

EXHIBIT K

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING PLAN
AND
LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PLAN

Frederick County - Hood College
JULY 23, 2011 2:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

CHAIRPERSON JEAN HITCHCOCK

PRESIDENT MIKE MILLER

SPEAKER MIKE BUSH

DELEGATE JAMES KING

SPEAKERS :

SENATOR JIM GETTY

JOE KELLY

SENATOR DAVID BRINKLEY

ROBERT KRESSLEIN

DAN RUPLI

MYRNA WHITWORTH

ANDREW DUCK

BOYCE RENSBERGER

TOM SLATER

DELEGATE SUE HECHT

- - -

communities, and I think bring all the representatives together on that. And again, I think three-member delegate seats would certainly be appropriate, too. Thank you.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: All right. Thank you, Senator. Our next speaker is Bob Kresslein.

MR. KRESSLEIN: Good afternoon, Madame Chairman -- Woman and Speaker, Mr. President, Delegate. My name's Bob Kresslein. I live in Middletown, Maryland. I am involved with the state Democratic party, but I'm here speaking on my own behalf today. I'd like to address two points. First, with respect to the Congressional districting, we'd like -- I'd like to see you consider a couple of different factors. One is, sort of the communities of interest that we have. Senator Brinkley indicated -- you know -- if you look at Carroll County and west, there's a lot of similarity, but I would also posit that if you go south and east, you're going to find a

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lot of things in common. If you look at, historically, upper Montgomery County, look toward Frederick, for many, many years, that area has picked up quite a lot of population. And if you look at transportation patterns, you'll see that -- you know -- 70 and 270 combine right here in Frederick County. And if you're on that road every day going to work, you know there's an awful lot of people from Washington County, even into Pennsylvania and West Virginia and Virginia that get on that road and go on into Montgomery County to work or into Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

So if you look at the way people live and the orientation that they have geographically, in the state, I would say that northern Montgomery County would be a good place to -- if you're going to move the district lines. Also, if you look at media markets, I mean, one of the things that you have in a Congressional campaign is the ability to communicate

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with voters. Those of us here in Frederick County and west primarily in our media from Washington, D.C. market, if you look -- where, if you've got a satellite T.V., you're pretty much getting channels 4, 9, and 7. That's what you're going to get your local news. Many more people get the Washington Post than the Baltimore Sun. There are a lot of Redskin fans out here, but there's a lot of Ravens fans, too.

So, I think if you look -- you've got the Mark train that goes right down the river, so I think if you look at the Congressional District, you'll see that, certainly, when you compare that to upper Baltimore County and Harford County, and with the population changes, and you're going to have to pick up or move that line somewhere, where are you going to move it, over to Cecil County? Then, you're going to have basically a district that runs from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh along the Mason Dixon Line, and I mean, that's kind of -- I don't know that we have a lot of

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communities of interest in that regard. So, I would ask you to try to make the district a little bit more compact, as opposed to being as spread out as it is, to take those things into account.

With respect to Legislative Districts, I think it's been stated by the Senator and Delegate -- the Senators that, certainly, to the extent that you can keep the Senate Districts within the county lines, I think I would agree with that wholeheartedly. District 3 is -- probably got more excess population in it than almost any Senate District in the state at this point, so that district is probably going to be compact -- somewhat more compact, and that ought to be Senate around Frederick City. And I think as Mr. Kelly said, a three-member district makes sense. You may want to consider with District 4, like they mentioned earlier, to keep that in Frederick County, but how that's aligned, whether or not it makes sense to have single-member districts for District 4, it

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extent possible, and leave Montgomery -- excuse me -- leave Harford, Baltimore, and even portions of Carroll for a Baltimore-oriented district. Thank you very much.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Myrna Whitworth? Ms. Whitworth? Okay.

MS. WHITWORTH: Good afternoon.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon.

MS. WHITWORTH: I'm speaking to you very much as a partisan Democrat. I rep-- I'm chair of the Democratic party here in Frederick County, and I'm speaking from that perspective. My job is to turn Frederick blue and hopefully the Sixth Congressional District along with it. I have been here a very short time, only nine years, which, in Frederick County, is only yesterday. I come from the Fifth Congressional and Steny Hoyer. And believe me, it's a lot easier being a Democrat in Prince George's County than it is here in Frederick County. However, we are making

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strides. We are building the party. We have an active volunteer organization, and we expect to make inroads, and your decisions here that you present to the Governor will have a large impact on how well we do.

In 2010, we, like so many others, didn't do well. But, as I say, we are growing the party, and we're prepared to work very hard in 2012. But we have had problems with trying to get Congressional candidates elected, particularly since the 2002 redistricting. And despite heroic efforts by our Congressional candidates, they have been at a severe disadvantage. And because of that, they have not received the support of the state or national party. And we also feel that it has negatively impacted down ballot candidates for us.

