
From: James Henry [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 9:35 AM
To: House & Governmental Affairs
Subject: Fwd: Chris Henry Congressional Map Submission
Attachments: Chris Henry Congressional Map Proposal.pdf; ch1newblock-assignments.csv; ch2block-assignments.csv

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: James Henry [REDACTED]
Date: Tue, Jan 4, 2022 at 5:20 PM
Subject: Chris Henry Congressional Map Submission
To: <h&g@legis.la.gov>, <s&g@legis.la.gov>, <lowreyp@legis.la.gov>, <hewitts@legis.la.gov>, <stefanskij@legis.la.gov>

Please see attached for my Congressional map submission. Block files are included.

Hello Chairwoman Hewitt, Chairman Stefanski, and members of both committees.

My name is Chris Henry. I am a proud father of three. I am a lifelong Louisiana resident, as my parents are. And I want our state to be a place my children can do the same. I am not associated with any organization. I am interested in redistricting and decided to try and create a Congressional map. Thank you for the opportunity to submit input on the redistricting process. Included are two proposed maps for Louisiana's US Congressional districts. I created the maps in Dave's Redistricting App 2020. Each district is created with commonality of community interest and are compact and have minimal population deviation. I spoke at one of the roadshows. I have also watched every road show and read every public email comment. Everyone wants a fair map. But we all define fair differently. My submitted maps are a compilation of everyone's comments for a fair map. I hope you can use this as benchmark comparison for any map the committee draws. Block files have been submitted.

Map 1:

District 1: The Northshore, I12 corridor. The district follows I12 from Slidell to Denham Springs. It also follows the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway to include Kenner and Metairie. Community and political interest include transportation, energy, and commerce.

District 2: The greater New Orleans area. The district follows I10 along the southern side of Lake Pontchartrain. The Mississippi River is followed from the mouth of the river to LaPlace. The port anchors the district. Community interest includes chemicals, energy, port, finance, healthcare, tourism and culture. Political interest includes port, transportation, and infrastructure.

District 3: The I10 and Gulf Coast. The district follows I10 from Lake Charles to the Lafayette Parish line. The district includes the majority of Louisiana's Gulf coast. Community interest centers around the French-Acadian influence. Interest also includes oil and gas, fishing, and shrimp. Political interest includes climate change, gulf coast restoration, and natural resources.

District 4: The Northwest. Community interest includes military, oil and gas, forestry, healthcare, and outdoor nature-based activities. Political interest are armed services.

District 5: The Northeast. Universities and Farmland. Includes major universities: Grambling, La Tech, ULM, and ULL. Along with many technical colleges. Agriculture follows the Mississippi River. Community and political interest include agriculture, education, and outdoor nature-based activities.

District 6: The Greater Baton Rouge area. LSU and SU, and numerous historic plantation homes. Community interest include education, logistics, rail, port, oil and gas, software, and government. Political interest includes natural resources, transportation, and infrastructure.

Map 2: changes districts 4 and 5 to a horizontal orientation.

District 4: Central Louisiana (CenLa). The center portion of the state with population hubs of Alexandria and Lafayette. Community and political interest include forestry, education, and outdoor nature-based activities.

District 5: North Louisiana. The district follows I20 across the northern border of the state. Population hubs are Shreveport and Monroe. Community and political interest include forestry, education, healthcare, oil and gas, and outdoor nature-based activities.

Competitive District: We need more competitive districts. Currently none of our Congressional districts are competitive. The controlling party has more than a 30-point advantage across our congressional districts.¹ Five districts are controlled by the Rep. party. One district by the Dem. party. A competitive district is not an additional variable in the complicated puzzle. It is the compromise and solution that solves the other competing variables. The Governmental Affairs committee even once had a “principle” that required “rejecting the concept of ... partisan gerrymandering”.²

Competitive races are good for the people: One third of the people of Louisiana feel they have no congressional representation.¹ In each district, their vote does not matter, because the outcome of the race is predetermined by a specific party.³ A competitive race could allow a more moderate candidate to respond to the needs of the people instead of the controlling party. Every vote would matter because races are settled by tens of votes instead of tens of thousands of votes. **Competitive races are good for voter turnout:** It is an incentive to vote when your vote matters. The public would become more engaged with politics.

