the core of this new
14 district. I really think because of their
15 uniqueness and the way that they've grown
16 that they should stay together. That's my
17 only comment about the congressional. I live
18 in District 68 which is Representative Viers'
19 district, and I know we're going to have to
20 shrink that. But I hope that you'll look in
21 there at the Socastee Community, and even
22 though it's not a town or a city, it has a
23 history. And it's on both sides of the
24 waterway. I'd hate to see Socastee get split
25 up. That's sort of funny. We have the swing

1 -- the old swing bridge there in Socastee and
2 you can almost draw a circle around it and see
3 how it all has stayed together and grows
4 together. So please look at the Socastee
5 community and not splitting it up as we have
6 to shrink District 68. Those are really the
7 only two comments I had that I wanted to throw
8 out there. But I will let you know we do have
9 eight representatives here from
10 the Association of Realtors. If any of the
11 members have questions about communities,
12 we're here to answer anything you have
13 tonight.

14 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Neeves. Carol
15 Padgett. Carol Padgett is here with the
16 Northern Horry County Republican Club and
17 distinguished attorney from Loris.

18 MR. PADGETT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir.

20 MR. PADGETT: Thank you, committee members. I
21 appreciate y'all coming to Myrtle Beach and
22 Horry County to be with us tonight. And since
23 you do represent us and we appreciate the
24 opportunity of being able to express
25 our concerns to you. I'm here not only for

1 the Republican party in northern Horry, but
2 also for the City of Loris. We have our
3 distinguished mayor who's also here in the
4 audience today and several members from the
5 Loris community. And in looking at the
6 demographics that we just received today, we
7 knew that there was going to have to be some
8 serious adjustments in looking at the
9 districts in northern Horry County. District
10 5, my Representative is George Hearn, who's a
11 good friend of mine and I've known him for 30
12 years. But the Loris area is the bedroom
13 community of the North Myrtle Beach also of
14 northern Conway. And if you look at the
15 demographics, there's a substantial change to
16 the tune of over 18,470 members in District
17 105 that needs to be changed. And on behalf
18 of the community, I also represent the
19 community, we would like for you to seriously
20 consider with the Loris area as the focal
21 point of a new district in South Carolina,
22 because we think that's very important. We
23 all now live in a very viable community and a
24 very mobile community. We certainly have a
25 lot of the same interest of people in North

1 Myrtle Beach and Conway and Carolina Forest
2 and some of the other areas. But we are a
3 rural area. And we think that there are
4 needs, and specifically in our area, that can
5 be addressed by people who have been born and
6 raised and lived there 38, 40 years, 50 years
7 that can be addressed by someone who
8 represents that particular area. And on
9 behalf of the Loris community, in our area we
10 would really wish that you would seriously
11 consider focusing a new district with the
12 Loris area as the focal point of that
13 district. Thank you very much.

14 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Padgett. Clewey
15 Reid, if I'm pronouncing that correctly. Of
16 512 South Cedar Drive, Surfside Beach. Mr.
17 Reed, I must have mispronounced your name.
18 Come correct me, please.

19 MR. REED: Mr. Chairman, my name is Gene Reed.

20 REP. CLEMMONS: I sure missed that one. Sorry.
21 Welcome, Mr. Reed, I apologize.

22 MR. REED: I've lived in Surfside for over 40 years
23 and I'm a member of the Grand Strand Tea
24 Party. Also a member of the Carolina
25 Patriots. I'm a past president of Horry-

1 Georgetown Homebuilders Association. So I've
2 been around here. As far as the local part
3 goes, I'm happy with Nelson Hardwick and the
4 things as they are in Surfside. As far as the
5 7th District goes, I have to agree with Mike
6 Cochran. I agree with those counties that we
7 have a block in the upper right-hand side of
8 the state. If we have a 7th District I'd like
9 to see that together. I think we have more in
10 common than going down to Charleston. Thank
11 you.

12 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you so much, Mr. Reed. Mr.
13 Michael Connick. Welcome, sir, good to have
14 you with us.

15 MR. CONNICK: Good to be here. My name is Michael
16 Connick. I live at 3363 Pine View Drive in
17 the megatropolis of Loris. I would like to
18 basically repeat what Mr. Carol Padgett
19 brought forward here this evening. And also
20 just to add to that, prior to the housing
21 downturn that has occurred right now, there
22 was a proposed development out in our area
23 that would have been twice the size of
24 Carolina Forest. Now, God willing, the
25 economy is going to pick up again and we have

1 a lot of real estate out there that will be
2 developed. So the 105 District that is being
3 represented right now we will probably going
4 to need a little bit more representation out
5 on our end of the neck of the woods out there.
6 So I would just like you to take that into
7 consideration, put that on record. And thank
8 you gentleman and ladies for being here this
9 evening. Thank you.

10 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Connick. Thanks for
11 being with us. Dick Collette. Good to have
12 you with us tonight, Mr. Collette.

13 MR. CONNICK: Thank you, Alan. And it's Collette.

14 REP. CLEMMONS: I'm sorry, Mr. Collette.

15 MR. CONNICK: I forgive you. I'd like you to know
16 that I'm a new executive committeeman for the
17 Myrtle Trace precinct which its residents have
18 been fighting the 501 traffic dilemma for many
19 years. I have lived all over the United
20 States and worked and I don't see me much
21 worse even in the Los Angeles freeways than
22 what I see on 501 as of two years ago. What I
23 really would like to make a comment on is that
24 the need for having the -- this corner of
25 South Carolina have its own congressman and

1 its 7th District congressman is extremely
2 necessary for the growth that will -- needs to
3 happen with the agricultural business, with
4 the tourism and hopefully at some point with
5 manufacturing. If we do not get an I73
6 interchange coming into here, which needs the
7 help of our own congressman to handle the
8 five, six counties that will make up this
9 660,000 people that I see that area will
10 continue to float along. We need growth and
11 we need this growth through having our own
12 congressman, by having our own improvements in
13 the manufacturing arena. So I, please, I hope
14 that in considering what you are doing here
15 that will put together House members in
16 districts that will support everything that
17 our 7th District congressman in Washington
18 will help do for us. Thank you.

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Collette, for your
20 remarks. Barbara Chartier. And I note that
21 Barbara is here on behalf of the Myrtle Beach
22 Tea Party.

23 MS. CHARTIER: Yes. But also mostly for North
24 Myrtle Beach, Barefoot Resort, and I'm
25 speaking about the new congressional district.

1 My points have already been made. Don't want
2 to take up any more time, but I would support
3 a new congressional district for Georgetown,
4 Horry County and the northeastern block of
5 South Carolina. Thank you.

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for being here, Ms.
7 Chartier. Mr. Larry Richardson.

8 MR. RICHARDSON: Thank y'all for coming to Myrtle
9 Beach to give us an opportunity to have input.
10 I'm going to request that you think along a
11 little bit different direction for a moment.
12 It has taken our country a long time to get
13 into the financial mess that we're in now, and
14 it's realistically going to take a long time
15 to get out of it. So I'm not thinking about
16 the immediate needs of having a representative
17 for us and we and what our needs are. What
18 I'm thinking about is the opportunity for the
19 northeastern corner of South Carolina here to
20 vote like we did in the 1st Congressional
21 District in this last election. We are
22 overwhelmingly white area and we've elected
23 Tim Scott, an excellent gentleman, into
24 congress. And I believe we have the kind of
25 constituents here in this part of the state

1 that we can send another Tim Scott like
2 person, like minded as far as being
3 conservative and physically responsible with
4 the people's money. And I'm looking past the
5 what can we get from a congressman in
6 Washington and I'm looking to the kind of
7 person that we can send to Washington to help
8 the country get out of its problems. Then
9 next time around after you do this again in
10 ten years, maybe it will be time then to start
11 worrying about ourselves. But I want to send
12 the right person to congress, and I believe
13 this part of the state will do that.

