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VIA EMAIL ONLY

Chairman William Galvano
c/o George Levesque, Esq.
The Florida Senate
Committee on Reapportionment
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Chairman Jose Oliva
c/o Matthew Carson, Esq
The Florida House of Representatives
Select Committee on Redistricting
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Re: *Senate Base Maps, 9090, and 9124*

Dear Chairman Galvano and Chairman Oliva,

Now that the Senate has passed an amendment (9124) to one of the six base maps offered by the Senate Reapportionment Committee (originally 9078, now 9090), we believe it is appropriate to comment on 9090 and 9124 and to offer an alternative, significantly more compliant plan for the Legislature's consideration. In short, the Legislature should not settle on any one of the six inferior base maps, or on 9124 for that matter, over the more compliant alternative which we offer today.

As compared with the base maps, the enclosed alternative remedial map, CPS-1.doj ("CPS-1"), offered on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Florida and Common Cause (the "Coalition") has significantly lower population deviation; better respects political and geographic boundaries, with only 10 split cities (and only 23 aggregate city splits) and 15 split counties; and has superior average compactness, with an average .49 Reock score and average .80 Convex-Hull score.

In contrast, 9090, the original Senate committee proposal (9090) has far larger population deviation; 9 more split cities (and 21 additional aggregate city splits); an additional split county; and inferior compactness, with an average .42 on Reock score and average .78 Convex-Hull score.

The superiority of CPS-1 is the direct result of considering only constitutional compliance in light of objective criteria. The Coalition's map drawer, John O'Neill, consistently drew districts

in compliance with tier-one criteria, and in a way that maximized average compactness, minimized population deviation, minimized split cities and counties, and respected established geographic boundaries where feasible. In contrast, it appears that the Legislature strategically strung together counties and configured districts in a manner that resulted in significantly higher deviations than necessary. 9090 has many more districts with diminished compactness, deviates more from established boundaries, and creates a more favorable map for Republicans in the process.

It is also troubling that some Senators have opined that the base maps were drawn with apparent intent to favor incumbents. They note that the maps, in some instances, avoid pairing incumbents and some have even gone so far as to characterize the committee's selection of 9090 as "defiant" and designed to influence the race for the Senate Presidency in 2016. These tier-one problems, along with the tier-two deficiencies identified above, are just some of our many concerns with 9090. And they are certainly not the hallmarks of a map that complies with the FairDistricts Amendments. No such improper considerations had any bearing on CPS-1 because Mr. O'Neill is not familiar with Florida's incumbent Senators or candidates, did not review or consider incumbent locations, and not did review or consider partisan performance (aside from limited functional analysis of minority districts) at any point in developing CPS-1.

Given these tier-one criticisms, we were very disheartened to witness the Senate's passage of 9124, the amendment to 9090 offered by Senator Diaz de la Portilla, during this afternoon's session. 9124 unpairs Senator Diaz de la Portilla - the amendment's sponsor - from facing Senator Flores in District 40 in 9090, and increases the Republican performance of Senator Diaz de la Portilla's new district in 9124 (District 37). These tier-one violations cannot be ignored, particularly when Senators have already criticized the base map selection process as one designed to avoid paring incumbents. And while 9124 improves the compactness scores of certain South Florida districts over those in 9090, 9124 still has an average Reock score of only .43 and an average Convex-Hull score of .79, both of which are lower than CPS-1. In addition, 9124 splits 20 cities - 10 more than CPS-1 - and 16 counties - 1 more than CPS-1 - and further increases the population deviation over that in 9090. Thus, CPS-1 remains superior over 9124 in two-tier compliance, and carries none of 9124's tier-one baggage.

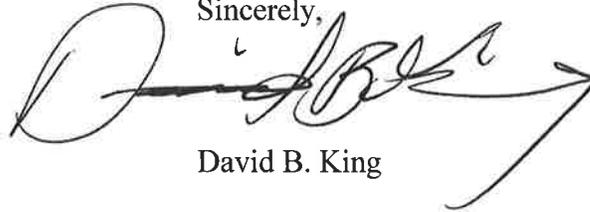
It is important to note that CPS-1 was not drawn using the updated 2012 and 2014 data that we sent you yesterday. The Coalition is now working to determine whether the updated data allows for drawing more tier-two compliant minority districts. In any event, CPS-1 illustrates that neither the base maps nor 9124 should be adopted, even if you refuse to consider the updated data.

The Coalition remains hopeful that the Legislature will commit to drawing and enacting a remedial Senate map that is as constitutionally compliant as possible, rather than maintaining the unconstitutional status quo under the guise of compliance. CPS-1 establishes that the Legislature can do far better than the six base maps, and far better than 9124. We sincerely hope that the Legislature will consider CPS-1 in good faith, which is the spirit in which it is being offered, so that

the citizens of Florida will have the opportunity to vote for candidates in non-partisan and constitutionally compliant districts in 2016.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke across the middle and a large, sweeping flourish on the right side.

David B. King

DBK/ap
enclosure

cc: Pam Goodman, President of the LOWV of Florida
Peter Butzin, Volunteer State Chair of Common Cause/Florida