Competitive races are good for our state: Competitive districts are valuable because there are so few across the country, only 41 of the 435 US House seats are competitive.⁴ This would bring in national interest from both parties, regardless of which party is in control in Washington. The national parties would show attention and financial investment to the competitive district. Additionally, competition breeds innovation. This would allow us to see candidates participate in a broad discussion of ideas and perspective, “the marketplace of ideas”.⁵

Competitive races are good for our politicians: Currently it’s easy to win reelection, but you can’t get anything done without party approval. Competitive races would free the hands of our politicians to make decisions for the good of all people. It would allow them to work together across party lines and produce results. I believe Congress can function again. Competitive races would also improve engagement for people wanting to run for office. This would minimize uncontested races. Currently, it only makes sense to run if your party controls your district. How many great people and great ideas are silenced?

A competitive district is good for the Democratic Party of Louisiana. With the current map the democrats safely control one seat. The changes proposed would allow them to compete in a second congressional district. They would maintain their safe seat. This competitive district would not be guaranteed. The party would have to convince the citizens of district 6 that the Democratic Party’s candidate is the best.

A competitive district is good for the Republican Party of Louisiana. With the current map the republicans safely control 5 seats. The changes proposed would take one of these safe seats and make it competitive. The party holds a near super majority in both the state house and state senate. Yet, struggles to compete on state-wide elections specifically gubernatorial. This district would allow a moderate republican to gain statewide name recognition. This district would also allow the republicans an opportunity to shape their state-wide messaging before a diverse delegation.

¹ <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov/Graphical>

² “Legal Requirements for Redistricting in Louisiana” p.29

https://redist.legis.la.gov/2011_Files/NewsPDF/Legal%20Requirements_fnlv2-1215.pdf

³ <https://planscore.campaignlegal.org/plan.html?20211228T135138.334439695Z>

⁴ https://ballotpedia.org/U.S._House_battlegrounds,_2020

⁵ “Every Vote Counts Redistricting Guide” Louisiana Progress (louisianaprogress.org/redistricting)

Fairness of Plan:

1. **VRA and Black majority-minority districts:** Numerous groups have asked the committees to create a map with 2 majority-minority districts. If unable to do so, the committees should at a minimum create 2 opportunity districts. This could be considered 1.5 majority-minority districts. The proposed maps contain two Black opportunity districts.

District 2 consist of a Black plurality and historically has received 30% of white voters crossing over to support the minority preferred candidate.⁶ There is not a majority group voting as a unified bloc to defeat the minority group's preferred candidate. This seat would remain safely won by the minority groups preferred candidate. Plan score shows an effectiveness of over 99% (the same as the current map).⁷

District 6 provides the second opportunity. This district would contain a white plurality. Historical voting shows a near even split between republican and democrat candidates.⁸ Plan score shows an improvement for the effectiveness of this district to elect the minority's preferred candidate from <1% to 31%.⁹ Minority voters will now have an opportunity to elect their preferred candidate in two districts.

Dave's Redistricting App 2020 (DRA 2020) has a fairness score based on 5 metrics. Maximum score of each area is 100. The score for minority representation for my submitted maps are 98, and 100 respectively vs the current map score of 69.¹⁰ I believe the two submitted maps can serve as a benchmark example of non-dilutive voting practice.¹¹

2. **Splitting:** My maps only split 5 parishes versus the current map splitting 15 parishes. This results in a DRA 2020 score of 83 for my maps and 28 for the current map.¹⁰ No VTDs (precincts) are split.
3. **Competitiveness:** My map creates a single competitive district, currently we have none. DRA 2020 competitiveness scores this a 22 versus the current map of 0.¹⁰
4. **Compactness:** DRA 2020 scores my map compactness at 53 vs the current map score of 22.¹⁰
5. **DRA 2020 total score** for my maps are 355, and 358 respectively. The current map scores 184.¹⁰
6. **Population Deviation:** My maps have a population deviation of 54 and 43 people (<0.01%). Less than the map currently in use.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit my input. I, an individual citizen with a free web application, created the two submitted maps. The legislature will have the resources of the state, numerous personnel, analysts, demographers, lawyers, and exponentially better redistricting software. Our expectation is to be thrilled and proud with your superior maps. Please do not disappoint the people of Louisiana. God Bless.

