GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, HOUSE FLOOR

VOTE ON HOUSE BILL 980

FEBRUARY 16, 2022

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(Transcribed from recorded audio file.)

SPEAKER MOORE: The House will come to order. Members will take their seats. Visitors will retire from the chamber, and the Sergeant of Arm will close the doors. Members and guests are asked to silence all electronic devices.

This morning's prayer will be offered by Representative White. We'd ask everyone to stand for the prayer and remain standing for the pledge of allegiance. Representative White.

REPRESENTATIVE WHITE: Father, in the midst of these troubled times, we pray for comfort and especially for our fellow House members who have lost fellow -- family members just recently. We pray for -- For mercy when we falter from your guidance and direction. We pray as Hubakkuk did that that petulance will lead our land. Your light will shine on our path and you will be greater us than we -- than he who is in the world. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Duplin, Representative Dixon, is recognized for a motion.

1 REPRESENTATIVE DIXON: Mr. Speaker, the
2 journal for February the 15th has been examined
3 and found to be correct. I move that it be
4 approved as written.
5 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Dixon
6 moves the journal for February 15th be approved
7 as written. Those in favor will say aye. Those
8 opposed, no. The ayes have it, and the journal
9 is approved as written.
10 Members, the plan for today, of course,
11 is to take up as many of the redistricting maps
12 as we can. We -- we will certainly be dealing
13 with the House map, and if we can vote on the
14 Senate and the Congressional plans we will.
15 That just depends upon the schedule. Those
16 could role into the tomorrow. The -- I believe
17 the committee meeting notice has gone out for
18 11:00 a.m. That is -- that Chair understands
19 that that is still on, and depending upon how
20 long that process takes will determine when we
21 come back for session today. My thought is
22 2:00 p.m. I've consulted with all the folks
23 involved with the process, and that seems to be
24 a consensus time, but I will go ahead and warn
25 members there is a chance that it could be later

1 than that, just the way these things go.
2 So but 2:00 p.m. is going to be the
3 time that we come back today to hopefully take
4 up business on the -- on the redistricting
5 matter. And there maybe one other matter that
6 goes through as well that will be noticed later
7 on today. So that is -- that is the plan as per
8 the announcement made earlier this week and last
9 week.
10 The Chair does anticipate votes --
11 there will be votes today. There will be votes
12 tomorrow. There very likely will be votes on
13 Friday. So that is -- that is the order of
14 business for today.
15 Any notices or announcements? All
16 right. Seeing none, the Chair is going to
17 declare the House stands in recess till
18 2:00 p.m., subject to the standard stipulations
19 in Rule 15.1. So as the modifications to
20 calendar, so ordered.
21 - - - oOOo - - -
22 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative
23 Destin Hall is recognized to send forth the
24 redistricting committee report. House Bill 980,
25 Realign North Carolina House Districts 2022,

1 favorable Committee substitute on unfavorable
2 original bill. The original bill will be placed
3 on the unfavorable calendar, whereas, the
4 committee substitute for House Bill 980 will be
5 placed on today's calendar.
6 (Recess until 2:10 p.m.)
7 CHAIRMAN MOORE: I bet the teachers
8 wish you guys had something like that, right?
9 The House will come to order.
10 Members, we've -- the plan today is
11 that the House is going to -- is about to go
12 into recess until 4:00. The reason for that is
13 the redistricting committee has met, has gone
14 through the maps, and central staff has informed
15 my office that they need a couple hours to go
16 through and to do the final proofreading and
17 make sure everything is correct before it comes
18 to the floor.
19 And that's, as you might imagine, with
20 doing a reapportionment of 120 districts
21 around -- of the State House, that's not a --
22 not a small task. So I've advised central staff
23 and the majority leader and the minority leader
24 that we are about to go into recess until 4:00.
25 But before we do that, I did want to

1 recognize a few special guests that we have with
2 us. And we have a school group with us today.
3 You might have heard them shriek a second ago
4 when I hit the gag- -- the gavel here. But we
5 have a group of students who are here as guests
6 of Representative Sasser from Stanly County.
7 And these are students that attend Locust
8 Elementary School. Would y'all stand so that we
9 can welcome you with us. Over here.
10 On behalf of my colleagues and I, we're
11 glad you're here with us today. What you're --
12 what you're watching right now, this is the
13 House floor. There are 120 members. Your
14 representative is Representative Sasser. I saw
15 him right over here, standing -- he just waved
16 to you in the red tie. But there's 120 members
17 of the House from all corners of the state, from
18 the mountains to the sea.
19 And we are -- we're here today. We're
20 going to be taking up something called
21 redistricting, which is where we look at the
22 districts for where each member is from in the
23 state. So there's 120 of those to represent
24 everybody in this -- in this state. So that's
25 what we're doing. It's a big job. It's been

1 taking several weeks. And you guys, I think,
2 have to leave soon so you won't get to see much.
3 But when we start, you'll see all these chairs
4 will be full and members will be here, and we'll
5 probably be here for several hours today. But
6 we're glad to have you guys with us today, and
7 we hope you have a great visit to our state
8 capitol.
9 We also have on motion of
10 Representative Winslow of Franklin County some
11 special guests. We have Glenn and Melissa
12 Cogliati, who are the owners of the Hudson Manor
13 Estate in Louisburg. Would y'all please stand,
14 so we can welcome you as well. Right up here in
15 the back. Thank you all for being with us
16 today.
17 So at this point, what it appears we
18 are going to do for members to plan is that we
19 will come back at 4:00 today. We will take up
20 the House redistricting plan. And depending on
21 how that goes, we may also take a dinner break
22 between the second and third reading or if the
23 second reading turns into something quite
24 lengthy, we may do it during that. But we --
25 that will be our business to dispose of this

evening.

It is the intention of the chair that we will take up tomorrow the Senate Districts and the Congressional Districts. Those bills are going to be sourced from the Senate and will be coming from the Senate to us, and those will be the matters that we -- we take up from the Senate side. And, of course, the House Bill -- the House Districts will be sent to the Senate, and they would take those up tomorrow. We do have the -- the maps are not due back to the Court until Friday, so we have an extra day built in, in case we need it.

But just -- just want to remind members and any members of the public listening just that this is a lengthy process that is the result of many, many, many hours of work by a lot of folks, and it is a -- it just takes a lot of time for our central staff to get all of this together. So I would ask for your patience and your indulgence as we -- as we do that.

So with that, that's all the business the Chair is aware of. Notices and announcements. For what purpose does the gentleman from Burke, Representative Blackwell,

rise?

REPRESENTATIVE BLACKWELL: An announcement, Mr. Speaker.

CHAIRMAN MOORE: The Gentleman has the floor.

REPRESENTATIVE BLACKWELL: You may have gotten it already, but the House Education Policy Committee will meet in the morning at 9:00. That's not our usual time, but we'll meet in morning at 9:00 in 643. I believe we'll have just one bill.

CHAIRMAN MOORE: For what purpose does the gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, rise?

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: For an announcement.

