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AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION

September 09, 2021

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE REDISTRICTING HEARINGS

REPORTER: Karen Belanger

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF FLORENCE

HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
REDISTRICTING AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

Jay Jordan

REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Justin Bamberg	Bamberg
Neal Collins	Pickens
Pat Hennigan	Marlboro
Beth Bernstein	Columbia
Jason Elliott	Greenville
Weston Newton	Beaufort
Robert Williams	Darlington

DATE: September 9th, 2021

LOCATION: Southeastern Institute of
Manufacturing & Technology
1951 Pisgah Road
Florence, South Carolina 29501

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1 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

2 All right, ladies and gentlemen, we're going to get
3 started here. First let me introduce myself. My
4 name is Jay Jordan. I'm the chairman of our Ad Hoc
5 Redistricting Committee. I hope you know who I am,
6 because I represent some of you probably. My
7 district is about five miles that way. So it's
8 particularly nice for me to welcome the members of
9 the committee and my constituents hopefully as well
10 to Florence. It's great to bring this group to
11 Florence. With that let me introduce this group.
12 So I'm going to go in alphabetical order. To my
13 left Representative Justin Bamberg from Bamberg.
14 Representative Neal Collins from Pickens.
15 Representative Pat Hennigan from Marlboro, which we
16 are also in her home Seventh Congressional
17 District. Representative Beth Bernstein to my
18 right from Columbia. Representative Jason Elliott
19 from Greenville. And then to my immediate left,
20 Representative Weston Newton who resides in
21 Beaufort County. Also present, I would also like
22 to recognize, my good friend Representative Robert
23 Williams who represents Darlington County. And,
24 Robert, we might actually be in your district
25 tonight; is that right? You're nodding. So I

1 thought that was right. So thank you for your
2 hospitality. Also thank you to the folks here at
3 SIMT for being such gracious hosts and making such
4 a wonderful facility available to us. This is a
5 place that we are certainly proud of here in
6 Florence and Darlington Counties. With that let me
7 go over some sort of housekeeping things. I know
8 my fellow members of the committee, you all are
9 super excited to hear my speech for the second
10 time. Only seven more to go after this. I will
11 get better delivering it. I promise you. So again
12 thank you all for being here tonight. These
13 hearings are one of several keystones under pending
14 the process of redistricting of South Carolina.
15 Both here tonight and in other scheduled public
16 hearings, we the members of this Redistricting Ad
17 Hoc Committee of the House of Representatives are
18 seeking your input and insight into the process of
19 redrawing our districts in order to accommodate the
20 tremendous growth in South Carolina since 2010.
21 The public's input is a key consideration of this
22 committee as we formulate a proposed plan for the
23 presentation to the House Judiciary Committee and
24 ultimately adopt a plan for consideration by the
25 full House of Representatives. We recognize this

1 is not an insubstantial task to redraw legislative
2 and congressional lines. The Judiciary Committee
3 may or may not adopt the plan proposed by this Ad
4 Hoc Committee. So, too, the full House of
5 Representatives may or may not adopt the plan
6 proposed by the full Judiciary Committee. Unlike
7 prior redistricting cycles, the plan that gains
8 approval of the House and later of the Senate is no
9 longer subject to the advanced clearing, to
10 advanced clearing by the United States Department
11 of Justice. This is because in the decade since
12 the last redistricting cycle, the law surrounding
13 redistricting has continued to evolve. And in 2013
14 the United States Supreme Court struck down a
15 requirement of the Voting Rights Act that required
16 some states to have federal preapproval of
17 redistricting plans. Although we no longer have
18 preclearance obligations, we do have the benefit of
19 working from a redistricting plan that was both
20 approved by the Department of Justice in 2011 and
21 withstood challenge and scrutiny through federal
22 litigation which resulted in an affirmance of the
23 district lines as currently drawn. Another
24 difference prior from -- from prior redistricting
25 cycles that warrants mention is well known to us