I also understand that you and this commission are looking at two factors, diversity and national natural and political boundaries or -- and I

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strongly believe that if you look at those, you will find that our current configuration, as others here today have indicated, makes little sense. Historic -- right now, Frederick is the gateway to Western Maryland. It's the largest population center, and among Frederick County residents are those people from Urbana, who very much look south. Frederick County, many of the people here look south, go down the 270 corridor and have businesses and jobs in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area. And so, to look at Frederick and west, as well as to look at Frederick south, gives a much more natural boundary to what the Sixth Congressional District should look like.

In terms of diversity, no Sixth Congressional District is going to be representative of the state. It's just a matter of fact. But let me just give you one statistic, if I may. If you look at Carroll County, for instance, if you would lob off Carroll County and Northern Baltimore and Northern

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Harford County, you would have a better chance of breaching the diversity that we are -- you hopefully are looking at. Carroll County, for instance, if you look at it, is a 92.9 percent white population in a state that's only 48.2 percent white. The African American population in Carroll County is only 3.2, with a state average of 29.4. The Hispanic population is 2.6, the Asian population is 1.4, both well below the state average. I'm not suggesting that Frederick County is a whole lot better, but I do know that looking to the northeast of the state will not improve that diversity. Looking to the south will, and I hope you will take into consideration those aspects as you come up with your recommendations. Give us a fighting chance to win, to work and to change the composition of the Sixth Congressional District. Thank you.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Chris Hickenpuler (phonetic). Is -- okay. Chris Hickenpuler? Unless I'm not pronouncing that person's

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name correctly. Okay, let's move on to Andrew Duck.

MR. DUCK: First of all, thank you for coming to Frederick. I also saw you out in Hancock this morning. I appreciate you coming out to Western Maryland and taking our input. I speak to you --

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Excuse me -- you know -- they're asking me to have you pull that out and speak directly into it, because we are getting --

MR. DUCK: Is this better?

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: -- a record of it.

MR. DUCK: Well, I was just thanking you for coming here. I speak to you today as someone who has run for Congress in the district as it is currently configured, been the nominee twice. And so, for the last six years, I have gone across the Sixth District of Maryland, all the way from Friendsville and Garrett County to Dublin and Harford County, and when it comes to communities of interest, those two communities have nothing really in common. The folks in Garrett County

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are not even in the Chesapeake Bay drainage area. They're -- they get very mad about the flush tax, because they're trying to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, when their sewage flows out through the Mississippi.

The folks in Harford County are very much concerned about the bay. They live right next to it. The differences between mountain Maryland and even central Maryland are vast, and these district -- this district, because it's over 220 miles east to west, makes it very difficult logistically for one Congressman to represent that whole district. It makes it difficult for a candidate to reach out to voters across that district. Voter contact is particularly difficult in Harford and Baltimore County, because those voters who are in the northern part of that county have their center of life in Baltimore. And if you're trying to do an event where you're doing voter contact, you don't contact voters there, because they're all down in Baltimore. You go

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to Baltimore to contact them, you're contacting more out-of-district voters than in-district voters. So the way that those counties are split makes it very problematic. And so, I would encourage they be organized into a district that is more suitable to keep those communities together with the Baltimore community.

Carroll County is also interesting, and I note that even in your map of Legislative Districts, you have the western part of Carroll County shown here with Western Maryland, but not the eastern part. And I think that that's reflective of the pattern of life of the people who live in Carroll County. The folks on the eastern side live in -- they work in Baltimore, live in Carroll County, and so they really are very different from the folks in the western half of Carroll County. This is what I've found as I've gone out and talked to people.

Frederick and Washington County have really

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become part of the Washington suburbs, and I think, as such, the community of interest makes it more relevant for them to be lumped with Montgomery County than with people from Harford or Baltimore County. So I think, both in terms of making it viable for someone to reach the voters, and in terms of better representing the population, it would make more sense to re-orient the district to include more of Montgomery County and less -- and none of Harford and Baltimore and less of Carroll, as you put those communities in with the Baltimore County area that they are naturally a part of.

Those are my comments. Thank you for your opportunity to speak.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: All right. Thank you. Holly House? Holly House? Going once, twice. I think this is Boyce Rensberger? Did I pronounce your name correctly, sir?

MR. RENSBERGER: Closer than most people get

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DELEGATE HECHT: Both, yes.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Okay, five minutes.

DELEGATE HECHT: Thank you.

MADAME CHAIRPERSON: Okay, all right.

DELEGATE HECHT: I believe I come to you with a unique perspective and background, as a retired state legislator serving District 3, Frederick and Washington Counties for eight years, and then after that, after the redistricting, serving District 3A and Frederick County for four years. While Frederick County is my county of choice since 1975, my county of birth is Montgomery County. I was born, raised, educated, employed, became a mother -- and a wife and a mother, I should say it that way, in Montgomery County for nearly 30 years. So in the 1970s, my young family, as thousands of people, especially the baby boomers, moved up north, up west, north and west on the 270 corridor, so we could afford the American dream; i.e., a house and a little patch of land.

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During the 1970s and continuing until the economic downturn recently, Washington -- Frederick and Washington County have seen a huge increase of Maryland citizens migrating, mostly from the Washington Metropolitan Area, especially Montgomery County, as we did.