CHAIRMAN MOORE: The gentleman has the floor.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Speaker. Republicans we will not caucus during the recess. If anything happens in between the recess that we need to make you aware of, we'll send that by e-mail or text. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN MOORE: For what purpose does the gentleman from Iredell, Representative

1 McNeely, rise?
2 REPRESENTATIVE McNEELY: Point of
3 personal privilege, Mr. Speaker.
4 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Gentleman has the
5 floor.
6 REPRESENTATIVE McNEELY: Thank you. I
7 just want you to keep my family, especially my
8 wife, in your prayers. My father-in-law passed
9 away about 1:30 last night -- or this morning
10 and so -- he's been in hospice. This is
11 something that's not a shock, but yet still not
12 quite ready. And so please just keep us in your
13 prayers. He was a good man. I know where he's
14 at. I'm not worried about him.
15 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Yes, sir.
16 For what purpose does the gentleman
17 from Gaston, Representative Loftis, rise?
18 REPRESENTATIVE LOFTIS: For a point of
19 personal privilege, Mr. Speaker.
20 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Gentleman has the
21 floor.
22 REPRESENTATIVE LOFTIS: Thank you,
23 Mr. Speaker.
24 I want to recognize Harold Varner III
25 from Gaston County, who still owes his dad, and

1 who recently won the Dubai Golf Tournament with
2 a prize money of $990,000. Great young man from
3 Gastonia, who takes care of his mom and dad. So
4 just wanted to make sure we recognize him for
5 doing good work for Gaston County.
6 CHAIRMAN MOORE: I'll tell you, he
7 represented the State of North Carolina very
8 well in that and very proud of him. So thank
9 you for reminding us of that.
10 For what purpose does the gentleman
11 from Catawba, Representative Adams, rise?
12 REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS: Point of
13 personal privilege.
14 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Gentleman has the
15 floor.
16 REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS: A week from
17 today is my son's 26th birthday, and I just want
18 to wish him that today because he just finished
19 his college training in the United States Air
20 Force, and he's going to be going to Washington
21 State for training, physical training, and he'll
22 be out of touch with any communications. He
23 says he's going to learn how to be a POW. But I
24 wanted to wish him a happy birthday because next
25 week, I won't be able to. Thank you.

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I'm sure he's
2 sitting at home watching this, waiting for you
3 to do that, right?
4 CHAIRMAN MOORE: I certainly wish him a
5 happy birthday.
6 Anything further notices or
7 announcements?
8 Seeing none, the Chair is going to
9 declare that the House stand in recess subject
10 to the standard stipulations under Rule 15.1
11 until 4:00 p.m. this afternoon.
12 (Recess taken.)
13 SPEAKER MOORE: The House will come to
14 order. Members, the Chair to have your
15 attention, please. The Republican members,
16 you're being called to an immediate caucus in
17 Room 1228. The House is going to stand at ease
18 until four -- would you like to announce --
19 Representative Bell is recognized for an
20 announcement.
21 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: What time? Right
22 now?
23 SPEAKER MOORE: Right now.
24 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,
25 Mr. Speaker. Republicans, we will caucus in

1228 at 4:10, so caucus at 4:10.

SPEAKER MOORE: For those that are wondering, it's 4:11, so you're already late. Your watch is fast.

Chair -- yes, we do have time travel at the legislature.

So here's what we're going to do, Members. Here's what we're going to do. The Republican members should to ahead and proceed to caucus. We will -- we'll stand at ease and hopefully we'll be able to get -- come back relatively soon.

The Chair is aware there still may still be some draft that may take us a little bit to get -- to get movement, but we'll report back shortly.

SPEAKER MOORE: The House will come back to order. Members are asked to take their seats.

Members, we are honored to have a number of guests with us in our first slot. I believe most of our Democrat members are still in caucus right now, and so that's why there's a few empty chairs, but some discussions going on about some minor legislation the body is

1 considering today.
2 But we're very honored to have with
3 us -- and I'm going to introduce each one of
4 them -- a number of our community college
5 presidents from around the state. And these are
6 men and women who are a key part in educating so
7 many citizens of this state and also a key part
8 in economic development and worker training.
9 And what so I -- and so what I -- and the Chair
10 has also extended them the courtesies of the
11 floor. So we're glad to have you. So when I
12 introduce you, I'll call by name and county.
13 Stand up. And at the end, we'll give an
14 applause for everybody altogether.
15 First off from my home county,
16 Cleveland County, we have Jason Hurst, who is
17 here with us this evening. We have Jay
18 Carraway, James Sprunt Community College.
19 John -- John Ena- -- Enamait -- somebody's
20 handwriting is not great here -- I apologize if
21 I'm mispronouncing it -- from Stanly Community
22 College. Jack Bagwell from Albemarle Community
23 College. Murray Williams from Roanoke-Chowan
24 Community College.
25 Representative Stevens, it's Chowan not

1 Choan (phonetic).
2 Lew Hunnicutt from Nash Community
3 College. Audrey Yager from North Carolina
4 State, which I don't think is a community
5 college, but you're along for the ride this
6 evening. J.B. Buxton from Durham Technical
7 Community College. Chris English from
8 Southeastern Community College. Brian Merritt
9 from the McDowell Technical Community College.
10 And then Gene Smith from Brunswick Community
11 College.
12 Did I forget anybody? If I forgot you,
13 stand up and say your name, introduce yourself.
14 MS. WHITE: Shelley White, Haywood
15 Community College.
16 SPEAKER MOORE: Yes, ma'am.
17 MS. PFEIFFER: Patty Pfeiffer, Wayne
18 Community College.
19 MR. HUNT: Rusty Hunt, Lenoir Community
20 College.
21 MS. ANNUNZIATA: Margaret Annunziata,
22 Isothermal Community College.
23 MR. WELCH: Joel Welch, Western
24 Piedmont Community College.
25 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Did we get everybody

there? A little unconventional, but it will all go. I just so -- just so you'll know, that's the list I read, and it -- and it was a challenge. I'm just going to say, whoever wrote this list, I'm glad they're not drawing our maps, all right?

Welcome to the House of Representatives.

And I see Kevin Corbin on the end who is trying to be a student in community college still, so...

Members, let me give you -- let me give you an update of where we are. There will be a formal release, an announcement, coming out in just a bit, so I won't say anything more on that. But I will tell you that it is the intention of the Chair -- or excuse me, an understanding of the Chair that there will be -- there are some amendments being prepared that will be agreed to, and that it's going to take staff until about 6:30 to have those amendments ready. So what the Chair is going to do at this point -- we're about ready to go into a recess for a dinner break. And then that way that will give time for the amendments to be prepared,

1 folks to review those, and then come back at
2 7:30.
3 And based upon the trajectory that I
4 understand we are right now, it is the chair's
5 hope and belief that this evening session could
6 be a relatively short session to dispose of
7 those amendments and then ultimately a map this
8 evening. So that's where we are, but I don't
9 want to announce anything prematurely because --
10 well, just because we don't do that.
11 For what purpose gentleman from
12 Cabarrus, Representative Pittman, rise?
13 REPRESENTATIVE PITTMAN: On a personal
14 privilege.
15 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Gentleman has the
16 floor.
17 REPRESENTATIVE PITTMAN: You know, time
18 goes by fast. And he was -- just the little
19 things seem like two weeks ago, but today my son
20 Sam will turn 38. And I love you guys, but I
21 wish I was with him, you know. But Samuel is a
22 very fine son and a husband and just a great
23 father and a great soldier. And we're so proud
24 of him I can't stand it, but happy birthday to
25 my son Samuel.

1 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Certainly wish him a
2 happy birthday, Representative Pittman.
3 To give you an idea of tomorrow's
4 schedule, I know we're going to come back at
5 7:30, but -- and I would ask as many members to
6 be present as can this evening as well as
7 tomorrow. It does appear that tomorrow's
8 schedule will proceed as follows: That we
9 will -- that the Senate intends to vote out a
10 Senate map and a Congressional map tomorrow.
11 They are not going to be voting anything, as I
12 understand, on the floor today. They are doing
13 the Committee work in the morning. They are
14 still working and they will be voting on maps
15 sometime.
16 And it does appear so that for us to
17 take action tomorrow, it's looking like in the
18 afternoon. But those maps will need to come
19 here. We'll need to go through the House
20 Redistricting Committee. Once that happens,
21 those will get recorded to the House Floor for
22 us to take up. So it does appear based upon
23 that schedule, that more than likely tomorrow's
24 session would be an afternoon session.
25 We'll do a morning session that will be

1 an admin session, but right now the chair is
2 looking at a 2:00 p.m. session tomorrow.
3 Hopefully that will hold and we won't have to
4 push that back, but that's what it looks like.
5 Again, we'll be back this evening and I
6 can give you more details. But just while
7 you're planning out things, be thinking along
8 those lines. And again when we come back at
9 7:30 this evening, it's the Chair's hope that
10 we'll be able to reso -- excuse me, resolve
11 everything in an expeditious manner this
12 evening.
13 For what purpose does the gentleman
14 from Duplin, Representative Dixon, rise?
15 REPRESENTATIVE DIXON: On a privilege.
16 CHAIRMAN MOORE: Gentleman has the
17 floor.
18 REPRESENTATIVE DIXON: Thank you,
19 Mr. Speaker, colleagues and our guests. I'd
20 just like to recognize the fact that Duplin
21 County is the home of Mr. Dallas Herring, who is
22 considered one of the founding fathers of the
23 community college system. And Mr. Herring once
24 said, referring to the community colleges,
25 "These doors, these sacred doors, must never be

closed." And I'd like to express what I think is the opinion of all of us in the General Assembly, that we support that and we hope and pray to continue to be able to do the right thing as far as our community colleges is considered, so that you can do for our citizens what they need done.

CHAIRMAN MOORE: Any further notices or announcements at this time?

Seeing none, the Chair is going to declare that the House stands in recess subject to the standard stipulations until 7:30 p.m. this evening.

(Recess taken.)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Colleagues, colleagues, if I could have your attention for just a minute. Speaker would like to announce that we are not going to reconvene until 7:55 in order to give folks time to get back from their dinner break and for everybody to be present. Thank you.

(Recess.)

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SPEAKER MOORE: Members, our first business is the seating of a new member.

1 Representative Rudow's appointment proclamation
2 was officially read on February 3rd, and he
3 subscribed to the oath of office on
4 February 1st. He will occupy seat 67. The
5 Senate will be notified of the seating by
6 special message.
7 The following members are appointed to
8 an escort committee. Representative John Bell,
9 chair, and Representative Robert Reives. Those
10 named members may now repair to the end of the
11 chamber to escort Representative Rudow to his
12 seat.
13 Representative Rudow, welcome again.
14 We had the -- you and I had the pleasure to meet
15 a couple times, and you've been here for some of
16 the skeleton votes. Obviously, this is a little
17 different than the other times you've been here.
18 But glad to have you here and want to officially
19 welcome you once again and serve the State, of
20 course, represent the good folks of Buncombe
21 County. Representative Rudow is appointed to
22 the following standing committee assignments.
23 The clerk will read.
24 THE CLERK: Speaker Moore appoints
25 Representative Rudow to the following House

1 Standing Committees: Alcoholic Beverage
2 Control, appropriations, appropriations
3 education, local government land use, planning
4 and development.
5 SPEAKER MOORE: The Senate will be
6 notified of the seating as well as the committee
7 assignments.
8 Petitions, memorials, or papers
9 addressed to the House the clerk will read.
10 THE CLERK: February 16, 2022. Dear
11 Mr. Speaker, please accept my resignation from
12 the North Carolina House of Representatives for
13 the 56th House District for Orange County,
14 effective March 31, 2022. It has been a great
15 honor to have served the people of Orange County
16 for these 25-plus years. I'm grateful for the
17 opportunity to have made a positive difference
18 for people with mental health illness,
19 developmental disabilities, addiction disease,
20 as well as to have helped initiate and improve
21 our Early Childhood Education Program. It was
22 also gratifying to have influenced improvements
23 in our laws on the environment and election law.
24 I have many happy memories of members
25 of the North Carolina House that I've met and

served with over the years, many of whom are lifelong friends. I grew to have a respect and gratitude for the General Assembly staff and the superb assistance I could count on.

I will be forever grateful to my constituents that helped me to serve Orange County in the North Carolina House. I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to help make the state government a positive factor in the lives of people of this great state.

Sincerely, Representative Verla Insko.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Noted.

SPEAKER MOORE: House Bill 980. The clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Representatives Destin Hall, Stevens, Saine, House Bill 980, A Bill to Be Entitled an Act to Realign North Carolina House of Representatives Districts Pursuant To Order of the North Carolina Supreme Court in Harper versus Hall. The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts.

SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to debate the bill.

REPRESENTATIVE HALL: Thank you,

1 Mr. Speaker. Members, the Supreme Court held
2 that our districting map must, quote, give the
3 voters of all political parties substantial
4 equal opportunity to translate votes into seats
5 across the plan. Though we disagree with the
6 Court's opinion, this map is exactly -- this map
7 complies with the Court's criteria.
8 I will say that we're pleased to have
9 worked with Leader Reives over the course of the
10 last several days in good faith negotiations,
11 and we came from probably being very far apart
12 on maps to ultimately reaching a deal. And the
13 result of that is the map that hopefully this
14 body is going to approve tonight. So with that,
15 I would ask for your support.
16 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Reives
17 is recognized to send forward Amendment ATU-48
18 [v.1].
19 Clerk will read.
20 THE CLERK: Representative Reives moves
21 to amend the bill.
22 SPEAKER MOORE: Chairman from Chatham
23 is recognized to debate the amendment.
24 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
25 Mr. Speaker.

1 And ladies and gentlemen, this and the
2 next couple of amendments that I'll be running
3 are amendments that were talked about with
4 leadership. We've come to an agreement on, both
5 sides support, and so we'd ask for your green
6 vote.
7 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from
8 Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to
9 debate the amendment.
10 CHAIRMAN HALL: I'll add and per our
11 agreement with the minority leader, please
12 support the amendment.
13 SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion?
14 Further debate?
15 If not, the question before the House
16 is the adoption of Amendment A.1 set forward by
17 Representative Reives. Those in favor will vote
18 aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will
19 open the vote.
20 The Chair is going to hold the vote
21 open. We may have some members who have
22 requested proxy votes, but our present -- so
23 we'll make it -- at the end, the Chair is going
24 to hold it open for members to come in. I
25 believe there's some members here off the floor.

