



OUR VISION: "SERVING THE WHOLE MAN
MIND, BODY AND SOUL"

Union Baptist Church

1405 East Monroe Street • Springfield, Illinois 62703
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T. Ray McJunkins
Senior Pastor

April 6, 2021

**Illinois House of Representatives
Redirecting Committee**

Subject Matter: Regional Communities and the Boundaries of Illinois Districts-Decatur

To Madam Chairwoman Elizabeth Hernandez and the Committee as a whole,

My name is T. Ray McJunkins. I and others consider myself a community leader. I have served as the lead pastor of the esteemed Union Baptist Church of Springfield, IL for 19 years but greater than that, Union Baptist Church has served the community for 150 years. I strongly believe the church is still the face of the community. When I look at the local church and the demographics of the church, I literally see the age, color, and economics of the community.

Every ten years decision makers such as yourselves get to see what I see every day. Which is a community that is constantly evolving. People move in and people move out, the elderly pass away, the younger reproduce and in the meantime the working class now focus on a career rather than just a job.

My concern and desire regarding redistricting is equity and equality as well as diversity and inclusion. Redistricting enables all communities to receive fair and impartial treatment in status, rights, opportunities, and resources. As you review and evaluate the testimonies of various individuals please refresh yourselves on being clear that reapportionment (allocating persons to congress in Washington, DC) and redistricting (redrawing the actual boundaries of districts) are not the same concepts. Redistricting must continue to be the process by which census data is used to redraw the boundaries of electoral districts within a state. The process of redistricting affects districts at all levels of government from local school boards and city councils to state legislatures of the U.S. House of Representatives. This process clearly opens the door of opportunity with the intention to make positive change. I humbly ask that you will be that agent of positive change.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**T. Ray McJunkins, Lead Pastor
Union Baptist Church**

N/A
BILL OR RESOLUTION NUMBER

**RECORD OF COMMITTEE WITNESS
ILLINOIS HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**

Committee: Redistricting
Committee
Date: Wednesday,
April 7, 2021
10:00 AM
Other (Subject Matter): Regional
Communities
and the
Boundaries
of Illinois
Districts -
Decatur.

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name	T Ray McJunkins	Firm/Business or Agency	Union Baptist Church
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II. REPRESENTATION

Union Baptist Church Springfield, IL

III. POSITION

Regional
Communities
and the
Boundaries
of Illinois
Districts -
Decatur.

Proponent Opponent No Position On Merits

IV. TESTIMONY

Oral Written Statement Filed Record Of Appearance Only



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