14 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Richardson.

15 (Applause)

16 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Anthony Trinka. And, Mr.
17 Trinka, I note is president of the Grand
18 Strand Tea Party. Welcome, Mr. Trinka.

19 MR. TRINKA: Welcome. Thank you for getting my name
20 correct.

21 REP. CLEMMONS: You're welcome, sir.

22 MR. TRINKA: Okay. I'm in agreement with most of
23 the other people that are here, as far as
24 making the new district in the upper corner of
25 South Carolina. What I want to bring to your

1 attention is by doing this it will take Myrtle
2 Beach, North Myrtle Beach and these areas and
3 give it an opportunity for growth in
4 the commercial area. As you know, Georgetown
5 used to be an industrial complex, and that has
6 kind of fall by the wayside and its past time.
7 I feel by creating this district we can create
8 a commercial base where we can bring in
9 companies that the people who live in Myrtle
10 Beach no longer have the only opportunity of
11 being waiters and people who take care of the
12 hotels and based on tourist based jobs and
13 give them jobs in a commercial base and bring
14 in like industry to the area so they have
15 greater opportunities. Thank you.

16 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Trinkka. Mr. Jim Gunn
17 with the Carolina Patriots. Mr. Gunn.

18 MR. GUNN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and committee
19 people. I would like to comment -- first of
20 all, I guess, 521 Sparkleberry Drive, Murrells
21 Inlet.

22 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you.

23 MR. GUNN: I'd like to comment on the new District
24 7. And I don't want to repeat a lot of what
25 has already been discussed. But, in my

1 opinion, I believe Horry County, Georgetown
2 and surrounding counties must have separation
3 from Charleston. I think the needs of Horry,
4 Georgetown surrounding counties are different
5 from Charleston. I echo what Daniel Cochran
6 had mentioned to you. We need to attract more
7 industry in order to achieve growth.
8 Therefore, we need our own congressman to
9 fight for our interest by obtaining the
10 funding required to build the infrastructure
11 necessary to attract industry. We don't even
12 have a sufficient base of industry, in my
13 opinion, now to keep many of our local college
14 students in our area due to lack of
15 opportunities. We can grow, but we need
16 improvements at the Georgetown port. We need
17 roads that will efficiently carry our agro
18 products and other products to other markets,
19 plus bring the tourists to the Grand Strand.
20 And what I mean by that as examples, I73, 95
21 which Dick talked about, that connection
22 needs to happen. The completion of the South
23 Carolina 31 I74 to Georgetown needs to happen.
24 I've heard, and you can correct me if I'm
25 wrong, that Spartanburg and Greenville is

1 vying for the new district. But I believe
2 these counties already have a strong industry
3 base while having a solid infrastructure to
4 transport their products, I85 corridor which
5 connects Raleigh, Charlotte and Atlanta. Our
6 counties in the northeast sector of our state
7 needs a congressman to support our interest.
8 And when I say counties, I am saying that
9 District 7 should encompass the following
10 counties. And I believe it's the same as what
11 Daniel Cochran had mentioned: Horry,
12 Georgetown, Williamsburg, Marion, Dillon,
13 Florence, Darlington and Marlboro. And
14 according to the census.gov numbers that I
15 pulled off a couple of days ago, if you
16 put all those counties together the population
17 would total 663,495. So we meet the
18 requirement of 660,767 which will be met, but
19 just slightly over. I believe my
20 understanding also that if we did use these
21 counties -- the combination of the counties
22 there would be a split amongst democrats and
23 republicans which would be equitable,
24 eliminating bias to either party. I ask you
25 to please consider my recommendations. Thank

1 you.

2 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you so much for your
3 recommendations tonight. And we have Mr. Joe
4 Dugan, Chairman of Myrtle Beach Tea Party.
5 Mr. Dugan, thank you for being with us
6 tonight.

7 MR. DUGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, committee
8 members. In -- over the past ten years in
9 Horry County we've seen a 37 percent
10 population growth. That sounds like a very
11 high number, but you have to understand that
12 in those ten years the housing boom peaked in
13 2005. So five of those ten years we've seen a
14 problem in the housing industry for our growth
15 which would have been much, much greater than
16 37 percent. Similarly, in January of this
17 year we have the first of the baby boom
18 generation retiring, and we all know what
19 tremendous numbers there are in that
20 generation that began just after -- at the end
21 of World War II. We could expect if there is
22 -- if our country is able to survive the
23 severe critical crisis that we are in
24 financially and avoid bankruptcy as a nation
25 and our housing ought to recover, we are going

1 to see a vast numbers of population, once
2 they're able to sell their McMansions in the
3 north, moving down to areas such as Myrtle
4 Beach. So I would expect in the next ten
5 years, if we're all still sitting here and
6 Horry County is intact, that we will see even
7 much greater increase in population.

8 The other thing that I would like to
9 mention is that my primary focus is on Horry
10 County and keeping Horry County intact as a
11 congressional district. I understand that
12 other areas will -- may have to be added to
13 it, but Horry County has its own culture. And
14 its needs need to be represented in congress.
15 We have -- our economy here in Myrtle Beach we
16 have 12,000 tourist a year. Is that the right
17 number? Or 12,000,000 a year?

18 REP. CLEMMONS: That's more like it, yes, sir.

19 MR. DUGAN: Right. And most of those tourist get
20 here by car. And this summer, I mean, we see
21 what is happening to the world around us where
22 the middle east is in chaos and we're seeing a
23 \$3.60 gasoline now. By the summer we're
24 likely to see four and \$5 gasoline. And
25 that's going to hurt our tourist business in

1 Myrtle Beach. And if we have the tourists
2 having to sit for hours on 501 to get to
3 Myrtle Beach, we're going to have even less
4 tourism than we would have under bad economic
5 conditions. And with taxes that tourist bring
6 to the state from the Myrtle Beach area and
7 from all of Horry County are totally
8 inordinate compared to other congressional
9 districts in this state. We pay a much higher
10 rate of taxes. And we don't get that money in
11 return. A lot of that money stays in
12 Columbia. So there are -- Horry County
13 happens to be the largest county east of the
14 Mississippi, geographically. And with its
15 population growth in the past ten years and
16 the anticipated population growth in the next
17 ten years, we're not going to get a chance to
18 draw another district for ten years -- 2021.
19 So if we experience an economic recovery and
20 have people from the north moving down to the
21 south, as history has shown us they will when
22 they retire, we don't get a chance five years
23 from now to draw Horry County as a new
24 congressional district. This is our shot
25 right now. And I feel very strongly that we

1 need an advocate in the Congress of the United
2 States who will address our infrastructure
3 needs such as 501. Everybody talks about 73
4 and that's where all the focus is and that's
5 where the -- I apologize for the word escaping
6 me. But that's where the -- we fund 100
7 million dollars studies for I73 but we can
8 never get enough money together to come up
9 with the billions and billions of dollars that
10 -- earmarks was the word that was escaping me.
11 I73, in my opinion, and I believe Congressman
12 Scott shares this opinion, needs to stand on
13 its legislation. If it's a five million --
14 billion dollar project now, getting 100
15 million dollars in earmarks is not going to
16 take it anywhere except more and more studies
17 for the next five years when it will be a ten
18 billion dollar project. But that's where the
19 focus is, and, yet, the people living in Horry
20 County now have to be on a daily basis with
21 the horrendous traffic on 501. If there is a
22 single accident on that road you cannot get to
23 Myrtle Beach in a reasonable amount of time.
24 They were doing construction near Coastal
25 Carolina yesterday and I was 20 minutes late

1 for a meeting after allowing an extra ten
2 minutes of travel from Conway to Myrtle Beach.
3 And we're not in the summer yet. We need an
4 advocate who will take care of the needs of
5 the current residents of Horry County and the
6 anticipated population increase that we all
7 expect. Thank you very much for your time.

