

**House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee
October 13, 2021**

Transcript of excerpt of video recording available at:
<https://thefloridachannel.org/videos/10-13-21-house-congressional-redistricting-subcommittee/>

EXHIBIT

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House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Tyler Sirois: Good afternoon members the Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee
2 will come to order, Sam please call the roll.

3 Sam: Chair Sirois?

4 Tyler Sirois: Here.

5 Sam: Vice-Chair Tuck?

6 Kaylee Tuck: Here.

7 Sam: Ranking member Skidmore?

8 Kelly Skidmore: Here.

9 Sam: Representatives Beltran? Beltran? Benjamin?

10 Christopher Benjamin: Present.

11 Sam: Brown?

12 Kamia Brown: Here.

13 Sam: Fabricio?

14 Tom Fabricio: Here.

15 Sam: Fetterhoff?

16 Elizabeth Fetterhoff: Here.

17 Sam: Fischer? Fischer? Giallombardo?

18 Mike Giallombardo: Here.

19 Sam: Harding?

20 Joe Harding: Here.

21 Sam: Hunschofsky?

22 Christine Hunschofsky: Here.

23 Sam: Joseph?

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Dotie Joseph: Here.

2 Sam: Massullo, excused. Morales?

3 Daisy Morales: Present.

4 Sam: Perez?

5 Daniel Perez: Here.

6 Sam: Plakon?

7 Scott Plakon: Here.

8 Sam: Silvers?

9 David Silvers: Here.

10 Sam: Toledo?

11 Jackie Toledo: Here.

12 Sam: Trabulsy?

13 Dana Trabulsy: Here.

14 Sam: Williamson?

15 Jayer Williamson: Here.

16 Sam: A quorum is present Mr. Chair.

17 Tyler Sirois: Thank you very much Sam. Members, a few reminders before we begin.

18 Please silence all electronic devices and if you wish to make a public comment, please fill out a
19 form and turn it into the sergeant's staff. Also, as a reminder for our members and presenters
20 please ensure that you turn on your microphone when you are ready to speak and off when you
21 are finished.

22 Members, with this being our second committee meeting I want to remind you again that
23 it is a noteworthy responsibility for our committee to undertake a thorough educational effort to

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 ensure that everyone has the understanding they need to be able to propose, analyze, and most
2 importantly, vote, on legally compliant boundaries. Today we will review some new updates that
3 have been rolled out on our website for accessibility and public input, as well as discuss some of
4 our map drawing application's advanced functionality and how those tools can assist us in
5 aligning with our current constitutional standards for map drawing.

6 Before we dive into the substance of our meeting, I want to take a moment to address an
7 opinion piece that was published last week. Chair Leek addressed this yesterday in the full
8 Redistricting Committee. While this piece is truly just the opinion of two professors at UF, it
9 alleges gross inaccuracies and attempts to cast a dark shadow on the work of this committee and
10 the undertaking before us. I don't want any of our members or any of our constituents to question
11 whether this process is being conducted above board, as the Speaker, Chair Leek, and myself
12 have been very clear from the beginning, this process will follow all laws and the Florida
13 Constitution.

14 The first inaccuracy this opinion piece alleges is that we are hiding elections data from
15 public view. This could not be further from the truth and as you will see today, this elections data
16 is fully accessible within our map drawing application, with the intent and the purpose of it being
17 used to conduct a functional analysis. Members, this functional analysis ensures that racial
18 language minority groups' ability to elect a candidate of their choice is not diminished, and that
19 is required by the Florida Constitution. The article also falsely states that we are shielding data
20 from public records requests. The contract that it referenced is written so that the Legislature
21 maintains the responsibility of responding to and producing public records, not any vendor or
22 contractor. The article also falsely insinuates that the Legislature is using geocoding services.
23 There are no geocoding services anywhere within our application. That technology is specifically

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 not being used in order to protect against favoring or disfavoring any incumbent, a constitutional
2 standard that we must also follow. Members, as we will all come to experience, there are outside
3 entities that will try to impute their own political desires into our process and harm the integrity
4 of our process, and we will not tolerate it.

5 So, with that, we'll move into the substance of today's meeting and I would welcome any
6 questions that members may have at the end of our presentation and agenda today. Members,
7 today we're going to look at some new upgrades to our website as well as some of Esri's
8 advanced functionality that will help us align with our constitutional standards. As we have been
9 doing, our goal is to continue educating this committee about the standards that will produce
10 legally compliant maps. With that being said, first up, let's talk about floridaredistricting.gov.
11 Members, I'd like to turn it over to Jason to review the website with us.

12 Jason Poreda: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me exit here out of the slideshow for a
13 minute. So this is the floridaredistricting.gov homepage and you can see here one of the pages
14 that I want to highlight today for you is the new Submitted Plans page. As promised, we rolled
15 this out and now anyone in the public, including all of the members here, can go onto this
16 website and see all of the plans that have been submitted by the public, and eventually all of our
17 committee products or member products, whether they be bills or amendments, will all be posted
18 here in an accessible format for anyone to see.

19 So first, let me just talk about the top of the page. You can see here there are three
20 buttons, when you click on these, you can see the currently enacted maps of all three. I'll click
21 on the congressional map plan here. Just to kind of give you a sense of when you click on that it
22 brings you to this Plan Details page that shows all the details of that particular plan and then all
23 of the other artifact files that come with it. Including all of the data reports, and all other ability

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 to download maps and upload them in any other program you want, in addition to our own
2 website. Real quick going down, you can see here you can sort by plan type. So you can look at
3 the type of plans that you are interested in, whether they be Senate, House, or congressional. You
4 can sort by where they are submitted from whether it be the courts, the Senate, the public, or the
5 House. That's kind of where the plan originates from, which chamber it originates from. You can
6 sort by plan name and a number of other items as well to filter down to see the plans you want to
7 see. As you can see down here when you come down into the body of the page, you can see all
8 the currently submitted plans that we already have in the system. You can see here it displays
9 four or five plans per page. You can click on the next page and see all the other ones that are
10 currently available including the currently enacted plans that are also linked at the top. Real
11 quick, on the first page here, I'm going to click on this first one, which is a congressional map
12 submitted by a member of the public. You can see here this has a very similar plan details page
13 that came up when I clicked on the congressional plan. You can see the number of districts, what
14 different plan it is. Where it was submitted from, and then also in case someone doesn't want to
15 launch the full redistricting application, which can sometimes be a little intimidating for some
16 people, just have the ability to look at the plan in a quick format, we have this web map button
17 here. When you click on that it brings up, it will take a second to load, and then bring up
18 something similar to Google Maps or other mapping software or website that people are very
19 familiar with. You can zoom around and look around. You can see here this is a congressional
20 map that this gentleman submitted and you can explore it all you want. You can't draw with this,
21 but this is a good way to explore and view any of the submitted maps that come in.

22 In addition to that, some of the plan files that are here that you can download including,
23 again, some of the data reports, the compactness report, which I will get into more later when we

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 talk about the actual software. You can download an actual image of it, but you can also
2 download a KMZ plan or a text file format. The plan file format will open in the Esri
3 redistricting software application that we have there. The text format and KMZ format are GIS
4 mapping formats that can open in other programs. The text format is actually a fixed text file
5 format or what is sometimes referred to as a block assignment file, which is literally just the
6 census block separated by a comma and then the district that block belongs to. Here in Florida
7 we have 390,066 census blocks. That file is just a list of 390,000 plus census blocks and what
8 district they belong to. That can easily be imported in any other redistricting application and have
9 those districts displayed and used in that program. Similarly, that same text format can be
10 imported into ours. So as I mentioned before this is the new Submitted Plans page that is
11 available for anyone.

12 Another page that got some updates after some feedback that we heard last time is the
13 Get Involved page. We've added some things here. The first thing I want to highlight is the
14 Provide Public Input button that we put here. This opens up a form right on the website that
15 people can fill out and submit back to us with their comments with a text box that they can fill in
16 down here. That is something that we have added to the website. I also want to point out that
17 we've added some assistance here because we've heard back because we have some PDFs
18 available on the site. Not everyone is familiar with how to use a PDF or have programs that can
19 open a PDF. In addition to the redistricting map submission form, it requires a digital signature.
20 Not everyone is familiar with how to put that on a PDF so we added some assistance here in case
21 anyone has questions with that. In addition, at the bottom of our page we added a link so people
22 can get a free version of Adobe Reader so they can view any of the PDFs that are available on
23 our site if they don't have that capability currently. In addition to that, some other items we're

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 working on. We're working with a translation service to have some of those PDFs translated in
2 some other languages to have multiple ones available on our website. So we're working on that
3 as well. Thank you Chair, that's it.