Map comparisons can be found at <https://louisiana.redistrictingandyou.org/> and <https://www.fairdistrictsla.org/statewide>

⁶ <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#analytics::604b1acf-dcb0-4787-aa46-7c82aebc6b54>

⁷ <https://planscore.campaignlegal.org/plan.html?20211229T122744.709618654Z>

⁸ <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#stats::604b1acf-dcb0-4787-aa46-7c82aebc6b54>

⁹ <https://planscore.campaignlegal.org/plan.html?20211229T122827.507115346Z>

¹⁰ <https://davesredistricting.org/maps#ratings::604b1acf-dcb0-4787-aa46-7c82aebc6b54>

¹¹ "Legal Requirements for Redistricting in Louisiana" p.29

https://redist.legis.la.gov/2011_Files/NewsPDF/Legal%20Requirements_fnlv2-1215.pdf

See, Holder v. Hall, 512 U.S. 874, 881 (1994); Johnson v. DeGrandy, 512 U.S. 997, 1011 (1994); Reno v. Bossier Parish School Bd., 520 U.S. at 480

Plan Evaluation Form

Plan Type: 2020 Congressional Map **Plan Name:** Chris Henry Congressional Map1

Plan Submitted By: Chris Henry

Question	Response/Quantify or Explain if necessary
If a statewide plan (Congress), does the plan assign all the geography of the state?	Yes
Is each district within the plan composed of contiguous geography?	Yes
If a House, Senate, PSC, BESE, or Congressional plan, is the plan comprised of single-member districts?	Yes
What is the overall deviation of the plan?	Maximum deviation 54 (<0.01%) Per District deviation (-17, -15, 7, 4, 37, -17)
How many majority-minority districts are contained within the plan? List each minority district, quantify by type of protected class, list Tot Pop %, VAP %, Tot. Reg %, and describe where in the state each minority district is located.	2 Majority-Minority Districts (District 2 as a Black Plurality in the greater New Orleans area and District 6 as a White Plurality in the greater Baton Rouge area According to VAP% and CVAP% See above and below.
How many parishes are split in the plan? Please list. Include any explanation given for each split.	5 Parishes are split: Ascension: split to balance population between districts 3 and 6 Jefferson: Kenner and Metairie in district 1 and everything else in district 2 Lafourche: split to balance population between districts 2 and 3 Jefferson Davis: a single precinct is added to district 4 to minimize population deviation, the rest in district 3 Winn: Splits the eastern half of Winn parish into district 5 and the western half into district 4. Population deviation is minimized
How many municipalities are split in the plan? Please list. Include any explanation given for each split.	3: Kenner split in a similar fashion as current map to minimize population deviation between districts. Eunice, and Duson split at parish line
How many VTDs (precincts) are split in the plan?	None
If there are split VTD's, are they split using census tabulation boundaries?	N/A
Please list each split VTD	N/A
Any other observations regarding the plan?	See above for community of interest

Plan Evaluation Form

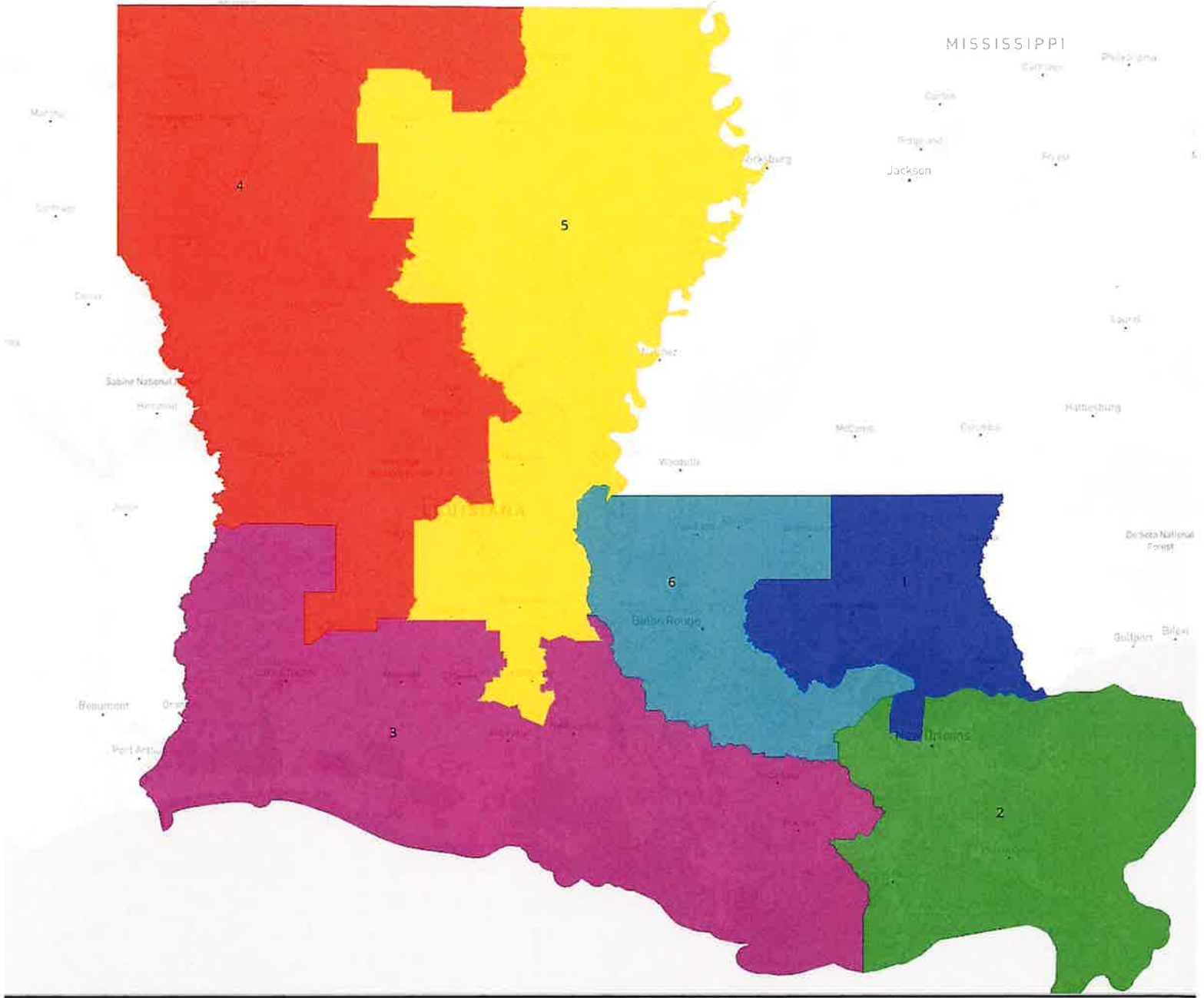
Plan Type: 2020 Congressional Map Plan Name: Chris Henry Congressional Map2

Plan Submitted By: Chris Henry

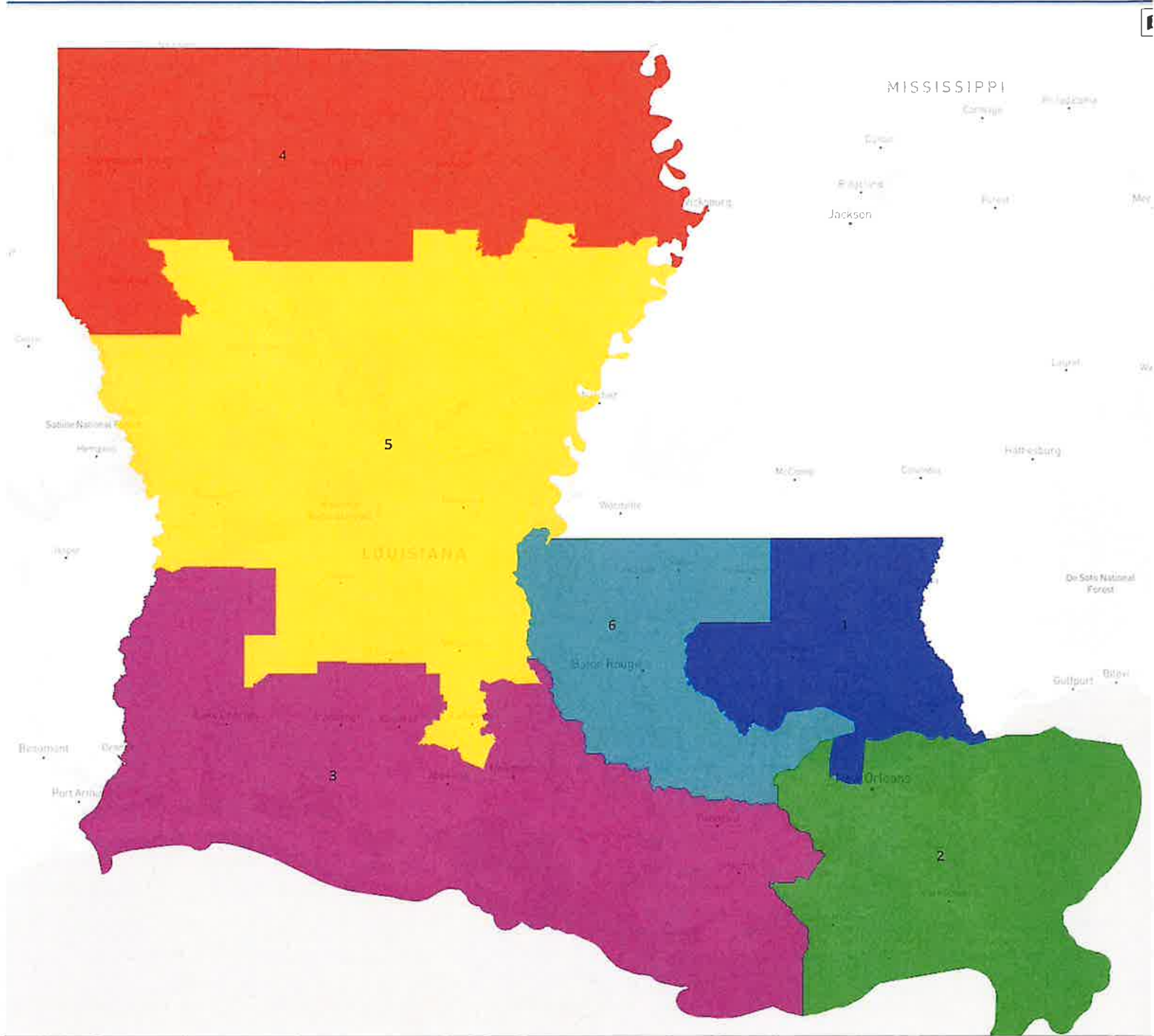
Question	Response/Quantify or Explain if necessary
If a statewide plan (Congress), does the plan assign all the geography of the state?	Yes
Is each district within the plan composed of contiguous geography?	Yes
If a House, Senate, PSC, BESE, or Congressional plan, is the plan comprised of single-member districts?	Yes
What is the overall deviation of the plan?	Maximum deviation 43 (<0.01%) Per District deviation (-17, -15, 7, 26, 15, -17)
How many majority-minority districts are contained within the plan? List each minority district, quantify by type of protected class, list Tot Pop %, VAP %, Tot. Reg %, and describe where in the state each minority district is located.	2 Majority-Minority Districts (District 2 as a Black Plurality in the greater New Orleans area and District 6 as a White Plurality in the greater Baton Rouge area According to VAP% and CVAP% See above and below.
How many parishes are split in the plan? Please list. Include any explanation given for each split.	5 Parishes are split: Ascension: split to balance population between districts 3 and 6 Jefferson: Kenner and Metairie in district 1 and everything else in district 2 Lafourche: split to balance population between districts 2 and 3 Jefferson Davis: a single precinct is added to district 5 to minimize population deviation, the rest in district 3 Franklin: Moves the two most northern precincts into district 5 and all other precincts remain in district 4. Population deviation is minimized
How many municipalities are split in the plan? Please list. Include any explanation given for each split.	3: Kenner split in a similar fashion as current map to minimize population deviation between districts. Eunice, and Duson split at parish line
How many VTDs (precincts) are split in the plan?	None
If there are split VTD's, are they split using census tabulation boundaries?	N/A
Please list each split VTD	N/A
Any other observations regarding the plan?	See above for community of interest

Congress plan (Chris Henry Map1)

