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BEFORE THE
ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Hearing held, pursuant to notice, on the
31st day of August, 2021, between the hours of
11:00 a.m. and 12:22 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Representative Jay Hoffman, Co-Chairperson
- Representative Elizabeth Hernandez, Chairperson
- Representative Tim Butler, Republican Spokesperson
- Representative Avery Bourne, Member
- Representative Kelly Burke, Member
- Representative Robyn Gabel
- Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth, Member
- Representative Natalie Manley
- Representative Dave Severin, Member
- Representative Ryan Spain, Member

Court Reporter
Lydia Pinkawa, CSR
Illinois CSR #084-002342
Alaris Litigation Services
711 North Eleventh Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

1 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: The House redistricting
2 committee shall come to order. There are replacement
3 letters from Speaker Welch. Representative Tarver
4 will be replaced by Representative Manley.
5 Representative Mah will be replaced by Representative
6 Gabel. The clerk shall call the roll.

7 THE CLERK: Hernandez.

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Here.

9 THE CLERK: Butler.

10 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Here.

11 THE CLERK: Bourne.

12 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Here.

13 THE CLERK: Burke.

14 REPRESENTATIVE BURKE: Here.

15 THE CLERK: Gordon-Booth.

16 REPRESENTATIVE GORDON-BOOTH: Here.

17 THE CLERK: Hoffman.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Here.

19 THE CLERK: Severin.

20 REPRESENTATIVE SEVERIN: Here.

21 THE CLERK: Manley.

22 REPRESENTATIVE MANLEY: Here.

23 THE CLERK: Gabel.

24 REPRESENTATIVE GABEL: Here.

1 THE CLERK: Spain.

2 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Here.

3 THE CLERK: That is all members present.

4 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Ten members being
5 present, there is a quorum. Leader Hernandez, on
6 House floor amendment number 1 to Senate bill 927,
7 please proceed.

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Good morning. Thank
9 you, Mr. Chair and members of the redistricting
10 committee. Before you, I have House floor amendment
11 number 1 to Senate bill 927. Back in May, in order
12 to uphold our constitutional obligation, I presented
13 this committee with a legislative map drawn using the
14 United States Census Bureau's 2015, 2019 American
15 Community Survey data, which was the best population
16 data available at the time. That map, which came
17 after 30 House hearings and countless hours of
18 community and stakeholder input, held to the strict
19 federal and state redistricting requirements while
20 also showcasing our state's diversity.

21 When I first presented that map, though,
22 I promised that when 2020 census was released in
23 August, we would take a look at this data and make
24 adjustments as needed. Today I'm keeping that

1 promise. Building on those hearings in the spring,
2 today's hearing will be our seventh new hearing since
3 the release of the census data and our 37th total.

4 I'm sure there will be many questions, so I
5 will get right to the point. The adjusted map before
6 you today is one you can be proud to support. Each
7 of the districts in the adjusted map before you was
8 drawn to incorporate the 2020 census data and be
9 substantially equal in population. In fact, the
10 districts have a total population deviation of
11 0.48 percent. Each of the districts in the adjusted
12 map before you are compact and contiguous. In fact,
13 the adjusted map is as compact as the 2011 map.

14 In making adjustments, we strive to reflect
15 the racial and geographic diversity of the state,
16 preserve the core or boundaries of the existing
17 districts to preserve communities of interest and to
18 respect political subdivision boundaries wherever
19 possible. In short, the adjusted map before you is
20 not only consistent with the U.S. and Illinois
21 constitutions as well as the federal and Illinois
22 voting rights acts, it is consistent with the
23 diversity in values of our great state. I welcome
24 your questions.

1 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Leader Butler.

2 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 And just to open, today's hearing continues the
4 issues that we've seen over the last several days and
5 honestly, all year long when it comes to this
6 legislation. Over the past several days, you've
7 heard from many, many, many advocacy groups that have
8 testified all year long about their concerns over the
9 process, their concerns really over this legislation
10 not representing accurately the people of Illinois.

11 Now we have a committee hearing here today
12 that wasn't posted until mid morning today. We have
13 legislation in front of us that was just introduced,
14 just introduced based off a bill that was, a map that
15 was introduced 18 hours ago. And it just continues
16 the farce that has been this entire process to
17 redistricting. So we just continue the charade that
18 we've seen all year long when it comes to
19 redistricting.

20 Leader Hernandez, how does this legislation
21 before us in the redistricting committee today differ
22 from what was proposed yesterday as far as the map
23 goes?

24 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Well, as I said

1 before, I think it meets the .48 percent deviation
2 across the board which would meet some of the
3 parameters, legal parameters that is required.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So there was a map
5 introduced yesterday and obviously, some changes have
6 been made. This is a map that we've tried to study
7 for the last half hour to try to figure out what the
8 changes are. You're the sponsor of this legislation.
9 What's the difference today from the the maps that
10 was introduced yesterday that we had a hearing on at
11 6:00 last night that witnesses testified about?
12 What's the difference today from yesterday?

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Along with meeting the
14 deviation percentage, which is very important, I
15 think it was really important also to get any
16 feedback from the communities of interest to see if
17 we can still make some adjustments. It was very
18 important to hear what they had to say so that if
19 possible, we would incorporate their recommendations.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So did you draw this map
21 this morning that we're looking at?

22 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Leader, if I might, I'm
23 not going to interrupt. We have witnesses. If it
24 would make sense, I think it kind of does, I

1 recognize you for an opening statement. Maybe we can
2 go to the witnesses and then we can go to the
3 questions of the sponsor. Would that be appropriate?

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Yes, that's fine.

5 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Okay, thank you. The
6 first witness is Mr. Robin Hood of UCCRO. Mr. Hood.

7 MR. HOOD: Good morning. Thanks once again for
8 allowing us to speak to the redistricting that's
9 going to change our state for the next decade. I'm
10 just going to reiterate what I've been hearing from
11 thousands of people over the last several months. We
12 need at least 30 days to review this map. It would
13 be unfair to us if we didn't have the time to get the
14 map out to all our people and make our decisions
15 based on expedience.

16 We're asking the general assembly to slow
17 this process down so that the community can
18 accurately engage in what's best for the district,
19 because some of these districts are going to see
20 painful resources just leave their districts. And we
21 need a map that everybody can have input in. So
22 we're asking the general assembly, we're asking this
23 committee to give us at least 30 days so that we can
24 review this map. Thank you.

