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2011 ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING II

PUBLIC HEARING

April 30, 2011
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P R E S E N T

1. Senator Michael Noland, Acting Chairman
2. Senator Mattie Hunter, Member
3. Senator Matt Murphy, Minority Spokesperson

ALSO PRESENT: Giovanni Randazzo, Committee Clerk
Ms. Megan Ryan

1 MR. NOLAND: Good morning, and let me just say
2 thank you to all who have come out here to the Senate
3 Redistricting Committee hearing for the 22nd
4 District.

5 It's kind of a traveling road show, so
6 to speak. We've held about 11 different hearings
7 throughout the State, northeast, south and west.

8 And just to kind of give you a little
9 sense here, let's see, we've been in the City of
10 Chicago, that's where we started out, we've been to
11 Kankakee, Cicero, Elmhurst, Yorkville, University
12 Park. We have been in Springfield, of course,
13 Peoria, Macomb, just a few days ago, and Carbondale
14 in Southern Illinois.

15 So today the hearing comes to
16 Streamwood, which is my home district. So I want to
17 say thank you to all of you who responded to our
18 request for your attendance here this morning.

19 I was telling Senator Murphy, you can
20 be one of three places this beautiful day; you can
21 out flying a kite, you could be playing baseball or
22 you could be at a Senate redistricting hearing.

23 And I want to thank you for choosing
24 the third, at least for the moment. Some of you may

1 be out playing baseball later or flying a kite, as
2 well.

3 So we are here to hear your testimony;
4 that's the most important thing we do today.

5 We have some housekeeping to take care
6 of right off the bat. We will do that. With that,
7 will the clerk please call the roll.

8 CLERK RANDAZZO: Senator Rezin?

9 (No response.)

10 Senator Murphy?

11 SENATOR MURPHY: Here.

12 CLERK RANDAZZO: Senator Martinez?

13 (No response.)

14 CLERK RANDAZZO: Senator Maloney?

15 (No response.)

16 CLERK RANDAZZO: Senator Hunter?

17 SENATOR HUNTER: Here.

18 CLERK RANDAZZO: Senator Collins?

19 (No response.)

20 CLERK RANDAZZO: Chairman Noland.

21 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Here.

22 Just in case I didn't do this in
23 proper order, I, nonetheless, need to read into the
24 record, the fact that I'm replacing Senator Harmon

1 today as Chair of the subcommittee, and also Senator
2 Mattie Hunter is replacing Senator Emil Jones, III,
3 as members of this subcommittee. And Senator Matt
4 Murphy will be serving as minority spokesman
5 replacing Senator Dillard; is that correct?

6 SENATOR MURPHY: Yes.

7 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: With that, we'll entertain
8 any motions and read the announcements.

9 SENATOR HUNTER: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10 I notice that we, once again, have a
11 court reporter present. I move that this hearing be
12 transcribed by the court reporter so that the
13 committee can have a full transcript of this hearing,
14 which the committee can approve at a future hearing,
15 once members and staff have time to review the
16 transcript and make any needed corrections.

17 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Thank you. Very good.

18 That is the motion by Senator Hunter.
19 Is there any for the attendance roll call?

20 SENATOR MURPHY: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: There is a motion seconded by
22 Senator Murphy for leave for adopting the motion.
23 Leave is granted. No objection was made and the
24 motion is passed.

1 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2 And in keeping with the precedent, I
3 would like to make a motion to allow everyone in
4 attendance today the option of taking photos as long
5 as they do not disrupt the proceeding.

6 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Very good. Motion by Senator
7 Hunter, seconded by Senator Murphy. Once again,
8 seeing no objection, leave is granted.

9 SENATOR HUNTER: In conclusion, Mr. Chair, I
10 would like to make a motion to allow any media
11 present to take still-photos of the meeting.

12 SENATOR MURPHY: Seconded.

13 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Seconded by Senator Murphy.
14 Seeing no objection, leave is granted. The motion
15 passes. Very good.

16 With that, we will go ahead and get
17 underway. I will read the witness slips that we have
18 of folks.

19 Let's see here, at the end of our
20 proceedings, I will read a couple of other
21 announcements that we like to share, some information
22 we want to make sure the folks have.

23 We have Dan Kairis of South Elgin and
24 also Tony Sanders from School District 46, the only

1 two to submit witness slips, but that doesn't mean
2 that others cannot come up and speak.

3 If you feel as though you would like
4 to address the committee, the panel here today,
5 please feel free to do that. We'll ask you to come
6 up and then to just simply state your name and be
7 willing to fill out a witness slip when you do speak.

8 So with that, how are we going to set
9 this up? Mr. Kairis, would you like to go first?
10 Good. And we need you to speak into the microphone
11 or at least nearby.

12 Is this picking everybody up? Does
13 this satisfy you?

14 MR. KAIRIS: Do you really think I need a
15 microphone?

16 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Not particularly, but feel
17 free to --

18 SENATOR MURPHY: Maybe just for the recording.

19 MR. KAIRIS: I didn't bring my assistant to hold
20 up this graphic.

21 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: If you could --

22 SENATOR HUNTER: Would you like me to hold it
23 for you?

24 MS. RYAN: How about if I hold it?

1 SENATOR HUNTER: Step closer to the mic.

2 MR. KAIRIS: Testing 1, 2, 3. I've been
3 involved in politics for sometime, and I'm one of
4 those who have complained with what's been going on
5 with the system for many, many years. Unfortunately,
6 I haven't seen anything change.

7 This last map that was drawn --
8 Senator Noland and I were having a discussion, this
9 is basically drawn with, I think, Mr. Lapinski and
10 Mr. Hastert (phonetic) made a deal; he got to draw
11 Chicago and Hastert got to draw the rest of Illinois.

12 So we can take a look at what this is.
13 It's nothing more than an incumbent protection
14 drawing. None of this makes any sense to anyone who
15 I've shown it to.

16 When I said, Oh, we're here in the
17 14th District -- actually, I'm just outside the
18 district, but where I live, in South Elgin, is the
19 14th District, and it goes almost to the Mississippi
20 River. That's bad enough.

21 But when we take a look at the 11th
22 District coming all the way down here, and if you
23 train your eyes on the 17th, that starts up towards
24 Rockford and somehow squirrels its way all the way

1 around the state to pick up Springfield, nobody can
2 convince me that this qualifies for contiguous and
3 compact.

4 This is why I'm afraid all of these
5 hearings are going to mean nothing, unless we have
6 some senators like you're here today that say, We
7 want better for the citizens of Illinois. We're not
8 going to make any more back-room deals.

9 Unfortunately, I don't know if it's
10 going to happen. I certainly hope you guys and women
11 can tell your leadership that the people in Illinois
12 deserve better.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. KAIRIS: I notice you don't have that map.
15 Would you like a copy of this to take, so you can --

16 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: If you do have a extra copy,
17 I would very much appreciate that.

18 MR. KAIRIS: It's all yours.

19 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: On that note, we do have some
20 maps of, not only the congressional districts of
21 Northeastern Illinois, but also the State's
22 legislative districts, including the House seats as
23 well. I'll speak a little bit more later to a
24 proposed map by an organization that we have heard

1 testimony from that I've bought here today.

2 Hold on, Mr. Kairis, if you would.

3 Before I really address your comments, I would like
4 members of the panel if you have any questions of
5 Mr. Kairis?

6 SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you.

7 Yeah, I think that speaks for itself.
8 There are examples -- for example, the 4th District
9 in Chicago that is a very interesting looking
10 district, that I think has a legal basis and reason
11 for. I think it's in the shape of a C. And that one
12 was an effort to maximize or guarantee minority
13 representation, particularly, the Latino community.

14 But the 17th really doesn't have any
15 justification for looking like that, other than, it
16 was drawn for one party; and frankly, you know, all
17 of those were.

18 I mean Dan's representation of how
19 that congressional map last time was made is
20 accurate. I mean, that's what it was. I think I
21 even called it an incumbent protection plan.

22 Hopefully, what will be different this
23 time and one of the things we had pushed for union
24 with League of Women Voters was more of a

1 computer-based model that sort of took it out of the
2 hands of the General Assembly, as much as possible to
3 try to de-politicize it as much as possible.

4 We didn't necessarily get the format
5 that we wanted, but, you know, I commend the majority
6 on, as Senator Noland said, this is the 11th hearing
7 on the Senate side for people to have an opportunity
8 to weigh in.

9 There has been a representation that
10 there is intention to have hearings after the map is
11 rolled out, so that people can have feedback on it at
12 that time. You know, the more transparency there is
13 on it, the more people such as yourselves are
14 actually willing to pay attention and demand better
15 that that, the more likely we are to get it.

16 So I appreciate you being here for
17 that reason, and hopefully we will all get a good
18 look at the map before it's voted on, and everybody
19 can kind of weigh in at that time.

20 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Thank you, Senator.

21 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
22 represent the 3rd legislative district in Chicago,
23 which meanders in and out of like 13 different wards.
24 And it's quite a challenge for me to get around from

1 one district to the next, but the most important
2 thing about it is none of us were around when that
3 map was drawn.

