

**House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee  
September 23, 2021**

Transcript of video recording available at:  
<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/9-23-21-house-congressional-redistricting-subcommittee/>



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1 Tyler Sirois: The Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee will come to order. Kyle  
2 please call the roll.

3 Kyle Langan: Chair Sirois.

4 Tyler Sirois: Here.

5 Kyle Langan: Vice-Chair Tuck.

6 Kaylee Tuck: Here.

7 Kyle Langan: Ranking member Skidmore.

8 Kelly Skidmore: Here.

9 Kyle Langan: Representatives Beltran.

10 Mike Beltran: Here.

11 Kyle Langan: Benjamin.

12 Christopher Benjamin: Here.

13 Kyle Langan: Brown, Brown? Fabricio.

14 Tom Fabricio: Here.

15 Kyle Langan: Fetterhoff.

16 Elizabeth Fetterhoff: Here.

17 Kyle Langan: Fischer.

18 Jason Fischer: Here.

19 Kyle Langan: Giallombardo.

20 Mike Giallombardo: Here.

21 Kyle Langan: Harding.

22 Joe Harding: Here.

23 Kyle Langan: Hunschofsky

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Christine Hunschofsky: Here.

Kyle Langan: Joseph, Joseph? Massullo.

Ralph Massullo: Here.

Kyle Langan: Morales

Daisy Morales: Present.

Kyle Langan: Perez.

Daniel Perez: Here.

Kyle Langan: Plakon.

Scott Plakon: Here.

Kyle Langan: Silvers, excused. Toledo?

Jackie Toledo: Here.

Dana Trabulsy: Here.

Kyle Langan: Williamson.

Jayer Williamson: Here.

Kyle Langan: A quorum is present Mr. Chair.

Tyler Sirois: Thank you very much Kyle. Members, good morning A few reminders before we begin. Please silence all electronic devices and if you wish to make a public comment and did not fill out a form online before the meeting please fill out a form now and turn it into the sergeant's staff. Also, as a reminder for our members and presenters, please ensure that you turn on your microphone when you're speaking and turn it off when you are finished. Members, redistricting is a once in a decade process. I am honored that Speaker Sprowls and Chair Leek have entrusted me with this responsibility to serve as chair as the Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee and I look forward to working with each of you throughout this process. I'd like

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1 to first and foremost, thank Vice-Chair Tuck and Ranking Member Skidmore who will be my  
2 partners in spearheading this process. So I look forward to working with you both. I would now  
3 like to introduce our redistricting staff. Jason Poreda is our chief map drawer. Karen Dearden is  
4 our external affairs chief, and Kyle Langon is our policy analyst. We have a few additional team  
5 members that are at the other subcommittee meeting this morning and they include Staff Director  
6 Leda Kelly, Policy Analyst Sam Wagner, and DJ Ellerkamp, our administrative assistant. As you  
7 look around at your fellow committee members and those of the Redistricting Committee and  
8 our other subcommittee, you will realize that we have over 50% of the House. That's 62  
9 members involved in this committee process. We also have all four corners of the state  
10 represented all the way from the Panhandle to Northeast Florida, to the I-4 Corridor and to South  
11 Florida and the Keys with urban and rural areas represented.

12 Members, Chair Leek gave a similar educational presentation during yesterday's big  
13 Redistricting Committee. I will be presenting some similar information today, because I feel it is  
14 important to ensure all of our committee have the same foundational knowledge as we move  
15 forward in this process. On a personal note, I'd like to add, this is my first chairmanship so  
16 please bear with me if there's any bumps and bruises along the way. The last time we met on the  
17 House map was 2012. Fast-forward ten years and the vast majority of the House of  
18 Representatives is new to redistricting, including myself. So I want to start by giving some  
19 context. While the House map was constitutionally upheld in 2012, there were successful court  
20 challenges to both the congressional plan and the Senate plan throughout the subsequent years. It  
21 is important to remember that during the 2012 redistricting cycle the members and staff were  
22 implementing two brand new substantial constitutional amendments. They did not have the  
23 benefit of historical reference or court precedent to guide them through their process. However,

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1 we do. The Speaker and Chair Leek have made it consistently and abundantly clear that the  
2 House of Representatives will conduct this process in compliance with the Florida Constitution  
3 and relevant federal and state legal standards including relevant court precedent.

4 Now, I want to point out that only five members in our entire chamber were part of the  
5 last redistricting cycle and only three of them were with the House of Representatives. That  
6 creates a noteworthy responsibility for our committee to undertake a thorough educational effort  
7 to ensure that everyone has the understanding that they need to be able to propose, analyze, and  
8 most importantly, vote, on legally compliant boundaries. Throughout our initial committee  
9 meetings this fall we're going to build this foundational knowledge for members of the  
10 committees including such things as the methodologies that guide how we draw and analyze  
11 districts and the related policy decisions that we face as we draw and debate boundary lines. That  
12 time will come.

13 The subcommittee's first lesson begins today with an explanation of redistricting  
14 terminology and an overview of the United States Census Bureau. We will also demonstrate for  
15 you the new website that was launched yesterday that contains important recourses for you and  
16 your constituents. That website is [floridaredistricting.gov](http://floridaredistricting.gov). In subsequent committee weeks, we  
17 will train members in our map drawing software. This training will teach members how to use  
18 the software to draw districts, how do use the reporting tools to analyze what you drew, and how  
19 to activate advanced tools within the software to make drawing as efficient as possible.

20 We will also provide members with an understanding of the legal landscape surrounding  
21 redistricting. This landscape will be true to established law, not third-party interpretation. Then,  
22 once that foundational understanding established across our committees, we will begin  
23 workshopping maps. It is critical for members to understand how these activities and decision

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1 points may interact with one another and how they should be weighted when considering where  
2 boundary lines are placed. Without proper context for members to understand, the issues, and  
3 standards, we are not properly preparing ourselves to take votes on compliant district  
4 lines. Redistricting is a precise and technical process and creating this framework is also  
5 consistent with Speaker Sprowls' approach of education, training, and preparation.

6 Before we get into the substance of today's meeting, I want to address a couple of  
7 additional items. Members, first let's talk about record retention. The House of Representatives  
8 continues to urge all members to retain all records related to redistricting. These records can  
9 include documents and correspondence including emails and texts, regardless of whether they  
10 were sent or received on your public or personal devices or accounts. The House also continues  
11 to urge all members to avoid private conversations about redistricting with individuals who have  
12 a vested interest in the outcome of this process and to keep their comments about the redistricting  
13 process in alignment with the constitutional standards that apply to redistricting plans. If you  
14 have any questions regarding this process or this guidance, please reach out to the House General  
15 Counsel's Office.

16 Next, I want to address committee procedures. While the redistricting subject matter may  
17 be new to many of you, the filing of bills and amendments will follow traditional House  
18 procedures we are all familiar with. If you wish to submit a map as a bill, it will count towards  
19 your bill allotment and you are subject to the submission and filing deadlines. If you wish to  
20 amend a committee work product or another member's bill, those amendments will be heard  
21 through the standard committee process and are subject to the same respective deadlines. As  
22 members of our subcommittee, we will propose and analyze maps in our committee of  
23 jurisdiction and we will then pass those maps on to the full Redistricting Committee for

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1 consideration.

2 Members, the last thing I'll touch on is expectations for map submissions. As I've  
3 mentioned, the House of Representatives expects transparency in how input for our work product  
4 is received, reviewed, and considered. You should not be naive to the fact that external entities  
5 and individuals want to influence this process in a way that may not be compliant with the law.  
6 Similar to the House of Representatives' high standards for lobbyists' disclosures. The goal of  
7 transparency is to bring awareness to the process of individuals who may be trying to assert their  
8 undue influence into our process. If you choose to submit a map as a part of this redistricting  
9 process, you should be prepared to disclose any and all individuals who assisted you in creating  
10 the map. Similarly, submissions by members of the public will be accompanied by a form  
11 inquiring about groups or individuals with whom they collaborated and whether any form of  
12 compensation was received and returned for comments and submissions.