4 Tyler Sirois: Thank you very much Jason. Next topic I would like to discuss today is
5 focused on some of our map drawing application's advanced drawing tools, and how they can
6 help us analyze the constitutional standards by which we must make our maps compliant. For
7 those of you who were able to join us for Legislator University, consider this your 201 course
8 and for those of you who were not able to join us and for everyone's benefit, you can watch the
9 recording on myfloridahouse.gov and the training has also been made available at
10 floridaredistricting.gov. What I'd like to do now is walk through the next several slides so we
11 can discuss the concepts and the related map drawing tools and then I'll hand the microphone
12 back over to Jason to walk us through an actual demonstration of some of these tools.

13 Members, this slide I encourage you to always pay special attention to. These are the
14 guardrails that will be guiding us moving forward. First off, let's take a moment for a refresher.
15 The Florida Supreme Court has made it clear that Florida's constitutional standards for
16 redistricting have two distinct tiers. Tier One: A whole map or an individual district shall not be
17 drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party, or incumbent. Districts shall protect
18 racial and language minority groups' ability to elect candidates of their choice. And districts
19 shall consist of contiguous territory. In Tier Two: Districts shall be nearly as equal in population
20 as practicable, be compact, and where feasible, follow existing geographical and political
21 boundaries. It's important to remember Tier One standards take priority over Tier Two standards
22 in case of conflict. However, within each tier the standards are equally weighted amongst one
23 another. As we dive in, there is another important concept to keep in mind, as there is no single

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 correct map. There is no such thing as the best map. As seen even in our standards, all decisions
2 must be weighed among one another with the goal of drawing legally compliant maps.

3 We're going to start with the Tier Two standards. First up, let's talk about where feasible,
4 using existing political and geographical boundaries. From the Florida Supreme Court ruling in
5 2012, they delineated that political boundaries primarily encompass county and municipal
6 boundaries, which are our first two bullet points here. The court then went on to state that
7 geographical boundaries are easily ascertainable and commonly understood, such as rivers,
8 railways, interstates, and state roads. In the map drawing application there are two tools that we
9 will walk through that will coincide with the political and geographic boundaries: the Reference
10 Layer tool and the Boundary Analysis Report.

11 Next up is compactness. Districts shall be compact. In Florida, compactness has been
12 defined by the courts as geographical compactness in relation to the shape of a district. There is
13 no single official or best compactness test that the court relies on when reviewing redistricting
14 plans. The compactness measures shown on the screen here are the three scores that the Florida
15 Supreme Court supported during the 2012 redistricting cycle: the Reock, Convex Hull, Polsby-
16 Popper test. Each test is unique and places priority on a certain characteristic of a district.
17 Therefore, it is best to view them in tandem and in the context of your district, not in isolation.

18 Let's explore these three scores further. I hope everybody took geometry. A Reock score
19 takes the area of a district and finds the smallest minimum binding circle that fits around the
20 district. Like all three of these scores, the Reock score is rated on a scale of zero to one, with
21 values falling closer to one indicating a more compact district. Districts that are circular in shape
22 earn a higher Reock score. A Convex Hull score applies a similar principle but instead of a
23 circle, it uses a polygon. This measure accounts for indentations in districts that oftentimes a

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 square or a rectangular district will earn a higher Convex Hull score. The Polsby-Popper score is
2 a ratio of the area of a district to the area of a circle whose circumference is equal to the
3 perimeter of the district. This score accounts for jagged edges of a district. The more jagged the
4 edges of a district that the district has the larger the circle resulting in a lower score. There is also
5 another test, which is commonly referred to as the eyeball test. Oftentimes it's said that the
6 districts that look bizarre or oddly shaped may be evidence of a partisan or racial
7 gerrymandering. While that may be true in some situations, I would encourage this committee to
8 also consider that the state we live in has a very unusual geography itself, which will create
9 difficulty in the formation of these districts. For starters, we're a peninsula surrounded by water
10 on three sides of which we cannot move. Our counties are often uniquely shaped and may have
11 flags that come off one side of the county. In addition, very few of them are nice squares like you
12 may see in the western states. Members, think about our different counties. One example that we
13 discussed in the larger redistricting committee is Volusia County, where there appear to be fins
14 off of different sides of the county, so that's what I am referring to by flags. Compactness scores
15 are used for evaluation within the context of that district and as points of reference. The
16 compactness test function in the map drawing application calculates these scores for us for each
17 district.

18 Continuing on our constitutional standards, the Florida Constitution mandates that
19 districts shall be nearly equal in population as practical. In our map drawing application there are
20 two tools to help you view population figures at various levels of geography. The Identify tool
21 allows you to select units of geography and see how many population is contained within that
22 piece of geography. The Themes tool enables you to apply a color-coded theme across the entire
23 map, to which you can have color-coded pieces of geography that indicate population levels in a

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 given area.

