

**McLeod, Eric M (22257)**

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**From:** Jim Troupis [jtroupis@trouplawoffice.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2011 12:36 PM  
**To:** Adam Foltz; tad ottman; joseph handrick; McLeod, Eric M (22257); Taffora, Raymond P (22244)  
**Subject:** RE: In case you missed this

Interesting comments in that the 'process' still dominates. Also, we now can be certain what they are saying which is a major plus.

Notice the absence of the 50% Senate district claim and the claim that we've left Latino's out. Thus, the alternative of simply redrawing within the area remains a real possibility.

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**From:** Adam Foltz [mailto:[adamfoltz@gmail.com](mailto:adamfoltz@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2011 12:32 PM  
**To:** tad ottman; joseph handrick; Eric McLeod; Taffora, Raymond P (22244); Jim Troupis  
**Subject:** In case you missed this

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/126095648.html>





# Latino district split decried

## State Assembly map divides Chavez Drive

By [Georgia Pabst](#) of the Journal Sentinel

July 24, 2011 | [\(12\) Comments](#)

The new redistricting plan that won final approval last week by the state Assembly divides a portion of Cesar Chavez Drive, the heart of the Latino community in Milwaukee, down the middle and puts it in two Assembly districts.

"Cutting Cesar Chavez Drive is disheartening to me," said state Rep. JoCasta Zamarripa (D-Milwaukee), who represents the 8th District that currently includes all of Chavez Drive.

"This is an example of the insensitivity to communities of interest and an example of why deference should be given municipalities because they're closer and can draw wards to conform to the lives of everyday people and take into account neighborhoods," said Peter Earle, a Latino attorney who is part of the Latino Redistricting Committee, a coalition of organizations active in the city's aldermanic redistricting plan.

The new state plan puts the giant El Rey grocery store in the 9th District, currently represented by state Rep. Josh Zepnick (D-Milwaukee). It places Chavez Drive between National Ave. and Scott St., an area of about four blocks, in the 9th District.

The bigger issue with the state's redistricting plan, which Gov. Scott Walker has not yet signed, is the lightning speed with which it was adopted, Zamarripa said.

"There was no time for public input from local governments or the local community and in doing that our Latino community was disregarded," Zamarripa said.

The new plan increases the Hispanic voting population in the 8th District from about 58% to 60% and the Hispanic voting population in the 9th District from 22.9% to 54%.

"They didn't do me any favors because the Latino community is growing and I believe it could have reached a more effective majority of 70%," she said.

But the Legislature's plan received the support of Hispanics for Leadership, a group that was active in Milwaukee County's redistricting plan.

The 8th Assembly District is already a Latino district and has a Latina representative, said Zeus Rodriguez, of Hispanics for Leadership, who said he also wishes more time given to the process.

Splitting part of Chavez Drive into two districts is not a problem if both sides are Hispanic, he said. That

would allow the 9th District to increase its Latino voting age population percentage faster, he said.

But Earle, who said Friday he's still reviewing the map, said he believes the new plan "has serious problems" because "there's a great possibility that it dilutes the Latino vote and could violate the Voting Rights Act Section 2" that prohibits minority vote dilution that could weaken the voting strength of minorities.

The 60% and 54% majority plan in the two districts does not create effective Latino majority districts, he said. "Under the current map imposed on us there are two influence districts, as opposed to a single solid majority Latino district."

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