4 SENATOR MURPHY: Auh-huh.

5 SENATOR HUNTER: We were not around 20 years
6 ago, of course, or 30 years ago when the other maps
7 were drawn; and so therefore, we have committed
8 ourselves, especially this legislative General
9 Assembly, to make sure that there is a transparent
10 system.

11 I'm here to hear from you, not for you
12 all to hear from us. We want to hear from you.

13 And as Mr. Kairis indicated, the map
14 is drawn for someone else in particular, but we are
15 committed to a transparent system. We are trying to
16 do the right thing. We are trying to hear from you.

17 This is my eighth hearing since spring
18 break this week and last week. And, of course, we
19 had hearings prior to that, so this is my 11th or
20 12th hearing. And, Mr. Kairis, what you're saying is
21 very consistent across the board that we are hearing
22 throughout the State of Illinois.

23 So we are going to do our best. We
24 are recording, we are taking minutes. We have a

1 court reporter here, and hopefully we can draw the
2 map to everyone's satisfaction; however, saying that,
3 we all know we are not going to satisfy everyone. We
4 never do. We never do.

5 You know, actually, when we were in
6 Peoria, come to think of it, the people were telling
7 me that they were satisfied with the way the map was
8 drawn and they were satisfied with their legislators.
9 You know, so we hear inconsistent information based
10 upon the location in which we travel. And so we are
11 committed to an open and fair map and an open and
12 fair process.

13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Thank you.

15 Mr. Kairis, your points are well
16 taken. And as you can see, you know, yeah, there's
17 something going on here. And whether it was an
18 agreement between then Speaker Hastert, and
19 Congressman Lapinski regarding who would have an
20 opportunity to draw what maps, you're right, it was
21 probably each, the Downstate seats and the Chicago
22 Metro Area congressional seats, were probably drawn
23 to protect certain members. I suppose that's a fair
24 statement.

1 I think that's your statement,
2 correct?

3 MR. KAIRIS: (Shaking head up and down.)

4 If I could make a suggestion, we have
5 a very --

6 SENATOR HUNTER: It's going to be kind of tough
7 because we need you at the microphone.

8 MR. KAIRIS: Okay. Later.

9 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Good enough.

10 First of all, let me ask you, do you
11 have a map, a suggestion you would like to see?

12 MR. KAIRIS: I have been trying to find some
13 software that I could use, but I haven't been able
14 to. I would be delighted to draw a map, if I could
15 find a software to do it.

16 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: So now I want to make an
17 announcement to the audience here, and that is that
18 we have two stations here in the State of Illinois;
19 one in Chicago at Bilandic Building, Downtown, and
20 that's on the 4th Floor downtown at the Bilandic, and
21 also The Jim Thompson Center --

22 SENATOR HUNTER: The Republicans are --

23 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: And these are sponsored by the
24 various two parties. Okay. The Bilandic is

1 sponsored by the Democrat caucus. And the Thompson
2 Center is sponsored by the Republican caucus. So you
3 can go to either one of those. Where is the phone
4 number.

5 MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE: It's that telephone
6 number you gave last time.

7 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Okay.

8 MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE: Ed Marshall, you can
9 call Ed Marshall and make an appointment.

10 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Ed Marshall, all right.

11 Then, of course, we have a station
12 available at the Stratton Building in Springfield,
13 okay. And that's on the 4th Floor of the Stratton
14 Building in Springfield, and the telephone number for
15 that office is (217) 558-3036. Again, that's (217)
16 558-3036. Okay.

17 Now, also, too, there's a web site
18 that you can visit and offer suggestions if you have a
19 map, perhaps, you can send us an e-mail and that
20 would be at www.ilsenateredistricting.com. I will
21 state it again and spell it. Again,
22 [www.ilsenateredistricting](http://www.ilsenateredistricting.com), all one word, .com.
23 I-l-s-e-n-a-t-e-r-e-d-i-s-t-r-i-c-t-i-n-g.com.

24 Our e-mail address is

1 redistricting@SenateDem.ilga.gov. That's the Senate
2 Democrat caucus. Okay.

3 Do Republicans have an e-mail they
4 want to offer?

5 Let me just repeat that Democrat
6 caucus e-mail again. That's redistricting,
7 r-e-d-i-s-t-r-i-c-t-i-n-g, at, s-e-n-a-t-e-d-e-m.
8 I-l-g-a.g-o-v.

9 SENATOR MURPHY: If anybody has any question or
10 issues about it, you can just e-mail me to Senator
11 Matt Murphy at gmail.com.

