

Public Hearing on Redistricting Naples (August 31, 2011)

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Hearing Report

Date: August 31, 2011

City: Naples

Location: Naples Daily News Community Room

Time: 8:00am-11:00am

Number of Speakers: 58

Total Attendance: 115

The public hearing in Naples took place in the Naples Daily News Community Room (1100 Immokalee Rd., Naples, FL 34119). Prior to the meeting, a map with directions to the hearing and parking instructions was posted on the internet. Legislative staff posted signs outside the building and the room to provide directions to the hearing, and was on hand to answer questions and display district building software outside the meeting room.

The hearing was advertised in The St. Petersburg Times, Tampa Tribune, Sarasota Herald-Tribune, Bradenton Herald, Naples Daily News, and Ft. Myers News-Press on Sunday, August 28. Each chamber's website published the public notice, and social media websites invited the public to the hearing as well. Senate staff sent invitations to more than 45 school board officials, over 70 county commissioners, administrators, and personnel under local supervisors of elections. Over 270 city-level elected officials in Southwest Florida and more than 220 public interest group leaders received invitations encouraging leaders and the groups they represent to attend the hearing.

The hearing was streamed live on The Florida Channel's website, recorded, and subsequently re-aired. There were 8 senators and 17 representatives present at the hearing chaired by Representative Weatherford. Of the 115 people who filled out attendance cards 58 indicated they wanted to speak at the hearing.

After hearing testimony and gathering input from the public, legislators at the meeting were given an opportunity to comment.

Submission from Anne Brown



Please Provide Completed Form T

Legislative Staff at the Meeting.

or

Email to: mydistrictbuilder@myfloridahouse.gov and redistrictflorida@flsenate.gov.

or

Fax to (850) 487-6413

Florida Redistricting Suggestion

By submitting this form, I acknowledge that my comments and suggestions will be made available to the public on www.floridaredistricting.org and www.flsenate.gov/redistricting or other public website of the Florida Legislature. Note: the entirety of this form is published.

*Field is required.

Prefix Ms *First Name ANNE *Last Name BROWN Suffix _____

Organization Name (If applicable) _____

*Your Address 1020 PALMVIEW DR. *City NAPLES *State FL *Zip 34110

Your County COLLIER Your Email anneub@peoplepc.com

*What type of map are you commenting on? Congressional State House State Senate

*Would you like to receive email updates regarding Florida Redistricting? Yes No

Please provide detailed comments regarding your redistricting suggestion or request.

I have concerns about how Amendments 5 + 6 are going to play out. These amendments don't solve the problem of gerrymandering and they create two types of districting - one for NON-MINORITY SEATS and one for MINORITY SEATS.

All districts were supposed to be COMPACT - but MINORITY-MAJORITY SEATS are still allowed to violate this provision. PROBLEM - when one district is drawn NON-COMPACTLY, the surrounding districts won't be compact either. As a result, many districts across the state will fail to meet the COMPACTNESS requirement.

Because minority districts tend to elect candidates of one party, the amendments will still create situations where incumbents + parties are favored. This is wrong.

We should have one type of districting.

(Over)

www.floridaredistricting.org

www.flsenate.gov/redistricting

Excellent forum at Naples Daily News building in Naples - Thanks! A. B.

Submission from Matthew Coppens

Collier Redistricting Hearing

Matthew Coppens
Naples, Florida

“Us vs Them”

Fair. Compact. Contiguous.

If the three words I just mentioned echo those of others before me, they should. Yet the elected officials seated at the dais before us clearly do not understand these terms; for if they did, they would have produced three maps have presented them before all of the State for critical commentary.

Just days ago, Dr. Susan MacManus, a former professor of mine at the University of South Florida, described the upcoming 2012 Election as an “... Us Versus Them election.” She continued on and said that the , “People expect their governmental institutions to be forthright with them. But trust in government is at an all-time low, and a lack of transparency is at the heart of it”.

While the topic they were discussing was the governor’s mysteriously missing emails, it is that same lack of transparency that we see here today. This being the hallmark of the redistricting process to date in Florida.

Floridians are bearing witness to is an unseen level of arrogance stemming from the halls and corridors in Tallahassee when it comes to politicians protecting their political future.

By holding these hearings without presenting us maps, and by using lawsuits to delay what the people have overwhelmingly approved, you have caused voters to suspect that you are not acting in good faith. Your actions, or lack thereof, are contributing to distrust both in you, and in the institution you have been charged with leading.

You claim that you came to hear what the citizens want. Well, we told you very clearly what we wanted on November 2nd, 2010.

Floridians want Fair, Compact and Contiguous districts through the state. And with the passage of Amendments 5 & 6, we sent a message that we no longer care for gerrymandering. It's time for real accountability at the ballot box. Lets recap what the

3.1 Million Floridians told you:

- We want districts that do not favor any political party; We did not want the state government to file lawsuits to try and thwart the will of the people.
- We want contiguous and compact districts of equal size that respect existing geographic boundaries; not last minute maps being produced and voted upon the the early hours of any given morning.
- And we want minority representation to be fully protected;

It is evident that we are here to add our voices to the chorus of those that have stood before us and ask of you to return to Tallahassee and draw these maps in a timely and transparent manner.

As a student of Dr. Susan MacManus' classes, I am reminded that a country like ours cannot be sustained with a distrustful and cynical electorate.

Approach the process fairly and without thought to your own, or party's political future.

"Us Versus Them" is no way to run a state.



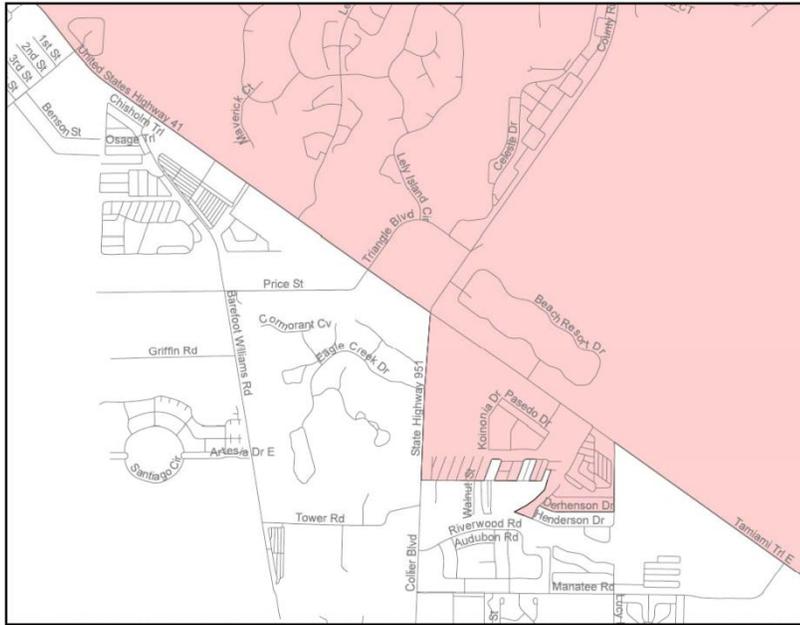
State Redistricting 2012

Collier County Florida

State Redistricting 2012

- ▶ Respect Voter Tabulation Districts (VTDs) to the extent possible.
- ▶ Avoid irregular boundaries to the extent possible. These have a tendency to split neighborhoods.
- ▶ Adopt maps early in the legislative session to avoid election/voter confusion in 2012.

