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REDISTRICTING SUBCOMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 4, 2011

6:35 p.m.

HORRY-GEORGETOWN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA

REPORTED BY: TERESA J. F. BAUTZ  
Registered Professional Reporter

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1 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

2

3 SENATOR GLENN F. MCCONNELL, CHAIRMAN

4 SENATOR RAYMOND E. CLEARY

5 SENATOR ROBERT FORD

6 SENATOR C. BRADLEY HUTTO

7 SENATOR GERALD MALLOY

8

9

10 STAFF PRESENT:

11 BONNIE ANZELMO, ESQ.

12 PAULA BENSON, ESQ.

13 DEBBIE HAMMOND

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1           SENATOR McCONNELL: Good evening. I'm  
2 Glenn McConnell, State Senator from Charleston,  
3 Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. I  
4 will welcome you to one of our ten local public  
5 hearings in South Carolina the Senate Judiciary  
6 Committee's Redistricting Subcommittee is holding  
7 across the state.

8           I would like to begin by giving you a  
9 brief overview of the redistricting process, so  
10 that you can understand what we are trying to  
11 accomplish and how tonight's hearing fits into  
12 the process.

13           But first let me introduce the members  
14 of this subcommittee. It's a bipartisan group of  
15 senators from different parts of the state who  
16 have been involved in different issues, coming up  
17 with different solutions for the state.

18           Let's see, we don't have from the -- I  
19 guess what we're going to call it is from the Pee  
20 Dee. From the Pee Dee Senator Gerald Malloy  
21 comes to us from Darlington County. Right here  
22 from the coast and the Lowcountry, myself and  
23 Senator Robert Ford to my right.

24           From the middle of the state, Senator  
25 Brad Hutto from Orangeburg, and right here along

1 this part of the coast right in your home town,  
2 Senator Ray Cleary.

3           As the redistricting subcommittee of  
4 your senate, we are charged with one of the most  
5 important tasks before the General Assembly,  
6 which in this case is the process of  
7 redistricting. We must recommend legislation to  
8 the Senate Judiciary Committee which will redraw  
9 the South Carolina 46 state senate districts and  
10 the state congressional districts to include a  
11 new seventh seat.

12           Likewise, there is a subcommittee in the  
13 House of Representatives that is charged with  
14 drawing up a plan for the 124 districts. And  
15 that body of the legislature is crafting its own  
16 version of a congressional plan.

17           While the House and Senate have  
18 historically deferred to one another when it  
19 comes to plans for their respective bodies, their  
20 congressional plans may ultimately have to be  
21 reconciled in the legislative process through a  
22 conference committee. And a conference committee  
23 is three senators, three House members working  
24 out the differences in the two bills.

25           If the two bodies agree to a

1 redistricting plan through a conference  
2 committee, it must be voted on by the General  
3 Assembly, then must be submitted to the Governor  
4 for her signature in the same manner as any other  
5 bill which is passed by the General Assembly.

6           Finally, under Section 5 of the Voting  
7 Rights Act, any plan that is enacted into law  
8 will be pre-cleared by the Justice Department or  
9 the Federal District Court in Washington, DC  
10 before it can take effect.

11           The reason we have to redistrict is to  
12 ensure that our state's legislative and  
13 congressional districts represent substantially  
14 equal populations, thereby ensuring that each  
15 person's vote is given the same weight as  
16 another's in our system of representation.  
17 Ideally, each of the state senate districts will  
18 have 100,552 persons, and each of our state's  
19 congressional districts will have 660,767  
20 persons.

21           The census results that were released  
22 last Thursday tell us the extent to which the  
23 state's districts deviated from these ideal  
24 numbers. District lines will have to be redrawn  
25 so that some districts gain population and others

1 lose population in order to restore the required  
2 quality of representation.

3           To begin the process of redrawing  
4 districts, we are holding hearings in order to  
5 listen to your views on the redistricting  
6 process. Let me say at the outset that we are  
7 not here for the purpose of considering proposed  
8 restricting plans. The subcommittee has yet to  
9 reach that stage of the project. When that time  
10 comes, we will have an opportunity for the public  
11 to submit specific plans for the subcommittee to  
12 consider.