13 The work we have ahead of us is exciting but we cannot overlook the gravity of what we  
14 are charged to do. It is quite an undertaking. This important work occurs every ten years and it's  
15 worth noting that the legislature only has two constitutional obligations: to pass a budget and to  
16 redistrict. We should all be honored to carry out this responsibility and I look forward to working  
17 with you all in the task ahead. To produce legally compliant maps that will well serve the people  
18 of Florida. I would like to pause here for any initial questions. If there are no questions, we will  
19 move into our presentation. Alright let's get to it.

20 Members, what we're covering today are the initial foundations for everything that we  
21 will discuss in this committee. During today's presentation, we're going to cover some of the  
22 basic terminology that you will hear repeatedly over the next several months. We'll provide  
23 everyone with background on the United States Census Bureau's role in the redistricting process,

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1 including where our data comes from. We'll discuss the results of the 2020 Census and what  
2 Florida looks like today. As well, as be able to show you our very recently launched redistricting  
3 website.

4 What is redistricting? Why are we doing it now? What are we required to do? This slide  
5 will cover some terminology that are commonly used and they are interchangeable, but there are  
6 some important distinctions that I would like to point out between reapportionment and  
7 redistricting. Reapportionment or apportionment is the process of redistributing districts of a  
8 legislative body within a particular jurisdiction. Most commonly, this is the process used to  
9 establish how many seats there are in the United States House of Representatives for each of the  
10 50 states. Redistricting is the process of drawing district boundaries, usually after a decennial  
11 census to ensure that each district has equal population.

12 The applicable federal law. We have Article I, Section 4 of the United States  
13 Constitution, often referred to as the Elections Clause of the Constitution. It's what gives  
14 authority for redistricting to each of the state's legislatures. The 14th Amendment is the Equal  
15 Protection Clause and it has been interpreted to mean substantial equality of population among  
16 districts. Now members, when talking about congressional districts, this means that the  
17 population of each district that we will achieve will be plus or minus one person. This is different  
18 from state legislative districts, where there is a general standard of a 10% population deviation  
19 range that the courts have deemed to be an acceptable range. We will go into this in a bit more  
20 detail in a few minutes. Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act establishes protections for majority-  
21 minority districts, continuing on our discussion of federal law.

22 Article III, Section 16 of the Florida Constitution establishes that the overall timeline  
23 gives authority for legislative redistricting in Florida to the Legislature. It also has some very



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1 basic standards that we must follow. The Florida Constitution does not dictate a timeline for  
2 redistricting congressional boundaries. As a matter of tradition and efficiency, the Legislature  
3 undertakes both the state legislative and congressional redistricting at the same time. State  
4 legislative boundaries are passed as a joint resolution. The congressional boundaries that our  
5 subcommittee will work on are passed as a bill. This means congressional maps go directly to the  
6 governor for signature, like any other bill. Whereas, House and Senate maps undergo a Florida  
7 Supreme Court review. We'll discuss this process further in a few slides.

8 Continuing on Florida law, Article III, Sections 20, and 21 of the Florida Constitution  
9 were added in 2010 and the bottom line is this. These two articles, these two sections, excuse me,  
10 are part of the Florida Constitution and like with any other part of the Constitution we have made  
11 an oath to follow them. Members, I want to underscore that it's very important. I want this  
12 committee to be fully engaged, aware, and educated and it's important to understand not only  
13 redistricting at a conceptual level but the context of the legal guideposts, such as our  
14 constitutional standards that we must follow. Within our first couple of interim committee  
15 meetings, we will thoroughly exam these standards. This decade we have the added benefit of  
16 history and court precedent, something that the prior decade's members and staff did not. So we  
17 have a better understanding today than the legislature did ten years ago about how we implement  
18 these standards. So let's take a look at the standards.

19 The Florida Supreme Court has made it clear that the standards for redistricting have two  
20 distinct tiers, and I'd like to take a moment to read the Tier One and Tier Two standards to you.  
21 Under Tier One, no apportionment plan or individual district shall be drawn with the intent to  
22 favor or disfavor a political party or incumbent. Districts shall not be drawn with the intent or  
23 result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to

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1 participate in the political process, or diminish their ability to elect representatives of their  
2 choice. Districts shall consist of contiguous territory. Under our Tier Two Standards, districts  
3 shall be nearly equal in population as is practical. Districts shall be compact. Districts where  
4 feasible will utilize existing political and geographic boundaries.

