



February 21, 2012

Members of the Senate Apportionment Commission:

On behalf of Let Missourians Decide, we present for your review and consideration plans of reapportionment for the Missouri Senate.

Let Missourians Decide is a non-partisan, non-profit organization formed specifically to advocate for fair, competitive legislative districts for Missouri citizens. We believe legislative districts should be drawn to provide meaningful choice to voters, to disregard the advantages often provided to incumbent legislators and to reflect the overall political culture of our great state. It is our position that plans submitted by parties or partisan individuals inevitably serve to perpetuate the narrow purposes of a well-defined and politically homogenous faction rather than the larger needs of the heterogeneous spectrum of Missouri citizens. We urge the Commission therefore to adopt a plan like ours, which rejects partisanship in favor a balanced approach that seeks to build competitive districts.

Central to the value of our plans is the enhanced competitiveness they create. Seats drawn to clearly favor one party over another lead to elections that are often times left uncontested, or are contested only in the primary election, during which far fewer voters are engaged and active. Seats crafted to create more competitive races in a general election between candidates from both major parties give a broader range of voters a wider range of choices. This enhances civic interest and participation in the process and fosters more responsive government.

The judicially-approved maps in use for the past decade have coincided with the growth of non-competitive elections. For instance, during the November 2010 election, 95 of 163 House races were decided with one candidate winning two-thirds or more of the votes cast. In 61 of those races, there was only one candidate on the ballot at all. Similarly, 10 of the 17 Missouri Senate seats up for election in November 2010 saw the winner take more than 70 percent of the vote. For all practical purposes, 58 percent of both Missouri House and Missouri Senate races last November were noncompetitive races in which voters had no meaningful choice.

Our plans remedy this by creating a greater number of truly competitive seats. Our plan for the Senate creates a map with 8 seats in the competitive range, or whose partisan makeup is in the range of 45 percent Republican to 55 percent Republican. Obviously, our map does not create districts in which every election will be a competitive election. Owing to the uneven distribution of voters who generally favor certain parties across the geography of the state, creating all competitive districts is simply impossible. These plans do substantially better than the current plans or other plans that have been submitted up to this point in the reapportionment process.

Bray #2

The Let Missourians Decide plans are developed without giving undue deference to incumbent members of the legislature. The natural electoral advantages of incumbency are well-documented and need not be bolstered further via reapportionment that seeks to make incumbents more secure. For that reason, our plans have been developed to give zero weight to existing districts or the residences of current members of the general assembly.

We should also note that our plans follow all requirements set forth by the Missouri Constitution and comply with the guidelines adopted through federal statute and case law. The districts are compact, contiguous and as equal in population as may be.

Our plans are also crafted to account for the voting needs of Missouri's minority voters and to ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act. Our plan creates four (4) majority-minority seats likely to be won by an African-American in the Senate. This expands the numbers of such seats that exist in the current plan. Our plans reflect the ethnic and political diversity of our great state.

We appreciate the opportunity to present the plans of Let Missourians Decide. We recognize the great burden of the task before you and wish you success in reaching a reapportionment resolution that serves Missourians credibly and fairly in the years ahead. Please reach us if we may be of further assistance in answering questions about our submission or supporting the work of the Senate Apportionment Commission.