2 Now let's move on to our Tier One standards. Districts shall consist of contiguous
3 territory. When defining district contiguity, the Florida Supreme Court has said a district lacks
4 contiguity when a part is isolated from the rest of the territory of another district or when the
5 lands mutually touch only at the common corner or right angle. In our map drawing application,
6 our Check Integrity functionality will evaluate the districts that you've created in your map and
7 identify, if any, that are not contiguous.

8 Moving on the last two constitutional standards, allow me to speak to a new concept I'd
9 like to introduce, called functional analysis. Last decade the court said a functional analysis can
10 be conducted to ensure the standard is met which states, must not deny or diminish a racial or
11 language minority group's ability to elect a candidate of their choice. This functional analysis is
12 conducted by analyzing registered voters, voter turnout, and election results for a given district.
13 Let me be clear: this elections data is not used on the front end to draw districts but as an analysis
14 tool on the back end to ensure that a district has been drawn based on population and that
15 protects the racial or language minority, as we are required to do. Using elections data on the
16 front end of the map drawing process could inherently violate other Tier One standards listed
17 here that prohibit us from favoring or disfavoring a political party or incumbent. This functional
18 analysis data is being made available as part of the Reports functionality on our map drawing
19 application. With that, I'd like to ask Jason to walk us through these examples and demonstrate
20 the functionality of our application.

21 Jason Poreda: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay, here you can see we are already in the
22 map drawing software. As the Chairman mentioned, any member who was not able to join us for
23 the Legislator University that we had that walked through some of the basic functions of the

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 website including how to log in and begin to navigate the map, I encourage you to go watch that.
2 We also have a lot of great tutorial videos on the website that can help you walk through some of
3 that stuff. We'd be happy to answer some questions too but today we're going to move past that
4 and talk about some of the more advanced functionality within the software that will help us
5 evaluate these districts and stick to the standards that the Chair just walked through very well.

6 The first functionality that I'm going to walk through is in this sidebar over here. This
7 little button with the arrow you can click and it's going to pop out what we the reference layers.
8 These reference layers include the currently enacted districted lines, primary and secondary
9 roads, railroads, cities, counties, and even hydrology to look at rivers and things like that. So we
10 will zoom in and demonstrate some of that for you. We'll go into the Tallahassee area. If I go
11 through here, turn them on, you can see if I turn on the Senate district lines I'm going to actually
12 turn off the fill there. You'll start to see some lines, do you see these green lines, just kind of pop
13 up. These are the House districts that just popped in. Then the congressional lines, which you
14 can't see because I have the congressional map open. They're red that kind of display over the
15 other red lines. Those are good reference points to use as you are drawing. Another helpful one is
16 called primary and secondary roads. As defined by the Census Bureau, these are interstate roads,
17 county roads, and we can use these on the tool so as you are drawing the districts you can try to
18 stick to those. Those lines, a little bit more than some other roads, where you can. This is a good
19 tool to help display that. I'm going to switch our base map to make our next one a little bit easier
20 to see. So you can see with the base maps, I just changed real quick I am now on a satellite view.
21 I'm actually going to turn on this light gray canvas and I'm going to turn on railroads, you can
22 see these orange lines pop up, as you can see them all throughout the state. So these are the
23 railroads that are throughout our state. We can use those to try to find some district lines.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Another one that's really interesting is cities, if I turn these on this illuminates all 412
2 incorporated municipalities and you can see if I zoom in here you can see them all illuminated
3 and you can see where their boundaries are. Kind of used in tandem with this is our Identify tool
4 which is down here on this tab here. If I identify from our place you can click on this little
5 Identify button here and I can click on, let's say, the city of Tallahassee and it illuminates
6 entirely and it shows all the statistics for the city of Tallahassee over here on the side. You can
7 see how all the racial breakdowns and everything else and if I scroll all the way to the bottom,
8 you can see the total population. You can see that for any of the geography layers that you see
9 here, with the exception of the road and the railways, because they're just lines. You can see the
10 population for all of those things throughout the map as we're drawing.

11 Now, what's really interesting is you can actually use this Identify feature as I've
12 identified the entire city of Tallahassee there. If I wanted to say, assign that to a district. I can
13 select an active district and I can use this and I can say assign to and then the entire territory of
14 the district of Tallahassee is now part of [audio skips 00:24:35]. If I turn on the colors, again
15 you'll be able to see that a little bit more. It is a little tough to see here. So that is a way to help
16 draw the district there. Moving on that's kind of a way of how to use the identify tool and as you
17 can see as I zoom in as we showed before you can see all the way down to the block level. You
18 can zoom out and see all the different types of geography. That's just a way of helping identify
19 the different layers throughout the map.

