

EXHIBIT H

**REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM
JULY 6 AT 1:00P.M.**

Overview: This is the organizational meeting for the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Committee. Enclosed are the press release issued by the Governor's Office on Monday and the materials for the meeting.

Suggested Comments: As you know (probably better than I do), the redistricting process is going to be closely scrutinized by the media and interest groups across the spectrum, primarily because the process itself is inherently political. Since most observers approach redistricting with an innate distrust, your comments should veer away from the more political aspects of the process. Your comments should emphasize that the process will:

- Be open and transparent,
- Provide ample opportunity for the citizens of Maryland to participate, and
- Result in maps that reflect changes that have occurred over the past decade.

Your comments should not fuel speculation about who is "on the chopping block," which will feed the media's fascination with the "winners and losers" aspect of this process. Please see the attached articles from the *Baltimore Sun* and the *Annapolis Capital* for examples of the flames you do not want to flame today.

If you are asked about the Maryland GOP's proposed redistricting map, take the opportunity to underscore the public process. Suggested comments: "Maryland Republicans are putting the cart before the horse. It's great that they've produced a map before we've held our first public hearing – but this process is about gathering input from the citizens of Maryland *before* we produce a map."

If you are asked about the congressional districts, take the opportunity to underscore the public process. Suggested comments: "There are literally thousands of people in Washington who get paid to talk about this stuff – and they're going to make predictions about the outcome until the ink is dry on the maps. While I'm obviously a proponent of helping my party, I don't think it's appropriate to talk about what the districts are going to look like until we get out there and hear from the citizens of Maryland."



If you are asked about Frank Kratovil, don't take the bait. Suggested comments: "Frank Kratovil did a great job for the residents of the First District, but he didn't carry a single county in the district in 2010. We're not drawing these districts for any one politician or for the next election. We're going to do our best to balance the needs and interests of communities around this state."

If you are asked about the Court's decision ten years ago, be circumspect. Do not take the opportunity to talk about the Court itself. Suggested comments: "We're going to follow *all* of the applicable federal and state laws in order to produce the best possible map for the citizens of Maryland."

If you are asked about the Senate's process for redistricting, you will announce a special committee on redistricting that will be chaired by Senator Robey. That committee will hold public hearings on the Governor's proposals once they are formally introduced.

Above all else, downplay politics. This process is going to be open and transparent. It's going to provide ample opportunity for the citizens of Maryland to participate. It will result in districts that reflect the changes that have occurred over the past decade.