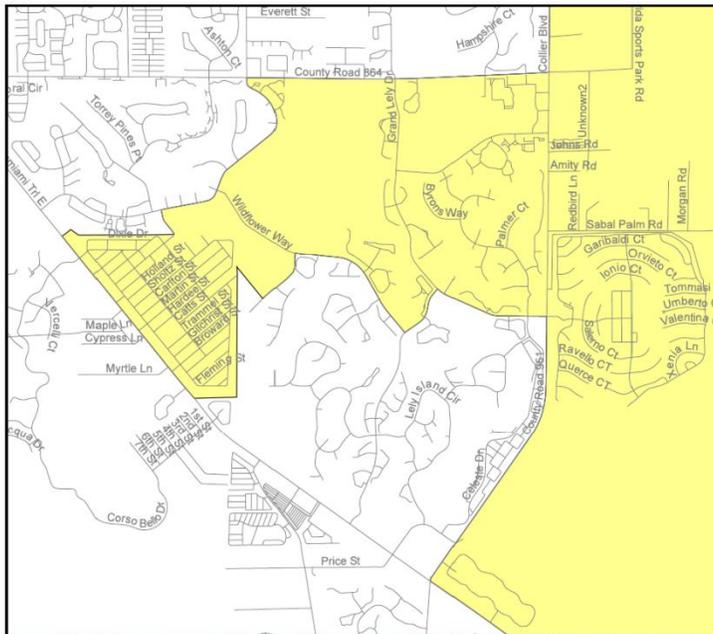
Congressional 25



3

Collier County SOE

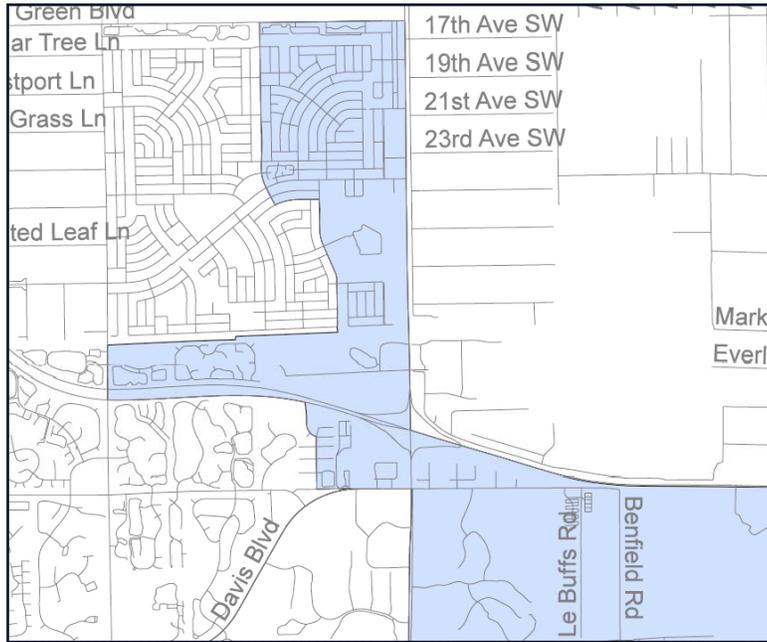
Senate 39



4

Collier County SOE

House 112



5

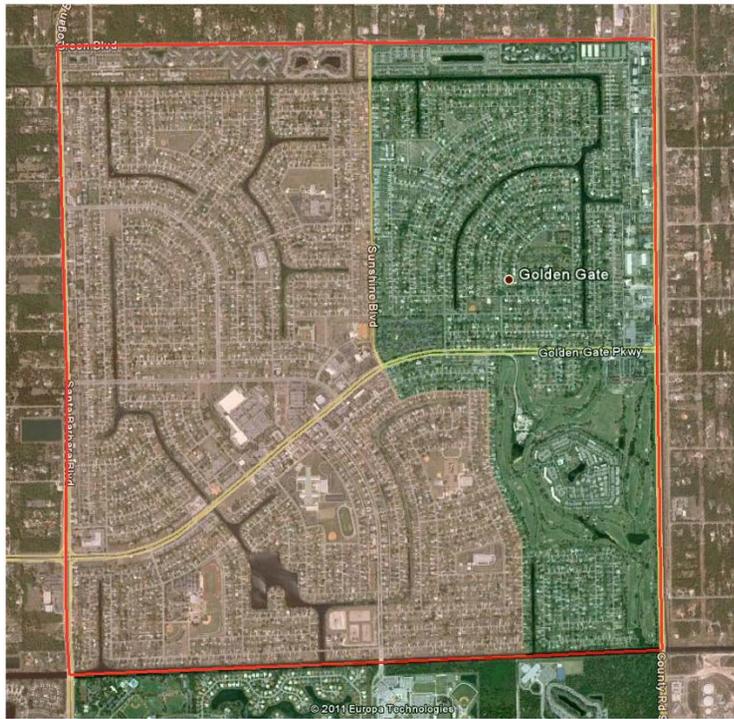
Collier County SOE

Golden Gate

House 101

House 112

GGC CDP



6

Collier County SOE

2012	M	T	W	T	F	S	S			
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1			
Jan 2012	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2012 Session		
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5			
Feb 2012	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		2012 Session	
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
	27	28	29	1	2	3	4			
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
Mar 2012	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	AG		
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Fla. Supr. Ct.		
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1			
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Dept. Of Justice		
Apr 2012	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
	30	1	2	3	4	5	6			
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
May 2012	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		Dept. Of Justice	
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27			
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3			
	Candidate Qualifying 2012						8			10
Jun 2012	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Dept. Of Justice		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
	25	26	27	28	29	UOCAVA	1			
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
Jul 2012	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			Dept. Of Justice
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5			
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
Aug 2012	13	Primary	15	16	17	18	19		Dept. Of Justice	
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2			

▶ 7

Collier County SOE

Submission from Greg Gargan

Hello, my name is Greg Gargan, I'm a resident of Naples and a 6 year resident of Florida.

I'd like to start out by saying that I come here both discouraged and encouraged.

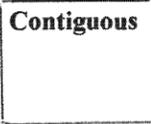
I'm discouraged because I had a look at the recent or current Florida legislative district map. After seeing that, I know why the Fair Districts Amendments passed by nearly a two thirds approval vote.

However, I'm encouraged and a little spoiled because I viewed the fine job done by the Collier Co. redistricting team who drew and presented options for the Co. Commissioner and School Board districts this past week. I only hope that those drawing the state districts are as unbiased and talented.

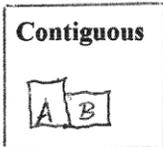
I realize that you are here to listen and in some respect are merely the messengers, so please be aware that none of my remarks are directed toward any of you personally. If they are perceived as negative that is not my intention. They are meant to be constructive and to illustrate a point.

AND I APOLOGIZE FOR ANY REDUNDANCY... YOU'RE PROBABLY TIRED OF LISTENING

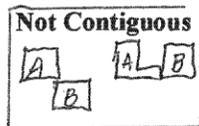
I have a fairly strong sense that you have a fair idea of the meaning of the fair districts amendments but I'd like to go over a couple of the elements intrinsic to the amendments , just to make sure we're on the same page. As a help in communication I've also prepared some visual aids to assist in our overall understanding.



Contiguous is a big word that in this context refers to how 2 or more parts of a district are joined together. I don't think we should have a problem with that, but bare with me.



Joining section A with section B like this makes them contiguous. They share a fairly long common boundary



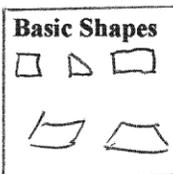
Joining section A with section B like this makes them Non or Not Contiguous. Fair districts requires CONTIGUOUS boundaries

Now I know that there are many constraints besides boundaries being contiguous. Things like the boundaries must contain the exact correct population count, natural boundaries should be used where appropriate etc, etc. etc.

But once you've drawn a district and you've got the boundaries set, I suggest you look at the silhouettes like you looked at cloud formations when you were kids. I'm sure all of us laid down on the grass when we were kids and looked at the sky and saw cloud edges that resembled George Washington's profile or a running horse, or whatever. Well, in the same way, look at the districts you've drawn



If the silhouettes of any of the districts you've drawn look like these then the districts won't be acceptable to the people of Florida and certainly not to the Dept. of Justice. Note they won't pass if they resemble a kitchen utensil, a garden tool, a piece of exercise equipment, most letters of the alphabet, an aerial view of a marina or a Rorschach ink blot diagram.

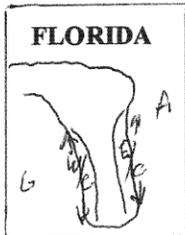


I would recommend you stick with basic geometric shapes like square, rectangle, rhombus, trapezoid, and triangle if at all possible. Some boundaries may not be straight lines because they may be rivers, roads, etc. but the basic shapes will not remind us of these (hold up silhouettes).



These shapes make people think the district boundaries were drawn for other than "fair" reasons, like PACKING or CRACKING, which I won't go into now but which are political terms I'm sure you're familiar with. This exercise is not about politics. It's ONLY about FAIR REPRESENTATION.

Lastly, I'd like to talk about Florida's population:



East Coast – populous, fast paced, borders on Atlantic.

West Coast – less densely populated, laid back, borders on Gulf

In between the coasts there is mostly swamp and agriculture at least in the southern half to one third of the state. Because of this, the people on the west coast have more in common with their neighbors up and down the coast than across the state. The same can be said for those living on the east coast.



Given that fact I recommend you start your process by drawing a line up and down the middle of the state for at least the bottom third of the state. For example, a representative living in Miami doesn't know the people, the issues, and the concerns of those living in Naples. (oil, ecology, etc.). And, the reverse is true for the representative living in Naples. He or she knows little of the issues facing Miami (import / export, immigration, etc.)

Allow me to conclude by saying that I realize you have a very difficult task. You've got population constraints, some reasonably tricky geography, and I dare say you've got some political pressure.

I've got three suggestions:

- 1) forget the politics, it's not part of this task and it doesn't belong in a conversation about **FAIR REPRESENTATION**.
- 2) Consult with Tim Durham, David Weeks, Jennifer Edwards and her staff. They've done an outstanding job for Collier County and
- 3) use part of the \$30,000,000 of taxpayer money that the governor and the legislature have set aside to fight fair districts and hire back some of the teachers, firefighters, and water management employees laid off by the governor. They would be more than willing and able to help if they were paid a decent wage.

Thanks for listening and please hurry. Some states have completed this project already and I understand that if the governor's foot dragging pushes decisions to the limit, candidates in the 2012 election would have to file their applications before they know their district boundaries, which I think you'll agree is kind of absurd. Good Luck, and as the commercial says,

GETTER DONE !!!!

Submission from Steve Hemping

TO: My District Builder / Florida State House of Representatives
FROM: Steve Hemping
DATE: August 31, 2011
RE: Information to be Submitted as Part of the Re-Districting Permanent Record

I am submitting the following information regarding the Florida State House of Representative's responsibility to fairly reapportion the US Congressional and Florida State Legislative district lines based on the fair districting guidelines that are now part of the Florida State Constitution. The US Census data was received by the State Legislature in March of 2011 and there is no reason why they cannot make their redistricting recommendations by no later than January 2012. This document should be part of the official permanent record.

