

# EX. 8

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

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In Raleigh, North Carolina  
Friday, August 4, 2017  
Reported by Robbie W. Worley

Worley Reporting  
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1                   REP. LEWIS: Good morning. The Joint  
2                   Select Committee on Redistricting will come to  
3                   order. The Chair is pleased to welcome the members  
4                   and guests that are here. The Chair appreciates  
5                   the assistance of our Sergeants-at-Arms in  
6                   preparing and maintaining this meeting. From the  
7                   House, Reggie Sills, Warren Hawkins, Rey Cooke,  
8                   Dean Marshbourne. From the Senate, Hal Roach,  
9                   Linda Matthews, John Enloe, and Terry Edmondson.  
10                  The Chair is also pleased to welcome our court  
11                  reporter today, Robbie Worley. The Chair thanks  
12                  the central staff for their effort in preparing for  
13                  today's meeting.

14                  The purpose of today's meeting will be to  
15                  discuss criteria to remedy the ruling of the  
16                  Covington court that was issued to us in an order  
17                  on July 31st of this year.

18                  Today's meeting will proceed as follows.  
19                  There's going to be a presentation regarding the  
20                  county groupings. We are then going to receive  
21                  input from other members of the committee on  
22                  criteria that should be considered. And at that  
23                  point, we're going to move to a time to receive  
24                  input from the public. The public will be asked to  
25                  make their remarks in a two-minute time frame. The

1 Chair would point out that there was an advance  
2 sign-up outside. The Chair has directed that that  
3 sign-up remain open for the -- at least another 30  
4 minutes in case some people have not yet arrived.

5 The Chair would point out that we have  
6 also opened up committee room 544 in this building.  
7 This meeting is only being livestreamed online. It  
8 is being broadcast in that room as well. If there  
9 are people in room 544, we welcome them, and we  
10 will, if they are signed up to speak, will be  
11 calling their name so that they do not miss their  
12 opportunity to speak.

13 At this time, the Chair is going to yield  
14 the chair to Chairman Dollar.

15 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you, Chairman Lewis.  
16 And we also remind you, maybe a little bit unlike  
17 our normal meetings, if you seek recognition for a  
18 question or a comment as a member, as a member, you  
19 need to identify yourself for the court reporter  
20 for the record that's being taken. So the  
21 gentleman from Harnett County is recognized for his  
22 presentation.

23 REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 I'm David Lewis, the senior chair of the House  
25 Redistricting Committee. I'd like to talk with the

1 members and our guests here today about the various  
2 criteria that will be considered. The primary  
3 purpose of my presentation is to talk about two of  
4 the criteria that we know that we will need to  
5 operate under.

6 The first one we discussed last week is  
7 the one person, one vote requirement, and for your  
8 records, in the House, of 120 members, the ideal  
9 population based on the 2010 Census is 79,462  
10 people. For the Senate, under the 2010 population,  
11 the ideal population is 190,710 people. There is a  
12 plus or minus five percent variance that can be  
13 applied to these figures.

14 My presentation is going to focus now on  
15 county groupings. All of you were distributed last  
16 week a map that is labeled "2010 Census Population  
17 by County." It looks like this. This shows the  
18 2010 Census population for North Carolina's 100  
19 counties.

20 I'd like to talk about the Stephenson  
21 rule that will be applied in the drawing of these  
22 maps. First of all, groupings of counties, which  
23 we'll discuss in a moment, but groupings of  
24 counties must be filled with whole districts.  
25 Districts may not deviate in total population by

1 more than plus or minus five percent from the ideal  
2 population, and districts within groupings must  
3 have a -- must have the least possible number of  
4 crossings over adjacent county boundaries. Next  
5 slide, please.

6 Groupings drawn under this rule are  
7 primarily generated using a mathematical, formulaic  
8 process. Next slide, please.

9 Here is how the grouping process develops  
10 using the 2010 Census data for the county  
11 populations. Next slide.

12 Members, the counties that you see here  
13 that are highlighted in purple are single-county  
14 groups. That means that districts can be drawn  
15 within these counties, and districts must be drawn  
16 within these counties without including expansion  
17 into other counties. The purple indicates one-  
18 county groups. Next slide, please.

19 The red color that you see indicates two-  
20 county groups. That means if you -- in order to  
21 reach the ideal House population, you have to  
22 combine two counties in order to draw the  
23 districts. Next slide, please.

24 The yellow or orange indicates three-  
25 county groupings. Next slide, please.

1                   The bright yellow indicates a four-county  
2                   grouping under the Stephenson criteria. The green  
3                   indicates a five-county grouping under the  
4                   Stephenson criteria. The dark green indicates a  
5                   six-county grouping, and finally, the blue color is  
6                   a seven-county grouping in the middle of our state.

7                   Mr. Chairman, I'd like to ask that the  
8                   House and Senate Sergeant-at-Arms distribute the  
9                   exhibits that are labeled "County Groupings for  
10                  2017 House Plan" and "County Groupings for 2017  
11                  Senate Plan" to the members of the committee at  
12                  this time.

13                  REP. DOLLAR: The Sergeant-at-Arms will  
14                  be directed to distribute the materials.

15                  (Pause.)

16                  REP. LEWIS: Members, the Chair would --  
17                  pardon me. I would point out that the  
18                  illustrations that we've shown are just for the  
19                  House to show you how the counties are grouped in  
20                  the House. The maps that are being distributed  
21                  also show the county groupings for the Senate; we  
22                  just did not place them in the PowerPoint  
23                  presentation.

24                  Mr. Chairman, I believe there are extras.  
25                  We have members that are here that may not be on

1 the committee; if the Sergeant-at-Arms could give  
2 those to them as well.

3 (Pause.)

4 Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I'll  
5 continue my remarks.

6 REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman is  
7 recognized.

8 REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
9 Mr. Chairman, I would point out that the county  
10 groupings that we have discussed is a mandatory  
11 requirement and is based on math. The maps that  
12 are presented to you are our best efforts to  
13 determine what the ideal county groupings should  
14 be. If there are alternative ways to exceed the  
15 county groupings that we have provided here, where  
16 more one-counties are created, or more two-  
17 counties, or more three-counties, et cetera, I  
18 would ask that members please submit those so that  
19 they can be reviewed before and included in the  
20 discussion of our meeting on next Thursday.

21 I would point out that the county  
22 grouping rule is the strongest constitutional  
23 requirement anywhere in the country. This guides  
24 us in being able to draw fair districts, and again,  
25 if members are able to determine a better county

1           grouping that complies with the requirements, we  
2           look forward to reviewing them.

3                     Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I  
4           request that the Sergeant-at-Arms distribute what  
5           is labeled map 6. It reads, "Comparison of 2011  
6           enacted to optimum House county maps," and also map  
7           3, which reads, "Comparison of 2011 enacted to  
8           optimum Senate county groups."

9                     REP. DOLLAR: The Sergeant-at-Arms will  
10          distribute the materials requested.

11                    (Pause.)

12                    REP. LEWIS: And, Mr. Chairman, as  
13          before, the members that are present that are not  
14          on the committee, I would request that they receive  
15          these maps as well. And further, Mr. Chairman, if  
16          there are extra maps once the members have received  
17          theirs, if we could make plans to distribute those  
18          to the members of the public who are here at the  
19          conclusion of the meeting.

20                    REP. DOLLAR: So ordered.

21                    REP. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, I believe most  
22          members have their maps now. May I continue my  
23          presentation?

24                    REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman may proceed.

25                    REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1                   Members, the map that you have before you  
2                   that is labeled map 6, "Comparison of 2011 Enacted  
3                   to Optimum House County Groups," and map 3, which  
4                   reads, "Comparison of 2011 Enacted to Optimum  
5                   Senate County Groupings," this comes from a public  
6                   court filing that was made on October 31st of 2016.  
7                   I would point out that the county groupings map  
8                   that you just received, which showed what we  
9                   believe to be the optimum county groupings, those  
10                  groupings also appear on this map.

11                  The areas that are in green are county  
12                  groups that are unaffected by the court ruling and  
13                  will not require a remedy. In plainer speak, that  
14                  means that the areas in green will not require a  
15                  redraw of the districts.

16                  The area in yellow, these are unaffected  
17                  county groupings, but districts within those  
18                  groupings will require remedies.

19                  The areas in white are areas in which  
20                  both the county grouping has changed and will  
21                  require the districts to be modified within them.

22                  Mr. Chairman, I think at this time, only  
23                  on my presentation, if there are questions on my  
24                  presentation, I'd be glad to take them at this  
25                  time.

1 REP. DOLLAR: Representative Michaux?

2 REP. MICHAUX: Yes. Would you explain  
3 the numerical identification on these maps?

4 REP. DOLLAR: And if you will hold for  
5 just a moment, Chairman Lewis. Representative  
6 Michaux, if you would identify yourself by name and  
7 county for the record.

8 REP. MICHAUX: Representative Michaux,  
9 Durham County.

10 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you, sir.

11 REP. MICHAUX: Give us the definition of  
12 the numerical numbers -- the numbers on these maps.

13 REP. LEWIS: Representative Michaux,  
14 thank you for that question. I should have pointed  
15 that out.

16 Members, if you'll refer, just to make it  
17 easier, if you'll refer to the map that reads  
18 "County Groupings for 2017 House Plan," what  
19 Representative Michaux has asked, the county  
20 groupings have a code in them. The code contains  
21 three numbers. The first number is simply an  
22 identifier of the county group. What's more  
23 important and helps us do our jobs, the second  
24 number, for instance, let me use an exact example  
25 here.

1                   If you'll look in the eastern part of our  
2                   state, the county grouping that includes Currituck,  
3                   Dare, Hyde and Pamlico, you'll see that the second  
4                   number in there is 04. That means there are four  
5                   counties in that grouping. The third number that  
6                   is in that, 01, means that those four counties  
7                   create one seat. So that means four counties, one  
8                   seat.