5 Tier One prohibits favoring or disfavoring any political party or incumbent. Tier One  
6 protects racial and language minority groups' ability to elect candidates of their choice, using  
7 language similar to what is in Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Tier Two provides that the  
8 districts be nearly as equal in population as practical, be compact, and follow existing  
9 geographical and political boundaries. As was mentioned on my previous slide. Tier One takes  
10 priority over Tier Two standards in case of a conflict, and with each tier, the standards are equal  
11 amongst one another.

12 Continuing on Florida law these are other statutes that are relevant to this  
13 process. Chapter 8: Defines the technical boundaries of congressional districts. Chapter 10:  
14 Defines the technical boundaries of State Senate and House districts. And Chapter 11 of Florida  
15 Statutes provides that the Florida Legislature use the latest federal decennial statewide census for  
16 the apportionment process.

17 Now let's talk about our timeline for this process. What is shown here is important dates  
18 for what has already happened in this process, where we are now, and the important dates for  
19 what is to come in the future. As you can see, we are still in the middle of this process and the  
20 bulk of our work is just beginning. If you look at the chart and I apologize on the screen. It's a  
21 bit difficult to see here. But what we anticipate is we have the data now that we will need to  
22 proceed. We are on track to begin our work of analyzing maps through the committee process  
23 that we have during the interim committee week period and we will take up work products

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1 during the regular session. If you take a look at the slide and I apologize that it is a little bit  
2 difficult to see, but what we're looking at now is the 2022 regular session, of course, convenes  
3 on January 11th. That is our constitutional period to begin working on our product during  
4 session. Our goal is to have things completed by the 60th day of the regular session. So you'll  
5 note on your calendar here that this is all-important in terms of our schedule because the  
6 candidate qualifying period begins on June 13th of 2022. That slide kind of helps you get a view  
7 of the schedule that we will have moving forward. Because Article III, Section 16 of the Florida  
8 Constitution states that Florida will approve new districts in the second year after the decennial  
9 census, we're still on track to complete this process on time and on schedule. Even given the  
10 delay in the state's receiving of the Census data.

11 I'd like to move on now to discuss the United States Census Bureau and provide a little  
12 bit more background on how this process plays in. First, we'll cover some terminology. The  
13 United States Census Bureau is charged with conducting the decennial census with the mission  
14 statement for the Bureau being, "Count everyone once, only once, and in the right place for the  
15 census." The decennial census is the enumeration or complete count of every whole person,  
16 which is conducted every 10 years. Apportionment counts are the number of seats that each of  
17 the 50 states receives in the United States House of Representatives.

18 Redistricting data. This is the PL data, referring to Public Law 94-171, which directs the  
19 Bureau to deliver to the states the product that contains summary statistics on population,  
20 demographics, and housing. Population counts for the total population and for the population 18  
21 years of age and over are presented by race, and by Hispanic or Latino origin, and for the total  
22 group quarters population by major group quarters type. We will specifically explore this item in  
23 a couple of slides.

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Continuing on federal law, Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution. This is the section that requires the decennial census to be conducted and that the count of whole persons be an actual enumeration of those people. This means an actual count of every person. Title 13 establishes the United States Census Bureau as the agency that is to conduct the decennial census and requires them to provide the data accurately and in a manner that protects the privacy of those being counted. Public Law 94-171 directs the Bureau to deliver to the states the product that contains summary statistics on population demographics and housing. Population counts for the total population and for the population 18 years and over are presented by race, and by Hispanic or Latino origin and for the total group – group quarters population by major group quarters type.

How does the United States Census Bureau conduct the census? This is a sample image of the 2020 census form that was mailed out in the beginning of 2020. The first census was conducted in 1790 and is conducted every 10 years. The decennial census is the basis for reapportionment counts, federal funding allocation, and redistricting. The 2020 census is the 24th decennial census and first ever to be offered online. This was the first census, as I said, that allowed online responses. This greatly helped self-response rates. Especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Decennial census continued. 2020 presented unique challenges to us all and the United States Census Bureau was no exception. You can see here that the whole process to conduct and tabulating the census results were delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19, wildfires, hurricanes, and other factors. I'm not going to walk through every item on this graphic but we included it to illustrate the timeline challenges the Census Bureau faced last year. Their challenges did result in the delay of states receiving apportionment counts and redistricting data. While that is unfortunate, these delays did not delay our timeline here in Florida. We are still on

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1 track and on schedule to complete our redistricting process during next year's regular session,  
2 which is what our Constitution instructs us to do. Despite the delays from the United States  
3 Census Bureau.

