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2011 ILLINOIS STATE SENATE REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING II

PUBLIC HEARING

April 26, 2011  
800 Game Farm Road  
Yorkville, Illinois

Sullivan Reporting Company, by  
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1       PRESENT:

2           SENATOR MICHAEL NOLAND, Vice Chairperson

3           SENATOR MATTIE HUNTER, Member

4           SENATOR SUE REZIN, Member

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I N D E X

NAME

PAGE

Corey Johnson

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Ryan Morton

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Rose Spears

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1           VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Good morning. I am  
2 State Senator Michael Noland from the Elgin area. We  
3 are going to go ahead and get the redistricting  
4 hearing under way. This is the Senate version of the  
5 redistricting hearings. We're going to have the  
6 clerk call the roll. We're going to make a few  
7 announcements and we are going to offer the  
8 opportunity for those of you in the audience to come  
9 and speak on the redistricting.

10                       So with that, the clerk will call the  
11 roll.

12           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Raoul?

13                       (No response.)

14           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Collins?

15                       (No response.)

16           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Jones?

17                       (No response.)

18           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Noland?

19           VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Here.

20           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Hunter?

21           SENATOR HUNTER: Here.

22           MS. AMY BOWNE: Senator Rezin?

23           SENATOR REZIN: Here.

24           VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Okay. Very good.

1                   This being a subject matter hearing,  
2     there's no need for -- necessarily for a quorum. We  
3     do, for the record, want to make some announcements.  
4     First being substitutions of some of our senators so  
5     that we can conduct business here today.  
6     Substitution first would be Senator Raoul for Harmon.  
7     We have Senator Hunter for Martinez; myself, Senator  
8     Noland, for Senator Maloney and Senator Rezin for  
9     Senator Cultra.

10                   Okay. With that, we'd also like to  
11    make a couple of motions. I think I'll announce when  
12    the next hearings will be at the end of our process  
13    here today.

14                   SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
15    move that this hearing be transcribed by the court  
16    reporter so that the Committee can have a full  
17    transcript of this hearing which the Committee can  
18    approve at a future hearing once members of staff  
19    have had time to review the transcript and make any  
20    needed changes.

21                   VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Is there a second for  
22    the motion?

23                   SENATOR REZIN: Second.

24                   VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Senator Rezin

1 seconds, and is there leave for attendance roll call?

2 That leave is granted and the motion  
3 passes.

4 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5 In keeping with our past practice, I  
6 move that the Committee allow members of the public  
7 to take photos of the proceedings so long as they do  
8 not disrupt the proceedings.

9 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very good. Motion by  
10 Senator Hunter.

11 Is there a second?

12 SENATOR REZIN: Second.

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very well. Motion  
14 passes. Leave for attendance roll call -- thank you.  
15 Seeing no objection, leave is granted and the motion  
16 passes.

17 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I  
18 have one more motion. I move that the Committee  
19 allow any media present to take still photos and  
20 record the proceedings.

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very good. There is  
22 a motion by Senator Hunter. Is there a second?

23 SENATOR REZIN: Second.

24 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Seconded by Senator

1 Rezin. Is there leave for attendance roll call?

2 SENATOR HUNTER: Leave.

3 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Leave is granted.

4 Very good. Thank you.

5 With that, we'll move on to the  
6 opportunity for folks here to be heard with regards  
7 to redistricting process. We didn't receive any  
8 witness slips that I'm aware of.

9 Has that changed at all, Miss Bowne?

10 MS. AMY BOWNE: (Nonverbal response.)

11 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Okay. All right.

12 Then we'll make one other attempt and that is just  
13 simply to extend the opportunity to anybody here that  
14 may have not filled out a witness slip, but would  
15 like to reconsider and, perhaps, come up and speak.

16 Okay. Well, this is our  
17 opportunity -- I'll be brief here. I'm not going to  
18 offer a lot of commentary here, but we've tried to  
19 make every effort to make this process as transparent  
20 as possible and make it as accessible and  
21 participatory as possible. So we do urge you to take  
22 advantage of this opportunity to speak to our panel.  
23 We are kind of a roving and traveling contingent, if  
24 you will. We will be now traveling to -- also nearby

1 to Macomb, to Western Illinois University. We'll be  
2 there at 12:00 p.m. on April 28th, that will be in  
3 University Union, the Lincoln Room at One University  
4 Circle in Macomb, Illinois, and we urge you to attend  
5 that hearing as well. Also too on the 28th we will  
6 have a Subcommittee of the Redistricting Committee  
7 meeting at Governors State University 10:00 a.m.,  
8 Sherman Hall, at One University Parkway at University  
9 Park, Illinois, as well.

10 So, with that, I think we've taken  
11 care of all of the business that we absolutely have  
12 to with respect to the Redistricting Committee.

13 I would like to urge you just one last  
14 time, going once, going twice -- a gentleman who is  
15 standing up.

16 (Applause.)

