

SENATE APPORTIONMENT COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

HELD AT: The Missouri State Capitol
Senate Lounge
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, Missouri

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012
1:00 P.M.

REPORTED BY:

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1 SENATE COMMISSIONERS

- 2
- 3 Doug Harpool, Chairman
- 4 Marc Ellinger, Vice Chairman
- 5 Nick Myers, Secretary
- 6 Jean Paul Bradshaw II
- 7 Nicole Colbert-Botchway
- 8 Steve Ehlmann
- 9 Lowell Pearson
- 10 Trent Skaggs (by phone)
- Todd Patterson (by phone)

11
12
Commissioners Not Present:

13
14 W. Mitchell Elliott

15 Representatives from Office of Administration:

16
17 Matt Hesser

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Let's convene this
3 meeting of the Senate Reapportionment Commission. My
4 name is Doug Harpool. I am serving as chair. To my
5 left is Marc Ellinger who is our vice chair.

6 And why don't we start with each member
7 of the Commission introducing themselves briefly? We
8 do have members participating by phone. We'll start on
9 my left.

10 COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW: Jean Paul
11 Bradshaw from Kansas City.

12 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Marc Ellinger
13 from Jefferson City.

14 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Doug Harpool from
15 Springfield, Missouri.

16 COMMISSIONER COLBERT-BOTCHWAY: Nicole
17 Colbert-Botchway from St. Louis.

18 COMMISSIONER EHLMANN: Steve Ehlmann,
19 St. Charles County.

20 COMMISSIONER MYERS: I'm Nick Myers from
21 Joplin.

22 COMMISSIONER PEARSON: Lowell Pearson
23 from Columbia.

24 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: And then on the
25 telephone we have?

1 COMMISSIONER SKAGGS: This is
2 Trent Skaggs from Kansas City.

3 COMMISSIONER PATTERSON: And I'm
4 Todd Patterson from Kansas City.

5 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Mitch Elliott is ill,
6 our other member, suffering from the flu, is not able
7 to be with us today.

8 We will have a full transcript of this
9 hearing presented. That's why we have a court reporter
10 present.

11 You should also know that yesterday, one
12 of the first actions this commission took was to
13 incorporate the records of the public hearings of the
14 2011 Senate Redistricting Commission, so full
15 transcripts of all that testimony are available to our
16 members to review and read and consider in our
17 deliberations.

18 The purpose today is to hear public
19 testimony, as you know. Every ten years, Senate
20 districts in the State of Missouri have to be redrawn.
21 This citizens' commission has the opportunity to make
22 that decision and redraw them. If we fail, a court
23 panel will do so. This is a second run for this year's
24 districts because the citizens' commission of '11 was
25 unable to reach a conclusion, and the Senate districts

1 written by the judicial panel were invalidated by the
2 Supreme Court. The process starts over, and this is
3 our first public hearing in the new process.

4 We have significant population shifts
5 that we have to address, but we have to do so with
6 rules and parameters established by the Constitution
7 and by federal and state law. That's our challenge.

8 We're here to receive testimony. I
9 promised I'd do it in the order people turned forms in.
10 Leonard Steinman, I believe you were the first to turn
11 one in. Would you please come forward? Have a seat
12 and let us know your thoughts.

13 MR. STEINMAN: My name is
14 Leonard Steinman, and I live in Cole County. I run for
15 US Congress, 4th District last term.

16 We have a problem because the Secretary
17 of State's Office -- there's a program that says you
18 have so many days to do your campaigning in. If you
19 don't do your days in that period of time, everybody
20 could be disqualified for elections.

21 It's 16 weeks before (indiscernible),
22 and I would love to get it done so that our ethics
23 commission that we have been retained and appointed can
24 do their job because legally, nobody can run for
25 governor, which I am trying to run for. Legally, I

1 cannot put in filing for governor or do any of my real
2 campaigning until I pay my money -- \$200, and that
3 comes under statute, too. So you're detaining me,
4 myself, and I, and I would love to have it done right.