20 The next test that we have in here is the compactness test. This is a button here on the
21 Review tab that will open up a separate pop-up window that will have all the compactness tests
22 that the Chair talked about before, run by district. This is a separate pop-up window that can be
23 refreshed as you draw and you can see them and how the scores change as you're drawing

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 districts. So, you can see here the Reock test, the Convex Hull test, and the Polsby-Popper test.
2 So, it's doing all the math with those circles and polygons that everyone kind of panicked about
3 earlier. It's doing all of that behind the scenes so you don't actually have to see and all that. But
4 here are the ratios and as you can see as you get closer to one that is a better score. But looking at
5 them in tandem because they do test different things, as far as compactness, is the right way to
6 look at that. Don't look at it in isolation or try to achieve something [audio skips 00:26:25] or
7 this because you have to look in the context of everything else. That is a great tool to help as you
8 are drawing. You can actually get that same District Compactness Report as a PDF or an Excel if
9 you wanted to export that and keep that for later on a separate pop-up.

10 Also on the Review tab, we have the Check Integrity button, which will help, although
11 these tests are not required to submit a map, it will help evaluate your map and maybe identify
12 some places in the map as you're drawing to that you might want to change before you submit it
13 or as you're drawing.

14 The last one I'm going to draw your attention to is the Connectivity Check, which is the
15 test that checks for contiguity. If I click on here, you can see District 1 has two parts because it
16 has the one part that's over here and then it has the second part that one little block that I
17 assigned over there before in Tallahassee. So that will help you figure out that you've
18 accidentally created two separate parts for a district. It has different tests too. Again, none of
19 them are required but they will help you evaluate your map as you're drawing it.

20 The next thing I want to highlight is the rest of our reports that you see here. The top one
21 that's called VAP Summary is a very powerful report. It has the voting-age population statistics
22 default-selected to it, but you can select any of these fields and any of these folders that you see
23 available here, the last of which is the elections data that the Chair referred to for our functional

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 analysis. As you can see here as I open up these folders, you can see that we have elections data.
2 This is the registered voter data for the general election in 2020, '18, going all the way back to
3 2012. Then we have the voter turnout information available for all of the same elections and the
4 election results also available for all of the statewide elections throughout those same years. You
5 can select any fields you want add them to the report and export them. If you select PDF, you
6 can only do ten fields at a time because that limits the width of a piece of paper, basically, for
7 printing purposes. If you want more than that, select Excel and HTML and you could select the
8 entire list if you wanted and export it for the map that you drew to do the proper functional
9 analysis for whatever data points happened to be necessary for that particular evaluation so all of
10 that is available to everyone.

11 The next tool I want to show in the reports is in this Metes and Bounds category at the
12 end. It is a report that we call the Boundary Analysis, which helps quantify the political and
13 geographic boundary in following what boundaries that the districts are following. As you can
14 see, we have all these reference layers built into the program. So whoever had the program is
15 helping us come up with the ratio of how much of our district following those particular layers.
16 The report does take a few minutes to load because it is kind of intense. I've taken the liberty of
17 producing one separately and you can see here and then it pops up in the web browser as an
18 HTML, but I have to make that a little easier to read here. Copy that in a PDF so you can see. So
19 for every district it comes up with a percentage. So for city, that is the percentage that the district
20 follows city lines. For county lines, that's the percentage there. For roads and that's just primary
21 and secondary roads that we referred to earlier in that layer. Here's water, so any rivers, or
22 coastlines, or lakes that the district lines happen to follow. Here's railways and then here is the
23 remainder of the district that does not follow any of those particular things.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 This is another tool, like compactness scores, there is no perfect score. Every district has
2 to be looked at individually. There might be a reason why a district doesn't follow some of those
3 particular boundary lines in certain areas, particularly in the context of a congressional map,
4 where we have to achieve population equality so closely. So just keep that in mind that it is a
5 good tool to evaluate a district or its neighboring districts as you're drawing, because sometimes
6 improving the score in one district negatively impacts the districts of all the districts surrounding
7 it. So it is kind of a holistic view as you're looking at everything. So keep that in mind, but this is
8 a very good tool to have to help evaluate our districts as we move forward.