1 all, and that is the unprecedented times of the
2 coronavirus pandemic that continues to impact our
3 country as well as our state. Due to the
4 disruption of the pandemic, the US Census Bureau
5 has, of course, been very delayed in the release of
6 the 2020 Census data, which has impacted the timing
7 of redistricting here in South Carolina. As I
8 mentioned during our first committee meeting in
9 early August, once the US Census Bureau releases
10 the final data on or about September 30th we will
11 begin the map drawing process for the House.
12 Although we are happy to receive your proposed plan
13 submissions at our website that may use the Legacy
14 format data, the House will wait until the US
15 Census Bureau publishes the final data and we have
16 verification that it is unchanged from the early
17 release information before we actually open the
18 House map room and begin drawing or considering
19 proposed plans. As the House undertakes the
20 process of redrawing district lines, public input
21 is indispensable to ensuring our districts best
22 represent the people of South Carolina. We truly
23 are the house of the people. We want your input on
24 specific issues or concerns in your communities, in
25 your neighborhoods. As in previous redistricting

1 cycles, our committee has adopted a set of criteria
2 to be used as guideposts in development of a
3 proposed plan and redrawing of district lines. The
4 fundamental goal of this committee and the House is
5 to adopt the plan that assures South Carolina
6 legislative districts provide for equal voting
7 rights traditionally referred to as one person, one
8 vote principle. As applied to the redistricting
9 plan, our district should be of substantially equal
10 population. While the population directive is
11 important, we are here tonight because the
12 committee needs to hear from our constituents, the
13 South Carolina voters. How do you identify or
14 define your communities? We welcome your input on
15 the important social, cultural, and historical
16 context to how you describe your community so that
17 we can better understand the commonality and
18 connections that matter to our citizens. This
19 hearing is being recorded and it will be
20 transcribed and made available to the public. For
21 the sake of order and clear record, we ask that
22 anyone desiring to speak tonight please first sign
23 in, if you have not already done so. I believe we
24 have some sign-up sheets here and there's more in
25 the back, if you have not signed up yet. When you

1 are called, please come to the microphone to
2 introduce yourself by your name, address, and the
3 district or districts in which you plan to speak.
4 If you present tonight on behalf of a group, please
5 identify the group on whose behalf you are
6 appearing, be it political party or public interest
7 group or other organization. I also want to make
8 sure everyone understands in advance we are here to
9 receive information and provide a forum for the
10 public to express to the committee what the issue
11 or concerns are that relate to redistricting.
12 While I and other members of this committee may
13 occasionally make a comment or ask questions, we
14 will strive to limit our speaking so that we can
15 maximize the time available to you. We anticipate
16 hearing testimony in this hearing. We ask that
17 folks are mindful of others and testify by way of
18 time. Certainly we will allot time to hear all the
19 concerns. We ask that you stick to about five
20 minutes so that we can make sure everyone gets to
21 get their point across. Also if you plan to leave
22 any written documentation with the committee, we
23 will be happy to include that written documentation
24 in the public record. And we ask to ensure that
25 you're identified on the document. Write your name

1 along with your mailing address. And we've made
2 sticky notes available at the submission box for
3 your convenience. Also you can email your
4 testimony to our website. That's
5 redistricting@schouse.gov. Or it can be mailed to
6 the House Judiciary located at 512 Blatt Building,
7 and that's at 1105 Pendleton Street in Columbia,
8 South Carolina, 29201. I believe that covers what
9 I need to cover for this evening for the record,
10 and housekeeping-wise as well. So with that let's
11 get started with what we came for and that's to
12 hear from you all. First up on the list, M.
13 Rahencamp (phonetic). Did I say that correctly?

