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FULL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

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NORMA GONSALVES,  
14 Presiding Officer

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1550 Franklin Avenue  
20 Mineola, New York

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Tuesday, March 5, 2013

23 10:09 A.M.

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

3

NORMA GONSALVES,  
4 Presiding Officer  
5 RICHARD NICOLELLO,  
Deputy Presiding Officer

6

HOWARD KOPEL,  
7 Alternate Deputy Presiding Officer

8 MICHAEL VENDITTO

9 DENISE FORD

10 JOSEPH SCANNELL

11 FRANCIS X. BECKER

12 VINCENT MUSCARELLA

13 JUDI BOSWORTH

14 WAYNE WINK  
 15 ROBERT TROIANO  
 M KEVAN ABRAHAMS,  
 Mincrity Leader  
 17  
 ROSE MARIE WALKER  
 18  
 JOSEPH BELESI  
 19  
 DENNIS DUNNE  
 20  
 JUDITH JACOBS  
 21  
 DAVID DENENBERG  
 22  
 DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON  
 23  
 CARRIE SOLAGES  
 24  
 WILLIAM J. MULLER, III  
 25 Clerk of the Legislature  
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4 The Full Legislative Meeting of  
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7

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please  
3 take your seats. We're ready to begin.  
4 Residents of Nassau County,  
5 fellow legislators, as I just said, we're  
6 ready to call a special meeting of the  
7 legislature to order at this time and I ask  
8 that Legislator Dennis Dunne lead us in the  
9 Pledge of Allegiance.  
10 (Whereupon, the Pledge of  
H. Allegiance was recited.)  
12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
18 Legislator Dunne. I will ask the clerk to  
14 please call the roll.  
15 CLERK MULLER: Deputy Presiding  
16 Officer Nicoletto?  
17 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Present.  
18 CLERK MULLER: Alternate Deputy  
19 Presiding Officer Kopel?  
20 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Here.  
21 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
22 Troiano?  
23 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here.  
24 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
25 Solages?

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8

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLAIOR SOLAGES: Here.  
3 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Ford?  
4 LEGISLATOR FORD: Here.  
5 CLERK MULLER: Legislator

6 Scannell?  
7 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: Here.  
8 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Becker?  
9 LEGISLATOR BECKER: Here.  
10 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
H. Muscarella?  
12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Here.  
13 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
14 Bosworth? I think she's here. Legislator  
15 Wink?  
16 LEGISLATOR WINK: Here.  
17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
18 Venditto?  
19 LEGISLATOR VENDITTO: Here.  
20 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Belesi?  
21 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Here.  
22 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Dunne?  
23 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Here.  
24 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs?  
25 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Here.  
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9  
1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Walker?  
3 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.  
4 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
5 DeRiggi-Whitton?  
6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
7 Here.  
8 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
9 Denenberg?  
10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Here.  
11 CLERK MULLER: Minority Leader  
12 Abrahams?  
13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.  
14 CLERK MULLER: Presiding Officer  
15 Gonsalves?  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Present.  
17 CLERK MULLER: We have a quorum.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Now I  
19 believe that the people in the audience are  
20 people who are here to speak on today's  
21 agenda.  
22 However, before we call today's  
23 hearing to order, we will have, as usual, 30  
24 minutes of public comment. However, I ask  
25 those of you who are here to speak on  
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10

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 redistricting to hold your comments until  
3 the hearing on the redistricting map has  
4 begun.  
5 I believe I only have one slip,  
6 other than redistricting, and it's Mary-Jo  
7 O'Hagan; is that correct? Mary-Jo, please  
8 come to the podium.  
9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Norma, can  
10 I note my presence? I missed the roll call.  
H. Legislator Denenberg is here.

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
13 morning, Mary-Jo.

14 MS. O'HAGAN: I want to speak to  
15 you for a moment on the subject of the  
M county guaranty. Despite two court  
17 decisions in the recent past, affirming  
18 Nassau County's lawful responsibility for  
19 any and all costs and penalties resulting  
20 from errors in its assessment practices, the  
21 county attempted to unilaterally relieve  
22 itself of its obligation to hold school  
23 districts harmless for back payments of  
24 multi-year tax certiorari settlements.  
25 Last week's decision by the

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11

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Appellate Court was unanimous. Nothing in  
3 that decision cries for further review. The  
4 ruling is consistent with governing case law  
5 and the governing constitutional and  
6 municipal home rule provisions.  
7 In addition, the Court of Appeals  
8 has already commented on the propriety of  
9 the county guaranty in prior rulings.  
10 I speak for the school districts  
11 of Nassau County and ask that the county  
12 forego the expense of a fruitless appeal and  
18 concentrate on addressing the assessment  
14 process.  
15 Newsday reported that almost 85  
M percent of homeowners who filed challenges  
17 to their assessments won reductions. This  
18 represents a quarter of the residential

19 properties in Nassau County. Either a  
20 quarter of Nassau's residential assessments  
M. are being acknowledged as wrong, or the  
22 county is abrogating its responsibility to  
23 vet these challenges and simply granting  
24 virtually all of them. The result is to  
25 reduce the assessment base and drive up the  
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12

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 tax rate.  
3 The Baldwin School District is  
4 composed mostly of working class homeowners  
5 and has a limited tax base. If the county  
6 were successful in abandoning its  
7 responsibility, we would be liable for more  
8 than \$900,000 to settle tax grievances that  
9 go back as much as ten years at  
10 approximately \$250,000 annually going  
11 forward.  
12 Those of us in education do not  
18 forget that dollars represent people and  
14 programs, and we in Baldwin are already  
15 facing a shortfall of \$6 million if the  
M district is to remain under the  
17 state-imposed tax levy cap.  
18 It so happens that \$250,000 is  
19 the price tag for all extracurricular  
20 activities K-12 so that might have to go to  
21 cover the certioraris. Or how about cutting  
22 staff to eliminate most of our high school  
23 elective offerings also tagged at about  
24 \$250,000.  
25 Like many districts in Nassau  
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13

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 County, Baldwin has been reducing staff,  
3 closing buildings and cutting programs. We  
4 have not received a penny more than we  
5 requested in our levy. Errors in assessment  
6 have not benefitted us in any way. The  
7 court has rendered its judgement. I ask  
8 that you accept the decision and move ahead  
9 to address a dysfunctional assessment  
10 system. Thank you.



11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you  
12 very much.  
13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Madam  
14 presiding officer, may I?  
15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes, you  
16 may.  
17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Mary-Jo,  
18 I'm sorry, if you could come back I would  
19 appreciate it.  
20 Eirst, I want to thank you  
M. Mary-Jo, for coming down. You do tremendous  
22 work for the school district. I wanted to  
23 make sure, at least from our side, exactly  
24 where we stand on this particular issue.  
25 As you probably know, our side  
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14

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 never voted for the removal of the county  
3 guaranty. That was done with my colleagues  
4 to the right as well as with the county  
5 executive. We plan on strongly urging the  
6 county executive as well as my colleagues  
7 that seeking outside counsel to go forward  
8 with some type of appeal in the near future  
9 would be a misguided approach for the  
10 county.  
11 Passing on the expense of the tax  
12 grievance process and the tax certiorari  
13 process onto the school district is nothing  
14 more than just passing the buck. We said  
15 that before.  
16 The truer way to create savings  
17 for the county is to fix the broken system;  
18 not putting blame on when the system was  
10 broken. The system has been broken for many  
20 years. It goes back for many county  
21 executives.  
22 So, from that standpoint, the  
23 best way to insure savings for the school  
24 district, for the town, and for the county  
25 is to fix a system that has been broken for  
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15

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 decades, just to say it like that so we

3 don't play the blame game.  
4 That being said, we are going to  
5 strongly urge the county executive to not  
6 spend countless dollars on a wasteless  
7 appellate division proceeding and, from that  
8 standpoint, hopefully it will give you some  
9 comfort, because I know you're going through  
10 the budgetary process in your own school  
H. district —

12 MS. O'HAGAN: We are.

13 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: And I was  
14 actually at the PTA breakfast meeting on  
15 Saturday and heard some of the reserves that  
16 have to be built up in each of the school  
17 districts to prepare for that in addition to  
18 whatever else is going on with state aid in  
19 the county.

20 So, from that standpoint, we  
21 truly believe that this is an unnecessary  
22 expense that you have to build for a reserve  
23 and, from that standpoint, it's going to  
24 force you to use more of your property tax  
25 cap dollars, if you have to seek property

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16

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 tax cap dollars towards a reserve that  
3 hopefully could easily be addressed by the  
4 county map going forward with this process.  
5 So I just wanted to make sure you  
6 understood where we were coming from and  
7 what we plan to do and we plan to work with  
8 the school districts to ensure that you try  
9 to work as best as to try to stabilize  
10 property taxes for the taxpayers in Nassau  
11 County.

12 MS. O'HAGAN: Thank you. And I  
13 think the decision of the courts was clear  
14 and that was the point I wanted to make.  
15 Thank you.

16 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: Thank you,  
17 Mary-Jo. Mary-Jo, I just wanted to thank  
18 you too. Come on back up. You do an  
19 amazing job. As a Baldwin resident, life  
20 long Baldwin resident, I see the hard work  
21 and dedication that you give of your free  
22 time, all the school board people that are  
23 here. You just give of your time.

24 What we are asking is that the  
25 county attorney not pursue an appeal. Six  
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17

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 different court cases have come before us  
3 and six times the courts have upheld your  
4 position, so we're saying don't waste any  
5 more of the county attorney's money, and  
6 we're saying it has been a waste of money,  
7 and we appreciate the fact that every  
8 school, especially Baldwin, is in tough  
9 tough times. The budgets are tough. So  
10 this is another added expense that the  
11 people of Baldwin don't need this extra  
12 \$ 9 0 0 , 0 0 0 .  
13 So, in tough times we appreciate  
14 you giving your time and, again, we want to  
15 thank you again for coming down.  
16 MS. O'HAGAN: Thank you.  
17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.  
18 Legislator Jacobs.  
19 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Hi. I'm Judy  
20 Jacobs and I'm from the Syosset Plainview  
M. Jericho School Districts. I heard what you  
22 said. I feel very strongly about what you  
23 said. I happen to agree with both Joe and  
24 Kevan in what they just said to you. I  
25 think that the confusion that people have in  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 their minds sometimes out there, is that by  
3 putting this — changing the guaranty over  
4 to the school districts, somehow in some way  
5 saves money for the residents that we're all  
6 here to represent.  
7 The bottom line is, it's a wash.  
8 Except that it cost you, as a school  
9 district, with a two percent cap on you, a  
10 fortune of money and makes it almost  
H. impossible to deliver for early  
12 intervention, which I'm very aware of,  
18 personally right now, but even before that  
14 aware of. I was a teacher. I know what you  
15 guys go through. Just getting a regular

16 budget passed.  
17 To be very honest with you, this  
18 whole thing always disturbed me because I  
19 think it gives a false sense to people in  
20 the county that somehow if the county puts  
21 this off on the school district, people are  
22 saving money. Hello? Everybody is still  
23 paying. It's taking it from the right  
24 pocket and now paying it from the left  
25 pocket.

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19

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 We're going to do everything we  
3 can as Kevan said to make certain that the  
4 county executive sees it the same way and  
5 that this should not be appealed.  
6 MS. O'HAGAN: Thank you. If we  
7 were going forward, I just want to comment  
8 on this, if we were going forward, there  
9 might be a way to, theoretically, budget for  
10 these things. It is the past, the  
11 accumulated debt that would be crippling to  
12 school districts to suddenly transfer that  
13 debt, of ten year old cases, would be  
14 crippling.  
15 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Without any  
16 question but, the truth of the matter is,  
17 even going forward has to be done  
18 methodically and well thought it, because  
19 otherwise it still puts the school district  
20 in a horrible situation with a two percent  
21 cap. We all have children and every one in  
22 this audience knows, very often people are  
23 buying their houses depending on the  
24 excellence in that school system.  
25 And when you have children with

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 special needs, when you have students that  
3 are just brilliant and need the very finest  
4 of everything we could offer them to help  
5 nurture them, both ends of the spectrum are  
6 hurt by this, including the children in the  
7 middle also, of course. Thank you for being

8 here.

9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Before I

10 call on Legislator Denenberg, we need to —

11 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Just for

J2 the record, the legislation that was passed

J3 is not retroactive. It is prospective. So

JA there wouldn't be any responsibility for any

J5 back taxes that may have been collected.

I6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator

17 Denenberg.

18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Thank you.

J9 Ms. O'Hagan, if you would you just come back

20 up for a second?

21 I think everybody in the audience

22 should know because I was with you when you

23 went to a number of the different school

24 meetings.

25 Two very important points in

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 terms of what the issue with this county

3 guaranty is. Aside from the fact that the

4 members of the minority said all along that

5 it's illegal to revoke that county guaranty,

6 and that it would cost taxpayers money to

7 fight, not just the schools, two points;

8 Number one, this was every

9 district under Nassau would have had to pay

10 these refunds including not just school

H. districts but the towns, the villages, and

12 the fire districts, no one was exempt.

13 And the point, whether it was

14 retroactive or prospective, how do you

15 budget for something, something like this

M where you don't know how much refunds would

17 come to your district? The county sets the

18 assessment, the county defends the

19 assessments, the county prosecutes the

20 cases, so if the county can't defend its own

M. assessments and can't handle that it's a

22 legal matter, it's the county's fault.

23 That's why the county and the state law has

24 to pay it.

25 But there been a terrible

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 misnomer that you got to, which even the  
3 newspaper put in, that if the schools get  
4 money in error, you're not getting anything  
5 in error, the schools, the towns, the  
6 villages and the fire districts come up with  
7 their budget. The county comes up with the  
8 assessment, and then the tax rate is set  
9 based on that budget. You don't get a cent  
10 more than you budget for.

11 So if someone overpaid, someone  
12 else underpaid, the district still got the  
18 same amount. Where were you going to come  
JA up with the money? You don't know how much  
J5 and you would have had to budget more money  
M within the two percent cap. The bottom line  
17 is the taxpayers would have paid anyway.

18 So we just wasted taxpayer money  
19 to get back to square one and in that three  
20 year period, the county added \$300 million  
21 to the backlog because, instead of fixing  
22 the system, we were just going to dump the  
23 problem on the fire districts, the schools,  
24 and the towns. Makes no sense.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator

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23

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 Bosworth.

3 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Ms.

4 O'Hagan, stay there. Before I became a  
5 legislator, I think as long as we are  
6 discussing this, you might as well, because  
7 otherwise you're going to kind of keep just  
8 going back and forth.

9 Before I became a legislator, I  
10 was a member of the Great Neck Board of  
11 Education for 16 years. So, as these  
12 discussions took place, I understood the  
13 extraordinary burden that this was going to  
14 place on school districts as I think we all  
15 did.

16 It certainly is a shifting of the  
17 burden from the county to the school  
18 districts to the town. But, the bottom line  
19 is, it's the taxpayers who pay. What is  
20 most frustrating about this is that the only

M. budget that people actually get to vote on  
22 is our school budgets. So these budgets are  
23 crafted very carefully, I know especially  
24 with the two percent cap, there is a great  
25 deal of stress on all involved in putting  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the budget together to make sure that you  
3 stay within the cap wherever possible. We  
4 always talk about that perfect storm, the  
5 elimination of the county guaranty, the two  
6 percent cap, the lessening of state aid.  
7 But at some point we still have a  
8 responsibility to educate our kids whether  
9 it's for early intervention or make sure  
10 every child in Nassau County has the  
11 opportunity to have a wonderful education as  
12 in fact most do.  
13 So certainly your presence here  
14 is greatly appreciated because it gives us  
15 the opportunity to have a little bit of a  
M dialogue about this and certainly it would  
17 be my great hope that this would not be  
18 appealed. So much money has been spent  
19 already on court cases for a number of  
20 reasons that have not been successful. It  
M. will be another burden on our taxpayers.  
22 So, again, I thank you so much  
23 for coming forward and expressing the view  
24 that so many of us here also believe is  
25 that, let's now move forward. We appreciate  
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25

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 your support.  
3 MS. O'HAGAN: Thank you.  
4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
5 Legislator Bosworth and, thank you,  
6 Ms. O'Hagen.  
7 I don't have any other slips on  
8 subjects other than redistricting. Is there  
9 anyone who put in a slip that does not speak  
10 to redistricting? No one? So the public  
11 comment period is over.  
12 Now, at this time I would like to

18 call today's hearing to order and ask the  
14 clerk to please call the hearing.  
15 CLERK MULLER: We have a  
M procedural resolution, a resolution  
17 ratifying the actions of the clerk of the  
18 legislature to cause to be published a  
19 notice of hearing on a proposed local law  
20 laid on the desk of the legislators by the  
21 clerk of the legislature pursuant to the  
22 County Government Law of Nassau County and  
23 the Nassau County Administrative Code and  
24 the Rules of the Nassau County Legislature.  
25 Whereas, the Clerk of the  
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26

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Legislature has laid upon the desk of the  
3 legislators a local law entitled the Local  
4 Law to amend Annex A of the County  
5 Government Law of Nassau County to describe  
6 the 19 legislative districts based upon the  
7 2010 Federal census data.  
8 Please entertain a motion to  
9 accept this procedural resolution.  
10 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Deputy  
11 Presiding Officer Nicolello, may I have a  
12 motion, please?  
13 LEGTSLATOR NTCOLELLO: So moved.  
14 LEGTSLATOR DUNNE: Second.  
15 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Seconded  
M by Legislator Dunne.  
17 CLERK MULLER: You have to vote.  
18 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes. All  
19 those in favor of opening the hearing  
20 signify by saying aye.  
21 (Aye.)  
22 Any opposed?  
23 (No verbal response.)  
24 The hearing is now open.  
25 On February 25th, this  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 legislature held a hearing on Clerk Item  
3 74-13, a proposed local law that would  
4 redraw the district lines of the Nassau



5 County Legislature to comply with the legal  
6 and constitutional requirements for equal  
7 representation in this legislature for the  
8 people of Nassau County.  
9 At this hearing we received  
10 testimony on the merits of the proposed  
11 H. districting plan and heard the comments from  
12 the public as well as our fellow  
13 legislators. I would ask at this time if we  
14 can incorporate the minutes of February 25th  
15 into today's hearing.  
16 (Whereupon, please refer to the  
17 transcript of the Full Legislative Committee  
18 hearing dated 2-25-13, pages 107-537  
19 pertaining to Clerk Item 74-13.)  
20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The  
21 proposed local law and amendments we are to  
22 consider today have been drawn upon my  
23 instructions and incorporate many of the  
24 comments we received from both the public  
25 and members of this body.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 To present this item, we have  
3 once again with us Mr. Frank Moroney. As I  
4 stated in the Rules Committee on February  
5 11th, and at the hearing on February 25th,  
6 Mr. Moroney served as executive director of  
7 the Charter Revision Commission in 1995,  
8 codirector of the Temporary Districting  
9 Advisory Commission in 2003, and most  
10 recently the chairperson of the Temporary  
11 H. Redistricting Advisory Committee in 2013.  
12 For the purposes of this hearing,  
13 I have asked Mr. Moroney to provide an  
14 overview of the proposed amendments and then  
15 we will open the floor to the public to  
16 speak and raise their concerns.  
17 And then, of course, with the  
18 permission of the minority, then to the  
19 legislators, as we did at the February 25th  
20 meeting.  
21 Mr. Moroney.  
22 MR. MORONEY: Good morning, Madam  
23 Presiding Officer. The amended local law in  
24 front of you does two simple things. First  
25 and foremost it adds on to District Number 2

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 a community known as Jericho Gardens, and  
3 the second thing it does is it makes an  
4 adjustment to District 5 putting certain  
5 population from District 5 into District 19  
6 in the proposal.  
7 The net effect of these changes  
8 to the statistics that were put before the  
9 legislature on the 25th and on the 11th are  
10 minimal. The deviation remains the same at  
11 4.85 percent. The change to District 2, for  
12 example, lowered the deviation from minus  
13 1.7 percent to minus 4/10ths of a percent.  
14 And the change to District 19  
15 lowered the deviation by less than a 10th of  
16 a percent for that district from .05 percent  
17 — pardon me, District 19 increased by a  
18 10th of a percent from .05 percent over the  
19 optimal number to .6/10ths of a percent over  
20 the optimal.  
21 Other than that, the map remains  
22 essentially in the same form it was in at  
23 the February 25th hearing. Thank you.  
24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
25 Mr. Moroney. I'm now going to open the  
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30

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 floor to questions from the residents. I  
3 ask you to adhere to the three-minute rule.  
4 I do have a number of slips here  
5 before me and I would like each and every  
6 one of you to have an opportunity to speak  
7 and, in order to do that, we should adhere  
8 to the three-minute rule.  
9 If you recall, on February 25th,  
10 every one, and we were here until the wee  
11 H. hours of the morning, and I believe it was  
12 approximately 1:00 a.m., but everyone who  
13 wanted to speak had an opportunity to speak.  
14 I would like to see that happen today.  
15 So, without any further ado, I'm  
16 going to call on Mayor Wayne Hall first. Is  
17 Mayor Hall here? No.

18 I have Wilhelminya Funderbyrke,  
19 are you here?  
20 MS. FUNDERBYRKE: Yes, I am.  
21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: State your  
22 name for the record, please.  
23 MS. FUNDERBYRKE: Wilhelminya  
24 Funderbyrke. Do you need my address?  
25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Go ahead.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. FUNDERBYRKE: I am a resident  
3 of Roosevelt. As you know, the  
4 redistricting that you are planning to  
5 continue with is only a political move to  
6 dilute minority voting power.  
7 We, in the minority community,  
8 have worked and we have gained political  
9 power and we do come out and vote. I'm  
10 quite sure this is evidence. So, when you  
11 start diluting and moving us around, it  
12 dilutes our political power. And that does  
13 a lot for our community in terms of hurting  
14 it.  
15 It has a lot to do with the  
M school district. I'm a school board member  
17 also. I used to be on the library board  
18 and, as you quoted before, we do not get a  
19 chance to vote on any of these budgets  
20 except the school board.  
21 But when it comes to the  
22 political area of all of this, we need to  
23 stay together like we have been. We do not  
24 need you to come in and start dividing us up  
25 and diluting us. That's the only way you,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 as a group, can make sure that we lessen our  
3 by political power by dividing us up. If we  
4 have 50, and you divide us up and we have  
5 only have ten, it's always noted that people  
6 with a group have more power. So, once you  
7 dilute us, then you are diluting our power,  
8 and we are not going to stand for that.  
9 Because, at this particular time,

10 we have to think about our children. They  
H. are the most important thing in our lives.  
J2 And when you start diluting our community  
18 you are diluting our children's chance of  
JA getting the type of education that they need  
J5 and everything else that our children need  
M for the future. So you need to go back and  
17 you need to understand what you're doing.  
18 As a people, we are going to stay  
19 together. We are going to make sure that  
20 this does not occur in our communities. So  
21 that is why we are here. That's what we are  
22 fighting for because we all know that  
23 politics plays the most important game in  
24 our lives. And this is a definite political  
25 move that you are making, to dilute our  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 power in the political scene. Thank you.  
3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
4 Wilhelminya. Juan Vallejo.  
5 MR. VALLEJO: Good morning. My  
6 name is Juan Vallejo. I'm a naturalized  
7 citizen of this country. I'm a Vietnam  
8 veteran, a father, and a bragging grandpa.  
9 I would like to appeal to you  
10 today. The last time I spoke to you from  
11 the Latino vote, but I'm thinking more as  
12 far as my citizenship rights. As the people  
J3 have spoken to you before, as far as  
JA diluting our power, I am concerned that you  
J5 are doing that to my vote, and you're going  
M to be dictating who I'm going to be voting  
17 for. That is coming close to a third world  
JB mentality, which I am not going to go for.  
19 Please think of what you're doing  
20 and protect the voters, the citizens'  
21 rights. Thank you.  
22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
23 Mr. Vallejo. Linda John.  
24 MS. JOHN: Good morning,  
25 everyone.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
3 morning, Linda.  
4 MS. JOHN: I'm here to make a  
5 statement. That statement is, all you guys  
6 are voted in by the people for the people.  
7 And all we want to do is defend our  
8 constitutional right to be able to vote for  
9 the people of our choice who makes the  
10 decisions for us.  
11 That being said, I would like to  
12 take a consensus of the room for the people  
18 who are opposing the redistricting map of  
15 the Republicans. All the people in this  
15 room that are opposing the new map that the  
16 Republicans are proposing, please give me a  
17 resounding aye. All those that are for?  
18 There you have it. The people  
19 have spoken. Again. You're voted in, for  
20 the people, by the people. Now listen to  
21 the people. Have a good day.  
22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Next  
23 speaker is Victoria Hill.  
24 MS. HILL: Good morning,  
25 legislators.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
3 morning, Victoria.  
4 MS. HILL: Thank you for allowing  
5 me to speak before you this morning.  
6 My name is Victoria Hill;  
7 retiree, resident, homeowner in the Village  
8 of Hempstead for the last 39 years. My  
9 daughter, who is now an adult has a modest  
10 ranch around the corner trying to raise her  
11 three children working two jobs.  
12 I am totally, irrevocably,  
13 against the proposed new districting map.  
14 What shared interests, needs and values does  
15 the moved portion of the Village of  
16 Hempstead have with Garden City, or  
17 Westbury? The character, population, and  
18 infrastructure of each of these areas is  
19 different.  
20 How can a legislator address the  
21 needs of three disparate groups within one  
22 contrived district? How will the Village of

23 Hempstead be allocated necessary funds in  
24 local, county, and federal levels to meet  
25 its needs; such as infrastructure, roads,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 school buildings?  
3 We know the deal. A certain  
4 group is attempting to gerrymander to  
5 control the vote. The people are aware of  
6 this hidden agenda and we will not stand for  
7 it. We are here and we sincerely oppose  
8 this contrived redistricting map. Thank  
9 you.

10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.

11 Leone Baum.

12 MS. BAUM: Good morning.

13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good

14 morning, Ms. Baum.

15 MS. BAUM: Can you hear me?

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes, we

17 can, Ms. Baum.

18 MS. BAUM: Good morning,

19 legislators. Good morning, neighbors. Good

20 morning, residents. I spoke to you before

21 the last time you convened a hearing. I

22 don't know if this is the same hearing just,

23 what do you call it, recessed, or if this is

24 a new event.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: This is a

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 new hearing.

3 MS. BAUM: I charged you at that

4 time to consider this matter for us, we, the

5 people who elected you. We elected you to

6 consider us. To think about us as you do

7 what you do. You were not elected by either

8 Mr. Mondello or Mr. Jacobs, and we think

9 that we are responsible for your being

10 there.

11 So, if you continue this charade,

12 it's our fault. We put the wrong people up

13 in front of us. You shouldn't be beholding

14 to anyone but us, and we have clearly told

15 you just now with the applause, and you  
M haven't been looking at it, but the Charter  
1] Revision Commission who had its one or two  
18 hearings, they know how we feel.  
19 We think this map is a disgrace.  
20 It's silly. I don't even want to comment on  
21 the map because it's so silly. It's wrong.  
22 Since the last meeting, you made  
23 one or two changes. The only one that I  
24 could wrap my mind around was that  
25 Mr. Denenberg had his house moved, or

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 doesn't have to move his house. However you  
3 want to put it.  
4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Just my  
5 house.  
6 MS. BAUM: I think he, at least,  
7 and his constituents think that's a good  
8 thing. I can't comment because I don't live  
9 there.

