
From: Lynette Bech [REDACTED]
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To: House & Governmental Affairs; Marinovich, Lauren
Subject: Redistricting

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Good evening, Madame Chair and Mr. Chairman, My name is Lynette R Bech and I have lived in Washington Parish for almost 8 years. Actively, I am a member of the Washington Parish Democrat Parish Executive Committee, Washington Parish Women's Democrat Group, Washington Parish NAACP, Florida Parishes Indivisible Group, REV UP Washington Parish, Louisiana Democrat Party Disability Caucus, LOUISIANA FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN and American Red Cross. Being involved in my community I know Washington Parish better than those people who do not live here.

Washington Parish, like many other small rural parishes, has frequently been used as a voting block that can be divided or moved to protect larger and bigger political interests. Surrounded by the state of Mississippi on two sides and framed by the bigger districts of New Orleans and Baton Rouge our unique needs are rarely addressed. It is important that our electors understand our unique issues - specifically that we are tied to the Northshore of the greater New Orleans area, but we are also rural with all the needs of a rural parish. We want a district that will represent us and not one as a result of "cracking."

For example, Lawrence "Larry" Frieman Dist. 74 Republican

Represents Covington (St Tammany – where he lives) Washington Parish (Mt. Hermon), and Tangipahoa (tip). Majority of residents in Washington Parish has never seen him when it's voting time or any other time. He has no clue about the needs of Mt Hermon. Many constituents cannot travel to visit his office. The only portion he is concerned with is Covington, St Tammany. Washington Parish is apart of the poorest of the districts – the 5th. We need a representative, who like Rep. Melinda White, cares about and lives in our parish.

Washington Parish needs good schools, hospital needs expansion and more medical staff, and public transportation expansion to areas outside of the parish. We need more big business for employment of our residents. We exist, we matter and we wont be silent.

Thank you for your time.

Ms. Lynette R. Bech, MA