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ROBERT W. HARRELL, JR.
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

PRESS RELEASE

REDISTRICTING PLAN SUBMITTED

(Columbia) – The redistricting plan approved by the South Carolina House of Representatives at the end of the 2011 legislative session has been submitted to the United States Department of Justice for review and administrative approval. Federal law requires that new House Districts must be reviewed by the Department of Justice and precleared or administratively approved prior to their being implemented or enforced. A submission has been made to the Department of Justice detailing the process by which the redistricting plan was enacted. In addition, judicial approval for the redistricting plan is being sought simultaneously through the filing of a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia seeking a declaration that the redistricting plan conforms to the requirements of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

The new redistricting plan impacts all 124 of the state's districts for the South Carolina House of Representatives. Act No. 72 of 2011 (H. 3991, R. 108) was signed by the Governor on June 28, 2011 and has been sent to the DOJ in compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 28, Part 51. The judicial action also has been filed in compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

A complete duplicate copy of the submission, including documents, data, maps, and magnetic media, is available for public inspection at the offices of the South Carolina House Judiciary Committee, State House Complex, Room 512 of the Blatt Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, and on the South Carolina House of Representatives website found at <http://redistricting.schouse.gov>. Citizens may review the submission and send any comments regarding the documents to the U.S. Attorney General's office at vot1973c@usdoj.gov or at the following address:

Chief, Voting Section
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
Room 7254 – NWB
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Comments should be identified in the subject line, or, if applicable, marked on the first page and on the envelope with the notation "Comment under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act."

If you have any questions regarding the submission, please contact Patrick G. Dennis, Chief Counsel for the House Judiciary Committee, at (803) 734-3120. Upon reasonable notice and during business hours, arrangements will be made for access to the documentation. Copies of documents, maps, or disks will be made upon request for the cost of duplication. Copies of these documents may also be downloaded from the South Carolina House of Representatives website found at <http://redistricting.schouse.gov>.