4 Continuing on the decennial census, Florida's total enumeration was consistent with the  
5 national average of 99.9% of the total households for which the census bureau has a record for  
6 and they were counted in the 2020 census. As we also saw on the last slide. There are two main  
7 phases of data collection during a census. Self-response rate and non-reponse follow-up. Self-  
8 response is an individual completing the census questionnaire on their own. Whether by mail,  
9 phone, or online. Non-response follow-up is the Census Bureau going back into the communities  
10 and using administrative records to help complete the outstanding questionnaires. So you'll  
11 sometimes here this process referred to as imputation. What is reassuring is that Florida's total  
12 enumeration was 99.9% and this means that the count here in Florida was in line with the  
13 national averages completeness. The self-response rate and non-response follow-up rates in  
14 Florida were consistent with other states and with the overall national average.

15 Moving on into our apportionment counts. As we discussed before Florida will be getting  
16 28 congressional districts. One more than we had in 2010. This slide also shows you the ideal  
17 population for each district within each different type of map. For example, the ideal population  
18 is calculated by taking the 2020 population divided by the number of districts in the respective  
19 plan. These numbers are the guideposts for our districts as we begin drawing maps. Members I  
20 would like to point your attention to the slide under the 2020 count, you take the statewide  
21 population and divide it by 28, and that gives us our congressional district ideal population of  
22 769,221 persons.

23 Moving on, data from the United States Census Bureau. Now, that we've talked about the

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Census Bureau's process. Let's discuss the types of Census Bureau data that we will specifically use for redistricting. P.L. 94-171 redistricting Data is a detailed population data set and the basis for us to analyze and draw district boundaries. The geography support product details the geographical landscape of Florida. The two buckets of data and the products work together to enable our redistricting process. Continuing on redistricting data. P.L. 94-171 redistricting data, or P.L. data for short, is broken down into different census geography layers. The smallest being called blocks. This is detailed population data that is grouped by total population and voting age population and is then grouped by race and ethnic group. This data set also contains group quarters data. While this data is provided as part of the redistricting data, it has minimal involvement with the redistricting process. However, demographers and statisticians use this data for other analysis. The same data was delivered in a legacy format August 12th and the same data was then again delivered officially in a more user-friendly format just last week on September 16th. Continuing on redistricting data, the census questionnaire asked a variety of questions however, there are two that are specifically important for the redistricting purposes. The first is question 8 which ask the respondents to identify their ethnicity this results in two categories, Hispanic or Latino, or not Hispanic or Latino. Continuing on redistricting data, question 9 asks a respondent to identify their race, resulting in six categories. Members you see them listed on the slide. American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, White, or Other Race.

If you look closely at the census questionnaire, you can see how the Census Bureau has provided some examples of what is contained within each of those racial categories. If a respondent selects multiple categories, using guidance from the United States Office of Management and Budget, they are counted in each racial category that they selected. You will

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1 see these categories again from questions 8 and 9 as we go through the software and understand  
2 the legal requirements especially surrounding the protection of benchmark minority districts.

3 Now that we've talked about how the population data is collected and how people can  
4 identify themselves let's talk about geography. The geography support products are produced by  
5 the Census Bureau and are essentially a breakdown of the landscape of Florida into different  
6 geographic units. These units are then used to draw districts. Census blocks are the smallest unit  
7 of geography defined by the United States Census Bureau. They range in size from individual  
8 parcels of land to city blocks to larger areas. Regardless of city size or population, they serve as  
9 the building blocks for the other units of geography. Now we'll take a closer as the committee  
10 works the the map drawing application and you will be able firsthand how these units of  
11 geography and the associated population counts give us a detailed picture of Florida's  
12 population.