8 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Dugan.

9 (Applause)

10 REP. CLEMMONS: Ms. Debbie Harwell. I note her
11 group affiliation is citizen. Welcome Citizen
12 Harwell.

13 MS. HARWELL: That's my official. My official
14 stance here is citizen. I just have three
15 points to make. One, I felt like our
16 association with Charleston -- we are a more
17 rural area than Charleston and we have much
18 more in common with Florence and Georgetown
19 than we did with Charleston. So I think that
20 would be a better bid. The second point is
21 that I am chairman of the freight and railroad
22 committee for the state of South Carolina.
23 And we're talking about corridors from the
24 interstate and counties to put together. On
25 top of that, I'd like to see the counties we

1 really need Marion and Dillon County in with
2 our mix in order to provide a corridor to move
3 people and freight. Mr. Dugan's exactly
4 right. I believe that we will be having
5 an influx of a lot of population into this
6 area and we've got to prepare our
7 infrastructure for it in order to get these
8 people in and out so we will have a way in and
9 out of here. And for economic development,
10 economic development there's people here that
11 just don't have jobs. I mean, we have got to
12 figure out a way for these people to have
13 jobs. Providing I73 with the earmark, I
14 believe there's another way. There's another
15 way that we can do that. The third point I
16 believe that as far as our local races here, I
17 believe that the waterway is a natural barrier
18 for us here in Horry County. And appreciate
19 you so much for coming.

20 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you very much, Ms. Harwell.
21 The next person to sign up is, first name
22 Ronald. Second name starts with a H. And,
23 I'm sorry, but I can't read the rest. He is
24 with the Myrtle Beach Tea Party from 3293 --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sir, I may have signed the

1 list. I thought maybe that was a sign in
2 sheet. I have no comments other than what's
3 been made.

4 REP. CLEMMONS: Quite all right.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: They were made very well.

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you so much, sir.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sorry about that.

8 REP. CLEMMONS: That's quite all right. Mr. Chuck
9 Collins. Also Citizen Collins.

10 MR. COLLINS: My name is Chuck Collins. I live at
11 511 First Avenue South in North Myrtle Beach.
12 My wife and I moved to the -- that address in
13 2007 after having visited and stayed with
14 family in the area for almost 30 years. We
15 love Horry County, love North Myrtle Beach.
16 But as Mr. Dugan mentioned we are the largest
17 county east of the Mississippi. We
18 also happen to be the poorest county, as far
19 as income, in the entire USA. That was
20 reported in the newspaper and also on the web
21 within the last two weeks, I believe. So we
22 are also a community that many retirees from
23 up north are focused on. They want to come
24 here. We have a very nice community. You
25 know, and with a retiree population that

1 brings new business opportunities. And as
2 they look at the business opportunities they
3 see that we don't have any infrastructure, we
4 don't have that much technical skills in the
5 area, and we won't have those unless we get
6 the infrastructure, the I73 that Dick
7 mentioned and several others. So we need to
8 have the basics first, and that's partly the
9 infrastructure that will help grow our
10 technical education drawing more businesses.
11 And we've got to expand our enterprise base to
12 more than just services and tourism. The
13 waterway is an important transportation
14 vehicle that needs to be reconsidered. And if
15 we can include the counties that were
16 mentioned by a previous lady, and I did not
17 write her name down, for rail transportation
18 we need the help in this section of the
19 country -- of the state. Spartanburg area,
20 the western parts of the state already have
21 infrastructure, education, all of the building
22 blocks that drive their economic engine. We
23 don't have that many building blocks available
24 to us today. So if we don't get this now,
25 then you've just constrained the northeastern

1 part of the state to be -- to remain is one of
2 the poorest counties, from an income base, in
3 the United States. Thank you for your time.

4 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for your time, Mr.
5 Collins. Next we have County Councilman Carl
6 Schwarzkopf.

7 MR. SCHWARZKOPF: (Inaudible) citizen at this time
8 that wants to express their concerns.

9 REP. CLEMMONS: Spoken like a true public servant,
10 Mr. Schwarzkopf. Thank you, sir. Marla
11 Hambey with Carolina Patriots and Waccamaw
12 Republican Club.

13 MR. HAMBEY: Well, I am Marla Marla Hambey and I
14 live in Pawleys Island, 54 Percival Court. I
15 echo pretty much the same sentiments that many
16 others have made this evening. But a couple
17 of points I'd like to make. In Georgetown
18 County they keep talking about our port. And
19 I realized that Charleston has a larger block,
20 and they're certainly wealthier than we are.
21 I do think that we need our own congressman,
22 though I am quite thrilled with Tim Scott. I
23 think he's doing a wonderful job, so I'm not
24 knocking him, but if we had our representative
25 he would, or she, would be able to concentrate

1 on our area. We cannot ask that they dredge
2 the port and improve traffic, marine traffic
3 coming in with the port if we don't have
4 roads. If we bring in the ships, we've got to
5 have a way to get the merchandise or whatever
6 that that's on those ships dispersed
7 throughout the county. And it would improve
8 the economy of not only Georgetown but of the
9 inland areas. Now, I know there was a
10 proposal in North Carolina for port
11 improvement that gotten voted down. They were
12 going to put a port in South Port, and that is
13 no more. So I really think we should seize
14 upon that opportunity. And I get nervous
15 speaking in public. The inland places could
16 benefit from the warehouses and container
17 depots from that port expansion. And I don't
18 know how we're going to get it. I know that
19 we are in a huge financial crisis. But
20 something's got to happen. Now I have an
21 unpopular, radical solution to our county's
22 budget problems and the economy. We could
23 just not have anymore congressmen increased,
24 just increase the population that they cover.
25 Thereby, doing away with the salary of the

1 congressmen, the retirement and the health
2 care and the staff of another congressman
3 which would save I don't how many hundreds of
4 thousands of dollars. But if we did that
5 nationwide, we'd save a lot of money.

6 (Applause)

7 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Ms. Hamby. Actually,
8 that's a very good idea and it's not novel.
9 As a matter of fact, reapportionment which we
10 just went through equalizes all of the
11 population in every congressional district
12 throughout the United States. The number
13 stays the same of congressmen, it's just
14 divided out so it's evenly represented by all
15 population. So we're not adding a
16 new congressman to congress. We have received
17 the seat from another area that's lost
18 population. So that's the way it will work.
19 But thank you for comments, Ms. Hambey. Keep
20 those thoughts coming. Mr. Charlie Luquire.
21 Welcome, sir, help me with your last name.