1 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Questions of the
2 witness? Representative Spain or Leader Spain.

3 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 And Mr. Hood, thank you for your testimony today and
5 throughout this process. Many times you've come
6 before us over the course of many months. Can you
7 describe your knowledge of this hearing today, when
8 you became aware of it? And you've asked for 30 days
9 to review the map that will be considered. I'm
10 wondering, since the map was just released this
11 morning, how much time you've had to analyze this
12 map.

13 MR. HOOD: Somewhere between 20 to 30 minutes.
14 And not being an expert on the map but knowing enough
15 that there was not community input into this map is
16 what I would consider hurtful and painful to our
17 communities. Because I think it would be wise for us
18 to let the community look at this map before some
19 decisions, a final decision is made of what the map
20 is. So it would take time for us to look at this
21 map.

22 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Thank you. Let me just
23 underscore what we've heard from this witness. The
24 witness has requested, this morning and repeatedly,

1 30 days to review a proposed legislative map. The
2 witness has had 20 to 30 minutes to do so. Thank
3 you.

4 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Further questions?
5 Seeing none, we move to the next witness, Ami Gandhi
6 of the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights.

7 MS. GANDHI: Good morning. I'm Ami Gandhi,
8 senior counsel at Chicago Lawyers' Committee for
9 Civil Rights. I want to lift up and reiterate what
10 you just heard from Reverend Robin Hood of United
11 Congress of Community and Religious Organizations.
12 Communities have long been insisting upon more time
13 and more opportunities for input and more
14 consideration of their input tangibly incorporated
15 into the mapping proposals. And those pleas have not
16 resulted in any changes or adjustments yet, but we
17 can see, in our very brief time of being able to
18 review the map proposal, we're especially concerned
19 from a voting rights and civil rights point of view.

20 There was a statement made at the outset of
21 this hearing about compliance with state and federal
22 laws and the U.S. constitution. And we simply don't
23 have enough reassurances that communities of color
24 have had their voting rights respected in this bill

1 that's before you all today. And that's especially
2 the case for our Black voters who are deeply affected
3 by this map proposal and whose districts have
4 experienced important demographic changes and also
5 mapping changes that are coming down onto these
6 communities as the repercussions of these maps.

7 Any time that there's a change in the number
8 of Black majority districts, there's a reason for
9 communities to be concerned and to want more
10 information and reassurance that their rights have
11 been respected. United Congress of Community and
12 Religious Organizations, UCCRO has been looking
13 toward win-win solutions for Black, Latino,
14 Asian-American, Arab-American, Muslim and other
15 communities and has shown, through their unity
16 mapping work, that win-win solutions are possible
17 that don't require pitting racial groups against each
18 other for the outcomes of these maps.

19 Communities have implored these committees
20 and the Illinois general assembly to take to heart
21 their recommendations and to find opportunities to
22 strengthen voting rights and protect voting rights of
23 Black people and people of color and have received
24 silence in response time and time again and troubling

1 map proposals. We're very interested in more
2 information or details or data to back up the claims
3 that legal and civil rights are being complied with
4 here. Thank you.

5 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you. Questions of
6 the witness. Leader Butler.

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Leader
8 Hoffman. Ms. Gandhi, thank you for testifying again.
9 When you've made your requests regarding
10 redistricting, is there a specific person that you've
11 been referenced to or anyone that's gotten back to
12 you about who actually is drawing these maps?

13 MS. GANDHI: I was referring to my presentations
14 and testimony in these public hearings.

15 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: But you would have an
16 expectation, given your testimony, that you would
17 hear from someone, maybe the sponsor of the bill,
18 maybe staff about your concerns that they would be
19 incorporated in the map, correct?

20 MS. GANDHI: Because I and Chicago Lawyers'
21 Committee and United Congress of Community and
22 Religious Organizations have not received that
23 information or detail or opportunities to give input,
24 it's hard for me to answer the question about who the

1 points of contact would be because we haven't had
2 those fruitful conversations, unfortunately. So if
3 I could answer your question more, I would. But I
4 am not sure about who it might be that would be in
5 a position to incorporate our input because
6 unfortunately, we haven't had those opportunities.

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay, thank you.

8 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Seeing no further
9 questions, we move to the next witness, Aviva Patt.

10 MS. PATT: Good morning. I'm Aviva Patt. I'm
11 executive director of the Decalogue Society of
12 Lawyers. When I testified at Sunday's hearing, I was
13 asked why I felt the amount of time for public input
14 was insufficient. I answered that we and other
15 groups need more time to draw our maps based on the
16 new data and confer with one another where
17 communities overlap to try to create consensus on
18 district boundaries.

19 But another reason became evident yesterday
20 when the legislator who Decalogue had contacted said
21 they weren't even aware of the issues that we were
22 talking about and wanted to have a meeting to discuss
23 it. And of course, we would have loved to have a
24 meeting to discuss it, also. But the schedule

1 doesn't have time for constituents to lobby their
2 representatives and it also obviously doesn't have
3 time for legislators to familiarize themselves with
4 the map and engage in a genuine deliberative process
5 that is customary for important legislation. And we
6 would like to see that happen.

7 Last night was my first chance to look at the
8 proposed map. And of course, I haven't even had a
9 chance to look at the new proposed map that's been
10 put out this morning. But I was stunned to see that
11 despite news report that changes have been made in
12 response to the Jewish community, the revised
13 district actually took more people out of West Rogers
14 Park. And there was an exchange of a few blocks in
15 Skokie, but it's insignificant. The bulk of Skokie's
16 Jewish population is still in a separate district.
17 And, by the way, that separate Representative
18 district is in yet another Senate district. It's not
19 even joined with the rest of the Jewish community for
20 a Jewish influenced Senate district.

21 And what's most puzzling about the changes
22 that were made between the map in the spring and the
23 one that came out yesterday was that several blocks
24 of Edgewater, which is a lakefront neighborhood that

1 has no common interest with West Rogers Park and with
2 certain parts of the district, was added to the
3 district. And adding that area doesn't increase the
4 percentage of any of the predominant ethnic groups in
5 the district. Jewish, Muslim, Asian residents do not
6 live there in great numbers. And it's more or less
7 an even numerical exchange. There's about 5,000
8 people between Rockwell and Western in West Rogers
9 Park. They were excised and thrown into the Evanston
10 district. And then 5,000 people from Edgewater were
11 added. So of course, we want to know why.

