

Public Hearing on Redistricting South Carolina House of Representatives
Judiciary Committee
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
April 7, 2011

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Charlie Luquire. Thank you for the opportunity to make comment. I live in Georgetown County and my comments will be primarily about House District 108, but will also touch on the new Congressional District that will be established. My comment is on my own behalf and perhaps some of my friends and neighbors who share similar views.

House District 108 includes, as you know, the eastern part of Georgetown County, and extends into Charleston County. We have many friends and have enjoyed a good relationship with the Charleston portion of the current district. On the other hand, our coastal Georgetown community – really all of Georgetown County – also has ties to southern Horry County. Therefore, with redistricting and with continued growth in our area of Georgetown County, our goal is to keep our House seat centered in the coastal portion of Georgetown County.

Additionally, with regard to a new Congressional District, there are compelling reasons for having the center of gravity of that new Congressional district in the northeastern corner of South Carolina, with a configuration similar to an earlier district of which Georgetown County was a part. It makes sense to us that South Carolina House District 108 be included in such a new 7th Congressional District. We anticipate that the counties of Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Florence, Darlington, Marion, Marlboro, Chesterfield, and Dillon will be included as parts of the expected new District 7.

The South Carolina Senate and House have a number of principles that have been put forth to guide redistricting; they include:

- Preserving the core of prior alignments
- Avoiding contests between incumbents
- Recognizing communities of interest
- Maintaining integrity of political alignments

I believe that having the center of gravity of House Seat 108 in coastal Georgetown County and included in a future 7th Congressional District fulfills those principles.

Thank you.

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City of Walterboro

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March 8, 2011

The Honorable Alan Clemmons
S.C. House of Representatives
522 B Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Representative Clemmons:

Thank you for allowing me to visit with you to talk about the redistricting of legislative districts as it pertains to Colleton County. As we discussed when we met, we are respectfully requesting that you do everything possible during your deliberations to give us a representative that is elected wholly from Colleton County.

As you know, we are currently divided into three senate districts and three house districts. The City of Walterboro is even divided up six ways. Because we have no resident representative, there is no community of interest where our electorate is concerned. This has made it very difficult to get anything accomplished when help is needed from Columbia and is an untenable situation for our citizens. A resident legislator would share a unity of purpose with local officials to do what's best for Colleton County and work with us to move forward.

I would appreciate your continued support in helping us to fight the good fight and give a voice to the people of Colleton County. Thank you very much for sharing your valuable time with me. If you have any questions, or if there are other ways I can help to get this redistricting accomplished, please let me know. You can reach me at 843-908-2571. I look forward to seeing you in Beaufort.

Yours truly,



Bill Young
Mayor, City of Walterboro

The Honorable Alan Clemmons
Chairman, House Redistricting Subcommittee
522 B Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

March 24, 2011

Dear Representative Clemmons:

I am writing this letter to ask your assistance in righting a wrong that the Citizens of Colleton County have been living with for the past ten years.

There are six legislators "serving" Walterboro and Colleton County. None of them have a majority of their constituents living in Colleton County. Therefore, their priorities and allegiance are with the county that provides them the most votes. That is just the political facts of life and it is not just unfair; it is basically wrong.

I served in the USAF for 30 years and now I find myself a disenfranchised citizen with basically no vote or representation in South Carolina. I feel like my Constitutional rights are being violated.

Representative Clemmons, as your Redistricting Subcommittee considers their options in the redistricting process, I beg you to remember the only county in South Carolina without a Senator or Representative of their own. I thank you, in advance, for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Colonel James C. Doggette, Jr. (USAF, Retired)
46 Chamblee Road
Walterboro, SC 29488

March 22, 2011
1003 Wichman Street
Walterboro, S. C. 29488

The Honorable Alan Clemmons - Chairman
S.C. House of Representatives
522 B. Building
Columbia, S. C. 29201

Re: Redistricting Colleton County

Dear Rep. Clemmons:

As you are aware, Colleton County and Walterboro is divided 6 ways - three house districts and three senate districts. We, the citizens of Colleton County, wish to have the lines drawn so we can have a representative who lives in the county and represents the majority of the citizens.

Since none of the representatives live in the area, and represent such a small number of people, they do not feel any responsibility to Colleton County. In other words, we are broken into so many parts, no one really cares.

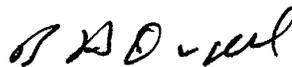
Colleton County needs a voice in Columbia. We have been left out of the legislative process for ten years. It is time for a change - we need a voice!!!

Please look carefully at the injustice we have suffered for ten years.

Sincerely,



Bennie H. Ordell



Ronald H. Ordell

Mary Z. Corbett
105 South Miller St.
Walterboro, SC 29488
March 18, 2011

The Honorable Alan Clemmons
S.C. House of Representatives
522 B Blatt Building
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Representative Clemmons,

The redistricting of Walterboro and Colleton County is the single most important issue the citizens of Colleton County will face for some time. As chairman of the House Redistricting Subcommittee please draw the district lines to assure that the citizens of Colleton County can elect a legislator who will represent the majority of Colleton County. At the present time the City of Walterboro and Colleton County is divided six ways; three House districts and three senate districts and no resident legislator. The future of Colleton County depends on having a legislator in Columbia who shares our goals and has a vested interest in placing Colleton County first in his deliberations.

Thank you in advance for your consideration to this issue that is so vital to the well being of Colleton County and the State of South Carolina.

Respectfully,



Mary Z. Corbett

Cannady Agency, Inc.

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Alan Clemmons
S.C. House of Representatives
522 B Blatt Building
Columbia, S.C. 29201

Dear Representative Clemmons:

Redistricting is once again upon us, and I realize that it is a job that no one in the House wants to undertake. I applaud you for your efforts as a member of the House Subcommittee and wish you well in the huge task that lies ahead.

I am writing to you today to ask a favor of you. Since the last redistricting, Colleton County has been divided into six (6) districts - three (3) Senate and three (3) House. Even the City of Walterboro is divided six ways!

There are many problems with the current district lines. Because Colleton County has so many different legislators, no one is responsible to the people. I am sure that you are aware that Colleton County does not have a resident legislator. Colleton County has gotten "lost in the shuffle" because our representatives are from other counties and we do not have a "community of interest". A resident legislator would have the best interests of our community at heart and Colleton's needs would not be placed on the back burner. With our own representation, we would come first; something for which Colletonians are long overdue.

Having been left out of the legislative process for over ten (10) years, we, as Colletonians, feel that it is our time - time for Colleton County to have a voice in Columbia. We need this in order to grow our economy and to enrich the citizens of Colleton County.

Colleton County needs a legislator who represents all of us or at the very least, a vast majority of us. Colleton County needs a seat at the table. Won't you help us by giving Colleton County a voice?

Sincerely yours,



Mary Anne Cannady

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