



June 21, 2011

Joe Woodson, Jr.
Redistricting Coordinator
Arkansas Board of Apportionment
Suite 160, Victory Building
1401 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Woodson:

The attached resolution from the Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce speaks to our position regarding the state legislative redistricting process. Further, the resolution specifically addresses our concerns for Pine Bluff and Jefferson County in the Senate redistricting process.

Please contact me at 870-535-0110 if you have any questions regarding this resolution.

Sincerely,

Michelle Rocha, Director
Business & Government Divisions



**GREATER PINE BLUFF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

REDISTRICTING OF ARKANSAS STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, results of Census 2010 population counts require the redistricting of state Senate Districts in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, declining population in South Arkansas necessitates that new Senate Districts in South Arkansas be drawn with a broader configuration than in the past; and

WHEREAS, several preliminary map versions are currently being used for discussion purposes and others may arise before the target completion date for the process; and

WHEREAS, many of these preliminary maps include parts of Jefferson County in Senate Districts with other cities and geographic areas that do not share interests and concerns common to Pine Bluff and Jefferson County; and

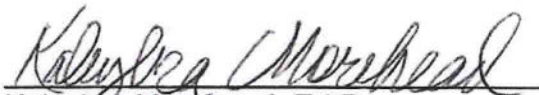
WHEREAS, the Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce believes it to be in the best interest of the citizens and businesses of Pine Bluff and Jefferson County that the city of Pine Bluff comprise the majority vote in at least one newly drawn Senate district, so as to maintain continuity of representation and communities of interest; and

WHEREAS, it is also believed by The Chamber that Jefferson County would be best served by inclusion in no more than two newly drawn Senate Districts, so as to minimize the splitting of political subdivisions and maintain continuity of representation and communities of interest with geographically neighboring cities that experience similar economic conditions and have fundamental similarities; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce proposes to continue evaluating subsequent restricting map versions using the above criteria.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE GREATER PINE BLUFF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**

That the Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce, in a June 20, 2011 vote, supports attempts by the State Board of Apportionment to place Pine Bluff and Jefferson County, Arkansas, in newly drawn state Senate Districts with neighboring communities and counties most similar to our area.


Kaleybra Morehead, Ed.D.

Chairman

Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce

6/20/11
Date

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Rapert, Jason <jason.rapert@senate.ar.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2011 1:50 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: RE: Legislative Redistricting

Joe,

Please let me know if you have any questions. In lieu of being able to leave District 18 as is, I was shown a map that would allow the district to be composed of all of Cleburne, Van Buren, Conway and Perry Counties and a portion of Faulkner. This is also an acceptable alternative to me. It keeps my district virtually the same and makes it even more compact.

Thanks,

Senator Jason Rapert
Arkansas Senate
District 18
P.O. Box 295
Bigelow, AR 72016

District Office: 501-336-0918
Senate E-Mail: jason.rapert@senate.ar.gov
Website: www.jasonrapert.com <<http://www.jasonrapert.com/>>

From: Joe Woodson, Jr. [mailto:Joe.Woodson@arkansas.gov]
Sent: Wed 6/22/2011 9:04 AM
To: Rapert, Jason
Subject: RE: Legislative Redistricting

Got it...thanks. Joe

-----Original Message-----

From: Rapert, Jason [mailto:jason.rapert@senate.ar.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2011 4:32 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Legislative Redistricting

Dear Joe,

Please find attached a letter from me to you and the Board of Apportionment regarding the redistricting process.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thanks for your time.

My best,

Senator Jason Rapert
Arkansas Senate
District 18
P.O. Box 295
Bigelow, AR 72016

District Office: 501-336-0918

Senate E-Mail: jason.rapert@senate.ar.gov

Website: www.jasonrapert.com <<http://www.jasonrapert.com/>>

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: City of Brookland <cityofbrookland@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 10:02 AM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Legislative Redistricting

Mr. Woodson,

I am writing with concerns over the re-drawing of legislative district lines. My understanding is there are several options on the table. Some of these break current county cities in one legislative district out into other legislative districts with another county. I think there is one plan that meets all the requirements of the re-drawing of legislative lines that leaves cities in a county in tack with other cities of the same county in one district. I would ask that this plan be considered when re-drawing the legislative district lines.

Thank you,

Mayor

Kenneth D. Jones, Mayor
Shelby Pfeifer, Office Manager

City of Brookland

613 Holman - P.O. Box 7
Brookland, AR 72417
(870)935-0538 Ph
(870)933-8814 Fax
cityofbrookland@yahoo.com
www.brooklandarkansas.org

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Vickki Carroll <monetterecorder@centurytel.net>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 9:13 AM
To: kelly.boyd@sos.arkansas.gov; allen.gordon@arkansas.gov; Joe Woodson, Jr.; Jon Moran; James Miller; homerlenderman@hotmail.com; homer.lenderman@arkansashouse.org; lewellens@arkleg.state.ar.us
Subject: Re-districting

Dear Officials:

As Mayor of the City of Monette I would like to let it be known that the majority of the people of Monette and the Eastern District oppose being relocated with Mississippi County in the Legislative re-districting.