9                   To go to the middle of our state, if  
10                  you'll look at Wake County, which is one of the  
11                  counties in purple, that's a one-county group,  
12                  you'll notice that the second number there is 01.  
13                  That means it's a one-county group. The third  
14                  number is 11; that means that it creates 11 seats  
15                  within that one county. The same is true on the  
16                  Senate map.

17                  REP. DOLLAR: Further members wishing to  
18                  ask questions of Chairman Lewis at this time?  
19                  Seeing none.

20                  REP. LEWIS: With that, Mr. Chairman, I  
21                  will conclude my remarks, and I know that you will  
22                  recognize members of the committee that wish to  
23                  offer criteria to be considered.

24                  REP. DOLLAR: Members, are there any  
25                  members wishing recognition for the purpose of

1 providing criteria to be considered in the -- in  
2 the drawing of the map? I don't see anyone wishing  
3 to be recognized at this time. Senator Smith-  
4 Ingram?

5 SEN. SMITH-INGRAM: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
6 Senator Smith-Ingram, Senate District 3, eight  
7 counties, eastern North Carolina. I wish to submit  
8 criteria to be considered.

9 REP. DOLLAR: So, does the lady have --  
10 you're submitting this written comment. Did you  
11 have copies, or did you want to add further  
12 explanation to this, or just -- what does the lady  
13 desire?

14 SEN. SMITH-INGRAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
15 I'd like for copies to be distributed.

16 REP. DOLLAR: Does the Sergeant-at-Arms  
17 have copies for distribution? (Pause.)

18 We'll have them made and distributed.  
19 Did you -- Madam Senator, did you wish any -- any  
20 comment at this time in addition to your --

21 SEN. SMITH-INGRAM: Not at this time.  
22 Thank you.

23 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Other members?  
24 Senator Clark.

25 SEN. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I've

1 already submitted some recommendations in writing,  
2 but I do have one additional recommendation I would  
3 like to speak to, and I will submit it in writing  
4 later if that's appropriate.

5 REP. DOLLAR: And I didn't catch -- I  
6 apologize for not hearing. If you would identify  
7 yourself for the record.

8 SEN. CLARK: Sorry. Senator Clark,  
9 Senate District 21.

10 REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman will proceed  
11 with his comments.

12 SEN. CLARK: Okay. Currently -- and this  
13 is essentially a process requirement or a  
14 recommendation. Currently, on the North Carolina  
15 General Assembly website, we have the ability to go  
16 and find out who represents me, what I -- excuse  
17 me. What I ask that the committee do is make  
18 available to the citizens of North Carolina a  
19 capability, once we provide a map for them to  
20 review, a capability for them to go onto the  
21 website and see who would represent me under the  
22 new maps that are being proposed for enactment.

23 REP. DOLLAR: Noted. Thank you very much  
24 for the recommendation. Other -- other members  
25 seeking recognition at this time? Representative

1           Mi chaux.

2                           REP. MI CHAUX:   Representati ve Mi chaux  
3           from Durham again.   This goes back to  
4           Representati ve Lewi s' s presentati on, i f you don' t  
5           mi nd.   Could you clear up j ust one or two other  
6           matters on the maps i nvolvi ng the county groupings?  
7           Actual ly, j ust one matter.

8                           REP. LEWIS:   I' ll be glad to yi eld, Mr.  
9           Chai rman.

10                          REP. MI CHAUX:   Representati ve Lewi s, l et  
11           me be clear, and so the commi ttee wi ll be clear, i t  
12           needs to i denti fy these code numbers i n here.   And  
13           I' m parti cular ly i nterested i n the -- the second  
14           two, the second number and the thi rd number.   For  
15           i nstance, i n Wake County, that' s a one-county  
16           groupi ng.   You' ve got 11.   That county i s -- there  
17           are 11 representati ves i n that one county, comi ng  
18           out of that one county.   You have not made any  
19           designati ons as to how those 11 are to be elected,  
20           have you, yet?

21                          REP. LEWIS:   Thank you for that questi on,  
22           Representati ve.   No, we have made no designati ons  
23           for how those 11 seats woul d be desi gned, and wi ll  
24           not do so unti l after thi s commi ttee adopt s  
25           cri teri a next week.

1                   REP. DOLLAR: And for the record, that's  
2                   Representative Lewis responding. Representative  
3                   Michaux, you have a follow-up?

4                   REP. MICHAUX: Yes. The other question  
5                   is, for instance, in a two-county grouping, we're  
6                   looking at that each representative representing  
7                   79,400 and some-odd people. For example, in a two-  
8                   county grouping, what are the mathematics in that?  
9                   For instance, you've got Durham and Chatham  
10                  together. What are the mathematics in that two-  
11                  county grouping, to get to that 79,000 that the  
12                  four representatives will represent?

13                  May I follow up? You understand, it's  
14                  easier to do it for a one-county group, but for a  
15                  two-county group, how many are coming out of one  
16                  county, how many are coming out of another county?

17                  REP. LEWIS: Thank you for that question,  
18                  Representative Michaux. And again, this is David  
19                  Lewis from Harnett County. The question you asked  
20                  is regarding the 2017 House Plan map that was  
21                  passed out, I believe, right? There are 33,000 --  
22                  pardon me. There are 3000-and -- there are 331,092  
23                  people that comprise the total population of those  
24                  three counties that are linked there, Durham,  
25                  Orange and Chatham. If you divide that number by

1           the number that you've already said, the 79,492,  
2           that will yield four seats. But beyond that, I'm  
3           not sure I understand your question.

4                     REP. MICHAUX: May I follow up?

5                     REP. DOLLAR: Follow-up.

6                     REP. MICHAUX: Well, now, you've got me  
7           confused. Now, you said the three-county grouping.  
8           I'm looking at a two-county grouping with Durham  
9           and Chatham, right? And not Orange?

10                    REP. LEWIS: Representative Michaux,  
11           thank you for correcting me, sir. I'm looking at  
12           the same map you are. I simply glanced down and  
13           didn't notice the -- for the record, the county  
14           groupings are illustrated with a thick black line,  
15           and there is indeed a thick black line between  
16           Orange and Durham; I just simply didn't see it.  
17           Yes, this is a two-county grouping, as you pointed  
18           out, sir.

19                    REP. MICHAUX: Follow-up. Representative  
20           Michaux again, follow-up.

21                    REP. DOLLAR: Follow-up.

22                    REP. MICHAUX: What I'm asking, for  
23           instance, taking that Durham-Chatham group, you've  
24           got four representatives. Each representative is  
25           supposed to represent 79,430-some-odd people. How

1           did you mathematically come up with Durham -- in  
2           other words, the total population between Durham  
3           County and Chatham County, does that exceed more  
4           than four times 79,000, or less than four times  
5           79,000?

6                         REP. LEWIS: Thank you for the question.  
7           Again, this is David Lewis. The population of  
8           Durham in 2010 was 267,587. The population of  
9           Chatham in 2010 was 63,505. That totals up to  
10          331,092. So if we divide that by the ideal  
11          population of 79,462, it equals 4.16, which would  
12          be within the plus or minus five percent range.

13                        REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman continues to  
14          be recognized for his questions.

15                        REP. MICHAUX: Thank you, sir.  
16          Representative Michaux from Durham. The figure you  
17          just gave me, 331,092, is the total population for  
18          both counties. Is that correct?

19                        REP. LEWIS: That is correct, sir.

20                        REP. MICHAUX: And if you've got four  
21          representatives representing that 331, doesn't that  
22          population come out to be somewhere around a little  
23          over 80-some thousand people there, which may be  
24          outside your five percent deviation?

25                        REP. LEWIS: No, sir, because again, it's

1           331,092. The ideal -- if there were -- if this was  
2           a congressional draw, and we were under absolute  
3           zero deviation rules, we would have to have every  
4           district the same size. But the Stephenson  
5           criteria has provided that there is a plus or minus  
6           five percent, and again, I can -- I'll be happy to  
7           go through the math on my phone here, like I was  
8           trying to do. But I -- what I have represented  
9           this map to be is what I believe to be the optimum  
10          county groupings for the House and the Senate.  
11          What I've asked the members to do is, if they find  
12          a more optimum map, to bring that map forward so  
13          that it can be reviewed.

14                   REP. DOLLAR: And as further explanation,  
15          Representative Michaux, and this is Chairman  
16          Dollar, staff has handed me, and you might want to  
17          write these numbers down. The ideal population for  
18          four members for House seats would be 317,884. The  
19          range, however, which is what Chairman Lewis is  
20          discussing, the range for four members would be  
21          anywhere from 301,956 to 333,740. That would be  
22          the range for a four-member grouping. Durham and  
23          Chatham together, as it has been mentioned, that's  
24          331,092. So that fits in that range.

25                   REP. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman?

1                   REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman is  
2                   recogni zed.

3                   REP. LEWIS: This is David Lewis. I'd  
4                   like to point out to the members that the last time  
5                   we met, we passed out a chart that's labeled "2010  
6                   Di stri ct Popul at ion Ranges and County Popul at ions."  
7                   We can certainly re-pass that out to the members,  
8                   but it shows the plus or minus five percent that  
9                   the chairman just referenced.

10                  REP. DOLLAR: Senator Clark.

11                  SEN. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
12                  Senator Clark, Senate Di stri ct 21. You indicated  
13                  on map 3 and map 6 that the clusters shown in green  
14                  did not require -- there is no requirement to  
15                  change them, nor is there a requirement to change  
16                  the districts within them. Is it the position of  
17                  the leadership of this committee and the leadership  
18                  of the General Assembly that the districts within  
19                  those particular clusters shall not be changed as a  
20                  part of this process?

21                  REP. LEWIS: This is David Lewis, and the  
22                  answer is yes.

23                  SEN. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

24                  REP. DOLLAR: Further questions from  
25                  members of the joint committee, or further offers

1 of criteria from members of the committee at this  
2 time? Senator Speciale -- I mean, Representative  
3 Speciale.