12 And what's also kind of odd is that Edgewater
13 is actually physically separated from the rest of the
14 district by Rosehill cemetery. So how do these
15 geographic orphans benefit by being severed from the
16 rest of their community and appended to another
17 district on the other side of a cemetery and a
18 railroad viaduct? What was that rationale? I tried
19 to figure this out for myself last night.

20 As I stated previously, Jews, Muslims and
21 Asians live together in the areas that Decalogue has
22 proposed for the Jewish influence district. So I was
23 wondering could the legislature have broken up our
24 area to make and create the district that the

1 Illinois Muslim Civic Coalition proposed as their
2 north Cook district. So I took a look at their map
3 and I took a look at the legislative map and no, that
4 wasn't the case. Their proposed district was
5 eviscerated as fully as ours was.

6 And so I looked to could it be the Asian
7 population. And the district that I had drawn had
8 actually a slightly higher Asian population than the
9 one the redistricting committee drew. I came up
10 with 29 percent and the one that is proposed is
11 28 percent. But I thought perhaps that was to allow
12 for more Asian population outside of that district to
13 be created to have a higher percentage district.

14 So I then drew a companion district for the
15 Jewish influenced district we were proposing. And by
16 the way, it would make a very nice combination to
17 make a Senate district. And basically, it took
18 population west of the area that Decalogue was
19 proposing and I came up with a district with a
20 34 percent Asian population. And that's far greater
21 than any district in the proposed map. And it also
22 contains most of the area that the Muslim coalition
23 had proposed for their influence district.

24 So my question is, if the proposed district

1 doesn't benefit the Jewish community, doesn't benefit
2 the Muslim community and doesn't benefit the Asian
3 community, who does it benefit? Why was it drawn
4 that way? And that brings us back, as it always
5 does, to the criteria for drawing the districts. And
6 I just want to share with you, as I mentioned the
7 first time I testified back in the spring, I've been
8 involved in redistricting efforts since 1980. And in
9 1980 and 2000 I was part of a team of civic
10 organizations that drew congressional legislative
11 districts for the entire state. And you could point
12 to any boundary of those maps and ask, Aviva, why did
13 you draw that line in that place and I would be able
14 to tell you why. And you might have disagreed with
15 my decision and my decision might not have been the
16 best decision, but I know why it was made. And
17 that's one of the most frustrating aspects of this
18 entire process, that we have no answers for why the
19 districts are drawn the way they are.

20 And I didn't have a chance to scrutinize the
21 entire map, of course, last night. I would need days
22 to do that. But looking at the south suburbs, I
23 notice that Park Forest and Richton Park, which are
24 both African-American communities, were each split

1 apart and each one had a piece of their village put
2 in a different district, and those different
3 districts were white majority districts. And at a
4 time when population changes have made it more
5 difficult to create majority African-American
6 districts and the proposed map has only eight of
7 them, why are African-American communities being
8 cracked and apportioned to white districts? And if
9 there's a more compunct interest at stake, the public
10 needs to know that to have confidence in the process
11 in which the maps were drawn. We need to know the
12 criteria, how the different criteria were prioritized
13 and balanced and whether they were applied equally
14 throughout the state.

15 Decalogue's motto is justice. Justice shall
16 be pursued. And we're here today to pursue justice
17 for ourselves, for other ethnic groups and for
18 everyone who testified for their vision of their
19 community. And we ask you to join us in that pursuit
20 of justice by postponing the vote on the map,
21 reopening the mapping process with transparency and
22 accountability and providing communities with more
23 time to engage with our legislators to discuss the
24 ramifications of the map. Thank you very much for

1 your consideration.

2 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Questions of the
3 witness. Representative -- Leader Spain.

4 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Thank you, Leader Hoffman.
5 Ms. Patt, thank you for your testimony again today
6 and your diligence on this process. I just want to
7 make sure, you've explained that you had a chance to
8 review the map that was released yesterday briefly in
9 the evening, correct?

10 MS. PATT: Yes, that's correct.

11 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: And then have had no
12 opportunity to review the new map that the sponsor is
13 presenting for a vote in this committee this morning,
14 is that correct?

15 MS. PATT: None at all.

16 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: So without commenting on
17 the changes, and I've looked at both maps, we've
18 actually come a long way with how the Democrats first
19 presented maps. In May we received just a PDF that
20 we were literally putting a projector onto the wall
21 and just trying to draw the districts by hand because
22 we couldn't even be given access to a Google map to
23 review.

24 So I'm trying to put the two maps from last

1 night and this morning together and I don't see any
2 adjustments for the Jewish influenced district that
3 you have so eloquently and passionately advocated
4 for. So do you have a feeling, I mean, is your voice
5 being heard or are things getting worse? The more
6 testimony that's being presented in this process, is
7 the outcome getting worse for what you're seeking?

8 MS. PATT: Well, I believe I'm being heard and I
9 believe that the committee members honestly want to
10 satisfy requests from the public. So there must be
11 some reason. Obviously, everyone can't be satisfied
12 because different people want the same territories,
13 et cetera. But not knowing how that decision is
14 being made is what's so frustrating.

15 Our position as far as the Jewish district
16 has not really improved or worsened. The major thing
17 that we want is the district that I drew contains two
18 centers of Jewish population. The largest
19 concentration of the Jewish community in the city of
20 Chicago is in West Rogers Park and the largest
21 concentration in the suburbs is in Skokie. And we
22 want those two communities to be joined together and
23 we added some population which has some amount of
24 Jewish population but just not as concentrated in

1 between those two to connect them.

2 And there's also some room to increase the
3 Asian population in the district that I have
4 proposed. But to sever them completely as they have
5 been, with no explanation, again no reason given, and
6 I'm sorry, I know I'm going on, but it's the kind of
7 thing I think of, if I were to go to my legislator's
8 office and say I have a problem and I would like your
9 help, I can't imagine anyone would just say no and
10 show me the door and not tell me why they were unable
11 to help. And that's what we're looking for from
12 these hearings. We would like not just questions but
13 the answers.