Respectfully,

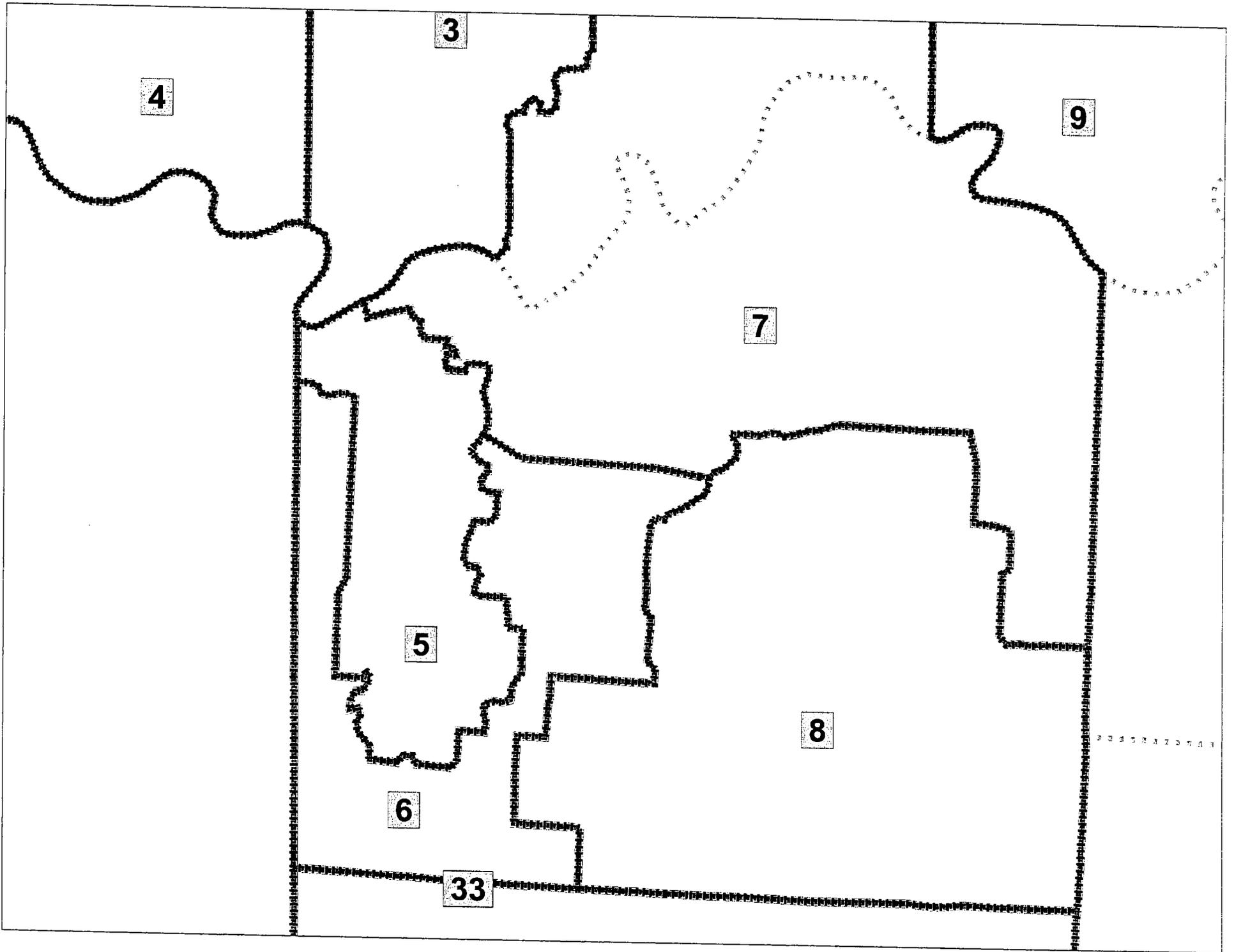


Joan Bray  
Co-Chair

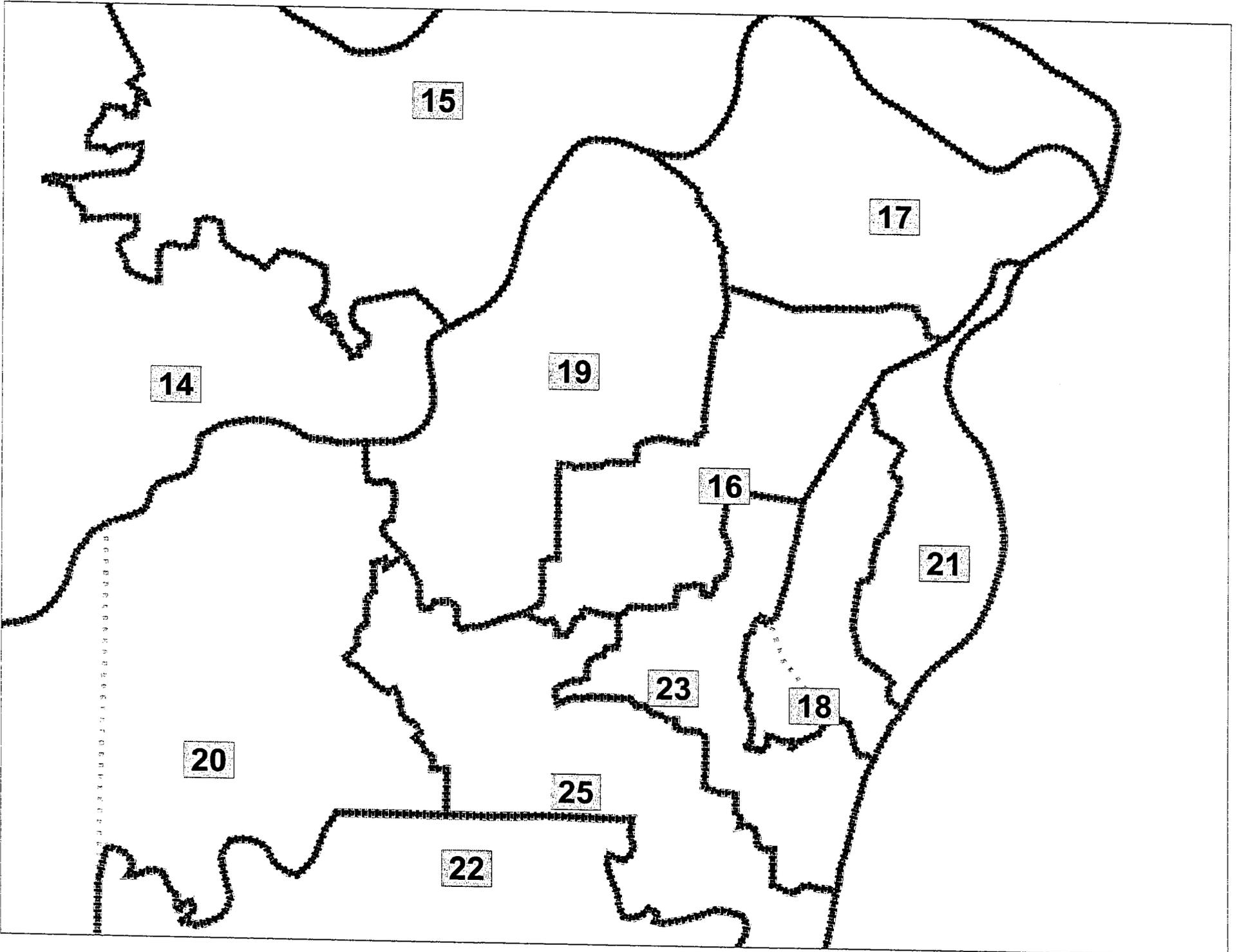


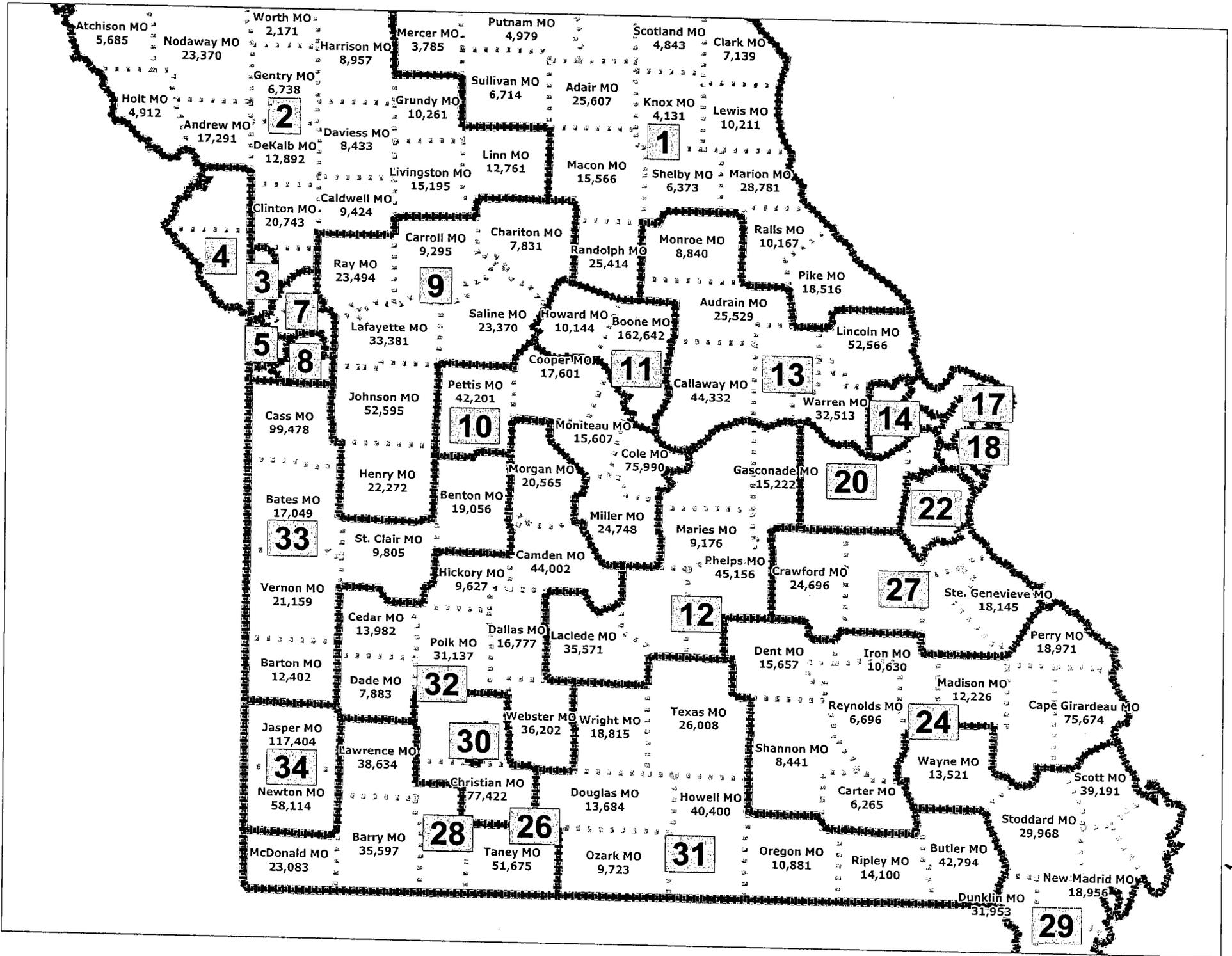
Bob Johnson  
President

Bray #3



Bray #4





Bray #5

## Let Missourians Decide

### Senate Proposal (February 21, 2012)

District	Population	Deviation	%Deviation	%White	%Black	%Dtotal	%Rtotal	%D08	%R08	%D10	%R10
1	176657	512	0.29%	93.77%	3.14%	43.89%	56.11%	47.45%	52.55%	32.88%	67.12%
2	179866	3721	2.11%	95.84%	1.75%	39.79%	60.21%	43.17%	56.83%	26.54%	73.46%
3	171160	-4985	-2.83%	85.65%	6.03%	50.41%	49.59%	53.44%	46.56%	41.39%	58.61%
4	178523	2378	1.35%	88.14%	5.56%	49.50%	50.50%	54.21%	45.79%	41.85%	58.15%
5	175563	-582	-0.33%	28.25%	60.16%	88.46%	11.54%	89.77%	10.23%	86.01%	13.99%
6	174573	-1572	-0.89%	70.91%	20.81%	68.49%	31.51%	71.52%	28.48%	67.99%	32.01%
7	176277	132	0.07%	84.35%	5.02%	54.37%	45.63%	60.24%	39.76%	43.90%	56.10%
8	177491	1346	0.76%	87.97%	6.57%	40.99%	59.01%	46.73%	53.27%	29.70%	70.30%
9	172238	-3907	-2.22%	92.64%	2.94%	54.65%	45.35%	53.12%	46.88%	44.54%	55.46%
10	176147	2	0.00%	88.71%	6.62%	39.60%	60.40%	43.13%	56.87%	25.68%	74.32%
11	172786	-3359	-1.91%	83.30%	9.05%	52.64%	47.36%	57.21%	42.79%	45.15%	54.85%
12	171277	-4868	-2.76%	89.65%	4.27%	38.45%	61.55%	39.78%	60.22%	29.99%	70.01%
13	176016	-129	-0.07%	93.43%	3.27%	43.89%	56.11%	47.77%	52.23%	30.08%	69.92%
14	181146	5001	2.84%	91.41%	3.74%	38.72%	61.28%	42.99%	57.01%	30.16%	69.84%
15	179339	3194	1.81%	90.01%	4.57%	46.23%	53.77%	50.21%	49.79%	39.13%	60.87%
16	176076	-69	-0.04%	40.26%	54.18%	74.88%	25.12%	79.23%	20.77%	72.41%	27.59%
17	177196	1051	0.60%	40.47%	55.89%	77.80%	22.20%	84.55%	15.45%	78.03%	21.97%
18	178243	2098	1.19%	66.03%	27.60%	74.51%	25.49%	77.34%	22.66%	74.44%	25.56%
19	176066	-79	-0.04%	76.23%	12.83%	54.32%	45.68%	58.51%	41.49%	48.80%	51.20%
20	180708	4563	2.59%	94.27%	1.44%	36.73%	63.27%	40.78%	59.22%	25.25%	74.75%
21	174482	-1663	-0.94%	30.50%	62.34%	91.04%	8.96%	92.38%	7.62%	91.89%	8.11%
22	177247	1102	0.63%	96.69%	0.58%	56.19%	43.81%	62.21%	37.79%	44.98%	55.02%
