Attachment 15

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF 2011 LOUISIANA HOUSE OF DELEGATES REDISTRICTING

This Attachment provides a chronology that identifies the events, legislative actions, and proposals resulting in the enactment of House Bill 1 as Act No. 1 of the First Extraordinary Session, 2011 signed by Governor Jindal on April 14, 2011 (hereinafter "Act No. 1").

The House of Representatives began preparing for the legislative reapportionment (commonly referred to as legislative redistricting) required by the Louisiana Constitution when the State began participation in the U.S. Census Bureau preparations. Dr. William Blair, a joint employee of the House and Senate was the designated staff person who participated in the Census Bureau programs beginning in approximately 2007.

Preparations for redistricting were carried out by the House and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee staff and members, along with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House. As a result of these efforts, Louisiana was provided with census redistricting data at the block level on February 3, 2011.

The second major step in preparing for redistricting was to build a geographic information system and acquire software to replace the outdated system used in the post-2000 redistricting. The post-2000 computer system was a customized product based on GeoMedia. The House and Governmental Affairs Committee staff began evaluating new software in 2006, and purchased Esri licenses in 2007. Public Systems Associates then designed a customized redistricting application. The House and Governmental Affairs Committee staff utilized 5 of the Legislature's 17 licenses. Work stations were made

available to legislators with staff assistance to operate them beginning in February of 2011.

A key component of the redistricting process was the Internet web site maintained by the Clerk of the House. The web site was used, beginning in 2010, for the broadest and promptest dissemination via the Internet of redistricting information, population and election history data, maps, and redistricting proposals as they were made public.

The Redistricting web site at http://house.louisiana.gov/H_Redistricting2011/, accessible by the members of the House of Representatives and the general public, contains information about current and proposed districts, maps, statistical reports, district-level population data, district boundaries, and hyper-links to legislation for proposed redistricting plans. Notices of redistricting public hearings are published on this website, along with comments from the public, and numerous other documents including a legal requirements paper authored by the Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate. The House and Governmental Affairs Redistricting rules are also found on this website. In addition, the webpage contains links to the 2010 census data which includes an explanation of file formats, and free data downloads from the U.S. Census Bureau. The website also include a link to Dave's Redistricting, a free application available to assist the public and legislators with drawing district lines.

The web site was updated constantly. The events described in the following chronology were routinely generally posted on the Internet. The statistical reports for Act No. 1 of the First Extraordinary Session, 2011 were generated using 2010 Census population data and up-to-date VTD shapefiles.

CHRONOLOGY

2007 through 2010

Dr. Blair, with input from the House and Governmental Affairs committee staff, participated with Census Bureau's redistricting program. Staff planned and began constructing the new computer redistricting system with funds appropriated in the state's legislative budgets.

October 1 and 2, 2009

On these days, the House and Governmental Affairs committee staff along with a representative of the National Conference of State Legislatures conducted a member education seminar. This meeting was conducted in Alexandria, LA and members of the public attended. At this workshop, a "Legal Requirements" paper and PowerPoint presentation were presented to the committee members.

December 15, 2009 through February 2, 2010

Regional public hearings were conducted by the House and Governmental Affairs Committee with regarding redistricting and the Census. The hearings took place throughout the State, and included outreach representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau. These meetings consisted of presentations about redistricting and the Census, and included a public committee period. Documents related to each meeting are available on the Internet.

February 2010-December 2010

Some updates were made to the website, and staff posted documents including proposed redistricting rules and population aggregation details for public comment. Education of Members by staff continued, along with outreach efforts by Members.

During this legislative session, Chairman Gallot and staff attempted meet individually with each Member to discuss their particular districts and the redistricting process.

April 1, 2010

Census Day.

January 19, 2011

At a House and Governmental Affairs Committee meeting, staff presented proposed rules for final adoption. The state totals from the Census Bureau were also presented to the committee, including new ideal district populations. The Committee adopted the rules.

February 15, 2011

At a House and Governmental Affairs Committee meeting, staff made presentations about the malapportionment that existed in the various bodies, and presented the population aggregation information. The staff made presentations about the baseline plans, and the U.S. Department of Justice Guidance.

February 17 through March 1, 2011

Following receipt of the actual Census data, the regional "road shows" continued with public presentations in every region of the state explaining what the Census Bureau reported about the populations in each region. Staff and Members made presentations, and input was sought from the general public.

March 2, 3, 9, and 10, 2011

On these days, Chairman Gallot and Speaker Tucker met with the members of the House of Representatives from various regions of the state to hear their preferences for what should happen with districts located in their regions. These meeting included staff

from the House and Governmental Affairs Committee. At each meeting, draft plans created by the staff and Chairman Gallot were presented. The draft plans were developed after input from each regional public meeting. Following each regional meeting, Chairman Gallot, Speaker Tucker and staff met an incorporated input from the Members.

March 17, 2011

The House and Governmental Affairs Committee met to consider redistricting plans for other representative bodies within the state.

March 18, 2011

At a House and Governmental Affairs Committee meeting, Speaker Tucker presented what he referred to as "Working Draft 1B" to the Committee. This working draft represented the culmination of the input received by Chairman Gallot, Speaker Tucker and staff since the start of the 2010 session.

March 20, 2011

The First Extraordinary Session convened. HB 1 was introduced and referred to committee.

March 23 through 25, 2011

On these three days, the House and Governmental Affairs Committee met and considered HB 1 and various amendments, including most notably Amendment 151. HB 1 was reported with amendments by the Committee on March 25, 2011.

March 27, 2011

The House adopted the Committee amendments, ordered the bill engrossed and passed it to its third reading.

March 28 through 29, 2011

The House debated HB 1 as engrossed, and considered numerous amendments. Most notably on March 28, 2011, the House of Representatives debated and adopted Representative Seabaugh's amendment essentially restoring the configuration of Caddo Parish to the configuration included in HB 1 as introduced. The bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 70-28 on March 29, 2011.

March 30, 2011

HB 1 as reengrossed was received by the Senate and referred to committee.

April 6, 2011

The Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee reported the bill favorably and sent it to the Legislative Bureau[1] which reported it without amendments on the same day. That same day, the bill was passed to its third reading in the Senate and was placed on the calendar.

April 11, 2011

HB 1 as reengrossed was called from the calendar in the Senate and debated. No amendments were adopted, and it passed the Senate by a vote of 30-9. The House received HB 1 as reengrossed back from the Senate. The bill was enrolled and signed by the Speaker and the Senate President, and sent to the Govenor.

April 14, 2011

Governor Jindal signed the legislation, and it became Act No. 1 of the First Extraordinary Session, 2011.

[1] The Legislative Bureau is a joint legislative entity that reviews bills from the second house to consider a bill. The Legislative Bureau reviews legislation for technical issues.