13           Instead, this evening we are here to  
14 consider the building blocks of those future  
15 plans. We need to hear your opinions on the  
16 criteria that you believe we should follow in the  
17 line drawing process. We also want to know about  
18 communities of interest that we should be aware  
19 of when drawing new district boundaries.

20           Examples of redistricting criteria would  
21 be requirements that consideration should be  
22 given to communities of interest, the cores of  
23 the existing districts, county, municipal or  
24 precinct lines, compactness, contiguity as well  
25 as applicable laws and constitutional standards.

1 We would like you to let us know how important  
2 these criteria are to you and whether there are  
3 other criteria that you believe we should take  
4 into account when drawing the new district lines.

5           As for communities of interest, they may  
6 be neighborhoods, towns or other political  
7 subdivisions that have common interests that  
8 define them for purposes of political  
9 representation. They could also be areas defined  
10 by common economic interests or characteristics,  
11 cultural affiliations, recreational interests or  
12 other factors that cause people to identify with  
13 one another.

14           We would like to hear from you about  
15 communities of interest that you perceive to  
16 exist in the area and how you believe they should  
17 be considered in the process of drawing district  
18 boundaries.

19           As we begin this public hearing we ask  
20 those testifying to be clear. Redistricting is  
21 an exact process and clarity is a virtue. For  
22 example, in speaking about criteria communities  
23 of interest, it is important for citizens to  
24 establish between whether they are talking about  
25 congressional or senate districts, as the

1 subcommittee must consider both.

2           Along the same lines, please explain why  
3 you believe an area is a community of interest  
4 and where it's located. To assist you we have  
5 maps available for you to mark and identify  
6 particular areas that you consider to be  
7 communities of interest.

8           Second, we don't have rigid guidelines  
9 for speaking at these public hearings. However,  
10 we would encourage you to have a goal of speaking  
11 no more than five minutes so that everyone may be  
12 heard. Also if a citizen would like to submit an  
13 extended written statement, we will accept it for  
14 consideration. Written comments will receive the  
15 same consideration as spoken ones. And the  
16 handouts available to you provide a US Mail and  
17 e-mail address to which the comments may be sent.

18           Finally, in order to facilitate the  
19 communication with the subcommittee and give the  
20 public a way of keeping track of the process, I  
21 encourage all people, you included, who are  
22 interested in redistricting to consult our  
23 website which is located at  
24 <http://redistricting.scsenate.gov>.

25           Knowing you got that down very quickly,



1 I will tell you that the website is also included  
2 on the handouts that you got from the front  
3 table. At the website you will find useful  
4 information such as dates and locations of our  
5 public hearings and subcommittee meetings,  
6 redistricting data, reference materials and  
7 guidelines for future participation in the  
8 process.

9           We will tomorrow night be in Columbia, I  
10 believe it is. Wednesday night we will be in  
11 Florence and Thursday night, our final of these  
12 ten meetings, will be in Charleston in the event  
13 you decide you want to attend any of those.

14           I want to thank you for giving your time  
15 and being willing to contribute to this important  
16 process. We'll start now and call -- do we have  
17 that microphone set up right over here?

18           MS. HAMMOND: Over here next to the  
19 stage.

20           SENATOR McCONNELL: Mr. Vincent  
21 Lehotsky. Have I got that close?

22           MR. LEHOTSKY: You got it exactly.

23           SENATOR McCONNELL: All right.

24           MR. LEHOTSKY: All right, good  
25 afternoon, evening. Vincent Lehotsky. I'm in

1 the Allsbrook district. I'll be discussing the  
2 senate district. I'm in Senate District 28, and  
3 I and others, I believe we feel that we're being  
4 disenfranchised with our present representation.