23	176321	176	0.10%	88.45%	5.81%	57.49%	42.51%	60.17%	39.83%	53.45%	46.55%
24	166923	-9222	-5.24%	93.20%	3.43%	35.16%	64.84%	37.78%	62.22%	27.77%	72.23%
25	180648	4503	2.56%	92.13%	1.78%	41.99%	58.01%	45.34%	54.66%	33.12%	66.88%
26	180918	4773	2.71%	95.15%	0.88%	32.53%	67.47%	34.84%	65.16%	25.36%	74.64%
27	174881	-1264	-0.72%	95.31%	2.46%	58.38%	41.62%	57.65%	42.35%	46.93%	53.07%
28	181191	5046	2.86%	92.87%	0.47%	30.15%	69.85%	30.88%	69.13%	21.45%	78.55%
29	166243	-9902	-5.62%	85.46%	11.56%	49.57%	50.43%	46.22%	53.78%	34.82%	65.18%
30	171678	-4467	-2.54%	89.03%	3.93%	44.24%	55.76%	47.91%	52.09%	38.24%	61.76%
31	176405	260	0.15%	94.84%	1.97%	33.74%	66.26%	35.24%	64.76%	25.74%	74.26%
32	180175	4030	2.29%	96.39%	0.54%	36.38%	63.62%	40.04%	59.96%	26.63%	73.37%
33	178949	2804	1.59%	93.82%	2.19%	43.15%	56.85%	46.45%	53.55%	32.62%	67.38%
34	175518	-627	-0.36%	88.60%	1.54%	25.71%	74.29%	28.32%	71.68%	15.72%	84.28%

Bray #16

## Hypothetical Minority Majority Proposals

### PROPOSAL 1

District A	59.32%
District B	54.37%
District C	53.5%
District D	52.4%

### PROPOSAL 2

District A	62.3%
District B	59.8%
District C	57.4%
District D	51.7%

**From:** "Sharon Whitehill Gray" <[director@nixachamber.com](mailto:director@nixachamber.com)>  
**Date:** February 21, 2012 6:46:13 PM CST  
**To:** <[myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:myerscpa@swbell.net)>  
**Subject:** RE: Senate redistricting

Dear Mr. Myers,

I am writing to express our concern with the suggestion of separating Greene and Christian county in the redistricting process. We are fortunate to have an excellent economic tie with Greene County, in particular Springfield. Over 70% of Nixa residents work in Springfield as do many others in Christian county. I'm not sure there any other 2 counties in Missouri as connected as Greene and Christian. The connections are vast including partnerships with education including an OTC campus in Christian county, regional economic development, transportation etc. There are many more but I will keep this brief.

