
From: Van Vrancken [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 3, 2022 10:23 PM
To: House & Governmental Affairs
Subject: Redistricting Request

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Chairman Stefanski, Chairwoman Hewitt, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to comment. My name is Valerie Van Vrancken. I was born in New Orleans (where I lived for 20 years) before moving to Metairie 55 years ago. I am a constituent of United States Representative Steve Scalise in Congressional District 1. I have been a business owner for 48 years. I am a homeowner, a wife, mother, and grandmother. I am involved in the community, and attend many parish events.

*Based upon the recent Census and the very small change in our state's population I believe our Congressional district boundaries need minor adjustments, not major changes. Please keep the boundaries as they are. They were already approved by the Obama Justice Department as being compliant with voter representation guidelines. Boundaries are to be redrawn **only if** the Census shows a greater than 5% change. Only two out of six districts meet that criterion, and they are only slightly greater than 5% -- the population in District 6 increased by only 5.2% and District 4 decreased by just 6.2%.*

Gerrymandering based upon race was declared illegal by the Supreme Court in their 1993 decision, Shaw vs Reno. Gerrymandering also hurts voter confidence at a time when voter confidence is at an all-time low. The Cook Partisan Voting Index (CPVI) shows that our districts already are extremely balanced according to party. There is only 14-25% more Republicans or Democrats in each of the six districts, not a huge difference. Please keep our boundaries intact. It is fair to all voting groups, and it follows the laws of redistricting.

Thank you.