5           Granted that the senator might have to  
6 -- well, if you look at it this way, that's with  
7 North Myrtle Beach. And when North Myrtle Beach  
8 cries for road paving, I out along highway 701  
9 and 19 out in the boondocks with the cows, the  
10 pigs, the horses, we get nothing. Every time  
11 North Myrtle Beach or Little River wants  
12 something, they cry much louder.

13           If there was some suggestion that if you  
14 combine Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach with  
15 Little River and let them fight over whoever is  
16 their senator, because we're basically not being  
17 represented the proper way that we should.

18           If you look at it, 28 goes all the way  
19 back up there. If there's some way that -- keep  
20 this together on their own, and maybe give us  
21 part of 33, however it's to be, we'll let the  
22 coast, the shoreline, Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle  
23 Beach, however it's to be, we believe we get  
24 shortchanged by a lot of the newcomers.

25           I'm a newcomer myself. But the whole

1 thing is I see where these people, we all get  
2 basically screwed by anybody who lives in North  
3 Myrtle Beach, Little River and Myrtle Beach, the  
4 representation is uneven. And I never -- believe  
5 me, I never see my senator out there. And I  
6 never even see my congressman.

7           So, for that matter, the congressional  
8 districts, please keep us in mind that we're a  
9 different group of people out here out with the  
10 farms and the fields, that maybe if we had our  
11 own congressman that didn't have to deal with the  
12 tourist traffic, that didn't have to deal with  
13 whoever it is on the coastline, that we would  
14 have somebody that cares enough for those who  
15 grow the crops and the food and tobacco for this  
16 county, for this state.

17           My concern is I don't want to be a part  
18 of any district that has anything to do with  
19 North Myrtle Beach. The senator spends too much  
20 time out there, and leave him out there. Give us  
21 representation that will care about what we have.  
22 Thank you.

23           SENATOR HUTTO: Can you just point out  
24 on here where Loris is from here, where is Loris?  
25 Is that where you live?

1           MR. LEHOTSKY: Yes. But I'm on the  
2 outskirts of Loris, I'm in Allsbrook. And I  
3 would rather us be our own town.

4           SENATOR HUTTO: I just want to know  
5 where that is.

6           MR. LEHOTSKY: Right here, the Live Oak  
7 district.

8           SENATOR HUTTO: Okay.

9           MR. LEHOTSKY: And just that we're a  
10 different group of people, we ain't the coast  
11 people. We are the -- we're different. They  
12 are, you have to respect them.

13          SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you, sir.  
14 Mr. Steven Neeves.

15          MR. NEEVES: Thank you, Senator, for  
16 being here and letting me follow Vinnie. I'm  
17 going to make a quick comment on the  
18 congressional redistricting. I'm excited about  
19 the seventh district, I do believe it should be  
20 based on the population and growth that's  
21 happening in Horry County as a center and a  
22 starting point.

23          But I have heard different rumors and  
24 comments that possibly Horry and Georgetown  
25 Counties should be separated in that process and

1 that Horry should be connected to other counties  
2 for this new district. And I just want to go on  
3 record saying I think that it's a mistake.

4 I've been blessed to go to Georgetown's  
5 leadership program this year, even though I was  
6 raised in Horry County. And our economies and  
7 our culture and history are so connected, I think  
8 that Horry and Georgetown need to be kept  
9 together due to this new district and go from  
10 there. I would look to (unaudible).

11 And I would say for my last comment just  
12 the fact that we are in Horry-Georgetown  
13 Technical College. I hope y'all just consider  
14 keeping those cultures together.

15 SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you. Lois  
16 Eargle.

17 MS. EARGLE: Lois Eargle. Thank you for  
18 coming. We're so glad that you are here in Horry  
19 County. And we appreciate the fact that you came  
20 here because I know you probably could be doing  
21 some other things, and I know your legislature is  
22 in session.

23 But it's wonderful to be in a country  
24 that we have the opportunity to speak up and tell  
25 someone how we feel. Although I have no bones

1 about it, saying what we thought we feel, what  
2 plans it's going to be the three judges and  
3 judicial department and (inaudible).

4 (Whereupon, two sentences inaudible.

