

Minutes
Senate Judiciary Committee Meeting
On Senate Redistricting

Room 105, Gressette Building, Columbia, S.C.
June 9, 2011 10:00 a.m. scheduled

Senator McConnell called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The Committee members present were: Senators McConnell, Bright, Campbell, Campsen, Cleary, Coleman, Davis, Ford, Gregory, Knotts, Lourie, Malloy, L. Martin, S. Martin, Massey, Nicholson, Rankin, Rose, Scott, Sheheen, Shoopman, Williams. Senator Malloy held Senator Hutto's proxy. Senator Elliott also was in attendance. The Senate Redistricting staff persons present were: Charles Terreni, Debbie Hammond, John Hazzard, Katherine Wells, Bonnie Anzelmo, Dwight Jones, Alex Smith, Laurie Traywick, and Paula Benson.

Senator McConnell explained how the subcommittee had adopted a Senate plan, including a description of public input and plans received from the ACLU and the South Carolina Republican Party. Senator McConnell advised the committee of the procedure by which they would proceed with consideration of the plan and the time needed for drafting if amendments were proposed.

Charles Terreni was recognized to describe the staff plan adopted by the subcommittee.

The first amendment was proposed by Senator Elliott, who asked that the amendment be carried over. Senator McConnell explained the amendment would not be considered by the committee.

The second amendment was proposed by Senators Rankin and Cleary, and concerned an exchange of several precincts. The amendment would improve deviation and would not violate federal law, conflict with criteria, or conflict with Senator Elliott's amendment. Senator Lourie asked if Senator Elliott agreed with the amendment. Senator Elliott explained his amendment and said it was a work in progress. Senator Lourie just wanted to assure agreement. Senator McConnell asked for a show of hands for agreement with Senator Rankin and Cleary's amendment. By a vote of 23-0, the amendment adopted.

The third amendment was offered by staff as a technical correction to repair several split precincts. The Senators representing the affected districts had been consulted and agreed with the amendment. By a vote of 23-0, the amendment was adopted.

Senator Malloy commended the work of the staff and moved for a favorable report as amended. Senator Williams stated that he and Senator Elliott had been working on a proposal, but Senator Williams felt the staff plan was a fair plan as to deviation and maintaining a majority-minority district. Senator Ford seconded Senator Malloy's motion. By a vote of 23-0, the plan as amended was reported to the full Senate for consideration. Senator Sheheen thanked the chair for the inclusive manner in which the plan was developed. Senator McConnell thanked him and adjourned the committee at 10:57 a.m.