

3-20-11
Statement of John O'Rourke
Re: House of Reps / Caddo

March 21, 2011

Speaker Jim Tucker
732 Behrman Highway, Suite C-2
Terrytown, LA 70056

RE: Redistricting Southern Hills

Dear Mr. Speaker:

It has come to my attention that an effort may be underway to "create" an additional minority district in Caddo Parish which would include Southern Hills. Please know that the citizens of Southern Hills oppose this plan in the strongest possible terms.

First, the population of Caddo Parish does not warrant such a move. Caddo Parish is majority white and the creation of this district would leave Caddo Parish with four minority districts and not a single majority white district entirely within the Parish. This does not accurately reflect the demographics of Caddo Parish and should not pass.

Second, there is no community of interest between Southern Hills and the other areas that would make up the majority of this new district. Southern Hills is a large, but very close community that has played a significant role in the development of Shreveport from an economic, cultural and political perspective. The inclusion of Southern Hills in a minority district would potentially strip it of its identity.

Please oppose this effort at all costs. Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely,
John O'Rourke
3009 Newport St.
Shreveport LA 71118

Cc: Alan Seabaugh, Representative, District 5
Richard Burford, Representative District 7