4 REP. SPECIALE: Yeah, don't demote me.  
5 Could we get a copy -- I know you gave a copy last  
6 week of those numbers, but could we get that? Not  
7 every one of us have them with us today.

8 REP. LEWIS: Yes, sir, we can get that --  
9 staff can get that for you. Representative  
10 Michaux.

11 REP. MICHAUX: Yeah, I'm still trying to  
12 get my mind clear. Representative Michaux, from  
13 Durham, Representative Lewis.

14 REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman may ask his  
15 question.

16 REP. MICHAUX. In response to Senator  
17 Clark's question, am I to understand that these  
18 counties on this House county group, the green  
19 counties will not be affected by what you-all are  
20 proposing to make changes with? Is that what I'm  
21 hearing?

22 REP. LEWIS: Thank you for the question.  
23 Again, this is David Lewis. Let me try to explain  
24 it a different way. We believe in the maps that  
25 were passed out that illustrate the optimum county

1           groupings, the ones labeled "County Groupings for  
2           2017 House Plan" and then "County Groupings for  
3           2017 Senate Plan, we believe that these are the  
4           ideal county groupings. We believe that if the  
5           ideal county groupings match the county groupings  
6           that were used in 2011, that no change would be  
7           required within those counties.

8                     REP. DOLLAR: Further questions at this  
9           time, or offers of criteria from the members?

10                    Thank you. Seeing none, the Sergeant at  
11           Arms will pass out the sheet entitled "IDS Policies  
12           2017 Restricting Operations." This sheet here.  
13           Committee will be at ease for just a moment while  
14           the Sergeant at Arms pass these out.

15                    REP. DOLLAR: Chairman Lewis is  
16           recognized.

17                    REP. LEWIS: Thank you. Mr. Chairman,  
18           this is not pertaining to the criteria but we felt  
19           it important to discuss it with the committee.  
20           This is the policies developed by the central staff  
21           and our information services division that we  
22           propose would govern access and empower members of  
23           the General Assembly and also the public that wish  
24           to directly participate in the drawing of districts  
25           that have access to the computers and the staff.

1           In short explanation, I would offer that this is  
2           the same policy that we used in 2016, and I believe  
3           the same policy that we used in 2011. If there are  
4           detailed questions on this, Mr. Chairman, I  
5           respectfully ask that they be directed to staff.

6                     REP. DOLLAR: Any questions on these  
7           procedures? And please know, as you look over  
8           these, you can always call staff later and contact  
9           them with any additional clarification that you  
10          might need.

11                    Okay. Seeing no questions on that --

12                    REP. LEWIS: Mr. Chairman.

13                    REP. DOLLAR: The chairman is recognized.

14                    REP. LEWIS: Thank you. This is David  
15          Lewis again. Members, for full disclosure, the  
16          Chairs are providing this as the direction that we  
17          have issued to staff. If there are concerns with  
18          it, please bring those to the Chairs. But we  
19          didn't want to share this so that you would all  
20          have access and that members of the public would  
21          have access and would be more enabled to utilize  
22          resources if they wish to directly participate in  
23          the drawing of districts.

24                    REP. DOLLAR: Senator Smith-Ingram.

25                    SEN. SMITH-INGRAM: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1           As relates to public access, when you provide the  
2           room for the general public that's here in Raleigh,  
3           are we going to be accommodating maybe some of  
4           those same opportunities when you go further east,  
5           for those in the public who cannot drive to  
6           Raleigh?

7                         REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman is  
8           recognized.

9                         REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
10          Senator, I appreciate the question. I also want to  
11          say that I appreciate your steadfast advocacy for  
12          the East. We have not in the past been able to  
13          provide actual physical resources offsite and will  
14          not be able to provide it this time as well. I  
15          would point out that there are several free  
16          websites, if you will, that allow people to access  
17          and draw maps, and we will certainly -- we did last  
18          time and would again receive and review those. So  
19          we will not be able to provide the actual physical  
20          resources offsite but we will certainly review maps  
21          that the public may draw using software that they  
22          can access online.

23                         REP. DOLLAR: Senator Clark.

24                         SEN. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
25          Senator. Senator Clark, Senate District 21.

1                   My question regards potential staff  
2                   report for the minority party with regard to  
3                   providing full-time, if you will, legislative  
4                   analysis division individual, to support us in  
5                   possibly the creation of our maps and  
6                   interpretation thereof and the creation of data.  
7                   And the reason I ask this is, due to no fault of  
8                   their own, they are under significant time  
9                   restraints. Often our attempts to avail ourselves  
10                  of those services are not successful. So I was  
11                  wondering if there was a possibility that we could  
12                  get a dedicated resource for that particular  
13                  purpose.

14                  REP. DOLLAR: The gentleman is  
15                  recognized.

16                  REP. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and  
17                  thank you for that question, Senator. The Chairs  
18                  have actually discussed that. As you know, our  
19                  central staff works very hard. They work very hard  
20                  to serve all of the members. We want very much to  
21                  facilitate as much involvement and participation in  
22                  the -- trying to reach an acceptable remedy for  
23                  this Court order.

24                  If the minority leaders in the House and  
25                  the Senate were to request that, I'm sure we could

1 make that occur. We would ask the Legislative  
2 Services officer to deal with that.

3 I also would point out that the Speaker  
4 and the President Pro Tem have also made an offer  
5 to the respective caucus leaders in the House and  
6 the Senate. If they wish to hire outside map-  
7 drawing aid, that has been offered as well.

8 REP. DOLLAR: Further questions. Seeing  
9 none, thank you.

10 Before we go to taking public comments  
11 and input on the criteria, are there any members  
12 wishing to make any further comments with regard or  
13 offer any criteria for the drawing at this time?

14 Well, with that, seeing no hands, we will  
15 begin the public comment portion of our committee  
16 meeting today. As -- just to remind everyone, we  
17 will keep decorum. If you have signs, please do  
18 not display them in any way in which they would  
19 block the view of someone behind you. There will  
20 be a two-minute time limit. Sergeant-at-Arms will  
21 keep that.

22 We will call out the first five  
23 individuals that there are, and we'll call them out  
24 five a time. If you would line up with the mic  
25 there in the back, and again, be sure to identify

1           yourself for the record, as a public record is  
2           being kept of this.

3                       I would also remind members, this is not  
4           an interactive period of time. Questions will not  
5           be taken of members of the public. This is our  
6           opportunity to listen to what they have to say in  
7           their presentations. Representative Floyd?

8                       REP. FLOYD: How many public speakers do  
9           we have signed up so far?

10                      REP. DOLLAR: To the Chair's view, it  
11           appears we have about -- roughly -- between 40 and  
12           45 speakers.

13                      REP. FLOYD: Thank you.

14                      REP. DOLLAR: We would also ask, to be  
15           certain that any of the groups -- if you are  
16           representing a group in particular, please identify  
17           that when you begin your comments. So at this  
18           time, we will call up to the mic in the back, the  
19           first five --

20                      Hold on just a moment. Representative  
21           Torbett.

22                      REP. TORBETT: Just to rehash a little  
23           bit, there was a document for Senator Smith-Ingram  
24           presented. Was it going to be copied and  
25           distributed?

1 SEN. DOLLAR: Yes, sir.

2 SEN. TORBIN: I'm just making sure that's  
3 going to happen.

4 SEN. DOLLAR: That will happen.

5 REP. TORBETT: A reminder. Thank you.

6 REP. DOLLAR: Yes, sir.

7 When the -- just to be clear with the  
8 Sergeant-at-Arms, if that item has been copied now,  
9 if you are ready, go ahead and distribute that. We  
10 will distribute that before we recognize our first  
11 group of folks.

12 Let me go ahead and call up the first  
13 group, and then we'll get this started once this  
14 sheet has been distributed to the members.

15 Ira Botvinick, Phyllis Demko, Steve Hall,  
16 Mike Jennings, Dr. Heather Simmon, if y'all will  
17 line up there. And I apologize if have  
18 mispronounced anyone's name. And if you'll hold  
19 for just one moment until the Sergeant-at-Arms has  
20 finished distributing their materials.

21 Also, to remind you in the back, you will  
22 need to make sure that the green light is on. Turn  
23 it on when you get ready.

24 Okay. Seeing the materials distributed,  
25 the gentleman, if you would identify yourself and

1           your comments not to exceed two minutes. The  
2           gentleman is recognized.

3                   IRA BOTVINICK: Thank you. I am a voter,  
4           always have voted. My name is Ira Botvinick. I  
5           reside in Wake County.

6                   I am angry about legislative districts  
7           that gerrymand [sic]. I am pissed that my tax  
8           dollars are being wasted to defect concocted  
9           legislative districts. I want my vote to matter.  
10          I did not come here to criticize Republicans. The  
11          truth is, the majority parties have gerrymanded.  
12          Gerrymanding is wrong, and it must stop now.

13                  Redistricting should foster to the great  
14          extent possible, competition, so as to provide  
15          better government for all North Carolinians. The  
16          antitrust laws of Chapter 75 of the General  
17          Statutes prohibit entering into noncompetitive  
18          agreements, and this should be the guiding  
19          principle of your deliberations.

20                  In this state, we care so much about  
21          fairness and competition, that General Statutes,  
22          Chapter 75, always award triple damages and  
23          attorney fees for business that engage in anti-  
24          competitive practices. And this state law subjects  
25          violators to imprisonment of up to two years. The

1 business of government should be no different.

2 If what I'm saying is too difficult for  
3 you to legislate in that it is human nature to be  
4 self-protective, I request that you vote for House  
5 Bill 200 and Senate Bill 209, that establish a  
6 nonpartisan process for drawing legislative  
7 districts.

8 In conclusion, when Benjamin Franklin  
9 left the Constitutional Convention that established  
10 our Federal Constitution, he was asked, "Dr.  
11 Franklin, what type of government do we have?"  
12 Benjamin Franklin replied, "A republic, if you can  
13 keep it." Thank you.