12 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Now, a couple of other
13 comments I would like to make about Mr. Kairis'
14 testimony and that is the Internet is a marvelous
15 tool. And we know, on the panel here, we get it, we
16 understand that there is a whole new set of
17 expectations by the public regarding transparency.

18 And if it's not just the Internet, of
19 course, we have just gone through a period where
20 ethics has been a major point of public discourse,
21 okay. And there are these expectations, if not
22 generally speaking in the nation, certainly here in
23 the State of Illinois, where people want to know what
24 their elected officials are up to, how we're making

1 our decisions.

2 So, please, you know, if you have
3 maps -- and I'm going to show you, Mr. Kairis, if you
4 would take that Northeastern Illinois map down, and I
5 just want to show you, people want to know, Well, do
6 you have a map? Do the Democrats have a map? Do the
7 Republicans have a map? Show us what you have.

8 I can assure you we are showing you
9 everything that we have.

10 We received the Census data in early
11 March and we've been synthesizing the information and
12 seeing what it means for the various districts,
13 bringing members in to talk about where their
14 districts lie and what their expectations are,
15 talking about the shifts in population, and
16 demographics, socioeconomics, all of this.

17 There is no set map currently
18 available to any of us, the public or the panel,
19 really at this point. At best, it must be an
20 amalgamation of, you know, ideas about current maps
21 or current districts and current boundaries in
22 somebody's mind somewhere.

23 Perhaps, they have it somewhere on a
24 file. We don't know. We just don't have this to

1 offer to the public, but what we do have and what
2 this phase is for, what this meeting is for is to
3 receive information from you to receive proposals
4 from you as to what you believe the boundaries ought
5 to be of our maps based on where we are.

6 One of the complaints at a previous
7 hearing was quote "We didn't bring a current map of
8 where we are." In order to know where you're going,
9 you need to know where you're at, right?

10 So we have these maps of the districts
11 here today. Feel free to take a look at them, and
12 tell me -- if you live in the 22nd District certainly
13 share with me your ideas of what you think the 22nd
14 District should look like.

15 Now, to that end, a few hearings ago
16 we had a group called UNO, United Neighborhoods
17 Organized; is that correct.

18 MS. RYAN: Yes.

19 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: From Chicago. They are a
20 Latino organization. And they made some suggestions
21 as to what they believe, based on the demographics
22 with respect to the Latino population and the growth
23 and shift of the Latino population, and that's what
24 you see up there on that map in the 22nd District.

1 Now, if you were to ask me, would I be
2 satisfied in making my vote whether that rendering of
3 the 22nd District would be satisfactory to my
4 constituents. And by the way, my vote is based on
5 what I believe my constituents would want, okay, not
6 just simply based on protecting my job. Okay. This
7 is really important stuff. This is stuff that's more
8 important than somebody holding a job. It's
9 important with respect to how the elections will
10 unfold in the near future, 10 years of elections in
11 the years ahead of us.

12 So if you were to ask me if I thought
13 the people of my district would be okay with that
14 map, I would probably say, Yes, I think so, because
15 it really doesn't change much.

16 But the most important thing here is
17 for you to stay engaged here, to tell us what you
18 think and what your proposals are. Okay.

19 I know I've gone on here, but I want
20 to emphasize that this is an ongoing process. There
21 is no divine map at this point. That, I believe,
22 will happen within the next couple of weeks.

23 I believe that members and the leaders
24 will get together in Springfield and other places and

1 will talk about what the boundaries ought to be, and
2 that amalgamation that I spoke of earlier will be to
3 coalesce, and we will start to get a better
4 understanding of where it is that we are going.

5 And once that happens, I can assure
6 you, these members, and the members -- our colleagues
7 down in Springfield will be putting pressure on the
8 leaders to reveal this to you sooner as opposed to
9 later. We get it. We know you want this information
10 and we are trying to get it you. All right.

11 MR. KAIRIS: Phone number?

12 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Phone number?

13 MR. KAIRIS: The phone number for the Chicago
14 office.

15 SENATOR HUNTER: You can call the Springfield
16 office.

17 MR. KAIRIS: What is the number?

18 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: That telephone is (217)
19 558-3036. That is the number that will link you to
20 that number.

21 SENATOR HUNTER: Mr. Chairman, I also would
22 like to add that based upon the testimony here and
23 all the other hearings, we will take that information
24 into consideration upon drawing the map, as well,

1 that's why we have a court reporter and a recording
2 and our staff here is taking additional notes.

3 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Very good point.