17 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Sir, all we ask is  
18 you agree to fill out a witness slip after you get  
19 done speaking. Please state your name.

20 MR. COREY JOHNSON: Corey Johnson.

21 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Where do you live?

22 MR. COREY JOHNSON: From Yorkville.

23 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very good.

24



1 TESTIMONY

2 BY

3 MR. COREY JOHNSON:

4 Is there a proposed map of where there may  
5 be a redistricting or is this completely in motion at  
6 this time?

7 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: It's in motion. To  
8 directly answer your question, it is a motion and  
9 that's as good a question as any. What you can do  
10 and those of you with pen and paper, please, if you  
11 can, write this down. There are a couple of work  
12 stations that you can draft, perhaps, your own map or  
13 make your own suggestions, print out on your printer  
14 at home or wherever electronically and sent to  
15 whomever you like, including members of this panel,  
16 okay, of the Senate Redistricting Committee. The Web  
17 site for the Committee itself is  
18 [www.ilsenateredistricting.com](http://www.ilsenateredistricting.com). I'll read that again.  
19 It's [www.ilsenateredistricting.com](http://www.ilsenateredistricting.com) and that's spelled  
20 i-l-s-e-n-a-t-e-r-e-d-i-s-t-r-i-c-t-i-n-g, dot com.

21 Okay. There are public workstations  
22 in Springfield and Chicago. I know those may be a  
23 little difficult for folks to get to. I grew up in a  
24 rural area myself, so I can understand the concern

1 you have in traveling to those. We have  
2 workstations, they're at the Capitol, they're also at  
3 the Thompson Center, is that correct, in the city?  
4 The Bilandic Building in Chicago, okay. Those are  
5 relatively easy to find if you're going on-line; but  
6 our telephone number for those who may not  
7 necessarily have access to the Internet and we need  
8 to respect that there is a digital divide today, the  
9 telephone number that you can call for more  
10 information regarding just that question, regarding  
11 maps and the development of maps is area code  
12 (217) 558-3036. I'll repeat that. That's area code  
13 (217) 558-3036.

14 SENATOR HUNTER: Mr. Chairman, I also would  
15 like to add that the Republicans have a workstation  
16 also in the Thompson Center and Ed Marshall is the  
17 person in charge at that location and his telephone  
18 number is (773) 844-6016. So we have those two  
19 buildings, the Bilandic Building and the Thompson  
20 Center are directly across the street from one  
21 another.

22 Thank you.

23 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Does anybody need  
24 that repeated?

1 (No response.)

2 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Okay. Very good.

3 All right. Mr. Johnson, thank you  
4 very much --

5 SENATOR HUNTER: Thank you.

6 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: -- for stepping up.  
7 We appreciate that.

8 With that, I don't see anyone else  
9 stepping forward.

10 Sir.

11 I knew if we just hung in there long  
12 enough we might.

13 TESTIMONY

14 BY

15 MR. RYAN MORTON:

16 My name is Ryan Morton. I live in  
17 Yorkville. I'm a member of the media, but I'm also a  
18 resident. So...

19 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Fair enough.

20 MR. RYAN MORTON: I would just like to urge the  
21 members of the Committee to have an another series of  
22 hearings, perhaps at different locations, once a map  
23 has been drawn so that people can actually look at it  
24 and give input based on that. I know that you're

1 required to hold hearings beforehand and if I  
2 understand it, that's not a requirement after this  
3 map is drawn to have hearings; correct?

4 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very good.

5 MR. RYAN MORTON: So I would just like to urge  
6 you and the House Committee to do that.

7 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Thank you very much.  
8 We appreciate that. Just so you're aware, you're not  
9 the first to request that.

10 MR. RYAN MORTON: Well, I just want to make  
11 sure that was on the record at this hearing, too.

12 SENATOR HUNTER: Also -- I also would like to  
13 go on record by stating that we will -- we'll do our  
14 best in terms of holding hearings. I don't know if  
15 you've looked at our General Assembly schedule for  
16 May, but it is quit busy. I believe the only time we  
17 have off during the entire month of May is Mother's  
18 Day weekend, if I'm not mistaken, and so I'm sure we  
19 will have some kind of hearings. But in terms of the  
20 number of hearings that we're holding at this  
21 particular time, it is going to be impossible. So  
22 we're going to try to have as many hearings as we can  
23 and I know most will probably be held in Springfield.

24 MR. RYAN MORTON: Okay. Rather than a city

1     like Joliet or Aurora, a large city around this area?

2             SENATOR HUNTER:   It's difficult for us to say  
3     right now because we're trying to get the budget  
4     passed and the map is actually legislation and that  
5     has to be done and we have other pressing items that  
6     we need to pass, getting our Bills out of Committee  
7     and out of the Senate and it's just going to be such  
8     a compact month.   But your point is well taken, we  
9     hear you loud and clear and so we'll do the best we  
10    can.

