

Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
Redistricting Public Hearing
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
2021-2022 Interim
November 16, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman of the Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. in the Royal Cotillion Ballroom at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

HOUSE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman
Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Malinda B. White

HOUSE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe

SENATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Sharon W. Hewitt, chairman
Senator Jimmy Harris
Senator Barry S. Milligan, vice chairman
Senator Edward J. "Ed" Price

SENATE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator R. L. Bret Allain, II
Senator Franklin J. Foil
Senator Mike Reese
Senator Gregory W. Tarver, Sr.
Senator Glen Womack

HOUSE STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Lorrienne Lucas, attorney
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant
Claire Stevenson, attorney
Michelle Fontenot, clerk of the House of Representatives
Bryan Vincent, division director

SENATE STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Matthew R. DeVille, attorney
Laur'en M. Cimino, secretary
Yolanda J. Dixon, secretary of the Senate
J.W. Wiley, first assistant secretary of the Senate
Suzanne G. Morain, second assistant secretary of the Senate

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Dr. William Blair, demographer
John Harrington, House student intern
Daniel Leming, House sergeant at arms
Louis Carral, Senate sergeant at arms
John Keller, Senate sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS**Presentation on 2020 Census data, redistricting terms and law, and information regarding existing district maps and 2020 Census population for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Public Service Commission, Congress, Supreme Court, and Louisiana House of Representatives and Senate**

Dr. William Blair, demographer, discussed Louisiana's 2020 Census apportionment data, the P.L. 94-171 data, and the population and demographic trends from a PowerPoint presentation, Exhibit A, "Redistricting in Louisiana - November 16, 2021, Baton Rouge, Louisiana", which is in the committee records.

Michelle Fontenot, clerk of the House of Representatives, discussed redistricting terms, concepts, and law from Exhibit A.

Claire Stevenson, attorney for the House Committee on Judiciary, discussed equal population based on federal law from Exhibit A.

Lorrienne Lucas, attorney for the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, discussed discrimination against minorities and The Voting Rights Act of 1965 from Exhibit A.

Matthew R. DeVille, attorney for the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, discussed redistricting criteria from Exhibit A.

J.W. Wiley, first assistant secretary of the Senate, discussed malapportionment data for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Public Service Commission (PSC) from Exhibit A.

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst for the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, discussed malapportionment data for Congress, the Supreme Court, the House of Representatives, and House malapportionment data for East Baton Rouge Metropolitan area from Exhibit A.

Yolanda J. Dixon, secretary of the Senate, discussed malapportionment data for the Senate and the Senate malapportionment data for East Baton Rouge Metropolitan area from Exhibit A.

Chairman Stefanski discussed the timeline of the redistricting roadshow hearings from Exhibit A. He stated that information presented at the meeting could be found on the Legislature of Louisiana's redistricting website.

Public comment

Cynthia Young, Ripe for Victory, 855 South Flannery Road 405, Baton Rouge, LA 70815, (225) 475-4666, spoke for information only.

Arielle McTootle, NAACP and LDF, 40 Rector Street, New York, NY, (347) 573-2709, spoke for information only on Congress.

Sheila D. Lewis, 14652 Cottingham Court, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 802-7715, spoke for information only.

Aniya Robinson, P.O. Box 56157, New Orleans, LA 70156, (504) 388-6668, spoke for information only on Congress.

Jon Frankie Hyers, 509 Houma Boulevard, Metairie, LA 70001, (504) 616-0373, spoke for information only on the House and Senate.

Albert L. Samuels, Southern University, Department of Political Science, 11243 Greencrest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70811, (225) 803-6597, spoke for information only.

Woody Jenkins, 910 North Foster Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 921-1433, spoke for information only on the Supreme Court and provided a handout, Exhibit B, "Malapportionment of 19th Judicial District East Baton Rouge Parish Requires Legislative Attention", which is in the committee records.

Representative Edward "Ted" James, House District No. 101, 3433 East Forest, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, spoke for information only.

Melissa Flournoy, Louisiana Progress, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 936-7200, spoke for information only.

Jerry Brouillette, 18713 Santa Maria Parkway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 955-3604, spoke for information only.

Roland Volk, 2366 Oleander Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 252-2818, spoke for information only.

Carlos Pollard, Jr., Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, 318 Devon Road, LaPlace, LA 70068, (504) 906-4019, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, and Congress.

Bert Callais, 363 East St. Francis Street, Brusly, LA 70719, (225) 776-3004, spoke for information only on the House.

Keturah Butler-Reed, Black Voters Matter Fund, 167 West Washington, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (678) 538-8537, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, BESE, PSC, Congress, and Supreme Court.

Checo Yancy, VOTE, 251 Florida Street, Suite 201, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 270-5245, spoke for information only.

Valarie D. Oliver, ACLU, 4210 Lassen Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814, (225) 288-9845, spoke for information only.

Kooper Smith, 1830 Marilyn Drive, no city or state given, (225) 888-4745, spoke for information only.

Mike McClanahan, NAACP, 3313 Government Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 287-4673, spoke for information only.

Taryn C. Branson, no address provided, spoke for information only on the House and Senate.

Peter Robins-Brown, Louisiana Progress, 650 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (504) 256-8196, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, and Supreme Court.

Jaequelyn Germany, 767 North 35th Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 383-7621, spoke for information only.

Angelle Bradford, 4821 Inniswold Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 454-8319, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, BESE, PSC, Congress, and Supreme Court.

Kaitlyn Joshua, Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, 417 South Mandy Avenue, Gonzales, LA 70737, (225) 454-8321, spoke for information only.

Robin Moulder, address illegible, (225) 235-6670, spoke for information only on the Senate and Supreme Court.

Gary Chambers, Bigger Than Me, 6663 Willow Springs Avenue, no city or state given, spoke for information only on Congress.

Elijah Crawford, 500 Jesse Stone Avenue, Mailbox #10762, Baton Rouge, LA 70807, (971) 340-9907, spoke for information only on Congress.

Frankie Robertson, MCH Orgs, 14335 Thorn Briar Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, (225) 247-7834, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, BESE, PSC, Congress, and Supreme Court.

Davante Lewis, Louisiana Budget Project, 619 Jefferson Highway, Suite 1-D, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, BESE, PSC, and Congress.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 6. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 13 for information only. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

There were no other matters.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman John M. Stefanski
Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: