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January 19, 2024

Phillip Callais, et al.

vs.

Nancy Landry

**PLAINTIFFS'
EXHIBIT**

PE28

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THE CLERK: Mr. Speaker and members, Representative Beaulieu moves to advance to Regular Order No. 6, Senate Bills on Third Reading and Final Passage.

MR. SPEAKER: Without objection.

THE CLERK: Mr. Speaker and members, first instrument in this order -- only instrument in this order is Senate Bill 8 by Senator Womack: to enact Title 18 relative to congressional districts; provide relative to redistricting Louisiana's congressional district; provide with respect to offices, positions, other than congressional, which are based on congressional districts.

MR. SPEAKER: Representative Beaulieu on the bill.

REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Madam Clerk. Members, also, thank you. Thank you for your patience this week. I know we have been charged with a tall task, and your patience, your fortitude, your strong desires to represent your district, it's impressive. It's -- it's nice to see, especially -- especially with some of the new members. You've been awesome this week, and you've -- you've stood strong. And to say it's impressive is -- is -- is a -- is just the bit of it.

Page 2	Page 4
<p>1 Members, I'm bringing you this congressional</p> <p>2 redistricting map that Senator Womack presented. You've</p> <p>3 -- you've heard it debated a couple of times. You heard</p> <p>4 it in -- in committee as well. Yesterday, we added an</p> <p>5 amendment in committee to Senator Womack's bill. And so</p> <p>6 my first order of business, even before I make my</p> <p>7 opening remarks, is going to get this bill in a proper</p> <p>8 posture. I'd like to offer up an amendment to delete</p> <p>9 the amendments that we added in committee yesterday. So</p> <p>10 if you'll check your monitors, it's going to -- or Madam</p> <p>11 Clerk, would you mind reading in the amendment?</p> <p>12 THE CLERK: Mr. Speaker and members,</p> <p>13 Representative Beaulieu, as he's just discussed, is</p> <p>14 offering up a one-page set of amendments. That set is</p> <p>15 online. It's set number 83.</p> <p>16 REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: So, members, after</p> <p>17 hearing from a lot of you, it's my thought that this</p> <p>18 instrument was in its best posture when it came over</p> <p>19 here from the Senate. And so I am offering an amendment</p> <p>20 to put it back in that posture, and I'd ask for your</p> <p>21 support.</p> <p>22 MR. SPEAKER: I see no questions on the</p> <p>23 amendment. Representative Marcelle for the floor on the</p> <p>24 amendment.</p> <p>25 REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE: Thank you, Mr.</p>	<p>1 REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: Members, I just ask</p> <p>2 you to support the removal of the amendment that we</p> <p>3 added in -- in House and Governmental. Thank you.</p> <p>4 MR. SPEAKER: Representative Beaulieu has</p> <p>5 offered up an amendment which Representative Farnum</p> <p>6 objects. All those in favor, vote yea. All those</p> <p>7 opposed, vote nay. The clerk will open the machine.</p> <p>8 THE CLERK: (inaudible 0:04:34).</p> <p>9 MR. SPEAKER: Wright, yea.</p> <p>10 THE CLERK: Emerson, yea.</p> <p>11 MR. SPEAKER: Emerson, yea. Are you through</p> <p>12 voting, members? The clerk will close the machine. We</p> <p>13 have 84 yeas and 16 nays, and amendment passes.</p> <p>14 Representative Beaulieu on the bill.</p> <p>15 REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: Okay, Mr. Speaker.</p> <p>16 Thank you, members, for supporting me on that amendment.</p> <p>17 You'll bear with me for a second. So, members, I -- I</p> <p>18 appreciate you giving me the opportunity to be with you</p> <p>19 here today. Two years ago, I sat on the committee that</p> <p>20 -- that passed the original congressional map after</p> <p>21 redistricting, and we spent a lot of time going around</p> <p>22 the state listening to folks from all over our state.</p> <p>23 And this House, by two -- over two-thirds vote,</p> <p>24 supported a map that we thought was fair, that we</p> <p>25 thought was representative of the state of Louisiana.</p>
Page 3	Page 5
<p>1 Speaker and Chairman. And thank you, members. On</p> <p>2 yesterday, we had a pretty, I would say, heated debate</p> <p>3 in H&G about these amendments, and so I rise in support</p> <p>4 of removing those amendments. And I had a lot of</p> <p>5 questions after I got home about why didn't I object to</p> <p>6 the amendments, but I'd stepped out of the room and so</p> <p>7 that's the reason for me not objecting to the</p> <p>8 amendments. I did object to the bill because the</p> <p>9 amendments had been added.</p> <p>10 I know this is the process. I think that the</p> <p>11 bill was in its best posture when it came over with</p> <p>12 Representative -- I mean, with Senator Womack, Senate</p> <p>13 Bill 8. However, I tried to put that bill in a better</p> <p>14 posture. That matter failed. I know the process. I</p> <p>15 appreciate the process. And I appreciate the chairman</p> <p>16 taking that amendment off that I think does us no good</p> <p>17 to get to a better place where we can get the second</p> <p>18 congressional district. And I'd ask that you all would</p> <p>19 support the chairman in removing the amendment that was</p> <p>20 placed on there on yesterday. Thank you.</p> <p>21 MR. SPEAKER: Is there any objections to the</p> <p>22 adoption of the amendment? Representative Farnum,</p> <p>23 objection. Would you like to speak on your objection?</p> <p>24 Representative Beaulieu, would you like to close on</p> <p>25 your amendment?</p>	<p>1 As Senator Stine said earlier in this week,</p> <p>2 "It's with a heavy heart that I present to you this</p> <p>3 other map," but we have to. It's that clear. A federal</p> <p>4 judge has ordered us to draw an additional minority seat</p> <p>5 in the state of Louisiana. We have the -- the federal</p> <p>6 Voting Rights Act litigation is still going on in the US</p> <p>7 District Court in the Middle District of Louisiana. The</p> <p>8 map in this bill that I'm presenting is one of a product</p> <p>9 of long, detailed process with several goals.</p> <p>10 First, and as a lot of you are aware,</p> <p>11 Congresswoman Julia Letlow represents north Louisiana in</p> <p>12 our nation's capital and serves on both the</p> <p>13 appropriations and agricultural committees. The</p> <p>14 boundaries in the bill that I'm presenting ensure that</p> <p>15 Congresswoman Letlow remains both unimpaired with any</p> <p>16 other incumbents, and in a congressional district that</p> <p>17 should continue to elect a Republican Congress for the</p> <p>18 remainder of this decade.</p> <p>19 I have great pride in the work Congresswoman</p> <p>20 Letlow has accomplished, and this map will ensure that</p> <p>21 Louisianians will continue to benefit from her presence</p> <p>22 in the halls of Congress for as long as she decides to</p> <p>23 continue serving our great state of Louisiana.</p> <p>24 Second, of Louisiana's six congressional</p> <p>25 districts, the map and the proposed bill ensures that</p>

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

Page 6	Page 8
<p>1 four are safe from -- or safe Republican seats.</p> <p>2 Louisiana's Republican presence in the United States</p> <p>3 Congress has contributed tremendously to the national</p> <p>4 discourse, and I'm very proud, and it's remarkable, that</p> <p>5 both the speaker of the United States House of</p> <p>6 Representatives, Mike Johnson, and the US House majority</p> <p>7 leader, Steve Scalise, are both from our great state.</p> <p>8 This map ensures that the two men -- the two</p> <p>9 of them will have solidly Republican districts at home</p> <p>10 so they can focus on the national leadership that we</p> <p>11 need in Washington, DC. The map proposed in this bill</p> <p>12 ensures that the conservative principles retained by the</p> <p>13 majority of those in Louisiana will continue to extend</p> <p>14 past our boundaries to our nation's capital.</p> <p>15 Finally, the maps in the proposed bill respond</p> <p>16 appropriately to the ongoing federal litigation, the</p> <p>17 ongoing federal Voting Rights Act case in the Middle</p> <p>18 District of Louisiana. For those who are unaware of the</p> <p>19 background, the congressional maps that we enacted, that</p> <p>20 I mentioned a second ago, in March of -- in March of</p> <p>21 2022, have been the subject of litigation roughly since</p> <p>22 the day the 2022 congressional redistricting bill went</p> <p>23 into effect, and even before we enacted it. So the suit</p> <p>24 was filed before we actually enacted the bill.</p> <p>25 After a substantial amount of prolonged</p>	<p>1 -- the reason why District 2 is growing around Orleans</p> <p>2 Parish, while District 6 includes the Black population</p> <p>3 of east Baton Rouge Parish and travels up the I-49</p> <p>4 corridor and the Red River to include Black population</p> <p>5 in Shreveport.</p> <p>6 While this is a different map than the</p> <p>7 plaintiffs in the litigation have proposed, this is the</p> <p>8 only map I reviewed that accomplishes the political</p> <p>9 goals I believe are important for my district, for</p> <p>10 Louisiana, and for our country.</p> <p>11 While I did not draw these boundaries myself,</p> <p>12 and I'm bringing the bill to the floor for the --</p> <p>13 Senator Womack carried through the Senate and through</p> <p>14 committee yesterday in this House, I firmly submit that</p> <p>15 the congressional voting boundaries represented in this</p> <p>16 bill best achieve the goals of protecting Congresswoman</p> <p>17 Letlow's seat, maintaining strong districts for Speaker</p> <p>18 Johnson and Majority Leader Scalise, ensuring four</p> <p>19 Republican districts, and adhering to the command of the</p> <p>20 federal court in the Middle District of Louisiana.</p> <p>21 I submit to you this map, and I'll be happy to</p> <p>22 take any questions.</p> <p>23 MR. SPEAKER: Representative Taylor on a</p> <p>24 question.</p> <p>25 THE CLERK: She waives.</p>
Page 7	Page 9
<p>1 litigation, two trips to the Fifth Circuit asking it to</p> <p>2 reverse it, and a trip to the US Supreme Court, the</p> <p>3 federal District Court has adhered to its view that the</p> <p>4 federal law requires that the state have two</p> <p>5 congressional districts with a majority of Black voters.</p> <p>6 It's that simple. Our secretary of state, our attorney</p> <p>7 general, and our prior legislative leadership appealed</p> <p>8 but have yet to succeed. We are now here because the</p> <p>9 federal courts order that we have a first opportunity to</p> <p>10 act.</p> <p>11 If we don't act, it is very clear that the</p> <p>12 federal court will impose the plaintiff's proposed map</p> <p>13 on our state, and we don't want that. The District</p> <p>14 Court's order that we must have two majority-Black</p> <p>15 voting-age population districts, combined with the</p> <p>16 political imperatives I just described, have largely</p> <p>17 driven the boundaries for District 2 and District 6,</p> <p>18 both of which are over 50 percent Black voting-age</p> <p>19 population, or BVAP as you've heard discussed a lot in</p> <p>20 committees and may hear with folks discussing today.</p> <p>21 Given the state's current demographics,</p> <p>22 there's not a high enough Black -- Black population in</p> <p>23 the southeast portion of Louisiana to create two</p> <p>24 majority-Black districts and to also comply with the US</p> <p>25 Constitution's one vote, one person requirement. That a</p>	<p>1 MR. SPEAKER: She waives. Representative</p> <p>2 Amedee on a question.</p> <p>3 REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE: Thank you, Mr.</p> <p>4 Speaker. Rep. Beaulieu, thanks for carrying the bill</p> <p>5 over here. Is this bill intended to create another</p> <p>6 Black district?</p> <p>7 REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: Yes, ma'am, and to</p> <p>8 comply with the judge's order.</p> <p>9 REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE: Thank you.</p> <p>10 MR. SPEAKER: Seeing no further questions,</p> <p>11 Representative Bayham for the floor.</p> <p>12 (Pause.)</p> <p>13 REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM: When I ran for the</p> <p>14 legislature, I had one goal, and that is to give my</p> <p>15 community a voice. I've studied some of the plans that</p> <p>16 were submitted by my colleagues here. Representative</p> <p>17 Wilford Carter had a plan, I believe, that kept St.</p> <p>18 Bernard Parish intact, and I appreciate that,</p> <p>19 Representative Carter. I am here to stand up for my</p> <p>20 community. St. Bernard has never been split into two</p> <p>21 congressional districts. We've already been split into</p> <p>22 two Senate districts. And to be brutally honest,</p> <p>23 looking at the way these precincts are -- and I know</p> <p>24 every precinct. I've campaigned in every precinct in</p> <p>25 St. Bernard.</p>