11            MR. RYAN MORTON:   You have till June 30th;  
12    right?   That's the date that it needs to be drawn?

13            VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND:   Well, technically,  
14    that would be -- that's an accurate statement.   But  
15    the bill, at least the map itself, is nonetheless a  
16    piece of legislation and all legislation needs to be  
17    passed by May 31st, okay.   Now, that's not to say  
18    that by -- under our Illinois Constitution and  
19    Federal Constitution that that is per se a drop-dead  
20    date with respect to the map and I will tell you that  
21    I am not an election lawyer and I'm not a  
22    Constitutional expert with regard to the remapping  
23    process.   So I really can't inform you what happens  
24    after May 31st, but your point with regard to the

1 desire to see the map once it's configured is, again,  
2 well taken and one that is shared by a number of  
3 people. So...

4 MR. RYAN MORTON: Thank you very much.

5 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Thank you very much,  
6 Mr. Morton. I appreciate you stepping forward.

7 Okay. That was two. Three is a  
8 charm. Now, anybody else?

9 MS. ROSE SPEARS: I'll be the charmer.

10 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Okay. Very good.

11 MS. ROSE SPEARS: Good morning. My name is  
12 Rose Spears and I am also a resident of the City of  
13 Yorkville and I also --

14 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Thank you,  
15 Ms. Spears. Very good.

16 TESTIMONY

17 BY

18 MS. ROSE SPEARS:

19 I also share a concern. I'm sitting here  
20 just -- I thought I would have more information like  
21 a current map of the districting and what you are  
22 proposing and without that information, I feel like  
23 why am I sitting here other than hearing motions and  
24 various rules and where you're going to be within the

1 next month. But I think it would have been truly  
2 beneficial if we had the current map as well as what  
3 the proposed map may be and then I think more people  
4 would comment or would have more information to base  
5 discussion on.

6 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Well, thank you very  
7 much. I just -- to let you know, if you weren't  
8 aware, we received the Census information on the 1st  
9 of this month, really, I think it was April 1st.

10 Is that right.

11 SENATOR HUNTER: No, but we had gathered it a  
12 little earlier.

13 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: The end of February,  
14 beginning of March, so we've had it about a month and  
15 a half, okay?

16 Now, something that has to be taken  
17 into consideration is that information has to be  
18 digested, all across the state. And so it is a  
19 significant task to do that and then to tell us what  
20 that data actually means, that's one of the reasons  
21 why we don't have any prospective maps at this point.  
22 So we wish, we could accommodate you, even, we  
23 members of the panel are not privy to any specific  
24 boundaries that have been defined or contended at

1 this point.

2                   So we share your desire for some kind  
3 of a rendering of a map and as soon as we have  
4 something, I'm sure you're going to be one of the  
5 first to know because I think the public should know  
6 much earlier given this process this time, this  
7 decennial period with respect to the current Census  
8 information that's been offered to us. As soon as we  
9 have that, it's bound to be published on these Web  
10 sites, so stay tuned and as you have any other  
11 concerns moving forward, please let us know. I mean,  
12 now you have a direct line to us.

13                   MS. ROSE SPEARS: Yes.

14                   VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: And so we're anxious  
15 to hear from you as soon as you have an opinion about  
16 those maps.

17                   MS. ROSE SPEARS: Well, thank you. And I  
18 appreciate all of you for coming to Yorkville and  
19 trying to educate us. Thank you very much.

20                   VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Very good. Actually,  
21 the process has been for you to educate us. We're  
22 the ones asking the questions, okay.

23                   MS. ROSE SPEARS: Right.

24                   VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: And hopefully we've



1 answered those questions. Have we done that for you?

2 MS. ROSE SPEARS: You have to an extent with  
3 the information that you currently have --

4 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Right.

5 MS. ROSE SPEARS: -- you did share with us, so  
6 I do appreciate that.

7 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: We'll give you  
8 everything we have.

9 MS. ROSE SPEARS: Thank you.

10 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: All right. Anyone  
11 else?

12 (No response.)

13 All right. Very good. Any other  
14 questions or comments from the Committee?

15 SENATOR HUNTER: No.

16 VICE CHAIRPERSON NOLAND: Seeing no further  
17 business coming before the Senate Redistricting  
18 Committee, the hearing is thereby adjourned.

19 (Which were all the  
20 proceedings had.)

21 \*\*\*The transcript produced will be the property of  
22 the Illinois State Senate and will be made available  
23 to the public through the Illinois General Assembly  
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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 ) SS:  
2 COUNTY OF WILL )

3 Tracy L. Overocker, being first duly sworn on  
4 oath, says that she is a Certified Shorthand  
5 Reporter, that she reported in shorthand the  
6 proceedings given at the taking of said public  
7 hearing, and that the foregoing is a true and correct  
8 transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as  
9 aforesaid and contains all the proceedings given at  
10 said public hearing.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Certified Shorthand Reporter  
15 No. 084-004439

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Subscribed and sworn to  
before me this \_\_\_ day  
18 of \_\_\_\_\_ 2011.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

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