14 REP. DOLLAR: If members of the audience  
15 would refrain from public demonstrations, the next  
16 individual is recognized for time not to exceed two  
17 minutes. If you would identify yourself.

18 PHYLLIS DEMKO: Good morning. My name is  
19 Phyllis Demko, and I'm from Cary. I realize this  
20 is not about congressional districts, but to make  
21 my point, I'm offering a quote. This is from the  
22 minutes of the Redistricting Committee for  
23 Congressional Districts, February 16, 2016. One of  
24 the members of the committee said as follows: "I  
25 want to make clear that we are going to use

1 political data in drawing this map. It is to gain  
2 partisan advantage. I want that criteria to be  
3 clearly stated and understood."

4 He acknowledged that this would be a  
5 political gerrymander and, indeed, the adopted  
6 criteria expressly instructed the mapmakers to draw  
7 a new district map that would maintain partisan  
8 advantage.

9 The data actually was only related to  
10 election results. Other than population, that was  
11 the only criterion used. This is blatant partisan  
12 gerrymandering. This is putting politics over the  
13 welfare of citizens of the state.

14 We have seen the results of partisan  
15 gerrymandering in North Carolina as well as  
16 throughout the country. So whether policy  
17 gerrymandering is legal per se, and that's an open  
18 question before the Supreme Court at this point, we  
19 as citizens of this democracy know for sure that it  
20 is wrong. I ask you, therefore, to adopt criteria  
21 that do not include addresses of candidates or  
22 incumbents and that residents' voting histories not  
23 be considered. Thank you.

24 REP. DOLLAR: The next person will  
25 proceed. Identify yourself and you're recognized

1 for time not to exceed two minutes.

2 STEVE HALL: Good morning. My name is  
3 Steve Hall. Thank you all for your service. You  
4 obviously have a very complex task before you with  
5 many competing voices and allegiances to consider.  
6 As someone who led numerous institutions that had  
7 such a challenge, I always advise myself in my  
8 quiet moments, and other fellow leaders, "What are  
9 your core principles? What is the guiding light  
10 that motivates you to do the work you do?"

11 And when I thought about this opportunity  
12 to address you this morning, what occurred to me as  
13 something if I was sitting in your shoes, might  
14 sound something like this. To do my best to ensure  
15 that each and every North Carolina citizen has a  
16 voice that can be expressed with equal weight and  
17 potential impact. I suggest that isn't really a  
18 mathematical idea. It's a bit more complex than  
19 that. And I would encourage you to embody those  
20 additional elements as you deliberate how to draw  
21 up your maps. Thank you.

22 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. The next  
23 individual is recognized to identify yourself and  
24 you are recognized for a time not to exceed two  
25 minutes.

1                   MIKE JENNINGS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
2                   members of the committees. My name is Mike  
3                   Jennings. I have lived in Wake County -- in North  
4                   Carolina for about years. I want to thank you for  
5                   the opportunity this morning, and I am speaking  
6                   just for myself. Others are going to talk in more  
7                   detail about criteria that are fair, transparent,  
8                   and actively involve public.

9                   I could talk in more detail about that  
10                  but I want to go -- and I agree with those  
11                  criteria. But I want to go further, why those  
12                  criteria are important to me. Before Congress  
13                  adopted the Constitution, the Voting Rights Act,  
14                  there was the Golden Rule. We were given the  
15                  Golden Rule. Excuse me. I believe the criteria  
16                  that you will hear about this morning will create  
17                  an open process and promote fairness in elections.  
18                  I think that would be consistent with the Golden  
19                  Rule.

20                  I know in the past others have drawn  
21                  districts to favor them. I agreed and that was  
22                  wrong. It's time to turn the corner. Let's do the  
23                  right thing. Let's do it, let's treat others as  
24                  you would have them treat you. I encourage you to  
25                  allow to be touched by the better angels of your

1 nature, to turn the other cheek to those who have  
2 used the redistricting process to their own  
3 advantage and rise above partisanship as you draw  
4 new maps. It's the right thing to do. My  
5 children, my grandchildren are depending upon you  
6 to keep this a democracy that works for everybody.  
7 Remember, the Golden Rule says, "Do unto others as  
8 you would have them do unto you."

9 Thank you very much.

10 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. The next five  
11 individuals past Ms. Simon at the moment, is  
12 Richard Greene, if you would line up -- Trina  
13 Harrison, Pam Schwingl. Jen Jones and Paul a  
14 Jennings. So if y'all would like up.

15 And, Ms. Simon, you are recognized for  
16 time not to exceed two minutes.

17 HEATHER SIMON: My name is Heather Simon.  
18 I'm from Cary, North Carolina, and I'm here  
19 representing myself today. I took time off work  
20 today to come comment because nonpartisan  
21 redistricting is fundamentally about preserving our  
22 democracy. The redistricting process is only  
23 happening today because the legislature failed to  
24 create legal and constitutional districts in the  
25 first place. The fact that you have again hired

1           the same consultants to draw the -- that drew the  
2           current illegal maps is troubling. The legislative  
3           redistricting process much be carried out in a  
4           nonpartisan manner, ideally by an independent  
5           commission and with the opportunity for the  
6           public -- the public to comment on the final  
7           district maps. To guarantee that the process  
8           remains fair and unbiased, the legislature should  
9           exclude political information like voter  
10          registration data and past election results when  
11          drawing maps.

12                         Both Democrats and Republicans won  
13          statewide races in the last election, indicating  
14          that voters in North Carolina are fairly evenly  
15          split. In contrast, whenever elections were based  
16          on districts, the scale leaned very heavily towards  
17          Republicans as demonstrated by [unintelligible]  
18          majorities in both the State House and State  
19          Senate. Any process that is designed to favor some  
20          voices or opinions over others is fundamentally  
21          undemocratic and goes against the spirit of the  
22          North Carolina and U.S. constitutions.

23                         As legislators, you took an oath to  
24          uphold both. Section 2 of Article 1 of the state  
25          constitution states, "All political power is vested

1 in and derived from the people. All government of  
2 right originates from the people, is founded upon  
3 their will only, and is instituted solely for the  
4 good of the whole." The current districts do not  
5 represent a government originating from the will of  
6 the people.

7 If you believe in democracy, you have an  
8 obligation to design truly fair and representative  
9 districts when drawing new maps. Attempts at  
10 gerrymandering for the purpose of gaining political  
11 advantage are short-sighted and undermine the core  
12 democratic principles. The issues faced by the  
13 state will change and the demographics will change  
14 but once lost democracy is very hard to regain.

15 REP. DOLLAR: The next individual  
16 recognized is Mr. Greene?

17 RICHARD GREENE: Yes.

18 REP. DOLLAR: For a time not to exceed  
19 two minutes.

20 RICHARD GREENE: Richard Greene, Wake  
21 County. Thank you, Mr. Chair; thank you, members  
22 of the committee. I'm a small businessman. I've  
23 closed my business to be here today. What I've  
24 learned in being a small businessman is, innovation  
25 and progress is dependent on competition and

1 listening to what is going on around you. The  
2 business world is full of large, very powerful  
3 companies that have failed -- Kodak, Xerox -- who  
4 failed to follow that lesson. The same is true in  
5 government.

6 So I urge you adopt a districting process  
7 that is nonpartisan in nature, that is based on  
8 geography and doesn't deal with any demographic  
9 information of any measure. I believe this is  
10 critical to our legislative process, it is critical  
11 to the progress of our communities, and it is  
12 critical to our democracy. Thank you for the time  
13 today.

14 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Next individual  
15 is recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

16 TRINA HARRISON: Thank you. Members of  
17 the Committee, members of the General Assembly. My  
18 name is Trina Harrison. I'm from Alamance County.

19 Racially-based districting is partisan  
20 districting. For too long, regardless of which  
21 party has held power in Raleigh, the politicians  
22 have chosen their voters. It's time for we, the  
23 voters, to get back to being able to choose our  
24 representatives. That's all. Thank you.

25 REP. DOLLAR: Next lady is recognized for

1 time not to exceed two minutes.

2 PAM SCHWINGL: Hi. My name is Pam  
3 Schwingl. I'm from Cedar Grove, Orange County,  
4 North Carolina. Thirty years ago, I moved to North  
5 Carolina based on its reputation for fairness,  
6 balance or progress and its support of agriculture  
7 and education. I have lived both in southern  
8 Orange County, northern Orange County and in Person  
9 County, and I've seen that wherever I vote, my vote  
10 really doesn't matter.

11 I could stay home on election day.  
12 Incumbents would be voted in and change would be  
13 difficult. Democrats would win in Orange and  
14 Republicans would win in Person. This has only  
15 worsened since the 2011 -- since the last Census  
16 and new maps were drawn. The result is that only a  
17 few people vote, it's very suppressive of the vote,  
18 and because of these gerrymandered districts that  
19 we now know why this happens, and it's called an  
20 efficiency gap, and it's something that I think  
21 should be included in the criteria for choosing  
22 these districts.

23 Because it really is a situation where  
24 the individual vote is undermined. The one person,  
25 one vote is undermined. So let's make districts

1           that are competitive. It has been done before, it  
2           has been done in other states, and let's get  
3           candidates that can appeal to a broad range of  
4           people that can really start solving our problems.  
5           So I would recommend that we basically use criteria  
6           that does not set partisan targets, does not  
7           protect incumbents, does not exclude threats to  
8           incumbents, and use criteria that excludes data on  
9           party registration, on race and ethnicity except  
10          where required by the Federal Voting Rights Act.

11                         And then when the maps are drawn, report  
12          to us the quantitative efficiency gap to see how  
13          far or how close we are to the one person/one gap  
14          rule. And please, let us know at each step what  
15          you're doing, why you're doing it, and provide to  
16          us a log of all your actions. Thanks.