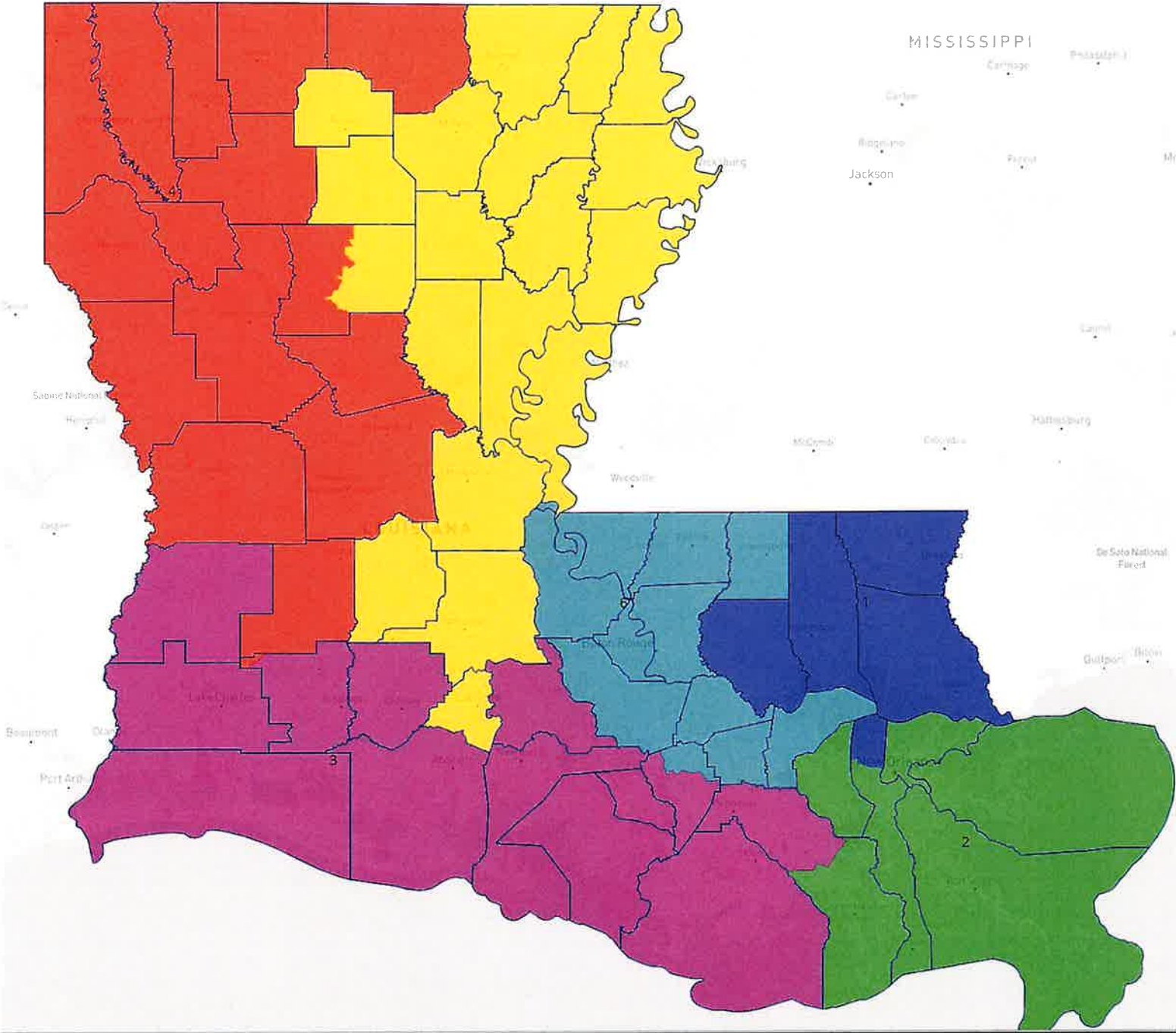
Tools ▾



