

July 14, 2011

Mr. Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Redistricting Coordinator  
Arkansas Board of Apportionment  
Victory Building, Suite 160  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Woodson:

As Hispanic leaders of Arkansas and concerned citizens, we respectfully assert that the Hispanic community of Arkansas is a community of interest that is impacted by the ongoing redistricting process of the Arkansas Board of Apportionment.

The 2010 census indicates that a significant impetus for the current discussions about adding state representatives and senator districts in Northwest Arkansas is the 114 percent population growth experienced by Northwest Arkansas' Hispanic community over the last decade. Hispanics currently constitute almost seven percent of the population statewide and 12 percent of the population in Arkansas' Third Congressional District, comprising over 30 percent of residents in the cities of Rogers and Springdale. Meanwhile, to date, an individual of Hispanic descent has never been elected to state office in Arkansas.

The significant growth in the Hispanic community meets our state's criteria of both being sufficiently large and cohesive and would vote as a group in order to justify the creation of a Hispanic majority district in Northwest Arkansas, as provided for in the Voting Rights Act of 1965. We are concerned that the June 10th Northwest House map does not currently reflect such a district.

Engagement of the Hispanics as a community of interest in the redistricting discussions would prevent further fracturing of the Hispanic community and its political representation. Meanwhile, a Hispanic majority district would present an important catalyst for the inclusion and meaningful participation of Hispanics in Arkansas' political system, and provide a path for bringing new perspectives to decision- and policy-making that would ultimately benefit all Arkansans.

We, the undersigned, represent a significant range of interests within the Hispanic community, from associations, businesses, faith community, labor, nonprofits and political organizations. We thank you for your consideration to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

*Al "Papa Rap" Lopez, Concerned Citizen*  
*Alan Leveritt, Publisher, Arkansas Times, El Latino*  
*Alma Calderon, Concerned Student, University of Arkansas*  
*Arkansas United Community Coalition (AUCC)*  
*Bob and Lois Fisk, Concerned Citizens*  
*Bonnie Cook, Concerned Citizen*  
*Brenda Gullett, Former Arkansas Senator and House Member*

*David Ben Acuapa, President, LULAC Council #750*  
*Carolina Valdizon, Miss Arkansas Latina and Concerned Student, University of Arkansas*  
*Cynthia Castilla, Business Analyst, Tyson Foods, Inc.*  
*Diana Gonzales Worthen, Vice-President, Hispanic Democratic Caucus of Arkansas-Third Congressional District*  
*Deanna Perez Williams, Concerned Citizen*  
*Deb W. King, Member, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fayetteville*  
*Democratic Hispanic Caucus of Arkansas – Third Congressional District*  
*Denise Baez, Concerned Citizen*  
*Diane Bryant, Concerned Citizen*  
*Emily Ironside, Vice Chair, Washington County Democrats*  
*Fayetteville Forward Economic Council Inclusion Group (FFEAC)*  
*Jeanne M. Sievert, Member, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fayetteville*  
*John Sampier, Concerned Citizen*  
*Jose R. Gomez, Chairman, Board of Directors, AUCC and Immediate Past LULAC State Director*  
*Just Communities Arkansas*  
*Karla Bradley, Concerned Citizen*  
*Larry Buckley, Concerned Citizen*  
*Laura Kellams, Concerned Citizen*  
*League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) – Arkansas*  
*Lucia Hernandez, Immigrants' Rights Coordinator, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - Arkansas*  
*Dr. Luis Fernando Restrepo, Assistant Vice Provost for Diversity, University of Arkansas*  
*Maria Baez de Hicks, Concerned Citizen*  
*Margarita Baez, Concerned Citizen*  
*Maura Lozano-Yancy, President and Group Publisher, Hola Arkansas*  
*Michel Leidermann, Director, El Latino*  
*Mireya Reith, Executive Director, AUCC*  
*Nathan Bogart, Concerned Citizen*  
*Northwest Arkansas Workers' Justice Center (NWA-WJC)*  
*Dr. Patti and Bob Tetu, Concerned Citizens*  
*Pattie Williams, Concerned Citizen*  
*Raul Ruiz, Concerned Citizen*  
*Rosa Negron, Concerned Citizen*  
*Rev. Stephen Copley, Chair, Arkansas Interfaith Alliance and Board Member, AUCC*  
*Ruth Shepherd, Executive Director, Just Communities Arkansas*  
*Walter Hinojosa, Vice President, Northwest Arkansas Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO*  
*Zessna Garcia, Concerned Citizen*

**Joe Woodson, Jr.**

---

**From:** Rhonda Stallcup <rsstall@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2011 8:25 PM  
**To:** Joe Woodson, Jr.  
**Subject:** redistricting

I am against redistricting for the hispanic and the nw arkansas area. I strongly oppose this. I will watch it closely.

Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Jose R. Gomez

Last Name: Jose R. Gomez

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

Home Phone:

E-Mail:

Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

To the Board:<br>During the last few weeks there have been a great deal of conversations around the topic of redistricting in Northwest Arkansas. <br>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.<br>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.<br>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. <br>The vast demographic changes within Northwest Arkansas, and other areas in our state, are - and have been for some time - a welcomed reality. <br>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. <br>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. <br>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.<br>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.<br><br>In positive community development,<br><br>Jose R. Gomez<br>Immediate Past State Director <br>League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Arkansas <br>

Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Keith

Last Name: Sloan

Address: 7423 Hwy 166 S

City: Pocahontas

State: AR

Zip: 72455

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

Home Phone: 870-378-6279

E-Mail: ksloan\_08@yahoo.com

Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

I have recently seen the Arkansas State Senate maps released by Governor Beebe and Attorney General McDaniel. I wanted to comment on the a few facts about the maps. On both maps, they have moved Randolph County out of the district represented by Senator Missy Irvin and move us into a district where our Senator would be David Wyatt. I am urging the Board of Apportionment to not do this to the area. The people of current Senate district 10 voted overwhelmingly for Senator Irvin, 59% to 41%, in the last election. People here respect her and trust her to represent us well in the Legislature, instead we will have a Senator that we have not met, and that most have never even heard of, these two maps would not effectively represent this district. My second concern is the splitting of what appears to be Pocahontas, in Randolph County, from the rest of the county and pairing it with Clay, Greene, and Independence. I strongly disagree with this move. If the proposed Senate maps remain as they are, which I hope they do not, then there would be no other city roughly the same size as Batesville, in Independence County. This would cause Independence County to have an unfair advantage in elections. If the person running for office is from Batesville, they could receive the majority of votes from the Batesville area and win the election with relative minor support in the remaining counties. This could have the rest of the district being represented by someone not from their area until the next reapportionment, because of the pull that Batesville would have over the elections process. I strongly urge Governor Mike Beebe, Secretary of State Mark Martin, and Attorney General Dustin McDaniel to reevaluate the current Senate maps and find a way to bring Missy Irvin back into the district that overwhelmingly elected her to serve and find a way to bring Pocahontas, back in with the rest of Randolph County.

email\_temp (2)

Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Willie

Last Name: Barber

Address: 105 West Henson Avenue

City: Springdale

State: AR

Zip: 72764

Office Phone: 479-290-4714

Office Fax:

Home Phone: 479-750-4095

E-Mail: williebarber@ymail.com

Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

It appears to Springdale residents that our opinions and suggestions do not mean any thing to the apportionment board. Do not split Springdale.

Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Forrest

Last Name: Darby

Address: 3245 Liahona Way

City: Las Vegas

State: NV

Zip: 89121

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

Home Phone: 702-435-7270

E-Mail: Forrest.Darby@cox.net

Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

Can you tell me what Supreme Court case the "10% rule" came from?<br>Equal  
Population <br>One-person, one vote. The Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth  
Amendment to the United States Constitution has been interpreted by the United  
States Supreme Court to require the States to draw legislative districts so that  
each district is about the same size in population as the others. In a case decided  
in 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court stated that the "overriding objective must be the  
substantial equality of population among the various districts." (Reynolds v. Sims,  
377 U.S. 533). This is known as the "one-person, one vote" rule. <br><br>The 10%  
variance rule. In a series of cases following the Reynolds case, the Supreme Court  
established a 10% threshold variance for legislative redistricting. That is, if a  
state makes all its districts within 10% of each other in population size then there  
is a presumption that such district passes muster under the one-person, one-vote  
rule. If the variance exceeds 10% then redistricting plan will be upheld only if the  
State shows that such a disparity is justified by extraordinary circumstances.  
<br><br>

email\_temp (2)

Contact Board of Apportionment

First Name: Judy L.

Last Name: Holm

Address: 675 Drew Lane

City: Pea Ridge

State: AR

Zip: 72751

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

Home Phone:

E-Mail: mamabear918@centurytel.net

Your Comments to the Board of Apportionment

If the majority of the hispanics in our state had not come here iligally this redistricting wouldn't even be an issue. It all has to do with Democrat control. You know it and I know it. Quit encouraging the hispanics to come here. Let them be part not apart.



**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,



Name: REYNALDO HERNANDEZ

City: ROGERS, AR.

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,



Name: *George L. Stephens III*

City: *Johnson, AR 72714*

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,



Name:

Carlos O Chica

City:

Rogers, AR 72758

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,

Octavio Sanchez

Name: OCTAVIO SANCHEZ

City: BENTONVILLE, AR

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Sánchez*  
Name: *Elizabeth Sánchez*  
City: *Benlomille, AR*

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

**July 13, 2011**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

After have attended a public meeting at the Roger's Public Library in Rogers, AR, I have concluded the following:

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA.

I support a different view:

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,

*Carrie Parrin Smith*

Name: *Carrie Parrin Smith*

City: *Rogers*

**Arkansas Board of Apportionment**

Attn: Joe Woodson, Jr.  
Suite 160, Victory Building  
1401 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

*Dear Board,*

I want to participate in the conversation regarding redistricting, particularly the possibility of a Hispanic district in NWA.

I fully support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA based on the Majority/Minority standards.

I do not support the creation of a Hispanic District in NWA. — *By creating a separate district, you give the impression of Segregation instead of integration.*

I support a different view:

*Step back-wards instead of stepping forward.*

I appreciate your attention and acceptance of my opinion.

Sincerely,

*Sharon Weber*

Name: Sharon Weber

City: Bentonville AR