

Misc. No. 24, September Term, 2021
2022 Petition to Review Redistricting

Received

To The Court of Appeals of Maryland

FEB 09 2022

I, David Whitney, am a registered voter in the State of Maryland. I contend that the 2022 legislative districting plan is invalid as it clearly violates Article III, § 4 of the Constitution of Maryland which states:

“Each legislative district shall consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form, and of substantially equal population. Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.”

Filed

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I live in Cape St. Claire on the Broadneck Peninsula on the Western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. The Legislative district proposed puts us with the Eastern Shore, therefore the only thing connecting us is the Bay Bridge. As anyone with an ability to look at a map can clearly see this design absolutely violates the required language of our State Constitution,

Suzanne C. Johnson, Clerk
Court of Appeals
of Maryland

“Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.”

This plan creates a corridor extending from deep into the Western shore from Laurel eastward, snaking up to Pasadena, just south of Baltimore and way down below Annapolis to the South River but cutting out portions of Annapolis, where off Hudson Street they appear to have targeted a single home, drawing the boundaries around that home (see map below). Then this unconstitutional plan sweeps the whole Broadneck Peninsula and finally across the Bay Bridge to the entire Eastern Shore.

Clearly this also violates the requirement that a district consist of “adjoining territory,” and “be compact in form.” This proposed district meets neither of these requirements. In case someone is unaware, the fact is that there are no residences on the Bay Bridge, so that means nearly 4 1/2 miles of open water separates the Western branch of this proposed unconstitutional district and the Eastern shore portion of this proposed district, that is 4 1/2 miles without one residence, and not even one single voter living in that 4 1/2 mile separation. That is absolutely

not “adjoining territory,” and certainly not “compact in form.”

I request that this plan be rejected and instead the one proposed by the Governor be adopted so that my district would then be within the requirements of the Supreme Law of the State, the Constitution of the State of Maryland, and thus my district would not be in a district combined with the Eastern Shore. This would fulfill the Law that,

“Each legislative district shall consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form, and of substantially equal population. Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions.”

Sincerely



David Whitney

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