5 Asked witness to speak louder and closer to  
6 microphone.)

7 MS. EARGLE: It's been, you know, you  
8 talked about Horry County here being a very  
9 diverse county.

10 And ah, we -- I would like to see maybe  
11 Myrtle Beach, Conway -- see, Conway is the county  
12 seat -- and then try to keep that senate talking  
13 about the senate district lines. That's just my  
14 comment. I don't have any of the other comments.  
15 It's as much about me that I have come here as it  
16 is about you. Any questions?

17 SENATOR McCONNELL: We thank you for  
18 coming. Appreciate it. Mr. Charlie Luquire.

19 MR. LUQUIRE: Here's a sheet, senator.

20 SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you, sir.

21 MR. LUQUIRE: Chairman, my name is  
22 Charlie Luquire. I'm from Georgetown and what  
23 you have is what I'm going to be talking about is  
24 in bullets. I'm talking primarily about senate  
25 seat 34 and speaking on behalf of myself and some

1 of my friends and neighbors in Georgetown.

2 I guess what I would like you to  
3 consider, we are aligned with Horry County. We  
4 kind of wish you had this meeting in Georgetown.  
5 We don't understand the reason. We do think the  
6 four bullets and some of what you mentioned in  
7 your introductory remarks are very important to  
8 the process. And it's preserving the core of the  
9 district existing prior to the redistricting.

10 In that regard we think the core of our  
11 district 34 is linked up to the lower part of  
12 Horry County.

13 (Whereupon, two sentences inaudible.

14 Asked witness to speak louder and closer to  
15 microphone.)

16 MR. LUQUIRE: We think it's worth to  
17 avoid contests between you incumbents.

18 Some of our communities of interests, I  
19 think the Georgetown Horry County is in support  
20 of as well as Georgetown supporting the port of  
21 Georgetown. Of course tourism, retirement, the  
22 light industry is important.

23 Community interests in our area. I  
24 guess I'll just -- we understand that the new  
25 senate district with just over 100,000 population

1 in the various districts. And given that I think  
2 that we can have a couple of these points that I  
3 just mentioned that are still (inaudible) get  
4 real good senatorial districts (inaudible), not  
5 just 34 but the other senatorial districts that  
6 represent Georgetown County. And that's 31 of  
7 them, 31 and 33. Thank you, sir.

8           SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you, sir.  
9 Appreciate your comments. Dennis DiSebato. Did  
10 I get that name pretty close?

11           MR. DiSEBATO: You did actually. The  
12 first person in weeks actually to pronounce that  
13 correctly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is  
14 Dennis DiSebato, I'm here giving public comment  
15 on behalf of the Carolina Forest Civic  
16 Association. I'll keep my comments brief.

17           Carolina Forest is a very unique area of  
18 Horry County, I think it fills the fourth  
19 principle of a redistricting community of  
20 interest. It is a melting pot of Horry County.  
21 It consists of a lot of people who have relocated  
22 to this area from out of state, and its growth  
23 has been more rapid than other areas within this  
24 county.

25           I just was handed census numbers. In



1 2000 we had 3,338 full-time residents in Carolina  
2 Forest. As of the most recent census we have  
3 20,243 residents within that area. So we have a  
4 506 percent population increase.

5           We are rapidly outpacing the growth  
6 across Horry County, and at the same time we are  
7 outgrowing our infrastructure needs as a result.  
8 And I think we have a very unique perspective on  
9 what's happening in Horry County, and our need to  
10 not have to (inaudible) with other areas  
11 surrounding Horry County.

12           So I will just ask that you please  
13 consider keeping Carolina Forest within a  
14 senatorial district that is attuned to its needs,  
15 its very unique needs. Thank you.

16           SENATOR HUTTO: Can you show us where  
17 that is on the map.

18           SENATOR McCONNELL: Could you just kind  
19 of point out that general area to us.

20           MR. DiSEBATO: Somewhere right around  
21 here. It's right in between -- geographically  
22 it's basically right in between Conway and Myrtle  
23 Beach along 501.