Here is my input for the official record:

- Florida voters are "fed up" with Gerrymandering. By a 63% majority the FairDistricts Amendments 5 & 6 passed in the 2010 election & are now a part of the Florida Constitution.
- Voters want "FAIR, COMPACT & CONTIGUOUS" district lines drawn for our Congressional & State Legislative districts providing real representation for ALL constituencies.
- 2010 Census Data was presented to the Florida State Legislature in March, 2011. It is now the end of August & NOT one map has been presented to the people of Florida by the State Legislators. Why hasn't this occurred when many States have already completed their redistricting process?
- Why has GERRYMANDERING been such a problem for Florida? Just look at voter registration statistics as of July 2011 below:

Registered Democrats:	4,581,959 (41%)
Registered Republicans:	4,019,491 (36%)
Registered Others (NPA's):	2,599,704 (23%)
<hr/>	
Total Registered Voters:	11,201,154

- How does Gerrymandering affect Florida's representation in the US Congress?

- Current Florida Congressional Leaders (25) = 19 Republicans (76%) & 6 Democrats (23%)
- If the Florida Constitution regarding Fair Districting is followed, Florida's 2012 Congressional Delegation should ideally consist of:

Congressional Democrats	=	11 (41%)
Congressional Republicans	=	10 (36%)
Congressional NPA's	=	6 (23%)
<hr/>		
TOTAL:		27

- What about the Florida State House & Florida Senate?

- Current Florida State Senate (40 seats): 28 Republicans (70%) & 12 Democrats (30%)
- Current Florida House (120 seats): 81 Republicans (67.5%) & 39 Democrats (32.5%)
- If the Florida State Constitution regarding fair districting were adhered to, the ideal makeup of the State Senate should be (or closer to):

Democratic Senators	=	16 (41%)
Republican Senators	=	14 (36%)
NPA Senators	=	10 (23%)
<hr/>		
TOTAL:		40

- If the Florida State Constitution regarding fair districting were adhered to, the ideal makeup of the State House should be (or closer to):

Democratic House Members	=	49 (41%)
Republican House Members	=	43 (36%)
NPA House Members	=	28 (23%)
<hr/>		
TOTAL:		120

- Just looking purely at the numbers above, you can see this is not the Representative Democracy (sometimes called a Democratic Republic) that our founding fathers had envisioned in our United States Constitution!

- **Collier County Democratic Party constituents have NOT been fairly represented for over 20 years (this is also true for many NPA constituents). Thus, close to 50% of Collier County citizens beliefs, ideology and priorities are NOT represented in the US Congress nor the Florida State Legislature.**
- **Gerrymandering has been a major cause of this as well. Only ONE of our NINE elected officials (see list below) is a Democrat (State Senator Bullard). And she lives on the East coast and seldom, if ever, is in Collier County supporting our needs and issues. The full Collier County Legislative Delegation is shown below:**
 - **Congressional District 14 (C. Mack) Republican**
 - **Congressional District 25 (D. Rivera) Republican**
 - **State Senator District 37 (G. Richter) Republican**
 - **State Senator District 39 (L. Bullard) Democrat**
 - **State Representative District 75 (T. Williams) Republican**
 - **State Representative District 76 (K. Passidomo) Republican**
 - **State Representative District 77 (D. Grimsley) Republican**
 - **State Representative District 101 (M. Hudson) Republican**
 - **State Representative District 112 (J. Nunez) Republican**
- **Now look at the how the district lines were drawn in 2001 (by the Republican majority in the Florida State House). Only one in nine of the districts above are predominately in Collier County (State House District 76). Two of nine of our representatives actually live in Collier County (Passidomo & Hudson) and even have an idea as to what our issues and priorities might be. This is NOT fair representation!**

Submission from Norrine Roberts-Hemping

TO: My District Builder / Florida State House of Representatives
FROM: Dr. Norine Roberts-Hemping
DATE: August 31, 2011
RE: Re-Districting Information for Permanent Record

My name is Dr. Norine Roberts-Hemping, I am a first generation American. Both my parents came to this Country with their parents, seeking the American Dream. My parents had little of this world's material goods, but they gave me something more precious; the values which have made us a great Nation, belief in the Common Good, respect for one another, love of learning and participation in Representative Government.

My parents are buried a couple hundred miles north of here in Clearwater, FL where they lived for 30+ years of their retirement. My Father was an accountant working 35 years 5 blocks from Ground Zero. In retirement, he reached out to others, for example, starting a "soup kitchen" to feed the poor and homeless. My Uncles, though immigrant kids, all served in the US Army, Navy & Air Force in WW II. One of the greatest strengths of this Greatest Generation was their unselfish willingness to work together. They put aside their differences to achieve uncommon goals from victory against Hitler to building highways & providing housing for returning veterans, to supporting quality public education for all.

As a Nation & State, we are again facing immense challenges. Millions of Americans are anxious, worried & angry. As State Legislators, will you take your responsibility seriously & work to strengthen our political process by ending the unjust practice of GERRYMANDERING? Or will you choose to take us further down the path to despair by destroying what is left of our Representative Democracy? The Boston Tea Party was never about cutting or avoiding taxes. It was about the TYRANNY of being taxed while being DENIED REPRESENTATION!

You are public servants! What do those two words mean to you? Are you using the power & influence of the office you hold to blindly serve one ideology, one political party? Will you make choices, pleasing only to "your base"? Will you make decisions which serve only to further enrich the millionaires & billionaires and hope for enough crumbs from their "corporate tables" to buy your re-election?

OR Do you believe that being in "public office" is a "sacred trust" with all the people that you must honor & never break? Will you rise above divisive, partisan politics & meet your obligation to present fairly drawn redistricting/reapportionment maps to the people of Florida in a time fashion?

OR Will you, “behind closed doors”, collude with cynical, mean-spirited partisans to draw gerrymandered district maps that destroy any last hope of the people for Representative Democracy, thus further disenfranchising millions of Floridians. Will you find the courage to use tax-payers dollars to pay impartial IT professionals to draw up district maps, which are fair, compact & contiguous?

OR Will you keep spending more millions of taxpayer dollars in misguided efforts to undermine the expressed will of nearly two-thirds of Florida voters by opposing Fair Districts Now?

When one political party gains a “super majority” in the State Legislature, you are “at risk” to act like “a School Yard Bully”, just because your numbers are “bigger”. Like “School Yard Bullies” you can hurt others, just because you can! (Gerrymandering again is “piling on”).

I urge you to resist the pressure to do the wrong thing, to “pile on” for 10 more years by using gerrymandering to ensure you stay in power and to thwart the will of the people. Don’t trample on our rights “just because you can”!

I urge you to listen to your conscience and find the moral fortitude to do the right thing. Play fair! End gerrymandering.

I urge you to turn away from the extremist ideologies emanating from the Heritage Foundation, American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), American Crossroads, Americans for Prosperity, Club for Growth, etc.

I urge you to listen to “your better angels” and give us Fair Reapportionment maps. This is the best and only way to restore the people’s faith and confidence in the Democratic process. Read the inscriptions written at the foot of the Statue of Liberty which welcomed my parents to America over 80 years ago: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to be free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore, Send these, the homeless, tempest tossed. I lift my LAMP beside the GOLDEN DOOR”.

You do not have 160 choices, you have but two. Either you:

- 1.) Lift high the LAMP and give us FAIR DISTRICTS, or**
- 2.) Slam shut that GOLDEN DOOR in our faces by GERRYMANDERING our State.**

Don’t kill our American Dream!

Submission from Liza McClenaghan

Liza McClenaghan

**Remarks before
Florida Legislature Redistricting Hearing
Naples, FL
August 31, 2011**

Good Morning. Chairmen and members of the redistricting committees, I'd like to begin with some praise for the present, move quickly to the future and then review some lessons learned from previous redistricting.

Congratulations to you and your staff on the creation of MyDistrictBuilder. With this software, the legislature has provided a superior Geographical Information System (GIS) for the public to use to provide their own submissions as well as to review proposals of the legislative committees and other organizations. In 2001, the Florida Legislature deployed FREDS that was the envy of many states. With this track record, you know how to create the tools needed to accomplish your task in an unimpeded fashion.

Many states have already completed their redistricting and at least two states have also completed review by the US Department of Justice for Section 5 preclearance.

The responsibilities and timeline for the legislature to reapportion and redistrict the legislative seats and redistrict the congressional seats following the release of the decennial census needs to be clarified and expedited. Even as the current redistricting process is still unfolding, it has become obvious that the voters may not know the districts in which they will be eligible to cast their ballots, and candidates may not know in which districts they will contest by June of 2012 for the August 14, 2012 primary.

Submitted for your consideration is a proposal to amend the Florida State Constitution to begin the reapportionment and redistricting process the year of the decennial census **release** and to complete it by end of that year. Voters and candidates can then be prepared for the election season in the second year following the census along with the Division of Elections and county Supervisors of Election.

Article III section 16 and Article X section 8 require only minimal language changes. If necessary, you should consider a special redistricting session so that the legislature's budget process is not impacted. The cost every ten years would not be great compared to the upheaval caused by an extended process. All the current steps remain section 16, but the Florida institutions' portion must be completed by December 31st of the year following the decennial census. In Article X, if necessary, the effective date of the census can be moved forward. While the issue of redistricting is still on our minds, please bring these amendments to the ballot.

Another key component of the redistricting process is the creation of the Voter Tabulation Districts or VTDs. The US Census timeline has the submission of these precinct-like units early in the decennial census process. I ask that you involve the public in their review at the county level to assist in identifying communities of interest and any

changes in political subdivisions. This will make your task easier and allow for public input at a critical time in the process.

