

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: legalizme@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 2:21 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Senate Draft Map May 4th

Hi Joe,

In reviewing the draft maps for redistricting there is one Senate Map that I am very much opposed to. The May 4th draft. I live east of Fayetteville in the Elkins area. If this map were adopted it would put me in a district that stretches to Harrison. I completely opposed this version because I have nothing in common with Boone County. It would be next to impossible for a Senator to be elected from Washington County. I feel that Washington & Benton counties have very much in common, and feel it would make more sense to divide the districts we have between the two counties. As County Clerk I attended the meeting in Fayetteville and listened to a reason to adopt this version simply so the City of Springdale would not be split between Senators. As County Clerk I know that when Springdale annexes land over the next 10 years there will be a few that will most likely have a different Senator than the rest of the City, because Senate & Representative lines do not move just because of an annexation.

Please consider this when deciding on the final map for 2010.

If you would like to contact me please feel free to do so.

Thanks,

Karen Combs Pritchard
Washington County Clerk
479-444-1716 office phone
479-957-7171 cell

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Ron Carroll <RCARROL@astate.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 12:44 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Redistricting

Joe: My name is Ron Carroll of Jonesboro, AR and I am planning on running for District 75 Arkansas of House of Representatives in 2012. I attended the redistricting meeting on the ASU campus and I live at 2004 Meadowood Cove in District 75. I hope the redistricting keeps us in District 75. I have a meeting scheduled with Governor Beebe and Attorney General McDaniel on Friday, July 29th to discuss my interest in running for the District 75 seat.

Thank you,
Ron Carroll
C) 870-243-4705

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Alan Leveritt <alanleveritt@arktimes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 10:19 AM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Cc: 'Mireya Reith'
Subject: Hispanic District

Dear Mr. Woodson

I wanted to add my voice in support of a Hispanic majority legislative district in northwest Arkansas.

When the Voting Rights Act passed in the 1960's it made it impossible for southern politicians to continue race baiting and still get elected. Hispanics in Arkansas face a somewhat similar situation today. Until they vote in large numbers and elect Hispanics and others sympathetic to their community, it will continue to be acceptable for politicians to paint immigrant residents as criminals and freeloaders. Brown has become the new black and this is the civil rights battle of our generation. I hope you will give a sympathetic hearing to efforts by the Hispanic community for a district whereby their voice can be heard in the legislature.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Alan Leveritt
Publisher
Arkansas Times
El Latino

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Laura Kellams <lkkellams@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 9:47 AM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Hispanic district

Dear Mr. Woodson,

I attended the public meeting in Fayetteville and appreciated your attention and careful explanation of the redistricting process.

I am a resident of Northwest Arkansas (Washington County) and would like to voice my support for a Hispanic majority legislative district in this region. The growing Hispanic population in our region is currently fractured, and no Hispanic resident has ever been elected to a state office. There is strong legal precedent set by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to require the inclusion of all ethnic and racial demographic groups in our representative system.

Thank you for your interest and for listening to our concerns during the process.

Laura Kellams
Fayetteville

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Pattie Williams <zipattie@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 10:56 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Redistricting

Attention: Joe Woodson

I would like to remind you that no Hispanic has ever been elected to state office in Arkansas and there is strong legal precedent set by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in requiring the inclusion of all ethnic and racial demographic groups in our political representation system. I strongly support the Redistricting Committee createa Hispanic district as an important catalyst for inclusion and the meaningful participation of Hispanics in Arkansas' political system, providing a path for new perspectives that would benefit all Arkansans.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Pattie Williams
547 Gray
Fayetteville, Ar. 72701

479-443-2096
479-530-7976

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: roff67@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 7:58 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: creation of a predominate hispanic state house district

Joe Woodson
Redistricting Coordinator

Dear Mr. Woodson,

I am in support of creation of a new house district here in Northwest Arkansas which has a large Hispanic population. Our Hispanic citizens are a vital and growing part of most large cities in our area. We have all benefited from the energy and culture brought into public life by our Hispanic neighbors. In the same spirit of inclusion which led to creating districts which have large ethnic minorities in other parts of the state, it is time to redraw a House district which may likely lead to election of the first Hispanic state legislator.

Thank you for all your hard work.