We believe the connection at the state level in the Senate is extremely important and vital to the growth in our area and continuing the partnerships in the areas I mentioned as well as others.

On behalf of the Nixa Area Chamber of Commerce I sincerely urge you to keep the Greene county portion in our Senate district.

Thank you for your service on this commission and your time to review this email.

Sincerely

*Sharon Whitehill Gray*

Sharon Whitehill Gray, President/CEO  
Nixa Area Chamber of Commerce  
*New Location* ~ 566 W. Mt Vernon  
*New Mailing Address* ~ PO Box 548  
Nixa MO 65714  
417.725.1545  
Fx 417.725.4532

[www.NixaChamber.com](http://www.NixaChamber.com)

[director@nixachamber.com](mailto:director@nixachamber.com)

*The Mission of the Nixa Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote growth and development of business that will enhance the community as a desirable place to live, learn, work, shop and play*



...Bring Back 5%!



Mercy Health Springfield Communities  
Executive Offices  
1235 E. Cherokee  
Springfield, MO 65804  
417-820-2000  
www.mercy.net

February 20, 2012

Missouri Senate Apportionment Commission  
Missouri Capitol Building  
201 W. Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO

Dear Commissioners:

I appreciate the challenge you face in re-drawing Missouri's senate districts and the time constraints you are under. I want to address the boundaries of southwest Missouri's 20<sup>th</sup> Senate district which currently includes Christian, Webster, Douglas and most of Greene County outside of Springfield. It is the relationship between Greene and Christian Counties that is important to your deliberation.

The economic interdependence of Greene and Christian County is clear. Christian County residents provide a significant amount of revenue for Springfield and Greene County businesses, and health care is no exception. Christian County patients comprise more than nine percent of the discharges from Mercy's tertiary hospital in Springfield, and the significant growth of this area played a major role in determining Mercy's placement of a new orthopedic hospital on Highway 65 at the Greene-Christian County line to complement the several other Mercy facilities in the area. Also, Springfield and Greene County businesses provide jobs for Christian County residents. For example, nearly 1,600 Mercy co-workers call Christian County home, and most of them work at facilities in Greene County. The average wage for these individuals is more than \$22.00 per hour which equals a direct annual salary impact of \$73.3 million.

I understand Greene and Christian counties could be in different Senate districts in one proposal being considered. However, I believe the citizens of these counties would best be served by continuing to be in the same Senate district. Christian County's rapid growth in the past fifteen years has been remarkable, and the opportunities, as well as the associated problems, are becoming those of an urban area. Addressing transportation, economic development, utilities and other related issues are some of the items that are best served by a coordinated approach. This can continue if the counties, which are interdependent, remain in the same Senate district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Swope".

Jon Swope  
President/CEO

**From:** Ben Jones <[Ben.Jones@cityutilities.net](mailto:Ben.Jones@cityutilities.net)>  
**Date:** February 21, 2012 3:01:40 PM CST  
**To:** "[myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:myerscpa@swbell.net)" <[myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:myerscpa@swbell.net)>  
**Subject:** Attn: Nick Meyer

Distinguished members of the Senate Apportionment Committee:

As the Manager-Economic Development for City Utilities of Springfield, I am keenly aware of the importance of the regional economy in Greene and Christian Counties. Primary employers in our region hire workers from many of the surrounding counties. City Utilities works closely with the Springfield Business Development Corporation to continue growing existing firms and to bring in new jobs. It is critical to have one voice speaking for our region, especially as City Utilities of Springfield seeks to increase our customer base, serve ever more industrial and commercial customers, and become the premier utility in the Missouri Ozarks.