13 Now, members bear with me, I know we're diving in here and it's getting a little long but  
14 we're working through it. We've covered a lot of terminology and baseline details. Now let's  
15 take a look at some of Florida's top line results from the 2020 Census. Representative  
16 Hunschofsky this is the part you were looking forward to. These are some pretty cool slides too.  
17 You can see Florida's 67 counties and which ones grew in population. The darker the green  
18 indicates a greater percentage change in population. The lighter colored counties lost population  
19 when compared to the 2010 population counts. The counties with the biggest increases were  
20 mostly in the Central Florida area. Many of the more rural counties of Florida lost population,  
21 which was consistent with national trends. Members, these slide shows the counties with over  
22 20% growth that we saw in the previous slide. So counties with over 20% growth include  
23 Osceola, St. Johns, Sumter, Walton, Lake, Orange, Santa Rosa, Manatee, Nassau, Lee, Pasco,

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1 Flagler, and Polk County. Again, these are the counties with 20% growth.

2 On the next slide, members, you will see counties that lost populations from what we saw  
3 on the previous slide. Those counties include Gulf, Hardee, Lafayette, Calhoun, Madison,  
4 Glades, Gadsden, Hamilton, Jackson, Liberty, Taylor, DeSoto, Jefferson, Putnam, Holmes,  
5 Okeechobee, and Bradford County. Members on this slide you will see Florida's top 10 largest  
6 counties as of 2020. They include Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, Orange,  
7 Duval, Pinellas, Lee, Polk, and Brevard. As I said these are the top 10 largest counties and they  
8 are the same 10 counties as in the 2010 Census. However, Duval overtook Pinellas County for  
9 the number six spot this decade. Members this slide shows you Florida's top 10 smallest  
10 counties. These are the smallest counties in the state. Also comprised of the same 10 counties as  
11 in 2010. These counties are Liberty, Lafayette, Glades, Franklin, Calhoun, Hamilton, Gulf,  
12 Jefferson, Union, and Dixie County.

13 Members, Florida's municipalities. As of April 1, 2020, Florida has 412 incorporated  
14 municipalities, compared to 411 in the last decade. During the decade, Estero, Indiantown, and  
15 Westlake become incorporated. Hastings and Islandia became unincorporated. Although  
16 currently unincorporated, members you may recall from last session, Weeki Wachee was still  
17 incorporated as an area in January 2020 when the United States Census Bureau finalized their  
18 geography support products as well as on April 1, 2020 when the 2020 Census was conducted.  
19 Therefore, Weeki Wachee appears in this decade's census as an incorporated city. Yes, I'm sorry  
20 Representative Benjamin, you wanted me to say Weeki Wachee one more time. Did you want to  
21 make a point of order? Did I pronounce that incorrectly? Weeki – All right we'll make sure that  
22 is noted in the record. Thank you very much. Members moving on. This slide covers Florida's  
23 top 10 largest municipalities. These are the top 10 in Florida in this decade. Cape Coral jumps



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1 into the top 10 after being ranked 11th in 2010. So our top 10 largest municipalities:  
2 Jacksonville, Miami, Tampa, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Hialeah, Port St. Lucie, Tallahassee, Cape  
3 Coral, and Fort Lauderdale.

4 Members, this is a slide similar to the county slide, but shows how each House district  
5 has changed in population. The darker the green indicates larger percentage growth. Again,  
6 seeing notable growth depicted along the I-4 corridor. Members this slide depicts Florida Senate  
7 districts. This shows a similar pattern as State House. But the slide is obviously at a less granular  
8 level. Lastly the congressional districts. Again members, the green indicates more population  
9 growth and the lighter color indicates less population change. Now members, you have heard  
10 enough from me I'm excited and pleased to turn it over to Mr. Poreda to review our website with  
11 us. Mr. Poreda you are recognized.