Ten years ago, the Democratic and Republican parties in Collier came before a similar body to ask that you not draw districts across the peninsula east to west. I make that request again today. There is little that eastern Collier shares with western parts of Broward and Miami-Dade for legislative and Congressional representation.

Here's a quick review of what we learned from 2002 redistricting process.

Please respect minority communities. In 2002, your districts plowed right through the Census Designated Places of Immokalee and Golden Gate City where minority communities are established. Immokalee was split between HD101 and HD77. Golden Gate was split between HD101 and HD112.

Please respect political subdivisions. In a midnight drawing exercise you divided the City of Everglades City in two, when you found State Road 29 an opportunity for a line. HD 112 includes those individuals who live on its eastern side and the rest of the city is covered by HD76.

Please respect communities of interest. Senate 37 and 39 carve up Orangetree.

The number of different districts drawn by different bodies at different times has created a confusing polling place for voters and poll workers and administrative challenges for the Supervisor of Elections. There is Voter Confusion with Precinct Splits. We have one precinct in Collier with 13 splits which our Supervisor of Elections will share in detail with you.

Interstate 75 is a man-made object that has more dimension than other roads used for districting. The difference between a line drawn down the eastern side of the highway and the west or middle can create precinct parts with no populations. Please come to a consensus of how to handle these types of obstacles. Water boundaries create the similar problems for line drawing. The Golden Gate Canal has different line drawn for Congressional District 25 and House District 101 creating 2 precinct parts without population.

In closing, I would like to remind the committee that Collier County is a covered jurisdiction under the Voting Rights Act and wonder why we are holding a meeting at 8am when the individuals that are impacted by that coverage are at work.

Thank you for your time this morning.

Liza McClenaghan
Collier County,
a covered jurisdiction under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act

Article III

SECTION 16. Legislative apportionment.—

(a) SENATORIAL AND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS. The legislature at its ~~regular~~ reapportionment session in the ~~second~~ first year following each decennial census, by joint resolution, shall apportion the state in accordance with the constitution of the state and of the United States into not less than thirty nor more than forty consecutively numbered senatorial districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory, and into not less than eighty nor more than one hundred twenty consecutively numbered representative districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory. Should that session adjourn without adopting such joint resolution, the governor by proclamation shall reconvene the legislature within thirty days in special apportionment session which shall not exceed thirty consecutive days, during which no other business shall be transacted, and it shall be the mandatory duty of the legislature to adopt a joint resolution of apportionment.

(b) FAILURE OF LEGISLATURE TO APPORTION; JUDICIAL REAPPORTIONMENT. In the event a special apportionment session of the legislature finally adjourns without adopting a joint resolution of apportionment, the attorney general shall, within five days, petition the supreme court of the state to make such apportionment. No later than the sixtieth day after the filing of such petition, the supreme court shall file with the custodian of state records an order making such apportionment.

(c) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT. Within fifteen days after the passage of the joint resolution of apportionment, the attorney general shall petition the supreme court of the state for a declaratory judgment determining the validity of the apportionment. The supreme court, in accordance with its rules, shall permit adversary interests to present their views and, within thirty days from the filing of the petition, shall enter its judgment.

(d) EFFECT OF JUDGMENT IN APPORTIONMENT; EXTRAORDINARY APPORTIONMENT SESSION. A judgment of the supreme court of the state determining the apportionment to be valid shall be binding upon all the citizens of the state. Should the supreme court determine that the apportionment made by the legislature is invalid, the governor by proclamation shall reconvene the legislature within five days thereafter in extraordinary apportionment session which shall not exceed fifteen days, during which the legislature shall adopt a joint resolution of apportionment conforming to the judgment of the supreme court.

(e) EXTRAORDINARY APPORTIONMENT SESSION; REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT. Within fifteen days after the adjournment of an extraordinary apportionment session, the attorney general shall file a petition in the supreme court of the state setting forth the apportionment resolution adopted by the legislature, or if none has been adopted reporting that fact to the court. Consideration of the validity of a joint resolution of apportionment shall be had as provided for in cases of such joint resolution adopted at a regular or special apportionment session.

(f) JUDICIAL REAPPORTIONMENT. Should an extraordinary apportionment session fail to adopt a resolution of apportionment or should the supreme court determine that the apportionment made is invalid, the court shall, not later than sixty days after receiving the petition of the attorney general, file with the custodian of state records an order making such apportionment.

(g) COMPLETED REAPPORTIONMENT. The steps articulated in subsection (a) through subsection (f) to be completed by December 31 of the year following the decennial census.

History.—Am. proposed by Constitution Revision Commission, Revision No. 8, 1998, filed with the Secretary of State May 5, 1998; adopted 1998.

Article X

SECTION 8. Census.—

(a) Each decennial census of the state taken by the United States shall be an official census of the state.

(b) Each decennial census, for the purpose of classifications based upon population, shall become effective on the thirtieth day after the final adjournment of the regular session of following the receipt by the legislature ~~convened next~~ after certification of the census.

Submission from Shari Monetta

FERRIN.JAY

From: Se1219monetta@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 04, 2011 4:55 PM
To: MyDistrictBuilder
Subject: Collier County Redistricting Meeting, 8/31/2011
Attachments: redistricting.jpg



Photo Naples Daily News.

*"Good Morning, Members. Thank you for visiting Naples Today. My name is Shari Monetta. I have lived in Collier County for 15 years, today.
(I've lived in Florida since 1963)*

I have been following your listening tour since June and am frustrated when I hear special interest groups at every stop attack a process that gives citizens the ability to tell our legislators what we want them to do when they draw new district lines. I'm talking about the groups like the League of Women Voters, who are heavily involved in the political process and who promote civic participation.

Getting involved with the redistricting is very important, yet the League has decided to criticize you, rather than offer any substantive ideas of its own. Its funny this is happening

because a decade ago, the League was the first group to publicly submit a redistricting plan. I'm not sure what accounts for this change of heart except for the fact that now, Amendments 5 and 6 are part of the state's constitution.

The League, which supports these amendments, knows the wording is so vague that it will be impossible for you to fulfill their requirements. That's why the League refuses now to show its hand and offer any ideas on how you should redraw district boundaries.

I'm disappointed the League and their allies have taken this position, but, it comes as no surprise given that amendments 5 and 6 are so ambiguous. I don't envy the position this committee is in, and its unfortunate that these amendments will result in multiple lawsuits being filed against any plan you ultimately pass.

I urge you to work as hard as you can to draw good maps and don't listen to criticisms from groups who have no interest in seeing this committee succeed in its work. Thank you for allowing me to speak this morning".

Shari Monetta, Collier County

http://myflorida.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=3&clip_id=344

In addition I would like to add, that I have tried membership in the Collier County League of Women Voters twice, both times, regretting wasting my time with a group so biased in its agenda. The League is not non partisan, it is so far to the left, that anyone with a centrist agenda which is ideal, cannot tolerate their meetings and agenda.

The League of Women Voters, with a membership almost 100% Democrat, is now spending all of its time registering minorities, and supporting Liberal ideals. That's not their job. Their Job is to educate voters, not influence them.

To Make demands upon this Committee to district minorities is such a biased ideology, then to complain that Florida is a Democrat State, but our State Government is Republican and its somehow your fault is offensive. The solution to that is for them to get their people out to vote. Having Minority Districts won't get them out to vote.

And I have to take issue with the mere word minority, its a demeaning word, a divisive word. I'm half German, some French and some English, how many in Collier county carry that lineage, does this make me a minority? Why would anyone want this derogatory term to identify them as a Citizen and Voter?

I close with a thank you for taking on this task, and it was an honor to stand before you. I commend you for adding Rep. Kathleen Passidomo to the Committee, knowing it was your choice not my recombination, that she would make a good fit. It was also an honor to have you visit our SW FL District, the most civil in the State.

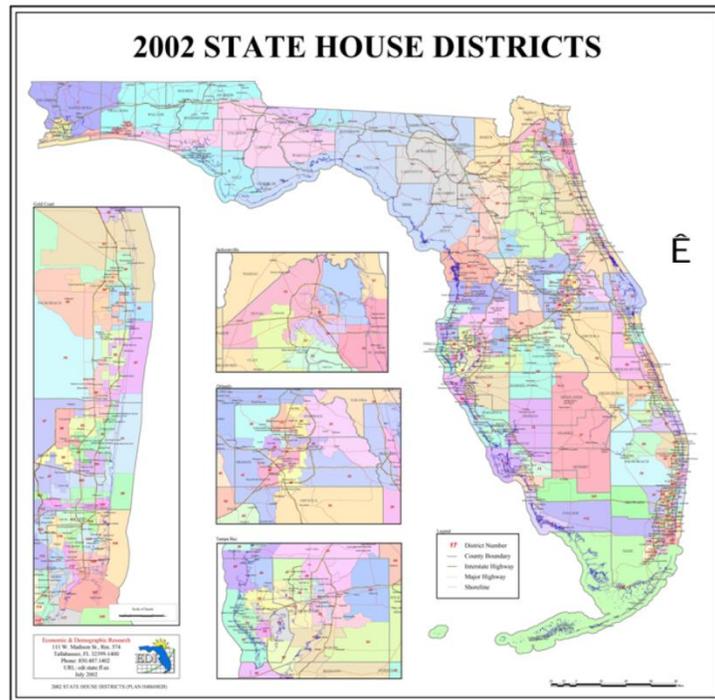
***Shari Monetta,
Founding VP, Collier Republican Club
Naples, Fl.***