14 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Thank you. I think it's
15 a fair question. The decisions that were made
16 regarding this district, District 16 and what the
17 explanation is, it's a reasonable question. So thank
18 you for your testimony.

19 MS. PATT: Thank you.

20 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Seeing no further
21 questions, there is one more witness, Mr. John Young
22 with Common Cause who is in opposition for record of
23 appearance only. We will now go to questions from
24 members of the committee. Leader Butler, you were

1 questioning Leader Hernandez and we went to the
2 witnesses. Please proceed.

3 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Leader
4 Hoffman. I appreciate it. Leader Hernandez, to
5 start over again, you're aware that there was a new
6 map introduced this morning, correct?

7 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

8 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And there was a map
9 introduced last night, yesterday afternoon, correct?

10 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Why was the map changed
12 overnight?

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Well, based on some of
14 the feedback that we received through the committees
15 along with just there were some small drafting errors
16 I believe was included, there was a real attempt to
17 smooth out some districts to maximize their
18 compactness. And we also took a look at, I believe
19 there was an unpair of two Republican districts that
20 occur as well. So there's been adjustments and based
21 on the feedback that has come back. So those are
22 just a few.

23 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So you mentioned a couple
24 things there. But specifically when it comes to the

1 many groups that have testified, some of which we
2 heard here this morning, what specific changes have
3 been made to address those concerns, the concerns of
4 Common Cause, the concerns of UCCRO, the concerns of
5 many of these other organizations? What specific
6 steps did you take in this legislation to address
7 those concerns?

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: What I can tell you
9 is that that feedback, I mean, there were some
10 adjustments made. It might not be what, everything
11 that they would want, but definitely there was some
12 consideration and some adjustment that took place.
13 It's just very difficult, very complicated when
14 you're trying to meet the parameters, the legal
15 parameters. And you know, one change can make a
16 ripple effect. I mean, you know that. So I can say
17 that we did make the adjustments and we made them
18 accordingly to, but we had to do it within those
19 legal parameters.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: This legislation that we
21 do only once every ten years is one of the most
22 significant pieces of legislation that any of us will
23 vote on. This is something that we need to know in
24 depth and you, as the sponsor of this legislation,

1 needs to know in depth. So again, specifically what
2 are the changes that you made to this legislation
3 that we can tell the public, that we can tell the
4 advocates, that we can tell the other legislators who
5 are going to vote on this supposedly today, what are
6 the specific changes that have been made?

7 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Based on yesterday's
8 feedback from one of the witnesses, I believe it was
9 a rabbi, he literally said that although there were
10 some changes, it still did not completely meet what
11 their request was but was thankful that it was looked
12 at, it was attempted. And there were some very minor
13 changes, but they were made.

14 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Is that Rabbi Sroka?

15 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Correct, yes.

16 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So what changes were
17 made? You just said something, but I don't believe
18 you actually -- there were no changes to reflect his
19 testimony.

20 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So what he talked
21 about was what we did back in May, the map in May
22 that we passed. This time around, you know, we took
23 a look at it but we feasibly could not meet what he
24 was requesting.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So this is completely new
2 legislation, correct, from the spring? It's
3 completely new legislation? This is completely new
4 legislation from the spring, correct?

5 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: This is, I'm sorry, I
6 can't --

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: This is completely new
8 legislation from the spring, correct?

9 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It's an amendment to
10 the May legislation.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Well, it's an amendment
12 to the bill that's before us today, but it's a
13 completely new map, correct?

14 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It's an amendment to
15 the public act.

16 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So back to Rabbi Sroka.
17 So you did not satisfy Rabbi Sroka's concerns, is
18 that what I heard?

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Representative, we
20 can't accommodate everything. We did what we could.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: I think Representative
22 Spain might ask you some more questions about this
23 when he gets to his point. So we've heard time and
24 time again from advocates testifying about what

1 happens after they testify. Again, did you draw this
2 map? Are you the one that drew this map?

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: As you know, there is
4 a collaboration of staff that work on that. A team
5 is put together and we worked on this.

6 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So is that yes? Did you
7 draw the map or did someone else draw the map?

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: A team of staff did.

9 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Say that again. I'm
10 sorry.

11 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: A team of staff.

12 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: A team of staff. And who
13 on the team of staff drew the map? So as Ms. Gandhi
14 testified to today, not hearing back from staff or,
15 as we've heard multiple times, not hearing back from
16 staff, who on the staff is drawing the maps if you're
17 not drawing this?

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Like in any
19 legislation, Representative, you work with your staff
20 to put your legislation together.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So you talked about the
22 compactness, the contiguousness of this. How is this
23 different from 2011 when it comes to compactness?

24 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: We made sure that it

1 was maximized based on the data that we received.

2 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And is that a calculation
3 that you did?

4 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It's an effort by the
5 team, a collaboration with the staff.

6 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: A team. And again, who's
7 on the team? We went through this in the spring,
8 we're going through it now. Representative Tarver in
9 the spring testified on his legislation on the
10 Supreme Court, that he didn't even take ownership of
11 the bill because he didn't draw the maps. This is a
12 major concern here, I think, for advocates. Who are
13 they supposed to go to? When they submit things to
14 the portal, who gets back to them? How does the
15 public actually have a say in drawing these maps if
16 we don't know who the staff is or who's drawing the
17 map?

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: There's an ability to
19 submit their recommendations that was offered. And
20 that data is all collected by the team, by the staff.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And how are those
22 concerns incorporated specifically into what we have
23 before us today?

24 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Well, I will tell you

1 that later today we will have a resolution submitted
2 detailing a little bit more clear, you know, further
3 explanation of what the amendment is doing.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And does that address the
5 concerns of the public, is that what you're telling
6 me, the resolution? Because I think the resolution
7 in the spring had some tremendous errors in it. We
8 had a robust debate about that in the spring.

9 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I think that the
10 resolution will be helpful.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay. Leader Hoffman,
12 I'm going to reserve my time maybe to ask more
13 questions. I know Representative Spain and
14 Representative Bourne had questions as well.

15 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Representative Bourne.