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

Page 10	Page 12
<p>1 We have two precincts, for example, that are</p> <p>2 in the 2nd Congressional District. One, Precinct 24,</p> <p>3 gave President Trump 75 percent of the vote. Precinct</p> <p>4 25 gave President Trump 69 percent of the vote. Those</p> <p>5 are in the 2nd District. In the 1st District is</p> <p>6 Precinct 44, which gave President Biden 83 percent of</p> <p>7 the vote. Precinct 45 gave President Biden 85 percent</p> <p>8 of the vote. It seems like these precincts were just</p> <p>9 thrown together like a mechanical claw machine, just</p> <p>10 grabbing people and dropping them off.</p> <p>11 Now, I participated in the hearings on the</p> <p>12 congressional reapportionment where they toured the</p> <p>13 state, and I appreciated the leadership of the House and</p> <p>14 the Senate, the committees in doing this. I took</p> <p>15 advantage of it. I testified. We are being told that</p> <p>16 we have to redraw all of this in a period of less than</p> <p>17 eight days. That is not how you make sausage. That's</p> <p>18 how you make a mess. I cannot in good conscience vote</p> <p>19 for this bill that divides my community, and I will</p> <p>20 stand by that for my community. Thank you.</p> <p>21 MR. SPEAKER: There's no questions.</p> <p>22 REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM: Thank you.</p> <p>23 MR. SPEAKER: Representative Beaulieu to</p> <p>24 close on the bill.</p> <p>25 REPRESENTATIVE BEAULLIEU: As a colleague</p>	<p>1 -- on Senate Bill Number 8. I want to correct from</p> <p>2 absent to nay.</p> <p>3 MALE SPEAKER: Without objection.</p> <p>4 REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY: Thank you, Mr. --</p> <p>5 MALE SPEAKER: Representative Taylor moves for</p> <p>6 a motion to correct her vote.</p> <p>7 REPRESENTATIVE TAYLOR: Good afternoon. I</p> <p>8 would also like to vote from absent to yea on the</p> <p>9 amendment.</p> <p>10 MALE SPEAKER: Without objection.</p> <p>11 Representative Jackson moves to correct his vote.</p> <p>12 REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON: Yes. I want to</p> <p>13 change my vote from nay to yea.</p> <p>14 MALE SPEAKER: Without objection.</p> <p>15 REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON: Thank you.</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>
Page 11	Page 13
<p>1 mentioned earlier - sorry, Representative Cox, if I have</p> <p>2 to poach you - "Everybody likes to eat sausage, but</p> <p>3 nobody likes to see how it's made." And it's -- it has</p> <p>4 been painful, and it has been painful for all of us.</p> <p>5 But it's simple. We're under a federal judge's mandate,</p> <p>6 and this bill is our best attempt to comply with her</p> <p>7 decision. So, members, I ask you to support me in</p> <p>8 voting for this map. Thank you.</p> <p>9 MR. SPEAKER: Representative Beaulieu moves</p> <p>10 for final passage of the bill. Those in favor, vote</p> <p>11 yea. Those opposed, vote nay. The clerk will open the</p> <p>12 machine. Vote your machine, members. Members, are you</p> <p>13 through voting? The clerk will close the machine. We</p> <p>14 have 86 yeas, 16 nays, and the bill is finally passed.</p> <p>15 Representative Beaulieu moves to adopt the title, and</p> <p>16 moves to reconsider the vote for which the bill finally</p> <p>17 passed and lay that motion on the table without</p> <p>18 objection.</p> <p>19 MR. SPEAKER: Open the machine for co-authors.</p> <p>20 (Pause.)</p> <p>21 MR. SPEAKER: The clerk will close the</p> <p>22 machine. We have ten co-authors.</p> <p>23 MALE SPEAKER: Representative Bagley for a</p> <p>24 motion to move to correct his vote.</p> <p>25 REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY: I want to correct on</p>	<p>1 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION</p> <p>2 I, Nathan Pikover, COO of TranscribeMe, Inc.,</p> <p>3 do hereby certify that 291001-Audio-1-19-24_1es_day5 -</p> <p>4 Cut-Appended was transcribed utilizing computer aided</p> <p>5 means and the TranscribeMe transcription team.</p> <p>6 The transcript of the audio mentioned above,</p> <p>7 having been transcribed and reviewed by TranscribeMe,</p> <p>8 Inc. to the best of the company's ability, is a full,</p> <p>9 true, and correct transcription.</p> <p>10 I further certify that neither I, nor the</p> <p>11 TranscribeMe, Inc. transcription team, have any personal</p> <p>12 association with the parties involved or are in any way</p> <p>13 interested in the outcome thereof.</p> <p>14 Dated this 11th of March, 2024.</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 _____</p> <p>17 Nathan Pikover, COO TranscribeMe, Inc.</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>