17                         REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Ms. Jones,  
18          recognize for a time not to exceed two minutes.

19                         JEN JONES: Thank you, sir. My name is  
20          Jen Jones. I live in the great county of Orange,  
21          but I grew up on a tobacco farm in the great county  
22          of Warren. And as my mother says, "Our family has  
23          been here since Jesus wept." I also, in the  
24          interest of full disclosure, work for Democracy  
25          North Carolina, which I hear has been fighting

1           since Jesus wept for both parties not to  
2           gerrymander. So I am very unpopular with everyone  
3           in front of me.

4                         Despite that, I am here for the former  
5           purpose: to speak as a North Carolina about  
6           criteria that matter to me and my mama. I want  
7           fair maps, and I want them to be devoid of racial  
8           and partisan gerrymandering. I'd kind of like for  
9           them by the principles of equal protection under  
10          the constitution. And since we are a Southern  
11          state -- I would argue the most fabulous one -- I  
12          would like the principles of the Voting Rights Act  
13          to be a part of that, too.

14                        But most important to me, as a  
15          communications person, is having public input and  
16          transparent and informed public input. But just as  
17          leadership is confident in Thomas Hofeller to  
18          redraw our maps, the same man who did so in 2011, I  
19          am confident that those maps have already been  
20          drawn, that the criteria for those maps is already  
21          set. And I would really appreciate as a member of  
22          the public, to see those maps and be able to  
23          provide informed public comment at the hearings you  
24          so graciously are providing later this month, based  
25          on those maps.

1                   So I would ask, please, as a North  
2                   Carolina constituent and voter, show us the maps,  
3                   and I promise you, as a North Carolinian, we will  
4                   tell you exactly how we feel about them. Thank you  
5                   so much.

6                   REP. DOLLAR: The next is -- Ms. Jennings  
7                   if you will just hold for a moment. The next five  
8                   individuals, if you would line up. Lloyd  
9                   Chambliss, William Smith, Janis Ramquist, Dianna  
10                  Wyne, and Janet Hoy.

11                  Ms. Jennings, you are recognized for a  
12                  time not to exceed two minutes.

13                  PAULA JENNINGS: Thank you. Thank you  
14                  for allowing me to speak. My name is Paula  
15                  Jennings. I'm here as a North Carolina citizen, a  
16                  Wake County citizen, and most of all, a patriot.  
17                  I'm speaking for myself, and I want to use a phrase  
18                  we've often heard: Liberty and justice for all.  
19                  Liberty and justice for all. This phrase is  
20                  recited as part of the Pledge of Allegiance with  
21                  little thought for its deeper meaning.

22                  I come here today also as a granddaughter  
23                  of a World War I veteran, the daughter of a beloved  
24                  World War II veteran. These men suffered greatly  
25                  over their years because of their service. I come

1 here today as a mother and a grandmother. I come  
2 here today for the memory of what all of our  
3 ancestors stood for and what they went to war for,  
4 and for the legacy I wish to leave my children and  
5 grandchildren.

6 Part of the liberty and justice for which  
7 I speak is dependent on transparency, where one  
8 vote counts more -- does not count more than  
9 another, and when the result of an election is not  
10 a foregone conclusion. Transparency in the process  
11 of drawing impartial districts is the most  
12 important criteria for which I advocate today.  
13 Transparency.

14 Complete transparency such as can be  
15 found in live streaming of all hearings and  
16 meetings. I advocate on behalf of future  
17 generations and for the large table of democracy  
18 which I hope they can all come to. Thank you.

19 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Mr. Chambliss,  
20 you are recognized for a time not to exceed two  
21 minutes.

22 LLOYD CHAMBLISS: I am Lloyd Chambliss  
23 from Orange County. A recent study has found that  
24 the North Carolina redistricting process ranks  
25 among the worst in the world. Our democracy in

1 North Carolina is right there with the worst  
2 democracies in the world. Our legislature does not  
3 represent us; it represents the maps they drew.

4 The recent court finding was that our  
5 districts were not legal, in other words, did not  
6 represent the people of the state because of racial  
7 gerrymandering. Hopefully an up and coming Supreme  
8 Court decision will find that partisan  
9 gerrymandering is unconstitutional. That is yet to  
10 be seen.

11 But here we are. We have an opportunity.  
12 We're looking forward to the Census in 2020, where  
13 new maps will have to be drawn. Democrats could be  
14 in charge then, so it's an opportunity when we  
15 don't know who is going to win, to do something  
16 about it, to draw some fair maps, to make the  
17 process nonpartisan, to not allow looking at past  
18 election results or registration, to get it out of  
19 the hands of the legislature except for final  
20 approval.

21 So let's take this opportunity to right  
22 the process. Let's redraw the maps. Why do you  
23 start -- why do you start with the same maps and  
24 say, we don't have to redraw most of the districts.  
25 Let's start over. It's easy to draw maps. Just

1 start ignoring all the political requirements that  
2 you've put into it to -- so gerrymandering. So  
3 let's make this a nonpartisan process, start over,  
4 and do it right. Thanks.

5 REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Smith, you are  
6 recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

7 WILLIAM SMITH: William Smith, Raleigh,  
8 North Carolina. As a veteran and someone who has  
9 also sworn an oath to defend this great nation of  
10 ours, and a patriot, I am extremely concerned by  
11 the state of our democracy today. Our  
12 representatives should be able to be held  
13 accountable for their actions by the people from  
14 which they derive their power.

15 Therefore, I propose the following  
16 criteria for the redistricting process in North  
17 Carolina: A prohibition on using partisan data.  
18 Maps submitted should be able to pass the  
19 efficiency gap test or the best available test for  
20 gerrymandering that is currently available. Voting  
21 precincts should not be divided.

22 I would very much prefer that an  
23 independent, nonpartisan commission be appointed to  
24 draw our district maps but should a commission not  
25 be appointed, then the governor should be granted

1 veto power over any redistricting bill produced by  
2 the General Assembly.

3 All of us are aware of the oath: first,  
4 do no harm. Bringing back Dr. Thomas Hofeller, who  
5 failed so miserably in protecting democracy when  
6 drawing the 2011 maps, only shows that you desire  
7 to continue to undermine our democracy.  
8 Representative David Lewis, who was also involved  
9 in the failed 2011 maps and Dr. Hofeller should not  
10 be involved in this important process.

11 I wish I had more time to go into the  
12 damage gerrymandering does to both parties and to  
13 our great nation. I respectfully request that this  
14 body restore democracy to this great state. Thank  
15 you.

16 REP. DOLLAR: Ms. Ramquist, you are  
17 recognized for a period not to exceed two minutes.

18 JANIS RAMQUIST: My name is Janis  
19 Ramquist. I'm a resident of Raleigh. I have known  
20 some of you for decades, and this is a very  
21 personal statement. I know you as good people who  
22 want to serve your state, and it is very sad to me  
23 that so many people distrust you and believe the  
24 worst in you. I think that you could change the  
25 course of this by adopting better criteria,

1 measurable criteria. There are mathematical  
2 equations that can measure whether you are overly  
3 partisan in your district, whether they are  
4 compact, and whether they meet the Voting Rights  
5 Act compliance.

6 I thank Representative Lewis and Senator  
7 Hi se for increasing the transparency but it could  
8 be improved. Every scrap of information that is  
9 used to draw a map should be available to the  
10 public. You are doing the public's business.

11 There is a rumor that red maps have been  
12 drawn already. I hope not. But if they have, I  
13 hope you will disclose them now.

14 Redistricting is the foundation of our  
15 democracy, and I beseech you to please honor the  
16 integrity of the General Assembly. Thank you.

17 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Ms. Wynn, you  
18 are recognized for a time not to exceed two  
19 minutes.

20 DIANNA WYNN: My name is Dianna Wynn, and  
21 I'm a resident of Wake County. I am part of a  
22 large and growing segment of North Carolinians who  
23 are unaffiliated voters. However, I believe I  
24 speak for many unaffiliated voters, Republican  
25 voters, and Democratic voters, who are increasingly

1           dismayed by the role of partisan politics in  
2           drawing our voting maps.

3                       In fact, polling across the nation and  
4           specifically in North Carolina, reveals that a  
5           majority of voters favor a nonpartisan approach to  
6           redistricting. To that end, I respectfully request  
7           that this committee adopt the following criteria  
8           for fair voting maps. First, adopt politically  
9           neutral criteria. No addresses of candidates or  
10          incumbents should be used, and residents' voting  
11          histories and party affiliations should not be  
12          considered when defining our voting districts.

13                      Second, districts should be compact and  
14          contiguous. Voters within a district should not be  
15          unnecessarily dispersed, and no voting district  
16          should be geographically divided or split by  
17          another district. In other words, all portions of  
18          a district must connect.

19                      Third, avoid dividing counties and  
20          municipalities where possible. Fourth, avoid  
21          dividing communities of interest, where possible.  
22          Communities of interest typically have social,  
23          cultural, racial, ethnic or economic interest in  
24          common. Finally, and obviously, voting maps should  
25          comply with all relevant provisions of the Voting

1 Rights Act.

2 Voters are tired of politics as usual.  
3 We want our legislators to stop gerrymandering and  
4 end the practice of politicians handpicking their  
5 voters. We simply want fair and impartial maps.  
6 Thank you for your consideration and the  
7 opportunity to speak here today.

8 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Let me make a  
9 notation. If any of those who have spoken or who  
10 will be speaking here shortly, want to submit your  
11 comments or share -- you know, if you had something  
12 in writing and you want to share that, put that in  
13 the hands of the staff, you can hand those either  
14 to the Sergeant-at-Arms or to the committee staff  
15 up here. I just want to make sure that you knew  
16 that opportunity.

17 Also, let me identify the next five  
18 individuals that will be recognized in line. Lee  
19 Mortimer. And for the press, if you are looking at  
20 your sheet, number 17 who is signed up has  
21 withdrawn. So the person after Mortimer would be  
22 David Williams, Zack Klien, and Dallas Woodhouse.