14 MR. RAHENCAMP:

15 It was close.

16 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

17 I'll take close. Thank you, sir, you're
18 recognized.

19 MR. RAHENCAMP:

20 My name is Michael Rayancamp (phonetic). Pretty
21 close.

22 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

23 I'll do better next time.

24 MR. RAYANCAMP:

25 I live at 614 South McQueen Street in your

1 district. So I'm one of your constituents. In
2 1789 Patrick Henry attempted to design a district
3 to ensure that James Madison's loss in this
4 country's first districting. Numerous of founding
5 fathers bitterly complained about Henry's district.
6 Still through hard work and smart campaigning,
7 Madison managed to defeat Monroe. Even though they
8 were members of the constitution convention,
9 neither Henry or gerrymander's namesake --

10 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

11 Give me one second. We're going to try and adjust
12 the volume just a little bit. Lean in just a
13 little bit, if you don't mind. We want to make
14 sure everyone hears you.

15 MR. RAYANCAMP:

16 No problem. Is that better?

17 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

18 I believe we've got it worked out. So please
19 continue.

20 MR. RAYANCAMP:

21 Even though they were members of the constitutional
22 convention, neither Henry or Gerry, whose name is
23 gerrymandering, signed the constitution. My point
24 is that even though gerrymandering has been around
25 since the conception of the Republic, our founding

1 fathers frowned on the practice. To this end,
2 restricting in process should not start until there
3 are clear laws governing the process that the House
4 and Senate are bound to follow. The Senate and
5 House have different redistricting guidelines that
6 they're not required to follow. This lack of
7 accountability allows incumbents to pick the voters
8 to ensure their win. Fair Act Legislation House
9 Bill 4339, Senate 750, which is pending, would
10 codify current guidelines that makes -- that
11 lawmakers may not disregard. South Carolina is the
12 only state where the process and criteria for
13 redistricting are not codified into law. I think
14 that's a statement right there. We need to
15 establish -- we need the establishment of
16 nonpartisan objective benchmarks for the mapping of
17 voting districts. South Carolina's elections are
18 among the nation's least competitive. Lack of laws
19 against partisan gerrymandering allow incumbent
20 politicians to pick their own voters. Criteria
21 communities of interest include political beliefs
22 and voting behavior as communities of interest.
23 This is what was dictated in your criteria. These
24 communities of interest criteria will allow
25 partisan gerrymandering. The fact that 71 percent

1 of the 770 legislative elections are won with no
2 general election composition is clear evidence that
3 the current process is designed for and by the
4 incumbents, not the voters. This process should be
5 made public and transparent. We need to lift the
6 veil of secrecy surrounding the work of the
7 legislatures and their staff and bring this work
8 into the sunlight. The work of redistricting can
9 and should be done in full public view.

10 Legislatures should adopt rules that require full
11 and timely disclosure of all ongoing work, data,
12 algorithms, shape files, and maps to be released in
13 a timely manner for public review and comment well
14 in advance of legislative votes. Most drawing maps
15 that reflect communities of input has a very real
16 impact on the voices of the citizens in every
17 county, city, and town. The legislature must
18 listen carefully to the communities across the
19 street about their desired representation, and they
20 must account for that input in drawing the maps.

21 For example, Timmonsville and Brook Green in
22 Florence County should be taken from the house seat
23 62 and incorporated into house seat 63. Any
24 overreach in population can be incorporated into
25 house seat 59. House seat 62 can absorb any

1 overage in population from house seat 59. These
2 modifications will make all of these house seats
3 more competitive. Competition is my point here.
4 We lack competition and as result have a lack of --
5 well, Mr. Jordan, you once told me that
6 redistricting was better done in legislatures. But
7 it's a human nature to watch out for one's self
8 interest. This leads to safe seats with little or
9 no competition. You have an inherent bias for
10 self-interest. So in (inaudible) double blind
11 studies. To lower your bias, consider house bill
12 4201 for a citizens commission to make legislative
13 seats fairer. When I was in school, I learned that
14 of countries where the candidates won their
15 elections by 98 percent. These countries like the
16 USSR, Cuba, and China. South Carolina has too many
17 legislative seats that are won by a large margin.
18 Thank you for your time.