10 Very very personally this time  
11 I'm going to comment on the map. You have  
12 taken my Incorporated Village of Hempstead  
18 and divided it — it's all minority in the  
14 schools. We have one or two people like  
15 myself who are mostly old who integrate the  
M village, but the village itself in the  
17 school districts is minority. It is  
18 Hispanic from every country you can think  
19 of, and it is African-American. And mostly  
20 generationally integrated in that way.

M. We're not new residents moving in and out.  
22 So you diced it into at least  
23 four pieces that I could find because the  
24 maps are almost impossible to read. I know  
25 how to read the maps. I have been working

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 with the census figures since 1960. I know  
3 how to read maps and I worked on the first  
4 Charter Revision Commission as a proofreader  
5 and doing all that kind of stuff.  
6 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes

7 have expired, ma'am.  
8 MS. BAUM: Excuse me?  
9 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
10 have expired.  
11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: In other  
12 words, please wrap it up, Ms. Baum.  
13 MS. BAUM: Well, it's not written  
14 down, so I need a few more minutes.  
15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You have  
M exactly one minute,  
17 MS. BAUM: What you done to my  
16 village is run a line north and south down  
19 Main Street, if you are familiar at all, if  
20 any of you know the village, cutting the  
M. village in half east west.  
22 The eastern half is connected to  
23 Bethpage. Now, if you know the county, you  
24 have to hop there to get there because  
25 there's no way to get directly to Bethpage  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 from Hempstead.  
3 Now, you ask me why was that  
4 done? I'll tell you why I think it was  
5 done. The east half that was connected to  
6 Bethpage is slated for major, major  
7 redevelopment maybe going up into the  
8 billions of dollars. Now, here we sit in  
9 one district with Bethpage. Why else but  
10 for the money would we be connected? That  
H. money is supposed to go to Hempstead, but if  
12 it goes to district, I think it's 18, who  
18 knows what will happen to that money?  
14 CLERK MULLER: Your extra minute  
15 has expired, ma'am.  
16 MS. BAUM: Anyway, I'm finished.  
17 Who knows? I beseech you once again. Act  
18 like you work for us. Act like you work for  
18 us. In this room, you have a room full of  
20 voters. We voted for you to do your job for  
M. us. So, we're asking you again, do the  
22 right thing.  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
24 Ms. Baum. Claudia Borecky.  
25 MS. BORECKY: I didn't come here  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 to complain about that. I came here to  
3 thank Legislator Denise Ford. Thank you for  
4 speaking your conscious and for being brave  
5 enough to come out and tell your party  
6 leaders that what they were doing to  
7 Legislator Denenberg was not fair.  
8 We sometimes get a glimpse of the  
9 legislature doing the right thing by the  
10 people. Legislators Ford and Denenberg have  
H. both proved themselves independent voices on  
12 the legislature. That's what Democracy  
18 should be about, doing the will of the  
14 people. When legislators work together  
15 government works.  
16 Legislator Ford has joined  
17 Legislator Denenberg in protecting our  
18 environment, stood with Dave Denenberg and  
19 said that you did not want the island built  
20 off of Long Beach's shores. You stood with  
21 Dave and demanded the county stop the sludge  
22 from being dumped in Reynolds Channel, and  
23 you joined Dave in writing legislation to  
24 prevent wastewater from hydro-fracking.  
25 Legislators Ford and Denenberg  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 worked together for years on panels to  
3 protect the western bays. Whenever a  
4 legislator, either Democrat or Republican  
5 acts in the best interests of the people,  
6 government works and the people win.  
7 But I have one more request. The  
8 people of the Merricks want to remain whole.  
9 I'm grateful that you gave us back our  
10 legislator, but Merrick is still not whole.  
H. You can vote on these maps today with  
12 adjustments that will draw a line, a  
13 straight line on the Meadowbrook Parkway and  
14 it will still keep the communities together  
15 and will not affect the population  
M differentials between the 5th and 19th  
17 legislative districts.  
18 So, again, on behalf of my fellow  
19 Merrickians, and as the president of the

20 north and central Merrick Civic Association,  
21 I ask for one more act of good will, that is  
22 to make Merrick whole. Doing so will not  
23 affect the district's population lines or  
24 politically. It just doesn't make sense at  
25 all to cut out a sliver of Merrick. Please  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 consider noting the adjustment in the record  
3 and making a motion to vote to adjust the  
4 maps accordingly.  
5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
6 Ms. Borecky. Michelle Eerandino? I believe  
7 Ms. Borecky has finished.  
8 MS. BORECKY: I do have something  
9 else I can say. Good speech, bad speech.  
10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Excuse me,  
11 Ms. Borecky. If Michelle wishes to yield  
12 her time to you, what happens then is that  
13 everything that had to be said is not going  
14 to be said because Michelle doesn't have the  
15 opportunity to say it.  
16 But, Michelle, are you yielding  
17 the time to Claudia?  
18 MS. EERANDINO: Yes.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Go ahead,  
20 Claudia.  
21 MS. BORECKY: To me, one of the  
22 greatest rights I have as a United States  
23 citizen is our Freedom of Speech. As a  
24 writer and an activist, I cherish the right  
25 for a citizen to be able to voice their  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 opinion even if what they are saying may be  
3 against everything I stand for. And I  
4 respect that freedom.  
5 Last week I witnessed what I  
6 think is by far the most despicable act of  
7 the legislative majority. You asked your  
8 political patronage to come down to the  
9 legislature for the sole purpose of taking  
10 the seat away from a citizen so that that  
11 citizen will not have a voice that day.

12 Each one of you who came down here  
13 and stayed —  
14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Claudia, I  
15 think you're bordering on political. So  
M stay on our message and accusing us —  
17 excuse me. I chair this meeting and if I  
IB deem that it is political in nature, it is  
19 political in nature. Excuse me again.  
20 If people come to this meeting,  
21 they are entitled to come to this meeting no  
22 matter for what venue they come from. And  
23 if you see fit to accuse us of doing  
24 something underhanded, I think that is  
25 inexcusable on your part.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. BORECKY: Well, then perhaps  
3 the ACLU or someone else should look into  
4 that because that was a total way of getting  
5 people their freedom of speech. It was  
6 outright — your patronage people, I saw  
7 them there. I know who they are. They  
8 stayed long enough for the crowd to leave  
9 and then they left. They did not even stay  
10 for the redistricting hearing. They just  
11 stayed long so people left. And that, to me  
12 was despicable because it's to take away our  
13 Freedom of Speech, but preventing the voices  
I4 of the masses of the single intentional act  
15 against our most precious freedom. It's  
M inexcusable as a writer, as an activist, and  
17 as an American, I believe that our First  
18 Amendment right was violated and I just  
19 wanted to put that on the record. Thank  
20 you.  
21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Lorraine  
22 Newman.  
23 MS. NEWMAN: I yield my time to  
24 Barbara Epstein, League of Women Voters.  
25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Here we  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 go. By the way, she's not the next speaker  
3 so she'll have to wait.

4 The next speaker is Henry Boitel.  
5 MR. BOITEL: Good morning. Henry  
6 Boitel, Rockville Center.  
7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
8 morning, Mr. Boitel.  
9 MR. BOITEL: I have previously  
10 raised an objection with you concerning the  
11 commission process and how I think it is  
12 fatal to everything that has occurred since,  
13 since it failed to abide by the requirements  
14 of the Court of Appeals that there be an  
15 actual commission proceeding. It was in  
16 fact a sham.  
17 I think that anything that has  
18 happened since that time has compounded the  
19 problem by the activities of this  
20 legislature.  
21 I would like to read something to  
22 you from the Election Law of the State of  
23 New York. In Article 4, Section 100:  
24 The State of New York shall be  
25 divided into election districts which shall  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 be the basic political subdivision for  
3 purposes of registration and voting as  
4 provided in this chapter.  
5 Then Subsection 3A says, each  
6 election district shall be compact in form  
7 and may not be partly within and partly  
8 without a ward, town, city, village, which  
9 has 5,000 or more inhabitants and is wholly  
10 within a town, or county legislative  
H. assembly, senatorial or congressional  
12 district.  
13 It goes on, but, I tell you, I  
14 looked through everything this legislature  
15 has posted, everything the commission has  
M filed, we know that the commission filed  
17 very few of the papers for background  
18 information concerning how it came to its  
19 decisions.  
20 But there's no reference to  
21 present election districts as compared to  
22 what the election districts would be under  
23 this plan. In fact, we have been provided  
24 with maps that I, at least, find making a

25 good faith effort to try to figure out  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 what's what, I can't figure it out. There  
3 are no streets there that you can look at.  
4 In effect, the way this has been done, has  
5 made it almost impossible for the average  
6 person, and I suspect for most of you, to  
7 really know what's going on.  
8 What you have in front of you is  
9 a resolution which is a meets and bounds  
10 description that runs for about 150 pages.  
11 I can't imagine that any of you have  
12 actually read that description and  
18 understand what it means.  
14 Then you give us a map, which,  
15 inadequately, here we are in this age of  
M technology where people, weather men can get  
17 up and point to things and do all kinds of  
18 things and we get junk. The maps that you  
19 produced are junk.  
20 I would like to talk for a bit  
M. about Rockville Centre. Just as Hempstead  
22 has been inappropriately divided, Rockville  
23 Centre has been inappropriately divided into  
24 three parts.  
25 The total population of Rockville  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Centre is only 25,000. You say, or both  
3 sides say, that the proper average  
4 legislative district size is something like  
5 70,000. Rockville Centre could easily fit  
6 into one election district.  
7 Take a look at the Election Law  
8 concerning election districts and you see  
9 what the policy is of the state, which you  
J0 are bound by. The policy of the state tries  
11 to make an effort to keep political  
12 subdivisions whole for voting purposes. How  
J3 could that be when Rockville Centre, which  
JA has only 25,000 residents, and I don't mean  
J5 voting residents, I mean residents,  
M including little children, is only 25,000

17 and you divide it up into three parts.  
18 CLERK MULLER: Mr. Boitel, your  
19 three minutes have expired.  
20 MR. BOITEL: I have not heard one  
21 explanation from the commission or this  
22 legislature as to why Rockville Centre has  
23 been divided up. We were told through the  
24 commission proceedings —  
25 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
REGAL REPORTING SERVICE  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 have expired.  
3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please  
4 wrap it up, Mr. Boitel.  
5 MR. BOITEL: If I may have a  
6 moment. We were told during the commission  
7 that when a map was produced we would have  
8 an opportunity to comment about that map  
9 before the commission and that they would be  
10 going around Nassau County. Just like a  
11 H. number of other places did. We were given  
12 five day's notice on a map that nobody could  
13 understand and it was quickly shoved  
14 through. This is not the way to run a  
15 county.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Lisa  
17 Tyson.  
18 MS. TYSON: Good morning. So  
19 this has been a very long process. And,  
20 unfortunately, very little has changed from  
21 the very first map that we saw. And I know  
22 that a lot of people — I know I felt after  
23 the last hearing there were some major  
24 changes to the map and there was a positive  
25 movement.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 But, unfortunately — saving  
3 Dave, which is great, we like Dave, we do,  
4 but that was not enough. The map is still  
5 terrible. It separates minority  
6 communities. Period. That is an atrocity  
7 in today when we live in the most segregated  
8 area in the country. It continues that.

9 When this goes to court, the judge will  
10 review your action and they will see right  
11 through this because this hurts communities.  
12 Now why is it important for  
18 minority communities to stay together? We  
14 focus on education funding, okay? And right  
15 now we are in a huge battle, state wide and  
M federally, to make sure that schools have  
17 the resources they need to succeed. Early  
18 childhood programs, after school programs.  
19 If communities are not together, do not have  
20 a legislator up here that can go to Albany  
M. with us and fight with us, fight for their  
22 district, when it's just a little piece of  
23 your district, it's not the same thing.  
24 When you represent, and you get  
25 many letters, and people are saying, we need  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 you to help us with education funding on the  
3 state level, that is why this is important.  
4 This has been a horrible  
5 situation for people here, back here  
6 watching this process. It's embarrassing,  
7 but there is still time to change it. There  
8 is still time to vote your conscious. The  
9 vote that you do today, and I know you will  
10 do one today, unfortunately, because this is  
11 the deadline, will determine how you are  
12 looked upon by the residents in your  
13 districts and across Nassau County for the  
14 next decade.  
15 Splitting minority communities,  
M splitting the Five Towns is horrible. You  
17 will be remembered if you vote for that  
18 today. There is still time to change.  
19 Sometimes we need to look to see  
20 what the word courage is. The word courage  
21 is to vote against your party when it's  
22 necessary. Courage is to stand up when  
23 people don't like what you're saying. I  
24 have had to do that many of times where  
25 people are booing and hissing at me and  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 speaking and fighting for affordable housing  
3 and doing the things that are necessary to  
4 make communities whole. We need you on this  
5 side to have courage.  
6 We need you to stand up for every  
7 constituent in the county, not just yours,  
8 because maybe your district is held whole.  
9 This idea of making Democrats primary is  
10 horrible, the state redistricting plan of  
11 the Republicans was the same plan, I think  
12 it had the same map makers, the same  
13 strategist. It's horrible.  
14 CLERK MULLER: Ms. Tyson, your  
15 three minutes have expired.  
16 MS. TYSON: There's nothing more  
17 to say. You need to vote no.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank  
19 you, Lisa. Anthony Cacioppo?  
20 MR. CACIOPPO: Good morning,  
21 everyone.  
22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
23 morning, Mr. Cacioppo. I'm proud to be a  
24 part of this community and I hope that all  
25 of you are as proud to be a part of this  
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J Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 community.  
3 I come from New Hyde Park. I  
4 spent 20 years in Great Neck before I chose  
5 to move south into a more diverse  
6 neighborhood so that my children could grow  
7 up with people that didn't look like them.  
8 Eventually this whole community  
9 will be integrated and you will have no way  
10 of gerrymandering. But that day is in the  
11 future of this young person here who has  
J2 been trying to voice his voice or her voice.  
I3 But as representatives of New  
JA York State and public servants, your  
J5 decision should protect the public trust.  
M In the case of redistricting, this public  
17 trust has been violated. We should be  
JB drawing a map that protects interests and  
19 ensures the representation not weakens it.  
20 Instead of putting political  
M. advantage ahead of public good, Nassau



22 County residents deserve fair and equal  
23 representation.  
24 This new map represents proposed  
25 districts that have been manipulated for  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 political gain by carving out absurdly  
3 shaped districts as every one has  
4 testified.  
5 We should focus on areas that we  
6 are more alike rather than our differences.  
7 We share communities that include our  
8 schools, our places of worship, and our  
9 children. These communities should be  
10 respected and protected, rather than  
11 diluting the community spirit by dividing  
12 and weakening their voice.  
13 Therefore, I urge all you  
14 legislators to reject this proposed map and  
15 employ a nonpartisan panel to oversee  
16 redistricting.  
17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Nancy  
18 Kemper.  
19 MS. KEMPER: Good morning.  
20 Excuse my sunglasses, I left my other ones  
21 home.  
22 I came here this morning really  
23 with no intention of speaking. But I grew  
24 up on Long Island. My parents came here in  
25 1945. I believe what is happening now is  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 that we are setting a terrible example for  
3 our children.  
4 When I moved here in 1945, Nassau  
5 County was really a very heavily Republican  
6 county. Over the years, it's gone back and  
7 forth. All votes had value. I've always  
8 voted and I want my vote and the votes of  
9 the people around me to continue to have  
10 value.  
11 I'm worried about the example  
12 that's being set for our children. Fewer  
13 and fewer of the young people that I meet

14 and talk with vcte. When they see what's  
15 happening here, fewer and fewer of them are  
16 going to vote. Because they're going to  
17 grow up knowing that their votes don't have  
18 the power that their individual vote should  
19 have. This whole redistricting is a policy of  
20 a weakened political party. And that's not  
M. what it should be.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Adele  
23 Novack.

24 MS. NOVACK: Good morning.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 morning, Ms. Novack.

3 MS. NOVACK: My name is Adele

4 Novack and I'm a resident of Rockville

5 Centre for the last 46 years.

6 I would like to start out this

7 morning by commending the residents of

8 Merrick for speaking out last week regarding

9 the very strange removal of Legislator

10 Denenberg's home from his election district.

H. The Republicans were shamed by what they did

12 to Denenberg when the deed was put into

13 public view.

14 The excision of this legislator

15 was so blatantly wrong, that the Republicans

M had no choice but to place him back into his

17 long-standing district. So,

18 congratulations, Merrick, for keeping the

19 legislator you want in that seat.

20 I am here today to speak about

M. Rockville Centre and to question the value

22 of splitting up my village into three

23 districts. What do our residents gain

24 by this baffling move? In my opinion,

25 absolutely nothing. What it does is dilute

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 the voting power of a community to the

3 extent that our voices will no longer be

4 effective.

5 To cite just one example, the

6 Village of South Hempstead with whom we have  
7 so much in common, as we share a school  
8 district, shopping areas, a post office,  
9 common roads, telephone exchanges, for some  
10 reason is no longer in our election  
H. district.  
12 Every indication of community is  
13 shared with South Hempstead. What sense of  
14 community was thought to be preserved when a  
15 significant portion of Rockville Centre was  
M extended into the Eive Towns? Why was this  
17 done?  
18 What is even more perplexing is  
19 that our current legislator, Joe Scannell  
20 has not uttered a single word during these  
21 entire hearings regarding this Republican  
22 plan. Other legislators monitored the  
23 hearing and spoke out vigorously while Mr.  
24 Scannell never showed up at any of these  
25 meetings. Is this a way to represent your  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 constituency, Mr. Scannell?  
3 In conclusion, I would like to  
4 say that no one from the commission or  
5 legislature has adequately explained this  
6 new redistricting plan to us. We are, at  
7 the very least, we need, at the very least,  
8 a map that clearly spells out the boundaries  
9 street by street of the new districts so  
10 that we, the voters, actually know in which  
H. district we belong.  
12 Thank you for your time.  
13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
14 Ms. Novack.  
15 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: Just want  
M to thank you for coming down, even though  
17 you had some critical comments, I'm very  
IB very proud of the fact that a representative  
19 of Rockville Centre delivered literally  
20 millions and millions of dollars in CRP  
M. money for the Rockville Centre Rec Center,  
22 Rockville Centre Senior Centre, Rockville  
23 Centre Parks Department, literally we got  
24 about \$500,000 just recently for bricks for  
25 Rockville Centre as well. I'm really really  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 proud of the community meetings we have had  
3 as well. We've had over 100 community  
4 meetings in Rockville Centre over the 13  
5 years, free meetings for people who can come  
6 down and learn about county issues. T'm  
7 just proud of the fact that T've worked hard  
8 for free, services for the people of  
9 Rockville Centre, hard constituent work, and  
10 a lot of good CRP money. Thanks. And  
H. Rockville Centre should not be part of what  
12 is going on here. T do not agree with the  
18 fact that it's being split into three. That  
14 is wrong. Completely, completely wrong.  
15 MS. NOVACK: T'm happy to hear  
M that, Mr. Scannell. Tt's the first time T  
17 heard it from you. Thank you.  
18 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Carol  
19 Blumenthal.  
20 MS. BLUMENTHAL: Thank you.  
M. Hello. T represent LTCAN, Long Island  
22 Congregation Associations and Neighborhoods.  
23 T'm a resident of Nassau County since 1965,  
24 living 46 of them in Roslyn.  
25 On behalf of those not able to be  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 here today, T protest adamantly the harm you  
3 are proposing for us in our town. Ask  
4 residents where they live and we say Roslyn.  
5 We don't say East Hills, or the Heights, or  
6 the Village or the Harbor or the Estates.  
7 The strength of Nassau County  
8 lies in its communities, not in arbitrary  
9 divisions. Tt is unimaginable that Roslyn  
10 will be broken into four legislative  
H. districts. Eour. The flawed process of two  
12 political parties playing with our lives is  
18 irresponsible. This is not a game.  
14 We need to have one legislator to  
15 remain to have one legislator who knows our  
M town, who knows our needs, and who has our  
17 interests in mind.  
18 As one example, when Super Storm

19 Sandy struck, we turned to our one  
20 legislator for information and support. The  
21 M. LTPA Oversight Committee talks about the  
22 significant role legislators need to play in  
23 future preparedness and response. It is  
24 fool hardy to break Roslyn apart in a power  
25 play between two political parties. We have  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 worked too hard to form and maintain Roslyn  
3 as an entity to have you tear it apart. We  
4 deserve better and we expect better from  
5 you.  
6 Are you listening? Are you  
7 listening to any of the people here? Please  
8 consider this plea and other pleas that  
9 you've heard today.  
10 LEGISLATOR WINK: Carol, if I  
11 could, I just want to thank you for coming  
12 down here today.  
13 The Roslyn community is about  
14 30,000 people. As you know, it's about  
15 30,000 people, all of whom are in the same  
16 school district, a school district that was  
17 wracked by scandal within the last decade,  
18 and really I think many of the scars that  
19 exist throughout the Roslyn community are  
20 only now healing as a result of that  
21 scandal. It really in some ways, the  
22 recriminations pitied community against  
23 community in Roslyn.  
24 Unfortunately, this will not help  
25 that situation one bit. I agree with you  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 completely. I had an occasion to be with  
3 Joseph Gargone, the assistant superintendent  
4 for the Roslyn Schools on Saturday who, as  
5 we all know, was kind of the voice of Roslyn  
6 when it came to providing information and  
7 details to so much of our community that was  
8 without power, that was without heat, or  
9 really was without information. Were it not  
10 for people like that and people like myself

H. and others in the community who really made  
12 the effort to reach out.  
13 If we divide up the Roslyn  
14 community into four pieces, not one part of  
15 Roslyn will be more than ten percent of any  
16 legislative district. Right now Roslyn  
17 makes up almost 40 percent of my district.  
18 If Roslyn is divided up the way  
19 the Republicans on this legislature propose,  
20 Roslyn will, in fact, be no more than about  
21 10 percent of any legislative district.  
22 That makes them relatively insignificant to  
23 the people who will sit up here in a year  
24 from now.  
25 So I thank you for coming down  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 here. I look forward to continuing with  
3 this fight as we go forward, and I want to,  
4 again, thank you for representing Roslyn and  
5 really espousing the views that I and a  
6 number of other people e-mailed and written  
7 and called this legislature have sought to  
8 impart to this legislature.  
9 MS. BLUMENTHAL: Since I didn't  
10 take my three minutes, I appreciate what you  
11 said and you bring to mind the fights we had  
12 so many years ago that I was involved with  
13 30 years ago to help the minority kids in  
14 Roslyn Heights to become more integrated  
15 within the community.  
16 We, in the rest of Roslyn, have  
17 worked so hard together in so many many  
18 issues, and by dividing us into four  
19 sections you — somebody before spoke so  
20 wonderfully about state law and keeping  
21 communities together, and time after time  
22 people hear are talking about the division  
23 within their only communities. I don't get  
24 that. Those of us who have worked for  
25 school districts or library districts or the  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 community in general are proud of being part

3 of our community and want to remain proud of  
4 being part of Nassau County. Please listen  
5 to what is going on here and do something  
6 about it. Thank you.

7 LEGISLATOR WINK: Thank you,  
8 again, Carol.

9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator  
10 Jacobs.

11 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Carol, it's  
12 Judy Jacobs. Hi. I didn't know that you  
13 were going to be speaking. But I feel it  
14 would be remiss for me not to say something  
15 to you because you spoke eloquently about  
16 Roslyn.

17 I used to be presiding officer  
18 here for many years. I really pride myself  
19 on knowing a lot about Nassau County as a  
20 whole. I was able to learn about everything  
21 in Nassau County just by putting my mind to  
22 it and by doing the right thing. I'm one of  
23 those four that's going to be getting Roslyn  
24 Heights. I just felt you should meet me and  
25 know that, really, I'm losing some of my  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 area, including the school district I live  
3 in, is being cut in half in my district.  
4 Exactly in half. Anything south of Jericho  
5 Turnpike is still with me, everything north  
6 of Jericho Turnpike is not.  
7 But I want to reassure you, it  
8 just so happens, don't ask how, I live in  
9 Westbury, but I do have part of — I have  
10 all of Roslyn Heights. But I know Roslyn  
11 Heights. I'm very close friends with the  
12 guy sitting next to me, who I know you know.  
13 I'm aware of those problems.  
14 I want to reassure you that if  
15 this map stands the way it is, as much as I  
16 agree with you that communities, to the best  
17 of our ability, should always be kept  
18 together, certainly whether it could be  
19 school districts would be the best.  
20 Even if it can't, at least by  
21 name only, it would be for a community  
22 that's named something to be together in  
23 everything. It doesn't always work that way

24 in redistricting but I just wanted to  
25 reassure you. I wanted you to meet me and I  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 know that I understand. And I will bend  
3 over backwards, if it does come to pass that  
4 this is the map, to make you feel that  
5 you're represented.  
6 MS. BLUMENTHAL: I don't live in  
7 Roslyn Heights.  
8 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Even if you  
9 don't —  
10 MS. BLUMENTHAL: In fact, Roslyn  
H. Heights is being divided in two sections.  
12 So it's not that you're going to represent  
13 all of Roslyn Heights. Part of Roslyn  
14 Heights is going to be represented with East  
15 Hills. So somebody said before, did you  
M read this map? Do all you people  
17 understand, did you read the 100 and  
18 whatever pages?  
19 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: We read  
20 nothing else. Believe me when I tell you —  
21 MS. BLUMENTHAL: I'm sure you  
22 did.  
23 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: All 19 of us  
24 have read nothing else. We all have  
25 different opinions as to what could happen.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Truthfully the census changed very little in  
3 all of Nassau County, but this is the  
4 redistricting process as we have gone it  
5 three times already in a very short life as  
6 a legislature. It's not easy. It's not  
7 always comfortable. And it can break your  
8 heart and, in many cases, it's not fair.  
9 But my only reason for wanting to  
10 talk to you was so you can see a face that  
11 somebody is going to be representing part of  
12 your area.  
13 MS. BLUMENTHAL: All right.  
14 LEGISLATOR WINK: If I could just  
15 clarify the record, Roslyn Heights is



M actually being divided into three districts.  
17 The third part is actually part of that  
18 crange district which appears to be a  
19 pack-man type district, seems to be chewing  
20 up the neighboring district to the west.  
21 Part of Roslyn Heights actually ends up in  
22 that that district as well.  
23 So it just goes to show you there  
24 really never was any plan for cohesiveness  
25 within the Roslyn community. I suspect,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 quite frankly, if everybody takes a deep  
3 breath and you take in a whiff of this room,  
4 you're going to smell fear, and that fear is  
5 coming from my colleagues on the republican  
6 side of the aisle.  
7 It may be — it may be fear of  
8 me, or Delia DeRiggi-Whitton, because we are  
9 the two legislators who will be combined  
10 into one district, but I don't think that  
11 that's the fear we're really smelling here.  
12 I think there's a fear of a  
13 united Roslyn, and I think there's a fear of  
14 the united Five Towns. The fact that those  
15 two communities are being broken up the way  
M they are, literally drawn and quartered, is  
17 a show of that fear.  
18 But the biggest fear you're  
19 smelling right now is the fear of the tide  
20 and the trend and the demographics of this  
21 county changing. And if Mr. Becker would  
22 give a little bit of respect in this, he  
23 would hear what I'm about to say. What  
24 you're smelling is the tide of change taking  
25 place in Nassau County. What you're  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 smelling are my Republican colleagues trying  
3 to beat back that tide at all costs. At the  
4 cost of their self-respect, at the cost of  
5 their integrity, and at the cost of this  
6 county's taxpayers.  
7 That's what you're smelling here

8 today. We are going to see that play out in  
9 this vote this afternoon. That's what we  
10 are all about here today and I want to thank  
H. you for being here because, quite frankly,  
J2 we are here to make sure that that fear  
J3 persists in them. Thank you.