24           SENATOR McCONNELL: All right. Thank  
25 you, sir.

1           A VOICE: If you drove down 501 you'd  
2 see it.

3           SENATOR McCONNELL: Mr. Daniel Cochran.

4           MR. COCHRAN: I'm Daniel Cochran and I  
5 live in Longs, Goose Creek section, which is  
6 basically across the street here in Horry County.  
7 Just two quick points. And to follow up on what  
8 Dennis was saying, that's absolutely true. 501  
9 is a parking lot from that Hess station, the  
10 Wilco, down to where 31 is. Why can't that be  
11 fixed or at least the lights synced?

12           I know that's not y'all's deal to deal  
13 with in the senate, but it's a major  
14 consideration when it takes an hour to go two --  
15 it takes a half hour to basically go three miles  
16 from CCU down to Carolina Forest on any Thursday  
17 or Friday, when the economy is kicking up, you  
18 know.

19           So what I'm asking is similar to what  
20 he's saying, we definitely need -- the  
21 demographics in here have really changed. We've  
22 got a lot of people who have moved in, you know.  
23 And it's not so much the hotel businesses, you  
24 know, I mean, it's getting to the hotel  
25 businesses that we who actually have to live here

1 and support the coast with employment, you know,  
2 and showing up for work, it's kind of 501 sucks.

3           But that's enough about that. If you  
4 can keep the little districts together, and I  
5 live in a precinct that's split among the state  
6 senators -- I mean, state house or -- I was  
7 looking at it this afternoon. A chunk of my  
8 wallowing precinct, I'm the Republican EC for the  
9 precinct, and half of my precinct is off with one  
10 gentleman and the other half is with another  
11 gentleman. You know, it would be nice if we  
12 could kind of keep our neighborhoods together.

13           To that point, when we started looking  
14 at this house --

15           SENATOR McCONNELL: Those are house  
16 districts, as best we understand, that split  
17 you're talking about.

18           MR. COCHRAN: Yeah, yeah. Sorry about  
19 that. I guess I got to bring that up at Allen  
20 Clemmons' meeting on Thursday. Okay, I got you.

21           SENATOR McCONNELL: We don't want to  
22 take any credit for the House.

23           MR. COCHRAN: To the point of district  
24 one, I'm a Tea Party activist. I hate to put  
25 that label on me, but I do work real hard with

1 the Carolina Patriots, I'm their vice chair. I'm  
2 also the district one coordinator for Campaign  
3 For Liberty. And it is a bloody nightmare to  
4 cover this district.

5           I mean, I'm out of pocket hundreds and  
6 hundreds of dollars driving down to Charleston to  
7 deal with you folks down there who have total  
8 different needs than the people in Georgetown and  
9 Horry County and Marion. I mean, I hate to make  
10 it real simple, guys, if you make like a little  
11 rectangle and take Georgetown and bring it up a  
12 bit and then up like that and in that corner,  
13 that's district seven.

14           You know, because our demographics are  
15 so different here than the major import  
16 businesses for the harbor of Charleston and all  
17 the stuff y'all got going on down there, you  
18 know. It's almost night and day sometimes. I  
19 mean, yeah, we need to fix the Georgetown harbor,  
20 we need to open that up, you know, from what I'm  
21 reading.

22           I don't visit Georgetown much, you know,  
23 other than driving through it to get down to  
24 Charleston when I'm doing meetings down there.  
25 But that amoeba there, boy, it would be nice if

1 you guys could fix that thing. But I know that  
2 y'all are going to have a hard time doing  
3 anything about that amoeba.

4           But it would be nice if you could cut  
5 off a little corner up there from Marion,  
6 Georgetown and Horry County. I think we got  
7 enough to fill the 600,000 that you're looking  
8 for in this area. And we are a different  
9 demographic than the people that are in Florence.  
10 That's my two cents worth, and thanks for  
11 listening, guys.

12           SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you. That is  
13 all the sheets that we have filled out. Does  
14 anyone that filled out a sheet to be heard that  
15 we have not gotten?