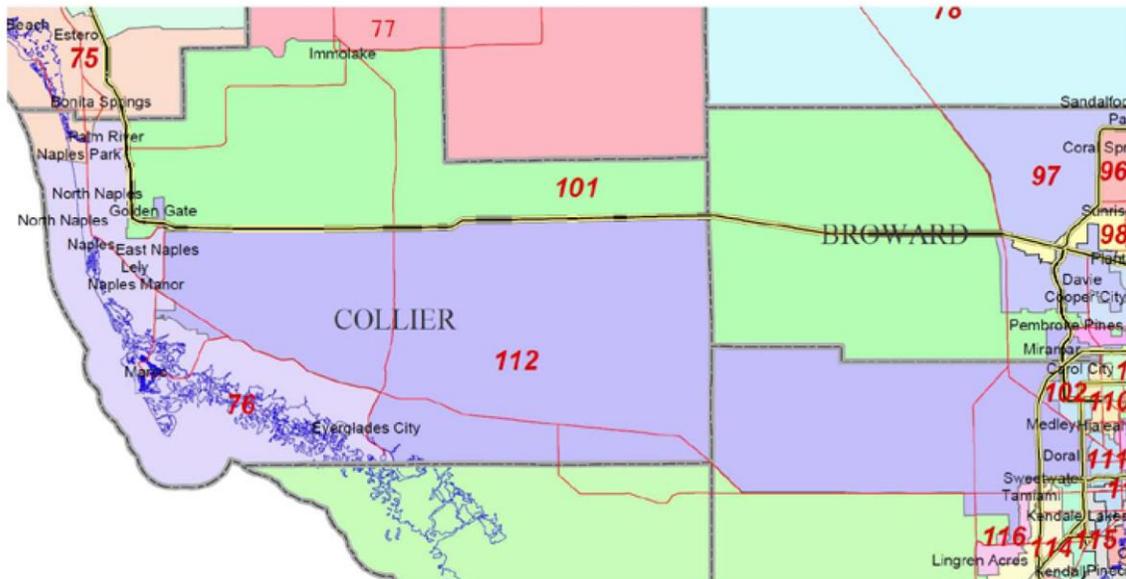
Public Redistricting Meeting

August 31, 2011 - Collier County

Presentation on behalf of
The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce,
Collier Building Industry Association,
Naples Area Board of Realtors and the
Economic Development Council of Collier County

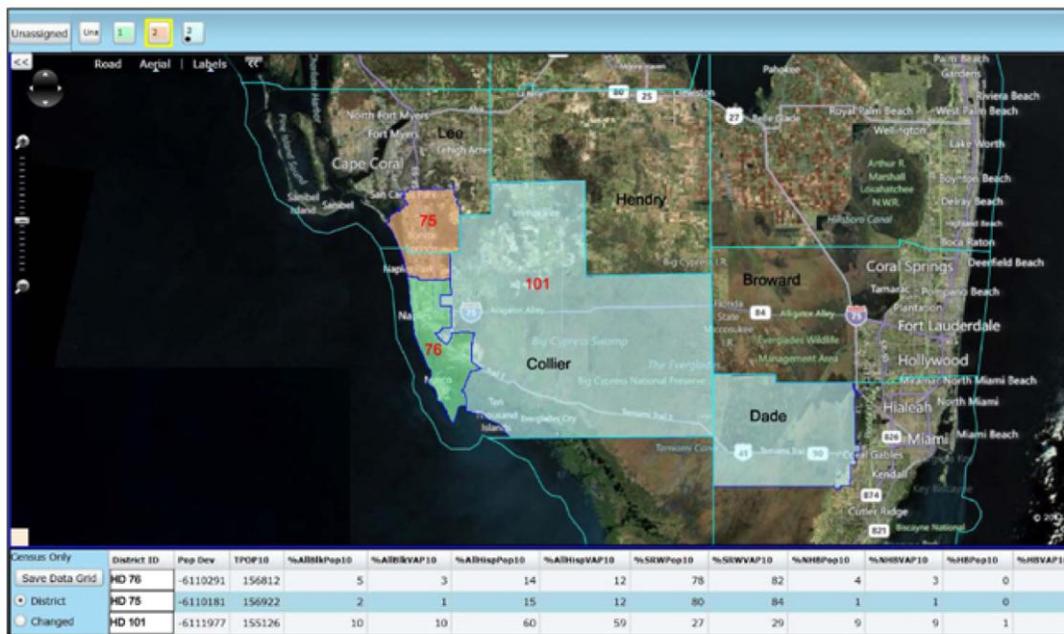
Several districts that impact Collier county criss-cross the entire east west expanse of the state. Legislators in these districts are put in the position of representing several diverse populations. Current maps seem to hold limited regard for compactness, political subdivisions and communities.





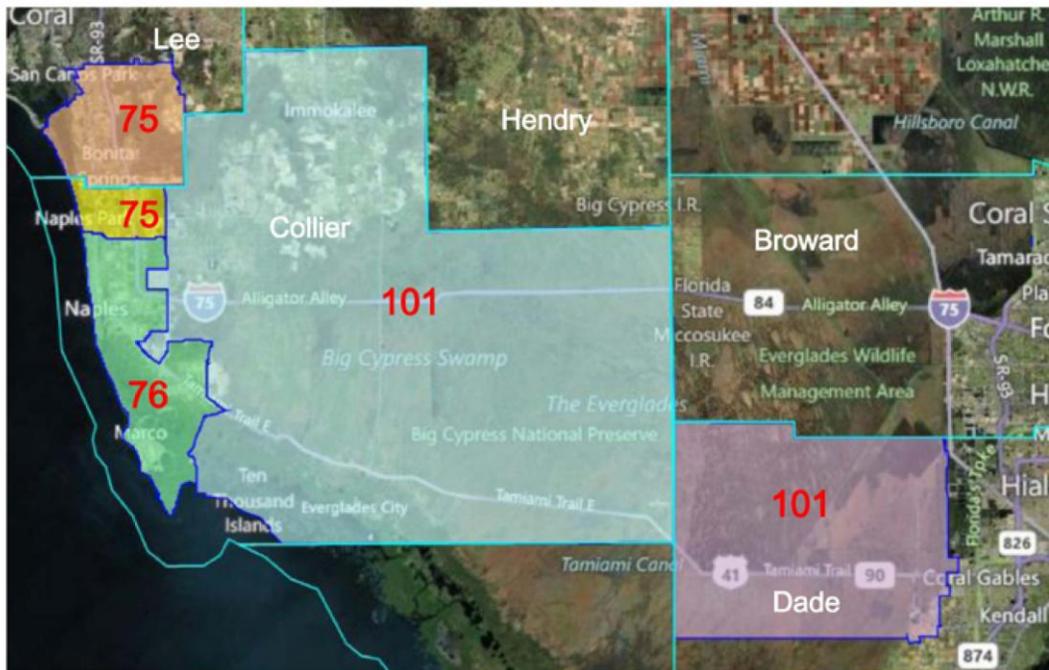
Collier County is currently divided among 5 legislative districts

Collier County – Florida House Plan 2011 with Population Figures



New map as presented divides Collier County among 3 legislative districts as opposed to 5

Collier County – Florida House Plan 2011 – County View



Districts 77 and 112 no longer hold sections of Collier County

Collier County – Florida House Plan 2011

House District	2010 Total Population	Ideal Population	Collier Co. Plan Total Population	Collier Co. Plan Collier Co. Pop.	Collier Co. Plan Non-Collier Co. Pop.
75	174,874	156,678	156,922	60,206 (38.4%)	96,716 (61.6%)
76	149,992	156,678	156,812	156,812 (100%)	0
77	147,992	156,678	N/A	N/A	N/A
101	189,600	156,678	155,126	104,502 (67.4%)	50,624 (32.6%)
112	210,556	156,678	N/A	N/A	N/A

- **The new proposed boundaries:**
 - **Keep Collier County districts intact locally to the greatest extent possible**
 - **Ensure that the proposed districts are compliant with Voting Rights Act standards**
 - **Permit Collier voters to elect representatives of their choice to the greatest extent possible**

Submission from Mike Stone

From: saswbfl@comcast.net
To: MyDistrictBuilder;
cc: SASWBFL@COMCAST.NET;
Subject: Re: Re-Districting Comments Submitted to State Legislature
Date: Friday, September 02, 2011 1:17:34 PM
Attachments: [NaplesRedistrictingHearingTalkingPoints8-31-11.doc](#)

HELLO...MY NAME IS MIKE STONE..239-417-4060,2076
PICCADILLY CIRCUS NAPLES,FL 34112. I AM IN TOTAL
AGREEMENT WITH THE RE-DISTRICTING COMMENTS SENT BY
MR.STEVE HEMPING(ATTACHED)...AND ASK THAT THIS ALONG
W/MR HEMPINGS' COMMENTS BE PLACED AS MINE ALSO AS
PART OF THE PERMANENT RECORD RE: THE FLORIDA STATE
LEGISLATURES' OFFICIAL 2011 RE-DISTRICTING PROCESS. I
WOULD APPRECIATE A RESPONSE FROM YOU STATING THAT
THIS WILL HAPPEN.MY CONTACT INFO. IS ABOVE AND MY
[EMAIL=SASWBFL@COMCAST.NET](mailto:SASWBFL@COMCAST.NET)

From: SteveHemping@aol.com
To: SteveHemping@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 4:14:50 PM
Subject: Re-Districting Comments Submitted to State Legislature

I thought you might be interested in reading my comments (see attached)
submitted to the Florida State Legislature as part of their official
2011 reapportionment (re-districting) process. If any of you want to submit your
thoughts about how the 2011 Congressional & State Legislative district lines
should be drawn, you can do so by e-mailing them directly to
mydistrictbuilder@myfloridahouse.gov or via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/
MyDistrictBuilder](http://www.facebook.com/MyDistrictBuilder) or on Twitter at twitter.com/FLRedistricting. **By the way, the
more comments to them the better!!!!!!**

Just a reminder, the Naples Re-Districting Hearing will be tomorrow, Wednesday,
August 31st at the Naples Daily News Community room from 8:00 AM - 11:00
AM. Norine and I are signed up to speak tomorrow and the more input we can
give to this process the better.