16 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
17 I have a few brief questions for you. One is to
18 follow up on something that Representative Butler
19 said. Is there any -- I'm looking at the 1268 page
20 bill before us. Is there any line describing the map
21 that was preserved from the map that was passed in
22 the spring? Like is there any line of written map
23 from the last map that is the same unamended in this
24 new map?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Representative, that's
2 why I think the resolution would be very helpful.

3 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: No, this has absolutely
4 nothing to do with the resolution. I'm just talking
5 about the exact text of the bill. I'm looking at the
6 text of the bill, 1268 pages. Is there a single line
7 of the text of the bill outlining the maps to be
8 drawn that is not amended?

9 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So I'm going to defer
10 that to what I said before, that three major areas
11 that I see, there were small graph errors. These are
12 the changes. There was an attempt to smooth out the
13 district to maximize the compactness and --

14 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: This isn't a question of
15 why you did things or how you did things. It's
16 literally just the writing of the bill. For those
17 who may not read bills every day, something that's
18 changed is underlined in the bill. I don't see a
19 single line of the map describing the block levels of
20 the census or the wards and precincts, right? I can
21 look at page 6, line 7 and it says 17031839901001,
22 170318399001002, right? These are the technical
23 descriptions of the map. Are there any technical
24 descriptions of the map that were unamended in this

1 bill that you're presenting?

2 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Again, I think that
3 the resolution will be helpful with that.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Okay, I think the answer
5 you're looking for is no. This is what we would call
6 a gut and replace. Everything from the old map is
7 thrown out. It is all amended with this map. There
8 is not a single line that is preserved from the old
9 map in this new amendment.

10 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: If you take a look at
11 the map, I think it's not true. A lot of the areas
12 just remained intact.

13 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Oh, I get that you may
14 think that the map looks similar in some areas.
15 But in the actual bill -- you said this was just an
16 amendment. In the actual bill that is before us,
17 there is not a single line of last year's bill or
18 last spring's bill that is preserved in this map.
19 Do you agree with that?

20 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Could you point me to a
22 line that is the same?

23 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Not at the moment.

24 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Okay, I'll take you to a

1 line in the bill that I have questions about. If
2 you'll go to page 4 of the bill, lines 25 and 26. It
3 says for the purposes of legislative intent which the
4 Illinois general assembly adopts and incorporates
5 herein and is fully set forth, the provisions of
6 House Resolution 443 of the 102nd general assembly.

7 I did a quick search on ILGA, House
8 Resolution 443. And it says search results for House
9 Resolution 443, no matching results returned. Please
10 try again. How are we supposed to understand fully
11 this bill which says that it's all described in this
12 resolution that is not accessible to the public or
13 members of this committee?

14 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Before we go down to
15 the floor, we'll take a look at the resolution. It
16 will be there.

17 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: How many minutes will we
18 have? 20 minutes, 30 minutes to review this
19 resolution?

20 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I don't know.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Have you seen the
22 resolution?

23 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It's currently being
24 drafted in LRB.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: It currently has a
2 resolution assigned to it. It's not completed?

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I have to check.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: You'd have to check if
5 you've seen it or not?

6 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: There may be a number,
7 but it's in draft form right now. I still have to
8 take a look at it.

9 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: I'm not a procedural
10 expert, but I have never had a number assigned to a
11 resolution before it's completed. Is that something
12 that can happen? Because I'd love to assign a number
13 if I want to say, hey, it's somebody's anniversary on
14 March 12th. I'd love to have House Resolution 312.
15 Is that something that's available, you just assign a
16 resolution number without it being finalized? That
17 was a question. Did you reserve the number without
18 finalizing the resolution?

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No, I didn't.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: So please explain this to
21 me. I haven't been here in the general assembly
22 maybe as long as others in this room. I have never
23 seen it where a resolution is not completed but has a
24 resolution number assigned to it. We're looking at

1 it. There's a Resolution 441, a Resolution 442, a
2 Resolution 444, Resolution 445 and a Resolution 446.
3 And so I really just am perplexed by how a resolution
4 would not be finalized and already have a number
5 assigned to it.

6 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Okay, so
7 Representative, there are numbers assigned to the
8 resolution, okay? What's the -- I don't understand.
9 What are you trying to get at?

10 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: I'm just asking is it
11 finalized or is it not finalized?

12 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I already said to you
13 that it's being drafted.

14 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: It just seems
15 inconsistent to me that it would be being drafted and
16 have a number assigned to it. That's my question.
17 Can it still be in draft form and have a number?

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I just don't, I don't
19 see what the number matters. If we need to amend it,
20 we'll amend it or --

21 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: It matters because the
22 bill before us references House Resolution 443 which,
23 to the public, doesn't exist. That's why it matters.
24 Have you seen this resolution? You said it's being

1 drafted and you say that it justifies all of these
2 changes and all of this input. So it seems to me
3 that you have some kind of knowledge of what's in the
4 resolution. Have you seen the resolution?

5 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I know that it's being
6 drafted. I'll be taking a look at it as soon as
7 it's --

8 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: So you've referenced
9 things that you think the resolution will explain,
10 but you won't admit that you've seen the resolution.

11 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Representative, it's
12 not like we didn't do it before. There was a
13 resolution filed last time around. It's similar. So
14 we're just trying --

15 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: There was a resolution
16 filed. And we pointed out factual error after
17 factual error after factual error after factual error
18 in the resolution. We asked for names to be stricken
19 that never were. We asked for numbers to be
20 corrected that were wildly off. This goes exactly to
21 the testimony that we just heard from Ms. Patt. She
22 said, and I wrote it down because I thought it was
23 really profound, that this goes to the core of the
24 concern. She said if she would have drawn the maps,

1 she would have had an answer for every single line of
2 why they were drawn the way that they were and that
3 people might disagree on the reasons, but at least
4 they would know why. And she said that is the most
5 frustrating thing. She can look at the map, she can
6 disagree with it. We all can look at the map and
7 disagree with it, but we need to understand the why.

8 And you're telling us right now that the why
9 will be explained in this resolution which, if past
10 is prologue, I actually don't think that's true. I
11 think the last resolution actually made us more
12 confused about why you drew things the way that you
13 did than understanding it. Because some of the
14 things in the resolution directly contradicted
15 testimony that we heard in committees and on the
16 floor. So this goes to the core of the concerns we
17 have heard from advocacy group after advocacy group.
18 They don't think they've been heard. They don't know
19 why the lines are drawn the way that they do.