12 Jason Poreda: Thank you Mr. Chairman and now with the help of Kyle we'll go through  
13 the website, which was launched yesterday afternoon, and I'm sure you guys have seen on  
14 Twitter and news articles that it was launched and maybe you have even checked it out on your  
15 own. But we'll demonstrate it here in committee so you can see it more closely. First this is a  
16 joint website that the Florida Senate and Florida House constructed together to put out to be a  
17 repository for all the important redistricting data and information that will be used throughout  
18 this process. The Florida House and the Florida Senate have elected to use Esri as a vendor for  
19 this website and for our redistricting application, which will be a part of this website and  
20 available to everyone in the state. Kyle if you want to click on the website. Here you go; this is  
21 the homepage of Florida Redistricting. The first thing I want to note is that we have embedded  
22 the Google translate feature into the website. So with this button right here you can translate the  
23 website into any language or whatever your native language happens to be. So all the

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1 information will be available to everyone and however they want to see it.

2 This is the homepage with an introduction to the Florida Redistricting and everything else  
3 that is available on the website. Part of the reason we selected going with the Esri vendor is it  
4 enabled us to really make this website an incredibly interactive and powerful tool for everyone in  
5 the state to view data and to analyze the state. In this window right here if you click explorer, this  
6 will let anyone in the public see interactive maps very similar to the slides that Chair Sirois just  
7 demonstrated to you before. By all the three different district maps in Florida and what is  
8 displayed here is a little bit different than the percentage population, growth slides that we  
9 showed. This is an over/under the ideal population for each district based on the total number of  
10 districts in the map. You can zoom into these districts and move around and get really, really  
11 detailed if you want. It's a very powerful tool for analyzing the state. As Kyle just did if you  
12 click on each of the districts it will show you what the ideal population is, what the current  
13 population total population is based on the 2020 Census and its deviation from that ideal with a  
14 percentage. Scroll down a little bit more Kyle. Okay and at the bottom here, you'll see contacts  
15 and everything else.

16 Go up to the About tab. Here on the About tab this will go through some of the  
17 terminology that we went through today in today's presentation. Including some Florida fast  
18 facts. We'll have that slide there so everyone can see what the total state population is. What it  
19 was in 2010, what it is now, and the differences along with all those different ideal populations.  
20 It also has a lot of information on the Voting Rights Act and all of the other pertinent  
21 information. A lot of which we went through in the slides today. It also has some buttons for the  
22 process in general. So everyone can know what we're going through and the timeline that we  
23 also presented today. Those are available on the website for everyone to see. So everyone has all

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1 the information about what we are doing and how we are doing it and when we are doing it.

2 Then there is a tab for each committee. This is the tab for the House website. You can see  
3 there our redistricting committee and as you scroll down you'll see all of the subcommittees  
4 displayed beneath that. Beneath each of that, there is a link back to our subcommittee webpage  
5 on myfloridahouse.gov along with all the member pages. All of the publications that we will be  
6 making throughout the committee process as well as a link to watch the videos of all of our  
7 committee presentations on there. It is accessible on a single place for anyone to see and have all  
8 that information. There is also some buttons down below with any additional memos or  
9 correspondence that we put out as a committee or perhaps the House puts out in general. There's  
10 the same link that's available on myfloridahouse.gov to find your elected officials we have  
11 placed that here. You can track bills including all the redistricting bills once they get filed. Also,  
12 some people want to appear in committee and want to fill out a notice we put that link down  
13 there as well. Down below is all the important dates so all of our committee meetings or  
14 whatever other important dates go on throughout the process that also links back to  
15 myfloridahouse.gov.

16 The Senate Committee page is very similar to the House page, but since this is a joint  
17 process and a joint website that we're going through the maps just like any other piece of  
18 legislation you need to pass through both chambers. So we were very fortunate to work with our  
19 Senate partners on this website in getting all the information for redistricting in the same place.  
20 So that there isn't two separate websites one for the House one for the Senate. Everything is all  
21 in the same place and they have very similar access to the Senate committee pages and the  
22 Senate website as we have for the House.