9 Then finally, the last thing I want to show you on the Create tab there is this Themes
10 button here. If I bring that up that's going to bring up this little window. That will let you display
11 the statistics that you see down at the bottom data grid down here, so all of the census racial
12 categories and total population and it allows you to color the map with them. It also allows you
13 to turn on labels so all of the census geography will have labels of whatever you've selected. So
14 for this particular example, I'm just going to use total population, have the color areas and you
15 can see I'm going to turn on the label. So if I click Update, everything will turn on and if I zoom
16 out to the county level, you can see that what is being displayed is the coloration so if you're red
17 you're a smaller county and if you're green, you're a bigger county and the different ranges
18 there. You can see the different ranges there and you can see the colors throughout the map,
19 actually, if I turn off the district fills, you can see the colors even more and all the labels
20 associated with them.

21 If I go down here to South Florida you can see Miami-Dade, Broward County obviously
22 are bigger counties so they are more green. As I zoom in and other geographies begin to display
23 so, we are no longer on counties currently we're on the tract level, which is a county subdivision.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 So you can see certain parts of the county are not very populated. I'm going to turn off the cities
2 so you can see all the other ones. Other parts of the counties are more populated. As I further
3 zoom in, the smaller and smaller pieces of geography start to display and if I get down far
4 enough you can start to see the labels pop on for even the tiniest of blocks. So you can see the
5 total population on all of these little tiny blocks. You can change this from universe to the VAP
6 category so you can change them to any of the other statistics that are available down on the data
7 grid below. And that's it.

8 Tyler Sirois: Alright. Thank you very much for the presentation. Representative Joseph
9 did you have a question?

10 Dotie Joseph: Sorry, is it possible to identify language minorities in addition to racial
11 minorities? And if so how do you do that on the map?

12 Jason Poreda: So the statistical categories available below are the ones that come from
13 the United States Census Bureau. So they are single-race white, non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic
14 Black, which is the combination of someone who has selected both Hispanic not Black, all other
15 population, and then to OMB guidance the combination of everyone that has selected Black or
16 everyone that has selected Hispanic.

17 Dotie Joseph: So that doesn't quite get to my question. I guess the reason I'm asking is, I
18 know this was the first the Census also took into account national origin, which can be used as a
19 proxy for the language minorities which is one of the legal criteria that we can look at. So are
20 you saying that does not exist in the current program or are – I just don't know how to look for
21 it?

22 Jason Poreda: I can talk to you further about that offline, so some of the language
23 minority categories are part of the American Community Survey, which is not part of the normal

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 census questionnaire form. So they are not part of the data statistics that we currently have
2 available.

3 Dotie Joseph: Right but the national origin is, like say for example, if somebody was
4 from Haiti, right.

5 Jason Poreda: Yeah.

6 Dotie Joseph: That would be a language minority and national origin that would happen
7 to correlate and that data was supposedly collected from the census this time. Well, we can talk
8 offline I guess about raising it.

9 Jason Poreda: Yeah, we can talk offline and talk about that and how the census compiles
10 that data and delivers it as part of the redistricting data that we get. We can talk about category
11 breakdowns and how they categorize some of those questions and roll them up before they send
12 them into the redistricting data that every state gets.

13 Dotie Joseph: Perfect, and then follow-up question Mr. Chair.

14 Tyler Sirois: Mm-hm. You're recognized.

15 Dotie Joseph: Going back to the other slide where you pulled the report and you showed
16 us that we could pull it as either an HTML or PDF, is there a way to extract that data either as a
17 CSV file or Excel spreadsheet or something where you can play with the data a little bit more?

18 Jason Poreda: You're talking about Boundary Analysis Report?

19 Dotie Joseph: That, yes, and also if you pull, let's say you went ahead and drew a map
20 and then you want to pull the data from that. Are you able to export that and if so how?

21 Jason Poreda: Yeah, so the Boundary Analysis Report displays and the HTML or PDF.
22 From the HTML, you could highlight and copy it down all you want.

23 Dotie Joseph: Okay.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Jason Poreda: The remaining statistics, if you click on the VAP Summary Report, and if I
2 click on the Excel version of that and I can click on any of these categories I want because if you
3 click on Excel you can literally select as many as you want.

4 Dotie Joseph: Mm-hm.

5 Jason Poreda: Then when you click okay, it downloads an Excel file to your computer.
6 You can also email that file to yourself. And that is an Excel that you can manipulate all you
7 want.

8 Dotie Joseph: Okay, and then from that report, separate from the report, is that the same
9 thing – let's say, okay somebody drew a map, right. They picked maybe three maps and they
10 want to play with. Are you able to download that data in the same way?