20 And to be frank, I'm reading this bill. I'm
21 on page 8. I see more numbers than letters. Having
22 a resolution for the public to know why you did what
23 you did in this resolution is likely more important
24 than them being able to see on page 9 that there are

1 line after line of numbers and numbers assigned to a
2 legislative district. They can't look at that and
3 comprehend the transparency of the process. What
4 they need is answers to the questions that they ask.
5 And if you say all of these answers lie in the
6 resolution, then we need to see the resolution. Do
7 you intend on being the sponsor of the resolution?

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Representative, I
9 would say that's what the map is for. You take a
10 look at the map, you take a look at the language
11 which could be very complicated and then the
12 resolution is an explanation. So that is what my --
13 the intent is and we'll see with the resolution. You
14 just might be satisfied.

15 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: I doubt I'll be satisfied
16 because this process has been a huge sham, to say
17 that now at the end, there's this magic resolution
18 that's going to come and ease all of our concerns.
19 We see the product of this process and I don't think
20 any resolution can explain away the fact that the
21 advocacy groups have been ignored. They haven't even
22 been told about this process in some instances like
23 we've heard at our committee hearings. But I asked
24 do you plan on sponsoring this resolution?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

2 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Do you intend on taking
3 input on this resolution?

4 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes, I've been
5 listening very much, yes.

6 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: How can you be listening
7 about input and resolution if no one has seen it?
8 You won't even admit that you have seen the
9 resolution. In what capacity will we be able to give
10 input on the resolution?

11 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I would just say that
12 the resolution is taking input from the map. And
13 that input from the map, we've accumulated feedback.
14 So essentially, yes, I'm getting input from and
15 listening to folks.

16 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Will we have the
17 opportunity to have a hearing on the resolution?
18 Will we have the opportunity to have a hearing on the
19 resolution?

20 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: Okay. I think that
22 answer tells it all, that there is no intention for
23 further feedback from advocacy groups. They may get
24 some minor explanation in some resolution minutes

1 before we have the opportunity to vote on it.
2 Certainly not the 30 days, certainly not the back and
3 forth that they were asking for with individual
4 meetings or taking feedback. I'm very disappointed
5 by this process but unfortunately, not at all
6 surprised.

7 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Leader Spain, please be
8 mindful that we're scheduled to be in session by
9 noon. I know this is very, very important. A lot of
10 this can be covered on the floor and I'm sure will be
11 covered on the floor. Leader Spain.

12 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Thank you, Leader Hoffman.
13 Chairperson Hernandez, thank you very much. A couple
14 questions for you. What time was the map that we
15 presumably would be voting on today, what time was it
16 released today?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Exactly what time? I
18 know it was this morning. I'll get that to you in a
19 moment. I do know it was before 10:00. I don't have
20 the exact number, or time, sorry.

21 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Before 10:00. I received
22 notification maybe five minutes before 10:00, but
23 that may not be the exact time. But the map was
24 released prior to 10:00 for a 10:30 hearing, is that

1 correct?

2 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So yesterday I did, in
3 committee, announce that there was going to be a
4 hearing. As soon as I heard about it, I did announce
5 it over committee to give heads up and to prepare and
6 put pretty much everyone on notice so if there is any
7 feedback we could be looking at and that sort of
8 thing. Originally it was set for 10, but I think it
9 began at 10:45 because of technical and other
10 reasons.

11 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: I think that you
12 announced, which I appreciate, to plan on 10:00.
13 But the map was just introduced minutes or so before
14 10:00 when we were scheduled. So I believe the
15 committee was delayed till 10:30 as the posting. And
16 then was it further delayed?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: That's correct. It
18 was set for 10:30 then.

19 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. And it was further
20 delayed to 10:45, correct?

21 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. I'm told
22 it was set for 1045.

23 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: 10:45, okay. Was there a
24 reason for the delay, then?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I think there were
2 some technical issues. There were just some, they
3 were still working on it. And posting requirements
4 played in, too, so it's all of that.

5 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Sure. So for those that
6 may be watching, I hope that a lot of people are, we
7 typically have a minimum posting requirement of one
8 hour. The theory is then so that we would offer some
9 minimal amount of time. And Leader Hoffman, as you
10 said, with something of this magnitude of importance,
11 I see that we've just allocated the very bare minimum
12 of public notice, which there couldn't be anything in
13 larger contradiction to the dozens of hearings that
14 we've had and the testimony given by witnesses saying
15 we want more time, more transparency, more
16 opportunity to be involved. And here we have done
17 the very minimum, which seems to be a consistent
18 track record for this body with this majority.

19 The maps that were posted last night included
20 data on the Democrats' redistricting web site is the
21 data that is available for review on the web site,
22 does it correspond to today's map or yesterday's map?

23 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It should respond to
24 today's.

1 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. So can you show me
2 on the data what changes were made? I want to be
3 able to look at some of these districts and
4 understand how the demographic information changed
5 from yesterday to today.

6 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: My understanding is
7 there were changes, very minor changes. Much had to
8 do with some drafting errors.

9 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: But what were the changes?
10 I'd like to understand, what were the drafting errors
11 and how they were corrected and how it affects the
12 data that is presented for review. Because as what
13 Leader Bourne pointed out, the legislative text is
14 simply a group of census numbers. And to be able to
15 understand what we're voting on, we need to be able
16 to look at the corresponding data. So what were the
17 drafting errors and then what were the changes made
18 to accommodate those errors or resolve them?

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Any time, I believe
20 that any time that there is a need for a change,
21 small change, whether it's a line -- it's my
22 understanding the small drafting errors, it was just
23 to try to adjust, perhaps a line was off and it had
24 to be fixed.

1 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Can you respond
2 specifically, though, on what those changes were, the
3 errors and how they were corrected?

4 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

5 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. You also mentioned
6 that changes were made from the map of yesterday to
7 the map of this morning to deliver smoothing to
8 maximize compactness, is that correct?

9 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

10 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Can you describe any of
11 those changes that were executed to make legislative
12 districts more compact?