19 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

20 Thank you, sir. I would also -- I noticed I think
21 you had your comments written out or typed out.

22 MR. RAYANCAMP:

23 Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

25 And you were reading much of your comments. I

1 would encourage you, if you don't mind, to email
2 those comments to the redistricting at schouse.gov
3 so that we can have time. You know, it's great to
4 hear comments as they're read to us, but it's also
5 great to have the opportunity to go back and read
6 through what's submitted to us as well so that we
7 can better digest it. So I would just ask if you
8 would consider that. And I'd say that to the other
9 folks who are going to testify tonight, that if you
10 have written out or typed comments, if you would
11 consider submitting those to our website that would
12 be greatly appreciated.

13 MR. RAYANCAMP:

14 I'll add to the comments as well.

15 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

16 Thank you, sir. All right, next tonight we have
17 Mr. Herbert Jacobs. Well, we might have lost Mr.
18 Jacobs. We'll come back and check on him again in
19 a minute maybe. How about Mr. Paul Brewer? Mr.
20 Brewer, come on up.

21 MR. BREWER:

22 Good evening. I'm Paul Brewer from Pageland, South
23 Carolina. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this
24 opportunity to speak to this ad hoc committee. A
25 few days ago I was doing some research, doing some

1 background research on the South Carolina
2 redistricting process and came across this
3 particular article in our State newspaper. It says
4 that South Carolina is the only state without a law
5 guiding redistricting process. Should that change?
6 And it goes on to say two outspoken democratic
7 lawmakers want South Carolina to enact
8 redistricting rules into state law rather than
9 setting up a process every ten years. State
10 Representative Gilda-Cobb Hunter from Orangeburg
11 and State Senator Mike Fanning from Fairfield
12 County say they are pushing legislation to codify
13 the South Carolina redistricting process even
14 though they don't think it will pass. The two
15 lawmakers point out how most legislative elections
16 in November aren't even going to be competitive.
17 And they get push back from both republicans and
18 democrats, because republicans and democrats both
19 want to ensure that they keep their safe seats.
20 They go on to say South Carolina needs to change
21 its system. We can no longer sit back and keep a
22 system in place that for decades has a game and
23 that game is played with no rules. There are no
24 rules. And when they set rules, those rules can
25 change. It's hard for the public to keep up with

1 what the legislature is doing if the legislature
2 doesn't codify its rules, put something in place.
3 I believe personally that there should be a
4 separate independent redistricting board that
5 considers how the lines should be drawn in South
6 Carolina. You've got some rules as far as how to
7 draw these lines, equal population obviously.
8 That's easy to do. Continuity. That's easy to do.
9 Compactness. That's easy to do. Incumbency
10 consideration is fairly easy to do. We know that
11 every one of you want to protect your seat
12 regardless of whether you're a republican or a
13 democrat. The thing that gets me mostly is we
14 don't know what the community of interest means.
15 It could mean anything. And that community of
16 interest is what you choose it to be. People that
17 think like I do. That's not fair. Lots of people
18 do not vote because they don't think that their
19 vote counts. I'm not part of your community of
20 interest. So why should I care? Why should I
21 vote? People are not really concerned about their
22 government, because they think that their
23 government is not really concerned about them.
24 That the government, all legislators, are more
25 concerned about their community of interest and

1 that community that supports me and that will vote
2 for me in this election and the next election so
3 that my seat may be safe. Thank you for the
4 opportunity to express my opinion. Thank you for
5 the hard work. Thank you for going across the
6 state and meeting at the various sites. Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

8 Thank you, sir. Next up, Ruth Baretta. Say it for
9 me.

10 MS. BARONDA:

11 Ruth Baronda.

12 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

13 Yes, ma'am. And I believe Ms. Baronda provided the
14 booklet on our table as well this evening. So
15 thank you for that. With that you're recognized.