Sincerely,
Rita Officer, PsyD
Goshen Arkansas

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: BORNANARKY@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 12:35 AM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Hispanic district

Joe:

I would like to add my voice to what I hope are hundreds or even thousands of voices in Northwest Arkansas who are supporting an Hispanic majority district in this part of the state. The Hispanic population has exploded in Northwest Arkansas and indeed all over the state. 12% in Northwest Arkansas cannot be ignored. A shotgun approach that says we should be concerned about all Hispanics, not just those in this proposed district, will not get representation for Hispanics in Little Rock. We have drawn lines for other minority populations and it is time to bring together this community of interest into one district. What about those outside of the district? They won't have representation. Yes, they will. They will have indirect representation because there will be an Hispanic perspective in Little Rock. And the pride and belief in our state and how much we value them will produce more voter registration and more participation from Hispanics all over the state. Please pass this on. This is an opportunity we can't miss, to send a signal to our Latino community that they are valued by the State of Arkansas.

Larry Buckley

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Jose Gomez <jgomez@lulac.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 5:21 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Cc: clcollins6@cox.net; scopley438@aol.com; aaron.sadler@arkansasag.gov; abtaylor10@dolr.org; hmorales@arwtc.org; tnavin@dolr.org; mireya.reith@gmail.com
Subject: jmendez0430@gmail.com, "Rafael Arciga Garcia" <arciga.rafael@gmail.com>, <rarciga@uark.edu>, michel@arktimes.com, hotelmpl@aol.com

Dear Joe,

During the last few weeks there have been a great deal of conversations around the topic of redistricting in Northwest Arkansas.

Dozens of Arkansans spoke of our contiguous communities of common interests, while highlighting that we are also one community that lives and works together for the betterment of all of our residents.

As a growing vibrant region with a shared history and rich growing cultures, our communities have developed strong partnerships and alliances across sectors including education, business, transportation, tourism and cultures. Our passion and dedication to our diverse communities and our neighbors have been clear to all who have attended these redistricting meetings.

Redistricting is the process of drawing electoral district boundaries in response to population changes determined by the results of the decennial census. This in addition to equalizing the population of districts and complying with federal requirements within the Voting Rights Act. The vast demographic changes within Northwest Arkansas, and other areas in our state, are – and have been for some time – a welcomed reality.

The Supreme Court has made it very clear that for congressional redistricting, “population equality is the rule.” Thus the process in its nature is not divisive, but rather one that focuses on a fair district that provides representation for all communities including those responsible for our state’s growth.

I am confident a fair plan can be derived that will provide an avenue and reasonable opportunity for all to compete and win in a district drawn to follow the foundations of the Voting Rights Act.

For the long-term political health of our state, we must focus on a resolve that provides representation for all Arkansans. And, let us together also realize this is a tremendous opportunity for Arkansas to be proactive and at the limelight on a national platform, at a time

when there are many negative discords and lawsuits in other states in and around the very issue of redistricting.

I personally thank the Redistricting Committee for holding these meetings to make the process as transparent and participatory as possible. Please feel free to contact me for additional thoughts.

In positive community development,

Jose R. Gomez

Immediate Past State Director

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Arkansas

Contact Board of Apportionment

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Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

I have a comment on the Governor's new draft Senate map. North Central Arkansas is greatly fragmented in this new map. I can't figure out what Cleburne County has geographically in common with Searcy, Baxter, and Fulton Counties. As it stands on this map our new senate district would cover eight different counties. Also it looks to be the largest district geographically as it snakes from the MO border all the way down to southern Faulkner county. We are currently largest district geographically, but with population shifts logically we would be in a more compact district, but now this map has us back in another far reaching district. Many of the other Draft maps from the BOA and the early (May 1-3) SOS maps were much more sensible for our County and North Central Arkansas. The May 4th map Senate Northeast BOA had us with part of Van Buren and Independence Counties, that would make sense as we are neighbors, have a strong history, and very connected communities. The June 29th BOA map had Cleburne with Faulkner Rural, and that also makes sense for the same reasons. The geographically large and far reaching districts should be in E and SE AR as that's the area losing population, not North Central Arkansas. I hope the Governor and his staff will reconsider our area.

Phil Grace
Justice of the Peace
Cleburne Co. District 9

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Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Rick

Last Name: Green

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Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

I would ask the Board to consider adding the small town of Kibler, AR (pop 1000 or less) to Senate District 9. My parents live there and that is where I was born and raised. Kibler is just east of Van Buren and is part of the Van Buren School District.

Thank you for your consideration of this minor change.

Rick Green