14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator  
15 Muscarella, please.

16 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: I would  
17 just like to point out that this map keeps  
18 99 of 135 identifiable communities together.  
J9 Your proposal, the Democratic proposal does  
20 not perform as well. I would take issue  
M. with a number and the location of the splits  
22 that your caucus has proposed. Your map  
23 would have split Levittown into three  
24 districts and I can go on and see your map  
25 splitting a number of districts that we

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 don't.

3 You may be offended by the choice  
4 made with respect to Roslyn, but I am  
5 offended by the proposed choices with  
6 respect to Levittown and other communities  
7 that your caucus has proposed.

8 The reality is that it's  
9 impossible, it is impossible to draw up a  
10 map that keeps whole every community, and  
11 each one of us, legitimately and rightly,  
12 wants to see our communities kept whole.  
13 As we've always been reminded in  
14 the past, the location of lines are policy  
15 choices. Policy choices, those are your  
M words, from ten years ago. You don't like  
17 those proposed policy changes. You don't  
18 like those proposed policy choices. And its  
19 your prerogative then to vote against the  
20 map. Thank you.

21 LEGISLATOR WINK: And,  
22 Mr. Muscarella — I would like to retort.  
23 He specifically referred to the policy  
24 choices that —

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You have  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 not been recognized, Legislator Wink.  
3 LEGISLATOR WINK: I'm asking you  
4 to recognize me, Madam Presiding Officer.  
5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Then wait  
6 your turn. There are people in this  
7 audience who would like to speak as well,  
8 Legislator Wink, and I don't want them to  
9 leave before they have an opportunity to do  
10 so.  
11 Excuse me. You have a choice.  
12 You have a choice. I am the presiding  
13 officer. I will run this meeting. If need  
14 be, if need be, like we did in the past, we  
15 can take a recess. I'd rather not do that.  
16 And, Mr. Wink, stay out of the  
17 campaign mode.  
18 LEGISLATOR WINK: Excuse me,  
19 Madam Presiding Officer, what you are doing  
20 is taking two legislators and putting them  
21 into one district, so, excuse me if I'm  
22 talking about the situation here. It is not  
23 campaign mode, quite frankly, it is survival  
24 mode for some of us on this legislature and,  
25 you, for one, should appreciate that fact,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Madam Presiding Officer.  
3 The fact of the matter is, the  
4 Roslyn community was combined and kept whole  
5 for 18 years in this legislature by  
6 Republicans and by Democrats. The fact that  
7 it's being changed now is only because there  
8 is fear on the side of the Republicans that  
9 they are going to lose control of this  
10 county sooner or later and they're trying to  
H. hold on for as long as they can.  
12 There is no disinfectant, there  
18 is no deodorant that covers up the smell of  
14 fear that we're seeing here today.  
15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: The next  
M speaker is Michael Turi.  
17 MR. TURI: Good morning,  
18 Presiding Officer, legislators, residents.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
20 morning, Michael.

21 MR. TURI: Thank you for coming.  
22 This is the third one of these meetings that  
23 I've attended, and I can't seem to speak  
24 enough about how the Five Towns is being  
25 split up. I'm a third generation Lawrence  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 High School graduate. My grandparents and  
3 my family raised their children in the Eive  
4 Towns and they did so because it's a  
5 community.  
6 Now, I've learned a lot about the  
7 process, and one of the precepts that's so  
8 important is keeping communities of interest  
9 together. I look at this map and I see  
10 three of the Hewlett towns, three towns with  
11 the name of Hewlett in them being split up.  
12 Lawrence is with Oceanside, Woodmere and  
18 Cedarhurst are with Rockville Centre, and  
14 Inwood has been egregiously cut up to be  
15 with Elmont, I think I have to buy a rowboat  
M to get from one to the other because they're  
17 separated by a body of water.  
18 I don't understand why you would  
18 want to split up the Hewlett High School  
20 District into three legislative districts,  
21 the Lawrence School District is being split  
22 up into four legislative districts. And,  
23 unfortunately, I don't see any action coming  
24 from my legislator to prevent this from  
25 happening.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Legislator Kopel, I have come to  
3 these meetings and, much like the speaker  
4 said earlier, I haven't heard you say a  
5 word. I'm wondering which district you are  
6 going to have to run in. I wonder which new  
7 community you're going to have to  
8 reintroduce yourself to because you are  
9 certainly not running in the combined five  
10 town district that you've had the luxury of  
11 running in.  
12 I know for a fact that there is a

13 strong Orthodox Jewish community who relies  
14 on their legislator to represent their  
15 issues. That community is being split apart  
M by these districts. I wish there was some  
17 way that this map could be blown up so  
18 people can have a better idea.  
19 The real thing that bothers me  
20 the most is, that minorities that live in  
21 our district are going to be deprived the  
22 opportunity to have a legislator of their  
23 choice.  
24 The Inwood community has been  
25 joined with Elmont. I don't know if those  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 two communities have any interaction  
3 whatsoever. I don't know if the legislator  
4 who currently represents Elmont has any  
5 history in the Five Towns or in Inwood.  
6 I urge you, Mr. Kopel, you have  
7 the power to do this today. I urge you to  
8 make a motion to rejoin these Five Towns to  
9 one whole. I'm curious as to your thoughts.  
10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: You know,  
11 there are some very good reasons for making  
12 certain choices, some very good reasons for  
13 proposing certain choices, including maybe  
14 keeping more of the Five Towns together.  
15 Unfortunately, you haven't mentioned any of  
M them. Let me tell you my thoughts over  
17 here.  
18 I would prefer to keep the Five  
19 Towns together. I live there in Lawrence.  
20 The Five Towns, the 7th Legislative District  
21 is not only comprised of the Five Towns, it  
22 is also comprised of a number of other  
23 neighborhoods, which, by the way, don't have  
24 significant intecoast with the Five Towns  
25 but that doesn't seem to bother anyone on  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 either side.  
3 But, beyond that, East Rockaway  
4 is divided now, Island Park is divided now,

5 Oceanside is divided now. Those  
6 neighborhoods will be put back together.  
7 As much as I would like to keep  
8 the Five Towns together, I don't think the  
9 Five Towns are necessarily more worthy than  
10 some of those other neighborhoods that I've  
H. mentioned that are being recombined.  
12 Also, I think that perhaps people  
13 are making more of it than it needs to be.  
14 The Five Towns right now have, let's see,  
15 two town councilmen, a number of villages,  
M several library districts, two school  
17 districts. I would say that the Far  
18 Rockaway neighborhood is part of New York  
19 City but it's really part of the Five Towns  
20 functionally. People in Far Rockaway, at  
21 least the eastern part of it shop and have  
22 their friends in Lawrence. It's just a  
23 fact.  
24 Nonetheless, despite all this  
25 supposed separation, it's still the Five  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Towns. Nobody's said it's been split up.  
3 This doesn't change the character of the  
4 neighborhood. People will still be where  
5 they want and shop where they want and do  
6 what they want and have the same friends  
7 that they've had.  
8 I prefer to keep the Five Towns  
9 together, but they're going to be some  
10 choices made. I'm sorry, this microphone  
H. doesn't seem to be working very well, I  
12 apologize.  
13 You mentioned also, by the way,  
14 one more thing that I would like to respond  
15 to. You mentioned the Orthodox vote. I  
16 have to take a little exception to that.  
17 The Orthodox vote is not monolithic. It  
18 never has been. It never will be, I don't  
19 believe, and it shouldn't be. I never ran  
20 as the Orthodox representative. I ran as a  
21 representative who happens to be Orthodox.  
22 I don't think that that should make any  
23 difference. I've always said that over here  
24 and I said it when I campaigned. I really  
25 believe that every one of us, no matter what

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the denomination is, is fully capable of  
3 representing somebody else.  
4 Finally, what I would like to say  
5 is, a line doesn't matter. We've made  
6 friends over the years. And if my friend  
7 happens to live across a line, it's still  
8 going to be my friend. And, if somebody  
9 needs help who happens to live across a  
10 line, you're still going to get help.  
11 MR. TURI: Well, I hope that the  
12 legislator speaking does not affect my time  
13 to respond. I would like to say that no one  
14 is suggesting that the Orthodox Jewish  
15 community is monolithic. Just being at the  
16 Lawrence Middle School meeting last week  
17 might beg someone to differ, but I would  
18 just say that lines do matter.  
19 Representation does matter. Being able to  
20 have the people that you want to respond for  
21 you. You represent a community. This  
22 community is no longer whole.  
23 You have the power to change  
24 this.  
25 CLERK MULLER: Sir, your three  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 minutes have expired excluding Mr. Kopel's  
3 comments from your times.  
4 MR. TURI: So maybe another  
5 moment or two. You have the power to change  
6 this. You can make the motion. You can  
7 change this map. You can return these Eive  
8 Towns to one whole. And you can go back to  
9 them and say I did this. I kept your  
10 community together. I urge you to do this  
11 and I urge you to vote down this map. Thank  
12 you very much.  
13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I would  
14 like to know if Mayor Hall has come into the  
15 chambers? No. The next speaker is Ida  
16 Grainger.  
17 CLERK MULLER: She yields to Ms.

18 Garone.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Okay. She  
20 yields to Bonnie Garone. Next is Judy Beck.  
21 MS. BECK: Good morning. My name  
22 is Judy Beck and I live in Eloral Park.  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
24 morning, Judy.  
25 MS. BECK: Since 2008. Once  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 again, I'm doing this even though I hate  
3 talking in front of a lot of people because  
4 it's such an outrage. Just that a thing  
5 called the Republican map exists, speaks  
6 volumes. And I don't know Nassau County  
7 that well because I'm not living there that  
8 long. So I'll read one of the questions  
9 that nobody has asked yet, I don't think,  
10 and I would appreciate an answer.  
11 Presiding Officer Gonsalves,  
12 after staying until 1:00 a.m. last week,  
18 because of community outrage over the plan,  
14 why do you continue to ignore the voices of  
15 Hempstead, Elmont, and Roslyn who ask to be  
M put back together again? Why does this map  
17 continue to divide the Eive Towns? I'd  
18 appreciate an answer.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: We are  
20 here to listen to you.  
21 MS. BECK: I asked a question, I  
22 didn't get an answer.  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Till 1  
24 o'clock hour, the voices were heard  
25 throughout the entire testimony that day,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and we did come up with changes that could  
3 be made in a timely fashion. I'm sorry it  
4 doesn't satisfy, Judy.  
5 MS. BECK: It doesn't satisfy  
6 anyone in this room.  
7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I believe  
8 that it does.  
9 MS. BECK: I'm finished.



10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: We have  
11 Barbara Epstein and I believe that Lorraine  
12 yielded to Barbara, so, Barbara, you have  
13 six minutes.  
14 CLERK MULLER: Is this a total of  
15 six minutes?  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes. Good  
17 morning, Barbara.  
18 MS. EPSTEIN: Good morning,  
19 Presiding Officer Gonsalves and members of  
20 the legislature.  
21 My name is a Barbara Epstein and  
22 I'm a member of the League of Women Voters.  
23 Today I address you on behalf of the Nassau  
24 County United Redistricting Coalition, a  
25 nonpartisan civic engagement initiative,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 supporting an inclusive balanced and fair  
3 Nassau County Legislature redistricting  
4 process.  
5 We have participated in the  
6 hearings of both the Temporary Districting  
7 Advisory Commission and this legislative  
8 body, engaged the public through outreach  
9 and community forums and education, and  
10 drafted and proposed a nonpartisan  
11 redistricting plan.  
12 We are here today again to demand  
18 that you vote no on this map and give the  
14 residents of Nassau County what they  
15 deserve, a proposal, the results from a  
M transparent, fair, cooperative, and truly  
17 nonpartisan process. The voters of Nassau  
18 County did not elect you to play partisan  
19 games, they elected you to lead, now do it.  
20 The proposed map before us today  
21 is infected with the disease of naked  
22 partisan gerrymandering. It is conceived of  
23 and produced by a process driven by the  
24 desire of one political party to retain  
25 control of this body for the next decade.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 With all of the critical issues  
3 facing Nassau County, from taxes and budget  
4 concerns, rapidly changing racial and ethnic  
5 demographics, an ever-present concern for  
6 how to grow the next generation of leaders  
7 and citizens, the last thing we need is an  
8 ideological in transit legislature full of  
9 politicians who fail to realize the essence  
10 of democracy has flexibility and comprise.  
H. The symptoms of the gerrymandering disease  
12 are well documented and, today, largely  
13 unaddressed.  
14 After nearly nine hours of  
15 testimony last Monday, only two changes were  
M made to the map. Legislator David  
17 Denenberg's residence was returned to  
18 District 19. Although the community of  
19 Merrick remains divided, as it is currently,  
20 between District 19 and District 5.  
21 Also, the community of Jericho  
22 Gardens was returned to District 2 where  
23 they can join neighbors with similar  
24 concerns and values and elect a candidate of  
25 their choice. Many more symptoms remain.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 The proposed plan needlessly  
3 moves a staggering number of residents, more  
4 than 350,000 into new legislative districts.  
5 The Eive Towns and the Roslyn areas both  
6 remain cracked into four districts  
7 destroying its legislative cores and  
8 significantly reducing the collective impact  
9 of these communities in county politics.  
10 The still forces Inwood into  
11 District 3 based in Elmont and Valley  
12 Stream, a bizarre combination of completely  
18 different communities of interest. The plan  
14 still divides the Village of Hempstead into  
15 three districts, with more than 7,600  
16 village residents removed to the proposed  
17 District 14 based in Garden City and  
18 extending all the way to Bethpage in a shape  
19 that bears no relation to community  
20 interests.  
21 We have asked time and time again  
22 for a reconsideration of the process by

23 which this map and a similar proposal by the  
24 Republican delegation to the commission was  
25 created. Many of these issues remain  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 unaddressed because there has been no  
3 evidence that you or the delegates of the  
4 commission, that you appointed, have made an  
5 effort to work together to do what is best  
6 for the county.  
7 The chairman of the commission,  
8 Mr. Moroney, testified last week that the  
9 two sides of the commission worked  
10 completely separate, hiring their own staff  
11 and failing to even meet to discuss the  
12 process. How can you expect to collaborate  
13 and collectively represent the interests of  
14 the entire county when you start from such a  
15 place of division?  
16 Now we are at a critical point.  
17 We cannot fix the process by treating the  
18 symptoms of the map; symptoms you have  
19 either failed to recognize or consciously  
20 ignored. You must start again from a place  
21 of cooperation and fidelity to the  
22 constitutional and policy imperatives of  
23 redistricting and not from the objectives of  
24 hoarding power for the next ten years.  
25 The revisions that you have made  
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T Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 today are merely cosmetic and insufficient  
3 to cure the map of its core failures. The  
4 coalition map reflects community input, and  
5 is both nonpartisan and incumbent blind.  
6 Legislators elected to represent  
7 districts based on our map would enjoy the  
8 confidence of knowing that their  
9 constituents were able to elect as a true  
10 community and not simply as a member of a  
11 political party.  
12 This is your last chance. Do the  
13 right thing and vote no on this proposed  
14 map. Thank you very much for your time.

T5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
T6 Ms. Epstein.  
17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: First of  
T8 all, Barbara, thank you. I just want to  
19 state on the record and I know a lot of  
20 people from Merrick and Bellmore are here  
M. again, but I'm in total agreement with you  
22 that these changes are cosmetic, and while  
23 I'm glad to be back into the 19th District,  
24 my neighbors are not. A sliver of central  
25 Merrick is still in the 5th instead of the

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 19th, and putting it back in would not at  
3 all change the population deviation. It's  
4 all just a desperate attempt to carve 12  
5 republican districts out of 19 in a county  
6 that is less than a third of republican at  
7 this point. That's all it is.  
8 So if I was going to be moved  
9 back, and I'm thankful, all of Merrick  
10 should be put back together.  
11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you  
12 again, Ms. Epstein. George Alexander? Ruby  
13 Arnold?  
14 MS. ARNOLD: Good morning,  
15 everybody.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
17 morning, Ruby.  
18 MS. ARNOLD: I was hoping Ered  
19 would be here. I was going to yield my time  
20 to him.  
21 What I would like to say is,  
22 three years ago I was here and a lot of  
23 things happen since then, but we still have  
24 the same problems. I would hope before the  
25 day is out that something positive would

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 come from this, that maybe we would come to  
3 a decision that is bigger than all of us.  
4 Because none of us are everything, but we  
5 all come together to make good decisions I  
6 hope.

7 So today I'm hoping that happens.  
8 Thank you for your time.  
9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
10 Ruby, for coming down. Terry Panica.  
11 MS. PANICA: Good morning. My  
12 name is Terry Panica. I'm a resident of  
18 Levittown. I have nothing really more  
14 persuasive to add to the wonderful arguments  
15 that have been presented to you over the  
M course of the last few weeks.  
17 But I do want to say that I  
18 believe the adoption of this map is an  
19 insult to democracy, to justice, to  
20 fairness. In my opinion, it will not serve  
21 the common good. Isn't that what good  
22 government should be all about, serving the  
23 common good?  
24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Elizabeth  
25 Oldendorp.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. OLDENDORP: Hi. My name is  
3 Elizabeth Oldendorp and I'm a lifelong  
4 resident of Nassau County. I have taught in  
5 the public schools here for the past 30  
6 years. I'm also an organizer for  
7 moveon.org.  
8 Today, however, I'm here to speak  
9 for the people of Nassau County. I don't  
10 have to say any more about all the towns  
11 that are being split up and all the school  
12 districts that are being unnecessarily split  
13 up. We've already talked about the absurdly  
14 shaped districts that were carved out.  
15 Hundreds of residents have made  
M it abundantly clear by their statements at  
17 these public meetings that they oppose the  
18 map. The people of Nassau County want a  
19 fair map that maintains communities of  
20 interest and we deserve no less.  
21 However, today I'm also speaking  
22 as a former teacher of English as a second  
23 language. For nearly 30 years I have taught  
24 immigrants. Immigrant children from grades  
25 kindergarten through 12th grade about  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 America and Democracy. I've taught them US  
3 History, that in America we have the freedom  
4 to vote and our vote matters.  
5 I've also taught 12th graders  
6 about US government and the Supreme Court  
7 decisions. I have watched many of my  
8 students become American citizens. What you  
9 have done with this proposed map is an  
10 affront to our democracy and our right to  
11 vote.  
12 I have another petition here, it  
18 is an extension of last week's petition. We  
14 now have 2,178 signatures on it of people  
15 who oppose this map. We urge the  
16 legislators, all of you, to reject this map  
17 and, if you pass it today, we also urge  
18 County Executive Mangano to reject the map.  
19 Thank you very much. I would like to enter  
20 this into the minutes.  
21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Please do,  
22 Elizabeth. Thank you. John Moore.  
23 MR. MOORE: You just saw my  
24 cohort over there, Lisa Oldendorp. I'm also  
25 with moveon.org and I'm actually — I think  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 this map stinks, the republican map, but I'm  
3 going to be a little more technical about  
4 it.  
5 What I was saying, I've been  
6 listening to what the other people have been  
7 saying and that a number of places have been  
8 split and, while they have been talking, I  
9 have been studying the other two maps; the  
10 democratic map and the coalition map.  
11 If both cases, those maps seem to  
12 not have those splits. They seem to be more  
13 coherent than the Republican map. So even  
14 if you don't consider those two maps, you  
15 can get a better map because those other two  
M maps, the coalition map, and the Democratic  
I] map both seem to be more coherent to me,  
IB despite what Frank Moroney says, much more  
19 coherent than the Republican map.

20 As my cohort has said, we have a  
21 petition going out with over 2,000 people,  
22 it's verified. Basically, the other  
23 question I have is, with the Skyline  
24 demographers. I'm not asking it as a  
25 question. I question them because my wife  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 is a librarian and we tried to lock up where  
3 they were in Schenectady and we couldn't  
4 find them. I was wondering how verifiable  
5 they are because, again, I'm going back to  
6 Frank Moroney's testimony, he said to some  
7 questions, says, don't blame me, go to  
8 Skyline Demographers. I'm saying, Where in  
9 the world are they?  
10 The last point I want to make,  
11 again, going back to what Frank Moroney  
12 says. He says that this proceeding, the way  
13 they process this map is like working with a  
14 bowl of Jell-O. I think the whole process  
15 is like working with a bowl of Jell-O.  
16 That's what I would like to say.  
17 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I believe  
18 Mayer Hall entered the chambers. Mayer  
19 Hall. Good morning, Mayer.  
20 MAYOR HALL: Good morning, I'm  
21 sorry I'm late, but in the middle of a  
22 campaign. Again, I'm here asking for you  
23 not to dissect my Village of Hempstead, and  
24 have us have three legislators.  
25 The part of Hempstead that you're  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 going to put with Garden City and put with,  
3 I think it's Bethpage. I'm sure whoever  
4 that legislator will be has no idea about  
5 the Village of Hempstead and its residents.  
6 So, again, please come to your  
7 senses and hear what the people are saying  
8 because I was on the commission, and just  
9 about everybody that came there, was against  
10 the Republican map.  
11 So I know this is the last hour,

I2 the last day, and you're not going to really  
I8 change anything, but I'm sure that you're  
I4 just going to waste the county's money and  
I5 end up in court battles and so forth.  
I6 Again, please come to your  
I7 senses, please. Thank you.  
I8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
I9 Mayor Hall. James Jacobs.  
20 MR. JACOBS: Good morning,  
2I legislators. Congrats, I was here till 8:00  
22 last night, the last meeting.  
23 I'm hear to voice my opinion as a  
24 consensus for Uniondale, over 20 years, that  
25 I am against redistricting. And the lady,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Elizabeth Oldendorp, with the petition, I  
3 like what she stated from the last meeting,  
4 she wanted a fair community based on  
5 continuous — let me catch my breath,  
6 continuing community of interest together.  
7 Also, community of common interest together.  
8 She stated, from her petition stated, the  
9 way it looks, every ten years throughout the  
1j majority party, gets to redistrict the  
H. districts of the — sorry — let me stop for  
12 a second.  
13 Every ten years, when they do the  
14 census of the 19 districts based on the  
15 county charter, they have to be divided up,  
M most times when you have, not with the  
1j democrat, but when certain party is in  
18 there, they seem to try gerrymander, trying  
19 to create a super majority of this map from  
20 the way I look at it.  
21 Now, when I look in the article  
22 in Newsday on Tuesday and Wednesday, they  
23 spoke about, if you are an objective person  
24 and look at it from — somebody who has no  
25 outside agenda, looks like the county is  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 trying, to me, to form a segregation. That  
3 they are putting all the apples in one



4 basket and all the oranges in another and  
5 they're trying to dilute my vote as a  
6 citizen, as a taxpayer.  
7 That's why I'm concerned because,  
8 like the other lady, I'm not always  
9 comfortable speaking in public because my  
10 thing is, that if something doesn't seem  
H. right, doesn't smell right, it tends not to  
J2 be right. The way I look at it, they made  
J3 the change for Merrick which I'm happy for  
JA because, like himself, you want your  
15 legislator to advocate your interests as a  
M citizen, this is why you pay your taxes, why  
17 you pay your property taxes, why you pay  
18 your school taxes.  
19 But when you see someone that  
20 doesn't look like you, not have a common  
21 interest that you have and you were carved  
22 to live here, because Nassau County is a  
23 beautiful county, that's why I moved here  
24 from the city, because of the school system  
25 and the neighbors that are concern about  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 everyday activities, that you get to the  
3 point, why be bothered? Because my whole  
4 thing is like, I look on the counsel now,  
5 and I see maybe about three or four people  
6 that I could relate to me as a man, but I  
7 only see a few people who can relate to me  
8 as a man of color.  
9 I'm now saying, how come the  
1j districts don't seem to reflect the same  
11 thing? They seem to dilute the people of  
12 color for my Jewish brother, my Italian  
13 brother, and my other brothers, they happen  
14 to vote a certain way of their philosophy,  
15 because my whole thing is that, my right as  
16 a voter should not be diluted because you  
17 guys are scared you can't win an argument  
18 off of merit. That what I'm speaking about.  
19 I appreciate the other guy, Mr.  
20 Abrahams, the guy from District 2, when you  
M. go to them, what I like about them is their  
22 frankness, they let you know exactly what's  
23 going on, why it's happening. So you might  
24 think, because if you going to take tax

25 money from me, you have to explain  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 something. You just don't kiss me and take  
3 my money.  
4 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
5 have expired.  
6 MR. JACOBS: It's the famous  
7 saying, I respectfully disagree to what you  
8 speaking to, I have the right to disagree on  
9 it. But don't dilute my vote because we  
10 happen to be of different philosophy.  
11 Because the beauty of this  
12 country, as they say in the Constitution, no  
18 government shall form the right to  
14 disenfranchise as a citizen. That's why we  
15 had the Civil War, that's why the Civil  
16 Rights Movement, and, if need be, whatever  
17 happened with the Supreme Court for the  
18 Section 2, Section 5 for the US  
19 Constitution? If this illegal, there would  
20 be a new Civil Right movement. Why, because  
21 people don't mind coming out to protect  
22 their rights because, to me, people who put  
23 their lives on the line for color, non  
24 color, for to us have the right to vote for  
25 the people we want in office.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 If you don't want to support me,  
3 next election put your true colors out there  
4 and see if you win off of merit. Simple as  
5 that. Thank you for entertaining me and,  
6 like I said, God bless you. Hopefully, you  
7 guys, I know you're going to vote today.  
8 Hopefully you'll vote your conscious and at  
9 least make it a fair fight. But if you do  
10 gerry-ing where one party becomes the  
H. dominant party, I just hope that you have  
12 you're a-game, because hopefully these  
13 people have long memories and the next  
14 election, which will be this November, I  
15 pray to God you don't forget.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,

1] Mr. Jacobs. Inocencio Pedomo?  
18 MR. PEDOMO: Good morning. My  
19 name is Inocencio Pedomo, and to the members  
20 of this legislation. This my first time  
M. being in this chamber. The major reason I  
22 came by here today was to ask, why they  
23 dividing our district? Obviously there are  
24 a thousand answers. Still I believe  
25 something positive could possibly come out  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 of this. People like me, not really 100  
3 percent motivated political to be more than  
4 this, we come in out of the wars and to be  
5 put in this place. T know to be motivated  
6 to be — there's so much time and work to be  
7 here. Like me, there are a thousand people  
8 who looking to you to see how you going to  
9 vote today. T brought my son, my friends.  
10 Tt's like to sort of a fighter, sort of  
11 fight something. English is my second  
12 language, as you know, this communities and  
18 the village, everybody, it's a lot of people  
14 who speak the language and a lot of people  
15 becoming United States citizen, and a lot of  
M peoples going to vote and they're looking at  
17 the way you are going to vote today. So  
18 that's all T have to say. Thank you.  
19 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.  
20 Jane Thomas.  
21 MS. THOMAS: Good morning, my  
22 name is Jane Thomas, and T'm the  
23 co-president of the League of Women Voters  
24 of Nassau County.  
25 As most of you know, and we have  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 said here repeatedly throughout this long  
3 and arduous process, the League is a  
4 non-partisan organization and works  
5 diligently to carry out it's primary  
6 founding purpose, to encourage the informed  
7 and active participation of citizens in  
8 government.