16 MS. BARONDA:

17 Yes. My name is Ruth Baronda. I am a tree farmer.
18 And in front of you is a brochure about the South
19 Carolina Agritourism that I'm a member of. Jackie
20 Moore out of Columbia has put together with
21 membership and she's divided the state into four
22 regions. For the year of 2020, I was a Census
23 Ambassador. So I spoke at County Council meetings,
24 City Council meetings trying to get out the count.
25 As I expressed myself as a retired math teacher

1 from Philadelphia and here in the Darlington area,
2 we still did not have enough people to complete the
3 Census. So when it gets down to the redistricting
4 and the percent of reply, even though it was three
5 different ways -- by mail, by phone, and by
6 technology, in 13 different languages -- South
7 Carolina had a poor Census return rate. As a
8 farmer having a P.O. Box, it was even worse,
9 because the enumerators never came to our area,
10 couldn't past our gates that we have. So as an
11 owner of a P.O. Box, the postmaster cannot put the
12 Census in the P.O. Box because it doesn't represent
13 one person. So that's another problem for the
14 farmers such as myself. So again we weren't
15 counted, and the numerators didn't come to our
16 door. As I've been here 11 years, and they did
17 come down to our farm and I did get counted because
18 they did arrive. So the difference of 2010 and
19 2020 as far as farming is concerned is a big
20 problem. So I just want to talk about the tree
21 farming business in general before I talk about the
22 interest the farmers have. So of all the land in
23 South Carolina, 67 percent are privately owned.
24 That's about 13 million acres. So that leaves
25 about 7.5 percent left of the whole state. And of

1 that number, 74 percent are family owned
2 businesses. The tree business that I'm in, and I
3 just happen to have Loblolly Pine, 30 acres in
4 Darlington and 8 in Chesterfield paying two
5 different taxes. It's a 21 billion dollar industry
6 to the State of South Carolina. It's very
7 important how the tree farmers are treated. We
8 can't cut the crop until about 12 to 15 years. So
9 it's part of a generation of wealth. So because
10 it's part of a generation of wealth, we have heir
11 property owners throughout the state that have been
12 having problems in maintaining their farms, keeping
13 their deeds, and maintaining titles. Where you
14 have families of three, four hundred, even more.
15 But to be a real tree farmer, you have to have a
16 minimum of 10 acres before they're cut. Our
17 concern as far as farmers, we are very concerned
18 about the historical significance of heir property.
19 We are concerned about the government services that
20 we receive, because we pay taxes and a lot of us
21 have dirt roads. But since 1996 the counties did
22 not maintain the dirt roads. So privately owned
23 roads have to be maintained by us, which is
24 thousands of dollars -- sand, gravel, rocks, that
25 kind of thing. But we still exist and we do vote.

1 We definitely vote. Most of us have well water.
2 So, thank God for the water and also growing the
3 trees. But what we lack is WiFi, Broadband, and
4 other services that should come to us easily. But
5 the towers aren't around. Where I have my farm, as
6 I said, 38 acres; but McCleod; 8,000 acres. So
7 those larger farmers have the benefit of solar,
8 wind turbines, and that kind of thing. We're
9 outside the city limits. So that's another
10 concern. So in the city, mayors are voted for. We
11 vote for county council. But we vote. We can't be
12 ignored because we're off of major highways. I'm
13 near 151 and Route 1. We connected rivers and
14 ponds and lakes. And when you're drawing the
15 lines, you skip over that. And the people are
16 there. The farmers are there, and we employ a lot
17 of people. But in the meantime, we're skipped
18 over. So I'm here to speak out for the farmers
19 tonight, and you have the brochure for those farms
20 that want to bring you the farm experience. And as
21 I said, it's a shame that we did not get counted
22 nor did most of South Carolina did not get counted
23 even though from 2010 to 2020 there was a big way
24 to get counted, but it just didn't happen. So
25 we're not waiting till 2030. We have to improve on

1 this. We have to decide what's important to us.
2 What part of government do you represent? As
3 myself, a retired schoolteacher and have attended
4 this university, if you're 60 years and older you
5 can attend a public university for free. You just
6 pay for the books. And it's offered me an
7 excellent opportunity to get reeducated even though
8 I have my master's plus, other credits, and I've
9 gotten into other kinds of majors and minors that I
10 haven't had the opportunity to teach and learn
11 about. And we also have to take advantage of that
12 due to tax money, and the seniors need to be
13 reeducated especially with the technology. But I
14 thank you for coming here tonight, the five
15 republicans and the three democrats that are part
16 of this committee. And I did speak out in the Zoom
17 meeting for the Senate. I wasn't able to attend,
18 but I did say I was going to come in person. And
19 thank you for being here tonight and listening to
20 us.