23 So if those individuals would line up.  
24 And Ms. Hoy, if you would identify yourself, of  
25 course, and for time not to exceed two minutes.

1                   JANET HOY: Yes, thank you very much. My  
2 name is Janet Hoy. I live in Orange County but I'm  
3 here today as the co-president of the League of  
4 Women Voters of North Carolina. The League, as you  
5 probably know, is a 100-year-old, nonpartisan,  
6 political organization that encourages active and  
7 informed participation in government. Since 1966,  
8 the League of Women Voters of the US, our national  
9 organization, has advocated for impartial electoral  
10 maps with both transparent redistricting processes  
11 and even more importantly, significant  
12 opportunities for public participation.

13                   Today's public comments are about  
14 criteria. Our recommendations focus on three  
15 primary objectives: transparency, public  
16 engagement and fairness. The League recommends  
17 this committee commit to the following: disclose  
18 all criteria and assumptions used throughout the  
19 process; exclude partisan targets; exclude data on  
20 voters' party registration and past voting history;  
21 exclude data on incumbents' or candidates'  
22 addresses, exclude data on race and ethnicity  
23 except where necessary to comply with federal law,  
24 meaning the Voting Rights Act; analyze each set of  
25 maps using generally accepted measures of

1 compactness and report the results by district and  
2 for the set of maps as a whole. Strictly apply the  
3 Stephenson process to define the VRA districts and,  
4 most importantly, make maps available for review  
5 and comment by the public in advance of hearings  
6 and again before the maps are finalized.

7 We urge this committee to ensure that  
8 these criteria are reflected in any maps that have  
9 been or will be drawn. Furthermore, we ask that  
10 the committee's maps and the criteria used to draw  
11 them, be promptly publicized, without delay, from  
12 the moment they are created, so that citizens of  
13 North Carolina will have full opportunity to  
14 consider and respond to them.

15 The League of Women Voters of North  
16 Carolina represents thousands of League members  
17 across the state as well as many more thousands of  
18 supporters, each of whom is one of your  
19 constituents. It is critically important to the  
20 League and to every North Carolinian that maps are  
21 fair, impartial, and that every North Carolinian's  
22 vote counts.

23 REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Mortimer, you are  
24 recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

25 LEE MORTIMOR: Thank you. I'm Lee

1 Mortimor from Durham County. I have been a  
2 resident of North Carolina for almost my entire  
3 life. I'm a member of North Carolina Common Cause  
4 but am speaking on behalf of myself today.

5 The way redistricting has been done for  
6 the past decade makes a complete mockery of  
7 elections and voting. It didn't start with  
8 Republicans in 2011 but abuse of redistricting has  
9 reached a new and unprecedented level in this most  
10 recent cycle. We need to bring legitimacy and  
11 fairness to elections in voting and to make our  
12 representatives accountable through competitive  
13 elections. The essential first step toward a  
14 meaningful redistricting form, is to create a  
15 nonpartisan process that excludes all partisan and  
16 political considerations and draws districts that  
17 are geographically compact and respect legitimate  
18 communities of interest.

19 Just today, in Venezuela, we are  
20 witnessing the turmoil and disruption that can  
21 result when a legislature comes to power through an  
22 election process that lacks legitimacy. If we do  
23 not bring legitimacy to our elections, I fear  
24 something similar could happen here. Thank you.

25 REP. DOLLAR: Next on our list is Mr.

1 Williams. If you will identify yourself. You are  
2 recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

3 DAVID WILLIAMS: I will. My name is  
4 David Williams. I'm from Transylvania County. I  
5 represent Transylvania Indivisible, and I stand as  
6 the chair of Indivisible North Carolina's fair  
7 voting action group.

8 But I'm really neither of those things.  
9 I'm a husband, I'm a father, I'm a grandfather, I'm  
10 a son, I'm a brother, I'm a cousin, I'm a friend,  
11 I'm an educator. But in January, I chose to put  
12 those things aside and to become a resistor. I  
13 chose to fight for a country in which facts are  
14 true, whether we like them or not. Where science  
15 is accepted as the pathway to truths and where  
16 truth is valued.

17 I chose to fight for a state where the  
18 people's business is conducted publicly without  
19 attempts to avoid meaningful input, for a state  
20 that celebrates the value of human diversity and  
21 strips no one of its voice. For a state where  
22 every voice has a voice and every vote is a voice  
23 for a state government of the people, by  
24 representatives of the people, for the welfare of  
25 the people. I chose to fight for the future for my

1 son and my grandson.

2 I choose to resist those forces that seek  
3 to destroy those things that made this country  
4 great. A more perfect union, where justice for all  
5 under the rule of law is the law, excepting none.  
6 A more perfect union with opportunity for all to  
7 pursue lives well-lived, lives of meaning, a more  
8 perfect union giving all the right to embrace the  
9 blessings of liberty, a more perfect union  
10 bestowing on all the right to seek happiness and  
11 make that which is good even better. To oppose a  
12 hostile force that strips its people of the  
13 Constitution's guarantee of equality through a  
14 voice embodied in a vote, one voice, one vote.

15 By the deeds of the majority, democracy,  
16 civility, negotiation, compromise, transparency,  
17 respect for minority voice, views in accountability  
18 have been derided and eroded to the point they do  
19 not exist in public practice. Those who do not  
20 learn from history are doomed to repeat it. By the  
21 exercise of its power, this group, and the  
22 legislature, have been branded, perhaps unfairly,  
23 as racist and as self-seeking. Thank you.

24 REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Klien, you are  
25 recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

1                   ZACK KLIEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and  
2 members of the committee. I'm Zack Klien, residing  
3 in North Carolina. I'm going to be brief in my  
4 statement. In regards to redistricting, it is my  
5 opinion that counties should be kept as whole as  
6 possible. Race should not be a determining factor  
7 used in redrawing the maps, and it's clear that the  
8 courts cannot make up this matter, and it's best  
9 not to use it. Thank you.

10                  REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Woodhouse, before we  
11 recognize you, let me call the next five  
12 individuals. Beth Gerall, Louise Kinnard, Amy  
13 Porter, Bob Phillips and Donald Mial. If y'all  
14 will line up.

15                  Mr. Woodhouse, you are recognized for a  
16 time not to exceed two minutes.

17                  DALLAS WOODHOUSE: Thank you, Mr.  
18 Chairman. I am Dallas Woodhouse. I am the  
19 Executive Director of the North Carolina Republican  
20 Party, proudly celebrating its 150th anniversary  
21 this year. As a party, we certainly support, using  
22 traditional criteria in the redistricting process,  
23 both keeping counties as whole as possible, and we  
24 think the Goldilocks standard of using race, we  
25 have to use a little bit of race, but not too much

1 race ought to go away, and that no racial  
2 considerations ought to be made.

3 We also think the use or discussion of  
4 statewide election data is completely irrelevant,  
5 even though it is largely favorable to the North  
6 Carolina Republican Party, that has won an  
7 overwhelming amount of the statewide election races  
8 in the past six years.

9 We do not elect people on a system of  
10 Parliament, like they do in Europe. It is not the  
11 job of this committee to make a political party  
12 that lost 76 North Carolina counties in the  
13 presidential election competitive because they are  
14 uncompetitive in vast swaths, vast areas of the  
15 state. Again, 76 counties were won by the  
16 presidential candidate in North Carolina. And it  
17 is not the job of the committee to make that party  
18 competitive when it cannot do so itself in huge  
19 areas of the state. One, the minority party in  
20 this body has a geographic problem that it has to  
21 correct, and that is not the job of this committee  
22 to correct.

23 One final note with regards to the 53rd  
24 North Carolina House District as a proud alumnus of  
25 Campbell University, I believe that our university

1 has been well represented, and we would like to  
2 wholly keep Campbell University in the 53rd  
3 district. Thank you very much.

4 REP. DOLLAR: The lady is recognized for  
5 a time not to exceed two minutes.

6 BETH GERALL: Thank you for letting us  
7 speak today. We appreciate it. I'm Beth Gerall  
8 from Orange County. I'm going to make several  
9 points that other folks have made today but I think  
10 it's important for you, the committee members, to  
11 hear these over and over again. That the districts  
12 that appear after this process demonstrate that one  
13 person/one vote is the outcome. They should be  
14 equal in population size as much as possible. They  
15 should be compact and contiguous. They should make  
16 sense.

17 In creating the districts, communities  
18 should not be divided, make efforts to respect the  
19 county lines, and if a county must be split, have  
20 an honest explanation as to why that was done. In  
21 creating the districts, addresses of lawmakers,  
22 current and past, party affiliation, voting history  
23 of the voters, or any other data other than that  
24 which is required by law, should not be used to  
25 help a party or a politician in any way.

1                   Before districts are approved, they must  
2                   be evaluated and demonstrate party competitiveness  
3                   and no racial bias. The maps should ensure that  
4                   voters choose their elected officials and not that  
5                   politicians choose their voters. Thank you for the  
6                   opportunity to speak.

7                   REP. DOLLAR: Ms. Kinnard, you will be  
8                   recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

9                   LOUISE KINNARD: Thank you very much for  
10                  letting me speak.

11                 I think the districts should -- oh, I'm  
12                 Louse Kinnard from Lillington, Harnett County. The  
13                 district -- I think the districts should be drawn  
14                 as geometrically as possible so we don't have that  
15                 snaking where they go like this and around -- like  
16                 using squares or rectangles. And I understand that  
17                 you can't do that with every district but as much  
18                 as possible, include -- have that geometrical  
19                 design.

20                 I realize that in the past the Democrats  
21                 have done the same things. I mean, maybe not as  
22                 bad or maybe not as well. But I understand that,  
23                 that every time there is a switch in parties, they  
24                 redistrict to their own political advantage.  
25                 Let -- we can do better than that.