16           Representative, come on forward. I was  
17 going to call on you anyway. We are delighted to  
18 have you with us.

19           MR. VIERS: Thank you, Senator  
20 McConnell. I will not be speaking on the senate  
21 districts because I only will be speaking on the  
22 state house districts. But out of -- and I'm  
23 actually here to enter testimony for the  
24 congressional district. I know when the Justice  
25 Department goes through their preclearance

1 process, a lot of it has to do with public  
2 testimony. That's a big factor. And I would  
3 argue or submit to the committee, and I'm going  
4 to be saying the same thing at the House hearing  
5 for the congressional districts this Thursday,  
6 that there is a model that I believe is very  
7 simple that we have used in the past.

8           Prior to 1992 Horry County was actually  
9 in the old sixth congressional district, which is  
10 basically the Pee Dee district. It took portions  
11 of Darlington, Marlboro, Dillon, Marion,  
12 (inaudible) Georgetown and Horry. A lot of folks  
13 don't know this, or at least it's not that much  
14 of a public record, but west of the waterway  
15 Horry County is the second largest tobacco  
16 producing county still in the state.

17           The rural area of the Pee Dee is still a  
18 very big agricultural community. I have a place  
19 out in the country near Nichols and Marion. And  
20 a lot of those folks when they have to go for  
21 medical needs or hospital needs, they go to  
22 McLeod in Florence because it's only about 35, 40  
23 minutes away, as well as the technical colleges,  
24 Darlington Technical College, Florence-Darlington  
25 Technical College, is in the same geographic

1 region.

2           And also for just the pure demographic  
3 purpose of it, it would be probably a competitive  
4 district. You could argue that Horry County  
5 would be a -- is a strong republican county, but  
6 if you factor in all your other counties, I think  
7 it would be fair to both parties.

8           And I would just ask that you consider  
9 using the road map of the old sixth congressional  
10 district. Horry County has grown so much and my  
11 little house seat I have to give up 12,000  
12 people. George Hern that represents Conway has  
13 to give up 18,000 people. So we're growing.

14           And as you looked at -- I was involved  
15 in the redistricting in 2002 when I was a field  
16 rep for Congressman Brown. In the old first  
17 congressional district we got smaller, we gave up  
18 half of Georgetown which is basically the 701  
19 corridor from Conway to Georgetown. We gave that  
20 up to Congressman Clayburn and the Berkeley,  
21 Dorchester, Charleston area shrank and it's kind  
22 of a little -- I would call it a little island,  
23 plateau. I don't know how you would call it. I  
24 heard it called something else.

25           Bottom line is I think there's a map to

1 use for both sides, for both parties, that would  
2 fit in the state of South Carolina. And I would  
3 ask that this committee consider throwing Horry  
4 County with its brethren in Florence for a Pee  
5 Dee district that has always been up until 1992.  
6 Thank you.

7           SENATOR McCONNELL: Questions? Senator  
8 from Orangeburg.

9           SENATOR HUTTO: If you took Georgetown  
10 and Horry and Williamsburg, Florence and Marion  
11 and Dillon, that's still not enough for a  
12 congressional district. So assume you took  
13 those, because those were right there in that  
14 block. Which other one are you saying that's got  
15 the more logical nexus out of the next cluster or  
16 district?

17           MR. VIERS: I would also expand it to  
18 Marlboro, Darlington, potentially. I believe  
19 that gets the 600,000. You may have to go all  
20 the way to Hartsville --

21           SENATOR HUTTO: Right.

22           MR. VIERS: -- which would be, I think,  
23 in Senator Malloy's area. But I believe while  
24 there are some patches of rural and there's not a  
25 lot of population, if you keep going further west



1 to about northwest, you could make a  
2 congressional district out of here that would not  
3 be a guaranteed Republican or Democratic  
4 district, it would be paired to the whole state,  
5 and it would be -- it's kind of tobacco country  
6 really.