It is our desire to keep our representation as it is. I understand how the system works with regard to population and that your decisions are difficult to make. However, I ask that you keep in mind that we have two good men that have helped us a great deal and we do not want to lose them.

Representative Homer Lenderman and Senator Paul Bookout have worked very hard for us and this is so important to small cities that lie in the Eastern District.

Your consideration will be appreciated very much in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jerry Chub Qualls
Mayor of Monette

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Monette Housing Authority <mhatchb@centurytel.net>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 2:22 PM
To: allen.gordon@arkansasag.gov; Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Fw: Re-districting

Importance: High

----- Original Message -----

From: Monette Housing Authority
To: joe.woodson@sos.arkansas.gov
Cc: allen.gordon@arkansas.gov
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 1:32 PM
Subject: Fw: Re-districting

----- Original Message -----

From: Monette Housing Authority
To: james.miller@arkansas.gov ; jon.moran@governor.arkansas.gov ; joe.woodson@arkansas.gov ;
allen.gordon@arkansas.gov ; kelly.boyd@sos.arkansas.gov
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2011 3:14 PM
Subject: Re-districting

To All Interested Parties & Decision Makers:

The recent legislation to re-draw the existing legislative districts in Arkansas is of great concern to those of us that reside in the Eastern District of Craighead County.

It is my desire, as well as most of the residents, to keep the Eastern District intact as it is at the present time. We do not want to lose our Representative, Mr. Homer Lenderman, as we elected him to serve the Eastern District as well as the remainder of Craighead County. It is unfair to take the person we elected to serve us in the Eastern District and give us another Representative that we did not select. Essentially, you are taking away our Constitutional right to vote for the person we want to represent us.

Please give your highest consideration to keeping the Eastern District of Craighead County as it is now when you are making the difficult decisions you are charged with.

I appreciate your time and service.

Most Sincerely,

Barbara Suber
P. O. Drawer 387
Monette Housing Authority,
Immediate Past President, Arkansas Chapter National Housing & Redevelopment Officials

To State Redistricting Committee Members:

Concerning the recent legislation to re-draw the existing Legislative districts in Arkansas, it is great concern to all of the Communities in the Eastern District of Craighead County.

We would prefer to keep the Eastern District as it is presently divided. We do not want to lose our Representative, Mr. Homer Lenderman. We elected Mr. Lenderman to serve the Craighead County as well as the Eastern District. We do not believe it would be in the best interest of the Eastern District or Craighead County to remove the person we elected with another Representative whom we did not elect. We feel this is in violation of our Constitutional right to vote for the person we want to represent us.

We are asking you to please keep the Eastern District of Craighead County under the existing dividing lines as it is now when you are making the difficult decisions you are charged with.

We appreciate your time and service.

Sincerely,

Nelroy Wright

Nelroy Wright, Site Manager
St. Bernard's Senior Life Center
504 S. Williams St.
Monette, AR 72447

Members:

Wanda Martin

Fannie Mae Percy

William Percy

Alma Pyland

Jerry Long

Sue Long

Mona Sue Parr

Vista Finley

Juanice Coburn
Louise McFarlin

Faye Smith

Dorothy Reid

Maurice Holmes

Estelle Holmes

Joe Harrell

Evelene Harrell

Eugene Martin

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Bill Bowden <bbowden@arkansasonline.com>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 3:16 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Pritchard

Joe,

Bill Pritchard said he doesn't like the June 11 map because it cuts Elkins out of his district.

Bill

Bill Bowden
Reporter
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
P.O. Box 7
2560 N. Lowell Road
Springdale, AR 72765-0007
Telephone 479-365-2966
Fax 479-365-2984
bbowden@arkansasonline.com

Joe Woodson, Jr.

From: Bill Bowden <bbowden@arkansasonline.com>
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 3:20 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Re: Pritchard

Maybe a little tweaking would remedy that. He wants to keep Elkins and Durham.

On Jun 24, 2011, at 3:18 PM, Joe Woodson, Jr. wrote:

thanks

From: Bill Bowden [<mailto:bbowden@arkansasonline.com>]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2011 3:16 PM
To: Joe Woodson, Jr.
Subject: Pritchard

Joe,

Bill Pritchard said he doesn't like the June 11 map because it cuts Elkins out of his district.

Bill

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Reporter
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette
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