22 MR. LUQUIRE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir. It's good to have you
24 with us, sir.

25 MR. LUQUIRE: My name is Charlie Luquire, and I will

1 thank you for the opportunity to make a
2 comment today. I live in Georgetown County.
3 I live at Pawleys Island. My comments will
4 primarily be addressed to House District 108,
5 but I'll also touch on the new congressional
6 district that will be established. And my
7 comment is on my own behalf and perhaps
8 some of my friends and neighbors who share
9 similar views. House District 108 includes,
10 as you know, the eastern part of Georgetown
11 County and extends into Charleston County. We
12 have many friends and have enjoyed a good
13 relationship with the Charleston portion of
14 the current district. On the other hand, our
15 coastal Georgetown community, really all of
16 Georgetown County , also has ties to southern
17 Horry County. Therefore, with redistricting
18 and with continued growth in our area of
19 Georgetown County our goal is to keep our
20 House seat centered in the coastal portion of
21 Georgetown County. Additionally, with regard
22 to the new congressional district, there are
23 compelling reasons, we believe, for having
24 the center of gravity of a new congressional
25 district in the northeastern corner of South

1 Carolina. Some of the other speakers have
2 certainly spoken of that point. With a
3 configuration similar to an earlier district
4 of which Georgetown County was a part, the old
5 6th District, it makes sense to us in the --
6 in House -- that South Carolina House District
7 108 be included in the new 7th Congressional
8 District. As somebody has already stated, we
9 anticipate the counties of Horry, Georgetown,
10 Williamsburg, Florence, Darlington, Marion,
11 Marlboro, Dillon and perhaps Chesterfield will
12 be included as part of the 7th District, the
13 new district. The South Carolina Senate and
14 House have expressed a number of principles
15 that have been put forth to guide
16 redistricting. They include preserving the
17 core of prior assignments -- alignments,
18 avoiding contest between incumbents,
19 recognizing communities of interest and
20 maintaining integrity of political assignments
21 -- alignments. I believe that having the
22 center of gravity of House Seat 108 in coastal
23 and Georgetown County and included in the 7th
24 Congressional District fulfills those
25 principles that I just said. Thank you for

1 allowing me to speak.

2 REP. CLEMMONS: We appreciate your comments, sir.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. LUQUIRE: I have a copy of this.

5 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, you may. Mr. Brian Scott.

6 While our speaker's coming forward, we have

7 Representative Carl Anderson with us from

8 Georgetown County in the back and

9 Representative Seth Whipper. Representative

10 Seth Whipper. Representative Whipper is from

11 Charleston with us here on my right-hand side.

12 Welcome. Good to have you gentlemen with us.

13 (Applause)

14 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir, Mr. Scott.

15 MR. SCOTT: Yeah, Brian Scott, 3311 Palm Street,

16 North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. I have a

17 comment that's more of a perfect world comment

18 rather than a practical one. And I know that

19 redistricting is not a practical science. My

20 suggestion is that you do not split precincts.

21 That we have problems -- I've worked as a poll

22 worker and I've been a candidate. I went to

23 my poll at Windy Hill and they gave me a

24 ballot and I was on the ballot for County

25 Council and I was not on the ballot they gave

1 me. I complained about it. They asked me to
2 leave. I finally got a provisional ballot,
3 but, of course, provisional ballots aren't
4 counted until after elections are usually
5 announced. I know that Marion Foxworth won an
6 election by questioning whether the people got
7 the right ballots and it turned the election
8 because when -- I've worked as a poll worker.
9 You work in general elections twelve
10 hours every two years and you're not up on
11 it when you first get there and in the first
12 two hours mistakes are made. And that's when
13 a good portion of people vote. So if you
14 could somehow -- I know it has nothing to do
15 with the process you're in. If you could make
16 it where precincts only had one ballot for
17 everybody in that precinct.

18 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Scott, we appreciate
19 your input.

20 (Applause)

21 REP. CLEMMONS: Michelle Reagan. Ms. Reagan, 208
22 Shorewood Drive. Mr. Bill Wiggand.

23 MR. WIGGAND: I signed that list. I see on here I
24 did make a mistake, too, but I'd like to say a
25 few things.

1 REP. CLEMMONS: Take advantage of the opportunity,
2 Mr. Wiggand.

3 MR. WIGGAND: I'm Bill Wiggand from 309 Crescent
4 Drive in Conway, South Carolina. I'm in the
5 real estate business. Horry County is a huge
6 county. I mean it's huge. If you don't
7 believe it, jump in the truck and pack your
8 lunch. It's going to be a ride. I trust
9 y'all to draw the lines, because, you know,
10 that's what we -- you know, we voted you for.
11 And I welcome a new seat with open arms.

12 REP. CLEMMONS: You're speaking of a new
13 congressional seat, Mr. Wiggand?

14 MR. WIGGAND: Yeah. Yeah. I think we need to cut
15 the taxes to get industry back into this
16 state. And I'm a believer in fair tax. About
17 73, I wish they would cut 73 back and let's
18 work on that (inaudible) program that Nelson
19 brought up. You give the people from
20 the south get away you know, out at the beach.
21 You know, Coastal just spent 100 billion on
22 that master plan. I think we can spend some
23 money and let the people in the south end have
24 a way to get out. Thank you.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Wiggand. Mr. Al

1 Teague. Thank you. Mr. Teague. Welcome,
2 sir.

3 MR. TEAGUE: I'm Al Teague, and I'm representing no
4 kin to other Teagues in the Conway area, by
5 the way.

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir.

7 MR. TEAGUE: But I'm 5355 Red Bluff Road in Loris.
8 My wife and I also own a home 911 South
9 Highway 501 in Marion. I vote here in Horry
10 County, though, out in the Red Bluff area. I
11 work with the homeless in Myrtle Beach and I'm
12 also a board member of ECHO, which is Eastern
13 Carolina Homeless Organization. And which is
14 interesting because we include Horry County,
15 Georgetown, Williamsburg, Marion, Dillon,
16 Walterboro, Darlington and Florence. We also
17 connected up with Sumter. But those counties,
18 we have a -- the largest population of
19 homelessness is in Horry County. Everybody
20 thinks of Greenville, Columbia and Charleston.
21 But we really have a big problem down here in
22 Horry County. So because of that we have
23 special needs. I'm kind of of the opinion
24 that maybe the federal government's not going
25 to be in a position to help out that much.

1 But what's important is that we have local
2 leadership which would include that new
3 district. Leadership to participate in the
4 solutions, because there are some solutions
5 for homelessness. I'm also advisory committee
6 of a new company that's our corporation or
7 non-profit that's trying to solve the homeless
8 problem. It's been done in other communities.
9 Miami -- the Miami folks have already gone
10 from 8,000 homeless to 800 homeless in their
11 town, and they know how it impacts tourism.
12 They know how it impacts crime and also how it
13 impacts real estate values. So we've got a
14 lot of incentive for our area to solve that
15 problem. Interestingly, a lot of our homeless
16 come from rural areas, because if you start
17 looking at the towns of Marion -- or the
18 county of Marion, Dillon, Walterboro and those
19 areas, they have extremely high poverty rates
20 and when we see all the buses coming in on 501
21 in the morning, that's where they're coming
22 from to get the jobs. Interestingly, a lot of
23 those people have the ability to get
24 technical jobs but need a way to get there.
25 They have the intelligence to do it, but they

1 don't have the skills to get those jobs.
2 So it's a benefit to our area to work with
3 some of that population to get them employable
4 so that they can be a part of the solution. I
5 think we need the leadership from a district
6 level. I commend Tim Scott. I've talked to
7 him about the problems. But I think for our
8 area we have a particular problem that's
9 impacted the state, so. And it also connects
10 up with our homeless coalition. We work a lot
11 with Florence in solving problems. So thank
12 you for your attention.