7           I mean, we are the beach, but west of  
8 the waterway ten minutes out of here, there's not  
9 much difference rurally between parts of Horry  
10 County and parts of Dillon, Marion and Florence.

11           And Senator Elliott, I believe, who has  
12 one of the largest geographical districts, I  
13 mean, he represents, I think, portions of almost  
14 every county. So I think that gets you your  
15 600,000, Senator.

16           SENATOR HUTTO: Thank you.

17           MR. VIERS: Thank you, sir.

18           SENATOR McCONNELL: Anyone else who  
19 signed a sheet, or if you didn't sign a sheet and  
20 just had a change of heart, and wants to be  
21 heard?

22           Yes, come on up. And I'll need you to  
23 state your name for the record and everything.  
24 We have to keep a record of all this so that we  
25 have it for future reference.

1           MR. BARNES: Okay. My name is Earl  
2 Barnes, I live in Horry County at Springfield,  
3 right at the -- right outside of Myrtle Beach.  
4 I've only been here about five years, but I went  
5 through a lot of this. And what the gentleman  
6 before me was saying, this is the congressional  
7 district, the new congressional district.

8           If you take approximately the eight  
9 counties from Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg,  
10 Florence, Marion, Dylan and Darlington and  
11 Marlboro, it's under the new census, I had it  
12 under the old, that is approximately one  
13 congressional district. It's a little bit --  
14 it's about approximately between 10,000 from what  
15 my figures said, so I just started messing with  
16 it. It was 10,000 over.

17           However, I do believe that no matter how  
18 it comes out that only Georgetown and Horry  
19 County and probably Marion should be in the same  
20 district, regardless of which politics itself,  
21 politics.

22           And I would recommend also on there's  
23 something that you would never think of, I've  
24 either been in or one of my relatives have been  
25 in a county all my life that has been divided

1 more than three times, three times. I think a  
2 county should not be -- any county should not be  
3 divided more than twice, you know, in the  
4 district. And that's it. Thank you.

5           SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you, sir. We  
6 appreciate you coming. Anybody else? Yes,  
7 ma'am.

8           MS. SEJDA: Good evening, senators. My  
9 name is Susan Sejda. I sit on a trilateral board  
10 for Horry Georgetown and Williamsburg. And the  
11 needs of these -- Horry County has the largest  
12 population so they get the most help.

13           The Williamsburg area and the Georgetown  
14 area are really suffering. There's no jobs,  
15 there's no help out there. There's no sign of  
16 hope for any of the people in those two counties.  
17 With your redistricting, I would like you to  
18 consider that when you look at all those  
19 counties, that some of the suggestions made here  
20 you would include some of that into Horry County  
21 since we're the second or third richest county in  
22 the state.

23           So I'm concerned for the board that I  
24 represent which is three counties, which is a  
25 challenge for us board members to make the right

1 decisions when we get very little to work with.  
2 And with the federal government going to make,  
3 you know, possibly cut half our programs, this is  
4 really going to be tough on us.

5           And this redistricting is really  
6 important so we know that we can at least take  
7 care of adequate amounts of Georgetown County.  
8 And so that includes all three of those entire  
9 counties that I represent. So that's all I have  
10 to say, and thank you for coming down.

11           SENATOR McCONNELL: Ma'am, would you  
12 spell your last name, the court reporter needs  
13 the spelling of your last name.

14           MS. SEJDA: S-E-J-D-A.

15           SENATOR McCONNELL: I see at least two  
16 elected officials. Solicitor, did you have  
17 anything you wish to tell us?

18           SOLICITOR: Glad you're here, Senator.  
19 We really do appreciate y'all coming down.

20           SENATOR McCONNELL: Thank you for coming  
21 out, very much appreciate it at the college.  
22 Thanks for your time.

23           Senator Dick Elliott, I see you here.  
24 Do you have anything you wish to impart to us?

25           SENATOR ELLIOTT: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman and members of the committee. We really  
2 appreciate the sacrifices you guys are making as  
3 you go across the state at these hearings. I  
4 think that Viers summed it up very well a while  
5 ago in the congressional district. When we get  
6 the old Pee Dee district back together, I think  
7 somewhat the family will be back together with  
8 the exception of the coast.