4 Senator, would you like to make any
5 comments?

6 SENATOR MURPHY: No, thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Okay. Mr. Sanders?

8 MR. SANDERS: Thank you, Senator. I don't have
9 a map to hold up.

10 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: That's okay.

11 MR. SANDERS: I'm here really -- you mentioned
12 earlier in the hearing that you want the demographic
13 information, the background information regarding the
14 districts, not just legislative. I'm here to speak
15 about the changes within our school district that I
16 know Senator Noland is very well aware of.

17 We are School District 46, the second
18 largest school district. We serve 41,000 students in
19 the communities of Bartlett, Elgin, South Elgin,
20 Wayne, Streamwood, West Chicago, Schaumburg, Hanover
21 Park, Carol Stream, and a few others.

22 We are, in the last 10 years from 2000
23 to 2010, we became a minority majority district. Our
24 population is 44.4 percent Hispanic within our school

1 district, 35 percent white, 8.1 percent Asian,
2 6.9 percent black, and 3.9 percent multi-racial.

3 The interesting thing about our school
4 district with the right census numbers -- the Census
5 is now reporting the population within the boundaries
6 of school district. We have 231,224 residents within
7 the boundaries of our school district. That's
8 actually larger than Kankakee, Rockford.

9 SENATOR HUNTER: Right.

10 MR. SANDERS: Actually, every other major city
11 in Chicago. We really don't know how much that has
12 changed for the last ten years because the Census
13 didn't view that for school districts in the past.
14 However, I can tell you that within the last
15 ten years, our district has grown by leaps and
16 bounds.

17 Our roll has gone up 34,983 in 2000 to
18 40,745 today. That increase required us to build six
19 new elementary schools, a new middle school, and a
20 new high school in the past ten years. That's in
21 addition to many other additions to school buildings.

22 Our request really was just to give
23 you that background information and to request that
24 you continue to make this an open and transparent

1 process, so as maps come forward, we have an
2 opportunity to review them.

3 Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Senators?

5 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, once again, for
6 sharing the information that you did as it relates to
7 the educational system and how the population has
8 grown in addition to the minority population.

9 Based upon your increase in population
10 in this particular area, there should be some
11 additional dollars available to adjust that growth in
12 terms of the new schools that are in need of being
13 built, but it just shows you how interesting -- I
14 know my district -- I lost 21,000 people in the City
15 of Chicago. I believe that most of that had a lot to
16 do with foreclosures and public housing up and down
17 State Street in Chicago was torn down, you know, and
18 so I have had a tremendous amount of shift in
19 population, and I don't know what my district is
20 going to look like, actually, because now I need to
21 go out and find 21,000 people, you know.

22 So it's going to be quite an
23 interesting situation once the maps are going to be
24 drawn. But, you know, we all have to live with what

1 the situation is now and what it is going to be, and
2 we're going to have to adjust and we're going to make
3 adjustments to it. You know, all of us are. I can't
4 figure anything out right now until I see what my
5 actual boundaries are going to be.

6 You know, then I have to find out what
7 the needs are. You know what your needs are right
8 now as it relates to the educational system, and
9 especially dealing with the bilingual situation,
10 that's one of your most challenging matters I believe
11 at this particular time.

12 So good luck.

13 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Senator Murphy?

14 SENATOR MURPHY: No thanks.

15 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: To follow up on some of the
16 senator's comments, you know, her district has
17 changed significantly in that she's lost people.

18 On the other hand, you have a number
19 of districts out here, one of the most notable, I
20 believe, is probably Senator Lauzen's district to my
21 due west and south, which has nearly doubled, okay,
22 nearly doubled, so his district will be cut in half;
23 where perhaps, Senator Hunter's district will have to
24 double in size, just to use some rough analyses here.

1 Now, just for those who live in the
2 22nd District, so that you're aware, in this area the
3 population really's not changed that much. The 22nd
4 District is up by about 5,000 residents, if you will.

5 Senator Murphy's district, he tells me
6 is about 2,500. So there really hasn't been that
7 much of a change in the population here in this area.
8 So some of the points I'm trying to make is, I
9 suppose, some districts will change, some will not
10 very much. So just kind of be apprised of that.

11 A question that we had -- oh yes, the
12 question I had or that we would like to ask you,
13 Mr. Sanders, is how many senators, how many
14 legislatures do you have serving the School District
15 46.

16 MR. SANDERS: Currently we have six state
17 representatives and three senators that encompass at
18 least some portion of our school district.

19 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Very good.

20 SENATOR HUNTER: Yeah, I realize how difficult
21 that is, trying is to deal with all those different
22 people and personalities and different -- people have
23 different ideologies as to how things will go. And
24 it's difficult to manage when you're having to deal

1 with so many people.