It's my experience that Frederick County and the greater Hagerstown area, especially along the I-270 corridor, increasingly identifies itself with the exurbia of the Washington D.C., not Baltimore City and its suburbs. Even though Frederick is in the enviable position of sitting 50 miles as an apex of both Washington and Baltimore City triangle, the more new Western Maryland residents maintain close ties with Montgomery County and D.C. area, not as much with the Baltimore. Let me give you just a couple of examples. We've heard about the thousands of commuters that come down I-270 and Route 15, coming through Frederick. They're most of the majority -- vast majority of those

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folks are going to jobs in the Washington Metropolitan Area, not Baltimore. We've heard about our mass transit links that go to Washington through the Mark, not Baltimore. Frederick is part of the Greater Washington initiative and an affiliate of the Greater Washington Board of Trade, marketing the Greater Washington Area.

We are not included in the similar Greater Baltimore initiative, even though we love Don Fry (phonetic). Frederick is part of WASHCOG, or the Washington Council of Governments, a regional organization of Washington area local governments surrounding our nation's capital, plus members in the Maryland and Virginia legislatures. The Bureau of Labor statistics and the U.S. standard -- U.S. Census Bureau count Frederick among the Bethesda, Rockville, Frederick, Maryland, Metropolitan Division.

The years that I served in the General Assembly, I worked closely with the folks in

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Montgomery County on economic development. One example is a former County Executive Doug Duncan, and I did develop the Frederick -- excuse me -- the Potomac Technology Corridor that runs from Montgomery County up 270, up I-66, as a way to expand our biotechnology business, and it was folks from Montgomery County that helped make sure that when MedImmune and Montgomery County had to expand and couldn't find a place in Montgomery County, Doug Duncan said, "There is no such thing as county lines between Frederick and Wash-- Frederick and Montgomery County," and made sure that MedImmune expanded here in Frederick County, not out of our state.

So those are just a couple of examples. So my suggestion, and I hope that we return Montgomery County -- the upper part of Montgomery County, move it into Frederick County as it was before. Now, very quickly, I'd like to talk about the legislative state districts, because I have served as a state legislator

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in two different districts, within two different sections. When I first was elected in '94, I was in an at-large district called District 3 that was Frederick and Washington County. There was three of us serving, and the way it was drawn, no Washington County resident could have a chance of winning that district. It was just too heavily populated in the Frederick area. It was hard to serve when you are serving in another county that has a very different reference. It has changed somewhat now that we are much more alike, but -- and then, the next time when I ran, it was in a two-member district, mostly Frederick City and 3A, because of redistricting had drawn it.

So I would like to say if you can possibly make the population, the legislative population so that you are in their county, it is much better for the residents, it is easier to serve for the legislators, but mostly, it is more representative for

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Washington County Middle-Hancock High School

JULY 23, 2011 11:00 A.M.

SPEAKERS:

HOWARD GORRELL

ELIZABETH PAUL

SENATOR CHRIS SHANK

KAYE ROBUCCI

SENATOR GEORGE EDWARDS

Congressional districts are completely very important.

So, my final word, on (indiscernible) hearing. Do you have any questions?

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Thank you so much. I'm sorry, no time is left. But I have your presentation. I have your presentation. Thank you.

Okay. Our next speaker will Ms. Elizabeth Paul. Good morning, Ms. Paul.

MS. PAUL: Hi. And I have a copy for you.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Okay.

MS. PAUL: Good morning. I'm Elizabeth Paul. I'm going to talk about the Congressional District. I live in (indiscernible) and I'm Chair of the Washington County Democratic Central Committee.

We need a sixth Congressional District that's not a patchwork of odds and ends of the different counties, but rather one that makes sense and shares more than the Mason Dixon Line. This district currently spans a distance of, you know, 200

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miles across the northern part of the state. Unless the district is approached southeast instead, it's likely the population changes could push it all the way into Cecil County elongating the district even more.

When the State decides the population of Maryland, that just doesn't make sense. Until recently, you all heard that Montgomery County is part of our district and historically that region has had close ties to the Frederick area, as well as the western counties up here, and certainly more so than upper Baltimore and Harford County which were added in 2002.

Residents in the more populated parts of the sixth district are more aligned with Washington, D.C. suburbs by transportation routes such as I-270 and the MARC Commuter Trains, by employment in the D.C. Metro area and Northern Montgomery County as opposed to Baltimore suburbs or Harford County. We are linked by

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media outlets including print and television.

For example, many more people subscribe to the Washington Post than the Baltimore Sun in this area. The TV markets include us in the Greater D.C. Metro area and not Baltimore, unlike Carroll, upper Baltimore and Harford. The Potomac River and population along it is a more natural sixth district boundary to the Mason Dixon Line at this time. Please make the boundaries of the Sixth District more logical, creating a more unified region. Thank you.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Thank you. And do you have a copy for me? Okay. Thank you.

MS. PAUL: I can get them and give them to you.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: All right. Our next speaker is Senator Chris Shank.

SENATOR SHANK: We have a man on the way here, too. Good morning, Madam Secretary and Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and Delegate. It's a pleasure

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