11 Jason Poreda: I'm sorry I'm not sure if I completely understand. So you can export the
12 actual districts so you can load them in a different program. That's a different thing than the
13 reports. But any of the data points that are available in the application you can download as an
14 Excel through the VAP Summary Report. You'll get a percentage and the raw total for all the
15 districts that you've drawn and you're going to get all of the data points but you could separately
16 export the KMZ or the text file, which will just have the district. It won't have the data
17 associated with them because that's just the district boundaries that can then be loaded in any
18 other program. But you can get either one either through the reports or through the export
19 functions.

20 Dotie Joseph: Okay so alright.

21 Tyler Sirois: I'm sorry Representative do you have another question?

22 Dotie Joseph: Yeah, yeah. Follow-up Mr. Chair. So just making sure I understand. Forget
23 the reports for a second.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Jason Poreda: Okay.

2 Dotie Joseph: Just downloading the data to be exported to a separate program. Can you
3 show me or show us how or where to do that? That's the part I don't think I follow.

4 Jason Poreda: Mr. Chair?

5 Tyler Sirois: All right, Jason.

6 Dotie Joseph: If that's okay.

7 Jason Poreda: Sure, so there's two different things we're talking about here. So you're
8 talking about the data that is associated with the districts? You can get that through the VAP
9 Summary Report in an Excel that you can download.

10 Dotie Joseph: Okay.

11 Jason Poreda: The district boundaries and how they're defined you can get that through
12 the file [video skips 00:37:52], a fixed text file format or a shapefile that could then be loaded, or
13 [video skips 00:37:59].

14 Dotie Joseph: [video skips 00:38:00] but not the underlying data. That will have to come
15 from the report?

16 Jason Poreda: Yes.

17 Dotie Joseph: Okay thank you Mr. Chair.

18 Tyler Sirois: Thank you Representative for the questions and I would point out to that
19 this is exactly what this process is for right now are those kinds of questions to build the
20 foundational knowledge that will allow us to move forward. So I appreciate your questions.
21 Representative Toledo for questions.

22 Jackie Toledo: Thank you Chair and thank you for the presentation. Can we overlay the
23 different submitted maps?

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Tyler Sirois: Mr. Poreda you are recognized.

2 Jason Poreda: Yes, any of the submitted maps that you see on the website you could
3 download the dot plan file and load them into this program. Or you could load them in a text
4 format as well. You can import them as that. But those are the two different file types that you
5 can import into our file program. But any of our submitted maps, publicly or otherwise can be
6 opened in our program.

7 Tyler Sirois: Recognized for a follow-up.

8 Jackie Toledo: Thank you. Is there a limit on how many we can overlay or can you open
9 all of them?

10 Tyler Sirois: Recognized.

11 Jason Poreda: I'm sorry ma'am at one time?

12 Jackie Toledo: That's right, so if we wanted to just look at all the different boundaries
13 and see if there is any trends in the different submitted maps.

14 Tyler Sirois: You're recognized.

15 Jason Poreda: Sure, so there is a function here on the review tab that is a plan comparison
16 function that allows you to compare two different plans at once. So you could compare two
17 different boundaries at one time but to do more than that you'd have to load one at a time. But
18 you are able to load as many as you want individually. Kind of like opening a Word document,
19 or something like that. But it does have a capability to compare two different plans at once.

20 Tyler Sirois: Other questions? Ranking Member.

21 Kelly Skidmore: Thank you Mr. Chair. Will there be additional Legislator University
22 classes for some of these in-depth questions that our members have? In terms of being able to
23 access the functionality a little bit better?

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Tyler Sirois: Thank you very much for the question. I think that's an ongoing discussion.
2 I would encourage members to continue to explore the application, to bring questions forward in
3 the committee setting. I think this is the perfect place where we all have the opportunity to learn
4 from each other through good questions. I think if there's a need, please feel free to discuss it
5 with me and I'd be happy to address it. Any other questions? Ranking Member, did you have any
6 comments before we conclude our session today?