23 Now, on the Resources tab this is an exciting place here on the website that has access to

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1 a lot of information. You see these three buttons here. These will bring up, what Esri calls story  
2 maps, and if you click on each of those, we actually have it up on another tab because it  
3 sometimes takes a little bit of time to load. If you bring that up a story map so you can go  
4 through all of the districts and as you scroll down it actually goes through all of the maps and  
5 will update in real time, there is even a box to describe why that map was passed or what the  
6 circumstances were behind that map being passed. As you scroll down you can see the districts  
7 change and you can go all the way back to the 1980s when Florida switched to single member  
8 districts. You can even, on that map, Kyle, you can scroll down through all the different decades,  
9 but you can even zoom in on that. Zoom out or zoom in so you can see a greater level of detail  
10 on whatever districts you want to take a look at. That's a real exciting and powerful tool. Below  
11 that, we have all of the redistricting terminology and glossary some of which the Chairman went  
12 over today, as well as the Census Bureau's geography hierarchy and other information as well.  
13 Then below we have links to the actual Census websites along with the Florida Division of  
14 Elections since both of those sources are where all of the data that is important to this process get  
15 collected.

16 On the Get Involved tab. This is the page that probably a lot of people especially people  
17 in the public and yourself here in the chamber are interested. This is how people can get involved  
18 with the process. It includes a link to our map drawing application. That anyone in the public can  
19 click there. It's the same software that will be available to anyone in the public, members here in  
20 this committee, and all of our other committees or anyone in the House along with all of the  
21 staff. This is the same product that we will be using across the board. There is also a redistricting  
22 suggestion form. If people don't want to or can't click on the redistricting software and draw an  
23 actual map. There is a form so they can submit a suggestion to us in writing. There is also a

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1 quick start guide and a help manual to get started with the drawing application to guide people  
2 along the way. To kind of get them started drawing their own maps. Below that, there is even  
3 some tutorial videos that we've produced if people don't want to read the help manual and they  
4 want something a little bit more visual. There's a way here to get help getting started.

5 Finally, on the Contact Us page, you can see we actually have a joint email address that  
6 goes to both chambers for the public when they want help so they don't have to worry about  
7 contacting the House committee or the Senate committee or getting different information. We've  
8 created a central place where all of those help questions can go. That is the website and actually,  
9 the website is linked now on the homepage of myfloridahouse.gov. So you can access the  
10 website individually. If you scroll down you can see that there's a new button right there on the  
11 homepage for Florida Redistricting. So it is accessible to everyone. There is also a separate  
12 button for members available in Legis that will bring you to the map drawing application and  
13 portal simply because you all are more used to using Legis to file bills and whatnot so that button  
14 is there, available in the software. That's it Mr. Chairman.

15 Tyler Sirois: All right. Thank you very much for the presentation. I think that website is  
16 going to be a remarkable tool for all of us and for our fellow Floridians as well. Members, are  
17 there any questions? All right, yes. We have one public comment. Moving into public comments.  
18 Richard Templin, Florida AFL CIO. Is there anybody else from the audience wishing to provide  
19 public comment? Hearing none, thank you very much. Members I want to thank you for your  
20 time this morning. Ranking Member Skidmore, I'd like to invite you to offer some remarks if  
21 you would like.

22 Kelly Skidmore: Thank you so much Mr. Chair. I'm grateful to the Speaker to be  
23 appointed as ranking member to this committee and honored to be working with you, Chair

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1 Leek, and Chair Byrd and our Senate partners. I think this is going to be the most exciting of the  
2 committees because we have the challenge of adding the new seat and the guardrails of plus or  
3 minus just one person for each congressional seat. So these are some really exciting  
4 opportunities for us. On behalf of the Democratic Caucus, we are looking forward to fully  
5 participating and reaching and achieving the goal of fair and legal districts at the end of the  
6 process and looking forward to the next months of working with you, so thank you so much.

7 Tyler Sirois: Thank you very much, Ranking Member, and look forward to working with  
8 you as well. Members, I hope you found today's materials educational and a solid first step on  
9 our journey. A quick housekeeping note regarding the map drawing application that was  
10 launched yesterday. Committee staff will be reaching out over the next couple of days to provide  
11 you with your preregistered log in credentials. I encourage you to take time to explore our new  
12 website and familiarize yourself with our map drawing application. Also, keep your eyes open  
13 for an email about an upcoming Legislature University for additional training on the map  
14 drawing application. Members, thank you very much for your time this morning. This concludes  
15 our meeting agenda for today. Representative Benjamin moves that we rise. Unless there is an  
16 objection, the meeting is adjourned.



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