2 I have been a Senator for nine years
3 now. As I indicated earlier, I have 13 alderman that
4 I have to deal with, some of them are committeemen
5 and others are not; you know, then I have the
6 judicial districts. I have the Cook County board
7 districts in my district. You know, and it's like
8 juggling all kinds of balls, you know.

9 Some of my aldermen demand more of my
10 attention as opposed to others do not, you know.

11 So it's difficult trying to deal with
12 multiple levels of elected officials, you know.

13 I know that this general area itself
14 has grown tremendously. I recall, about 20 years
15 ago, my brother and his family lived in Hanover Park.
16 And it was mostly rural -- not quite rural, but it
17 was mostly rural.

18 And as I was driving down Lake
19 Street -- I have not been in this area in, I admit,
20 in about 20 or so years, and I didn't recognize
21 anything.

22 I remember there was a Dominick's and
23 Connie's Pizza somewhere on Lake Street or Roselle
24 Road, something like that. Last night, I said, Maybe

1 I can have lunch at that Connie's Pizza, well, it's
2 gone, and I don't know where it is.

3 I see so many beautiful homes, town
4 homes and homes and condominiums built and strip
5 malls and shopping centers and new businesses. I
6 said, Wow, there has been a tremendous amount of
7 growth out here.

8 So I was just impressed, actually, but
9 it's a good thing for the community.

10 So thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Okay. I hope you have
12 positive relations, a very good working relationship
13 with all of your legislative leaders, that would be
14 true, correct? Good to know. Good to know.

15 All right. Anyone else?

16 MR. SCHWARTZ: Can I ask a question? Can you
17 explain --

18 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Just for the record, we need
19 you to state your name. You're free to ask any
20 questions.

21 MR. SCHWARTZ: Simon Schwartz, Hoffman Estates.
22 I would just like to understand the procedure in
23 which a new map will be presented and approved by the
24 legislature, particularly the congressional map?

1 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Well, I can assure you, we're
2 not pulling it out of a Cracker Jack box. Okay.
3 It's a deliberative process. It's going to be a
4 bill. It's a piece of legislation. It's due to be
5 voted on by May 31st, which is the end of the
6 session, which is the end of --

7 SENATOR MURPHY: We could do it in June.

8 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Why put off tomorrow what you
9 can do today, right? We want that sooner as opposed
10 to later --

11 SENATOR MURPHY: That's right.

12 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: -- so the people can enjoy
13 their summer. I think you might want to enjoy your
14 summer, too.

15 SENATOR MURPHY: June 1st would be fine, that
16 will get you to summer.

17 SENATOR HUNTER: That's my birthday. That's a
18 good time to celebrate after we pass the bill in May.

19 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: You know, the process, I
20 think that you're going to find -- just what has
21 passed, I think, we should suggest is prelude, you've
22 had 11 hearings by the Senate alone. You have had
23 probably as many by the House. So there have been a
24 good total of 16.

1 CLERK RANDAZZO: 16 in the House.

2 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: 16 there. 11 here. That's
3 27, if I do math properly. So you will probably end
4 up with a good 40, 50 hearings on one level or
5 another, one chamber or the other here and that's
6 unprecedented. This did not happen last time, and it
7 surely didn't happen the time before when you're
8 pulling a piece of paper out of a stove top hat,
9 that's just bizarre. This is a different day and I
10 think this is different evidence of that.

11 Then, you know, of course, I think
12 you're actually going to get an opportunity to see a
13 map before we actually vote on it. I think that's
14 the main concern of our colleagues on the other side
15 of the aisle and the Republican caucus and we're
16 sensitive to that.

17 Do we think that everything is going
18 to be perfectly agreeable to everyone? No. Are we
19 going to sing Cum baya? Are we going to be toasting,
20 you know, come May 31st or June 1st, as Senator
21 Murphy is hopeful for? Probably not.

22 You know, there will be some that are
23 happy and some that are not. That's the political
24 process. That's why it's so important for you to

1 participate in this. I want to thank you for coming
2 out.

3 We have done this at other hearings as
4 well, I'll do it here. We don't have any other
5 witness slips.

6 We will ask, is there anybody else
7 here who would like to speak, offer any comments or
8 ask any questions, in an effort to be as transparent
9 and accessible as possible to the people of Illinois,
10 that's what we are here for to ask that question and
11 to have it stated once. Ask once. Asked twice?

12 SENATOR MURPHY: Can I take a crack at
13 Mr. Schwartz' comment first?

14 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Yes, please.

