

Supreme Court
state of Louisiana

STATE OF LOUISIANA New Orleans

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Hon. Cameron Henry Senator and President-Designate henryc@legis.la.gov Hon. Phillip DeVillier Representative and Speaker-Designate devillierp@legis.la.gov

Hon. Elizabeth Murrill Solicitor General and Attorney General-Elect murrille@ag.louisiana.gov

Re: Louisiana Supreme Court Redistricting

The Honorables:

For nearly 4 ½ years the state has been engaged in litigation in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana where it is alleged that Louisiana's Supreme Court election districts violate the Voting Rights Act (52 USC § 10101, et. seq.). The focus of that suit is to increase minority service on the Louisiana Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has also heard concerns related to malapportionment of the Supreme Court election districts, which have only been redistricted twice in more than 100 years. The current election districts have not been updated in more than 25 years. We feel the time to act relative to these issues is now.

In this regard, a redistricting proposal has been prepared that has the support of a majority of the Supreme Court, and which addresses the issues described above. It creates a second majority minority (voting age population) election district, allowing that seat to be filled in the Fall of 2024. We are hopeful the proposal will resolve the federal lawsuit.

Given the sensitivities to time and its effect on this effort, we would ask that redistricting the Louisiana Supreme Court election districts be included in any call for a special session related to redistricting. Reaching a supportive majority of the court has been difficult. Consequently, we respectfully ask that the proposed plan be adopted without change.

Please advise if any further information is needed. Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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