13 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Teague. Eugene
14 Geraldo. Welcome, Mr. Geraldo.

15 MR. GERALDO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank
16 you for the job that you do as our
17 Representative.

18 REP. CLEMMONS: My pleasure, sir. Thank you.

19 MR. GERALDO: I'm Eugene Geraldo, and I've lived in
20 Myrtle Beach for 43 years. I live at 809
21 Duncan Avenue on the north end of Myrtle. And
22 I'd like to take this opportunity to back up
23 Daniel Cochran on all of the things that he
24 has proposed with the quarter that we have in
25 the northeastern section. I think that many

1 of the people who have spoken have brought up
2 a lot of problems that we have in this area.
3 And I feel that we have good representation
4 that can do something about these problems,
5 especially the 501. That's our lifeline.
6 And if we don't do something about it then
7 we're going to wind up with a lot of problems.
8 That's about all I have to say. Thank you.

9 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Geraldo. We
10 appreciate your comments. Ladies and
11 gentlemen, that exhausts the list of those
12 that we have signed up to speak tonight. A
13 number of folks have walked in since we picked
14 up the sign-in sheet. I would now invite any
15 additional comments that would like to be
16 made. We would invite you to raise your hand
17 and I will recognize you. Mr. John Bon
18 Signor, would you please come forward, sir.

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You got two over here too
20 when you . . .

21 REP. CLEMMONS: We will get everybody that wishes to
22 make comment. We will get to you, Mr. Mickey.

23 MR. BON SIGNOR: Mr. Chairman.

24 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Bon Signor.

25 MR. BON SIGNOR: Members of the Board --

1 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Bon Signor, for the record --

2 MR. BON SIGNOR: John Bon Signor.

3 REP. CLEMMONS: And your address.

4 MR. BON SIGNOR: 1425 Teague Road, Myrtle Beach,
5 29577.

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, sir.

7 MR. BON SIGNOR: I come here today, Mr. Chairman, to
8 urge all of you to consider when you're
9 redistricting please consider extending the
10 congressional line into the area of the south
11 strand. Continue to keep it in the south
12 strand. And the reason for that is that we
13 need federal funds for our roads there.
14 We need to get evacuation from the south
15 strand because during a emergency or an
16 unusual occurrence or a hurricane, we have no
17 place to go. We are grid locked, we're
18 blocked. And you gentlemen are concerned with
19 the safety, I'm certain, of its citizens. So
20 when you're drafting the lines consider that.
21 And also with respect to the area of Carolina
22 Forest that's growing by leaps and bounds
23 consider putting a district right within that
24 center because that's the heart and soul of a
25 new development that we have there. So,

1 gentlemen, you have an awesome -- and ladies,
2 you have an awesome responsibility and I'm
3 glad to see that I have our legislator here,
4 Nelson Hardwick, from the south strand that
5 has worked very tirelessly, especially in my
6 area, when we can't get out of our development
7 because of the terrible traffic jams we have
8 each morning. And we're risking our lives to
9 get across going southbound or northbound on
10 17 bypass because we have no way at all for a
11 traffic stop or a traffic light, so we're
12 risking our lives. Brought this to the
13 attention of the Honorable Thad Viers who's
14 looking into it. And nothing has been done
15 yet. Hopefully something will be done. So,
16 therefore, you gentlemen here have the
17 responsibility to protect the lives and the
18 safety of your constituents. Thank you, Mr.
19 Chairman.

20 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Bon Signor. We had
21 some hands in the back here. Come on up.

22 REP. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman?

23 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir.

24 REP. SELLERS Mr. Chairman, as our next speaker
25 comes forward, if Mr. DiSabato -- did I

1 pronounce that correctly? I hope so. If he
2 is still here, I do have one relatively quick
3 question I would like to ask him and answer as
4 we proceed throughout the evening.

5 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you very much. If Mr.
6 DiSabato is here -- I don't see -- raise your
7 hand, Mr. DiSabato. There? No. I thought I
8 saw him, but I don't think I do. I think he's
9 left us.

10 REP. SELLERS: Okay. Well, we can grab him after
11 our speaker.

12 REP. CLEMMONS: He's coming back in the door now.
13 Mr. DeSabato, there's going to be a question
14 for you after this speaker, if you'd stand by.
15 Thank you very much. Come right ahead.

16 MR. JAMES: Good afternoon, Subcommittee, Mr. Allen.
17 My name Mickey James, Myrtle Beach NAACP.
18 First of all, good to be here in front of this
19 distinguished group.

20 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. James, we're honored to have
21 you.

22 MR. JAMES: I just want to listen to -- My address
23 is 1205 Washington Street in Myrtle Beach.
24 And as far as John is concerned, he can park
25 his car, John, and save some gas.

1 MR. BON SIGNOR: Thank you.

2 MR. JAMES: That way nobody won't run you over,
3 John. My good friend, John. But, anyway, I
4 want to be very brief. Alan, there's a lot of
5 things this entire committee that I don't
6 understand in full, but I do understand to
7 some degree by talking to other folks that the
8 minority population is less than twelve
9 percent in Horry County. And redrawing these
10 lines would have a very significant impact on
11 the status of those numbers as far as
12 redistricting is concerned. I mean I have a
13 minority district as far as blacks in Horry
14 County. I do wish this committee would
15 consider not only just for blacks but just a
16 fair representation for all people when
17 they're redrawing these lines. And I heard --
18 I concur with a lot of folks that spoke
19 earlier prior to my arrival that there are
20 some issues as far as the economy is concerned
21 and jobs, education. Those things will be
22 impacted in this redistricting process. So we
23 ask that when you do examine closely and
24 distinctively the avenues that have been
25 presented to you that you will look at the

1 population of minorities of Hispanics, blacks
2 and other areas that when it come down to
3 voting populus that we want to have the best
4 representative whether she -- he or she be
5 black or white. So we want to make sure that
6 we get the proper representation. Thank you.

7 REP. SELLERS: Mr. Clemmons?

8 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. James. Mr. James,
9 would you stand up -- would you come back to
10 the microphone for just one second. Mr.
11 Sellers has a question.

12 REP. SELLERS: Thank you so much, Mr. James. And
13 I'm kind of glad that you brought that up
14 today because one thing that I believe the
15 committee, and in particular, various members
16 of this committee are cognizant of or what are
17 deemed or considered majority/minority
18 districts or the such. But just from your
19 understanding of Horry County can you tell us
20 some communities in which there are -- I mean,
21 it's not a whole lot. It's twelve percent.
22 But where there are some communities of
23 African-Americans or minority populations just
24 so that when we do draw these districts we're
25 not just -- because we look at communities of

1 interest. And one thing I don't want to do is
2 just make sure that we're disbursing a little
3 bit here and disbursing a little bit there and
4 there when we can keep communities of interest
5 as a whole. So if you can outline where some
6 of those communities may be, I think that
7 would be beneficial for me and the rest of the
8 committee as well.

