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Jeff Davis Police Jury wants SW La. united in US House district

Louisiana is losing a U.S. House seat.

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AMERICAN PRESS

JENNINGS — Jeff Davis Parish police jurors have joined those opposing proposals to divide Southwest Louisiana in the upcoming redrawing of congressional districts. The Police Jury on Wednesday urged lawmakers to keep Jeff Davis Parish in the same U.S. House district as Calcasieu, Cameron, Acadia, Vermilion and Lafayette parishes.

The resolution is similar to those recently approved by the Chamber Southwest and Jeff Davis Business Alliance.

"I think it is very important to us because if they put us with Shreveport, we will not be represented," Police Juror President Donald Woods said. "We have more in common with Southwest Louisiana because we are a coastal parish, than if we were stuck up north."

Keeping the boundaries of the 7th Congressional District intact would be in the best interest of residents here, Woods said.

Redistricting plans include one that places Jeff Davis in the northwestern quadrant of the state, in what is now the 4th Congressional District.

The redrawing of district lines for state and federal offices will take place during a special session of the Legislature set to begin in March.

Louisiana is losing a U.S. House seat as a result of its slow population growth over the past 10 years.