5 That's why we get involved. That's why
6 we have senators and representatives in the state of
7 Missouri, and I'm sorry about my dog. But that's the
8 reason we make these laws, is so that they're
9 justified. I hate to have somebody running for
10 US Congress that really doesn't have time to run it or
11 any office and then try to do what they're trying to
12 do. They're trying to keep up with our US government
13 on top of our state government and trying to run at the
14 same time.

15 So I wish that we could get this done
16 through the Senate and through the House with no more
17 problems than what we have. Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Our commission --
19 we're working on Senate districts, and we set an
20 expedited schedule yesterday, so we're moving as fast
21 as this commission, I think, legally can, and we hope
22 to do so.

23 MR. STEINMAN: Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Thank you for your
25 input.

1 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Thank you very
2 much, sir.

3 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Brian Munzlinger.

4 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Good afternoon.

5 COMMISSIONER COLBERT-BOTCHWAY: Good
6 afternoon.

7 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: I'm Senator Brian
8 Munzlinger from the 18th District. I live up in
9 Northeast Missouri in a very rural area, and my
10 internet was so slow when I heard about the map last
11 night I couldn't pull it up, so I felt very compelled
12 to come to Jeff City today to look at the map that has
13 been posted on the Office of Administration website.

14 And I do realize that my district was
15 going to have to get bigger because of population and
16 what we need to represent. When I look at this map, I
17 don't think compactness really fits. And then also,
18 Clay County is in this map, which does not fit the
19 community of interest along with the rest of the
20 district.

21 It's 252 miles just straight across from
22 the Missouri River to the Mississippi River, and this
23 district goes all the way across. I would just
24 certainly hope that the Commission would look at
25 compactness. I know it's been presented in earlier

1 previous testimony but maybe go horizontal or vertical,
2 and I don't think that either one of those really would
3 be a necessity.

4 I would hope you would look at
5 compactness as those of us who are trying to represent
6 our populations fairly, and to go clear across the
7 state -- I don't have a helicopter. And it's not on
8 the way to Jefferson City, which, you know, as we -- a
9 lot of us travel from out state. We have to actually
10 come in like a spoke on a wheel to Jefferson City.

11 But like I say, I would just urge you to
12 look at compactness as you do draw the new boundaries.
13 I realize my district is going to have to be bigger,
14 probably will end up being the largest in the state,
15 but I urge your consideration in that matter.

16 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: We're going to have
17 over 170,000 in a district. It's obvious -- I don't
18 know if it takes more. I was on the last commission.
19 We had maps that had as many as three districts that
20 touched the Iowa border. Frankly, I had one of those
21 and was roundly criticized for it. But then there were
22 some maps that had two that touched the Iowa border,
23 and so the one posted yesterday had one that touched
24 the Iowa border. It's a tough issue to deal with
25 because none of those solutions seemed to make very

1 many people happy, but I do appreciate your input, and
2 we understand your need and desire for compactness.

3 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: It does look like
4 this may have dodged all the populated areas, whether
5 it's Marion County or Adair County or even Grundy
6 County.

7 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: May I inquire?

8 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Yes.

9 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Senator, thank
10 you for coming. Whoa, that's loud.

11 Senator, thank you for coming. I have a
12 couple of very quick questions about this particular
13 district. Looking at the counties of Clark and Lewis,
14 and I think you're very familiar with Clark and Lewis
15 Counties; is that correct?

16 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Very much so. I
17 live in Lewis and not very far from Clark.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: My question is:
19 The folks up in Lewis and Clark and perhaps in the
20 other counties in your area, do they tend to go to
21 just, say, shop, do anything in Clay County?

22 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: I would very
23 definitely say no.

24 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: I noticed one
25 of the other population centers in this proposed

1 district is Nodaway County. Do you -- have you ever
2 been to Nodaway County, sir?

3 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Yes, sir, I have.
4 I have driven across 136, and it's not a thrill. It is
5 not very fun to go across Highway 136. I have been
6 there. It's been for other meetings related to my
7 representation of districts in the state and some
8 committees that I served on.

9 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Knowing the
10 folks up in Clark, Lewis, Scotland, that area, do they
11 tend to drive to on a frequent basis, shop, interact
12 with folks in Nodaway County?