9 MR. JAMES: Okay, Mr. Sellers and the rest of the
10 committee. My understanding the Bucksport
11 area is a very large aggregated area of
12 minorities of blacks in Bucksport. If you've
13 ever heard of that area it's almost near
14 Georgetown on 701, if I'm correct. Also, you
15 have probably a large population in the Wampee
16 and Longs area are blacks that live in this
17 area. And there's other areas that I really
18 can't recall. Just so vast area. But I would
19 definitely have more information and I could
20 pass it on to Representative Clemmons later.
21 But I don't want to go up here with a false
22 idea, the false information. But I do know
23 Bucksport is very highly, percentage wise,
24 minority. We do have Representative James
25 Frasier on county council that's from that

1 area. And I do understand that he could be
2 jeopardized with the new redistricting process
3 because of the way the lines going to be
4 drawn. This is my understanding. But there
5 are other areas. Like I say, Longs area and
6 probably Wampee, little small rural
7 communities right outside of the north end.
8 And, if I'm not mistaken, those are probably
9 the only ones I can think of at this time.
10 But maybe somebody else in the audience may
11 know a little more than I do as far as the
12 exact numbers. Because most of the blacks
13 live in the rural areas in Horry County.
14 They're scattered out throughout.

15 REP. SELLERS: Thank you so much for that.

16 MR. JAMES: Okay.

17 REP. SELLERS: Thank you.

18 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. James. Mr. DiSabato,
19 would you come forward for a moment for a
20 question by Mr. Sellers?

21 REP. SELLERS: Since I'm on a roll. Thank you so
22 much, Mr. DiSabato. I'm sorry we -- you
23 were headed to dinner and we had to bring you
24 back in. I apologize. Because I'm a little
25 hungry --

1 MR. DISABATO: I wish I was headed to dinner. I'm
2 actually going back to work.

3 REP. SELLERS: -- hungry myself. I don't mean to
4 take you away you from that. Carolina Forest,
5 can you tell me the size of Carolina Forest?
6 I mean, is it an incorporated area? Tell me -
7 - I'm trying to understand, because a lot of
8 people have spoken about Carolina Forest being
9 a district hub, and I just want to know the
10 numbers.

11 MR. DISABATO: It's not an incorporated area, so
12 it's not its own city or municipality. As far
13 as the area goes, I'm not sure what the
14 linear, you know, mileage in Carolina Forest
15 is. I can give you some boundaries --

16 REP. SELLERS: Some boundaries will be good. Yeah,
17 that will be cool.

18 MR. DISABBADO: Carolina Forest generally goes -- or
19 what's considered Carolina Forest runs from
20 International Drive down River Oaks Drive to
21 501, up 501 to either Carolina Forest
22 Boulevard or Gardner Lacy Road, considering,
23 you know, what you consider the boundary of
24 Carolina Forest. It's kind of a gray area.
25 It's not a sharp line. It's more of a hazy

1 line, to be honest with you.

2 REP. SELLERS: Thanks.

3 MR. DISABADO: You're welcome.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Within that boundary is
5 21,000 residents --

6 MR. DISABATO: Roughly --

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- roughly?

8 MR. DISABATO: I think it's 20,700 and change.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

10 MR. DISABATO: You're welcome.

11 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, sir.

12 MR. DISABATO: Thank you.

13 REP. CLEMMONS: Is there anybody else with us
14 tonight that would like to be heard? Yes,
15 ma'am, in the back. Please come forward.
16 Good evening.

17 MS. KOLMAN: Good evening.

18 REP. CLEMMONS: Please share your name and address
19 with us.

20 MS. KOLMAN: Okay. I'm Nancy Kolman. It's K-o-l-m-
21 a-n. And it's 147 Redtail Hawk Loop, and I'm
22 from Pawleys Island, South Carolina. I am
23 currently the chair of the Democrat party in
24 Georgetown County. I've heard a lot about
25 Horry County and what is needed here because

1 of the tourism. And Georgetown County we have
2 a need to see that the port is dredged and we
3 need a highway there also. We're more of an
4 industrial area. And at this point in order
5 to get our products out of there or to bring
6 in more business and corporations we need to
7 have a way of getting products out of the
8 area, and there is none. And also on -- I'd
9 like for you to consider, too, we in
10 Georgetown, at least on the Democratic side,
11 are happy with the way or legislative
12 districts are laid out. I have heard some
13 statements by some of the legislative members
14 that they would like to push those lines north
15 up into Horry, do away with our part of
16 Charleston County and of the City of
17 Georgetown for the 108 and things like that.
18 And I don't think that that would be a fair
19 way of distributing. And so I ask you as you
20 are working on this as the committee to
21 consider that also. And I think that's about
22 it. Our congressman who is doing, I will say,
23 -- our new congressman is doing a much better
24 job than our past one. And so we're very
25 happy about that. But he is not considering

1 dredging the port. And that is a big hangup
2 for us because we do need it dredged to get
3 the product there. Thank you very much.

4 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for your comments. One
5 moment, ma'am. Could you come back to the
6 microphone for just a moment?

7 MS. KOLMAN: Certainly.

8 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you. Mr. Young has a
9 question.

10 MS. KOLMAN: Sir?

11 REP. YOUNG: Ms. Kolman, thank you very much. One
12 of the previous speakers, in talking about the
13 House district that makes up the area from, I
14 guess, Murrells Inlet -- House District 108,
15 had specifically suggested that the area north
16 of Brookgreen Gardens be included in a
17 different district. The area south of
18 Brookgreen Gardens would stay in 108. What
19 are your thoughts on that?

20 MS. KOLMAN: Basically, as I said, I'm not so sure
21 we want to move further north. We seem to --
22 what we have in our area basically serves the
23 purpose of Georgetown County, the 103 and the
24 108. And to move those lines to any great
25 area, distance, I don't think it would be to

1 our benefit. Because I know that's split up
2 in that area, you know, and it's very split up
3 in there because it's -- there's some area
4 that is not covered with housing and all at
5 this time and all. And it's been a question
6 for a long time. So, I don't -- I
7 really don't have any comment on that. I
8 don't really want to include that, I don't
9 believe. That it would be the benefit of
10 Georgetown County, anyway.

11 REP. YOUNG: So you like the existing lines the way
12 they are?

13 MS. KOLMAN: Like them a lot better, yes. We're
14 happy with the lines the way they are because
15 they take in an area that I think is
16 proportioned to the population, as far as
17 political parties and all are concerned.

18 REP. YOUNG: Well, I think the previous speaker had
19 suggested that the area north of Brookgreen
20 Gardens had more in common with, say, the
21 Surfside area than it did with Northern
22 Charleston County and some parts of
23 Georgetown. Do you agree or disagree --

24 MS. KOLMAN: I agree with that. I mean, I
25 definitely agree. I agree that they are more

1 -- that they do have more in common with the
2 Horry County group area.

3 REP. YOUNG: All right. Thank you.

4 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Ms. Kolman. Thank you,
5 Mr. Young. Mr. DiSabato, did you wish to
6 address the panel again?