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So I hope I can
14 explain this. So if you have a couple of blocks that
15 need to move into another district due to try to
16 build the compactness, that that's kind of what I'm
17 trying to explain occurred in terms of the
18 compactness, smoothing it out because of --

19 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Is that just you, as the
20 sponsor, eyeballing it or is there a way that you
21 quantify your efforts to make a district more
22 compact?

23 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: There's not one
24 because there's a number of ways you can measure it,

1 so I can't like -- it's not just one, but there's
2 different ways.

3 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: There are a couple of
4 different ways to measure compactness, you're
5 correct. Do you have any one of those measurements
6 that you've utilized as the standard for the map that
7 you're proposing?

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Not at the moment.

9 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. When you talked
10 about smoothing out blocks, what does that mean to
11 you? Is that census blocks or city blocks? What
12 does your use of the word block imply?

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Census blocks.

14 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Census blocks. And is
15 that block level aggregation the basis for which
16 these maps have been drawn?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes, sometimes, yes.

18 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: And one of the things
19 that -- I think you were present virtually, but when
20 we met on Thursday last week, we received guidance
21 from NCSL, or actually it was the Census Bureau to
22 not use blocks as the basis for drawing districts but
23 actually block groups. Which path did the Democrats
24 use in the creation of this map?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Census blocks is all
2 I know that have been used.

3 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: So census blocks, not the
4 block groups that were recommended by the Census
5 Bureau?

6 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I have to ask,
7 Representative Spain, isn't that what you were asking
8 back in May, if we can use the group blocks?

9 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Yes, did you use block
10 groups or blocks?

11 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry. So repeat
12 your question.

13 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Did you use block groups
14 or blocks?

15 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No, census blocks.

16 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: You used blocks, not block
17 groups.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Not block groups.
19 Census blocks.

20 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: And I'm asking for what
21 reason would you choose to deviate from the
22 recommendation of the Census Bureau to use block
23 groups to avoid any issues that could be encountered
24 due to differential privacy?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, you're
2 going to have to explain that to me again.

3 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Sure. So we heard from
4 the Census Bureau t,hrough the National Conference of
5 State Legislators on Thursday last week, do your
6 redistricting at the block group level, not at the
7 block level. You've testified that you in fact are
8 not following the advice of the Census Bureau and
9 doing it by blocks. And I'm asking why.

10 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Okay, my understanding
11 is the census block data is the lowest data to use.
12 However, I have to also remind you that that is what
13 your side of the aisle had recommended to use, so we
14 did.

15 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Are you concerned about
16 differential privacy?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

18 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. In thinking about
19 some specific locations, you testified that changes
20 were made in this map. And I actually honestly just
21 didn't understand the answer because we asked you,
22 Leader Butler at the beginning, what changed from
23 yesterday to today. You said drafting errors, an
24 unpacking of certain incumbents and incorporating

1 feedback that we received at the hearing yesterday.
2 And then you mentioned, for example, the testimony of
3 Rabbi Sroka. And I'm just not understanding that
4 part of it. Did we make corrections in the map from
5 yesterday to today to accommodate the request to
6 create or improve a Jewish influence district?

7 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No, we took all that
8 feedback into consideration.

9 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: You took it into
10 consideration and did what with it?

11 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: We weren't able to
12 apply it. It just didn't work out.

13 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: So the changes from
14 yesterday to today have nothing to do with the
15 testimony offered in that instance regarding the
16 Jewish influence district, is that correct?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: That's correct.

18 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Then why did you make the
19 boundary changes -- well, let me ask, did you make
20 the boundary changes, let's see, near -- let me find
21 it on my map. I'll have to find the right map.
22 Rosehill cemetery. Did you make the changes in the
23 area of Rosehill cemetery?

24 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

1 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: No. Who made those
2 changes?

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Can you explain? What
4 changes are you referring to?

5 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Sure. In the 16th
6 district, there was an area added. Rosehill cemetery
7 was added to that district and several blocks on
8 either side of it. We just heard this testimony from
9 Ms. Patt this morning regarding this district. And
10 the observations she made were that this was the
11 substantive change made to the district. And so I
12 just want to know who made that change and for what
13 reason it was changed.

14 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So my understanding is
15 that this is referring to the map from May and it was
16 changed to today.

17 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Right.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Today's map.

19 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Right. Why was the change
20 made?

21 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It wasn't changed last
22 night. It was already made --

23 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: It was changed --

24 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: -- back in May.

1 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: -- from May to yesterday,
2 there was a change, that cemetery.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It was already made in
4 May is my understanding. It was made in May.

5 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: On the May 27th map, it
6 was not included. And then on the August 31st map
7 and 30th, it was included.

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I can tell you that it
9 was not changed last night. It was already made.

10 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. And that was a
11 change not made at your request, it was initiated by
12 who, whom?

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: The change was made to
14 accommodate population.

15 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay. And when we -- I
16 think it's important we understand who is making
17 changes. So you're the sponsor of this legislation.
18 Are the changes made by you or by others?

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: It's a team of staff.

20 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Okay, a team of staff.
21 And do you meet with that team?

22 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Representative, I've
23 said it before. This is legislation like any other
24 legislation. You would consult with your staff.

1 It's the same.

2 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Do you consult with your
3 staff on this legislation?

4 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I would talk to my
5 staff, yes, about legislation.

6 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: And so what I'm trying to
7 get to is an understanding. Because as you say, in
8 legislation you consult certainly with staff, also
9 with witnesses, advocates, concerned citizens. And
10 so what I'm trying to understand, because the crux of
11 the hours and hours of testimony that have been
12 assembled throughout the spring and in this last
13 several days, testimony is given, in my opinion it is
14 almost universally disregarded. And I'd like to know
15 who is accountable for making those decisions. When
16 testimony is presented through you to staff, who is
17 it that is making a decision yes or no?

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So Representative, I
19 would just say we take in the feedback. It doesn't
20 mean that it's going to be implemented. We consider
21 it, we try to see if it makes -- if it works. Not
22 everybody is going to be happy. There were some
23 adjustments -- there are people that are happy with
24 the adjustments. And it doesn't mean that the

1 testimony that is being given is not taking a good
2 look at. I can tell you it has come through, try to
3 make it work. If it doesn't work, if it's not
4 meeting those legal parameters that really we have to
5 be very careful about, if you change it here, there's
6 the ripple effect. I think you understand that.

