



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

MAR 14 2012

The Honorable E. Duncan Getchell, Jr.
Solicitor General
Office of the Attorney General
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Solicitor General Getchell:

This refers to Chapter 1 (H.B. 251) (2012), which redistricts the congressional districts for the State of Virginia, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submission on February 2, 2012; additional information was received on February 6, 2012.

The Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the specified change. However, we note that Section 5 expressly provides that the failure of the Attorney General to object does not bar subsequent litigation to enjoin the enforcement of the change. Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 28 C.F.R. 51.41.

Because the Section 5 status of the redistricting plan is before the court in *Virginia v. Holder*, Civil Action No. 1:12-cv-00148 (D.D.C.), we are providing a copy of this letter to the Court and to counsel of record in that case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. E. Perez", written in a cursive style.

Thomas E. Perez
Assistant Attorney General