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Common Cause, et al.        )  
  ) 4:22-cv-109  
v.                                 )  
  )  
Cord Byrd                     )  

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TRANSCRIPTION OF AUDIO FILE  
Press Availability with House Redistricting  
Chair Tom Leek - The Florida Channel  
September 22, 2021

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DIGITAL EVIDENCE GROUP  
1730 M Street, NW, Suite 812  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 232-0646

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1 (Beginning of Video Recording.)

2 MALE VOICE: So quite a bit of  
3 discussion about, you know, the public hearing  
4 idea. You know, admittedly, ten years ago you  
5 had more than two dozen of them, and many of  
6 them were sort of (inaudible). But this time  
7 around, I mean, it seems like the public is  
8 losing out because of what the legislature did  
9 a decade ago.

10 These -- these requirements about, you  
11 know, you got to have a member review your map  
12 if you want to have it carried forward. Yes.  
13 There was a lot of access for the public. But  
14 I -- I wonder about your thoughts about that.  
15 Does it seem like the public is getting short  
16 shrift in this?

17 TOM LEEK: You know, I think you're  
18 learning your questioning from Joe Geller,  
19 because there's a lot of questions in there.

20 MALE VOICE: There's a lot of  
21 questions.

22 TOM LEEK: Lot of questions in there.  
23 But no. I can't accept your premise at all.  
24 The public has never had access like they will  
25 have access now to, not only the data, but the

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1 tools that are used by the legislature. Now,  
2 we're still having the discussions about  
3 whether -- you know, what we can do on a  
4 roadshow.

5 I mean, bluntly, we got the data so  
6 late. The timeline is so compressed. And our  
7 deadline is constitutional. All right. So  
8 it's not something you can miss. So we're  
9 going to do what we can with that.

10 But I -- I disagree with you. I think  
11 the public has more access now. Not -- and to  
12 useful data. Right? To information that will  
13 actually allow them to create maps that  
14 could -- that could work.

15 MALE VOICE: But then their views will  
16 only be carried forward if they have the  
17 support of a member, it would seem.

18 TOM LEEK: I don't -- I don't know why  
19 you say that. Now, if I were a member --

20 MALE VOICE: The maps submitted will  
21 not --

22 TOM LEEK: Well, the maps submitted  
23 will come in. Right? And they will be  
24 reviewed. Now, they can also contact their --  
25 you know, one of their -- the 120 members that

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1       they've got and asked for the -- that member  
2       to carry that forward, which is, you know, of  
3       course, what we have in a representative  
4       government.

5               So I don't think that they're being  
6       slighted in anyway. In fact, I think the  
7       access that the public is getting is much  
8       greater than it ever was.

9               MALE VOICE: I have a question about  
10       the process here in disclosure. You know, if  
11       a member submits a -- a map, they have to  
12       disclose who helped them with it. For the  
13       committees -- I mean, committees can propose  
14       maps as well. I mean, are you going to be  
15       disclosing that same information, whoever  
16       helped come up with this particular map from  
17       the community side?

18              TOM LEEK: The only people helping the  
19       committee will be the committee and the  
20       committee staff who you know.

21              MALE VOICE: Okay. No -- yeah. And  
22       nobody else, possibly, could be involved?

23              TOM LEEK: Yeah. I mean, you're asking  
24       possibly, which is a difficult question to  
25       answer --



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1 MALE VOICE: Sure.

2 TOM LEEK: -- in any -- any instance.

3 But nobody else will be involved but the  
4 committee staff.

5 MALE VOICE: Okay.

6 FEMALE VOICE: Are you hoping -- doing  
7 something like last time where the House do  
8 the House map and the Senate do the Senate  
9 map, and each chamber just went along with the  
10 other map?

11 TOM LEEK: I think we'll continue to  
12 follow our historical process, which would be  
13 to defer to the Senate on the Senate maps.  
14 And we'll take charge of ours.

15 MALE VOICE: Some lawmakers are already  
16 starting to talk about how they'd like to see  
17 either certain districts they're running in or  
18 will be running in.

19 TOM LEEK: Not going to consider it.

20 MALE VOICE: But have any -- have any  
21 maps at all been --

22 TOM LEEK: None.

23 MALE VOICE: You haven't seen any  
24 maps --

25 TOM LEEK: Listen, we -- no. None.

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1 MALE VOICE: Okay.

2 TOM LEEK: Not only I haven't seen  
3 them, there are none. There are no maps yet.

4 MALE VOICE: Okay.

5 TOM LEEK: We are just now at that  
6 stage of the process. We're educating our  
7 members and educating the public on how to do  
8 this. Right? And then we are -- we have just  
9 gotten to that. Some of which, most recently,  
10 the actual in-user we got, what, a week ago on  
11 September 16th. Something along those lines.

12 MALE VOICE: Okay.

13 MALE VOICE: I saw on the security that  
14 you have to -- for the new website, you have  
15 to put your name and email before your  
16 password. How are you verifying people  
17 other -- I mean, anybody can create a -- you  
18 know, an email account. So when they submit  
19 their map, you know, and set up the account.

20 TOM LEEK: Yeah. And so what is the  
21 premise of your question? That someone --

22 MALE VOICE: How are you verifying that  
23 the people that are saying -- you know, saying  
24 who they are when they submit these maps?

25 TOM LEEK: Yeah. That's a good

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1 question. I don't know the answer to that.  
2 But all the maps will come in. And they'll  
3 all be reviewed to see if they are compliant.  
4 Really, I'd be more -- more concerned about  
5 somebody having improper influence.

6 And you know, if you're making up an  
7 email, I'm not sure that you're going to get  
8 much influence that way.

9 MALE VOICE: Is there going to be  
10 primary (inaudible) data in the -- in the map  
11 building, as far as you know, registered  
12 democrats, registered republicans in a  
13 district --

14 TOM LEEK: Elections data? Eventually  
15 that will be a part of what the public gets to  
16 see. But it -- we're still -- listen, it's  
17 two hours old. We're still working on that to  
18 get that information out there.

19 You know, the -- we don't really  
20 consider that except to preserve minority  
21 districts.

22 FEMALE VOICE: That's it guys.

23 TOM LEEK: All right.

24 FEMALE VOICE: Thank you.

25 TOM LEEK: Thank you. Appreciate it

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1 very much.

2 (End of Video Recording.)

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## CERTIFICATE

I, Wendy Sawyer, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and transcribed the foregoing recorded proceedings, and that the transcript is a true record, to the best of my ability.

DATED this 5th day of March, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Sawyer", is written over a horizontal line.

WENDY SAWYER, CDLT

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