21 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

22 Thank you, ma'am, and thank you for your work as a
23 Census Ambassador as well. All right, next, Ms.
24 Pearlie Lawson. Yes, ma'am.

25 MS. LAWSON:

1 Good evening, Mr. Chairman Jordan, other members of
2 the House Judiciary Committee. Thank you for this
3 opportunity to speak. My name is Pearlie Lawson.
4 I'm a resident of Marlboro County. I'm a voter of
5 Marlboro County, and I also am the president of
6 Marlboro County Branch NAACP. First I would like
7 to say this. I'm grateful that I'm able to attend
8 this public meeting. But if it had been storming
9 out tonight, because I've been having trouble with
10 my eyes like other people have, I may not have
11 attended this meeting. I would have stayed home
12 and stayed safe. And this is one of the reasons I
13 was hoping that the Senate -- the House would have
14 done as a Senate. They gave people the opportunity
15 to also be a part of this meeting via Zoom. I
16 don't know what the reasons were for this not being
17 so, but I do applaud the Senate because they made
18 the process easy and convenient for all voters.
19 And I know that we have an opportunity October the
20 4th, but thank God for this night. And I thank you
21 for letting me be a part. So that was my point of
22 entrance. But my point for being here is for these
23 concerns. I am here with a concern of the
24 disenfranchisement of the voters of Clio, South
25 Carolina, how they have been cracked in such a way

1 that these group of voters have two senators and
2 two house representatives. This process dilutes
3 their voting power. Other concerns are the lack of
4 infrastructure throughout Marlboro County. Not
5 just in the Bennettsville area, but throughout
6 Marlboro County. Marlboro County desperately needs
7 sustainable, affordable housing. Marlboro County
8 is also lacking employment. Marlboro County is the
9 second highest, holds the second highest rate of
10 unemployment in the State of South Carolina. And
11 that's sad for Marlboro County, eight percent.
12 That's totally sad. I also am here to ensure that
13 I applaud the young lady who spoke before me to
14 tell about her work with the Census. I, too, was
15 an Ambassador for the Census. I saw that process.
16 And I saw how many voters -- how many people did
17 not get counted. I saw how they were reluctant. I
18 saw all of that. I witnessed that. But from us
19 and for those of us who are here, and for our
20 representative who represents us well in Marlboro
21 County, I am appreciative for all persons and for
22 all of you. But I would like to say for Marlboro
23 County, we tend to stay at the bottom when things
24 are at the worst and the highest when things
25 shouldn't be at the top. So we want to say we want

1 our fair share of Marlboro County, and we want our
2 voices heard. So again I do thank you for this
3 opportunity to speak. I will send my information
4 in through the South Carolina Senate. I will do
5 that. But I want to thank you again for this
6 opportunity. And thank you. I hope that you're
7 listening and take my concerns at hand. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

9 Thank you, ma'am. And that brings up a point I do
10 want to address, that I addressed last night. So
11 this is meeting number 2 of 9 meetings across the
12 state. The final meeting will take place in
13 Columbia on October 4th. And that will be the
14 meeting which we will be back at home base, so to
15 speak, and we will be technology-wise receiving
16 Zoom testimony at that time. So we will be taking
17 advantage of the Zoom technology on our final
18 meeting, and we've allotted additional time at that
19 meeting anticipating folks that, for whatever
20 reason, whether health or travel or weather, could
21 not get to one of the 8 meetings across the state
22 that were in a particular area. So, thank you, Ms.
23 Lawson, for bringing that to my attention. I
24 needed to advise everybody of that. All right,
25 next up, Ruth McGill.