4 (Pages 10 to 13)

A	2:9,14 3:3 3:4,6,8,9	2:13,16 3:24 4:1,4 4:14,15 9:4,7 10:23,25 11:9,15	2:6 BVAP 7:19	10:25 colleagues 9:16 combined 7:15
ability 13:8	amount 6:25	believe 8:9 9:17	C	command 8:19
absent 12:2,8	appealed 7:7	benefit 5:21	campaigned 9:24	committee 2:4,5,9 4:19 8:14
accompli... 5:20	appreciate 3:15,15 4:18 9:18	Bernard 9:18,20,25	capital 5:12 6:14	committees 5:13 7:20 10:14
accompli... 8:8	appreciated 10:13	best 2:18 3:11 8:16 11:6 13:8	carried 8:13	community 9:15,20 10:19,20
achieve 8:16	appropri... 6:16	Biden 10:6,7	carrying 9:4	company's 13:8
act 5:6 6:17 7:10,11	appropri... 5:13	bill 1:8,15 2:5 2:7 3:8,11 3:13,13 4:14 5:8 5:14,25 6:11,15,22 6:24 8:12 8:16 9:4,5 10:19,24 11:6,10,14 11:16 12:1	Carter 9:17,19	comply 7:24 9:8 11:6
added 2:4,9 3:9 4:3	asking 7:1	better 3:13,17	case 6:17	computer 13:4
additional 5:4	association 13:12	bill 10:6,7	CERTIFICATE 13:1	Congress 5:17,22 6:3
adhered 7:3	attempt 11:6	Bills 1:3	certify 13:3,10	congress... 1:9,10,12 1:12 2:1 3:18 4:20 5:16,24 6:19,22 7:5 8:15 9:21 10:2 10:12
adhering 8:19	attorney 7:6	bit 1:25	chairman 3:1,15,19	Congress... 5:11,15,19 8:16
adopt 11:15	audio 13:6	Black 7:5,18,22 7:22 8:2,4 9:6	change 12:13	conscience 10:18
adoption 3:22	aware 5:10	boundaries 5:14 6:14 7:17 8:11 8:15	charged 1:19	conserva... 6:12
advance 1:2	awesome 1:23	bringing 2:1 8:12	check 2:10	Constitu... 7:25
advantage 10:15	B	brutally 9:22	Circuit 7:1	continue 5:17,21,23 6:13
afternoon 12:7	back 2:20	business	claw 10:9	contributed 6:3
ago 4:19 6:20	background 6:19		clear 5:3 7:11	COO
agricult... 5:13	Bagley 11:23,25 12:4		clerk 1:1,6,17 2:11,12 4:7,8,10 4:12 8:25 11:11,13 11:21	
aided 13:4	based 1:12		close 3:24 4:12 10:24 11:13,21	
Amedee 9:2,3,9	Baton 8:3		co-authors 11:19,22	
amendment 2:5,8,11,19 2:23,24 3:16,19,22 3:25 4:2,5 4:13,16 12:9	Bayham 9:11,13 10:22		colleague	
amendments	bear 4:17			
	Beaullieu 1:2,14,16			

13:2,16 correct 11:24,25 12:1,6,11 13:9 corridor 8:4 country 8:10 couple 2:3 court 5:7 7:2,3 7:12 8:20 Court's 7:14 courts 7:9 Cox 11:1 create 7:23 9:5 current 7:21 Cut-Appe... 13:4	7:21 described 7:16 desires 1:20 detailed 5:9 different 8:6 discourse 6:4 discussed 2:13 7:19 discussing 7:20 district 1:10,21 3:18 5:7,7 5:16 6:18 7:3,13,17 7:17 8:1,2 8:9,20 9:6 10:2,5,5 districts 1:9,13 5:25 6:9 7:5,15 7:24 8:17 8:19 9:21 9:22 divides 10:19 doing 10:14 draw 5:4 8:11 driven 7:17 dropping 10:10	eight 10:17 elect 5:17 Emerson 4:10,11 enact 1:8 enacted 6:19,23,24 ensure 5:14,20 ensures 5:25 6:8,12 ensuring 8:18 especially 1:22,22 Everybody 11:2 example 10:1 extend 6:13	8:14 first 1:6 2:6 5:10 7:9 floor 2:23 8:12 9:11 focus 6:10 folks 4:22 7:20 fortitude 1:20 four 6:1 8:18 full 13:8 further 9:10 13:10	H&G 3:3 halls 5:22 happy 8:21 hear 7:20 heard 2:3,3 7:19 hearing 2:17 hearings 10:11 heart 5:2 heated 3:2 heavy 5:2 high 7:22 home 3:5 6:9 honest 9:22 House 4:3,23 6:5 6:6 8:14 10:13
<hr/> D <hr/>		<hr/> F <hr/>	<hr/> G <hr/>	<hr/> I <hr/>
Dated 13:14 day 6:22 days 10:17 DC 6:11 debate 3:2 debated 2:3 decade 5:18 decides 5:22 decision 11:7 delete 2:8 demograp...	earlier 5:1 11:1 east 8:3 eat 11:2 effect 6:23	failed 3:14 fair 4:24 Farnum 3:22 4:5 favor 4:6 11:10 federal 5:3,5 6:16 6:17 7:3,4 7:9,12 8:20 11:5 Fifth 7:1 filed 6:24 final 1:3 11:10 finally 6:15 11:14 11:16 firmly	general 7:7 give 9:14 Given 7:21 giving 4:18 goal 9:14 goals 5:9 8:9,16 going 2:7,10 4:21 5:6 good 3:16 10:18 12:7 Governme... 4:3 grabbing 10:10 great 5:19,23 6:7 growing 8:1	incumbents
			<hr/> H <hr/>	

5:16 instrument 1:7,7 2:18 intact 9:18 intended 9:5 interested 13:13 involved 13:12	Letlow's 8:17 likes 11:2,3 listening 4:22 litigation 5:6 6:16,21 7:1 8:7 long 5:9,22 looking 9:23 lot 2:17 3:4 4:21 5:10 7:19 Louisiana 4:25 5:5,7 5:11,23 6:13,18 7:23 8:10 8:20 Louisiana's 1:10 5:24 6:2 Louisian... 5:21	mandate 11:5 map 2:2 4:20,24 5:3,8,20 5:25 6:8 6:11 7:12 8:6,8,21 11:8 maps 6:15,19 Marcelle 2:23,25 March 6:20,20 13:14 matter 3:14 mean 3:12 means 13:5 mechanical 10:9 members 1:1,6,17,22 2:1,12,16 3:1 4:1,12 4:16,17 11:7,12,12	11:17,24 12:6 move 11:24 moves 1:2 11:9,15 11:16 12:5 12:11 <hr/> N <hr/> Nathan 13:2,16 nation's 5:12 6:14 national 6:3,10 nay 4:7 11:11 12:2,13 nays 4:13 11:14 need 6:11 neither 13:10 never 9:20 new 1:22 nice 1:21 north 5:11 number 2:15 12:1 <hr/> O <hr/> object 3:5,8 objecting 3:7 objection 1:5 3:23,23 11:18 12:3 12:10,14 objections 3:21 objects 4:6	offer 2:8 offered 4:5 offering 2:14,19 offices 1:11 Okay 4:15 one-page 2:14 ongoing 6:16,17 online 2:15 open 4:7 11:11 11:19 opening 2:7 opportunity 4:18 7:9 opposed 4:7 11:11 order 1:3,7,8 2:6 7:9,14 9:8 ordered 5:4 original 4:20 Orleans 8:1 outcome 13:13 <hr/> P <hr/> painful 11:4,4 Parish 8:2,3 9:18 particip... 10:11 parties 13:12 passage 1:4 11:10 passed	
<hr/> J <hr/> Jackson 12:11,12,15 Johnson 6:6 8:18 judge 5:4 judge's 9:8 11:5 Julia 5:11	<hr/> K <hr/> kept 9:17 know 1:18 3:10 3:14 9:23	<hr/> M <hr/> ma'am 9:7 machine 4:7,12 10:9 11:12,12 11:13,19 11:22 Madam 1:17 2:10 maintaining 8:17 majority 6:6,13 7:5 8:18 majority... 7:14,24 MALE 11:23 12:3 12:5,10,14	<hr/> M <hr/> ma'am 9:7 machine 4:7,12 10:9 11:12,12 11:13,19 11:22 Madam 1:17 2:10 maintaining 8:17 majority 6:6,13 7:5 8:18 majority... 7:14,24 MALE 11:23 12:3 12:5,10,14	<hr/> N <hr/> Nathan 13:2,16 nation's 5:12 6:14 national 6:3,10 nay 4:7 11:11 12:2,13 nays 4:13 11:14 need 6:11 neither 13:10 never 9:20 new 1:22 nice 1:21 north 5:11 number 2:15 12:1 <hr/> O <hr/> object 3:5,8 objecting 3:7 objection 1:5 3:23,23 11:18 12:3 12:10,14 objections 3:21 objects 4:6	<hr/> P <hr/> painful 11:4,4 Parish 8:2,3 9:18 particip... 10:11 parties 13:12 passage 1:4 11:10 passed
<hr/> L <hr/> largely 7:16 law 7:4 lay 11:17 leader 6:7 8:18 leadership 6:10 7:7 10:13 legislative 7:7 legislature 9:14 Letlow 5:11,15,20	<hr/> L <hr/> largely 7:16 law 7:4 lay 11:17 leader 6:7 8:18 leadership 6:10 7:7 10:13 legislative 7:7 legislature 9:14 Letlow 5:11,15,20	<hr/> M <hr/> ma'am 9:7 machine 4:7,12 10:9 11:12,12 11:13,19 11:22 Madam 1:17 2:10 maintaining 8:17 majority 6:6,13 7:5 8:18 majority... 7:14,24 MALE 11:23 12:3 12:5,10,14	<hr/> M <hr/> ma'am 9:7 machine 4:7,12 10:9 11:12,12 11:13,19 11:22 Madam 1:17 2:10 maintaining 8:17 majority 6:6,13 7:5 8:18 majority... 7:14,24 MALE 11:23 12:3 12:5,10,14	<hr/> O <hr/> object 3:5,8 objecting 3:7 objection 1:5 3:23,23 11:18 12:3 12:10,14 objections 3:21 objects 4:6	<hr/> P <hr/> painful 11:4,4 Parish 8:2,3 9:18 particip... 10:11 parties 13:12 passage 1:4 11:10 passed

4:20 11:14 11:17 passes 4:13 patience 1:18,19 Pause 9:12 11:20 people 10:10 percent 7:18 10:3,4 10:6,7 period 10:16 person 7:25 personal 13:11 Pikover 13:2,16 place 3:17 placed 3:20 plaintiff's 7:12 plaintiffs 8:7 plan 9:17 plans 9:15 poach 11:2 political 7:16 8:8 population 7:15,19,22 8:2,4 portion 7:23 positions 1:11 posture 2:8,18,20 3:11,14 precinct 9:24,24	10:2,3,6,7 precincts 9:23 10:1,8 presence 5:21 6:2 present 5:2 presented 2:2 presenting 5:8,14 President 10:3,4,6,7 pretty 3:2 pride 5:19 principles 6:12 prior 7:7 process 3:10,14,15 5:9 product 5:8 prolonged 6:25 proper 2:7 proposed 5:25 6:11 6:15 7:12 8:7 protecting 8:16 proud 6:4 provide 1:9,11 put 2:20 3:13	10:21 <hr/> R <hr/> ran 9:13 reading 1:3 2:11 reapport... 10:12 reason 3:7 8:1 reconsider 11:16 Red 8:4 redistri... 1:10 2:2 4:21 6:22 redraw 10:16 Regular 1:2 relative 1:9,9 remainder 5:18 remains 5:15 remarkable 6:4 remarks 2:7 removal 4:2 removing 3:4,19 Rep 9:4 represent 1:20 represen... 1:2,14,16 2:13,16,23 2:25 3:12 3:22,24 4:1,4,5,14 4:15,25 8:23 9:1,3 9:7,9,11	9:13,16,19 10:22,23 10:25 11:1 11:9,15,23 11:25 12:4 12:5,7,11 12:12,15 Represen... 6:6 represented 8:15 represents 5:11 Republican 5:17 6:1,2 6:9 8:19 requirement 7:25 requires 7:4 respect 1:11 respond 6:15 retained 6:12 reverse 7:2 reviewed 8:8 13:7 Rights 5:6 6:17 rise 3:3 River 8:4 room 3:6 Rouge 8:3 roughly 6:21 <hr/> S <hr/> safe 6:1,1 sat 4:19 sausage	10:17 11:2 Scalise 6:7 8:18 seat 5:4 8:17 seats 6:1 second 3:17 4:17 5:24 6:20 secretary 7:6 see 1:21 2:22 11:3 Seeing 9:10 Senate 1:3,8 2:19 3:12 8:13 9:22 10:14 12:1 Senator 1:8 2:2,5 3:12 5:1 8:13 serves 5:12 serving 5:23 set 2:14,14,15 Shreveport 8:5 simple 7:6 11:5 six 5:24 solidly 6:9 sorry 11:1 southeast 7:23 speak 3:23 speaker 1:1,5,6,14 1:17 2:12
---	--	---	--	---

2:22 3:1 3:21 4:4,9 4:11,15 6:5 8:17 8:23 9:1,4 9:10 10:21 10:23 11:9 11:19,21 11:23 12:3 12:5,10,14 spent 4:21 split 9:20,21 St 9:17,20,25 stand 9:19 10:20 state 4:22,22,25 5:5,23 6:7 7:4,6,13 10:13 state's 7:21 States 6:2,5 stepped 3:6 Steve 6:7 Stine 5:1 stood 1:24 strong 1:20,24 8:17 studied 9:15 subject 6:21 submit 8:14,21 submitted 9:16 substantial 6:25 succeed	7:8 suit 6:23 support 2:21 3:3,19 4:2 11:7 supported 4:24 supporting 4:16 Supreme 7:2 <hr/> T <hr/> table 11:17 take 8:22 tall 1:19 task 1:19 Taylor 8:23 12:5,7 team 13:5,11 ten 11:22 testified 10:15 thank 1:16,17,17 1:18 2:25 3:1,20 4:3 4:16 9:3,9 10:20,22 11:8 12:4 12:15 thanks 9:4 thereof 13:13 think 3:10,16 Third 1:3 thought 2:17 4:24 4:25	thrown 10:9 time 4:21 times 2:3 title 1:8 11:15 today 4:19 7:20 told 10:15 toured 10:12 transcribed 13:4,7 Transcri... 13:2,5,7,11 13:16 transcript 13:6 transcri... 13:1,5,9,11 travels 8:3 tremendo... 6:3 tried 3:13 trip 7:2 trips 7:1 true 13:9 Trump 10:3,4 two 4:19,23 6:8 6:8 7:1,4 7:14,23 9:20,22 10:1 two-thirds 4:23 <hr/> U <hr/> unaware 6:18	unimpaired 5:15 United 6:2,5 utilizing 13:4 <hr/> V <hr/> view 7:3 voice 9:15 vote 4:6,7,23 7:25 10:3 10:4,7,8 10:18 11:10,11 11:12,16 11:24 12:6 12:8,11,13 voters 7:5 voting 4:12 5:6 6:17 8:15 11:8,13 voting-age 7:15,18 <hr/> W <hr/> waives 8:25 9:1 want 7:13 11:25 12:1,12 Washington 6:11 way 9:23 13:12 We're 11:5 We've 9:21 week 1:18,23 5:1 went 6:22 Wilford	9:17 Womack 1:8 2:2 3:12 8:13 Womack's 2:5 work 5:19 Wright 4:9 <hr/> X <hr/> Y <hr/> yea 4:6,9,10,11 11:11 12:8 12:13 years 4:19 yeas 4:13 11:14 yesterday 2:4,9 3:2 3:20 8:14 <hr/> Z <hr/> 0 <hr/> 0:04:34 4:8 <hr/> 1 <hr/> 11th 13:14 16 4:13 11:14 18 1:9 1st 10:5 <hr/> 2 <hr/> 2 7:17 8:1 2022 6:21,22 2024 13:14
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24 10:2 25 10:4 291001-A... 13:3 2nd 10:2, 5 <hr/> 3 <hr/> 4 <hr/> 44 10:6 45 10:7 <hr/> 5 <hr/> 50 7:18 <hr/> 6 <hr/> 6 1:3 7:17 8:2 69 10:4 <hr/> 7 <hr/> 75 10:3 <hr/> 8 <hr/> 8 1:8 3:13 12:1 83 2:15 10:6 84 4:13 85 10:7 86 11:14 <hr/> 9 <hr/>				
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