1 They're coming in to vote too.
2 Representative Hall, would you like to
3 vote?
4 Members, we're just working on the
5 proxy votes, those who are going to proxy vote
6 versus coming in person.
7 The Chair apologizes for the length of
8 this first vote. We just need to determine the
9 proxy -- members that are voting by proxy.
10 The Chair will reflect that as of this
11 vote, 103 members have voted in person on the
12 floor at this point as well, but we'll be taking
13 the proxy votes as well.
14 The gentleman from Wayne, House
15 Majority Leader Representative Bell, is
16 recognized to announce the proxy votes for the
17 Republican members.
18 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,
19 Mr. Speaker.
20 The following members have officially
21 designated me to announce the vote on their
22 behalf:
23 Representative Jake Johnson, aye.
24 Representative Lambeth, aye.
25 Representative McNeeley, aye.

1 Representative Rogers, aye.
2 Representative Shepard, aye.
3 Representative Zachary, aye.
4 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
5 SPEAKER MOORE: Chairman from Chatham,
6 Representative Reives, the House minority leader
7 is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the
8 Democratic members.
9 MR. REIVES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
10 The following members have authorized
11 me to enter votes on their behalf:
12 Representative Ager, aye.
13 Representative Alexander, aye.
14 Representative Brockman, aye.
15 Representative Hunter, aye.
16 Representative Insko, aye.
17 Representative Lucas, aye.
18 Representative Martin, aye.
19 Representative Terry, aye.
20 Representative Turner, aye.
21 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
22 machine and record the vote.
23 118 having voted in the affirmative and
24 none in the negative. The amendment is adopted.
25 Representative Reives is recognized to

send forth Amendment ABW-30. Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Representative Reives moves to amend the bill.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman is recognized to make the amendment.

REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And we ask again for your green vote.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to debate the amendment.

CHAIRMAN HALL: Please support the amendment.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion, further debate?

If not, the question for the House is the adoption of Amendment ABW-30, which is Amendment A2 sent forth by Representative Reives. Those in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will open the vote.

SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, House Majority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes for the Republican members.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,
2 Mr. Speaker.
3 The following members have officially
4 designated me to announce a vote on their
5 behalf:
6 Representative Jake Johnson, aye.
7 Representative Lambeth, aye.
8 Representative McNeeley, aye.
9 Representative Rogers, aye.
10 Representative Shepard, aye.
11 Thank you.
12 SPEAKER MOORE: And how about
13 Representative Zachary, did you -- does the
14 gentleman wish to vote for him?
15 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: I'm sorry, I
16 forgot. I apologize.
17 Representative Zachary, aye.
18 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
19 Representative Reives, the House Minority
20 Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy
21 votes of the Democrat members.
22 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
23 Mr. Speaker.
24 The following representatives
25 authorized me to enter votes on their behalf:

1 Representative Ager, aye.
2 Representative Alexander, aye.
3 Representative Brockman, aye.
4 Representative Hunter, aye.
5 Representative Insko, aye.
6 Representative Lucas, aye.
7 Representative Martin, aye.
8 Representative Terry, aye.
9 Representative Turner, aye.
10 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Carney
11 wish to vote? Representative Baker wish to
12 vote?
13 The clerk will lock the machine and
14 record the vote. 117 have voted in the
15 affirmative; one in the negative. The amendment
16 is adopted.
17 Representative Carney, does the lady
18 intend to vote? Would the lady let me record as
19 having voted aye on the amendment?
20 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Yes,
21 Mr. Speaker.
22 SPEAKER MOORE: So the clerk recorded
23 as having voted aye.
24 Representative Reives is recognized to
25 send forth Amendment ABA-53. The clerk will

read.

THE CLERK: Representative Reives moves to amend the bill.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman is recognized to make the amendment.

REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And we would ask again for a big green vote.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, recognized to debate the amendment.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Members, please support the amendment.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion and further debate? If not, the question for the House is the adoption of Amendment A3. Those in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will open the vote.

The gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, the House Majority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Republican members.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The following members have officially

1 designated me to announce a vote on their
2 behalf:
3 Representative Johnson, aye.
4 Representative Lambeth, aye.
5 Representative McNeeley, aye.
6 Representative Rogers, aye.
7 Representative Shepard, aye.
8 Representative Zachary, aye.
9 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
10 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
11 Representative Reives, is -- the House Minority
12 Leader is recognized to announce the proxy votes
13 of the Democratic members.
14 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
15 Mr. Speaker. The following members have
16 authorized me to enter votes on their behalf:
17 Representative Ager, aye.
18 Representative Alexander, aye.
19 Representative Brockman, aye.
20 Representative Hunter, aye.
21 Representative Insko, aye.
22 Representative Lucas, aye.
23 Representative Martin, aye.
24 Representative Terry, aye.
25 Representative Turner, aye.

SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Autry, gentleman like to vote on the amendment?

The clerk will lock the machine and record the vote.

118 having voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, the amendment is adopted.

Representative Reives is recognized to send forth Amendment ABA-52.

The clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Representative Reives moves to amend the bill.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham is recognized to debate the amendment.

REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And we just ask for one more green vote.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to debate the amendment.

CHAIRMAN HALL: I'm going to ask for a few more green votes, but please vote yes on this amendment.

SPEAKER MOORE: Please score the amendment. Further discussion, further debate?

Now the question for the House is the

adaption of Amendment A4 sent forward by Representative Reives. Those in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote no.

The clerk will open the vote.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, House Majority Leader, recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Republican members.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The following members have officially designated me to announce a vote on their behalf:

Representative Johnson, aye.

Representative Lambeth, aye.

Representative McNeeley, aye.

Representative Rogers, aye.

Representative Shepard, aye.

Representative Zachary, aye.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham, Representative Reives, the House Minority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Democratic members.

REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,

1 Mr. Speaker.
2 The following members have authorized
3 me to enter votes on their behalf:
4 Representative Ager, aye.
5 Representative Alexander, aye.
6 Representative Brockman, aye.
7 Representative Hunter, aye.
8 Representative Insko, aye.
9 Representative Lucas, aye.
10 Representative Martin, aye.
11 Representative Terry, aye.
12 Representative Turner, aye.
13 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
14 machine and record the vote.
15 119 having voted in the affirmative and
16 none in the negative, the amendment is adopted.
17 Representative Meyer is recognized to
18 send forth the Amendment ABW-31.
19 The clerk will read.
20 THE CLERK: Representative Meyer moves
21 to amend the bill.
22 REPRESENTATIVE MEYER: Thank you,
23 Mr. Speaker.
24 Ladies and gentlemen --
25 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman will be

1 recognized to debate the amendment.
2 REPRESENTATIVE MEYER: In the current
3 map there is a precinct flip between House
4 District 50 and House District 56. This would
5 return them to our existing House districts so
6 that the voters are in the same district they've
7 been in. It also makes sure that the Town of
8 Carrboro remains whole rather than being split.
9 Neither Representative Insko nor I are running
10 for either of these districts, but we think our
11 voters would appreciate going back to the
12 existing maps. Thank you.
13 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Hall is
14 recognized to debate the amendment.
15 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
16 Members, this particular amendment was
17 not part of the big compromise bill, but I spoke
18 to Representative Meyer, and he's explained his
19 reasoning. And so I'm going to ask you to
20 support the amendment and vote yes.
21 SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion,
22 further debate? If not, the question before the
23 House is the adoption of Amendment A5. Those in
24 favor -- excuse me. Those in favor will vote
25 aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will

1 open the vote.
2 The gentleman from Wayne,
3 Representative Bell, is recognized to announce
4 the proxy votes of the Republican members.
5 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,
6 Mr. Speaker.
7 The following members have officially
8 designated me to announce a vote on their
9 behalf:
10 Representative Johnson, aye.
11 Representative Lambeth, aye.
12 Representative McNeeley, aye.
13 Representative Rogers, aye.
14 Representative Shepard, aye.
15 Representative Zachary, aye.
16 Thank you, sir.
17 SPEAKER MOORE: Representative
18 Blackwell wish to vote?
19 Gentleman from Chatham, Representative
20 Reives, the House Minority Leader, is recognized
21 to announce the proxy votes of the Democratic
22 members.
23 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
24 Mr. Speaker.
25 The following members have authorized

1 me to enter votes on their behalf:
2 Representative Ager, aye.
3 Representative Alexander, aye.
4 Representative Brockman, aye.
5 Representative Hunter, aye.
6 Representative Insko, aye.
7 Representative Lucas, aye.
8 Representative Martin, aye.
9 Representative Terry, aye.
10 Representative Turner, aye.
11 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
12 machine and record the vote.
13 118 having voted in the affirmative and
14 one in the negative, the amendment is adopted.
15 Representative Hawkins is recognized to
16 send forth Amendment AVA-54. The clerk will
17 read.
18 THE CLERK: Representative Hawkins
19 moves to amend the bill.
20 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Durham
21 is recognized to debate the amendment.
22 REPRESENTATIVE HAWKINS: Thank you,
23 Mr. Speaker. I wanted to thank everybody for
24 all their hard work on this incredible bill and
25 all the conversations. And so I move to amend

this bill to slightly change the -- sort of the size of town to specifically sort of match the way that communities of interest are set up in Durham County as well as sort of the natural movement in educational institutions that people are used to being able to attend and the kids attend, of course. And then also have the ability to talk to their representative about that.

So it also does not split any VTDs, has incredible score, and most importantly so it keeps common interests and accommodates the growth of Durham County into the future. So I ask for your green vote. Thank you.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to debate the amendment.

CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Again, members, this was not an amendment that was part of our -- our bigger deal, but I've looked at the amendment and heard from Representative Hawkins and his explanation. And I'll ask you to support the amendment.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion? Further debate? If not, the question before the

House is the adoption of Amendment A6 sent forward by Representative Hawkins. Those in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will open the vote.

The gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, the House Majority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Republican members.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The following members have officially designated me to announce a vote on their behalf:

Representative Johnson, aye.

Representative Lambeth, aye.

Representative McNeeley, aye.

Represent Rogers, aye.

Representative Shepard, aye.

Representative Zachary, aye.

Thank you, sir.

SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from Chatham, Representative Reives, the House Minority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Democratic members.

REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,

1 Mr. Speaker.
2 The following members have authorized
3 me to enter votes on their behalf:
4 Representative Ager, aye.
5 Representative Alexander, aye.
6 Representative Brockman, aye.
7 Representative Hunter, aye.
8 Representative Insko, aye.
9 Representative Lucas, aye.
10 Representative Martin, aye.
11 Representative Terry, aye.
12 Representative Turner, aye.
13 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
14 machine and record the vote.
15 116 having voted in the affirmative and
16 3 in the negative. The amendment is adopted.
17 Stand at ease just a moment.
18 - - - oOOo - - -
19 SPEAKER MOORE: Members, I just advise
20 the body, we're trying to resolve a few
21 administrative matters for tomorrow. We -- and
22 I'm aware there is still one amendment, and then
23 the second and third reading on the bill. But
24 just to give the members some clarity, we're
25 looking at other bills that we may be able to

dispose of tomorrow that have been requested by another member but under the adjournment resolution that we're under right now, those that would be eligible. So that's what part of the determination is.

- - - oOOo - - -

SPEAKER MOORE: The House will come back to order. Chair appreciates the members' indulgence. We were trying to work a few things up before folks started headed for -- heading for the door when we finished that final vote. There will be one additional bill added to this evening's calendar that will not be controversial.

Representative Harrison is now recognized to send forward Amendment ABW-29.

The clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Representative Harrison moves to amend a bill.

SPEAKER MOORE: Lady from Guilford, Representative Harrison, recognized to debate the amendment.

REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I --

1 this amendment amends the Wayne County cluster
2 to address a potential voting rights issue that
3 has been raised in at least three different
4 letters from the Southern Coalition for Social
5 Justice both on the enacted maps and more
6 recently to our Committee yesterday.
7 And for those of who you are not
8 familiar with the Supreme Court opinion, page
9 8 -- the order, sorry, not the opinion. The
10 General Assembly must first assess whether using
11 current election and population data racially
12 polarized voting is legally sufficient in any
13 area of the state, such that the Section 2 of
14 the Voting Rights Act requires a drawing of a
15 district to avoid diluting the voting rights of
16 African American voters.
17 It's our feeling and the Southern
18 Coalition for Social Justice, as I said,
19 continues to raise this issue that we face a
20 voting rights issue in this particular cluster.
21 And we think it meets and they have pointed out
22 that it meets the Gingles criteria. And I
23 remember Chairman Lewis talking about Gingles.
24 I had no idea what he was talking about, and I
25 finally looked it up.

1 And it's a Supreme Court case based on
2 a North Carolina situation. It sets forth three
3 criteria you must meet in order to -- in order
4 to satisfy a voting rights claim. And first
5 criteria is that population could be majority --
6 minority-majority enough that black voting
7 population in this area satis- -- sorry, got
8 that one wrong.
9 That there's enough in this area that
10 prevents voter dilution, racially polarized
11 voting on this enacted map. I would go --
12 basically what you have to have is a cohesive of
13 African America voters that will elect their
14 candidates of their choice. The second criteria
15 is black voters vote cohesively. The third is
16 that white voters will overcome the candidate of
17 the black voters' choice.
18 So the three criteria have been met,
19 and they -- and they set it out in their letter
20 that they sent the members of the Committee
21 yesterday, as I said. And so it's their opinion
22 that based on the facts of this case, remedial
23 districts should be developed to achieve the
24 black voting age population required to ensure
25 that black voters have an equal opportunity to

1 elect representatives of their choice within
2 their particular area.
3 And what we're trying to do in this
4 amendment is to avoid more costly litigation.
5 We know how much we've spent on redistricting
6 over the past ten years, and it's over
7 $11 million now of taxpayer money enacting
8 unconstitutional maps. And we have an issue
9 here that we could address by changing this
10 particular cluster to have a district that's
11 going to elect a candidate who is the choice of
12 the black voting age population in that
13 district.
14 So I can go into more detail about why
15 this is important, but I don't want to waste
16 anybody's time, but I think this is a really
17 critical issue that we should get out in front
18 of before we get sued. Thank you. I urge your
19 support. Thank you.
20 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does
21 the gentleman from Caldwell, Representative
22 Hall, rise?
23 CHAIRMAN HALL: To debate the
24 amendment.
25 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman has the

1 floor.
2 CHAIRMAN HALL: Members, again, this is
3 another one of those amendments that was not
4 part of the deal between the two parties. And
5 I -- I believe that the adoption of this
6 amendment would actually make our entire map
7 illegal. So I'm going to respectfully ask
8 members to oppose this amendment and vote
9 against it.
10 In our lawsuit, the Legislature
11 submitted to the trial Court the racially
12 polarized voting analysis performed by
13 Dr. Jeffrey Lewis of UCLA. Dr. Lewis' analysis
14 expanded on that of the plaintiffs' own expert,
15 Dr. Moon Duchin. The analysis determined that
16 majority-minority districts are not required to
17 elect candidates of minority voters' choice.
18 In finding -- in fact, in finding of
19 fact number 595, the trial Court found that,
20 quote, in no district enacted or in 2020 does it
21 appear the majority of BVAP is needed for that
22 district to regularly generate majority support,
23 minority preferred candidates, and to
24 reconstitute elections, end quote.
25 This finding of fact was subsequently

adopted by our State Supreme Court and, therefore, no VRA districts are required to be drawn in North Carolina. And I would ask you to oppose this amendment.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion or further debate? If not, the question before the House is the adoption of Amendment A7, sent forward by Representative Harrison. Those in favor of the amendment will vote aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will open the vote.

The gentleman from Wayne, Representative Bell, the House Majority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Republican members.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The following members have officially designated me to announce a vote on their behalf:

Representative Johnson, no.

Representative Lambeth, no.

Representative McNeeley, no.

Representative Rogers, no.

Representative Shepard, no.

1 Representative Zachary, no.
2 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
3 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
4 Representative Reives, is recognized to announce
5 the proxy votes of the Democratic members.
6 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
7 Mr. Speaker.
8 The following members have authorized
9 me to enter votes on their behalf:
10 Representative Ager, aye.
11 Representative Alexander, aye.
12 Representative Brockman, aye,.
13 Representative Hunter, aye.
14 Representative Insko, aye.
15 Representative Lucas, aye.
16 Representative Martin, aye.
17 Representative Terry, aye.
18 Representative Turner, aye.
19 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
20 machine and record the vote.
21 50 having voted in the affirmative and
22 70 in the negative, the amendment is not
23 adopted.
24 Members, that has resolved the
25 amendments to the bill. Further discussion?

1 Further debate on the bill?
2 For what purpose does the lady from
3 Guilford, Representative Harrison, rise?
4 REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON: To debate the
5 bill.
6 SPEAKER MOORE: Lady has the floor.
7 REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON: Thank you,
8 Mr. Speaker.
9 Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I
10 wish that I was standing up here and telling you
11 how much I love the maps, especially if you
12 passed that last amendment. But I do want to,
13 first off, thank all the folks who were involved
14 in this, because I know it was a very truncated
15 schedule. And central staff, speaker staff, our
16 staff, the legislators who are involved in this,
17 I know they put in a lot of hours and I really
18 appreciate that.
19 And I just -- I don't mean any
20 disrespect by criticizing both the process and
21 the maps. On the process, we just saw these
22 maps for the very first time with the electronic
23 data a couple hours before our committee
24 meeting, and folks had not really had a chance
25 to process the information and to understand the

1 outcome. And certainly we're hearing from the
2 public with their concerns about what might be
3 in the map that they couldn't understand because
4 they had just gotten the -- the process.
5 I had asked the -- I just got the maps.
6 I asked if we could have an explanation of the
7 Supreme Court order and the Supreme Court
8 opinion so that we would understand whether we
9 were actually complying with what the Court
10 ordered, and we did not get that. So I'm not
11 even sure that this map actually does comply
12 with the Supreme Court order. And maybe it
13 does, but we weren't briefed on that. The
14 Supreme Court order -- opinion just came out on
15 Monday.
16 I think there is a better way to do
17 this. We all know that a better way to do this
18 would be to have an independent process where
19 we're not drawing our own maps to shave our own
20 districts. And I realize that's not is what's
21 before us, but I know that that's what the
22 public wants, and I hope eventually we're going
23 to get there before we have the next redraw.
24 I -- there were some specific problems
25 in the -- in the proposed maps that I brought up

in Committee, and I'm sorry to repeat for those of you who are on the Committee, but they seem to be some problems with the gerrymandering in the Forsyth and Guilford County districts, proposed districts. In fact, the Guilford County map is more extreme than all of the 80,000 simulations in the Mattingly report that the Supreme Court relied on in issuing its opinion.

And, similarly, there are other problems in other districts, if you want to go into it in detail. But I think if we had -- the Voting Rights Act is a real problem that needs to be addressed and we're going face a lawsuit and more taxpayer dollars defending this matter that I think is indefensible on that particular point.

I do want to reiterate my appreciation to all of you who worked so hard. And -- and I really appreciate the fact that the majority and the minority parties come together in large part to agree to a map that most people can live with. I just can't and I apologize, but I will be voting no. Thank you.

SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from

1 Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized to
2 debate the bill.
3 REPRESENTATIVE HALL: Thank you,
4 Mr. Speaker. And, Members, I just want to
5 address a couple of things respectfully that I
6 heard from Representative Harrison, who I've
7 always enjoyed working with on redistricting and
8 I know her comments and criticisms are always
9 sincere. But I'll address a couple of those by
10 saying, you know, part of the problem we have in
11 this case is we're under such a time crunch.
12 You know, we essentially had two weeks to come
13 in and redraw all three maps: Congressional,
14 State House, and State Senate. That takes a
15 long time.
16 If you're on the redistricting
17 committee and spent much time around it, you
18 know what a task that is and how -- how short of
19 a time span two weeks is to go in and redraw
20 these maps. And that's why this body attempted
21 to further delay the primary. Again, we didn't
22 want to have to delay the primary, but we knew
23 what a challenge and what a monumental task it
24 was going to be to get these maps -- these maps
25 done in two weeks' time.

1 Not only have we got them done, but
2 we're about to get them done, I think, with
3 bipartisan support, and that's because the
4 speaker, myself, and Leader Reives got together,
5 and we talked when we first got the Court's
6 order and we continued to talk, to hammer out a
7 compromise that, frankly, both sides are not
8 completely happy with, but that's what a
9 compromise is. And so I hope you'll join me
10 tonight in recognizing the work of the
11 Democratic leader and the speaker and others in
12 each chamber and vote in a bipartisan manner for
13 these maps.
14 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
15 Representative Reives, recognized to debate the
16 bill.
17 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
18 Mr. Speaker. And I would echo what the Rules
19 Chair has said. What I appreciated was that we
20 did talk. And I think that when we talk and we
21 listen to each other, that we're able to come up
22 with something. I would say for purposes of
23 House Republican leadership to the rest of the
24 caucus, I will re-emphasize nobody came out of
25 this happy. Nobody came out of this dancing for

joy and figuring, "We won, we won."

What we were happy about is that we came to an agreement that both of us could live with, and that's the important thing and that's what we should do up here. And I appreciate the fact that we stayed on this, we talked, talked, talked. I think the speaker staff have gotten so used to seeing me I was afraid they were going to put a seat out for me and just put my name on it. But that's what we're supposed to be doing. And that's what I appreciate, and I appreciate your support of this bill.

Again, we're not asking for a green vote because we think that you're jumping for joy, but because this is what was asked of us. We did it. The things that we'd love to see differently -- I've said for eight years I'd love to see an independent commission. That's not what we were tasked to do. I've said it for eight years, lots of things I'd like to see done differently in the process. That's not what we were tasked to do.

I do feel that Representative Harrison's amendment is one of those situations that we do have to address under our state

constitution; but, again, that's a sincere disagreement on the law in this situation and what was expected. And I'll take those disagreements all day. That did not become a partisan disagreement. That was not a yelling and screaming match. That was a sincere discussion between two sets of leaders about what we felt the Court required at the end of this. And we just ask that you support this bill.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion? Further debate? If not, the question for the House is the passage of House Bill 980 on the second reading. Those in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote no. The clerk will open the vote.

Representative Bell, the House Majority Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy votes of the Republican members.

REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The following members have officially designated me to announce a vote on their behalf:

Representative Johnson, aye.

1 Representative Lambeth, aye.
2 Representative McNeeley, aye.
3 Representative Rogers, aye,.
4 Representative Shepard, aye.
5 Representative Zachary, aye.
6 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
7 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
8 Representative Reives, the House Minority
9 Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy
10 votes of the Democratic members.
11 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
12 Mr. Speaker.
13 The following members have authorized
14 me to enter votes on their behalf:
15 Representative Ager, aye.
16 Representative Alexander, aye.
17 Representative Brockman, aye.
18 Representative Hunter, no.
19 Representative Insko, aye.
20 Representative Lucas, aye.
21 Representative Martin, aye.
22 Representative Terry, aye.
23 Representative Turner, Aye.
24 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
25 machine and record the vote.

115 having voted in the affirmative and 5 in the negative. House Bill 980 passed a second reading and will be read a third time.

THE CLERK: General Assembly of North Carolina Enacts.

SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion? Further debate? If not, the question for the House is the passage of House Bill 980 on third reading.

All those in favor will say aye.

QUORUM: Aye.

SPEAKER MOORE: Those opposed, no.

QUORUM: No.

SPEAKER MOORE: In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. They ayes do have it. House Bill 980 having passed its third reading is ordered engrossed and sent to the Senate by -- by special messenger.

Members, there's a bill being added to this evening's calendar. By way of explanation, before the clerk reads the title, let me explain this to you.

The bill is Senate Bill 128, the title on the original bill is an Act to Allow Up to Two Members of the Board of Trustees of

1 Isothermal Community College to be Members of
2 the Board of the County Commissioners and To
3 Require Trustees to Maintain Their County of
4 Residence.
5 The bill has become a different bill
6 called An Act Removing the Cap On Satellite
7 Annexations for the Town of Goldston.
8 So some procedural information on it
9 before it's added to this evening's calendar.
10 This is a bill that back in November 29th we --
11 we added to the calendar. And so what we did
12 was we took the amendment, which changed the
13 title. It was a material amendment and, as a
14 result, it was not able to have the second or
15 third reading. It only had its first reading at
16 that time.
17 So the Chair would ask without
18 objection that the bill be added to this
19 evening's calendar.
20 Hearing none, it's so ordered.
21 Senate Bill 128, having been added to
22 the calendar, the Chair calls Senate Bill 128
23 for a second -- for a second reading. Clerk
24 will read.
25 THE CLERK: Senator Hise, Senate Bill

1 128, a Bill to be Entitled An Act to Allow Up to
2 Two Members of the Board of Trustees of
3 Isothermal Community College to be Members of
4 the Board of Commissioners and to Require
5 Trustees to Maintain Their County of Residence.
6 General Assembly of North Carolina Enacts.
7 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,
8 Representative Reives, is recognized to debate
9 the bill.
10 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
11 Mr. Speaker.
12 And we're just asking for another green
13 vote on this one. We did vote on this back in
14 November. This is -- this will allow for a
15 project that we've got coming to the small town
16 of Goldston. We've got about 200 people, and
17 we've got a chance to get us about 40 or 50
18 jobs. And so we appreciate your support before.
19 Just ask for your support again. We voted this
20 one out last time with only one no vote. Thank
21 you.
22 SPEAKER MOORE: The gentleman from
23 Wayne, Representative Bell, is recognized to
24 debate the bill.
25 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,

1 Mr. Speaker.
2 Members, this is a non-controversial
3 bill and I ask for your support. Thank you.
4 SPEAKER MOORE: Further discussion?
5 Further debate? My question for the House is to
6 pass Senate Bill 128 on second reading. Those
7 in favor will vote aye; those opposed will vote
8 no. The clerk will open the vote.
9 Gentleman from Wayne, Representative
10 Bell, House Majority Leader, is recognized to
11 announce the proxy votes of the Republican
12 members.
13 REPRESENTATIVE BELL: Thank you,
14 Mr. Speaker.
15 The following members have officially
16 designated me to announce a vote on their
17 behalf:
18 Representative Johnson, aye.
19 Representative Lambeth, aye.
20 Representative McNeeley, aye.
21 Rogers -- Representative Rogers, aye.
22 Representative Shepard, aye.
23 Representative Zachary, aye.
24 Thank you, sir.
25 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman from Chatham,

1 Representative Reives, the House Minority
2 Leader, is recognized to announce the proxy
3 votes of the Democratic members.
4 REPRESENTATIVE REIVES: Thank you,
5 Mr. Speaker.
6 The following members have authorized
7 me to enter votes on their behalf:
8 Representative Ager, aye.
9 Representative Alexander, aye.
10 Representative Brockman, aye.
11 Representative Hunter, aye.
12 Representative Insko, aye.
13 Representative Lucas, aye.
14 Representative Martin, aye.
15 Representative Terry, aye.
16 Representative Turner, aye.
17 SPEAKER MOORE: The clerk will lock the
18 machine and record the vote.
19 118 having voted in the affirmative,
20 one in the negative. Senate Bill 128 passes its
21 second reading, remains on the calendar.
22 Members, for your planning purposes
23 tomorrow, we -- I've conferred with the Senate,
24 and it's my understanding that we should receive
25 their -- their bills, the Congressional map and

1 the State Senate map tomorrow. And it appears
2 that we will -- we're going to have our admin
3 session at 10:30 tomorrow morning. We're going
4 to do the -- it looks like the votes are going
5 to be around 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. I
6 would anticipate a redistricting committee vote
7 possibly around 1 o'clock. I believe that's
8 what Chairman Hall is going probably tentatively
9 announce is a 1 o'clock Committee meeting.
10 Again, bear in mind, we may need to be
11 flexible with what's set -- with what's
12 involved. I'll properly thank central staff
13 tomorrow for their work. But just for those of
14 you who have been involved in this, you know
15 this is a lengthy process. The -- you know, the
16 media will show the map, and people will talk
17 about the map. But there's a really thick bill
18 that accompanies all that and actually has to
19 get down into the VTDs of the precincts. And
20 then when you're having to divide for
21 Congressional maps, you get into the census
22 blocks.
23 So there's a lot of detail. And so
24 when, you know, one move of a cursor here or
25 there can result in multiple changes of pages to

a document, and so the central staff really has to work very diligently to make sure that that is done correctly, that there's no errors. And it's very tedious and time-consuming work because it has to be checked, rechecked and then checked again to make sure it's accurate.

So that's why it takes so long to do -- when we do amendments and when things are done. So I know that members get anxious and want to -- want to kind of get on with business, but it's just part of the process to make sure it's right.

Representative Carney talked about when she worked back in the proofreading, they had typewriters. Can you imagine that right now with all this, right, and trying to do all this. So it's a long, lengthy process. So again I'll properly thank staff tomorrow, but just bear in mind that could cause us to run a little bit, you know, behind tomorrow and that's basically what we're dealing with.

The Chair does intend that we'll be taking up a couple of other bills tomorrow as well as the redistricting bill and we'll -- if we can get those noticed tonight, we will. But

1 we may not be able to notice them till -- for
2 tomorrow. So we'll let folks know what those
3 are.
4 And there's a couple of agency bills,
5 and there's a bill having to do with the masks
6 in schools. That's going to be one that we're
7 going to deal with tomorrow. And that will be
8 in the form of a conference report. So I think
9 that one's been broadcast, but I wanted to go
10 ahead and make -- let folks be on notice that
11 that's another bill that we're going to be
12 dealing with.
13 In that vein, too, the Chair is
14 relieving the conferees that were appointed to
15 Senate Bill 173 previously and the -- the bill
16 is the Free to Smiles Act, conferees are
17 dismissed. And the Chair appoints the following
18 conferees: Speaker as Chair, members Willis,
19 Torbett and Baker and Willingham as a conferee.
20 The Senate will be so notified.
21 So tomorrow's plan is that we would
22 come in admin session at 10:30. Committee, if
23 everything stays on track, 1 o'clock. And then
24 we're looking at a 2 o'clock session tomorrow to
25 take up the -- take up the bills. The Chair has

1 been informed by talking to the minority leader,
2 I think, there's not going to be any intent, at
3 least at this point, running amendments. So
4 that will -- that will allow that process to
5 hopefully go through streamline. If something
6 changes, we'll know on that.
7 So with that, any notices or
8 announcements?
9 For what purposes does the gentleman
10 from Caldwell, Representative Hall, arise?
11 CHAIRMAN HALL: For announcement.
12 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman has the floor
13 House.
14 CHAIRMAN HALL: Members, I anticipate
15 likely having House redistricting at some point
16 at 1:00 p.m. or later tomorrow. A lot of that
17 depends on what the Senate does. They don't
18 appear to have their things together like we do
19 over here. So just watch your inbox. But if
20 all else -- if it all works out well, we'll do
21 1:00.
22 SPEAKER MOORE: That was Representative
23 Baker of Cabarrus.
24 For what purpose does the gentleman
25 from Burke, Representative Blackwell, rise?

1 REPRESENTATIVE BLACKWELL:
2 Announcement.
3 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman has the
4 floor.
5 REPRESENTATIVE BLACKWELL: With
6 reference to the K-12 Education Committee, there
7 have been several corrected notices that have
8 gone out. I just want to confirm our new
9 meeting time tomorrow is at 11:00 a.m. in the
10 usual room, 643, and we have one item to
11 discuss.
12 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does
13 the lady from Mecklenburg, Representative
14 Carney, rise?
15 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Inquiry of the
16 Chair.
17 SPEAKER MOORE: Lady is recognized.
18 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Just to
19 clarify, if we're in a hotel tomorrow, we do --
20 we do not have to stay over Thursday night?
21 SPEAKER MOORE: It does not appear at
22 this moment. But if the wheels come off the
23 wagon, who knows. I would pack -- I would pack
24 my stuff. If you're in a hotel, I would pack
25 when I leave in the morning if I were you.

1 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Got it. I'll
2 send the bill to you if I don't.
3 SPEAKER MOORE: That will be fine.
4 That will be fine. You're welcome to send the
5 bill. Can't say what will happen then, but send
6 it out. I'll -- I'll pass it on to
7 Representative Reives and get him to pay.
8 For what purpose does the gentleman
9 from Guilford, Representative Hardister, rise?
10 REPRESENTATIVE HARDISTER: For a
11 personal privilege.
12 SPEAKER MOORE: Gentleman has the
13 floor.
14 REPRESENTATIVE HARDISTER: Thank you,
15 Mr. Speaker. Member I know -- Members, I know
16 we've done a lot of important work here today,
17 but there's something else very important that
18 happened today. It is Representative John
19 Faircloth's birthday, and I'm sure there is
20 nothing else he'd rather do than be with us here
21 tonight to celebrate. So I hope you'll join me
22 in wishing Representative Faircloth a happy
23 birthday.
24 SPEAKER MOORE: For what purpose does
25 the lady from Forsyth, Representative Baker,

rise?

REPRESENTATIVE BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for a point of personal privilege.

SPEAKER MOORE: The lady has the floor.

REPRESENTATIVE BAKER: I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who called and sent e-mails and prayed for us during the Weaver fire. As you all know that me and my families were evacuated because we were in the evacuation zone. And so we get pretty heated in here, but I think whenever we go through something, it is always reassuring when your colleagues reach out to you to let you know that they're concerned about your well-being and that -- and the well-being of your family. And additionally for the calls and concerns about my mother, who is still hospitalized at this point. So I do appreciate those prayers as well. So I thank you all for that.

And that is all I have, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MOORE: Yes, ma'am, thank you.

Any further notices or announcements? Seeing none, the gentleman from Caldwell, Representative Hall, is recognized for a motion.

REPRESENTATIVE HALL: Mr. Speaker, I

move the House be now adjourned to reconvene Thursday, February 17th, at 10:30 a.m., subject to the standard stipulations set forth in Rule 15.1.

SPEAKER MOORE: Representative Hall moved, seconded by Representative Bell, that the House is now adjourned to reconvene Thursday, February 17th at 10:30 a.m., subject to the standard stipulations set forth in Rule 15.1. Those in favor will say aye; those opposed, no.

The ayes have it. The House stands adjourned.

(The General Assembly 2022 House Floor Legislative Session was adjourned.)

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF BURKE

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, TAURA J. VULCANO, RPR, do hereby certify that the transcription of the recorded General Assembly of North Carolina 2022 Legislative Session, House Floor, Vote on House Bill 980, held on February 16, 2022, was taken down by me stenographically to the best of my ability and thereafter transcribed under my supervision; and that the foregoing pages, inclusive, constitute a true and accurate transcription of said recording.

Signed this the 18th day of February 2022.

Taura J. Vulcano
TAURA J. VULCANO, RPR