Hope many of you can make it.

Thanks.

Submission from Neville Williams

file:///S:/Ferrin_Data/PublicHearings_2011/20110829_Southwest/20110831_Naples/Submissions/Naples.htm

From: Kelly, Alex [Alex.Kelly@myfloridahouse.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 4:11 PM
To: Crofoot, Katie
Cc: FERRIN.JAY
Subject: Naples

See below

From: Neville Williams [<mailto:nevillewilliams@comcast.net>]
Sent: Fri 9/2/2011 11:41 AM
To: RICHTER.GARRETT.WEB
Cc: Passidomo, Kathleen
Subject: Redistricting

Dear Senator Richter:

We enjoyed the Naples redistricting hearing, and enjoyed meeting you afterward.

My wife and I support splitting the 25th Cong. District (and Statehouse Dist.) in a way that would put us in Lely Resort under a West Coast district. We don't feel fairly represented having our Congressman in Hialeah, separated by 100 miles of Everglades.

We support splitting the district in a way that puts half the Everglades in an East Coast Cong. district, and half to a West Coast district, perhaps at the Broward/Collier county line. This would also be good for the Everglades, being dually represented, but our main point, however it is managed, is not to have a Cong. district stretching from the Atlantic nearly to the Gulf.

Thank you for your leadership on this.

Best wishes,

Neville

Neville Williams/Patricia Forkan
6401 Legacy Circle, #1903
Naples, FL 34113
Telephone: 239-775-5506
Mobile: 202-494-8690
E-mail: nevillewilliams@comcast.net
www.nevillewilliams.com

file:///S:/Ferrin_Data/PublicHearings_2011/20110829_Southwest/20110831_Naples/Submissions/Naples.htm [9/6/2011 9:17:27 AM]

REDISTRICTING · 2012

ABOUT REDISTRICTING

After each decennial Census, the Legislature redraws the districts from which voters elect their public officials. In general, districts are redrawn to accommodate population changes and ensure that district populations are as nearly equal in number as practicable.

There will be opportunities for citizen participation during public hearings, interim committee meetings, and the 2012 Session.

REDISTRICTING LAW

The United States Constitution, the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Florida Constitution each regulate redistricting. Under the United States Constitution, district populations must be as nearly equal as practicable. In addition, race may not be the predominant factor in drawing lines, unless the use of race is narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling interest.

The Voting Rights Act requires the creation of a district that performs for racial minorities where (1) a minority population is geographically compact and sufficiently numerous to be a majority in a single district; (2) the minority population is politically cohesive; (3) the majority votes sufficiently as a bloc to enable it usually to defeat the minority-preferred candidate; and (4) under all of the circumstances, the minority population has less opportunity than others to participate in the political process and elect representatives of its choice.

The Voting Rights Act applies additional requirements to districts that include any part of Collier, Hardee, Hendry, Hillsborough, or Monroe County. In these districts, the Voting Rights Act prohibits purposeful discrimination and protects against retrogression—or backsliding—in the ability of racial minorities to elect representatives of their choice. To ensure compliance with these requirements, the redistricting plan must be submitted to and precleared by a federal court or the United States Department of Justice before it may be enforced.

The Florida Constitution requires that districts be contiguous. A district is contiguous if all of its territory is in actual contact, uninterrupted by the territory of another district. Contact at a corner or right angle is insufficient, but territory may cross bodies of water. The Constitution allows state legislative districts to overlap, either partially or entirely.

THE NUMBERS

In 2012, the Legislature will redraw the state's congressional districts as well as districts for Florida House and Florida Senate seats. The number of congressional districts in Florida will increase from 25 to 27. The number of Florida House seats must be between 80 and 120, while the number of Florida Senate seats must be between 30 and 40. Currently, the Florida House and Florida Senate contain 120 members and 40 members, respectively. If these numbers are maintained, the average population of a Florida House district will be 156,678, while the average population of a Florida Senate district will be 470,033. Each congressional district will contain approximately 696,345 people.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Legislature will draw lines in accordance with the standards in federal and state law and traditional redistricting principles not inconsistent with those standards. To this end, the Legislature encourages public testimony directed to the following points:

- The full implementation of the protections afforded by the Amendments to racial and language minorities, including continuance of the Legislature's long-established policy to preserve or enhance the number of performing minority districts.
- The various measures of compactness, from geometric calculations to a broad consideration of how communities relate to one another, for example through commerce, transportation, and communication—in order to promote the creation of effective representational units.



REDISTRICTING 2012

- The feasibility of using political and geographical boundaries in the formation of districts, in light of other standards such as the equality of district populations, the protection of racial and language minorities, and compactness.
- To the extent not inconsistent with the Amendments, the desire to preserve the cores of existing districts or the proper placement of communities of interest in districts, as determined by local circumstances and voter preferences.

This approach, together with public testimony, research, and facts developed throughout the redistricting process, will result in the adoption of redistricting plans that have the intent and result of full compliance with all legal mandates, including Amendments 5 and 6, and of effective and meaningful representation for all voters in the State of Florida.

Citizens from all parts of the state can visit the House website (www.floridaredistricting.org) and the Senate website (www.flsenate.gov/Redistricting), to learn about creating and submitting their own House, Senate, and congressional maps, and to participate actively in the most open, transparent, and interactive redistricting ever.

LEGAL REVIEWS

After enactment, state senatorial and representative districts are reviewed by the Florida Supreme Court.

Congressional districts are set by an act of the Legislature subject to the Governor's approval. All redistricting plans must be submitted to and precleared by a federal court or the United States Department of Justice.

REDISTRICTING MILESTONES

- JUNE 20 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2011: STATEWIDE PUBLIC HEARINGS
- SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2011: INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETINGS
- JANUARY 10 - MARCH 9, 2012: REGULAR SESSION
- FEBRUARY - JUNE 2012: LEGAL REVIEWS
- JUNE 4 - 8, 2012: QUALIFYING FOR STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICES
- AUGUST 14, 2012: PRIMARY ELECTION
- NOVEMBER 6, 2012: GENERAL ELECTION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON REAPPORTIONMENT



Senator Don Gaetz, Chair
www.flsenate.gov/redistricting
 103 Senate Office Building
 404 South Monroe Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100
 (850) 487-5855
RedistrictFlorida@flsenate.gov

HOUSE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE



Rep. Will W. Weatherford, Chair
www.floridaredistricting.org
 400 House Office Building
 402 South Monroe Street
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
 (850) 488-3928
mydistrictbuilder@myfloridahouse.gov

Visit

www.floridaredistricting.org and
www.flsenate.gov/Redistricting
 to learn more about creating and
 submitting your own house, senate,
 and congressional maps.

Draw and Submit Your Own Districts

District Builder is a full-featured web application with 2010 Census data for drawing Florida Senate, Florida House, and Congressional districts and submitting them to the Legislature. Submitting your plan is one of the best ways to show what works for your community. Citizens have full and easy access to the same web application and information that Senators and professional staff use.

To start using District Builder you need:

- A personal account. Choose “**District Builder**” at www.flsenate.gov/Redistricting to register.
- Display resolution of 1024 x 768 or higher.
- A broadband Internet computer and mouse. Firefox (3.6 and 4.0) and Internet Explorer (7 and 8) are supported (Internet Explorer 9 and Opera are not). Your browser must be set to allow JavaScript and pop-ups from “flsenate.gov.”

For full details, see <https://db10.flsenate.gov/db1/help>.