9 It is March 5th and the  
10 legislature is at the county's charter  
H. deadline for voting on the map that will  
12 create new legislative districts in Nassau  
13 County.  
14 While the League appreciates the  
15 efforts this week to try to make this a  
M somewhat more fair and less onerous map than  
1] was discussed at the Rules Committee on  
18 February 11th and at the meeting on February  
19 25th, this new map, as several have already  
20 said, makes cosmetic changes and still  
M. appears to be a partisan and gerrymandered  
22 map that packs and cracks districts to the  
23 benefit of the majority party of this  
24 legislature.  
25 We would urge you to vote no on  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 this map but, given the charter deadline  
3 today, what real options do we have before  
4 us?  
5 So, here we are. However, the  
6 process taken to get to this vote today is  
7 what is now relevant. A history that some  
8 here might not know. The Temporary Advisory  
9 Districting Commission was formed in March  
10 2012. It's first meeting was held on May  
11 31st and the second on June 28th, 2012.  
12 The next meeting did not take  
13 place until September 5th, 2012, leaving a  
14 three-month gap, during which time no  
15 meetings at the commission took place  
M whatsoever. This was a crucial period  
17 considering in hindsight what could have  
18 been accomplished to arrive at this, at a  
19 truly "incumbent" blind map, and in light of  
20 the unforeseen circumstances of the untimely  
21 passing of Peter Schmitt and the disruption  
22 caused by Hurricane Sandy. Public  
23 countywide hearings promised by Mr. Moroney,  
24 chair of the commission, after the maps were  
25 put forth never occurred.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Added to these circumstances is  
3 the fact, now, very clear, that the two  
4 sides of the Temporary Advisory Districting  
5 Committee never actually worked together,  
6 thereby, leaving the impression that the  
7 entire process for this commission's work  
8 was nothing but a sham and a waste of a half  
9 a million dollars.  
10 In fact, Mr. Mccrney, the  
11 non-voting chair of the commission, actually  
12 delivered the Republican commissioner's  
13 report at the January 3rd meeting again  
14 leaving the impression that the commission  
15 was made up of a six member Republican  
16 majority versus a five member democratic  
17 minority.  
18 His own testimony on February  
19 25th —  
20 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
21 have expired.  
22 MS. THOMAS: Thank you. I'm  
23 almost finished. That there was no real  
24 goal of creating a map that both sides of  
25 this commission could put forward. This is  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 why a truly nonpartisan commission is  
3 necessary in a fair and transparent process  
4 for redistricting ever to occur.  
5 Redistricting should not be left  
6 to career politicians. A redistricting plan  
7 must be put forth ahead of politicians, the  
8 voters must be put forth. Every time we  
9 hear this from you guys that you will work  
10 together and then, when the time comes,  
11 those promises are forgotten.  
12 The League will work together  
13 toward creating charter changes so that in  
14 the next drawing of the district lines in  
15 2020, it will allow citizens to choose their  
16 elected officials rather than the other way  
17 around. Thank you.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
19 Ms. Thomas. Adam Haber.  
20 MR. HABER: Hi everybody. Adam  
21 Haber, and I'm a democratic candidate for

22 Nassau County Executive. I just here to  
23 speak about the redistricting and a few  
24 thoughts that I want to share with you.  
25 I was at the Nordstrom Gardens  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Civic Association meeting last night to  
3 discuss a host of issues and, when  
4 redistricting came up, people were very,  
5 very angry. I'm on the Roslyn school board,  
6 when that issue came up during a board  
7 meeting, the residents were very, very  
8 angry. As I seen in Hempstead, the Five  
9 Towns, and everywhere else communities are  
10 being drawn and quartered. There is a  
11 reason that residents are suspicious of  
12 elected officials, and policies that are  
18 clearly not in the best interests of  
14 residents only further disenchant them.  
15 The prevailing view in Nassau  
M from what I've been seeing is that the  
17 government isn't working for them. As we  
18 learn from crisis to crisis, without a  
19 forward thinking plan, I'm reminded of a  
20 saying that is commonly used in finance.  
21 It's, when you have something really good  
22 and you ruin it, it's called turning gold  
23 into silver. With this redistricting, I  
24 unfortunately feel we are turning gold int  
25 led. Thank you.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
3 Mr. Haber. Joyce Stowe.  
4 MS. STOWE: Good morning.  
5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
6 afternoon, Ms. Stowe.  
7 MS. STOWE: My name is Joyce  
8 Stowe from the Elmont community. I'm here  
9 for about the fifth time in this legislature  
10 on this subject. I believe in a strong  
H. democracy, ladies and gentleman, governed by  
12 the people which this country is a beacon in  
13 the world. You have taken the Elmont

14 community, cutting it up, and now joining it  
15 with Inwood which is miles away, jumping  
M over communities. We, the people, have  
17 patiently asked that the community of Elmont  
18 be compact and contiguous. It is now not  
19 so.

20 My protest today might be useless  
M. but I'm sure there will be a judicial  
22 redress based on the US Constitution and its  
23 amendment on minority voter rights. Thank  
24 you.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 Ms. Stowe.

3 LEGTSLATOR SOLAGES: Madam Chair?

4 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator

5 Solages.

6 LEGTSLATOR SOLAGES: Ms. Stowe, T

7 just wanted to say thank you very much for  
8 coming to all of the hearings and that your  
9 testimony and your participation was not  
10 done in vain. That inspires others, just  
11 like myself, to fight another day on this  
12 issue. So T want to thank you very much for  
13 all of your hard work.

14 CHATRWOMAN GONSALVES: Ella

15 Gibbs? Fred Chandler?

16 MR. CHANDLER: Madam Chair,

17 Honorable Legislators. My name is Fred S.

18 Chandler, a lifelong resident of Nassau

19 County. T used to live across the street

20 from where Dave lives now. So T know 19

21 only got half a knuckle of the finger of

22 District 5.

23 My understanding is that the

24 present map, although last week a statement

25 was made that it had some gerrymandering in

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 favor of the Dems, had ten competitive

3 districts, with the other nine split between

4 the Dems and the Republicans.

5 The map presented today

6 apparently has four competitive districts  
7 with the other 15 safe majority of the other  
8 15 to the Republicans. To say that this  
9 happened without a plan would be less than  
10 candid. Communities will be divided  
H. unnecessarily. Merrick still is, Rockville  
12 Centre, Roslyn, Five Towns.  
13 Would the legislature please  
14 consider the coalition map or draw a new  
15 fair map? If you can't win by playing  
M fairly, well, Machiavelli would be proud of  
17 your disingenuous methods. Please vote no  
18 on the map. The whole world is watching.  
19 And, just as an aside, the  
20 legislative calendar, the paper is very,  
M. very thick. It would be less  
22 environmentally objectionable to use thinner  
23 paper. Thank you very much.  
24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
25 Mr. Chandler. James Broach.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MR. BROACH: Good morning,  
3 Presiding Supervisor. My legislator,  
4 Mr. Abrahams, and the rest of you, good  
5 morning.  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
7 morning to you to.  
8 MR. BROACH: I represent myself  
9 today plus the 350,000 people who are  
10 affected that feel as I do. I hope that I  
11 speak for them also. It was mentioned by  
12 one of the legislators that to matter how  
18 you slice and dice this map, lines will be  
14 drawn between communities and that is true.  
15 One of the main differences though is  
M intent. That makes the difference. And  
17 according to my understanding, the intent of  
18 the lines that have been drawn on this map  
19 is not working in my favor. It is not  
20 working in the favor of most of the 350,000  
M. people affected. It puts minority people at  
22 a disadvantage.  
23 As a direct result of that  
24 disadvantage, I'm of the mind that that map  
25 is racist. If I were to ask to poll the 19  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 members of this legislature as to whether or  
3 not they are racist, I doubt that anyone  
4 would raise their hand and say, I am racist.  
5 I think everybody thinks of themselves as  
6 being fair and honest.  
7 According to my understanding of  
8 racism, the meaning of racism, and there is  
9 a big difference between racism and  
10 prejudice. Racism, according to my  
H. understanding, it's where the normal and the  
12 actions of a majority people that's in  
13 power, uses that power to put a minority  
14 group at a disadvantage. This map puts a  
15 majority people at a disadvantage.  
16 Not only does it put it at a  
17 disadvantage, it's at a disadvantage for 10  
18 years, which allows the power to stand back  
19 and say, no, I am not a racist, but this  
20 document is carrying out your job.  
21 I want you to understand that the  
22 people who come here at this podium to  
23 speak, my hat is off to them, because it  
24 takes a great deal of courage to stand here  
25 and speak truth to power. It really does.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Most people that come here,  
3 they're very nervous to come here and tell  
4 you how they feel and my hat goes off to  
5 them. And I'm one of those people.  
6 I implore you to take courage and  
7 have courage of your own and say no to this  
8 map. In the long run, this county will be  
9 the beneficiary. Thank you.  
10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Mr. Broach,  
H. you have to rethink your position over here.  
12 I said, you have to start thinking a little  
13 bit harder before you start calling people  
14 racist. You're going to listen now.  
15 In fact, I'm sure that none of  
M the people here are. Not in my opinion, but  
17 I'm sure it's a fact. Now I will go a  
18 little further. What you're doing is,

19 you've depreciated, I have said it before, I  
20 said it in public before, and I will say it  
M. as often as it takes. Any time you start  
22 calling people racist because they disagree  
23 with you is, what you have done is  
24 completely cheapened the entire concept of  
25 racism. What you're doing is, any time  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 somebody disagrees with you, if everything  
3 is racism, then nothing is racism, and  
4 that's one thing I'll tell you.  
5 The people who sacrificed  
6 tremendously in the name of eradicating  
7 racism are — they sacrificed and they  
8 deserve better than to have somebody just  
9 come up here and stand and say that a map  
10 with which they don't agree is necessarily  
11 racist.  
12 The fact is, the map I'm will be  
18 tested in the courts and I'm fairly  
14 confident, whether or not I happen to agree  
15 with some aspects of the map, I suspect that  
M there will be no problem in the map being  
1] held to be constitutionally valid. You need  
18 to be more careful.  
19 MR. BROACH: May I respond to  
20 that, please?  
21 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Of course.  
22 MR. BROACH: I don't think I  
23 called you a racist, I think I started my  
24 conversation off, if I poll interviewed,  
25 that no one would say that I'm racist.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: You said that  
3 the map was racially motivated.  
4 MR. BROACH: I did not say that.  
5 What I said was, that the intent of drawing  
6 those lines is very insidious, the intent.  
7 And the intent puts a minority people at a  
8 disadvantage.  
9 As a result — and this is the  
10 normal thinking of the power, I mean, you're

11 not intending to be racist, but you have the  
12 power and the decisions that you make  
13 honestly, without even being aware of this  
14 effect on minority people are honest from  
15 your point of view. You can't see it.

16 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I would  
17 respectfully disagree with you. I think the  
18 affect is perfectly fine. I think it  
19 preserves and enhances some of the minority  
20 areas.

21 I'll tell you something else. I  
22 don't intend to get into a long debate with  
23 you, but I want to leave you with one  
24 thought. You want to go ahead and call us  
25 dirty rotten politicians, that's within

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 bounds, sometimes I might even agree. But  
3 when you start calling people racist, and  
4 that is what you did, that isn't fair, okay?

5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: May I  
6 respond to that?

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You may  
8 speak.

9 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: If I may,  
10 Kevan Abrahams. Let me try to clarify. How  
11 H. are — you and I have been friendly and I  
12 consider you a friend. I think you're  
13 interpreting what Mr. Broach said, I don't  
14 believe he ever called anyone on this body,  
15 I didn't interpret, and you know that I've  
16 M stood up and I've spoke out when I've heard  
17 stuff that made people feel very  
18 uncomfortable on this legislature. From  
19 that standpoint, I didn't see anything that  
20 he had said that called anybody on this dais  
21 M. a racist at all, from that standpoint.

22 Before we go back and forth,  
23 Mr. Broach has been a very patron  
24 constituent to, not just my district but to  
25 Nassau County, before I hear comments that

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 bring dcwn his character, I want tc make

3 sure that it's clear on what he was saying.  
4 And if you take what he said out of context  
5 you could try to spin it, but that's not  
6 what he meant and that's not what he said.  
7 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Kevan, we'll  
8 just agree to call it a misunderstanding  
9 then. Let's leave it at that.  
10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Mr.  
11 Broach, let's leave it at that.  
12 MR. BROACH: The other point I  
13 want to make. Let's look at what has  
14 happened since this discussion has been  
15 going on for the last few months. One point  
16 I want to make out of everything that  
17 has been said here, two changes have been  
18 made to that document. Look at who's  
19 affected mostly by those two changes. And  
20 those two changes were good. I'm not saying  
21 they were bad. Who was affected mostly?  
22 What two districts were changed?  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislative District  
24 Troiano's, Legislative District 2, and  
25 Legislative District 19.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MR. BROACH: And the majority of  
3 those people are what; minority or —  
4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES:  
5 Legislative District 2 is a  
6 majority/minority district.  
7 MR. BROACH: Yes.  
8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: And it  
9 what is called, what is designated as a  
10 minority district; one, two and three.  
11 MR. BROACH: Most of the people  
12 that were affected was white, but the basic  
13 district lines, the whole document, still  
14 affect mostly minority people. That's where  
15 the intent comes in. So when you draw those  
16 lines with the intentions of reducing the  
17 power, unfortunately, some of the majority  
18 will get caught up in that.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Mr.  
20 Broach, we have heard you and I thank you  
21 for your comments. Scottie Coats.  
22 MS. COATS: I would have you know  
23 that he is the youngest life member of the

24 NAACP in my family.  
25 Good afternoon, legislators. I  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 have come this way, maybe this is the  
3 seventh or eighth time since 2010, or 2009,  
4 '10. Nothing has changed. It has gotten  
5 progressively worse to the point where we're  
6 not even allowed to ask questions. February  
7 11th I asked questions. No answers.  
8 February 25th, questions, not just me. No  
9 answers.  
10 And before I say who I represent,  
11 I'm going to ask this question. Mr. Moroney  
12 explained that certain groups of people were  
13 moved from District 2. What did he move by  
14 certain groups of people. That's almost  
15 like the you people kind of syndrome. Do  
M you know what he meant by certain groups of  
17 people being moved from District 2? Is he  
18 available to answer that question? Can you  
19 answer, Ms. Gonsalves?  
20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: It's not a  
M. question directed to me, and the Legislator  
22 who it is directed to wishes not to comment.  
23 Thank you very much.  
24 What we said, Scottie, is that  
25 this is a listening session, not a question  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and answer session.  
3 MS. COADS: I never heard of such  
4 a thing. I really never heard of it. You  
5 made your own rules to make us speak but not  
6 to ask questions. I really would like an  
7 answer to what did he mean? It's your group  
8 that drew the map. So what did he mean by  
9 moving certain people from District 2? Who  
10 are the certain people? Somebody must be  
H. able to answer that.  
12 Anyway, let me just go and use my  
18 three minutes. I'm Scottie Coats. I'm  
14 chair of Civic Engagement representing that  
15 103 year old organization, the NAACP, chair

M the Civic Engagement, New York State. I  
17 come before you as I said before, this is  
18 about the seventh or eighth time.  
19 We should not have to fight with  
20 you to work our way through this maze of  
M. democracy the way we have over the past  
22 three years. It's horrible what you have  
23 done. You have insulted. You have been  
24 very arrogant, and just been downright  
25 disrespectful to the people who have come  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 before you.  
3 Now you're at the point of not  
4 answering the questions. Guess what? We're  
5 going to get our answers.  
6 CLERK MULLER: Ms. Coats, your  
7 three minutes have expired.  
8 MS. COATS: Somebody give me some  
9 more minutes. I would like for everybody to  
10 hold those yellow bags up that I gave you.  
11 It's about the NAACP. We have to fight  
12 this. Hold your bags up NAACP'ers. You  
18 know, one of the worst things that could  
14 happen —  
15 CLERK MULLER: I don't know  
16 seeded their time.  
17 MS. COATS: I hear so many people  
18 talk about 10 years we will be  
19 disenfranchised. Guess what? We're going  
20 to be disenfranchised for 40 years as we  
M. were before. It took us 40 years, 50 years  
22 before people began to realize what  
23 redistricting was about and what you were  
24 doing. Ten years. No. It doesn't stop  
25 there when you vote on this map.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 The worst thing that can happen,  
3 we are going to fight it in court, but the  
4 worst thing that can happen is that we begin  
5 to vote in your disenfranchised  
6 gerrymandered map, and people are beginning  
7 to vote in it, it makes it even harder for

8 these people to be well represented.  
9 Any time you vote on a map, and  
10 you know what you're doing, you made the  
11 H. map, where we have to vote in it, if we  
12 don't win in court, and you would have won.  
13 Because how do you go back to court ten  
14 years later and say it didn't work? That's  
15 the problem.  
16 But you know what? There's some  
17 people that we supported that went to law  
18 school. One Fred Brewington is waiting. We  
19 support him and he's a God fearing person.  
20 He's going to take this where it needs to  
21 go.  
22 Ms. Gonsalves, I owe you an  
23 apology. I'm not sure if it was February  
24 25th or February 11th that I asked you a  
25 question about what the Voting Rights Act  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 meant to you. You did not answer. And I  
3 asked you, why wouldn't you answer because  
4 you're a minority. I take that back. The  
5 minorities sitting out here and the  
6 minorities that we represent and the  
7 minorities that we are fighting for are  
8 courageous people. They fight for the right  
9 and the fair representation of all people.  
10 I apologize for assuming that you were a  
11 H. minority because it takes courage to do the  
12 right thing by its people.  
13 You know what? The NAACP has a  
14 think that we say, courage, Lisa Tyson, they  
15 don't have it. But the NAACP says, courage  
16 will not skip this generation, that  
17 generation, none of the people behind us.  
18 That includes you too. Thank you very much.  
19 Before I leave, I want to say  
20 this. I want to read this to you. Many  
21 M. have died for my votes so I have to respect  
22 it. You won't take it away because I'll  
23 fight to protect it. I'll push for my  
24 issues no matter who is elected because when  
25 we all participate, our Democracy is  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 perfected. This is my voice, this is my  
3 power, and this is my vote, and we will see  
4 you in court.

5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Stephen  
6 Emers.

7 MR. EMERS: Good afternoon, Madam  
8 Chairperson and members of the legislature.  
9 Thank you for the opportunity to speak  
10 again.

11 One question I have in my mind  
12 is, I don't understand why everybody is  
18 fighting so much to keep control of a broke  
14 county whose financial picture looks like  
15 it's going to get even worse.  
16 But there are two things that I  
17 did want to address today. One is, the  
18 shape of the districts, and I'm not arguing  
19 that the democratic map doesn't gerrymander,  
20 or the previous map that's currently in  
21 effect wasn't gerrymandering, but the shapes  
22 had more of a contiguousness, a resemblance  
23 to some kind of geometric shape. The map  
24 that I look at here that's proposed, it  
25 looks like something, when my grandkids were  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 three years old and they used to scribble  
3 with crayons, might have drawn.

4 The other thing, Mr. Moroney  
5 talked a lot about transparency. I didn't  
6 see any transparency. I didn't check but  
7 I'm willing to bet it still takes seven  
8 clicks to get to the map on the county  
9 website and either you hired an incompetent  
10 web master or web designer, or there must  
H. have been some kind of ulterior motive.  
12 I mean, I'm getting paranoid,  
18 because I went to park in a visitor parking  
14 lot and half the spots were taken up by  
15 county vehicles and I'm questioning already,  
M was there an ulterior motive to that also?  
17 I don't know.

18 In terms of the financial  
19 situation, just the cost of the lawsuits  
20 that the county is going to have to take up



M. with this map. My recommendation is, if  
22 you're going to take a vote, at least vote  
23 for the coalition map and I'm going to —  
24 hopefully any legislators that get — that  
25 lose their seats, will get at least the same

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 deal that former Legislator Ciotti got.

3 In closing, I would like to use

4 the words I believe it was Lincoln, I may

5 misquote it. "Fool me once, shame on me.

6 Fool me twice, shame on you."

7 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,

8 Mr. Emers for coming. Jeff Friedman.

9 MR. FRIEDMAN: Hi. Thank you for

10 letting me speak this morning, this

H. afternoon. I have actually come for several

12 of your meetings although, unfortunately,

13 could not stay the duration of the meetings

14 to actually speak. So I'm glad on the third

15 try I'm actually here.

16 We heard a lot about the map

17 itself and I don't want to go into details

18 about the map but we have some serious

19 problems here on Long Island, right?

20 Highest foreclosure rate is Nassau County,

21 our jobs, you know, we have a great governor

22 bringing back jobs to New York State, but

23 when you look at New York Sate, the

24 downstate region, it's the slowest rate of

25 growth out of all of the regions. This is a

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2 problem.

3 In the process of all of that, we

4 have some of the most disenfranchised

5 citizenry here in New York State. You look

6 at our voting record, we sit at the bottom

7 three in terms of actual voters

8 participating and coming to vote the day of

9 an election. That's appalling. We have

10 issues here that other places don't have.

H. We have more governments, I swear, than any

12 other place. I'm going tonight to my school

13 board meeting, that's \$100 million plus  
14 budget that we are working on there. I got  
15 my village of Rockville Centre that, I don't  
M know how it stays intact.

17 In addition to that, my town  
18 government and then county, state, like so  
19 many other people we have two and three jobs  
20 just to make ends meet. You are not making  
21 it any easier. Here I am in Rockville  
22 Centre this morning. I work up I was in one  
23 district. I drove my son to his fourth  
24 grade class. I'm in another district.  
25 Then I went, I had to get eggs

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 today, so I went to King Kullen in town in  
3 Rockville Centre and that's a third  
4 district. Now, God forbid, something  
5 happened on the way, who do I go to? We  
6 have all these governments, I have no idea  
7 any more.  
8 There is as something wrong here.  
9 Your job is to help us. Come along. So  
10 maybe we are not in the bottom three when  
11 it's time to vote, maybe we are in the top  
12 three. Maybe in the top half. But at least  
18 we have to know where we are going and why.  
14 You have given us no answers on why you  
15 changed the map the way you did. You gave  
M us opportunities to speak but no reflection  
17 on what we said. Are you listening? I'm  
18 not sure anymore.

19 It's time you do something. I  
20 hope you vote on a map that's more just than  
21 this. Not just what's accurate, or what's  
22 legally possible. We've seen legally  
23 possible maps up if Albany just last year.  
24 Every single state senate seat here on Long  
25 Island has 30,000 more people in the

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 population than the upstate senate districts  
3 do. That was legal. But 270,000 people  
4 aren't getting a voice up in Albany now and

5 we're calling that good. But more than just  
6 what the law says, it's time to start  
7 putting the people first and making sure  
8 they understand, and getting them involved  
9 in the process of government, not scaring  
10 them off. Thank you for your time.  
11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
12 Mr. Friedman. Beatrice Witherspoon.  
13 MS. WITHERSPOON: Good afternoon  
14 everybody. As was said, my name is  
15 Denetrice and I am not only a member of the  
16 Hempstead community, I'm also a member of  
17 the New Hempstead Democratic Committee.  
18 I wasn't planning on speaking,  
19 but I sat here all morning listening to a  
20 lot of people speak. I am from Hempstead  
21 originally. You cut me, I bleed Hempstead.  
22 Nobody was thinking about Hempstead. It  
23 wasn't until Hempstead was able to get the  
24 voice and we came together. Now that  
25 Hempstead is on the map, whether it's good  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 or bad, and we have the support of the  
3 people who speaks for the ordinary every day  
4 people, you all want to come in and take it  
5 away from us.  
6 But you all haven't learned where  
7 there's numbers, there's support. We have  
8 the members, the people, to support us.  
9 Just as much as you all know, and everybody  
10 out here in the audience know, you all made  
11 up your mind already. You are going to do  
12 what you want to do. This is for show.  
13 But, come November, we get to respond to  
14 what you're going to do.  
15 Because there is incidents when  
16 there was going to be — not even redistrict  
17 — whatever you want to call it, rezoning  
18 Hempstead into Garden City. No. You didn't  
19 want to hear that. Taxes was going to go  
20 down in Garden City because of Hempstead.  
21 But now it's a whole different story. Like,  
22 they said, who in their right mind is going  
23 to put Hempstead in Bethpage? It doesn't  
24 take a rocket scientist to realize it's  
25 unbelievable, and I never realized how dirty

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 politics can get.  
3 I just got involved in politics a  
4 couple of years ago. I couldn't even deal  
5 with the school board. I rather go back to  
6 the school board because you all could sit  
7 here, and we can vote for whoever we voted  
8 for, but you all fail to forget who put you  
9 in that seat. So you all can sit up there  
10 and tell us our three minutes are up, but  
H. when November comes, let's see whose minutes  
12 will be up then?  
13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Barbara  
14 Kaplowitz.  
15 MS. KAPLOWITZ: Good afternoon.  
M They're not ignoring me, they're just not  
17 here.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: There are  
19 conference rooms on both sides and we can  
20 hear you in the conference room.  
21 MS. KAPLOWITZ: Sure they're not  
22 out at lunch or something? Naked partisan  
23 gerrymandering, a sham. No evidence that  
24 any of you on the Republican side have  
25 listened to us. An attempt at hoarding  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 power. Insult to democracy. Will not serve  
3 common good. Will split up school  
4 districts. This is what I have been hearing  
5 this morning. Legislator Kopel was nice  
6 enough to respond this morning. The only  
7 Republican that I can remember responding to  
8 anybody. He made it very clear that he  
9 hasn't thought this through. I wish the  
10 rest of the Republicans would also reveal  
11 themselves so we would know where you were  
12 coming from.  
13 I just learned something, and we  
14 were talking previously about racially  
15 motivated. I found out through this process  
M that Jewish people are considered a  
17 protected group as well. It's obvious that

18 they have been divided as well.  
19 From what I hear, there will be  
20 12 Republican districts out of 19. I think  
M. what you are doing would be considered voter  
22 suppression and what I want to say is that  
23 you have awakened a sleeping giant. You are  
24 counting on an apathetic constituency. We  
25 are not apathetic. We will work very hard.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 You will feel the backlash come November.  
3 I ask you, if you are here, to  
4 vote no on this map in order to protect your  
5 jobs. Thank you.  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Regis  
7 Thomas Lawrence? Bessy Cox? Yielding to  
8 Dolores Malloy? She's right there. Dolores  
9 you're next.  
10 MS. MALLOY: This is about my f  
11 fifth time here. I usually get here in the  
12 morning. I think by now they probably have  
18 a parking space for me.  
14 But, anyway, I'm going to speak  
15 on behalf of myself. I'm a 66 year old  
M African American woman in my skin. So if I  
17 say something that may sound a little  
18 inappropriate, that's why I preface my  
19 remark the way I did.  
20 One of the things I wanted to  
M. mention to this body is why many of us  
22 seated here why we keep coming and coming  
23 and coming. Particularly those of us of a  
24 certain age and from a certain region. I  
25 wasn't born in New York. I was born in  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Virginia which happens to be the birth place  
3 of the Confederacy. Growing up and spending  
4 18 years there, there are certain things I  
5 wanted to share with you.  
6 This process of redistricting and  
7 gerrymandering is like rubbing salt on a  
8 wound. The reason for that is, sadly, we've  
9 been down this road once before. This past

10 Sunday, as some of you may or may not know,  
11 H. marked over 45 years of the passage of the  
12 Voting Rights Act. You're probably saying,  
13 well, what does this have to do with us?  
14 What does this have to do with this whole  
15 process?