7 Kelly Skidmore: Thank you Mr. Chair. Yes, I just wanted to make a few comments and
8 first, thank you and Chair Leek for commenting on the news article that we all read. That raised
9 some serious concerns. We definitely appreciate the response and the openness in which you
10 took to explain all of those pieces to us. We are all committed as I said before to open access to
11 the public and request again an opportunity for the public to participate. Notwithstanding the fact
12 that we have a lot of room in the committee today, as we move forward, I think this is going to
13 be an issue that the public cares deeply about. So we would request that using the technology that
14 is available to us create opportunities for people to participate and potentially access points at
15 libraries or wherever for those who don't have the ability to participate fully because they don't
16 have the equipment or the access. We want as fair a process as possible. I appreciate all of the
17 openness that you've shown to our members so far and there are a couple of our members who
18 are concerned about using bill slots, you know, to submit maps based on how technical the map
19 drawing process it. I'm not sure everyone would want to. But to the extent that you could share
20 those concerns with Chair Leek and Speaker Sprowls that if there is an opportunity at the
21 beginning of session to modify the rules before that gives us an opportunity to submit maps
22 without using a bill slot. That has been a concern of some of our members. The last thing is that I
23 completely appreciate the maps are being submitted already and that there's a public input portal.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 Just want to ensure that the public information that's being submitted is actually being read and
2 reviewed at the very least by staff or that we, obviously, we all have an opportunity as
3 individuals to go in there and look at it at our own pace. But just wanting to make sure staff who
4 are very engaged and involved in this process are also looking at what the public is putting on the
5 website and wishing to be seen. Thank you very much for the opportunity Mr. Chair.

6 Tyler Sirois: Thank you Ranking Member. A couple of comments if I may. First of all, I
7 think it's important for members to know, you and I are speaking and I value your friendship and
8 what you have to add, your perspective to this process. I was excited when I learned of your
9 appointment as ranking member, to have the opportunity to work with you in this capacity. As
10 far as public input goes, I can assure members that those conversations are continuing. I think
11 one of the things that we have the benefit from is an environment with our technology where
12 people can reach us and can make that available to us. This website is phenomenal. I think we
13 can all agree that the resource that it offers to the residents of our state and to this Legislature is
14 going to be something that I think we can all be very proud of moving forward.

15 On the subject of bill slots. I know that's a conversation that Representative Geller,
16 Ranking Member Geller on the large Redistricting Committee has as a priority as well. What I
17 will remind members is a couple things. First of all, for us to change the rules in order to do
18 something with the number of available bill slots we would have to do that during session. I
19 would remind members that we also recently had the number of our available bill slots increased
20 to seven. So keep that in mind. The other thing that you should keep in mind that there is an
21 unlimited number of amendments that you can offer as this process moves forward. I would use
22 that as a tool in your thinking as you're contemplating maps, as you're reviewing different ideas
23 and options. Use that amendatory process bill to [video skips 00:45:19] survives committee.

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 The other thing that I would like to just comment on very briefly is review of [video
2 00:45:35]. And I'll staff it [video skips 00:45:41] perspective and encouragement of all
3 committee members to take a look at the maps that our fellow Floridians are submitting through
4 our portal because there something if somebody has taken the time and create a submission to
5 send into the Legislature. You should take a look at it. But also how cool is it to see our fellow
6 citizens to taking advantage of these resources that we've put at their fingertips. So I would
7 encourage you to take the time to do that. I most certainly share your concerns and look forward
8 to continuing to work with your throughout this process.

9 We'll now move into public comments. Are there any members of the public that would
10 like to – we have no speaker cards, are there any members of the public that would like to share
11 some thoughts with us this afternoon? Ma'am are you sure? You look like you got something to
12 say.

13 Members, I know that this is a lot of information to take in and I've said before and I'll
14 say it again. Redistricting is not an easy task. Understanding the foundational concepts that
15 underlie the maps that we'll be voting on is a critical initial step. I appreciate the seriousness and
16 the good questions and the dedication that you bring to this committee. Hearing no further public
17 comments, Representative Joseph, yes. You are recognized.

18 Dotie Joseph: Awesome. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The only question I have is because I
19 don't sit on the larger Redistricting Committee. Other than the website is there another
20 mechanism contemplated for public participation?

21 Tyler Sirois: Thank you for the question. We have the website that's available. We are
22 looking at other options in terms of public input. We certainly have different means of
23 technology available to us. We have the public input process that is here available during our

House Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee – Oct. 13, 2021

1 committee schedule. I know that Representative Geller and Chair Leek discussed in the big
2 committee yesterday, discussed some different options in terms of public input. I know those
3 discussions are ongoing. So I hope to have so more information to be able to provide you at our
4 next committee meeting.

5 Dotie Joseph: Thank you.

6 Tyler Sirois: Thank you for the question. Members any other comments, questions? Vice-
7 Chair? All right, thank you very much. Representative Toledo moves we adjourn.



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Date: 12th November 2024

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