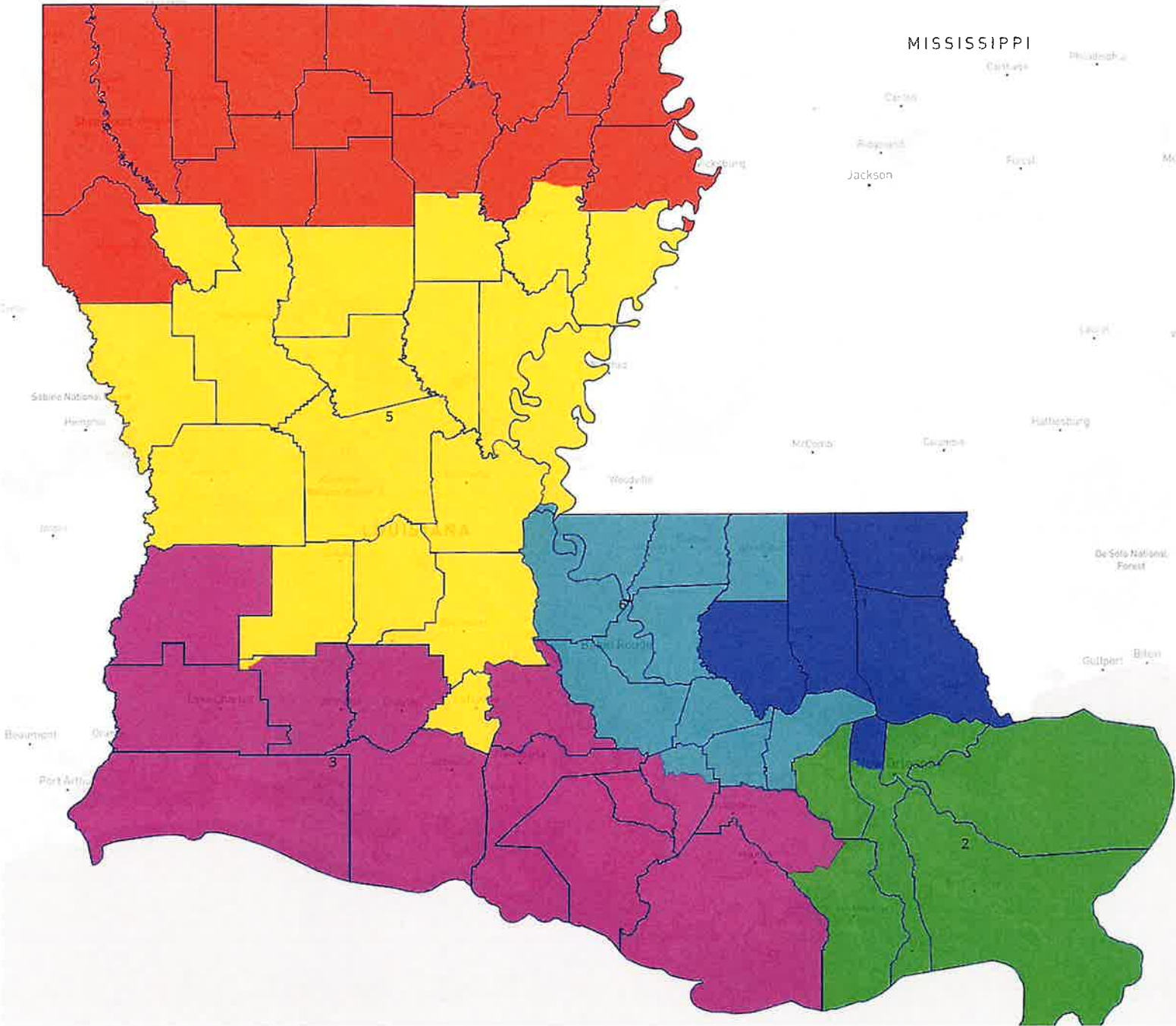
Congress plan (Chris Henry Map2)



