

Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs

Minutes of Meeting
Redistricting Public Hearing
Thibodaux, Louisiana
2021-2022 Interim
January 11, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman of the Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. in the Cotillion Ballroom at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

HOUSE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative John M. Stefanski, chairman
Representative Gerald "Beau" Beaulieu, IV
Representative Daryl Andrew Deshotel
Representative Royce Duplessis, vice chairman
Representative Les Farnum
Representative Foy Bryan Gadberry
Representative Dodie Horton
Representative Barry Ivey
Representative Michael T. Johnson
Representative Jeremy S. LaCombe
Representative Rodney Lyons
Representative Tanner D. Magee
Representative Candace N. Newell
Representative Polly Thomas
Representative Malinda B. White

HOUSE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Wilford Dan Carter, Sr.
Representative Valarie Hodges
Representative Sam L. Jenkins, Jr.

SENATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Senator Sharon W. Hewitt, chairman
Senator R. L. Bret Allain, II
Senator Franklin J. Foil
Senator Barry S. Milligan, vice chairman
Senator Edward J. "Ed" Price
Senator Mike Reese
Senator Glen Womack

SENATE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Jimmy Harris
Senator Gregory W. Tarver, Sr.

HOUSE STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst
Lorriane Lucas, attorney
Rosalie Ammersbach, committee administrative assistant
Michelle Fontenot, clerk of The House of Representatives

SENATE STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Matthew R. DeVille, attorney
Angela Bizette, secretary
Yolanda J. Dixon, secretary of the Senate
Suzanne G. Morain, second assistant secretary of the Senate

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

John Harrington, House student intern
Daniel Leming, House sergeant at arms
Louis Carral, Senate sergeant at arms
John Keller, Senate sergeant at arms
Fate Mitchell, Senate sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS**Presentation on 2020 Census data, redistricting terms and law, and information regarding existing district maps and 2020 Census population for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Public Service Commission, Congress, Supreme Court, and Louisiana House of Representatives and Senate**

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour, legislative analyst for the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, discussed Louisiana's 2020 Census apportionment data, the P.L. 94-171 data, and the population and demographic trends from a PowerPoint presentation, Exhibit A, "Redistricting in Louisiana - January 11, 2022, Thibodaux, Louisiana", which is in the committee records.

Michelle Fontenot, clerk of the House of Representatives, discussed redistricting terms, concepts, and law, and equal population based on federal law from Exhibit A.

Lorriane Lucas, attorney for the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, discussed discrimination against minorities and The Voting Rights Act of 1965 from Exhibit A.

Matthew R. DeVille, attorney for the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, discussed redistricting criteria from Exhibit A.

Yolanda J. Dixon, secretary of the Senate, discussed malapportionment data for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Public Service Commission (PSC) from Exhibit A.

Patricia Lowrey-Dufour discussed malapportionment data for Congress, the Supreme Court, the House of Representatives, and House malapportionment data for the River and Bayou area from Exhibit A.

Yolanda J. Dixon discussed malapportionment data for the Senate and the Senate malapportionment data for the River and Bayou area from Exhibit A.

Chairman Stefanski discussed the timeline of the redistricting roadshow hearings from Exhibit A. He stated that information presented at the meeting could be found on the Legislature of Louisiana's redistricting website.

Public comment

Ralphon Triggs, 401 Carol Street, Thibodaux, LA, (985) 713-5525, spoke for information only on Congress.

Michael Pernick, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, no address provided, (917) 790-3597, spoke for information only on BESE and Congress.

Janea Jamison, Power Coalition, address illegible, New Orleans, LA, (985) 513-1674, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, and Congress.

Tracy Riley, Algiers/Gretna/Plaquemines Parish NAACP Branch, 13482 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037, (504) 762-9027, spoke for information only on the House, Senate, BESE, PSC, Congress, and Courts.

Marguerite Knight, 840 East First Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301, (985) 209-2598, spoke for information only and submitted written comments via her witness card.

Frankie Hyers, Jefferson Parish, 509 Houma Boulevard, no city or state given, (504) 616-3073, spoke for information only on the House and Senate.

Cynthia Newman, P.O. Box 2294, Houma, LA 70360, spoke for information only.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 11 for information only. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

IV. CONSIDERATION OF ANY OTHER MATTERS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

There were no other matters.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman John M. Stefanski
Joint Committee on Joint Governmental Affairs

Date adopted: