

EXHIBIT

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HOUSE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE HEARING 10/04

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House Redistricting Committee Hearing

OCTOBER 4, 2021

TRANSCRIBED BY:

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Certified Shorthand Reporter

1 public. But I felt, rather than a point/counterpoint, you
2 needed an overview of how we were looking at HB1. And again,
3 my office will remain open even beyond today to talk and visit
4 with the members here. And the public, certainly keep your
5 input coming. The process is the committee process right now.
6 There is then a floor process which can be different. So I
7 want everybody to know you're in the process.

8 The -- let me get this. Let me stop there,
9 Mr. Goldman. And Mr. Jetton, do you have any comments about
10 the Fort Bend that you have to me or the new district that has
11 developed? Nothing on that? Mr. Goldman, do you have anything
12 on the North Texas? Mr. Turner?

13 CHAIR TURNER: I have -- I have several
14 questions, Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIR HUNTER: Sure.

16 CHAIR TURNER: Is this now the --

17 CHAIR HUNTER: Yes.

18 CHAIR TURNER: -- right time to do this? Okay.
19 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I'll apologize for
20 having my back to you but I want to make sure my -- what I say
21 is clearly said in the microphone --

22 CHAIR HUNTER: Absolutely. Please, please.

23 CHAIR TURNER: Thank you for the -- the layout
24 of House Bill 1, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to start by trying to
25 better understand the process by which the House map was drawn.

1 So I ask a basic question: Who actually sat at the computer
2 and physically constructed House Bill 1?

3 CHAIR HUNTER: Let -- let me just give you a
4 comprehensive answer. Nobody saw the map until I filed it. I
5 heard this rumor going out, That's what they did 10, 20 years
6 ago. I've been watching a video on YouTube video about this.
7 That's not how we do it today.

8 What I did, Mr. Turner, I continually asked
9 House members and held the public hearings, which we listened
10 to, to submit into the Red Apple program concepts. I received
11 regional groups, individuals. I will tell you that some of the
12 areas of the state turned them in and then members of that
13 region came in and said they didn't agree with it.

14 So what we did is we took the Red Apple
15 programming, I then have a law firm that advises me with their
16 technical folks. With some of my staff, I got them to take a
17 look at it, had them run the legal and the data, give me the
18 suggestions, and then I made the decision.

19 CHAIR TURNER: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 So can I ask the name of the law firm?

21 CHAIR HUNTER: Butler Snow.

22 CHAIR TURNER: Butler Snow. All right. And so
23 in terms of who actually drew the plan, is that you or your
24 staff or someone at Butler Snow?

25 CHAIR HUNTER: It's a combination of all.

1 CHAIR TURNER: All right. Thank you. And then
2 last week there was a media report that there's a gentleman
3 named Adam Foltz who works for either the Texas Legislative
4 Council or the Redistricting Committee. I think there was some
5 confusion on that. Was Mr. Foltz involved in drawing the maps?

6 CHAIR HUNTER: Yes. And he reports to me.

7 CHAIR TURNER: Okay. So is he an employee of
8 the House Redistricting Committee?

9 CHAIR HUNTER: He is not an employees of the
10 House Redistricting Committee. He is an employee through the
11 Legislative Council, assigned to me, which happens quite a bit.
12 It's not just in this situation.

13 CHAIR TURNER: Okay. So did -- did Legislative
14 Council hire him or did --

15 CHAIR HUNTER: I think they actually -- you'll
16 have to check on the formality but I think they actually do the
17 contract and then he's assigned to me, just like they do with
18 all -- many of their employees who do the same.

19 CHAIR TURNER: Okay. So it was -- was it a
20 decision of Legislative Council to hire him or was it --

21 CHAIR HUNTER: It was my request.

22 CHAIR TURNER: It was your decision?

23 CHAIR HUNTER: Yes.

24 CHAIR TURNER: Okay.

25 CHAIR HUNTER: Everything falls on me.