16 As I said, for many of us here,  
17 it's like salt on a wound. Voting was  
18 something that wasn't always afforded to a  
19 lot of people in my ethnic group.  
20 The right to vote was paid for  
21 M. with a high price. People marched. People  
22 and children marched. People and children  
23 were beaten. People and children died. We  
24 endured poll taxes, voter registration, and  
25 now here comes the term again,

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1 Full Lcgislaturc/3-5-13  
2 gcrrymandering, which is a really a back  
3 door approach to diluting our right to vote  
4 and it's a back-door approach to further  
5 disenfranchise many of us.  
6 So here we are again, almost 50  
7 years later, having to fight and defend  
8 something that's granted to us in a  
9 constitution. It's not a privilege, people,  
10 it's a right. It's a right that you cannot  
11 take from us. There are no fire hoses. No  
12 cross burnings on the front lawn, no dogs,  
13 and, pardon me, there are no people standing  
14 on the steps in white sheets and hoods. But  
15 this process that you're trying — and, yes,  
16 M Jim Crow, Esquire now has a three piece  
17 suit.

18 But this process that you're  
19 trying to push through after two years of  
20 Nassau County residents telling you we don't  
21 M. want this, despite the fact that a high  
22 court two years said you can not do this,  
23 despite the fact that Nassau County claims  
24 it's broke, you're going to court again and  
25 fight a lawsuit you can not afford to fight.

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2 It's money wasted. Despite the fact that  
3 you've already spent a half a million  
4 dollars to draw up something I refuse to  
5 look at again. I can't look at it again.  
6 We will not sit idly by. You  
7 continue to put salt on the wound but we are  
8 aware. We won't go away. To further add  
9 salt on the wound, we have a current county  
10 executive who refuses to come out of hiding  
H. and tells us where he stands on this issue.  
12 We know he has the authority to  
13 vote your map which you intend to pass. I  
14 know you intend to do it. But you know  
15 what? We'll be in Central Islip or Islip,  
M where ever this case has to go.  
17 The same group of people you see  
18 here, we'll meet you there.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Cecile  
20 Ward.  
21 MS. WARD: Good afternoon.  
22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
23 afternoon.  
24 MS. WARD: My name is Cecile Ward  
25 and I'm a resident of Westbury. I'm also  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 chairperson of the NAACP, Civic Engagement  
3 Committee.  
4 I've attended several, maybe  
5 more, of these such meetings for several  
6 months. Hot weather, cold weather, and it's  
7 still hot and cold in here. You have  
8 insisted on making decisions that will  
9 create another period of suffering for at  
10 least 10 years for our communities, unless  
11 there is a change if your heart.  
12 You've made up your minds to  
18 exclude the voices that are saying no.  
14 We're not taking your decision. It is  
15 unfair to gerrymander and play with our  
M lives by assuming that we are puppets. We  
17 move around.  
18 You are spending your time on  
18 maps that are destructive. What happened to  
20 our vote? The map that you have drawn up  
M. which was divided when you showed it to us,  
22 because you split it from the Democrats to

23 Republicans by not cooperating. What  
24 happened to your integrity? You evidently  
25 had an untrue platform when you ran for  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 office.  
3 We will watch each one of you as  
4 you become actors in serious matters. You  
5 think we can't, yes, we can. Don't act in  
6 our position when we are asking you to  
7 listen to our communities. We are united  
8 and we carry a united front. Where you hurt  
9 my finger, you hurt somebody's else's mind,  
10 heart, including children, adults, and  
11 senior citizens. We shall overcome your  
12 gerrymandering. You're disenfranchising and  
13 diluting our communities. Thank you.  
14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Is there a  
15 Marty Lilly? Eileen was crossed out, but I  
M guess it's Marty? Okay. Thank you.  
17 MR. LILLY: Thank you for  
16 allowing me to speak. I will try to be  
19 brief. I'm not always successful. I did  
20 not intend to speak, but one of the  
21 legislators on my left earlier referred to  
22 someone to his left, meaning to my right, as  
23 an idiot. So it was loud enough for me to  
24 hear, so I suspect many people in the room  
25 heard it. I thought it was uncalled,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 un0nsci0nable, and it caused me t0 ccme up  
3 here and have a few wcrds.  
4 S0 many things since I wrcte my  
5 nctes have already been stated and that are  
6 in my nctes, I will try tc skim through.  
7 But I have tc tell ycu, and ycu, that I am  
8 impressed. I have been retired alm0st three  
9 years ncw. I had a w0nderful career as an  
10 air traffic c0ntr0ller and air traffic  
11 c0ntr0ller related jcbs. In fact, if it  
12 wasn't fcr my jcb, I w0uld have never met my  
18 wife. It brcught me frcm New Jersey t0  
14 New Ycrk and I came kicking and screaming



15 because I thought I was coming to the big  
M city which I wanted no part of. I was from  
17 central Jersey.

18 Well, I was so blessed and  
18 honored to have been a citizen and a voter  
20 in New York, Nassau County, Long Beach.

M. We're very pleased with our representation  
22 in Long Beach for 40 something years now.  
23 42 years now I feel blessed and honored as  
24 each of you should.

25 You've been given the opportunity

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2 to cast votes if our name. Voting. I have  
3 been voting for about 48 years now. I lied  
4 on my first — I was only five years old  
5 when I first voted. Just kidding. But I  
6 must tell you that I never doubted my vote's  
7 value. After the last six, seven, eight  
8 months, however long I've been coming to  
9 these meetings, there are people here who do  
10 doubt the value of their vote and they  
11 shouldn't. They shouldn't have to, I should  
12 say.

13 Someone mentioned maps. Maps? I

14 won't talk about the maps, there's been  
15 enough said, except to say the last 18 years  
M of my career I built maps for air space, for  
17 air traffic control zones, for all sorts of  
18 things. I go back to the day when we did it  
19 with a pencil, X-Y coordinates and a  
20 T-square. Many of you don't know what I'm  
21 speaking about when I say T-square. We did  
22 it for safety, for efficiency, and for  
23 orderly flow. That's what this map should  
24 do. At a minimum, it should be efficient  
25 and safe for the citizens.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 CLERK MULLER: Sir, your three  
3 minutes have expired.

4 MR. LILLY: Three minutes is up?

5 Just give me like another minute. I wanted  
6 to say that, I met this gentleman,

7 Mr. Moroney, a couple of times. I can tell  
8 he's a nice man. But he said something last  
9 week or tried to say something last week, or  
10 two weeks ago, February 25, I believe  
11 indicating the value of this map and how it  
12 was developed.

13 Mr. Moroney, I have to say, I  
14 wasn't convinced that you bought it. You  
15 are like a car salesman who didn't believe  
16 in his product. I'm not trying to be  
17 disparaging, just the way I feel.

18 Also, the only thing I learned  
19 was, there is no record of how this map was  
20 developed if I read the testimony right. I  
21 was sitting out here for 12 hours. I know  
22 that people who make these kinds of maps  
23 keep a record of everything, so there's  
24 record out there by the company that did  
25 this. I can only assume that someone, or

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 some group, does not want a record to exist  
3 for later on when they have to testify  
4 towards that end.

5 So I know I'm over and I  
6 apologize. I will just say thank you again,  
7 and I have no doubt — and, by the way,  
8 Mr. Kopel, me thinks you protest too much.  
9 That's all I want to say.

10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.

11 MR. LILLY: The other thing is —

12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You said  
13 that was it.

14 MR. LILLY: Thank you so much. I  
15 appreciate it.

16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Now, I  
17 believe Ms. Regis Thompson Lawrence was out  
18 of the room at the time and I understand  
19 she's back.

20 MS. LAWRENCE: Good afternoon,  
21 legislators. I'm happy to be here today. I  
22 missed last week's session.

23 My name is Regis Thompson  
24 Lawrence. I'm a resident of the Village of  
25 Hempstead. I'm really very disturbed how

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2 we've been diced and sliced, as you heard  
3 from everyone earlier today, and for me to  
4 repeat all of what's been said, is not  
5 necessary, but I would like to hear from my  
6 representative, Kevan Abrahams, exactly how  
7 he feels, I would like for it to go on the  
8 record so he can express his concerns about  
9 his constituents and how it's going to  
10 affect our area.

11 Can I ask that question of you?

12 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: How are  
13 you, Regis?

14 MS. LAWRENCE: I'm wonderful.

15 I'm standing here today because God has  
M blessed me to even speak because I was very  
17 sick last week, but when I look at all these  
18 representatives of people, I'm a little bit  
18 disturbed. So I would like to hear from you  
20 because I have some serious concerns.

21 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Over the  
22 last few weeks, we tried to make it clear  
23 our position on the map. I'm going to give  
24 you a general overview of where we see  
25 things as they are. But, generally, the  
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2 7,000 plus people that are being moved out  
3 of the village of Hempstead, we feel is  
4 totally wrong, will disenfranchise that  
5 population of folks.

6 The splits that we're seeing in  
7 Elmont, we truly believe from a voter  
8 right's position, that that district, the  
9 3rd District, was becoming more minority  
10 majority and elected already. My colleague  
11 that you know already, Carrie Solages,  
12 elected a minority candidate already. From  
13 that standpoint, from natural progression,  
14 and from that district as it changes, will  
15 continue to elect whether it be a minority  
M candidate or a candidate of their choosing,  
1] whoever that may be, it's already  
18 demonstrating that, it's trending that way.  
19 Also, if you take the populations

20 in moving away from a minority perspective  
M. but the areas of Roslyn, obviously the areas  
22 of Hicksville, I truly believe, even though  
23 I know it's not recognized as a minority  
24 population, but the Jewish population in the  
25 Five Towns is being split dramatically.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 All these things we have  
3 demonstrated that are wrong for Nassau  
4 County, wrong in the direction that we have  
5 gone in. We have put forth a map that  
6 basically moves a little over 20,000 people.  
7 This map moves over I believe 360,000  
8 people. So from that standpoint, why change  
9 something that doesn't require it to be  
10 changed?

11 The reason why we have to go  
12 through redistricting is that the census  
18 demands, based off the population shifts  
14 throughout the county, that we need to  
15 change the lines. Legislator of District 2,  
M which is represented by Legislator Robert  
17 Troiano had an overage. Which, basically,  
18 that district was violating the charter.  
19 From that standpoint it was very easy to  
20 make that correction.

21 Our map demonstrated how you can  
22 make that correct, move only 22,000 people  
23 out of 1.3 million while at the same time  
24 maintain the same level of representation  
25 that you have always demanded and expected

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and have gotten for the last ten years prior  
3 to that.

4 From our standpoint, we didn't  
5 see a reason to upheaval hundreds of  
6 thousands of people in the name of those  
7 that are claiming in the name of Democracy  
8 but really it's in the name of political  
9 expedience.

10 MS. THOMPSON: Thank you very  
H. much. I appreciate you making that clear to

12 me. I believe all the people in this room  
18 understand exactly what has been going on.  
14 It truly is a disgrace and I'm  
15 surprised at many of you and I don't really  
M know what you were thinking because what you  
17 are doing right now, you really are dividing  
18 our county. It has been divided before, but  
19 it's sliced and diced to the point of no  
20 return. I don't believe the people in our  
21 county will continue to let this go on.  
22 What you are doing is, you're starting a  
23 fight. That's not going to be a good fight  
24 because the people are upset and angry.  
25 So today I have to look at the  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 first word in the bible. In the beginning,  
3 God created the heaven and earth and the  
4 earth was without form and void, and  
5 darkness was upon us in the face of the  
6 deep. And the spirit of the good moved upon  
7 the face of the water. God said, "Let there  
8 be light and there was light." As you can  
9 see today in this room there's light. Can  
10 you see this light?  
11 We will be fighting whether you  
12 want to us fight or not. The fight will  
18 happen because you have forced our hand. No  
14 matter what you said today, and I heard from  
15 several people what you said about the word  
M R, and I know that we have some serious  
17 issues in our community, because Nassau  
18 County has been one of the most segregated  
19 counties in the United States of America, so  
20 if it means that we have to fight, we will  
21 fight.  
22 I didn't ask Robert Troiano, our  
23 legislator, if he would like to share with  
24 me so I'm just clear on with what Kevan  
25 Abrahams has said, so I really can  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 understand because I get confused by the  
3 map. I just need another print of

4 reference, and that means ycu, and my  
5 legislat0r, Kevan Abrahams, y0u guys are  
6 gcing tc be fighting, is that what that  
7 means? Are y0u and Kevan Abrahams, are y0u  
8 all gcing tc be fighting with ycur  
9 legislative districts being sliced and  
10 diced? I mean, I d0n't knw what that  
11 really means.

12 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: We are  
18 fighting tcgether against cur districts  
14 being cut up, yes.

15 MS. THOMPSON: Yes, that's what I  
16 mean.

17 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Yes. And  
18 thanks fcr the cpcrtunity tc speak abcut  
19 this matter. Last Mcnday we had a very  
20 lengthy hearing that went cn till 0ne  
21 0'cl0ck. I had the pericd r0ughly frcm  
22 10:30 till a little after 11:00 in a rather  
23 testy exchange with Mr. Mrcrcney.

24 We had a discussicn abcut whether  
25 cr nct District 2 was really a

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 minority/majority district or not, and the  
3 fact that it could have been even more so  
4 and they could have made an effort to  
5 protect some of our citizens more.  
6 Mr. Kopel, you may want to listen  
7 here because you took umbrage at Mr.  
8 Broach's comment because he called you —  
9 I'm sorry, you thought he was alluding to  
10 some of the people on this legislature being  
11 racist. That was not his intent at all. I  
12 want to give you an example of that.

13 Someone mentioned earlier that we  
14 are celebrating the 45th Anniversary of the  
15 Voting Rights Act. We are also this week  
M celebrating the 48th Anniversary of the  
1] March of Montgomery.

18 The police sheriff from  
18 Montgomery, Alabama gave over his badge to  
20 Congressman John Lewis for the wrong that  
M. was done to him by the Montgomery Police  
22 Department some 48 years ago. Vice  
23 President Biden also lent his apologies. He  
24 was not there. And that's what he

25 apologized for. For not being there. For  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 remaining silent in the face of what was  
3 extreme racism.  
4 Mr. Kopel, no one is suggesting  
5 that you are a racist in the sense that you  
6 would ever deny somebody a job, a position  
7 in college, in any way, because of their  
8 skin color, because of their religion in any  
9 sense.  
10 But, like Mr. Biden, there is an  
11 opportunity, an obligation, on all of us as  
12 leaders to do more than remain silent.  
18 There is an obligation when we see something  
14 wrong to right it and to speak up for it.  
15 MS. THOMPSON: Yes. And thank  
16 you.  
17 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: We are here  
18 as elected representatives and we take  
19 comments from people, and we should take it  
20 in and listen to that, and not — the only  
21 comment you had to make, virtually, is when  
22 you felt a personal assault. But when the  
23 community of Hempstead is assaulted by this  
24 map, you remain silent, and that is what I  
25 think Mr. Broach was talking about.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. LAWRENCE: Yes.  
3 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: And,  
4 Mr. Kopel, we have heard a lot about Jell-O  
5 and that if you move one piece of a line, it  
6 causes the line in some other area to be  
7 disjointed. That's not the case with  
8 Hempstead. Part of Hempstead, there are  
9 5,000 people there. It was lifted up and  
10 annexed to a district that now includes  
11 H. Garden City, Carle Place, Old Westbury,  
12 Hicksville and Bethpage.  
13 It's very difficult for those,  
14 for me, people that are sitting out there,  
15 to understand where the demographic  
M commonalities are between that part of

17 Hempstead and the district that it's now  
18 being put into. It would have been easy to  
19 fix without destroying the Jell-O mold.  
20 District 14, where it's been put  
21 into, the new District 14, has an over  
22 abundance of people. District 2 is under  
23 what the ideal limit is.  
24 It would be simple to take that  
25 section of North Main Street and put it back  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 into LD 2, all these parts of it, without  
3 disenfranchising that population of  
4 Hempstead and without cutting Hempstead into  
5 three legislative districts.  
6 So, by way of answering your  
7 question, I've given you a long winded,  
8 lengthy answer and I tried to incorporate  
9 and tried to reconcile for Mr. Kopel,  
10 Mr. Broach's comment. That Mr. Kopel and  
11 some of the others of you that are here,  
12 this is the time to not remain silent in the  
13 face of wrong and when you're going against  
14 the law.  
15 I would expect you to say, you  
M know, you're right. Those people have been  
17 put into a district where they don't belong.  
18 The racial mix isn't the same. The economic  
19 mix isn't the same. The educational mix  
20 isn't the same. They don't belong in that  
M. district. I'm left to wonder. And they're  
22 left to wonder why, and, perhaps more  
23 importantly, why you remain silent.  
24 MS. LAWRENCE: Thank you very  
25 much for helping me out.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Mr. Troiano,  
3 you were kind enough to explain some things  
4 and I'm going to respond, if you don't mind.  
5 First of all, I believe that the  
6 coming lawsuit will determine in fact  
7 whether or not this is, the particular map  
8 that was drawn here, is racially



9 impermissible or permissible, we're going to  
10 find out. If it passes, then your just  
11 simply wrong. That's not a value judgement  
12 that's going to be a legal judgement, as you  
13 know.

14 Secondly, in terms of Mr. Broach,  
15 I'm perfectly willing to accept your  
M explanation. However, not so much with some  
17 of the other people who have spoken here  
18 today. If you're trying to win hearts and  
10 minds, some of the people here have got a  
20 very, very strange way of doing it. You're  
21 not going to win hearts and minds by hurling  
22 insults and accusing people of wanting to  
23 wear hoods and sheets. I'm sorry, that is  
24 just plain despicable. I'm not going to  
25 back off from something like that.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 What's going on with respect to  
3 whether or not we're doing the right thing,  
4 I think what you're doing, with all due  
5 respect, is you're transforming a policy  
6 difference and, by saying that, I'm using  
7 the words of the former presiding officer of  
8 ten years ago, you're trying to transform  
9 that into a rational preference. That's  
10 just not the case. It's just not the case  
H. and that's what you're trying to do and it's  
12 not right. We simply disagree with your  
13 premise.

14 I, personally, am not delighted  
15 with some of the choices that have been made  
M with respect to this map. My disagreements  
17 though are political. They are not based on  
18 the fact that, or a suggestion, that there  
18 are racial preferences going on over here  
20 and I absolutely reject that.

21 As far as your other premise, and  
22 that is that racial groups and religious  
23 groups shouldn't be split, you're going to  
24 always have some splits. Number one and  
25 number two, I think that the intent of the

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Voting Rights Act is not to increase  
3 segregation, it is to increase integration.  
4 And sometimes, if you have some — as long  
5 as we are not prejudicing the rights of  
6 people to elect representatives, it's  
7 certainly not intending to increase and  
8 enhance segregation of neighborhoods. The  
9 way you are describing it, that's certainly  
10 what you're suggesting it should do. I  
H. don't accept that either.  
12 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Norma, I  
13 just got to respond to that. Because it's a  
14 real mistake, Mr. Kopel, to hide behind  
15 legalisms. That is what so many people in  
M the south did when it came to enforcing the  
17 poll tax. I'm sorry, that's the law.  
18 That's not sufficient, okay? I would ask  
19 you not to lead with your head, but to lead  
20 with your heart. You do have a good heart.  
21 Please understand, please understand that  
22 there is, and Mr. Muscarella said it  
23 earlier, there are some cases that the  
24 Jell-O mold will be broken. There is  
25 nothing you can do about that, all right?  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 But he also said that 99 out of 135  
3 districts weren't moved. I'm not quite sure  
4 what he meant by that, but I think he meant  
5 census districts. I think that's what he  
6 was referring to.  
7 What I'm saying to you, Mr.  
8 Kopel, is that you could have taken three  
9 more of those census districts that were  
10 moved into Garden City and retained them in  
11 District 2, my district, and moved that  
12 number from 99 up to 102, and it would not  
13 have impacted the Jell-O mold and we  
14 wouldn't be having this argument. And I  
15 would like to see you do, you know, Mr.  
M Kopel, I want to take that under advisement.  
17 Mr. Troiano made a good point there,  
18 dividing the Voting Rights Act which is not  
19 meant to promote integration. The Voting  
20 Rights Act is to make sure that minorities  
M. have a vote. That's the point of it.

22 Can I please finish? So the  
23 intent of the Voting Rights Act as you  
24 stated was a misstatement, and all I'm  
25 asking you to do, Mr. Kopel is say yes,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 let's take that segment of Hempstead and  
3 let's put it back in it's proper place in  
4 District 2 before we take a vote on this  
5 map.  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Excuse me,  
7 I'm sorry, but Legislator Nicoletto would  
8 like to respond. And I'll go back to you  
9 Ms. Thompson.  
10 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Just to  
H. add some perspective to this, LD 2, which is  
12 the district we're talking about at the  
18 moment, on the Republican map, it's going to  
14 be 55.9 percent Black, and that's the term  
15 that's used in census data, it's African  
16 Americans and other groups.  
17 Now, under the Democrat map, it's  
18 proposed to be 56 percent. So when  
19 Legislator Troiano is saying, you're  
20 remaining silent, it's a terrible thing. We  
M. are talking about miniscule differences  
22 between the two districts, number one.  
23 Number two, LD 2 has been a  
24 minority district for 20 years. It's still  
25 a minority district. It looks remarkably  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the same overall those years. It's not  
3 appreciably changed, nor is LD 1, and, quite  
4 frankly, nor is LD 3. The changes we have  
5 here are basically changes that have  
6 developed over time in the populous that  
7 these maps simply recognize what already  
8 exists. Again, what he's talking about,  
9 you're going to remain silent, and the  
10 changes to LD number 2, we're talking about  
H. a miniscule difference between what the  
12 Democrats themselves proposed and what we  
13 are proposing. Just some perspective on

14 this.

15 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Can I  
M respond to that? Mr. Nicoletto is entitled  
17 to his opinion but not to his own facts.  
16 What he said was, that the CVAP, the citizen  
19 voting age population was 55 percent Black,  
20 and that is accurate. Then he goes on to  
21 say, to legitimize it, that that's a census  
22 approved designation, in fact — let me  
23 finish, Rich, and that, in fact, is not the  
24 case. And I'm looking for the testimony  
25 now, but last Monday, you may have  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 forgotten, it was about 11:00 and we were  
3 all very tired at that point. I read from  
4 the county attorney's expert witness from  
5 the case that went to court two years ago  
6 that in fact the census does not accept  
7 census CVAP, citizen voting age population.  
8 You just cannot hide behind that and give it  
9 legitimacy. It's not the case. It's not  
10 true.  
11 And, Rich, this map may be better  
12 than the Democratic map, it might be better  
18 than the coalition map, not the point right  
14 now. We are only discussing one map.  
15 That's the Republican map that's in front of  
16 us today.  
17 All I'm suggesting to you today  
18 is that we should all be looking for as much  
19 perfection as we can. We may not be able to  
20 achieve that but I'm putting forward to you  
M. a simple fix. Take three, just three, okay,  
22 of the census districts that were if LD 2  
23 for the last 16 years, okay, 17 years, and  
24 are now in Garden City where they clearly do  
25 not belong and move them back into LD 2 and  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 make this map more perfect than what it is  
3 today.  
4 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: If we did  
5 that, and we talked about this concept and

6 all that stuff, and here's to give it some  
7 substance, if we do that, LD 14 is then  
8 underpopulated.  
9 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: That's  
10 simply not true. So we can make sure we're  
11 talking about the same thing, Mr. Moroney,  
12 I'm guessing it came from you, if you took  
18 all what I'm calling the north Main Street  
14 area, if you took every one of the, and  
15 there's roughly 5,000 people in that area,  
M and you took them all and they're all in LD  
17 2, if you took them all, took them out of 14  
18 and put them back in LD 2, it would cause LD  
19 2 to have too many people.  
20 What I'm suggesting to you is,  
M. don't take all of that section, but give us  
22 just enough people to keep LD 2 in balance  
23 and keep LD 14 in balance. It still won't  
24 be perfect, but it will be better than what  
25 it is today.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So we keep  
3 Hempstead divided. So it's if we divide it  
4 to some extent but not as much I —  
5 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Rich, I  
6 acknowledge that we are not going to get  
7 perfection, but we can move to something  
8 better than what we got today is my point.  
9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Ms.  
10 Thompson, do you have something else you  
H. would like to add?  
12 MS. LAWRENCE: I got clear  
13 clarification on what needs to happen. I  
14 think you just need to vote no today and it  
15 will satisfy the public at this time. Thank  
M you, Robert Troiano and Kevan Abrahams for  
17 explaining to me clearly what the map is  
18 doing, and we know what it should be and we  
19 have to come to an agreement, but it seems  
20 as if the other party does not want to come  
21 to a logical agreement. I'm a citizen from  
22 the village of Hempstead and it's still very  
23 confusing to me and when I go back to talk  
24 to my friends who live in Massapegua or  
25 Bethpage and let them know exactly what's  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 been taking place because they don't know  
3 because they're working two and three jobs,  
4 I got clear clarification today and I really  
5 do appreciate that.  
6 I will be taking it back to the  
7 streets and we will continue the fight that  
8 we have and thank you for your time that you  
9 have given me here today.  
10 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Jackie  
H. Murphy? Gave time to Scottie. Elaine  
12 Peters? Bonnie Garone.  
13 CLERK MULLER: I believe Ms.  
14 Garone is six minutes, somebody seeded to  
15 you.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Yes. Ida  
17 Grainger yielded her time.  
18 MS. GARONE: My name is Bonnie  
19 Garone, good afternoon.  
20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Good  
M. afternoon, Bonnie.  
22 MS. GARONE: Let's see how it  
23 goes. You know, so many eloquent people  
24 have spoken today and spoken from the heart  
25 that there's not a lot that I can add.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Then, the other hand, like everybody sitting  
3 out here, I'm not going to go down without a  
4 fight.  
5 So, what I would say, I guess,  
6 is, I know you all pride yourselves on being  
7 public servants. But public servants listen  
8 to the public. There's no question that the  
9 vast vast majority of the people, the  
10 residents of this county, don't want this  
H. map. But you're not listening.  
12 So then I ask myself, why are you  
18 doing this? Well, it seems to me that if  
14 there was a sound public spirited reason for  
15 doing this you would tell us, and you  
M haven't told us.  
17 So I think, to me, you're doing  
18 it for the reasons that many people have

19 mentioned. Clearly, the Republican  
20 enrollment in this county is dwindling, and  
M. by drawing these districts you hope to stay  
22 in power, when the people otherwise might  
23 not want you in power. That's one reason.  
24 I think you want to make the  
25 two-party system in this county disappear  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 again. Like it was years and years ago when  
3 the Republican party held every position.  
4 The people don't want that. That's one of  
5 the reasons they don't want this map.  
6 The only other reason I can think  
7 of as to why you would be doing this is  
8 because you're being told to. You report to  
9 a higher authority and an authority higher  
10 than the residents of this county. So maybe  
11 that's why you're doing this.  
12 Because if there was a sound,  
18 public-spirited reason, you would tell us,  
14 and you haven't. So I think you should at  
15 least tell the people the truth about why  
M you're ignoring them and going forward with  
17 this map.  
18 Now, we've heard at the hearing  
19 and at the Rules Committee, we've heard your  
20 spokesman give a very polished presentation  
M. with lots and lots of statistics and  
22 acronyms and words that were told come from  
23 the census that that's why we have to do  
24 this. This makes for a great map. We've  
25 heard your spokesman speak to us full of  
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1 Full Lcgislaturc/3-5-13  
2 moral outrage about why hc made the  
3 commission into a sham. None of that is  
4 true. You should at least be honest with  
5 the public about why we are where we are  
6 today.  
7 As far as the commission, we were  
8 told that we didn't have working sessions  
9 because there was a concern about the Open  
10 Meetings Law. That's absurd. There was

H. never even discussion about that, and, what  
12 we wanted, by the way, were public working  
13 sessions which is exactly what the Open  
14 Meetings Law calls for. That's ridiculous.  
15 That's not why you're doing this. That's  
M not why the commission was ignored.  
17 We're told that the chair was  
18 insulted by some behavior. Did we call the  
19 chair out for calling public input  
20 gratuitous. That happened. That's a fact.  
21 Did we call them out on it. Did we actually  
22 even poke a little fun at him for it? Yes,  
23 we did. And, you know what, that's part of  
24 being in the public eye and a true leader  
25 can deal with that. I'm not saying, taking  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 my bat and ball and going, oh, we're going  
3 to play anymore.  
4 The bottom line is that the  
5 commissioners themselves participated not at  
6 all, and I think they did that by direction.  
7 We were not even allowed to talk to them.  
8 You know what, it wasn't because I brought a  
9 picture to a meeting that showed the secret  
10 room from 2012 — 2011. The secret basement  
11 room that everybody talked about. I did  
12 bring a picture, and it shows that there was  
18 paper taped over every window of that  
14 basement room so that nobody could peer in.  
15 So, honestly, I can't think of a better  
M metaphor for this process.  
17 Yes, I brought that picture and I  
18 think that picture was worth a thousand  
10 words, as they say. But are those good  
20 reasons for not having a commission process?  
21 I don't think so. That's not why we didn't  
22 have a commission process. Didn't want it.  
23 Was taking orders from somebody. Didn't  
24 have a commission process. And that will  
25 have consequences.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 So why else are we here today?