Congress plan (Chris Henry Map1)



Congress plan (Chris Henry Map2)



Plan Score Analysis:

District Data

District	Candidate Scenario	Pop. 2020	Hispanic CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Black CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Asian CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Native CVAP 2019	Chance of 1+ Flips ^a	Chance of Democratic Win	Predicted Vote Shares	Biden (D) 2020	Trump (R) 2020
1	Open Seat	812,585	5.3%	13.7%	1.8%	1.5%	No	<1%	25% D / 75% R	115,179	263,502
2	Open Seat	775,292	3.9%	61.6%	2.1%	0.5%	No	>99%	76% D / 24% R	272,084	82,157
3	Open Seat	785,824	2.3%	24.2%	1.1%	0.8%	No	<1%	25% D / 75% R	107,520	242,938
4	Open Seat	728,346	2.7%	33.6%	0.9%	1.3%	No	<1%	33% D / 67% R	121,178	201,470
5	Open Seat	739,244	1.5%	34.4%	0.6%	0.7%	No	<1%	29% D / 71% R	114,245	215,737
6	Open Seat	816,466	2.3%	23.9%	1.7%	0.8%	No	<1%	28% D / 72% R	125,826	249,973

Current:

Predicted 17% D / 83% R seat share across scenarios^a vs. 36% D / 64% R vote share.

District Data

District	Candidate Scenario	Pop. 2020	Hispanic CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Black CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Asian CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Native CVAP 2019	Chance of 1+ Flips ^a	Chance of Democratic Win	Predicted Vote Shares	Biden (D) 2020	Trump (R) 2020
1	Open Seat	776,276	4.6%	14.6%	1.5%	0.7%	No	<1%	22% D / 78% R	101,116	261,564
2	Open Seat	776,278	4.9%	45.9%	2.6%	0.9%	No	>99%	63% D / 37% R	223,244	120,431
3	Open Seat	776,300	2.1%	21.6%	0.9%	1.8%	No	<1%	21% D / 79% R	90,831	251,580
4	Open Seat	776,297	2.7%	33.7%	1.0%	1.3%	No	<1%	32% D / 68% R	127,304	214,449
5	Open Seat	776,330	1.7%	32.4%	0.8%	0.6%	No	<1%	31% D / 69% R	126,090	228,026
6	Open Seat	776,276	2.1%	42.1%	1.6%	0.4%	Yes	31%	48% D / 52% R	187,446	179,727

Chris Henry Map 1:

Predicted 22% D / 78% R seat share across scenarios^a vs. 36% D / 64% R vote share.