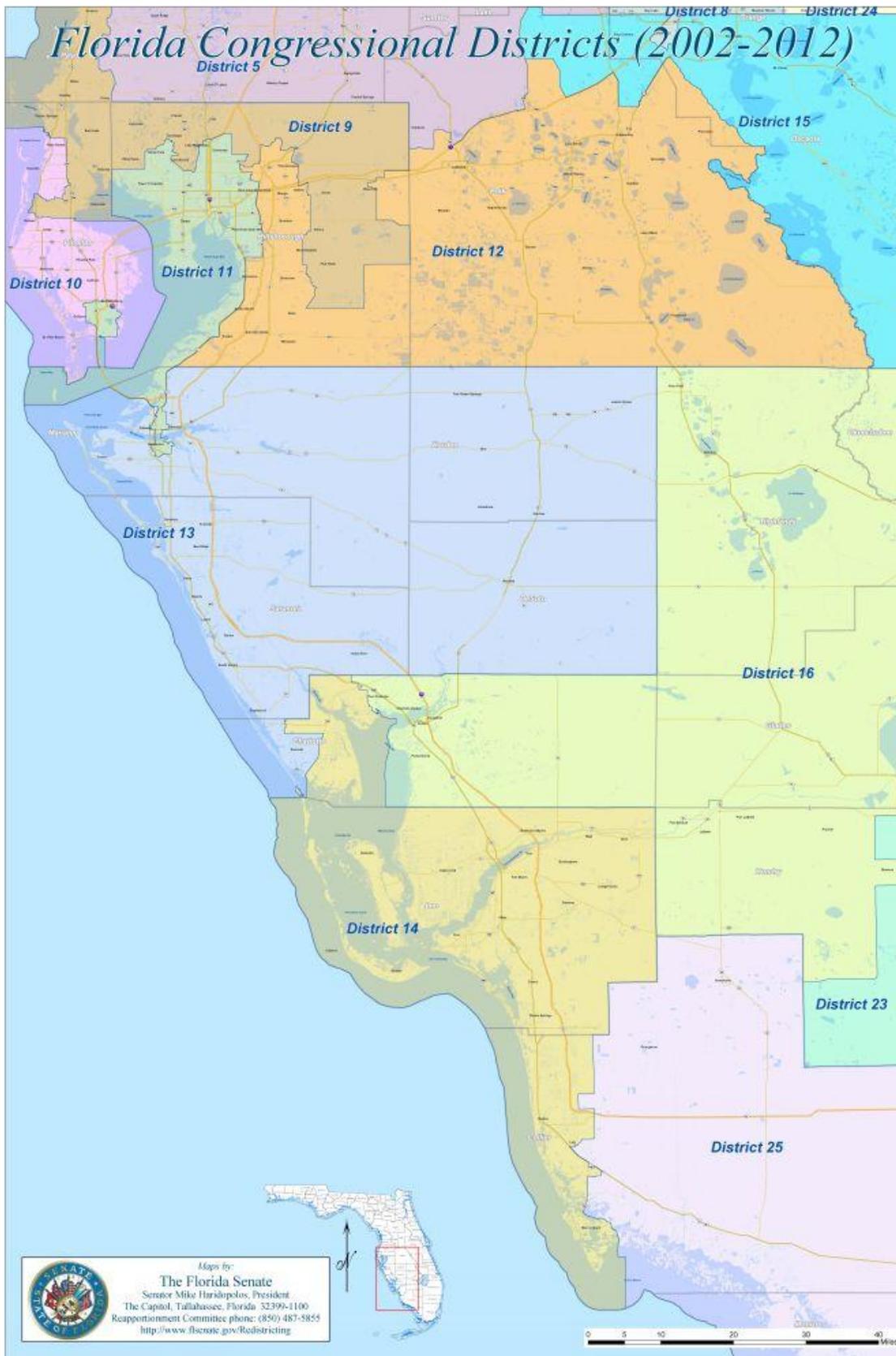
When you decide to submit your plan for public consideration, it will be published at <http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Redistricting/Plans> with a standard set of interactive map links, reports, downloads, and maps. Otherwise, your personal plans are stored on secure servers and exempt from inspection and copying. See § 11.0431(2)(e), Fla. Stat.

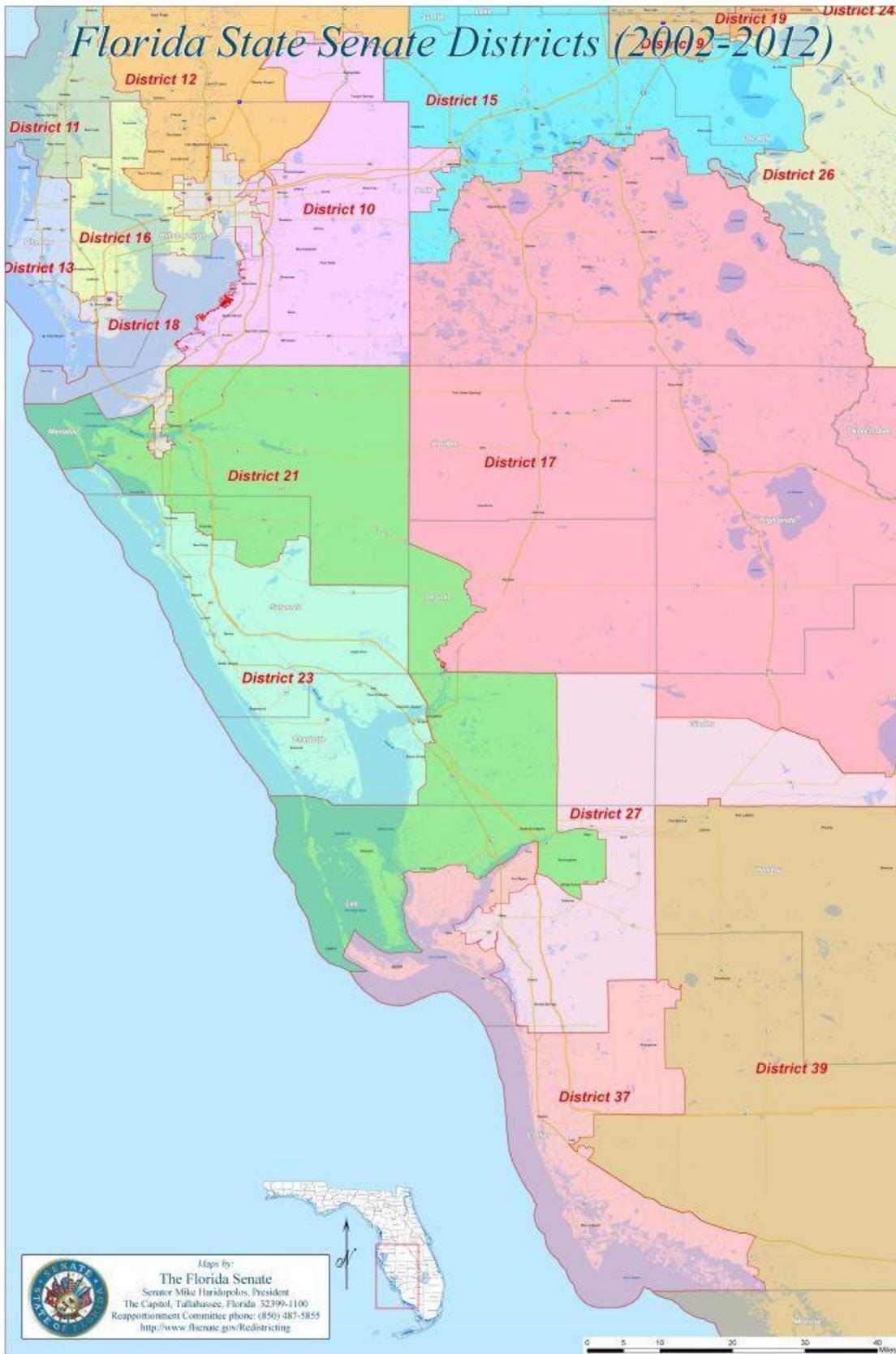
The Florida House of Representatives is building its own web application. To learn about “MyDistrictBuilder,” see www.floridaredistricting.org. The fact that the Senate and House systems are different is a plus. Each has unique features, and citizens can choose which better meets their needs.

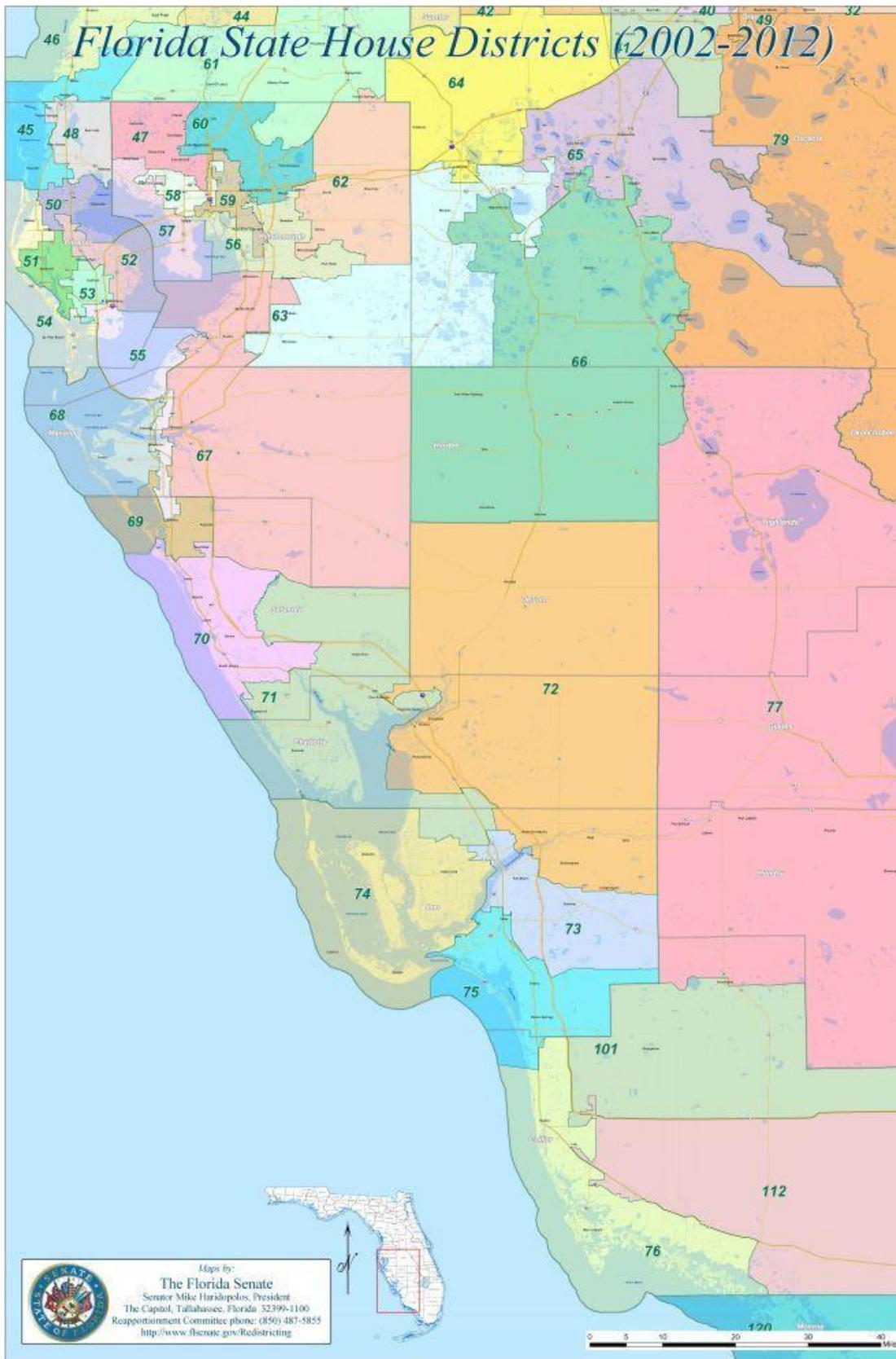
Full-featured redistricting systems typically cost thousands of dollars per user. The overarching goal shared by the Florida Senate and Florida House is giving everyone free and easy access to all the same tools and data the Legislature is using.