3 Why else are you voting for this map? Well,  
4 you know, the chair told us lots of numbers.  
5 The deviation is better. Your map has a  
6 better deviation than ours, we have to vote  
7 for it. Well, the chair knows darn well and  
8 those of you who are lawyers know darn well  
9 that the United States Supreme Court has  
10 said that any deviation, any deviation below  
11 ten percent is absolutely fine. Tn fact,  
12 the Supreme Court has said, it's not even an  
18 issue. Tt's a minor deviation.  
14 Tt's only a problem if you were  
15 saying that we had a higher deviation than  
16 your map because we were engaging in some  
17 kind of discrimination, and there's  
18 certainly been no allegation that the  
19 Democratic map is engaging in some kind of  
20 discrimination. So, the numbers sounded  
M. great, they were glib, very impressive for  
22 someone who isn't a lawyer, and doesn't know  
23 the background, but those of you who are  
24 lawyers know, and who have been briefed by  
25 your lawyers know that your deviation and  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the deviation of the Democratic map,  
3 legally, are exactly the same. So that's  
4 not the reason that you're doing it. It's  
5 not because you have a better deviation.  
6 So, what else, well, we heard  
7 about the CVAP numbers, and that was just  
8 alluded to. We were told that CVAP, citizen  
9 voting age population, is very important.  
10 It's a census designated — census created  
H. designation, is what we were told, so we  
12 have to go by the CVAP. That's not true.  
18 That's not true. Like has been said, you  
14 are entitled to your opinion but not your  
15 facts.  
16 What you ignored and, those of  
17 you who are lawyers know this, or your  
18 lawyers told you this, that even the census  
18 bureau says that this CVAP standard is an  
20 estimate. It's an estimate. It's not even  
M. a real statistics. You told us that you got  
22 your numbers from the Legislative Task  
23 Force. That's the right place to get the

24 numbers, that's correct, that's where we got  
25 our numbers too. But are you telling me you  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 didn't read that task force website where it  
3 says that CVAP data comes from a sample, and  
4 that consequently all figures are estimates?  
5 So this isn't real. You're not doing this  
6 because you had better CVAP numbers.  
7 They're not even numbers.  
8 CLERK MULLER: You're at seven  
9 minutes.  
10 MS. GARONE: I'll take my extra  
H. minutes. So then you tell us, not only —  
12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I don't  
18 mean interrupt you, but you had six minutes  
14 and it's now seven. Mr. Lewis — I did not  
15 have a slip for that person. What is your  
16 name? Okay. Diane Lewis, fine.  
17 Now you have two more minutes, Ms  
18 Garone.  
19 MS. GARONE: So not only do you  
20 want us to believe that you had to pass this  
M. map, had to because all of the numbers and  
22 statistics, but then you want us to  
23 congratulate you because you have created a  
24 historic 3rd District.  
25 In fact, you wrote to Newsday.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 It's not good enough that you are going to  
3 pass your map, but we ought to be  
4 congratulating you. It's a historic 3rd  
5 minority/majority district.  
6 As a matter of fact, right now,  
7 right now the 3rd District, without any help  
8 from the Republicans on the legislature is a  
9 minority/majority district. Not only did  
10 they elect a minority legislator, the  
11 representative of their choice, but if you  
12 look at the real numbers, the actual census  
18 numbers, not the CVAP, which is an estimate  
14 with a margin of error, right now it's  
15 already over 50 percent when you put

M together the voting age Black population and  
17 Hispanic population.  
18 So don't tell the people that you  
19 are doing this to create a historic district  
20 because that's not true. In fact, you've  
21 taken a district that's already legally  
22 sufficient and that the people want, and  
23 you've extended it over six miles to the  
24 bottom of Inwood.  
25 Now, no one even mentioned that  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 you can't travel from Elmont to Inwood and  
3 stay in the district. If you're going on a  
4 road, which is the way most people travel,  
5 you have to either go into Queens or go out  
6 of the district, or you have to put your  
7 waders on and go through the swamp.  
8 So it's not even contiguous. You  
9 have taken something that existed and the  
10 people wanted and you've changed to  
11 something else. You can do it, you have the  
12 votes, but don't try to tell the people that  
13 you're doing something different. That's  
14 not what public servants do.  
15 So when it comes down to it, we  
M know you don't have to do this. We know the  
17 figures don't support you having to do this.  
18 You just want to do it. So you want to  
19 split Hempstead in half and then, for good  
20 measure, take some of the population and put  
21 it in a district with Garden City. You have  
22 the votes, you can do it. You want to take  
23 Rockville Centre, which is pretty much a  
24 good Republican district. I live there. I  
25 don't know why you are even doing it, but  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 you want to take a village and cut it in  
3 thirds. You can do it, you have the votes.  
4 You want to take Merrick and get  
5 a lot of points for slicing off three blocks  
6 to put Mr. Denenberg in his district, and  
7 I'm glad you did it, and he should be in his

8 district, and that's the right thing to do.  
9 But it stops at his corner, so he's not even  
10 with his neighbors. You don't have to do  
11 that, but you have the votes so you can do  
12 it.

13 The Five Towns. The Five Towns,  
14 for the most part, people don't want to be  
15 divided. I don't know where Mr. Kopel is,  
M but even he has said he's not real happy  
1] with it. Well, if you're not real happy  
18 with it, don't do it. Because a public  
19 servant would listen to the public and not  
20 do it.

21 CLERK MULLER: Ms. Garone, you're  
22 at 11 minutes.

23 MS. GARONE: Okay. I'm wrapping  
24 up. All it takes, you do think of  
25 yourselves as good public servants and, for  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the most part, most the years, you are. But  
3 you're not being good public servants now.  
4 All it takes is for one of you, just one of  
5 you, maybe somebody who is not planning to  
6 run again, maybe somebody who wants to stand  
7 up and say, yeah, maybe some of my votes in  
8 the past I regret I would do them  
9 differently, but I have the chance to stand  
10 up for the people now.

11 All it takes is for one of you to  
12 remember why you ran for office and why you  
13 consider yourself a public servant, why you  
14 chose to do this in the first place. Just  
15 one of you to stand up for the people, and  
M you'll be a hero. You'll be a hero.

17 Because public servants wouldn't pass this  
18 map, and I'm hoping one of you will actually  
19 stand up and say no to whoever is telling  
20 you you have to do this. There is to good  
21 reasons.

22 Stand up for the people and vote  
23 no and the people will show their  
24 appreciation.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 Barbara Jones? Douglas Mayers?

3 MR. MAYERS: Good afternoon,

4 ladies and gentlemen on the legislature.

5 I'm no stranger to legislature from its

6 inception. But I'm here today and I'm not

7 going to go over what my counterparts,

8 Scottie Coads, Civic Engagement — By the

9 way, let me introduce myself again.

10 Doug Mayers from the Freeport

H. Roosevelt NAACP, also the Long Island

12 Caribbean American Association. We have a

18 very a heavy Caribbean presence and every

14 one of these districts here, the 1st, the

15 2nd and the 3rd. We come out and we vote.

16 But let me say something about

17 this map. This is the first time I'm seeing

18 this one. I see others. I know as

19 ex-military man from the British army, from

20 my company commander, allowed for me one of

21 these maps as a platoon leader, I think I

22 would get as lost as hell where that's

23 concerned.

24 It might be, American commander

25 might use it, but I'm telling you, you won't

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 find a British army commander using this

3 bloody map. So I don't like it and I would

4 like to know who is this chap, Mr. Moroney,

5 is he an elected official? Is he elected,

6 anyone will answer me? Elected, Mr.

7 Moroney?

8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: No, he's

9 not an elected official.

10 MR. MAYERS: I wonder if he's one

11 of Rooney brother? The guy from 60 minutes.

12 But I think what I saw here and what I

18 heard, especially here in this district, and

14 I know at one point there was some folks

15 want to draw out district. I feel

M comfortable in my representation I get from

17 Legislator Abrahams and also from Dave

18 Denenberg. I understand that, Dave, they

10 want to draw your house outside your

20 district, and that is very, very naughty I

21 might say.  
22 And there is a fantastic  
23 legislator in this legislative body, don't  
24 represent me, but I've seen much work over  
25 the years. I can call on Dave's office like  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I call on Legislator Abrahams' office and I  
3 will get results as same for Dave Denenberg.  
4 He not cling to just his constituency, and I  
5 think if you guys have really have a good  
6 bloody heart, that you will look at all of  
7 this. You all elected by the folks sitting  
8 here today as representatives. I don't know  
9 if you are really take the word  
10 representative really seriously, all  
11 representing a cross section of the  
12 electorates here in Nassau County. It's not  
18 Republican, Democrat, and all the other  
14 bloody mess that we looked at all the bloody  
15 time, but it's representing the  
M constituency. I know everybody want to be  
17 freer. I got good Republicans on this side,  
18 Legislator Dunne, Legislator Becker, another  
18 good chap, as far as I know, all right?  
20 Even the county executive, but we should  
M. hear the leader of this county and that is  
22 the county executive himself. We need to  
23 hear from Mr. Mangano. He's coming up for  
24 election next year, nobody can answer it  
25 like him. You can't speak for the county  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 executive, you're supposed to speak for the  
3 district who elected you.  
4 Erom what I'm hearing today, I  
5 think all this gerrymandering going on here  
6 is not good. Believe you me, this  
7 legislature, if the Democrat was doing such  
8 foolishness, I would come up and here blast  
9 the Democrats also. But it's you handling  
10 this here now. If the 19 legislators, if  
H. you have to move a couple of numbers that I  
12 hear Legislator Nicoletto saying that there

18 are some numbers that have to be moved, but  
14 at the same time you don't need to chop up  
15 these legislative districts from where they  
M are to that. Because, believe you me,  
17 Garden City has nothing in common with the  
18 folks in Hempstead, and putting Troiano into  
19 Garden City, Kevan into Garden City, white  
20 folks are not going to do all right in  
M. Garden City, I can tell you that.  
22 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
23 have expired, sir.  
24 MR. MAYERS: I was sitting here  
25 all morning, so I think if I can allow two  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 minutes from somebody I think it would work.  
3 So we need to look at this in a human  
4 content and not in a political content and  
5 leave the bloody legislators as they are  
6 right now. No need to move things all over  
7 the bloody place. Thank you for listening  
8 to me.  
9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Henry  
10 Porzio?  
11 MR. MAYERS: Wait, this man  
12 offering me his minutes. Thank you, sir.  
13 I think this county, especially  
14 knowing the reputation of this county here,  
15 I think you all can agree that we want  
M Nassau County to look as it should be  
17 looking as a diverse county and stop every  
16 news, you hear Nassau County is one of the  
19 most race segregated counties in the United  
20 States. We need to get rid of that and  
M. don't let it start by it by this here  
22 foolishness and gerrymandering, cannot be  
23 this way. Let us stay as we are.  
24 Everybody appreciate everybody in  
25 this chamber. I think it should look even a  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 little more diverse because I would like to  
3 see an African-American on the Republican  
4 side. I know we got a lot of African

5 American Republicans in this county that can  
6 be elected as a Republican. You know,  
7 something, why not draw a district for  
8 another African American on your side so we  
9 can have a little more diversity on this one  
10 here in this county legislature? I think  
11 that's for Nassau County than trying to  
12 split these bloody districts up. Thank you.  
13 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Henry  
14 Porzio.

15 MR. PORZIO: Henry Porzio,  
M District 17, Rosemarie Walker.  
17 I spoke at the previous meeting.  
18 I was not going to speak today. I wanted to  
19 hear all these quality presentations that  
20 you people gave was fantastic. I don't want  
21 to dilute from that but you had a great  
22 motivator on your panel over here, and it  
23 just got to me. It reminded me of Romney  
24 and the 47 percent speech he made.  
25 Mr. Kopel has a knack for that. Especially  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 when you try to defend something that's not  
3 right. Things just blurt out, and during  
4 his first comments, and he's not here to  
5 defend himself —  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: He's  
7 listening.  
8 MR. PORZIO: He said, "you people  
9 are making a big deal of it." That could be  
10 an attitude of what is going on over there.  
H. And that is not right for a legislator to  
12 make that inappropriate comment. In fact,  
18 it's borderline stupidity for a legislator.  
14 For Ms. Walker, you ought to distance  
15 yourself from this dominant figure in the  
M Republican party. He apparently is moving  
17 us backward, and we have been moving  
18 forward. This is a terrible thing.  
19 So one of the reasons you guys  
20 aren't listening, but also we are making a  
M. big deal of it, that apparently you are not  
22 listening to everything that took place  
23 today. I hope the media that came late  
24 doesn't turn this into a racist meeting.  
25 That's another either stupidity remark that



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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 he brought to the surface which motivated a  
3 lot of people unnecessarily. Maybe it was a  
4 sign of brilliance, who knows, maybe he  
5 wanted to bring this to a racist meeting.  
6 That's something.  
7 Rose Walker, if you look at the  
8 petition, and I did, I went to about 300 on  
9 the petition, and in Hicksville along it  
10 came to about 25 percent. Your district is  
11 there. Your map, I tried to interpret it.  
12 I came up to either eight, nine, maybe ten  
13 areas that are combined.  
14 Why don't you post that on your  
15 website, something about it? That you're  
M happy to have this great plan for District  
17 17? I don't know if you are happy about it,  
18 but somebody ought to post some good  
19 comments. The only thing we heard today was  
20 Kopel with a lot of gobbly gook, okay?  
21 So, with that, I won't take any  
22 more of your time. I think you really  
23 should vote no.  
24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Josie  
25 Green, are you here?  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. GREEN: Good afternoon,  
3 legislators. I'm Josie Green. I'm a  
4 resident of Hempstead. I'm a southern girl  
5 who has been living in Nassau County for the  
6 last 53 years.  
7 I just want to say to you, I was  
8 sitting there thinking and listening to each  
9 person that came up and listening to the  
10 legislators that were responding to their  
11 constituents. I was thinking about our  
12 politicians in Washington D.C., which we all  
18 have a problem with them not being  
14 bipartisan. I was thinking, what has  
15 happened to the politicians; the Democrats,  
M the Republicans?  
17 You know, I'm ignorant to

18 politics. I always thought that you could  
19 — you sat down and you worked together.  
20 You talked and you worked things out. And I  
21 thought that when the constituents had a  
22 problem and they came to you that you  
23 listened to them and took it back to your  
24 meetings and discussed it and tried to work  
25 it out for the betterment of the people.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 But I don't see that happening  
3 here. I don't know why we keep having these  
4 meetings, wasting taxpayer's money. Money  
5 that the county does not have, repeating the  
6 same thing over and over.  
7 And the people who are supposed  
8 to be representing us don't even listen. I  
9 thought that politicians listened and that  
10 they cared about our cares. I guess I'm too  
11 old to understand.  
12 It bothers me when I see your  
18 indifference of you sitting there. I see  
14 the people here talking to you explaining  
15 their heart, soul and mind to you about what  
M they want and what they don't want. And I  
17 see your indifference.  
18 I'm not here to vent because I  
18 don't have words. I feel sad. I feel very  
20 sad for being in a great county as Nassau  
21 County where people are privileged, we have  
22 a good educational system, and all of you  
23 have a decent job, home, family. And,  
24 apparently, you're doing what you want to do  
25 because you ran for the office.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 But something has happened to  
3 you. You're not happy doing what you're  
4 doing. I say, if this causes this kind of  
5 stress on you, maybe you're in the wrong  
6 position. Or maybe you don't have your  
7 constituents at heart. Or maybe you're just  
8 too full of yourself.  
9 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes

10 have expired, ma'am.  
11 MS. GREEN: But I hope and I pray  
12 that each one of you remember why you ran  
18 and I hope that was for a good reason. I  
14 hope each one of you, I'm not on any side,  
15 I'm talking to you as individuals, listen to  
M people. That's why you were elected. Thank  
17 you.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I have one  
18 more speaker and then after that speaker  
20 we're going to recess for about a half hour.  
21 Is it Kearyn Rubio?  
22 MS. RUBIO: First I want to give  
23 honor to God for waking me up this morning.  
24 All my elected officials that are here, both  
25 Republican and Democrat, Independent, I  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 would like give you greetings in peace.  
3 I won't stand before you too  
4 long. I also wanted to thank all the  
5 chairpersons who are here and local  
6 community residents, I think we should give  
7 them a round of applause for their support  
8 in this Democratic process.  
9 You know, something that just  
10 comes to my mind is that our founding  
11 fathers had a problem against tiriney. When  
12 you were trusted in good faith with an  
18 allocated budget of \$500,000, this was to go  
14 on both sides, both Republican and  
15 Democratic for a Democratic process to be  
M taking place before our eyes.  
17 Chairperson Gonsalves, I was in  
18 the meeting when you publicly stated, you  
19 refused to put the Democratic version of the  
20 map on the floor for a vote. I find that to  
N. be appalling. I find it to be appalling  
22 that we are in 2013 and there is some type  
23 of attitude that we are in 1923 with horse  
24 and buggies that we pulled up outside.  
25 It's a new day and the people  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 here are speaking on one accord. We're not  
3 here to sit in a sandbox. We are not here  
4 to build sand castles, we're here to trust  
5 you with what we have worked hard for and  
6 that's democracy on both sides.  
7 We know that the entire Long  
8 Island won't be blue, that one side of Long  
9 Island won't be all red. We know that it's  
10 going to be diverse people from diverse  
11 crowds who are here to be represented fairly  
12 and equally.  
13 So I will leave this with you for  
14 your consideration, that you will take the  
15 time, go back to the drawing board, and  
M consider the Democratic version along with  
17 your version. There shouldn't be a reason  
18 why there's only one version that is up for  
18 a vote. That is not why the money was  
20 trusted to both sides for one version to be  
M. heard as a vote.  
22 So I thank you for your time and  
23 consideration. I thank you for being here.  
24 But, at the same time, please give us  
25 respect as we are giving you respect as  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 well. It's not a one-sided conversation.  
3 Thank you.  
4 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you  
5 for coming.  
6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: I know we  
7 are getting ready to break into a recess but  
8 I think I would be remiss and I think I  
9 speak for, even though I know you guys have  
10 pretty much vented most of your concerns to  
H. my colleagues to the right, but I truly  
12 believe that this process from when it began  
18 for us, going back 18 months, but, more  
14 importantly, some of you just became engaged  
15 in the month of February with this process,  
M or January, that it has come to the steps of  
17 the legislature, I want to thank each and  
18 every one of you for coming down.  
19 I think everyone up here should  
20 feel, regardless of whether you agree or  
M. disagree, this is Democracy, this is how our  
22 country should work. Unfortunately, we're

23 not seeing that being resinated with the map  
24 but you should have an opportunity to  
25 fulfill the needs and express your concerns  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and, at the same time, in a perfect world,  
3 you should have the opportunity to actually  
4 see some differences and changes based on  
5 what your words command. That's not the  
6 case, but I do want to take the opportunity  
7 because each of you, I know I've talked to  
8 you before and after this meeting, a lot of  
9 have taken off from work. A lot of you have  
10 children here. I know I've seen Scottie  
11 Coads who was here with her grandson  
12 multiple times.  
13 So I just want to thank each and  
14 every one of you for participating, for  
15 being a part of this process. I know it  
M wasn't easy to come down here on Mondays,  
17 sometimes in the morning, or in the  
18 afternoon, and stay here until 12 o'clock, 1  
19 o'clock at night, but you did it, and we're  
20 thankful. So thank you and God bless you  
21 all.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: We are now  
23 in recess for approximately 40 minutes, 45  
24 minutes. I would say it's now 10 to 2:00  
25 according to the clock back there.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Approximately 2:30.  
3 (Whereupon, the Full Legislative  
4 Committee recessed at 1:50 p.m. and  
5 reconvened at 2:50 p.m.)  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: At this  
7 time, ladies and gentlemen, fellow  
8 legislators, prior to the recess, or at the  
9 beginning of the hearing, we chose to allow  
10 the public to speak first and then have the  
11 legislators ask questions of Mr. Moroney.  
12 At this time I believe there are  
18 a few legislators who have some questions of  
14 Mr. Moroney. I think Mr. Moroney is right

15 here somewhere. I'm going to begin with  
16 legislator, Deputy Presiding Officer Richard  
17 Nicoletto.

18 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Mr.

18 Moroney, there were some questions and  
20 answers at the last hearing and this issue  
M. has come up again with respect to the use of  
22 this CVAP, citizen voting age population.  
23 Could you briefly just clarify  
24 again its use?

25 MR. MORONEY: Sure. Every

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 district is drawn the same way, whether it's  
3 mincrity/majcrity cr a regular district —  
4 every district is drawn the same way. The  
5 first thing y0u want tc dc is, y0u need the  
6 right pcpulaticn. Then y0u lcck at vcting  
7 age pcpulaticn tc see what the ethnic  
8 makeup, the demcgraphic makeup cf the  
9 district is.

10 CVAP is citizens vcting age

11 pcpulaticn is a standard that is used tc  
12 measure the functicnality cf a mincrity  
13 district.

14 For example, the discussicn last

15 week was cver 43 percent in LD number 2 cf  
M vcting age pcpulaticn, but the CVAP in

17 District 2 was 55.9 percent cf n0n-Hispanic  
18 Black pcpulaticn. CVAP is a standard tc  
19 measure the functicnality cf the mincrity  
20 district.

21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Is it used

22 by the Department cf Justice?

23 MR. MORONEY: Yes, it is.

24 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: S0 it's a

25 legitimate use cf that data, is that what

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 you're saying?

3 MR. MORONEY: Yes, it's a

4 legitimate use and it's also a preferred use

5 and it is based upon estimates. It's not

6 based upon actual numbers because you can't

7 necessarily measure it in every instance.  
8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Well,  
9 you'll be glad to know that there are  
10 experts who agree with your position, and,  
11 in particular, I would like to read from the  
12 Full Legislature of May 16, 2011.  
13 "Legislator Ciotti, this is  
14 important to understand with regard to  
15 District 3, which is I think where you  
M currently oversee and deal with as a  
17 legislator. CVAP was never mentioned by the  
18 county attorney or anyone else. That's how  
19 you do a proper evaluation to see if a map,  
20 see if your districts are in compliance with  
21 the Voting Rights Act. You look at CVAP."  
22 Let me read that again because  
23 there was a little bit of confusion about  
24 this.  
25 "CVAP was never mentioned by the  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 county attorney or anyone else. That's how  
3 you do a proper evaluation to see if a map,  
4 to see if your districts are in compliance  
5 with the Voting Rights Act. You look at  
6 CVAP."  
7 That was from Fred Brewington's  
8 testimony on May 16th, 2011. So, again,  
9 there is support for what your position and  
10 the use of CVAP in this analysis. Thank  
11 you.  
12 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: At this  
13 time, I think there are three members of the  
14 minority who would like to address  
15 Mr. Moroney. We will begin with Legislator  
16 Troiano.  
17 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Thank you.  
18 And Mr. Nicoletto for reading that into the  
19 record. I'm a little surprised that you  
20 would have chosen to do that though. That  
M. you would have chose to cite Fred Brewington  
22 who I consider to be a legend, but is that  
23 the same Fred Brewington that this past  
24 Monday you accused of being underhanded?  
25 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Well, if  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 you want to discuss what it was that we were  
3 talking about, but Mr. Brewington was asking  
4 the presiding officer about specific Supreme  
5 Court questions, of cases, of holdings, and  
6 maybe underhanded was the wrong word, but I  
7 didn't think it was fair, particularly for a  
8 layperson, never mind an attorney who  
9 doesn't practice in the area of  
10 constitutional law to start asking questions  
H. about the holdings of particular Supreme  
12 Court cases that nobody else in this room  
13 can answer. So I thought that was a little  
14 bit unfair. But you have him supporting the  
15 position that CVAP is what you use to  
M evaluate the Voting Rights Act.

17 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Well, I'm

18 glad you have taken back the assertion that  
19 he's underhanded because that surely is not  
20 an appropriate way to characterize —

21 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: As I said,

22 it was for the benefit of —

23 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: And I'm

24 happy that you have chosen to uplift him by  
25 citing his testimony. Let me also cite

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 testimony by Dr. Thomas Hofeller who was  
3 hired by your county attorney in 2011 in the  
4 case brought by one of our citizens,  
5 Mr. Boone, in which he says that:  
6 "The ACS, which is a mechanism  
7 used to determine CVAP," and, by the way, he  
8 was paid \$300 an hour for this opinion.  
9 "The ACS was not designed for redistricting  
10 use." Not designed for redistricting use,  
H. an expert attorney paid for and brought to  
12 us by the county attorney. And so T'm left  
13 still wondering why we would place such  
14 reliance on CVAP.

15 Let's get into what CVAP is.

M It's a mistake to take the ACS and apply it  
17 to individual legislative districts. Are  
18 you familiar with how ACS works, how they do  
19 their sampling, how they do their surveying?