1 MS. MCGILL:

2 I bring you greetings from Williamsburg County.
3 And I'm here tonight because I am a member of All
4 In Carolina. And I want to thank the chairman and
5 the house judiciary panel for hearing me tonight,
6 because there are quite a few issues that are in
7 Williamsburg County that needs to be addressed.
8 Number one, we did not have enough time to hear and
9 give an input into this redistricting. And we have
10 so many issues that have not been addressed. And
11 we can imagine that in your redistricting that you
12 would funnel some funds to order, because there are
13 numerous issues in Williamsburg County that needs
14 to be attend. There's homelessness. There's no
15 sustainable housing. The Section 8 waiting list is
16 a generation behind time. And we're standing here
17 because there are people out there, that are living
18 in substandard housing. Those houses are not --
19 they're mold infected. (Inaudible) number 1 are
20 those that went through the previous storms and was
21 not able to get any assistance from FEMA or any
22 other local things. So we're doing it on a fixed
23 income, piece by piece, day by day. However, when
24 you finish on Tuesday, by the time you get to
25 Thursday you're right back at where you were on

1 Monday because you're not being able to do it in a
2 complete manner. And also homelessness. Talk
3 about the Census. There were numerous people that
4 did not get counted in Williamsburg County because
5 there are people sleeping in their cars, sleeping
6 in junkyards. And I was very much unaware of that
7 until I had the opportunity to turn over my
8 community and just speak with the people. And it's
9 very, very sad that we have to deal with it. And
10 this thing about the law, that there's a law about
11 this redistricting, but it has no boundaries. And
12 we wanted to know would you take into consideration
13 the possibility of changing that, that we the
14 people might be heard. And we have good
15 representatives. The Honorable Jim Clyburn. The
16 Honorable Ronnie Sabb. The Honorable Cezar
17 McKnight. If you're not going to give them the
18 water, and I'm just using "water" as an example,
19 how about extending them some pipes so it looks
20 like they're doing something? Because they're not
21 getting it. And this redistricting needs to be
22 very, very much more input from the people, because
23 of the pandemic a lot of people didn't want nobody
24 to come in their house to be counted. So when you
25 do your redistricting, please consider all these

1 things that have been said before me and those that
2 come behind me. And again I say thank you for
3 having me. And it's great to see you, Mr. Bamberg,
4 again.

5 CHAIRMAN JORDAN:

6 Thank you, Ms. McGill. All right, I'm going to go
7 back. Did Mr. Jacobs come back in? Mr. Herbert
8 Jacobs? All right, I don't see Mr. Jacobs. Was
9 there anyone else that wanted to sign up, that
10 didn't get to sign up, that wishes to address the
11 committee? All right, seeing none, I will thank
12 some folks again. Thank you to the committee
13 members that traveled from all over the state to be
14 here tonight. Thank you to you folks that came
15 out, took time out of your schedule to come and
16 testify before this committee and let us know the
17 issues that are specific to our area. And again
18 I'll encourage you to submit those via email, if
19 you can, as well. And thank you once again as well
20 to the folks here at SIMT for being such gracious
21 hosts. It's again a great facility. This is
22 meeting number 2. We're going to pick up Monday
23 night in Rock Hill at the York Tech Auditorium.
24 For members of the committee, next week will be in
25 York, Greenville, Charleston, and Bluffton. So we

1 look forward to touching other parts of the state.
2 As I've said before, this is a bipartisan committee
3 that has members from all across the state. And
4 we're looking forward to going to each and every
5 corner of the state. So with that, we will adjourn
6 and we'll pick up on Monday at 6:00 in Rock Hill.
7 Thank you.

8 (End of Meeting)

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CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Karen A. Belanger, CVR, Notary Public in and for the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that a digital recording was provided to me by Garber Reporting Service;

That the foregoing was transcribed by me, to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am neither counsel nor solicitor to any of the parties, nor interested in the event of the cause.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21st day of September, 2021.

Karen Belanger

Karen A. Belanger, CVR
Notary Public for South Carolina
Commission Expires: 4/18/2023

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