1                   It should be politically and racially  
2 nonpartisan, and before the maps are finalized, I  
3 think the public would like to see them and -- so  
4 they can have some input and maybe conduct town  
5 hall meetings so more of the public can be there to  
6 hear their representative. Because that's who they  
7 go to first. That's all I have. Thank you very  
8 much.

9                   REP. DOLLAR: Thank you. Ms. Porter, you  
10 are recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

11                   AMY PORTER: Thank you for opportunity to  
12 speak my piece. My name is Amy Porter, and I am a  
13 registered unaffiliated voter from Graham, North  
14 Carolina. I am a lifelong citizen of North  
15 Carolina. I'm also a veteran teacher in North  
16 Carolina, the North Carolina School System. My  
17 husband a decorated vet -- Vietnam veteran, owns  
18 his own business, and we own a small farm in  
19 Alamance County.

20                   I speak on behalf of all North Carolina  
21 residents: Republican, Democrats and the  
22 independent voters like me who have voted for both  
23 parties. I want to see the end of political  
24 gerrymandering. Districts cannot be drawn  
25 intentionally, unduly favoring any political party.

1 We must change this in the form of legislation: a  
2 change to the State Constitutional form --  
3 Constitutional.

4 We should form an independent commission  
5 to draw district lines. There should be no  
6 consideration for voters, a party affiliation, or  
7 voter history, in the creation of fair districts.  
8 I disagree with Dallas Woodhouse in that statement.  
9 Remember that you work for us.

10 REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Phillips, you are  
11 recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

12 BOB PHILLIPS: Thank you. Good morning.  
13 I'm Bob Phillips with Common Cause North Carolina.  
14 As most of you know, the organization I work for  
15 has been pushing for redistricting reform for many  
16 years. We are nonpartisan. We have worked with  
17 Republicans and Democrats alike on this issue, and  
18 we believe that gerrymandering is wrong, regardless  
19 of which party does it.

20 At this moment, you have an opportunity,  
21 you have an opportunity to end gerrymandering now  
22 if you adopt fair criteria. What does that look  
23 like? The place to start is taking politics out of  
24 the process. Don't draw districts to favor a  
25 political party or an incumbent. That means, don't

1           look at past election results or where incumbents  
2           live when drawing the maps.

3                     The other important rule to follow is  
4           abide by the Voting Rights Act. Stop using race to  
5           gerrymander. Don't compact or divide minority  
6           communities to weaken their voting strength.  
7           Follow those rules and you'll get maps that are  
8           more compact, contiguous in keeping communities of  
9           interest together. You'll also get more districts  
10          that are competitive, so we the people can hold  
11          you, our elected officials, more accountable.

12                    Finally, the mapmaking process needs to  
13          be more open and transparent. No more hired  
14          partisan guns in back rooms committing  
15          gerrymandering. Ideally maps should be drawn by an  
16          independent entity, not the lawmakers.

17                    Now, everything is found in House Bill  
18          200, a bipartisan piece of legislation filed this  
19          year that has not been considered. The fact is, a  
20          majority of you, this committee, has either voted  
21          for or sponsored legislation that would provide the  
22          criteria I've just outlined. Let me say that  
23          again. Most of you in this room have supported  
24          nonpartisan redistricting, and you've done it since  
25          the shift of power in 2011. There are a lot of

1           you. I can look out and I know most of you. A lot  
2           of you, both sides of the aisle, who remember and  
3           know what it was like to be on the wrong side of  
4           gerrymandering. You didn't like it, and that's why  
5           you supported reform. I just ask you, support  
6           reform, support fair criteria. End gerrymandering  
7           now.

8                         REP. DOLLAR: Before we call the next  
9           individual, let me call the final six individuals.  
10          If you would line up, we have on our list: Greg  
11          Flynn, James Wood, Nan Fulcher, Siobhan Millen,  
12          Laura Holley, Gerrick Brenner.

13                        Mr. Mial, you are recognized for a time  
14          not to exceed two minutes.

15                        DONALD MIAL: Good morning, Mr. Chairman  
16          and Ladies and gentlemen. My name is Donald Mial.  
17          I'm a citizen of Wake County. I have come before  
18          this honorable body today to voice my concern for  
19          fair elected districts. You see, I served this  
20          state and the country for a total of 67 years: 32  
21          years in North Carolina Army National Guard, and 35  
22          years as a State employee, deploying to Iraq with  
23          the 3rd BCT to win the hearts and minds of the  
24          citizens there. Because their government had  
25          failed them.

1           I believe in government to be responsible  
2           to its citizens. You have the power to win the  
3           hearts and minds of our citizens of North Carolina  
4           by voting and approving fair districts, whereby all  
5           people of North Carolina represent -- will be  
6           represented equally and fairly. Thank you.

7           REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Flynn, you are  
8           recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

9           GREG FLYNN: Thank you. I am Greg Flynn,  
10          a Wake County voter for the past -- sorry. I'm  
11          still Greg Flynn -- a Wake County voter, and for  
12          the past six years. For the past six years, I have  
13          been under assault from redistricting, which has  
14          had to be fought off on the battlefields of federal  
15          court. Even my precinct has two congressional  
16          districts in it.

17          In addition to United States and state  
18          redistricting struck by the courts, my county  
19          commission and school board districts have been  
20          successfully challenged in federal court. It was  
21          absurd as a plaintiff to have to drive up to  
22          Richmond, Virginia, to defend voting rights here in  
23          Wake County, North Carolina. These districts were  
24          neither fair nor legal. Please don't repeat this  
25          debacle.

1                   Please create compact districts that  
2                   don't resemble crime scene blood splatters. Please  
3                   create districts that represent and engage all  
4                   voters, Republican, Democratic, unaffiliated, and  
5                   even Libertarians. There is more to life than the  
6                   epic and chaotic struggle between the two main  
7                   parties.

8                   The growing ranks of unaffiliated voters,  
9                   which will soon eclipse one of the parties signals  
10                  dissatisfaction with the current political scheme  
11                  and the desire to end the chaos. Please let us see  
12                  the maps you likely have created already, so we can  
13                  get down to business and not waste another six  
14                  years. Finally I ask that the Senate Chair recuse  
15                  himself until the State Board of Elections  
16                  concludes the investigation of his campaign  
17                  finances. Thank you.

18                  REP. DOLLAR: Mr. Wood, you are  
19                  recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

20                  JAMES WOOD: Thank you. James Wood from  
21                  Raleigh. So the objective here is to draw fair  
22                  legislative districts. I feel like I could get  
23                  down with a pencil and paper and draw pretty decent  
24                  districts in about five minutes. So what I'm  
25                  wondering is why an intervention of the United

1 States Supreme Court is necessary for this General  
2 Assembly to draw fair legislative districts.

3 In any classroom or workplace, if you  
4 turn something in late, five days late, you know  
5 exactly what is going to happen to you. You get an  
6 F or you get fired. But more than five years late?  
7 Forget about it. You know, maybe I could  
8 understand that it was an honest mistake. If the  
9 General Assembly had acknowledged the problem and  
10 worked expediently to remedy it, the first time  
11 these districts were found unconstitutional in  
12 court.

13 But I have watched you fight justice  
14 tooth and nail. Others have, no doubt, have  
15 watched you, too. What kind of impression do you  
16 think you are making to young people? I can give  
17 you a hint that it's not too good. We are done  
18 with your pettiness, and in the not-so-distant  
19 future, when we are up there, running the show,  
20 things are going to be different around here.  
21 Thank you.

22 REP. DOLLAR: Ms. Fulcher, you are  
23 recognized for a time not to exceed two minutes.

24 NAN FULCHER: Hi. My name is Nan  
25 Fulcher, and I'm from Hillsborough. In creating

1 the 2011 legislative districts for the State of  
2 North Carolina, Representative Lewis, in his role  
3 as House Redistricting Committee Chair, failed to  
4 uphold his oath of office to support the  
5 Constitution of the State of North Carolina and the  
6 Constitution of the United States. However, there  
7 is no remedy for this failure.

8 In the absence of a formal remedy, I  
9 respectfully ask Representative Lewis to step down  
10 from the current redistricting committee. Your  
11 resignation would acknowledge the plight of all of  
12 the residents living in the 28 illegal districts  
13 who have not been able to participate in democracy  
14 since 2011. From our perspective, the perspective  
15 of "We the People," an individual right with no  
16 remedy is no right at all. Please show your  
17 compassion for the citizens of North Carolina by  
18 choosing to step down. You will show you value  
19 justice, you will give a sense of remedy to those  
20 that deserve it, and you will restore your faith in  
21 you as a legislator, and your commitment to uphold  
22 the Constitution. Thank you.

23 REP. DOLLAR: Ms. Millen, before I  
24 recognize you, we had two additional people that we  
25 had called. Laura Holley and Gerrick Brenner. Are

1           those individuals here? Okay. So you are here. I  
2           will make sure to call you, then.

3                       Ms. Millen, you are recognized for time  
4           not to exceed two minutes.

5                       SIOBHAN MILLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
6           My name is Siobhan Millen. Thank you for allowing  
7           me to comment this morning. I'm impressed by your  
8           statements last week at this committee meeting and  
9           your attorney, Mr. Strach's argument at the federal  
10          court, that this committee intends to seek  
11          plentiful public input into its redistricting  
12          efforts. Indeed, the three-judge panel's order  
13          last week lauded your commendable goal of obtaining  
14          and considering public input and engaging in robust  
15          debate and discussion.

16                      My suggestion would be that you add one  
17          more criteria to the standard ones that many have  
18          already suggested this morning. To be clear, these  
19          standard criteria are compactness, contiguity,  
20          respect for political subdivisions, disregard of  
21          the party registration voters, disregard of the  
22          addresses of the incumbent representative,  
23          avoidance of petty double-bunking of the minority  
24          party, compliance with one man, one vote principle,  
25          minimizing excessive efficiency gaps within

1 legislative district in compliance with the Voting  
2 Rights Act.