20 MR. MORONEY: With the  
21 M. methodology, no, I don't know the  
22 methodology, but I understand that what they  
23 do is, they come up with estimates based  
24 upon statistical models.  
25 LEGISLATOR TROTANO: Right. They  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 come up with estimates based on entire  
3 regions of the country. Then they take all  
4 of Long Island to develop a citizen  
5 estimate. What they don't do, they don't  
6 look at District 2 and determine what the  
7 citizen population is of District 2. Nor  
8 do they apply that to District 3, nor to  
9 District 1, nor to District 19, nor to  
10 District 14. They never get into that kind  
11 of nitty gritty.  
12 So it's an offense for you to  
13 come here and present that District 2, CVAP,  
14 is 55 percent, or earlier, Mr. Nicoletto was  
15 going to contest whether it was 56 percent  
16 or 55 percent, it is not that refined a tool  
17 that we should lend reliance on the ACS.  
18 MR. MORONEY: Can I go back and  
19 start with the question that you started  
20 with which was, or your assertion whichever  
21 it was, that CVAP is not a proper tool in  
22 redistricting?  
23 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Sorry. That  
24 was not my assertion. That was Dr.  
25 Hofeller's assertion. And just so everybody  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 heard me, Dr. Hofeller was paid by the  
3 county attorney, by the taxpayers in this  
4 room right now, \$300 an hour, for that that  
5 expert testimony. That was his assertion.  
6 MR. MORONEY: CVAP is attached at  
7 the point at which the district has been  
8 drawn to look at it, to determine if the  
9 district as drawn functions properly as a  
10 minority/majority district.  
11 You don't draw a map around CVAP,

12 but it is a standard against which the  
18 functionality of that potential  
14 minority/majority district is measured. And  
15 it is that which the federal government, the  
M Department of Justice, looks at if this gets  
17 that far. It is certainly a standard that  
18 is used to determine if what you have  
19 constitutes what you asserted is.  
20 In this instance, in this  
21 instance being Nassau County, three existing  
22 minority/majority districts. They existed  
23 before the mapping took place. They exist  
24 still.  
25 What happens is that, when you  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 look at the demographic makeup and look at  
3 all these different things, you try to draw  
4 it in a way that is meaningful. In the  
5 context of the Voting Rights Act, in the  
6 context the districting standards,  
7 population, Voting Rights Act, and  
8 traditional standard of districting, it is a  
9 composite standard not a single standard.  
10 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: It's an  
11 estimate?  
12 MR. MORONEY: Yes. CVAP is an  
13 estimate, right. But drawing the district  
14 is a multi-tiered process, the result you  
15 look at is, okay, I have this, now is it  
16 going to function as a minority/majority  
17 district. That's one of the things you look  
18 at is CVAP because if you are not a citizen,  
19 you don't vote. So they have, "they" being  
20 the districting demographers, have to come  
M. up with an estimate as to who will vote and  
22 the numbers. That's why the numbers seem to  
23 vary so much. Because more, for example,  
24 more non-Hispanic Black are citizens than  
25 Hispanic population are citizens. That's  
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196

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 why the numbers seem to escalate when you  
3 talk about non-Hispanic Black population

4 because more Blacks are citizens.  
5 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: You know, I  
6 hadn't intended to get into this area again,  
7 since Mr. Nicolello brought it up I wanted  
8 to respond to it.  
9 MR. MORONEY: Sure.  
10 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: So everybody  
H. knows that, I don't want to say there is a  
12 controversy, but there's a disagreement on  
13 just applicable it is and about the  
14 methodology that they use. So we all know  
15 that we shouldn't hide behind it being a  
M census designated requirement, or that it  
17 has precision to it, because we all  
18 acknowledge, I think, that it doesn't, and  
19 there could be experts on each side of the  
20 fence who would disagree on its relevancy in  
M. a particular case.  
22 MR. MORONEY: It does have  
23 sufficient accuracy for it to be the  
24 standard applied by the Department of  
25 Justice.  
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197

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Well, you  
3 can't really speak to that because you're  
4 not even quite sure what the methodology is.  
5 MR. MORONEY: I'm not — I  
6 couldn't tell you how it was calculated,  
7 that's correct.  
8 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Here is what  
9 I really wanted to talk about. Earlier when  
10 you were sitting in the back, Scottie Coats  
11 from my district, asked the question about  
12 what it was that you meant at our hearing on  
18 February 25th when you said that certain  
14 groups of people in LD 2 had to be moved out  
15 from LD 2 into LD 14, she didn't get a  
M chance to get a response — I'm sorry, the  
17 presiding officer chose not to respond to  
18 that question and you weren't here at that  
19 time and you were in the back room, weren't  
20 at the podium.  
21 Could you now respond to that  
22 question?  
23 MR. MORONEY: Do you have the  
24 quote, because I don't recall using those

25 words. If you have the quote, I'll respond  
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198

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 to the quote. I'm not going to respond to  
3 the characterization of what I might or  
4 might not have said. I generally don't talk  
5 that way.  
6 I probably said, without seeing  
7 the quote, that District 2 was  
8 over-populated and, as a result, population  
9 had to be moved out of the district. Since  
10 it was in District Number 2 — for example,  
11 in District Number 2, to use the Democratic  
12 proposal as an example, Lakeview was moved  
13 out of the district as a means of bringing  
14 the district into compliance with the  
15 population requirements. So that happened.  
M That was one way of doing it.  
17 This was another way of doing it.  
18 It left intact the Lakeview piece of LD  
19 number 2 which has been the subject of  
20 controversy over the years of pulling it out  
M. and attaching it to District 5 and up.  
22 So it was over-populated and it  
23 needed to be put into compliance with the  
24 constitutional standard of One Person One  
25 Vote. I don't believe I used those words  
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199

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 because I don't generally talk that way,  
3 but, if I did, give me the quote and I'll be  
4 happy to address it.  
5 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Unfortunately  
6 I don't have a copy of the transcript, and I  
7 do recollect those words being said, but I  
8 can't read it back to you verbatim to say  
9 you actually said exactly those words.  
10 You are right, there are  
H. decisions that have to be made and we heard  
12 in your testimony given at the hearing on  
13 the 25th and heard it a number of times and  
14 you and I discussed that late that night,  
15 that you gave the response in answer to the  
M question many times, why was this line put

1] here, and why was the line put there?  
18 Your response was, it was based  
19 upon policy decisions and policy choices and  
20 in at least one case you said from the  
21 county legislature. You and I went back and  
22 forth on what that actually meant and I  
23 think, in the end, you acknowledged that  
24 there really wasn't anything from the county  
25 legislature, as even a body, but that there  
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200

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 was a letter from the presiding officer who  
3 maybe you felt was speaking for the entire  
4 legislature as the chair of this committee.  
5 But I just want to point out to  
6 you, I asked for a copy of the letter which  
7 I didn't get until this morning but I do  
8 have it now. And it's amazing to me in its  
9 brevity given that this is something that we  
10 will live with for the next ten years. That  
11 the only — she really didn't speak about  
12 policy decisions or policy choices. In  
18 fact, she really didn't speak about anything  
14 except to say that there was a redistricting  
15 committee that was set up, they didn't come  
M forward with a recommendation, the county  
17 charter requires us to vote by March 5th.  
18 Would you please, asking this of  
10 Michael Kiernan, would you please consult  
20 with, and only one person, she asked to  
21 consult with only one person, not a  
22 bipartisan panel, not the majority counsel,  
23 not the minority council. She simply says,  
24 I asked to consult with majority counsel and  
25 policy advisor Christopher O'Stuney so that  
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201

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 appropriate legislation may be drafted.  
3 And some of you here today wonder  
4 why the people there feel like this is a  
5 kangaroo court. It's because when something  
6 as important as this, that will impact  
7 Nassau County for the next ten years, there  
8 are no policy decisions given here. No

9 policy choices given here. Simply a  
10 direction from Matt Kiernan, for those of  
H. you who don't know, who is the co-executive  
12 director of the commission, simply a request  
18 that he contact majority counsel.  
14 That's why we all feel like we  
15 are being asked now to vote for something.  
16 People are being asked to accept, a vote  
17 that will be for the next ten years, and  
18 there's no public record of what policy  
18 decisions, what policy choices you were  
20 being asked to hold yourself to when you  
M. developed this map.  
22 In fact, you said at the hearing  
23 that there was nothing put in paper between  
24 you, and I guess another co-executive  
25 director of the commission, is that —  
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202

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MR. MORONEY: No, the title was,  
3 the civil service title that had been held  
4 over from ten years ago when the first  
5 redistricting commission was, they had two  
6 different co-executors, one was myself at  
7 the time from the Republicans, and the other  
8 one was, I can't remember her first name,  
9 last name was Butler, who was the  
10 co-executive director for the Democratic  
11 commissioners.  
12 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: This wasn't  
13 my problem though regardless of what your  
14 title is, there is no communication from the  
15 presiding officer with any specifics as to  
M how she wanted you to go about drawing the  
17 map.  
18 There is also nothing written  
19 between you and Skyline demographics?  
20 MR. MORONEY: Correct.  
21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: About what  
22 you wanted them to do in terms of drawing a  
23 map. So there is nothing here for us to  
24 analyze and understand the basic building  
25 blocks that were used to develop this map  
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203

I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 except that once we get it all spun around  
3 and it comes out, we find out that there  
4 were policy decisions and policy choices  
5 that were used to make those decisions about  
6 where the lines should be drawn, we have  
7 nothing to say, well, yeah, Mr. Moroney did  
8 exactly what he was asked to do because it's  
9 all just a blank slate.  
10 MR. MORONEY: Well, I was not in  
11 that chain of instructions. I'm here to  
12 explain the map as it exists. I wasn't in  
13 the chain of instructions between the  
14 presiding officer and Matt Kiernan.  
15 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: That's even  
M more confusing to me that that presiding  
17 officer gives Mr. Kiernan direction, and  
18 then you give Skyline demographics  
19 direction. There's a little disconnect in  
20 that chain, isn't there?  
21 MR. MORONEY: No, no. With  
22 respect to drawing district lines, my  
23 contact with Skyline ceased on January 5th.  
24 Subsequent to that, it was between the  
25 presiding officer or her designee, and Matt  
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204

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Kiernan.  
3 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Then let me  
4 ask you again then, in your testimony at the  
5 February 25th hearing, you said that lines  
6 were drawn based upon policy decisions and  
7 policy choices from the legislature.  
8 MR. MORONEY: That's correct.  
9 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: There is no  
10 sitting body here that gave you those  
H. directions. Something may have come from  
12 the presiding officer, and that may be in  
13 her authority, but it's not reflected in  
14 this letter.  
15 So, if in fact it came from the  
M county legislature, what instrument was it  
17 that gave you that direction?  
18 MR. MORONEY: I wasn't given any  
19 of those directions. I wasn't in that chain  
20 of communication.  
21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: I'm not

22 asking you — forget about that chain, all  
23 right? I'm asking about your testimony,  
24 what you said, that the lines were drawn  
25 based on policy choices and policy decisions  
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205

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 from the county legislature.  
3 MR. MORONEY: Well, that was  
4 based upon the discussions in preparation  
5 for my testimony.  
6 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: With who?  
7 MR. MORONEY: With Matt Kiernan.  
8 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: So  
9 Mr. Kiernan I would presume reflected to you  
10 the comparable letter that he got from the  
11 presiding officer?  
12 MR. MORONEY: No. In explaining  
13 the map — Mr. Rosenthal, whose testified at  
14 these hearings on behalf of the League of  
15 Women Voters and also the NURC, at the  
16 hearing in Elmont, asked a question about  
17 how each individual line is drawn. I can  
18 tell you how each individual line is drawn,  
19 but why they're drawn and where the lines  
20 go, that is a policy choice that's made by  
21 the people who are in charge of the process  
22 itself. The mechanics of it, you are  
23 limited by census geography. You can go off  
24 of census geography if you want to pair it  
25 back and take a house out here or a house  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 out there, if that's what your pleasure is.  
3 But you're limited by census  
4 geography. That census geography is  
5 computer targetfile (phonetic) driven.  
6 That's the how. That's the mechanics of it.  
7 Why a district is configured the  
8 way it is or isn't is the policy choices  
9 that the artists, if you will, the  
10 cartographers, if you want to us a more  
11 technical phrase, that's their province to  
12 determine.  
13 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Mr. Moroney,



14 you are an extremely good witness for your  
15 position, you are also very good at  
M deflecting. I asked you about your direct  
17 testimony, and you deflected to a hearing in  
18 Elmont. Please, sir. And I'm going to drop  
19 this, okay? But you've acknowledged that  
20 you said during the hearing that the lines  
M. were drawn based on policy decisions and  
22 policy choices of the county legislature.  
23 That's all I wanted to say. We'll move on.  
24 MR. MORONEY: I have said that.  
25 I said that. And I will stand by whatever  
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207

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 the testimony is that I gave.  
3 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: So all I  
4 want to say is, that that direction, just  
5 for the record, and if we go to court, that  
6 direction did not come from the minority  
7 caucus of the county legislature.  
8 MR. MORONEY: That's true.  
9 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Now you were  
10 indirectly part of an exchange between Mr.  
H. Nicoletto and I and you were whispering over  
12 his shoulder which is your right, and he  
13 should take guidance from his staff, but I  
14 want to give you an opportunity to respond  
15 to some of the questions that I asking, some  
M of them rhetorically but I really do would  
17 like to have an answer to.  
18 MR. MORONEY: And we understand  
19 — and you've made the characterization to  
20 drawing a map to being like a Jell-O mold,  
M. and that if you move something, the Jell-O  
22 kind of falls apart, so if you move one line  
23 in one district, that might case the shape  
24 in another district to change in a way that  
25 it would no longer abide by the Voting  
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208

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Rights Act. So you have to be really  
3 careful about that, I understand that.  
4 But we should also be seeking, to  
5 the extent we can, perfection, if we can

6 achieve that. We will never achieve  
7 perfection, but Abraham Lincoln said we  
8 should be striving for a more perfect union.  
9 So we should be striving for a more perfect  
10 map here if we can.  
11 And one of the tenants of the  
12 Voting Rights Act as it has been applied to  
13 Nassau County is that the minority community  
14 remain intact and in whole, that it  
15 shouldn't be cracked without also being  
16 packed.  
17 So District 2 along those  
18 guidelines has been pretty much the way it  
19 is today for the last 16 years that the  
20 county legislature has been in effect. With  
21 the exception that, what I'm going to call  
22 the north Main Street area, which is  
23 actually a section of Hempstead that's  
24 larger than just north Main Street, but for  
25 the ease of conversation, I will call it the  
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209

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 north Main Street area. That's a population  
3 of some 5,000, approximately, which consists  
4 of roughly six census districts.  
5 It seems — and now I'm going to  
6 ask you, it seems to me that we could have  
7 taken, for example, one more census  
8 district, which is about 1,000 people, and  
9 kept that in LD 2, and not put it in LD 14,  
10 so at least though 1,000 people, those  
11 approximate numbers, would not see their  
12 vote disenfranchised, not see their vote  
13 diluted. They would not be disenfranchised.  
14 And you might have edged a little  
15 closer and gone on and, let's say, let's  
16 take one more census district and let's see  
17 where we wind up against the ideal  
18 population. And maybe you might have taken  
19 even a third census district and apply that  
20 same standard. Maybe you got to the point  
21 where you said, oops, LD 14 now is too few  
22 people, LD 2 has too many people. What you  
23 could have done then is, taken LD 1, which  
24 is under-populated, moved that line a little  
25 bit into LD 2, and balance out LD 2 again,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and brought some more people in from the  
3 north Main Street area in order to maintain  
4 a more perfect map. I understand it  
5 wouldn't be perfect, but there was an  
6 opportunity there to do that.  
7 These people behind you wouldn't  
8 be alleging Voting Rights Act violations had  
9 you taken a little bit more time to be  
10 considerate of that possibility.  
11 So let me just ask you, and I  
12 said this before, you are very button down,  
18 you are very precise, you give a great deal  
14 of thought to everything you do, I have  
15 known you for 10 years now, I know that to  
M be a fact. But, in this case, you chose  
1] what I'm going to call, a rush to judgement  
18 to disenfranchise that part of Hempstead and  
19 to create a third legislator representing  
20 that part of the community, putting them in  
M. a district that they don't share any  
22 demographics with.  
23 MR. MORONEY: In order to make a  
24 determination as to whether or not  
25 population is moved in and moved out of an  
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211

1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 area, the first standard is One Person One  
3 Vote. The perfect world would be a zero  
4 deviation. Each district would have exactly  
5 70,573 people in it.  
6 In determining where particular  
7 lines go, and I can't speak to that  
8 particular line, I don't know why it was put  
9 there, but the first thing you would want to  
10 do, before you would draw the conclusion  
11 that you've just drawn, is to do an analysis  
12 of that district to make sure that it was  
18 populated primarily with people who qualify  
14 as minorities for minority Voting Rights Act  
15 protection. I don't know the answer to that  
M seminal question. It may be that it is. It  
1] may also be that it isn't. That's number  
18 one.

19 Your question presupposes that  
20 that population, that 5,000 population, and  
21 the other \$2,600 which is in an area just,  
22 I believe, west of there, is that kind of  
23 population. The kind of population that  
24 falls into the category of a protected  
25 Voting Rights Act minority.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Again, I don't know that that's  
3 the case. But you still have to go towards  
4 the ideal number. It is that which you look  
5 towards. I'm not sure that 5,000 people  
6 being taken out of District Number 14  
7 doesn't create a constitutional issue  
8 because, if you take 5,000 people out of  
9 District 14 you now are, at the very best,  
10 at the outer edge of an under-populated  
11 district.  
12 You can't just take from one  
18 without looking at the consequences of the  
14 other, therefore, Jell-0. It has a  
15 consequence. You have to measure the  
M consequence. Then you have to figure out  
1] where you're going to get that population  
18 from. That's where the effect, and I also  
19 call it the balloon effect, because when  
20 you're pushing one side, it goes out the  
21 other side. That's where you have to  
22 measure the effect. That's the abstract  
23 answer.

24 The specific answer, again,  
25 without evaluating the population of that  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 area, I couldn't tell you if it was  
3 worthwhile doing that, or if not doing it  
4 constitutes a Voting Rights Act violation.  
5 I think the voting rights standard that  
6 needs to be met is one that relates to the  
7 population as a whole. It may very well be  
8 the opposite of cracking is packing.  
9 Somebody might be making that argument today  
10 if that had been done that other way. I

H. don't know that. Again, you have to  
12 evaluate that specific or specific census  
13 blocks to determine what the census shows.  
14 I think in that you might find a solution,  
15 but, again, without doing that, I can't  
M really address it except in the abstract.  
17 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Mr. Moroney,  
18 as I said, you are a very good witness in  
19 your position and very good at deflecting  
20 what is one question into another question.  
21 I was being very clear. I'm giving you —  
22 I'm acknowledging that keeping this Jell-O  
23 mold is hard to do.  
24 I was very clear, I thought, and  
25 I thought I was going on too long by giving  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 you an example. Do take census track by  
3 census track. Not all 5,000 people take one  
4 track at a time and let's see — let's put  
5 that back in LD 2 and let's see what that  
6 does to our numbers. You haven't addressed  
7 that question. That's what I'm asking you.  
8 As for a constitutional issue,  
9 maybe, but that area is putting LD 2 by a  
10 federal judge concerned only about  
11 constitutional issues in 1996.  
12 MR. MORONEY: No.  
13 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: Let me  
14 finish, please. And now you come to us and  
15 say, you said this yourself, just now,  
M without knowing, without doing any analysis,  
17 which is offensive to me that you're coming  
18 here carrying water for this map, that you  
19 don't know the answer, because why are you  
20 here if you can't answer basic questions  
M. about how the map was drawn.  
22 And so if there is somebody else  
23 that prepared the map and can answer those  
24 questions, let's have them come down now and  
25 answer that question.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MR. MORONEY: Let me just go back

3 and say one thing. First off, this district  
4 was not drawn by a federal judge or federal  
5 magistrate in 1996.  
6 This map was drawn by the  
7 Commission on Government Revision. It  
8 approved it. It was approved by the County  
9 Board of Legislators. They put it out for  
10 referendum and it was approved by the people  
11 of Nassau County. This was not a court  
12 imposed map. This was a court driven  
13 process to collect a One Person One Vote  
14 violation with respect to the weighted  
15 voting of the board of supervisors. That's  
16 number one.  
17 Number two, I'm here to explain  
18 what the map is, what it does. And,  
19 respectfully, I'm not here to redraw the map  
20 on the fly from the floor of the legislative  
21 chamber and explain to you why other people  
22 didn't do the kind of analysis that you did  
23 which may or may not have occurred.  
24 We go back to the basic premise,  
25 you have a map, again, you have a district  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 that is perfectly legitimate  
3 minority/majority district by every standard  
4 available. And it will, I believe, it will  
5 be sustained as when a lawsuit is commenced.  
6 I think the same is true about  
7 Districts 1 and 3. The Village of Hempstead  
8 was always split in two. We know that. It  
9 was split twice in the first map. The  
10 districts are virtually the same as they  
11 were in the first map.  
12 A choice was made to balance  
13 population. In the Democratic map, the  
14 choice was made to take Lakeview out of the  
15 district and put it into District 5 for  
16 policy reasons I assume, and the decision  
17 here was made to put Lakeview back in, but  
18 to do that, you now had to excise other  
19 population from a different area. That's  
20 the way this process works.  
21 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: I'm going to  
22 end now, but, again, you deflected from the  
23 map we are being asked to vote on, to a

24 Democratic map that is not even part of this  
25 proceeding, and I'm not sure how we even get  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 into this discussion.  
3 I'm just going to say that I  
4 think I provided another way that this could  
5 have been done and could still be done,  
6 which would be to try to incorporate as much  
7 of that north Main Street area as we  
8 possibly could, as it's been for the last 16  
9 years, 17 years, of the county legislature,  
10 and that could have been done and maintained  
H. a population balance in District 1, District  
12 2, and District 14. So I just wanted to put  
18 that on the record that that could have been  
14 done. Thank you.

15 MR. MORONEY: Thank you.

16 CHATSWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator  
17 Jacobs.

18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I have one  
18 question and one statement.

20 MR. MORONEY: Sure.

21 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Did any  
22 experts, the experts that drew up the map  
23 originally, or others, did any experts at  
24 all review the changes that have been made  
25 to the map, and, if so, what was their

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 response?

3 MR. MORONEY: I'm not sure that's  
4 a question of privilege or not, but, as I  
5 understand it, everybody who has been  
6 involved in this process has asserted that  
7 it meets all the standards necessary to  
8 muster or to stand up to a constitutional or  
9 Voting Rights Act challenge.

10 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So you're not  
H. going to go into specifics as to who weighed  
12 in on it; like Jones Day, for example, or I  
18 forgot their name —

14 MR. MORONEY: I've already  
15 testified that Jones Day looked at the map.

16 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: I'm just  
17 asking because I know changes were made and  
18 some, obviously, very good, some — I just  
19 wonder with the questions that have just  
20 been asked, did anyone weigh in on these  
21 changes that are before us today that we are  
22 voting on?  
23 MR. MORONEY: Yes.  
24 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Was it Jones  
25 Day again?  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MR. MORONEY: Jones Day gave an  
3 opinion as to what they thought of the  
4 mapping process and the statistics that were  
5 provided to them, and in response to  
6 Mr. Klein's next question, though, it was  
7 not in writing.  
8 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Okay. But it  
9 was since — and obviously I'm going to  
10 guess something and please correct me if I'm  
11 H. wrong, it was between the last hearing we  
12 had and this hearing, because the changes  
13 just happened?  
14 MR. MORONEY: No. Absolutely  
15 not. I have not spoken to Jones Day since  
16 December.  
17 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: All right.  
18 So let me just ask you another question.  
19 Let me amend the answer because I think I  
20 answered a different question than you asked  
21 me.  
22 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Maybe.  
23 MR. MORONEY: I have not spoken  
24 with anybody, or have been told by anyone,  
25 other than the demographers, that this map  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 meets all the standards necessary. And I  
3 have not spoken to Jones Day about it at all  
4 subsequent to those December conversations.  
5 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So how would  
6 you explain these changes, based on the  
7 input of that hearing, the last hearing?



8 It's so hard to remember which hearing. The  
9 last hearing on this map.  
10 MR. MORONEY: You mean Jericho  
H. Gardens, and Legislator Denenberg's —  
12 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Yes.  
13 MR. MORONEY: That was a  
14 direction from the chair to take a look at  
15 — to go in and see if it could be done and  
M keep within the deviation and accomplish the  
17 two goals that were set out by the presiding  
18 officer.  
19 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: So, now, let  
20 me just share something. I don't expect you  
21 to respond, but I would just like to say  
22 this on the record.  
23 In 1995, when the legislature was  
24 first formed, there was a map that became  
25 the map of the legislature that obviously  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 was slanted in a certain way, and, low and  
3 behold, within those lines the majority  
4 changed in the legislature.  
5 MR. MORONEY: Correct.  
6 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: In 2003,  
7 another map was created. And, again, the  
8 first map was created by a majority of the  
9 Republicans. The second map by a majority  
10 of Democrats. And, in both cases, the  
11 representation from those two maps changed  
12 somewhere in the midstream. That, to me, is  
13 fair fight districts, right?  
14 Now, here we are with this map,  
15 and no one has any idea what's going to  
16 happen in the next ten years. For all we  
17 know, this map can change very easily for  
18 whatever happens in November to, let's say,  
19 five years from then.  
20 I, actually, believe that if  
21 there's anything good that comes from this  
22 whole process, I believe in a bipartisan  
23 way, and I really mean this from the bottom  
24 of my heart, somehow we should join the  
25 municipalities out there that deviate  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 completely away from the political drawing  
3 of the map, and go to a redistricting  
4 process that's really, by partisan  
5 agreement, in the hands of the good  
6 government groups.  
7 We have to pass something. We  
8 have time. We have to pass something that  
9 renders it legal and binding. And I realize  
10 that sometimes it means a magistrate ends up  
H. drawing those lines, but I think it would  
12 remove it from the sense of — I don't want  
13 to use anything too strong, but I  
14 understand, I'm listening to people for many  
15 days of meetings.  
16 I think if we remove the distrust  
17 that people sense as to why something or  
18 something else is being done in a certain  
19 way, and I actually think for both our  
20 houses, it would be refreshing for the  
21 public out there to feel that we could find  
22 that agreement able to be done. It might  
23 even require us to — I think it would, an  
24 amendment to our charter to allow for it,  
25 but grab it out of the political arena  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 completely. And I'm not talking today's,  
3 I'm talking about — I'm looking forward to  
4 ten years from now. Because those ten years  
5 go by in a flash.  
6 I could see — I hate what I see  
7 when I heard people today. And I know the  
8 distrust that people feel. Look, as a  
9 legislator, of course I'm happy to have a  
10 district, but I lose half of Syosset, half  
11 of Woodbury where I live. I think every  
12 legislator up here can tell you something  
13 that happened to them, that is really right  
14 to the core of what their district is about.  
15 I think — I actually believe  
M that's something we could do that would  
17 render it out of this arena, or even that  
18 commission which I'm sure all of you, you,  
19 Bonnie, and the commission members worked  
20 very hard on, would have much more — where

21 this would be much more meaningful than the  
22 exercise you went through which, in fact,  
23 ends up, I believe, in every case causing  
24 some distrust when there's people that don't  
25 agree with what has been done. It's just a  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 statement. I don't even know if you agree  
3 with me or not, or if you even think it  
4 could be done. But I think it's worth  
5 looking at.  
6 We are growing up. 1995 now  
7 seems ages away. It was really less than 20  
8 years away, but the truth of the matter is,  
9 it could be something that we could finally  
10 find something to grab us together and do it  
11 right.  
12 MR. MORONEY: As to the substance  
18 of your proposal, I won't comment. But I  
14 will tell you that at the very first  
15 business meeting of the commission, I went  
M out of my way to admonish everybody that  
17 these districts of this size are very  
18 sensitive to public policy choices, and  
19 pointed out, as you just did, that both  
20 maps, designed one way and designed the  
21 other way, yielded majorities in both  
22 parties. You know, the prediction of how  
23 these districts will function is a very  
24 suspect science.  
25 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Absolutely.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I agree with you. And that's why I'm saying  
3 this. Because I think if that same  
4 beginning of ten years from now on a  
5 bipartisan non-political group, would not be  
6 looked at with such distrust from the  
7 beginning, because it would be removed from  
8 the political arena.  
9 I don't know if it could be done,  
10 I don't know if logically it can be done.  
11 Someone has got to put people on this  
12 committee, but I know it's been done

13 successfully throughout the country in  
14 different areas and I think it's a  
15 worthwhile exercise to investigate and see  
M if everyone would agree to try it because, I  
17 don't know, this does not make anyone feel  
18 good when you hear what's gone on.  
19 I'm sure, whether I agree  
20 completely with everything you say, or you  
M. agree with me, no one likes this. Nobody  
22 likes to hear people feeling so distrustful  
23 of what we've done and what has been  
24 accomplished, and I think there might be  
25 ways to fix it. I think it behooves us to  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 try to be part of a change for the good.  
3 That's all.  
4 MR. MORONEY: Thank you.  
5 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Thank you.  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
7 Legislator Jacobs. Legislator Denenberg.  
8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Mr.  
9 Moroney, I'm going to pick up where I left  
10 off when you and I spoke last week, and I  
H. appreciate what you just said, but also I  
J2 understand that the presiding officer and,  
18 particularly, also, Legislator Ford had  
14 pointed out that these lines were literally  
J5 drawn extremely close to my house, and that  
M putting me back into the 19th District was  
17 something that could and should be done.  
18 But I was extremely concerned  
19 that communities of interest should, where  
20 possible, be kept together and you agreed  
M. with me, correct?  
22 MR. MORONEY: Yes.  
23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I also  
24 thought that we should be blind, as you've  
25 always said, to incumbency whether we  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 shouldn't favor it, and we certainly  
3 shouldn't draw a line to try to grab someone  
4 out either, we should be blind to

5 incumbency, and you agreed, right?