7 MR. DISABATO: I would.

8 REP. CLEMMONS: Please come forward.

9 MR. DISABATO: I'd also like to just mention that
10 there -- those are the clearly defined lines
11 of Carolina Forest. There are areas
12 surrounding Carolina Forest that I think are
13 in pretty much the same boat as the Carolina
14 Forest community, and that would be areas like
15 Myrtle Beach National, which fall on the
16 northern side of Gardener Lacy line. Parts of
17 Forest Brook, which are on the other side of
18 501, West Perry, that -- they're contiguous
19 and kind of have the same interest that
20 Carolina Forest does. So you may want to
21 consider expanding your view of Carolina
22 Forest with regard to, you know, political
23 interests of a community. And I'd also just
24 like to echo some of the sentiments that my
25 friends in Loris have mentioned, but I'm sure

1 they won't be happy with me for saying this.
2 There's a lot of undeveloped subdivisions
3 within Carolina Forest as well that if the
4 housing economy does come back and we do see
5 some relocation from the north into this area,
6 that you're going to see a lot of that --
7 that's going to make the population growth
8 from 21,000 to who knows, 25, 26,000 people.
9 And I think that that needs to be taking into
10 consideration as well. And also one more
11 thing. Carolina Forest is an interesting
12 community in the fact that it's kind of
13 considered the melting pot of Horry County.
14 You got a lot of different people from a
15 lot of different areas in there. So, I mean,
16 it's just a very interesting part of Horry
17 County. I think that should be considered
18 when you're making your decisions. Thank you.

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you very much, Mr. DiSabato.
20 We have Clark Parker with us. I think Mr.
21 Parker would like to address us. Mr. Parker,
22 share with us your address, if you would, for
23 the record.

24 MR. PARKER: I'm at 8970 Shady Branch Road in Myrtle
25 Beach, better known as Socastee.

1 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir.

2 MR. PARKER: Welcome to Myrtle Beach and Horry
3 County, guys and ladies. And appreciate you
4 coming here and being part of the process as
5 well as leading us in this process. My
6 question is, Alan, is the time line. What are
7 we looking at as far as a time table for this
8 process?

9 REP. CLEMMONS: The public input period is going to
10 -- these regional hearings that we're holding
11 will run through next week. At the end of
12 that we will begin the actual process of
13 looking at maps and working through the
14 legislative process of putting together a
15 subcommittee proposal to be heard by the full
16 committee and the House Judiciary and then to
17 be debated on the House floor. We fully
18 expect -- no, strike that. We must have a
19 legislative plan in place by the end of
20 August. And that is our plan to have that in
21 place by the end of August so that we can then
22 move on to the next phase of obtaining pre-
23 clearance from the Department of Justice or
24 the federal courts.

25 MR. PARKER: Thank you. Welcome and thank you. And

1 anything we can do help proceed that
2 process or speed it up we'd be glad to help
3 any way we can. Thank y'all for being here,
4 Alan.

5 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Parker.

6 MR. PARKER: You're welcome.

7 REP. CLEMMONS: We appreciate it. We have another
8 hand. Mr. Johnny Friar.

9 MR. FRIAR: Good evening. My name's Johnny Friar,
10 4887 Magnolia Point Lane, Myrtle Beach, 29577.
11 I hope our visitors found the weather here
12 accommodating today. My argument for a
13 District 7 for the northeastern part of the
14 state has less to do with culture and more to
15 do with the economies of two different cities:
16 Myrtle Beach, Horry County and Charleston.
17 Both areas gather a lot of their income from -
18 - or revenue from tourism. And it's a common
19 known fact that there's a rivalry between
20 Charleston and Myrtle Beach. And there's
21 nothing wrong with that but it doesn't seem
22 expedient to have one man or one person
23 representing two different rival cities. In
24 many regards, it's seen as a zero sum gain.
25 They either go to Charleston or they go to

1 Myrtle Beach. I don't know if that's 100
2 percent true, but there's a strong rivalry
3 between the two cities for tourist. And to
4 have one person fight for two different cities
5 for those same tourist doesn't seem feasible.
6 I think there needs to be two people
7 representing each area for those tourist
8 dollars and tourists. Thank you.

9 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Friar. I have a hand
10 at the back, ma'am. Would you like to come
11 forward and speak? Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am,
12 that microphone. Share with us your name and
13 address, please.

14 MS. SMITH: My name is Susan Smith. My address is
15 121 Lake Shore Drive, Pawleys Island, South
16 Carolina. And I am the executive committee
17 woman for the Georgetown County Democratic
18 Party.

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Ms. Smith.

20 MS. SMITH: Hi. I just would like to put it on
21 record that I'm very, very happy with District
22 108 with the lines drawn as they are because
23 I, being a Democrat, am very happy with the
24 diversity that we have in District 108.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you very much.

1 MS. SMITH: Just -- and I'd like to have a
2 congressional district that is reflective of
3 the people who actually would like to accept
4 federal aid, like the ports, that kind of
5 thing.

6 REP. SELLERS: Can I ask a question, Mr. Clemmons.

7 REP. CLEMMONS: You may, yes, Mr. Sellers.

8 REP. SELLERS: The young lady who came before you
9 from Georgetown --

10 MS. SMITH: That was my chair.

11 REP. SELLERS: Your chairwoman.

12 MS. SMITH: You can call me young lady, too --

13 REP. SELLERS: I was going to say the same thing.
14 Yeah, at 24 you're doing awesome. She talked
15 about how Georgetown was a more industrial
16 area in comparison to Horry County. Would you
17 liken yourself, in thinking about the 7th
18 District, would you liken Georgetown County
19 more with aligned in terms of interest --
20 communities of interest with Charleston or
21 with Horry County or both?

22 MS. SMITH: I think that being from Georgetown
23 County I would like to -- How's this for a
24 political answer? Something that represents
25 the needs of the citizens in Georgetown

1 County. And we do -- we would like to have
2 attention and interest with the port in
3 Georgetown County. And it seems to be
4 ignored. I don't think our congressman is
5 really, in my -- to my knowledge, is really
6 paying much attention. And certainly our
7 local representative hasn't said too much, or
8 if anything, on record about it.

9 REP. SELLERS: Thank you.

10 MS. SMITH: We need the industry.

11 REP. SELLERS: Thank you.

12 MR. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman?

13 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Allen.

14 REP. ALLEN: Who is 108? Who represents --

15 REP. CLEMMONS: It's Kevin Ryan.

16 MS. SMITH: And I think he is in the back, as a
17 matter of fact.

18 REP. ALLEN: Okay. Okay. All right. Thank you.

19 REP. CLEMMONS: Any other questions? Ms. Smith,
20 thank you so much --

21 MS. SMITH: Than you.

22 REP. CLEMMONS: -- for sharing with us today. Do we
23 have Mr. Sabber Saxina? Dr. Sabber Saxena.
24 Would you please come forward, sir?

25 MR. SAXENA: Thank you. I do not have anything to

1 add to what has been said. I have a question
2 for this panel. After this thing is
3 completed, redistricting is completed, when it
4 will be implemented? In particular, will it
5 impact 2012 election?

6 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir. It is intended to impact
7 the next election cycle.

8 MR. SAXINA: Okay. Thank you.

9 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir. Do we have any other
10 comments from the public? Yes, sir. If you'd
11 please come forward. Good evening.