District Data

District	Candidate Scenario	Pop. 2020	Hispanic CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Black CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Asian CVAP 2019	Non-Hisp. Native CVAP 2019	Chance of 1+ Flips ^a	Chance of Democratic Win	Predicted Vote Shares	Biden (D) 2020	Trump (R) 2020
1	Open Seat	776,276	4.6%	14.6%	1.5%	0.7%	No	<1%	22% D / 78% R	101,116	261,564
2	Open Seat	776,278	4.9%	45.9%	2.6%	0.9%	No	>99%	63% D / 37% R	223,244	120,431
3	Open Seat	776,300	2.1%	21.6%	0.9%	1.8%	No	<1%	21% D / 79% R	90,831	251,580
4	Open Seat	776,319	2.1%	38.1%	0.9%	0.7%	No	<1%	36% D / 64% R	140,019	203,264
5	Open Seat	776,308	2.4%	27.9%	0.8%	1.2%	No	<1%	27% D / 73% R	113,374	239,211
6	Open Seat	776,276	2.1%	42.1%	1.6%	0.4%	Yes	31%	48% D / 52% R	187,446	179,727

Chris Henry Map 2:

Predicted 22% D / 78% R seat share across scenarios^a vs. 36% D / 64% R vote share.

Chris Henry Map 1:

ID	Population		Shapes		Partisan Lean		
	Total	+/-	☒	☑	Dem	Rep	Oth
Un	0				0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1	776,276	0.00%	☑	☑	28.16%	70.02%	1.82%
2	776,278	0.00%	☑	☑	63.67%	34.21%	2.12%
3	776,300	0.00%	☑	☑	26.40%	73.51%	2.00%
4	776,297	0.00%	☑	☑	35.43%	59.12%	1.63%
5	776,330	0.00%	☑	☑	33.82%	64.02%	1.98%
6	776,276	0.00%	☑	☑	50.23%	48.12%	1.64%
	776,293	0.01%	☑	☑	39.63%	58.51%	1.86%

Notes

- The 0.01% population deviation is within the 0.75% threshold tolerated by the courts
- Four districts lean Republican, one leans Democratic, and one falls in the 45-55% competitive range
- There are two majority-minority districts.

Map Statistics Analyze Compare Advanced

Demographics (VAP)								DOWNLOAD
Total	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native	Pacific	
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
595,189	70.38%	29.62%	9.45%	15.58%	2.41%	2.14%	0.11%	
605,263	42.49%	57.51%	9.47%	43.21%	3.96%	2.01%	0.12%	
586,104	68.97%	31.03%	4.42%	22.36%	1.62%	2.69%	0.11%	
593,446	57.96%	42.04%	4.40%	33.21%	1.67%	2.77%	0.18%	
591,668	60.85%	39.15%	4.02%	31.95%	1.64%	1.63%	0.09%	
598,878	49.72%	50.28%	5.73%	40.81%	2.59%	1.37%	0.09%	
605,091	58.31%	41.69%	6.26%	31.25%	2.32%	2.10%	0.12%	

Chris Henry Map 2:

ID	Population		Shapes		Partisan Lean		
	Total	+/-	☒	☑	Dem	Rep	Oth
Un	0				0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
1	776,276	0.00%	☑	☑	28.16%	70.02%	1.82%
2	776,278	0.00%	☑	☑	63.67%	34.21%	2.12%
3	776,300	0.00%	☑	☑	26.40%	73.51%	2.00%
4	776,319	0.00%	☑	☑	38.90%	59.46%	1.63%
5	776,308	0.00%	☑	☑	30.89%	67.12%	1.98%
6	776,276	0.00%	☑	☑	50.23%	48.12%	1.64%
	776,293	0.01%	☑	☑	39.63%	58.51%	1.86%

Notes

- The 0.01% population deviation is within the 0.75% threshold tolerated by the courts
- Four districts lean Republican, one leans Democratic, and one falls in the 45-55% competitive range
- There are two majority-minority districts.

Map Statistics Analyze Compare Advanced

Demographics (VAP)								DOWNLOAD
Total	White	Minority	Hispanic	Black	Asian	Native	Pacific	
0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
595,189	70.38%	29.62%	9.45%	15.58%	2.41%	2.14%	0.11%	
605,263	42.49%	57.51%	9.47%	43.21%	3.96%	2.01%	0.12%	
586,104	68.97%	31.03%	4.42%	22.36%	1.62%	2.69%	0.11%	
593,431	55.17%	44.83%	3.53%	37.60%	1.61%	2.08%	0.12%	
591,683	63.65%	36.35%	4.89%	27.46%	1.70%	2.32%	0.15%	
598,878	49.72%	50.28%	5.73%	40.81%	2.59%	1.37%	0.09%	
605,091	58.31%	41.69%	6.26%	31.25%	2.32%	2.10%	0.12%	