13 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: I would say no,
14 sir.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Okay. I
16 noticed also there is Atchison County, which borders
17 Nebraska. Do folks in Lewis and Clark tend to identify
18 with Nebraska?

19 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Probably the only
20 thing we have in common is floods, unfortunately.

21 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Not even the
22 same river; is that correct?

23 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: And not even the
24 same river. That's correct.

25 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Thank you very

1 much, sir.

2 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER MYERS: The map you're
4 referring to, this is Harpool 1, is that --

5 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Harpool 1 2012, yes.

6 COMMISSIONER MYERS: Harpool 1 2012.

7 All right. And that's -- okay. That's the district --

8 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: I printed -- drawn
9 out on this map. So here is that little, bity black --

10 COMMISSIONER MYERS: So that's a
11 district that's bound by Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, and
12 Kansas?

13 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: And Kansas, yes,
14 four states. I've dealt with Illinois and Iowa in the
15 district that I represent, but --

16 COMMISSIONER MYERS: And the nature of
17 that map is that it's a commissioner work product,
18 not -- it's not been voted on in any manner by this
19 commission.

20 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Right.

21 COMMISSIONER MYERS: That's a statement.

22 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: That's a correct
23 statement.

24 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: I understand that,
25 but I just felt compelled to come down here today. My

1 wife and I discussed it and decided I'd probably be
2 better coming down here than going to church today,
3 to --

4 COMMISSIONER MYERS: You're doing the
5 Lord's work.

6 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: -- express my
7 displeasure with what I'd seen on the -- or what I
8 heard about and was able to find out.

9 COMMISSIONER MYERS: Thank you, Senator.

10 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Is Nodaway County and
11 Atchison County -- do they border Iowa?

12 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Atchison does.
13 Nodaway does also.

14 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Does -- the counties
15 you now represent, do they border Iowa, too?

16 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Some of them do. A
17 lot of them border Illinois and then more of them are
18 down into Missouri.

19 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: So your district
20 presently is border counties, correct?

21 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Not necessarily,
22 no. It goes -- there are 13 counties, and one, two,
23 three, four, five, six, seven of those, I believe it
24 is, border Iowa or Illinois.

25 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Nothing further. Any

1 other questions?

2 Thank you, sir.

3 SENATOR MUNZLINGER: Thank you.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Thank you,
5 Senator.

6 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: I have no other
7 sheets of paper indicating no one else wishes to
8 testify. Before we adjourn, is there anyone wishing to
9 testify?

10 COMMISSIONER BRADSHAW: So many people,
11 so little to say.

12 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Our next hearing will
13 be at 2:30 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City
14 Law School. I believe maybe the moot courtroom. Does
15 that sound right? At 2:30.

16 And then our third hearing will be at
17 the Wainwright State Office Building at 1:00, which is
18 on Tuesday, and we, then, will get together and begin,
19 hopefully, earnest deliberations on trying to resolve
20 the map and getting a map that will allow us to move
21 forward.

22 MR. HESSER: The Kansas City meeting
23 will be at the EE "Tom" Thompson courtroom. It's on
24 the lower level.

25 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: The EE Thompson

1 courtroom.

2 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: And we'll be
3 meeting on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. to --

4 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: At the Redistricting
5 Office.

6 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Correct.

7 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Any further business?

8 If not, then is there a motion that we
9 adjourn this public hearing?

10 COMMISSIONER COLBERT-BOTCHWAY: So
11 moved.

12 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: Second?

13 VICE CHAIRMAN ELLINGER: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: All in favor.

15 (All Commissioners respond in the
16 affirmative.)

17 CHAIRMAN HARPOOL: This public hearing
18 is adjourned. Thank you all very much.

19 (OFF THE RECORD.)

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I, Allison A. Brown, Certified Court Reporter #1205,
within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify
that I was personally present at the proceedings had in
the above-entitled cause at the time and place set
forth in the caption sheep hereof; that I then and
there took down in stenomask verbatim reporting the
proceedings had and afterwards transcribed and that the
foregoing is a full, true, and correct transcript the
proceedings had at such time and place.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this
24th day of February 2012.

ALLISON A. BROWN, CCR #1205
CAPITAL CITY COURT REPORTING