With innovative technologies and joint [public hearings](#), the Florida Legislature is promoting the most open, accessible, and interactive redistricting ever.

Displays Prepared by Florida Senate








 Maps by:
The Florida Senate
 Senator Mike Haridopolos, President
 The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
 Reapportionment Committee phone: (850) 487-5855
<http://www.flsenate.gov/Redistricting>

Population deviations of current districts (2010 Census)—Southwest Florida

Congressional District	2010 Pop.	2010 Ideal	2010 Deviation	
			Count	%
9 Gus M. Bilirakis	753,549	696,345	57,204	8.2%
10 C.W. Bill Young	633,889	696,345	-62,456	-9.0%
11 Kathy Castor	673,799	696,345	-22,546	-3.2%
12 Dennis Ross	842,199	696,345	145,854	20.9%
13 Vern Buchanan	757,805	696,345	61,460	8.8%
14 Connie Mack	858,956	696,345	162,611	23.4%
16 Tom Rooney	797,711	696,345	101,366	14.6%
23 Alcee L. Hastings	684,107	696,345	-12,238	-1.8%
25 David Rivera	807,176	696,345	110,831	15.9%

State House District	2010 Pop.	2010 Ideal	2010 Deviation	
			Count	%
45 Richard Corcoran	146,618	156,678	-10,060	-6.4%
47 James W. "J.W." Grant	157,056	156,678	378	0.2%
48 Peter Nehr	136,924	156,678	-19,754	-12.6%
50 Ed Hooper	131,026	156,678	-25,652	-16.4%
51 Larry Ahern	129,144	156,678	-27,534	-17.6%
52 Jeffrey "Jeff" Brandes	139,789	156,678	-16,889	-10.8%
53 Rick Kriseaman	133,115	156,678	-23,563	-15.0%
54 James C. "Jim" Frishe	130,417	156,678	-26,261	-16.8%
55 Darryl Ervin Rouson	133,112	156,678	-23,566	-15.0%
56 Rachel V. Burgin	192,632	156,678	35,954	22.9%
57 Dana D. Young	148,460	156,678	-8,218	-5.2%
58 Janet Cruz	131,897	156,678	-24,781	-15.8%
59 Betty Reed	141,651	156,678	-15,027	-9.6%
60 Shawn Harrison	162,605	156,678	5,927	3.8%
61 Will W. Weatherford	242,396	156,678	85,718	54.7%
62 Richard "Rich" Glorioso	162,165	156,678	5,487	3.5%
63 Seth McKeel	156,183	156,678	-495	-0.3%
67 W. Gregory "Greg" Steube	241,034	156,678	84,356	53.8%
68 Jim Boyd	128,684	156,678	-27,994	-17.9%
69 Ray Pilon	132,224	156,678	-24,454	-15.6%
70 Doug Holder	150,125	156,678	-6,553	-4.2%
71 Kenneth L. "Ken" Roberson	183,147	156,678	26,469	16.9%
72 Paige Kreegel	167,184	156,678	10,506	6.7%
73 Matthew H. "Matt" Caldwell	189,406	156,678	32,728	20.9%
74 Gary Aubuchon	182,460	156,678	25,782	16.5%
75 Trudi K. Williams	174,874	156,678	18,196	11.6%
76 Kathleen C. Passidomo	149,992	156,678	-6,686	-4.3%
77 Denise Grimsley	147,455	156,678	-9,223	-5.9%
101 Matt Hudson	189,600	156,678	32,922	21.0%
112 Jeanette M. Nuñez	210,556	156,678	53,878	34.4%

State Senate District	2010 Pop.	2010 Ideal	2010 Deviation	
			Count	%
10 Ronda Storms	565,921	470,033	95,888	20.4%
11 Mike Fasano	433,661	470,033	-36,372	-7.7%
12 Jim Norman	531,959	470,033	61,926	13.2%
13 Dennis L. Jones, D.C.	394,766	470,033	-75,267	-16.0%
16 Jack Latvala	431,916	470,033	-38,117	-8.1%
17 JD Alexander	456,960	470,033	-13,073	-2.8%
18 Arthenia L. Joyner	404,822	470,033	-65,211	-13.9%
21 Michael S. "Mike" Bennett	529,870	470,033	59,837	12.7%
23 Nancy C. Detert	458,330	470,033	-11,703	-2.5%
27 Lizbeth Benacquisto	551,555	470,033	81,522	17.3%
37 Garrett Richter	480,189	470,033	10,156	2.2%
39 Larcenia J. Bullard	483,183	470,033	13,150	2.8%

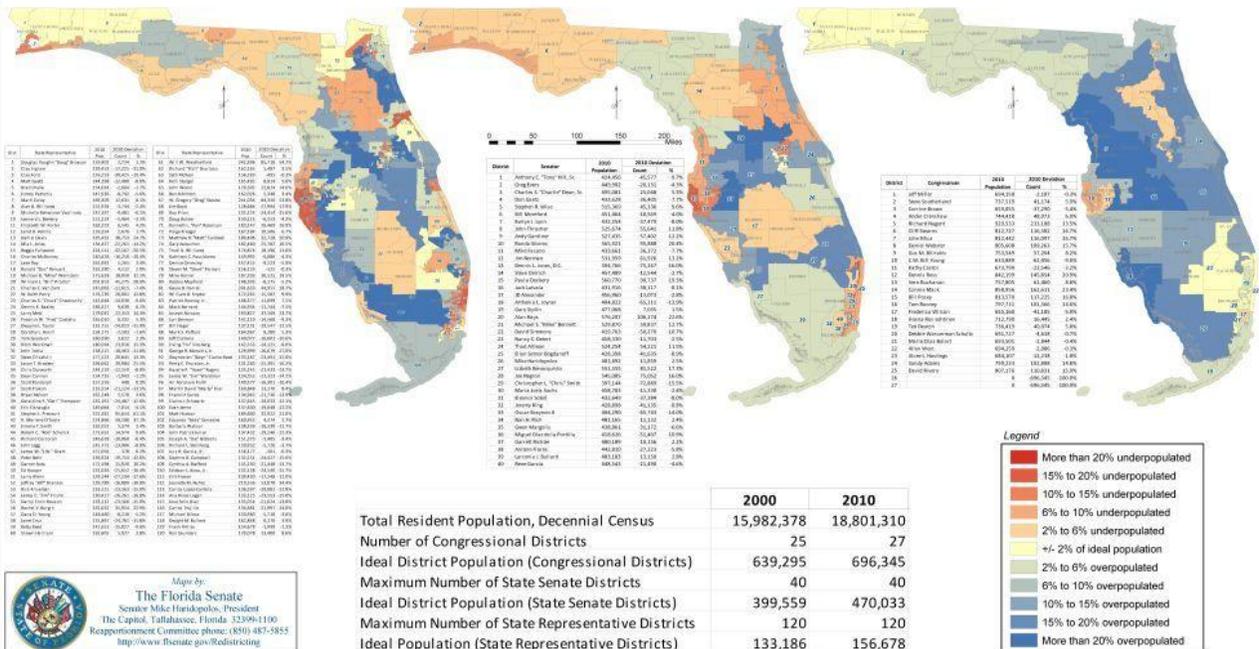
Prepared by:
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Senator Mike Hankspoker, President
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Reapportionment Committee phone: (850) 487-5855
http://www.flsenate.gov/Redistricting



Population Deviations of Current Florida House Districts Relative to 2010 Census Ideal district population (156,678)

Population Deviations of Current Florida Senate Districts Relative to 2010 Census Ideal district population (470,033)

Population Deviations of Current Congressional Districts Relative to 2010 Census Ideal district population (696,345)



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