7 So I am a person who wants to hear from the
8 community. It's important to listen to the public
9 and to consider very much what they're saying because
10 they play very much a role. But in the end, it's not
11 always going to be all satisfied. We're going to do
12 the best that we can to accommodate, and I think that
13 this is what we've done.

14 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: Madam Chair, what we've
15 done to accommodate should appear in a dictionary of
16 what it means to be disingenuous. To invite the
17 public to sacrifice their time to analyze maps, to
18 provide testimony, to receive that information and
19 conduct a proceeding like this and those prior to it
20 with the type of disregard and disrespect that has
21 been given to that testimony, again you have defined
22 what it means to be disingenuous. This body and this
23 majority has shown great disappointment to the
24 earnest people that have brought their ideas forward,

1 none of which are accommodated. Thank you.

2 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Leader Butler for a
3 quick followup and then we will go to a vote.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Thank you, Mr. Hoffman.
5 Leader Hernandez, just a couple quick questions. On
6 page 1267 of your legislation before us, lines 20
7 through 22, could you tell me what the intention of
8 that is?

9 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry,
10 Representative. I don't have that in front of me.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: It's page 1267, second to
12 last page.

13 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, I don't
14 have access to that right now in front of me.

15 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: We've got lots of
16 computers around here and you've got your legal
17 counsel and you're the sponsor of the legislation.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Go ahead and ask your
19 question.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: I'm asking what the
21 purpose is of those three lines, lines 20 through 22.

22 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm sorry, I'm having
23 trouble getting that information. I don't have it in
24 front of me. Can you explain?

1 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: This is a pretty
2 important question. So if Justin could find it on
3 his phone there so you could read it, I'd appreciate
4 it. Representative Thorn has it on her computer, I
5 guess. We are very bipartisan here.

6 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thanks for staffing,
7 Representative.

8 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Once a staffer, always a
9 staffer.

10 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Okay, my understanding
11 is that's the language from the last map.

12 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So Section, and I'll just
13 read it, Section 10 ILCS 982, slash, 10, repeal.
14 Section 10, general assembly redistricting act of
15 2021 is amended by repealing Section 10. What's the
16 intention of that?

17 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Is that page --

18 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: 1267, lines 20 through
19 22.

20 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: So that language is
21 explaining a way of amending the map.

22 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Repeal Section 10 of the
23 general assembly redistricting act of 2021, which is
24 Public Act 102-10, correct? Repeal Section 10.

1 That's what the language says, correct? It repeals
2 Section 10 of Public Act 102-10.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: My understanding again
4 is that this is just a method of how to amend the
5 map. Otherwise, you're going to go through tons and
6 tons of pages again. This is just --

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So by inserting
8 Section 11, the new districts have nothing to do with
9 the old Section 10, correct?

10 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: They don't? Okay. So
12 moving on to page 4 -- and this is my last question,
13 Mr. Hoffman. Moving on to page 4, line --

14 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'm not agreeing with
15 you, just so we're clear. I wasn't agreeing with
16 you. I said no, not --

17 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: It repeals Section 10?

18 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

19 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So on page 4, line 25,
20 we've had a robust discussion about the resolutions.
21 Line 25, page 4 deletes the strike through, House
22 Resolution 359 which explains the maps from May and
23 inserts House Resolution 443 which has yet to be
24 delivered to us yet, correct? So you're deleting all

1 the explanations for the May map, inserting the
2 explanations for the August maps and law.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

4 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So the House Resolution
5 359 is not effective, then.

6 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: No.

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Okay, thank you.

8 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Wait, wait. Okay, let
9 me explain. So the resolution that was passed in May
10 is different than what the resolution that we are
11 going to be submitting will say. So this, the
12 resolution that we will be submitting will reflect
13 the current map that was posted today.

14 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: So according to this
15 Senate bill 927, House amendment 1, I believe that's
16 what we're on, 359, House Resolution 359 is struck
17 through, no longer valid and replaced with House
18 Resolution 443 in the public act, correct?

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: I'll repeat myself.
20 The resolution that we will be moving today will
21 reflect the map that was posted today.

22 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And the maps that posted
23 today are different than the maps passed in the
24 spring, correct?

1 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes, it's different to
2 a degree.

3 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Representative Butler,
4 if you could please bring your remarks to a close.
5 And I think you're asking for a legal opinion of the
6 sponsor and this is not a court of law.

7 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: And I'm not an attorney.
8 So thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: I am and it still is not
10 a court of law.

11 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: Maybe we can move to
12 Madison and St. /KHRAEUR County, then. Thank you,
13 Mr. Chairman.

14 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Thank you, Leader.
15 Representative Burke moves that House floor amendment
16 number 1, Senate bill 927 be recommended for
17 adoption. Clerk, please call the roll.

18 THE CLERK: Hernandez.

19 REPRESENTATIVE HERNANDEZ: Yes.

20 THE CLERK: Butler.

21 REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER: No.

22 THE CLERK: Bourne.

23 REPRESENTATIVE BOURNE: No.

24 THE CLERK: Burke.

1 REPRESENTATIVE BURKE: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: Gordon-Booth.

3 REPRESENTATIVE GORDON-BOOTH: Yes.

4 THE CLERK: Hoffman.

5 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: Yes.

6 THE CLERK: Severin.

7 REPRESENTATIVE SEVERIN: No.

8 THE CLERK: Manley. Manley.

9 REPRESENTATIVE MANLEY: Yes.

10 THE CLERK: Thank you.

11 REPRESENTATIVE MANLEY: Sorry.

12 THE CLERK: Gabel.

13 REPRESENTATIVE GABEL: Yes.

14 THE CLERK: Spain.

15 REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN: No.

16 THE CLERK: That's six votes in favor and four

17 opposed.

18 REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMAN: There being six votes in

19 favor, four votes opposed, zero voted present, House

20 floor amendment number 1 to Senate bill 927 is

21 recommended for adoption and will be favorable to

22 report to the House floor. The House redistricting

23 committee shall stand in recess to the call of the

24 Chair.

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
2 CITY OF SPRINGFIELD)

3

4 I, LYDIA B. PINKAWA, a Certified Shorthand
5 Reporter, do hereby certify that the meeting
6 aforementioned was held at the time previously
7 described.

8

9 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
10 hand and seal.

11

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