15 SENATOR MURPHY: This one is unique. I mean,
16 the Constitution in 1970 set out that we would
17 redistrict with the census every ten years, before
18 that this didn't happen regularly.

19 And the first step is to do
20 legislation, to do a map. But the three other times
21 in '80, '90 and 2000, you had divided government, so
22 there was -- that's how we ended up pulling a name
23 out of the hat to see which party was effective to
24 decide what the map looked like.

1 This year is the first time since the
2 Constitution that one party will have total control
3 of the process, which is why it will be a bill and it
4 will be a bill by May 31st, because before June 1st,
5 it will just require a simple majority, and then the
6 signature of the governor. Then the map, assuming it
7 passes muster in the courts, will be the law and go
8 into effect.

9 I think Senator Noland laid out the
10 expectation that this -- it will be a bill like any
11 other bill in terms of process, supposedly, you know
12 where it will get put out, get whatever the requisite
13 notice at the time is, to be voted on in the
14 committee in one chamber, go through the floor vote
15 in that chamber and then go to the other side of the
16 Capitol before making its way to the governor.

17 And that process will take time and
18 provide an opportunity to provide, I think, for
19 public input, as well.

20 But that's how we anticipate this
21 happening this time, which again, is unique because
22 of the opportunity with the one party control that
23 has never been there before since the Constitution.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Just to follow up on a couple
2 of comments understandably made by my colleague,
3 Senator Murphy.

4 We Democrats, it's not a divided
5 government. We, as far as the folks that are
6 comprising of them, we Democrats are in charge and we
7 know it. We understand that. We understand that the
8 whole world is watching. Okay. We understand that we
9 are under a microscope to a very large extent, and we
10 are making every effort to bend over backwards to be
11 fair so that at the end of this process, everyone at
12 least the vast majority of people, will be able to
13 say that was transparent, that was access to the
14 decision-making process.

15 And, you know, we are going to have to
16 vote on a piece of legislation, that's what this is.

17 If it goes past June 1st, history has
18 shown that we end up having to pull the name out of
19 the hat, or a piece of paper out of the hat, to
20 decide what the boundaries will be. We don't want
21 that. We don't want that. That is just one of the
22 most frustrating aspects of how we govern here in the
23 State of Illinois.

24 A great reference from Honest Abe,

1 stove pipe hat, top hat, but that's not a tradition
2 we should really relish and try to carry on here in
3 the State of Illinois.

4 So we're going to do better than that.
5 We're going to have this done, have an open full
6 discourse on the rendering of the map before we
7 actually vote on it May 31st.

8 And, also, too, I would say this, too,
9 the other caucus, the Republicans, both chambers,
10 they have an opportunity to provide amendments. I
11 mean, if we offer up a map within the next couple
12 weeks or so, the public and certainly other members
13 of the General Assembly have ideas on how the map
14 should be drawn, they can file, they can file or
15 members of the General Assembly, Democrat or
16 Republican, can file amendments and offer those up
17 for discussion and for vote in committee, and then on
18 the floor of either chamber.

19 So that's where we're at, and I think
20 thus far, we heard from the League of Women voters in
21 Macomb just the other day, and the question I pose to
22 the lady is: Have we been fair and open and has the
23 process been open and accessible? And she went down
24 the litany of locations where there's been hearings

1 for both the House and the Senate, and she said, Yes,
2 we have been.

3 Now, does that mean we can do better?
4 I believe we can. I'm not sure what else we can do.
5 But if you have ideas about how we can do this whole
6 process better, good is never enough if better is
7 possible. So, please, let us know what else we can
8 do.

9 Any other questions?

10 MS. PIEROG: Corinne Pierog, and I'm a resident
11 of St. Charles.

12 I, too, have questions about the
13 former drawing of the district.

14 My town, like 46, is divided in half.
15 So we have one congressional district, two senatorial
16 districts and several representative districts. And I
17 wonder what happened ten years ago, why divide a
18 community in half, and how difficult that is from
19 municipal jurisdiction of having to deal with several
20 different senators, several different representatives
21 within that district.

22 So that may be something going forward
23 that you become sensitive to as you draw the map, so
24 at least one city, one village has one

1 representative.

2 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: That's a very good point.

3 Senators, either one of you like to
4 comment to that?

5 SENATOR MURPHY: I think that is one of the
6 goals in doing this sort of in a nonpartisan way is
7 to keep communities of interest together. You know,
8 by definition, a town or village would be a community
9 of interest. So that would be a preference and ought
10 to be given preference in this process.

11 That's not a guarantee that every
12 municipality is going to neatly fit into one
13 district. It's probably not possible.