Ben Jones  
Manager - Economic Development  
City Utilities of Springfield  
301 East Central, PO Box 551  
Springfield, MO. 65801-0551  
O: 417-831-8560  
C: 417-322-5636  
[ben.jones@cityutilities.net](mailto:ben.jones@cityutilities.net)

**From:** "Baker, James P" <[JBaker@MissouriState.edu](mailto:JBaker@MissouriState.edu)>

**Date:** February 21, 2012 2:29:44 PM CST

**To:** "[Myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:Myerscpa@swbell.net)" <[Myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:Myerscpa@swbell.net)>

**Subject:** Senate Apportionment Committee

My name is Jim Baker. I am the Vice President for Research and Economic Development at Missouri State University. I am a resident of Christian County and like thousands of others, I work in Greene County. In fact, I live only three miles from the Greene County line. I am writing in support of ensuring that south Greene and northern Christian County are in the same senatorial district. These two areas are tied together both socially and economically. I believe that splitting them into two senatorial districts would be a disservice to the citizens in Greene and Christian counties. Currently, our senator is Mr. Jay Wasson. Senator Wasson does an outstanding job of representing this region. I believe that keeping this district intact would be appropriate for Senator Wasson and any future senator serving our district.

Thank you.



# CHRISTIAN COUNTY COMMISSION

100 W. Church Street, Room 100  
Ozark, Missouri 65721  
Phone: 417-581-2112 • Fax: 417-581-5924

**Lou Lapaglia**  
Presiding Commissioner

**Bill Barnett**  
Western Commissioner

**Tom Huff**  
Eastern Commissioner

February 21, 2012

Nick Myers  
Senate Appropriations Committee

Re: Redistricting of Greene County Missouri

Dear Mr. Myers,

I respectfully call your attention to the seriousness of the re-districting of Greene County Missouri. Approximately ninety percent of our Christian County residents commute to and from Springfield for work. I wish to emphasize the importance of our strong economic and transportation ties to Greene County. Our governments work very close together and we enjoy many benefits from this relationship. It is imperative that Christian County continue to be a part of the Greene County Metropolitan area. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lou Lapaglia  
Presiding Commissioner  
Christian County



February 21, 2012

Members of the Missouri Senate Apportionment Commission:

On behalf of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce and our over 2,000 member businesses which represent over 110,000 employees, we encourage you to maintain Senate districts that align the Counties of Greene and Christian in contiguous districts.

Christian County is home to thousands of citizens who work, play, attend school, receive medical care, and shop in Springfield and Greene County. The residents of Christian County utilize the services provided in Greene County daily. Our area's largest employers include CoxHealth and Mercy and both patients and employees of those institutions will call Christian County home. Additionally, as a hub for retail shopping and a center for higher education learning opportunities through institutions including Missouri State University and Ozarks Technical Community College, thousands from Christian County will travel to Greene County daily. And, our shared transportation infrastructure requires elected officials at the local and state level to work together closely to maximize local and state funding resources. There has always been an important synergy for a Senate district that represents both Christian County and Greene County.

Our region continues to be the fastest growing region in the state, and it is critical to ensure that our state legislators can adequately represent the citizens they serve. We realize that you have a most challenging task ahead. We encourage you to include a district that encompasses both Greene and Christian Counties for the benefit of the citizens in our area.

Sincerely,

James B. Anderson  
President  
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce

**From:** Laurie Duff <[Laurie.Duff@coxhealth.com](mailto:Laurie.Duff@coxhealth.com)>  
**Date:** February 20, 2012 10:45:12 AM CST  
**To:** "[Myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:Myerscpa@swbell.net)" <[Myerscpa@swbell.net](mailto:Myerscpa@swbell.net)>  
**Cc:** "[Jay.Wasson@senate.mo.gov](mailto:Jay.Wasson@senate.mo.gov)" <[Jay.Wasson@senate.mo.gov](mailto:Jay.Wasson@senate.mo.gov)>  
**Subject:** Redistricting Concern

February 20, 2012

Attn: Nick Myers, Secretary  
Senate Apportionment Committee

Dear Mr. Myers,

It has come to my attention that the proposed redistricting for Missouri includes the districts currently represented by Sen. Jay Wasson; specifically Greene and Christian counties. I believe this would have a negative impact on the effectiveness of citizen representation.

As one of southwest Missouri's largest employers, CoxHealth employs 7,573 people. The total number of employees who live in Greene County is 4,548. The total number of employees living in Christian County is 1,351. Greene and Christian counties are also home to the greatest percentage of our patients, with 48.4% and 11.3% respectively.