12 MR. PATTON: Good evening, gentlemen. My name is
13 Michael Patton. It's 526 Sparkleberry Drive,
14 Murrells Inlet. And regarding the gentleman
15 said before about moving the line down to
16 Brookgreen Gardens, I don't know if he meant
17 to change the county line or to change the
18 district lines. But I'll tell you the most
19 makes sense to me, I know there's been some
20 objections from Georgetown County, but I live
21 in a neighborhood called Prince Creek. And
22 half of it's in Georgetown County and half of
23 it's in Horry County. It doesn't make any
24 sense that my neighbors have different voting
25 districts than we do. We just got a new

1 district (inaubible) three. And I'm a member
2 of that. And, you know, it just doesn't make
3 sense to split a development in half. And a
4 while ago I had spoken with Representative
5 Hardwick and we're talking about 707 being
6 widen and coming down all the way to 17
7 bypass. And he says we have the money to get
8 the cement plan on 707 because after that it
9 turns into Georgetown County. Now we got to
10 find the mney from Georgetown. We have it for
11 Horry. So we'll either build a road and have
12 300 yards to finish the raod and not, you
13 know, have any money. It just doesn't make
14 sense. If you can't go to Brookgreen Gardens,
15 you know, it's like football, you move the
16 chains, that's a natural divider, then go to
17 Wachesaw Road and make, you know, the north
18 side of Wachesaw, Horry and, you know, then
19 Wachesaw Plantation, you know, that way.
20 Just a natural divider from the intercoastal
21 to the inlet. That's make the most sense to
22 me.

23 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you for your comments on that,
24 Mr. Patton. Fortunately, we are not empowered
25 to change county lines through the

1 subcommitte. But we certainly will take your
2 comments in consideration when it comes to
3 splitting or not splitting natural areas or
4 natural subdivisions and subdivisions from
5 each other. Neighbors should be represented
6 by neighbors, I think we are hearing.

7 MR. PATTON: Right. Then what did he mean about
8 Brookgreen Gardens that --

9 REP. CLEMMONS: I think -- I don't mean to speak for
10 him, but my understanding was that he would
11 like to see the area that's currently
12 represented by Representative Nelson Hardwick
13 on the south end of Horry County to extend
14 into Georgetown County up to Brookgreen
15 Gardens. That was my understanding.

16 MR. PATTON: That's good. I agree with that.

17 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Patton. I have a
18 hand in the back. Yes, sir, if you would come
19 forward.

20 MR. SPAIN: Greetings. Cedric Spain. 3454 Kates
21 Bay Highway, Conway, South Carolina.

22 REP. CLEMMONS: Welcome, Mr. Spain.

23 MR. SPAIN: I would like to speak towards
24 Representative Sellers question to the NAACP
25 president. There are three districts that

1 could be worked -- looked at. That's House
2 Seat 58, which is Liston Barfield, 105 and
3 106. Those districts -- and 106, in
4 particular, because I've been questioning our
5 councilman for several years with Bucksport,
6 their district Representative Hardwick being
7 across the waterway. And to give them fair
8 representation why not leave them in House
9 Seat 58 and that in order for Mr. Hardwick to
10 get to his district, part of that district,
11 he's either going to hav to go through the
12 woods, through boat or either drive all the
13 way around to get to Bucksport. So in respect
14 to trying to give fairness with a minority
15 district, and 106 is Hearn's district, if you
16 look at those districts and the way they were
17 Gerrymandered, those 2,000 and some African-
18 Americans that are in 106 that are out there,
19 it's basically you left them -- they're on an
20 island by themselves. So to give some fair
21 play to it and, too, and secure possibly a
22 minority district, look at 105, 106 and 58 and
23 that will give some fairness to Horry County.
24 Thank you so much.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Spain.

1 REP. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman?

2 REP. CLEMMONS: Mr. Spain, would you come back to
3 the microphone for just a moment for a
4 question by Representative Allen?

5 REP. ALLEN: Thank you, sir. I just want to
6 understand. You're speaking a little fast for
7 me on the -- you got about 2,000 residents in
8 106 of African-American. That's what you're
9 saying, correct?

10 MR. SPAIN: Correct.

11 REP. ALLEN: Now, that -- you mentioned 105 and 58 -
12 -

13 MR. SPAIN: Well, looking at the voting. I was just
14 looking at your --

15 REP. ALLEN: Sure.

16 MR. SPAIN: -- records here that was presented this
17 evening.

18 REP. ALLEN: Okay. In looking at that and trying to
19 understand it where does 105 come into the
20 boundaries at? Is that adjacent to it or --

21 MR. SPAIN: In George Hearn's district, 105,
22 encompassing -- I want to speak -- like I say,
23 have facts. I have to look at an actual map.
24 But talking about race path one and two, those
25 are heavily African-American population in

1 Horry -- in Conway area. And going further
2 out some parts of the Allentown area off
3 of 701 North out in that area going towards --
4 to Loris and those areas and you have another
5 pocket, not much, but on Highway 90, that's
6 another area out on there off skirts there
7 which leads up to Wampee in those areas.

8 That's some of those areas are --

9 REP. ALLEN: So those would be the same areas that
10 the prior gentleman that spoke for NAACP was
11 speaking of?

12 MR. SPAIN: Right. And some -- But I was just
13 wanting to give you districts that you could
14 look at that were already, especially with
15 being -- I'm in 58. And then looking at 106
16 with especially when he mentioned Bucksport
17 with that percentage. It's not that high a
18 percentage. I think last voting record was
19 about six or 700 African-Americans that
20 actually voted in the Bucksport community.
21 And that's called the Port Harrison precinct.

22 REP. ALLEN: Okay. Thank you.

23 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you, Mr. Spain.

24 MR. SPAIN: Thank you also.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Yes, sir. Any other questions

1 or comments? Any other comments? Last call.
2 Ladies and gentlemen, -- well, I just -- I
3 didn't close it quick enough. We've got
4 Daniel Cochran raising his hand. Mr. Cochran
5 you may come forward.

6 MR. COCHRAN: Thank you. This is just really brief
7 because somebody touched on it earlier. And I
8 was looking in my notes and I kind of missed
9 it. Wild Wing is split between two different
10 House districts and I'd like to reiterate --

11 REP. CLEMMONS: Wild Wing the precinct or Wild
12 Wing the subdivision?

13 MR. COCHRAN: Yeah, Wild Wing the precinct. And I'd
14 just like to, you know, if you're trying to
15 work the precinct and try to get out to vote
16 or whatever it's kind of freaky because you're
17 like, oh, I crossed over into somebody else's,
18 I don't have to deal with it. When you're
19 drawing these lines, I'd really appreciate it,
20 and all of us would, if you'd try to keep the
21 precincts together. I know that that can't be
22 done all the time, but it would be very
23 important. And that's all I wanted to add.
24 Thanks.

25 REP. CLEMMONS: Thank you. Good input. Thank you,

Mr. Cochran. All right. Last call. Hearing nothing and seeing no further hands, I want to thank, and we want to thank, everyone of you for being here to share your comments with us tonight. This is a very important part of the redistricting process. You have had your opportunity to have public input tonight, from which we will be setting criteria, as a subcommittee, on the drawing of the political districts that will last over the next decade. So when those districts come out, look at them with pride because you've had input to make them how they are. Thank you so much for all your help tonight. We wish you well. Godspeed to you all.

(Applause)