14 That being said, to the extent you
15 can, it ought to be a goal. I think it is. We'll
16 see the extent to which it's implemented.

17 As they say, the proof is in the
18 pudding, the process is what the process is. This
19 process will be judged by the result.

20 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: That's a fair statement, it
21 will be judged by its result.

22 This is a comment that has been made
23 by a number of people who come to testify before the
24 committee, and one of the things and we've heard a

1 few people have alluded to this earlier, we heard
2 people with competing interests speak to this very
3 issue. You will folks from very small towns that
4 have a very small town or you will have somebody
5 living in a district who bears the boundary line is
6 an alleyway, so there are some real peculiar
7 boundaries drawn, but the boundaries have to be
8 placed somewhere. Okay.

9 I think what we find is that, you
10 know, if we're to keep communities of interest
11 together, some of the smaller towns will be,
12 hopefully, coupled into one contiguous district,
13 right.

14 But the larger towns, think about the
15 extreme, Chicago. Chicago has to be split up. The
16 same is true of, perhaps, Elgin, Decatur,
17 Bloomington. I'm using those as hypothetical
18 examples. Okay.

19 But that's what you find when you're
20 talking about drawing a boundary through a community
21 or not. Okay. But there is sensitivity to keeping
22 communities, certainly those communities of interest
23 together.

24 We do have another witness slip. Hey,

1 I knew if we held out long enough, somebody would
2 give in.

3 Mayor Rodney Craig, state your name
4 for the record. Speak reasonable close to the
5 microphone.

6 MAYOR Rodney CRAIG: Okay. Good morning.
7 Thank you for coming so close to our communities this
8 morning.

9 Just to give you a little background,
10 Hanover Park is a mile wide, seven miles long. We
11 have four townships, two counties, seven school
12 districts, a lot of diversity; more than you can
13 imagine. Our Latino population has jumped to
14 38 percent and rising. Our Asian population has gone
15 over 15 percent. Our white population is like 36,
16 37 percent.

17 The -- we are first-generation
18 community. We are a first-time home-buyer community.
19 We have a lot of pride in our town, north to south.
20 We have three representative districts. We have two
21 senatorial districts. We are represented by you,
22 Mr. Noland, and John Millner on the Senate side, and
23 wonderful service we receive.

24 But with our diversity, one of the

1 things that really are different is the between the
2 counties. We are splitting between DuPage and Cook
3 County. I live on the Cook County side, and I'm very
4 active on the DuPage County side because there is
5 such differences.

6 My request is that if you're going to
7 make a decision, you might want to follow the county
8 line north and south. I think that's been effective
9 for us. We have two representatives on the south
10 side, and I need representation that understands the
11 diversity issue. So how you look at that in your
12 deliberations, put some thought into that.

13 So not much more than that. We have
14 some good representation, which I'm proud to receive,
15 that are sensitive to our needs and responsive when I
16 call.

17 So I think you're reaching out and
18 coming this close to Hanover Park -- nobody knows
19 where Hanover Park is. We are between this and that
20 and north and south.

21 So I'm building our influence there,
22 working closely on the Governor's Commission for the
23 highway. We need transportation. We can't forget
24 that O'Hare is the center, and we need to support the

1 western access and the opportunities there
2 economically for the future.

3 So in your deliberations, please
4 consider those things. I know it's a tough go. I'm
5 happy to see everybody reaching out and throw our
6 partisanship away. Let's look at the people and how
7 we're representing the people and that we are
8 effective in doing that.

9 So thank you very much.

10 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Very good. Thank you very
11 much. Thank you, Mayor. It's been a pleasure
12 working with you. All right. Anyone else?

13 I think we have all gotten a chance to
14 know each other. Okay. Feel comfortable and not
15 bashful about coming up, I'm sure. You just don't
16 have anything else to say regarding redistricting?
17 Okay. All right.

18 Have we been open?

19 THE FLOOR: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: Have we been transparent?

21 THE FLOOR: Yes.

22 CHAIRMAN NOLAND: As best we know, anyways.
23 That's true. All right.

24 No other comments.

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
2 COUNTY OF COOK)) SS:

3

4 Carla L. Camiliere, CSR, being first duly
5 sworn on oath, says that she is a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter, that she reported in stenographic means the
7 testimony given at the taking of said public hearing.

8 And the foregoing is a true and correct
9 transcript of her stenographic notes so taken as
10 aforesaid and contains all proceedings given at said
11 public hearing.

12

13

CARLA L. CAMILIERE, CSR
License No. 084-003637

14

15

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this ____ day of _____
2011.

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Notary Public

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