Clearly, these counties are closely tied together and to divide their representation would be problematic. Please keep these counties together to ensure the continued effective representation of Sen. Jay Wasson. Thank you for your consideration.

**Laurie Duff**  
Vice President of Corporate Communications, Executive Administration  
CoxHealth  
[Laurie.Duff@coxhealth.com](mailto:Laurie.Duff@coxhealth.com)  
Phone: (417) 269-3070  
Fax: (417) 269-3104

**CoxHealth – a Top 100 Integrated Health Care Network**

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# OZARKS TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Office of the Chancellor

February 20, 2012

Missouri Senate Apportionment Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

As southwest Missouri continues to be the fastest growing area of the state, it is important that Greene County and Christian County have appropriate representation in the state legislature.

The communities of Springfield, Ozark and Nixa, along with many other towns in Greene and Christian Counties, work together as a greater metropolitan community. Our towns are so seamless that the average passerby wouldn't know whether they were in southern Springfield (Greene County) or northern Ozark (Christian County). Our county governments work in tandem to ensure that our citizens are served for the greater good.

Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) has five locations including the OTC Springfield Campus, and the OTC Richwood Valley Campus which is located in Christian County, between Ozark and Nixa. Ozark/Nixa students drive to the OTC Springfield Campus and Springfield students drive to OTC Richwood Valley Campus, as this region recognizes that we are one.

**On behalf of OTC, we request that the "Christian County Senate seat" continue to serve Greene County. It is tremendously helpful to have continuity between these counties with the one senator.** The most recent senate apportionment map takes the 40th District to the more rural areas, thus losing representation of both Greene and Christian counties.

In addition, we would also like to support the most recent apportionment map that brings the 28<sup>th</sup> District into northern Greene County. Again, as the third largest community in southwest Missouri, it makes sense to have greater representation.

Should you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hal L. Higdon".

Hal L. Higdon, Ph.D.  
Chancellor



February 21, 2012

Apportionment Committee  
Capitol Building  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Committee Members:

I want to take this opportunity to recommend that, during your redistricting deliberations, you strongly consider connecting Greene County with Christian County. As the Mayor of Springfield, the largest city in Greene County, I am well aware of the tight and growing connection between these two counties. Over the past few decades, a synergy has developed between these two counties, including economic development importance. As one travels south from Springfield, it is almost unnoticeable when you cross the county line into Christian County.

I ask that you please consider this relationship between Greene and Christian counties as you perform your work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James E. O'Neal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

James E. O'Neal  
Mayor, City of Springfield

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

840 Boonville Avenue, P.O. Box 8368  
phone: (417) 864-1651  
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Springfield, Missouri 65801-8368  
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County of **GREENE** State of Missouri

GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION

933 N. Robberson  
SPRINGFIELD MO, 65802  
(417)868-4112 Fax (417)868-4818

JIM VIEBROCK  
Presiding Commissioner  
HAROLD BENGSCHE  
Commissioner 1st District  
ROSEANN BENTLEY  
Commissioner 2nd District

February 22, 2012

Missouri Senate Apportionment Commission

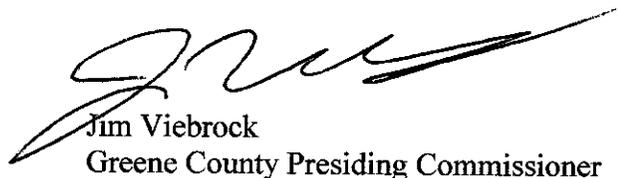
Dear Commission:

As Presiding Commissioner of Greene County I would like to submit my thoughts on retaining Christian County as part of our Senatorial District.

For decades, The Counties of Christian and Greene have worked together to grow the Springfield Metropolitan Area as a unified community. We have worked well together and share many common ideals and goals. With the support of the outlying communities, whose residents commute to Springfield for work and entertainment, we desire a unified voice and dedication from the legislature.

I respectfully submit that splitting the two counties apart into separate Senatorial Districts could hamper the areas ability to effectively be unified as one voice.

Thank you for your consideration,



Jim Viebrock  
Greene County Presiding Commissioner