3 The addition criteria which I suggest is  
4 that you keep in mind that North Carolina currently  
5 has 2.6 million registered Democrats, 2 million  
6 registered Republicans, and 2 million unaffiliated  
7 voters. The districts you create should elect  
8 Senators and House members roughly in proportion to  
9 those numbers.

10 The current overwhelming Republican  
11 majority in both chambers suggest that something  
12 has gone seriously awry in North Carolina. As  
13 evidence of this atrophied democracy, in the 2016  
14 election, nearly half of the contests for the North  
15 Carolina House and Senate had only one major party  
16 candidate on the ballot. Our General Assembly  
17 should reflect our electorate, and for this to  
18 happen we need competitive districts. But as Judge  
19 Eagles and Judge Wynn noted last week in  
20 Greensboro, this committee seems not to take  
21 seriously its job of drawing more constitutional  
22 districts. In an ominous sign made public in this  
23 very room last week, Representative Lewis disclosed  
24 that the Joint Committee intends to use again the  
25 services of Dr. Tom Hofeller and crafting with his

1 custom surgical precision, new districts for the  
2 General Assembly. This is of concern because Tom  
3 Hofeller is a paid consultant for the Republican  
4 National Committee, who was described by the  
5 Atlantic Magazine in 2012, as a gimlet-eyed, semi-  
6 clandestine political operative. So with the  
7 federal court overseeing this process, this  
8 committee should make all meetings with Dr.  
9 Hofeller transparent to the public. Thank you.

10 REP. DOLLAR: Ms. Holley, you are  
11 recognized for time not to exceed two minutes.

12 LAURA HOLLEY: Thank you. My name is  
13 Laura. I'm from Apex, so Wake County.

14 REP. DOLLAR: Could you give us your last  
15 name as well, please?

16 LAURA HOLLEY: Holley.

17 REP. DOLLAR: Thank you.

18 LAURA HOLLEY: While I am affiliated with  
19 various organizations, including the Democrat  
20 Party, and currently as a precinct chair, here as a  
21 nonpartisan fan of well-functioning democracy,  
22 representing myself and all NC residents, D's, R's,  
23 and U's, to truly represent all of us and be  
24 responsive to all of the voter constituencies.

25 Based upon objective, comprehensive

1 published data from multiple sources, maps that  
2 were so extremely gerrymandered, tweaked by  
3 advanced software modeling capabilities, every  
4 fact-based indication underscores that my beloved  
5 adopted state of North Carolina functionally or  
6 empirically -- both -- murdered democracy in 2011.  
7 Let's work collaboratively to revive it, starting  
8 with implementing fair map being mandates that are  
9 strictly honored and practiced. Such as  
10 nonpartisan process for drawing new maps, written  
11 explicit protocols for transparency before, during  
12 and after the map-drawing process, to allow for  
13 public and media openness.

14 As a subnote to that, for input before  
15 maps are drawn, I would ask that all reference  
16 materials are handed out to the larger committee  
17 body, that these documents are also provided to the  
18 media and public at least 48 hours in advance of  
19 meetings, such as today's. I would further like to  
20 see mechanisms, if not already existing, put in  
21 place for public input before, during and after  
22 each map drawing both online and in person. Thank  
23 you.

24 REP. DOLLAR: Is Gerrick Brenner here and  
25 wishing to speak? (No response.) Okay. Having

1 not, that is the last individual on our list, and  
2 the public hearing portion of this committee  
3 meeting is officially closed.

4 Before we close our meeting otherwise,  
5 let me make a couple of notations. One, as you see  
6 on the screen, and for those who are listening in,  
7 the comment opportunities, opportunities for public  
8 input, there are opportunities to send in written  
9 comments as well as submissions online. There is  
10 an opportunity for that as well as the General  
11 Assembly's websites, so I would take note of that.

12 Again, if you had any written comments  
13 for those of you who make presentations today  
14 during the public comment period, if you wanted to  
15 hand those -- if you would like to hand those to  
16 the -- any of the Sergeant at Arms or the staff up  
17 here, please feel free to do that. The criteria  
18 for usage of the terminals will be posted on the  
19 Committee's website as well. That was the  
20 information that was passed out earlier today.

21 Questions from members of the Committee?  
22 Yes, sir. Representative Moore.

23 REP. MOORE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. A  
24 quick question. Will there be a schedule for  
25 remote hearings, public hearings, and I would like

1 to add that if that's the case -- first of all,  
2 could I get to that particular question first, and  
3 I will have a follow-up question or a statement.

4 REP. DOLLAR: Chairman Lewis is  
5 recognized.

6 REP. LEWIS: Thank you for the question,  
7 Representative Moore. This is David Lewis from  
8 Harnett County. The intent is to indeed publish a  
9 schedule. It largely depends on when we can get  
10 the maps drawn. As you have heard today, one of  
11 the things that the public expects is to be able to  
12 see the maps in order to comment on them. Our goal  
13 is -- our goal is to be able to conduct and receive  
14 input on August 22nd or August 23rd. We will have  
15 a firmer date after the criteria is adopted by this  
16 committee next week and the process of drawing the  
17 maps can begin.

18 REP. MOORE: Follow-up. And let me just  
19 say, I didn't say in front of this, I'm Rodney  
20 Moore, House District 99, for the record.

21 And secondly, when we have the schedule  
22 for these remote hearings or public hearings, I  
23 would request for the record that you would have a  
24 member of the majority and the minority party  
25 there. I know in the past when we've done them

1           before, you've had certain members in those  
2           particular areas to kind of preside over the  
3           meeting. I would ask that you would have at least  
4           one member of the minority party there as well to  
5           represent that interest, or represent that  
6           particular voice.

7                         REP. DOLLAR: The Chairman is recognized.

8                         REP. LEWIS: Representative Moore, I  
9           thank you for that suggestion. I would point out  
10          that that was indeed our practice in 2011, and the  
11          desire of the Speaker and the President Pro Tem for  
12          the members to attend is one of the reasons that we  
13          have been called back when we have. So as soon as  
14          we have an idea that we'll have a map to show and  
15          the public will have time to look at it, we will  
16          announce a series of remote sites across the state  
17          and here in Raleigh, of course. We will encourage  
18          members of both parties to either attend them here  
19          in Raleigh or go onsite -- on the remote sites.

20                        REP. MOORE: Thank you, sir.

21                        REP. MICHAUX: Representative Michaux  
22          from Durham County. A couple of questions.

23                        When do you plan to have the criteria  
24          drawn so that we can sit down and start talking  
25          maps?

1                   REP. DOLLAR:   Chairman Lewis, I will  
2                   recognize you for that.

3                   REP. LEWIS:   Thank you for the question,  
4                   Representative Michaux.   The intent is for this  
5                   committee to meet next Thursday and adopt the  
6                   criteria.   We have received criteria today from  
7                   members of the public.   There are also members of  
8                   this committee that have sent forward criteria.   We  
9                   anticipate continuing to receive that through next  
10                  week, and then when we meet on Thursday, we will  
11                  allow all the criteria to be disclosed and  
12                  discussed and adopted.   And once this committee --  
13                  has adopted it, I will instruct the map drawer to  
14                  begin using that criteria to draw the map.

15                  REP. DOLLAR:   Representative Michaux.

16                  REP. MICHAUX:   Follow-up.   Representative  
17                  Michaux again, from Durham.   Chairman Lewis, I keep  
18                  trying to emphasize it, but you have shown us some  
19                  maps here today, several of them, showing county  
20                  groupings.   Can you assure this body right now that  
21                  no redistricting maps have yet been drawn?

22                  REP. LEWIS:   Thank you for the question.  
23                  I can assure this body that none has been drawn at  
24                  my direction, and that I have direct knowledge of.  
25                  The only map I'm aware of was submitted by an

1 independent group and presented to this committee  
2 last week.

3 REP. DOLLAR: Follow-up.

4 REP. MICHAUX: Just to be clear, I'm  
5 talking about anything that any chairman or members  
6 of the Republican Party or anybody. No map has yet  
7 been drawn that should be handed out here? I'm --  
8 people are concerned about the fact -- they think  
9 you've already drawn the maps. I want to make  
10 sure, coming from you, that you have not yet drawn  
11 maps.

12 REP. LEWIS: Thank you for the question.  
13 I have not yet drawn maps nor have I directed that  
14 maps be drawn, nor am I aware of any other entity  
15 operating in conjunction with the leadership that  
16 has drawn maps.

17 REP. DOLLAR: Further questions? If not,  
18 the next -- Representative Jackson.

19 REP. JACKSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
20 My question was on criteria. Will we be adopting  
21 criteria as a joint committee or will the House  
22 members first have a chance to adopt criteria for  
23 the House and the senators allowed to adopt  
24 criteria for the Senate maps?

25 REP. DOLLAR: Let me allow Senator --

1 Chairman Hise to address that.

2 CHAIRMAN HISE: Thank you. It is our  
3 intent to have joint criteria. Obviously it will  
4 be the committee's choice and recommendation once  
5 it is approved for its criteria, but it is our  
6 intent to have the same criteria established for  
7 each map.

8 REP. DOLLAR: Further questions of  
9 Committee members at this time? If not, our next  
10 meeting will be next Thursday, August 10, at 10:00  
11 a.m., here in room 643. With that, the meeting is  
12 adjourned. Thank you.

13 (End of proceedings.)

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1 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

2 COUNTY OF WAKE

3 CERTIFICATION OF TRANSCRIPT

4 This is to certify that the foregoing transcript of  
5 proceedings held on August 4, 2017, is a true and accurate  
6 transcript of the proceedings as transcribed by me or under  
7 my supervision. I further certify that I am not related to  
8 any party or attorney, nor do I have any interest  
9 whatsoever in the outcome of this action.

10 This 7th day of August, 2017.

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*Robbie Worley*

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