9           Most of those counties in the Pee Dee  
10 are very compatible. They are business  
11 communities and they all fit together. The coast  
12 is obviously different. Now, so I'm going to  
13 hopefully recommend that we take Horry County and  
14 Georgetown and the rest of Pee Dee counties that  
15 we mentioned here tonight to make the population  
16 blend, and the sixth district as we know it today  
17 fulfill its obligation to (inaudible) is the  
18 civil rights vote.

19           And I hope we get the Pee Dee area back  
20 together as one happy family again. For 40 years  
21 we were together, but we got separated, I  
22 believe, in 1990, and I think there's still that  
23 yearning throughout most of the area to let us  
24 get back together.

25           As it relates to the senate district,

1 I'm generally happy with the shape of my  
2 district. I have Highway No. 9 runs right  
3 through the center of it, with the exception  
4 again of the narrow strip on the coast. It's a  
5 very compatible region, ag or business  
6 communities, and we get along well with all of  
7 those counties. And we like to stay a part of  
8 Horry, Marion, Dillon and Marlboro. I think  
9 those folks out there appreciate our service.

10           And one of the speakers earlier said  
11 something about our roads. The delegation has  
12 tried desperately to solve our road problems.  
13 We've made a great deal of progress. You see 22,  
14 you see 31, you see 544, 701, then you can see  
15 that a lot of progress has been made. Not fast  
16 enough for many of us, myself certainly included.

17           And those of you that visit here, you  
18 can see that we do have some mounting road  
19 problems. Unfortunately there's not enough money  
20 to take care of the deep road needs that we have  
21 and the rest of the state as well.

22           Again, I want to thank you guys for  
23 being here and listening to us as we outline our  
24 views of what we'd like to see our state look  
25 like in the future, these congressional and

1 senate hearings.

2           SENATOR McCONNELL: Before you go, I  
3 heard about the problem with the roads. And of  
4 course I thought that would be put in the  
5 department of transportation in the cabinet, and  
6 we would have miraculous results.

7           SENATOR ELLIOTT: Senator McConnell, let  
8 me give you one example. Health and human  
9 affairs is part of a cabinet agency now. And it  
10 ran up a \$650 million deficit. I'm not sure we  
11 can afford all of the cabinet fixes.

12           SENATOR McCONNELL: Again, I would  
13 reiterate to you that we do solicit remarks, and  
14 if you didn't want to stand before us but if you  
15 have some written remarks you would like us to  
16 consider, they will be given the same weight as  
17 if you went on the record today. And I would  
18 encourage you to do so, let us hear from you.

19           With that, we will stand in recess until  
20 tomorrow night. Anybody else? All right. Thank  
21 y'all for coming.

22           (The hearing concluded at approximately  
23 7:19 p.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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3

4 I, Teresa J.F. Bautz, Registered  
5 Professional Reporter and Notary Public of the  
6 State of South Carolina at Large, do hereby  
7 certify:

8

9 That the foregoing deposition was  
10 taken before me on the date and at the time and  
11 location stated on page 1 of this transcript;  
12 that the deponent was duly sworn to testify to  
13 the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the  
14 truth; that the testimony of the deponent and all  
15 objections made at the time of the examination  
16 were recorded stenographically by me and were  
17 thereafter transcribed; that the foregoing  
18 deposition as typed is a true, accurate and  
19 complete record of the testimony of the deponent  
20 and of all objections made at the time of the  
21 examination to the best of my ability.

22

23 I further certify that I am neither  
24 related to nor counsel for any party to the cause  
25 pending or interested in the events thereof.

26

27 Witness my hand, I have hereunto  
28 affixed my official seal this 13th day of April,  
29 2011, at Myrtle Beach, Horry County, South  
30 Carolina.

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Teresa J.F. Bautz  
Registered Professional Reporter  
Notary Public  
State of South Carolina at Large  
My Commission expires:  
March 8, 2020