



Houma Mtg
2/21/11
Congress

Position Statement
Congressional Redistricting

The Thibodaux Chamber of Commerce, representing 600 members and their employees is supportive of a Coastal Congressional District which could include St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, Lafourche, Terrebonne, St. Mary, Iberia Lafayette, Vermillion and Cameron Parishes.

It is our position that whatever Congressional lines are redrawn that Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes are not separated in the redistricting based on the following facts:

- The Houma-Thibodaux (including all of Lafourche and Terrebonne Parishes) MSA is the fifth largest in the state
- The Barataria/Terrebonne Estuary is nationally designated and is located in Lafourche and Terrebonne's boundaries
- The two Parishes share common business interests
- Nicholls State University is a driving force in the economy of the region, particularly in Lafourche and Terrebonne, in cooperation and partnership with Fletcher Community College
- Lafourche and Terrebonne are industry leaders in oil and gas exploration and production
- Lafourche, Terrebonne and St. Mary Parishes have a significant Native American population
- The Houma-Thibodaux MSA has consistently reported the lowest unemployment levels in the State of Louisiana
- The two Parishes share comparable infrastructure needs

We urge members of the Joint Governmental Affairs Committee and the entire Louisiana Legislature to consider these facts when redrawing Congressional District boundaries.

Signed this 14th day of February, 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annette Fontana", written over a horizontal line.

Annette Fontana
Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Delaune", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Delaune
Secretary

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