

EXHIBIT 5

DECLARATION OF COMMISSIONER VIOLA HARRIS

I, Viola Harris, swear under penalty of perjury that the following information is true to the best of my knowledge and state the following:

1. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
2. I was born and raised in Leggett, Edgecombe County; have lived in Tarboro, Edgecombe County for 35 years; and lived in North Carolina's Congressional District (CD1) for 66 years and 10 months.
3. I have voted in CD1, supporting Democrat and Black candidates since I was old enough to vote.
4. I have served as an Edgecombe County Commissioner for 25 years.
5. I learned advocacy skills by watching my mother advocate for the building and integration of North Edgecombe High School. I have advocated against gerrymandered maps at the NC General Assembly and on Capitol Hill.
6. I learned of the most recent redistricting plan through local county newsletters and Rep. Don Davis's office. Upon learning of the redistricting plan, I shared the information with my neighbors and the Women's Group of my local church, where my husband serves as a pastor. Many residents of CD1 were unaware of the proposed redistricting plan prior to my sharing.
7. I believe the current redistricting map is a plan to cut Black voters out of CD1 and cut out our representation.

8. The redistricting will affect who serves as a voice for my community and many of my family members who reside in Eastern, North Carolina; Black voters will not have a voice or strong advocates to hear and address their issues.
9. As a Commissioner and CD1 voter, I have a relationship with Representative Don Davis. Rep. Davis is always accessible to me and the community, even when we disagree and voice complaints. Voters need representatives who know their communities and how they live. People like Rep. Davis already understand what's going on in Edgecombe County and regularly visit areas across CD1, including the areas that other elected officials ignore or are unwilling to visit.
10. I believe the redistricting is also a plan to target Rep. Don and place him in a district where he won't be able to win re-election because there won't be enough Black voters to support him or any other candidate who would similarly advocate for the issues of the Black community.
11. The redistricting also adversely affects the CD1 public school system which is being cut up and divided at the same time it faces an influx of charter schools.
12. As a Commissioner, the redistricting means I not only have to wait to find out who the newly elected officials could be for my area, but I must also build new relationships and try to convey the importance of issues, such as lack of internet access, to those who have not encountered similar issues in their district.
13. There are still parts of Edgecombe County that do not have internet access. I, along with others, have been working with Rep. Davis to improve internet access for six years. This redistricting could delay additional progress and people in rural communities having internet access.

14. I am also concerned that this redistricting will cause Black officials to face political defeat in CD1 because the Black voting population is being broken up.
15. The redistricting will negatively impact economic development, particularly with energy and solar power efforts in Edgecombe County. We currently have a representative who is willing to work with the community to make this an attractive area for development, and I fear that this redistricting will prevent us from electing future representatives who care to continue these efforts.
16. Edgecombe County has experienced a long-term pattern of population decline, and though we have been actively working to make Edgecombe a place where people want to invest, build and live, I fear these efforts will be adversely affected and the population decline will be exacerbated by the new districting.
17. I believe this new map is an attempt to erase Black people.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of North Carolina that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on November 11, 2025.



Viola Harris