

Baker, Sarah

From: Billy Anderson <banderson@powercoalition.org>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 11:16 AM
To: House & Governmental Affairs
Subject: Testimony Billy Anderson Shreveport/Caddo Louisiana
Attachments: BA Testimony on Fair Maps-2.pdf

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Greetings Chairman My name is Billy Anderson and I am a member of the Shreveport community and Caddo parish. I am here as a member of the Power Coalition for Equity and Justice and dozens of partners across the states. I would love to be there in person but due to the inclement weather, I am unable to make it to Baton Rouge. I have been a resident of this community for 31 years. Oftentimes North Louisiana is left out of the conversation about how we move Louisiana forward and our voices go unheard. Our voices cannot go unheard on this matter. Shreveport and Caddo Parish is unique from the rest of the state and so are our traditions and issues that we are facing. According to the Daily Advertiser, in 2022 Caddo Parish had an average weekly wage of \$1,109, ranking next-to-last among the large Louisiana parishes. Having a map that's cracked so that voting power is diluted is not only unfair but it promotes division in a city and parish where unity is what is needed the most. Right now during this inclement weather, many black and brown citizens won't look or expect aid from our representative because oftentimes in the past our representation has shown a lack of concern for these our communities. Black Voters deserve to be represented equally. I urge you to keep my community together. My goal for this redistricting process is for our elected officials to pass fair and equitable maps that do not deflate my power in the election process.

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BILLY ANDERSON
Northern Louisiana Organizer
He, him, his.

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