6 MR. MORONEY: Yes. And also grab

7 somebody in.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Correct.

9 So what would seem to me to make the most

10 sense is keep all of Merrick together,

H. without regard to where my house is, as

J2 opposed to taking out just a very small,

I3 less than half mile square area, east of the

JA Meadowbrook Parkway, west of Merrick Avenue,

J5 north of Merrick Road, and south of Sunrise

M Highway, for that to be taken out of the

J] Merrick community in a way that I thought

JB was really to pull me out of it, I thought

J9 was wrong, and that, to correct it, why not

20 put all of that community of interest back

21 together which would not leave the 5th

22 District less than the acceptable population

23 deviation from the mean, nor make the 19th

24 grow out of that acceptable population

25 deviation.

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2 So where I'm appreciative that my

3 house is now in Merrick, which it always was

4 in my district, which it had been for, you

5 know, since even before I was a legislator,

6 why can't we just put that small area of

7 Merrick back into the 19th so that a

8 community of interest be kept together?

9 MR. MORONEY: That direction was

10 not given to the demographer to do.

11 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I don't

12 really get that because, you and I, that was

18 the line of my questioning was really

14 questioning that a community of interest,

15 and in this case, Merrick, could be kept

M together without, as Legislator Troiano

17 pointed out, without that Jell-O mold being

18 pushed in any different direction.

19 I'm sure, and I've counted it

20 again and again, that the 19th would be

M. within the population deviation, and the 5th

22 would be within the population deviation, if

23 that small area, which is really less than

24 where, at most, two election districts, are

25 just put back into the 19th District. And

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 those two districts — I'm sorry, that small  
3 area has always been in the 19th District,  
4 since 1995.

5 MR. MORONEY: As I understand it,  
6 that choice has been made and the map is as  
7 it appears.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You know  
9 what, a lot was made and I appreciate all  
10 the people from Merrick, Bellmore, Wantagh  
11 that came down. And, if I was understanding  
12 them correct, they didn't want myself  
18 targeted to be taken out of the 19th, were  
14 appreciative that I was put back in, but,  
15 just as important, the concept was to keep  
M Merrick, the community, whole, and not  
17 needlessly split.

18 I know that we haven't achieved  
19 that goal. I'm showing you a community of  
20 interest that could be together without  
N. anything changing.

22 MR. MORONEY: I don't believe  
23 there are going to be any other changes to  
24 this map.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I guess I

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 can count — we know that. I'm just  
3 expressing my disappointment. Because  
4 Merrick can be kept together and, to me, I  
5 wasn't just fighting for where I live. I  
6 was fighting for my neighbors too. And I'm  
7 in a funny — forget about my situation. My  
8 block, I'm the only one on my block who is  
9 back in the 19th, literally, the only one on  
10 my block, McCord Avenue that is going to be  
11 in the 19th, in that half a square mile  
12 area, it's population wouldn't change a  
13 thing. The 19th would be within an  
14 acceptable deviation, and the 5th will, and  
15 we can just do the right thing.  
16 That's your answer to doing the  
17 right thing, making a face?

18 MR. MORONEY: Please. You're  
19 unhappy. There is plenty of people in this  
20 process that are unhappy.  
21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Seems like  
22 every one is unhappy except for maybe 11  
23 people in this room.  
24 MR. MORONEY: The map, as it is  
25 laid out in front of you, is the subject of  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 an amendment, and there are no other  
3 amendments pending or planned. I can stand  
4 here and maybe deflect it a bit, but that's  
5 just the plain truth.  
6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You know  
7 what, let me just ask you one question and  
8 then I will sum it up.  
9 But you said since December you  
10 haven't consulted with counsel regarding the  
H. map; is that correct?  
12 MR. MORONEY: That's correct.  
13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So we had  
14 revisions twice since then, the revisions  
15 last week, and the revisions prior to the  
M meeting of February 26th, correct?  
17 MR. MORONEY: Correct.  
18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So in both  
19 those changes, you didn't find it necessary  
20 to consult with counsel?  
21 MR. MORONEY: On both of those  
22 changes, I was not a part of that, that was  
23 with the presiding officer and her  
24 designees. Did I? No. Did they? That may  
25 or may not have occurred.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Let me sum  
3 up — I think that we can sum up the attempt  
4 here, and, again, while I appreciate  
5 Legislators Gonsalves and Ford on a personal  
6 level, if we could move two blocks and one  
7 house on McCord Avenue in Merrick, back into  
8 Merrick, we could have moved that little  
9 area, that finger, or knuckle, as someone

IO said, that was taken out of Merrick, and the  
H. I9th back in, and I'm very unhappy that my  
I2 community, which could have been kept whole  
IS is not whole, and there was no reason to do  
I4 it but partisan politics.

I5 You're right, what Scottie just  
M said, I would think it wasn't too late, but,  
I7 that's it, I don't have any further points.

IS CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator

I9 Bosworth, please.

20 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

2I So the last time when we met I  
22 spoke about process and procedure. I'm  
23 sitting here today and I'm frankly very  
24 perplexed.

25 This is a hearing and we had

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2 people from the public, and we appreciate  
3 all of you who came out here today, who came  
4 to speak and to ask questions and once again  
5 they were told they were going to be heard  
6 but their questions would not be answered.

7 I don't understand how people

8 come and have questions asked on a day

9 where, in fact, it probably — there's

IO clearly going to be a vote taken and they

II still don't have the opportunity to have

J2 those questions answered. When are their

J3 questions answered?

14 MR. MORONEY: I'm not sure which

J5 question you are referring to, but —

I6 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: There were

J] many. I'm sorry, go ahead.

18 MR. MORONEY: That's okay. I

J9 understand. Look, I'm understanding as to

20 what this process is about. Every

M. districting, every districting, makes some

22 people happy and some people unhappy.

23 You cannot, try as you might, to

24 be perfect, come up with a map that makes

25 everybody happy. It's impossible.

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2 Perfection is not a standard, it's a goal.  
3 The standards are the standards that are set  
4 by the law. In this instance, this map  
5 beats those standards. And it's being  
6 criticized for beating them a lot.  
7 That needs to be said because  
8 this is not somebody who found, or some  
9 process that's found the absolute edge of  
10 the law and is walking right along that  
11 line. This is a situation where lots of  
12 things were done to try to achieve that  
13 perfection.  
14 The problem with anything you do  
15 is you create problems every time you change  
M something. Those things press the edge of  
17 legality. Ten percent is not a goal. Ten  
18 percent is a limit.  
19 The goal is to get below ten  
20 percent, not to be at it. Unless there is  
21 some exigent circumstances, some strange  
22 circumstances, you have to be able to defend  
23 a larger deviation. So there's lots of stuff  
24 here to make people happy. There's lots of  
25 stuff here to make people unhappy.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 For example, Legislator  
3 Muscarella mentioned dividing Levittown into  
4 three areas. There's a proposal to divide  
5 the barrier island, but, yet, the people  
6 from the barrier island wanted to be kept  
7 together. There was a proposal to put Great  
8 Neck back together, one, that I know is dear  
9 to you, that has consequences.  
10 Everything you do moves through  
11 the map. It's like a sound wave, it just  
12 continues to move, better than Jell-O. And  
13 I think that's what has to be understood,  
14 even if it doesn't make people happy.  
15 Nobody is here, nobody is here to cause  
M consternation and unhappiness.  
17 I know that lots of people  
18 believe that, but that's just the simple  
19 reality of it.  
20 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: And,  
M. Mr. Moroney, I understand what you're  
22 saying. Some people are going to be happy,

23 some people aren't going to be happy, but  
24 that really wasn't what I was asking.  
25 I was saying that people came  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 here today with questions, and whether the  
3 answers to the questions were going to make  
4 them happy or not, they were told their  
5 questions would not be answered. That's  
6 what I take issue with.  
7 Again, the answers may not have  
8 made everybody happy, may not have made  
9 anybody happy, but, yet, it would seem to me  
10 that if people take the time to come to this  
H. august chamber and spend the entire day  
J2 here, and ask a question, they are entitled  
J3 to get an answer.  
14 MR. MORONEY: I respect that  
15 objection.  
16 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: The other  
17 thing that was difficult was that, we, as a  
18 legislature, were never really given the  
J9 opportunity to ask questions of those who  
20 drew the maps. We weren't able to ask  
M. questions of those who were setting the  
22 policy, to even find out what those policy  
23 decisions were.  
24 We've been told again and again,  
25 these are policy decisions, but, I must tell  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 you, I don't know what those policy  
3 decisions were.  
4 So that is a question, you've  
5 been asked that. You've not been in a  
6 position to answer that since this is the  
7 last time we have the opportunity to ask  
8 questions, who would be in a position to  
9 answer that question?  
10 MR. MORONEY: Sorry. I always  
11 pay attention when Bill yells at me.  
12 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: As do I.  
13 MR. MORONEY: I would defer that  
14 to the members of the majority. I don't

15 know that I an answer for you.  
16 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: So,  
17 presiding officer, since we've not had an  
18 opportunity to ask that question —  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I believe  
20 at one point in the hearing, if it was not  
21 last week it was at the Rules Committee,  
22 that question was asked of me. I said that  
23 the policy decisions were based upon the  
24 constitutional ramifications that  
25 redistricting takes into consideration. The

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 equal representation of the districts. The  
3 preservation of the principle of One Person  
4 One Vote. And, of course, that each  
5 district should be equally — have equal  
6 representation.  
7 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: So,  
8 although I'm not on the Rules Committee, I  
9 did come to the session because I wanted to  
10 have the benefit of the discussion that took  
11 place. So you'll forgive me if I say that  
12 those are very generalized statements, but,  
13 yet, we've not had the opportunity to ask  
14 about any of the individual decisions that  
15 were made, and perhaps it would have been  
16 helpful to have the people who drew the map,  
17 or to find out what instructions they were  
18 given other than to follow that.  
19 It would seem when you have a  
20 situation of one of the areas in my  
21 district, Manhasset, that now has three  
22 legislators, or Roslyn, that now has four  
23 legislators, or Hempstead, that — you know,  
24 all these different areas that were in fact  
25 split up, was there some philosophy that

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 went behind choosing these particular areas.  
3 I think those are legitimate questions to  
4 ask.  
5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Let me say  
6 something to you and I don't want to

7 resurrect the past because I'm not that  
8 comfortable with it. But ten years ago it  
9 was a policy decision that was made and,  
10 where the lines are drawn, are based on  
11 those principles I just mentioned. That's  
12 the reason why you see what you have.  
13 I can tell you that, as  
14 Mr. Moroney said, we are not all happy. My  
15 district was also divided. And ten years  
16 ago it was divided even more. But we live  
17 with it. Based upon the fact that if the  
18 policy is based on the Constitution and the  
19 Voting Rights Law, then I think that we owe  
20 it to the residents to make sure that the  
21 lines that are drawn are lines that  
22 certainly keep those principles in mind.  
23 I know that many of you have been  
24 here for three sessions of the rules, full  
25 leg last week, and, again, today. We have  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 tried, to the best of our ability, to make  
3 sure that this is the best map that we can  
4 offer for the residents of Nassau County.  
5 I know you're not going to agree  
6 with me, and I know that you have legitimate  
7 concerns. I was very willing to listen and  
8 we listened intently for the last three  
9 sessions.  
10 But, remember one thing, that all  
11 of us and many of you out there have said  
12 this time and time again, we may represent a  
13 district, but we also represent Nassau  
14 County. I, for one, and I'm going to tell  
15 you right now, I have an area in my East  
16 Meadow School District that calls itself  
17 Salisbury. Ten years ago, Salisbury was not  
18 part of my district. I was very upset that  
19 it was not part of any district. Did I  
20 serve Salisbury? I damn well did. Because  
21 it's important to me that if people address  
22 me as a legislator, that I try to help them  
23 in whatever way I can.  
24 Also, ten years ago, ten years  
25 ago, and the lines were drawn the way they  
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2 were supposedly, based upon policy, half of  
3 north Bellmore was taken away from my  
4 district. And the other part of my  
5 district, which was Wantagh, was also  
6 removed.

7 So you know what? I wasn't happy  
8 then. I wasn't completely happy with the  
9 way things go all the time, but I'm a  
10 legislator. You have to remember one thing  
11 out there. That each and every one has an  
12 obligation to address the concerns of every  
13 resident in this county. Every.  
14 I'm sorry, but I have the floor  
15 right now, and I think that I have been very  
M quiet, and there has never been a time when  
17 residents of this district called my office  
18 and I would tell them call your legislator.  
19 So, again, Legislator Bosworth,  
20 this is the way it happened. The lines were  
M. drawn based upon that policy and,  
22 unfortunately, we were not able to make  
23 those other changes. We listened to  
24 Legislator Troiano last week and the  
25 residents of Merrick regarding Legislator  
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2 Denenberg, and we were able to, in a timely  
3 fashion, make the amendments to this map.

4 So, like I said, there are some  
5 people who will be happy, and there's going  
6 to be some people who will not be happy. I  
7 just want to believe that we did the right  
8 thing.

9 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: Thank you.

10 And I appreciate what you're saying. It's  
11 just that I know you refer to ten years ago  
12 and there were many of us who weren't here  
13 ten years ago. But it just seems to me as  
14 we progress as a society, and as we progress  
15 in our Democratic world, there is a desire  
M on the part of all our residents for greater  
17 transparency to have a sense of what is  
18 happening and why it's happening.  
19 So I'm perplexed that there was

20 not ever a representative from Skyline here  
21 to answer questions. I think the goal  
22 always is to have as much transparency as  
23 possible and that something was lacking in  
24 this process. Thank you.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Norma,  
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2 since you just stated how you went out of  
3 your way to put me back in my district, and  
4 I did thank you and Legislator Ford, I would  
5 just implore you before you vote, to put all  
6 of Merrick together would not be hard, and  
7 you and I both shared North Bellmore, and  
8 I'm not starting up with the fact that I  
9 would be losing it all together, but to the  
10 extent we can keep communities together  
H. without affecting the population deviation  
12 for the districts, we should. That's all  
13 I'm saying. And we can do that for Merrick.  
14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator  
16 Wink.

17 LEGISLATOR WINK: Madam Presiding  
18 Officer, with all due respect to your hand  
19 ringing about not getting to represent the  
20 communities of your choosing, the fact of  
21 the matter is, this redistricting, for the  
22 first time, in an unprecedented fashion,  
23 puts two incumbents in the same district  
24 together. So one of us, either Delia  
25 DeRiggi-Whitton or myself, will not be here  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 next year, so all the talk of, not getting  
3 to represent all the people you want, and  
4 not turning down people, even though that's  
5 not your district, will not apply to one of  
6 us.  
7 At the end of the day, that's the  
8 unprecedented action that this legislature  
9 is looking to take today, to make one of us  
10 a former legislator without regard to who,  
H. what constituency is, or is not being

J2 represented. So let's not make this  
18 something it's not. We all have represented  
14 communities or not have the chance to  
J5 represent communities of our choosing. But,  
M at the end of the day, one of the two of us  
J] will not be here in January, and one of the  
18 two of us will not get to represent the  
19 constituency that we have served diligently,  
20 in Delia's case for the last two years, or  
21 in my case for the last six plus years.

22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Legislator  
23 Kevan Abrahams.

24 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,  
25 Madam Presiding Officer.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 Mr. Moroney, I don't have any  
3 questions. I think my side of the aisle  
4 went through all the questions, so thank you  
5 very much.

6 I just want to talk a couple of  
7 things about where we have been coming from  
8 to where we are today. Obviously my points  
9 are more tailored to the process and then  
10 obviously the issues that the community and  
11 the residents of Nassau County have  
12 expressed which, from our standpoint, tie  
13 into the disenfranchisement of Elmont,  
14 Hempstead, Five Towns, what we are seeing in  
15 Roslyn, throughout this entire map of it not  
16 being contiguous.

17 But, generally, our points have  
18 been made from the beginning. All of you in  
19 this room, I'm willing to bet, were part of  
20 this process since May or June of 2011 when  
21 this affront began with this particular  
22 event.

23 From that standpoint alone, I  
24 think every one up here has to understand  
25 that there was a level of distrust from that

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 distrust from that standpoint. We are  
3 starting at a negative, folks, not at a

4 positive.  
5 The bottom line is, when you  
6 start at that negative, we're starting at a  
7 point where we have to earn the folks in  
8 that audience's trust.  
9 This process from the get-go  
10 talked about having hearings, having  
11 H. hearings in the community, but also having  
12 hearings in the community with this map.  
13 This map was delivered a few days after the  
14 Christmas holiday. It had one hearing on  
15 January 3rd, and then, from there, did not  
16 receive the necessary votes to move forward,  
17 kind of fell flat on its face, and I say  
18 "this map" meaning this process. The map  
19 that's before us obviously was amended to  
20 reflect the changes to include Legislator  
21 Denenberg as well as the changes for Jericho  
22 Gardens in Legislative District 2.  
23 But this process has only had a  
24 fair hearing, a fair airing, for the last  
25 eight weeks. Something that will impact you  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 for the next ten years, has only had an —  
3 you've only had an impact on it for the last  
4 eight weeks. There is something that seems  
5 to be wrong with that process in 2013 in  
6 this country where we like to promote as  
7 much as we can, transparency as well as  
8 democracy. It just seems to be something  
9 glaringly wrong.  
10 But not to regurgitate, we know  
11 the issues. Elmont, and I said this before,  
12 Elmont basically has a community within LD 3  
13 that has elected a candidate of their  
14 choosing, Carrie A. Solages, coming from the  
15 minority community, the Haitian population  
16 in that area, has already been elected.  
17 By stretching Elmont down through  
18 Inwood is a constitutional, we believe, a  
19 constitutional violation, because basically  
20 what you're doing is, you're taking a  
21 M. district that's already trending towards  
22 electing a candidate of their choosing no  
23 matter what, it's already done that, and  
24 you're doing that strictly based on race.



25 You are making it more of a minority  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 ccommunity strictly based on race when it's  
3 already trending in that direction already.  
4 That's number One.  
5 Number two, the issues with the  
6 Village of Hempstead, and I don't know what  
7 else we need to see. The mayor of the  
8 village of Hempstead testified that  
9 basically he would like to see his community  
10 whole. I think it speaks to the fact also  
11 that I believe when other complaints were  
12 made, whether they be in Great Neck or  
18 talked about, the other changes that were  
14 made throughout the map that I believe came  
15 up, I think some issues with Hempstead and  
M then Lakeview, Baldwin, those changes were  
17 made but the changes specifically in regards  
18 to these 7,600 people have not been changed.  
19 So I would like to think that the mayor of  
20 the largest village of the State of New York  
M. would have some rank, some say in order to  
22 be able to do that. I think Legislator  
23 Triciana said it best, could you shift all  
24 the people from the 7,600 that we truly  
25 believe have been disenfranchised into LD  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 14, can you shift them back all in without  
3 changing numbers? No. You would probably  
4 have to move some people back into the 14th,  
5 and you probably would have to move some  
6 people from the LD 2 to LD 1.  
7 It's not a perfect scenario, but  
8 you can do a better map than what we have  
9 today. Rather than taking 7,600 people who  
10 are traditionally seen their issues, and  
H. addressed their issues through the  
12 legislator who represented them through LD  
13 2, now you have a community that's basically  
14 going to be right across the street from  
15 each other saying, one, I'm going to  
M advocate to my legislator who is LD 14,

1] whoever that will be, and the other person  
18 advocating to Legislator Troiano, and if you  
19 live on the southern eastern portion,  
20 they're going to advocate to me. I think  
21 for the largest village of the State of New  
22 York, that's wrong.  
23 I still can't understand for the  
24 life of me where an area as traditional as  
25 the Five Towns can be split into so many  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 areas.  
3 I was listening to my good  
4 friend, Howard Kopel, talk about the fact  
5 that there are two council persons and tons  
6 of trustees and so on and so forth. I  
7 understand that.  
8 But, this is an area that, since  
9 1995, since the creation of this  
10 legislature, has been intact. I couldn't  
H. understand for the life of me, maybe if you  
12 wanted to split it into two, maybe three,  
18 but the fact that it's been split into four  
14 separate areas, one of which when you take  
15 Elmont and connect it to Inwood, I just  
M truly believe it's wrong.  
17 I don't know if it's been  
18 conveyed to the folks of the Eive Towns of  
19 what exactly they're about to endure, but  
20 trying to imagine, I couldn't imagine trying  
21 to explain to somebody who could be from  
22 Woodmere or Lawrence or Cedarhurst, who is  
23 their legislator.  
24 Generally, in the past, it always  
25 became easy. It was Legislator Toback,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 before that Legislator Blakeman, and now  
3 it's my good friend, Legislator Kopel. Now,  
4 trying to go through that mishmash to try to  
5 explain which legislator represents that  
6 area is a disgrace. And the folks in the  
7 Five Towns should be upset because of it.  
8 And last thing but not least, and

9 I think Legislator Wink said it best, to  
10 take the area of Roslyn and split it into  
11 four parts, and, look, we understand, and I  
12 know, I heard Rich Nicoletto talk about,  
13 Legislator Nicoletto talk about, well, maybe  
14 it was Vinny, Legislator Muscarella talk  
15 about it, that our map split Levittown into  
M three different sections. Our map did this  
17 and our map did that. Granted, you know  
18 what? Was our map a perfect map in 2003?  
19 Maybe, maybe not.

20 But I don't know how, when you  
M. guys are saying that, you're saying it  
22 because we did something wrong and you guys  
23 are trying to score and make it even, but  
24 that's the way it's coming off. That we did  
25 this to an area which Levittown is

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 represented, and I would truly believe,  
3 represented by Dennis Dunne, to the best of  
4 his abilities, and it sounded like to me, we  
5 were take taking that particular stance,  
6 based on what I heard earlier today, and  
7 saying, you know what? You're splitting  
8 Levittown, you're splitting Levittown ten  
9 years ago, therefore, it's fair enough to  
10 split Roslyn four ways this time around. It  
H. almost sounded like pay back.

12 I got to tell you, from our  
13 standpoint, when we took the leadership role  
14 in 2003, and you guys can say what you want  
15 to say, but when we took the leadership role  
M in 2003, we never imagined something to the  
17 magnitude of pay back, to pay you back for  
IB what we perceived you might have done in  
19 1995, that's not what leaders do. We never  
20 took the position in 2003 that we are going  
21 to take some of our colleagues, though I  
22 know it could be considered a policy  
23 decision, but take some of our colleagues  
24 that we've served with, and I truly believe  
25 the 19 people up here truly believe and

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 serve their constituencies to the best of  
3 their abilities.  
4 But we never thought of in a  
5 million years in 2003, say, you know what,  
6 let's put Peter Schmitt, and at that time,  
7 our good friend, Sal Pontillo in the same  
8 district. Let's take the presiding officer  
9 and Dennis Dunne and put them in the same  
10 district. I mean, the level of — it's not  
11 even disrespect, it's beyond that. It just  
12 seems to me that it looks to be more  
13 chutzpah. The Jewish in me came out a  
14 little bit. As an aside, my grandfather  
15 migrated from Syria, was Jewish, and I guess  
16 the Jewish in me didn't quite come out quite  
17 right.  
18 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: We all  
19 always thought you looked Jewish.  
20 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: That said,  
21 I pretty much, I guess I could end on that  
22 note. Not too much more to say.  
23 I just want to close and say  
24 that, we saw and we heard from hundreds and  
25 hundreds of people throughout this county,  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 and other than, I believe, Mr. Budnick, from  
3 Massapequa, correct me if I'm wrong, and  
4 maybe one other person, it was a lady also  
5 from Norma's district, the other hundred  
6 something, hundreds and thousands of e-mails  
7 and letters have pretty much said that they  
8 wanted this map to not be approved. I just  
9 think we will be speaking one totally  
10 against democracy, but then more, two, the  
11 fact that this process has failed these  
12 people, will be even be a greater slap in  
13 the face to vote for this map, and I'm going  
14 to strongly suggest to our side that we  
15 resoundingly vote no. Thank you.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
17 Legislator Abrahams. With regard to  
18 Legislator Abrahams' allegations that this  
19 map constitutes a racial gerrymand, we heard  
20 from Mr. Moroney. The goals of this  
21 redistricting were to minimize the overall

22 population deviations so as to guarantee the  
23 constitutional protection of One Person One  
24 Vote which I mentioned to you before; keep  
25 communities of interest together, and we  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 did. 99 of 134 census designated places are  
3 kept entirely whole, as are 53 villages and  
4 with limited town splits as well. We've  
5 kept districts compact and contiguous. And,  
6 as we heard from Mr. Mccroney, there existed  
7 three majority/minority districts before the  
8 2010 census, and there exists today three  
9 majority/minority districts under the  
10 proposed amendment.  
11 As for Mr. Mccroney testifying  
12 each of these three districts maintains its  
18 core communities under the proposed  
14 amendment, and at this point I will ask that  
15 a motion be taken to close this hearing.  
16 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.  
17 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.  
18 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Made by  
19 Legislator Nicolello, and seconded by  
20 Legislator Muscarella. All those in favor  
21 of closing the hearing?  
22 (Aye.)  
23 Any proposed?  
24 (No verbal response.)  
25 The hearing is now closed. It  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 has been requested that we take a 15 minute  
3 recess. I did not request it. The minority  
4 requested it.  
5 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: To be fair  
6 to the presiding officer, the request was  
7 made on behalf of the minority where we were  
8 going to discuss obviously what is being  
9 discussed out here today, I mean, it's not  
10 going to change our vote by any standard,  
11 but obviously we wanted to make sure we  
12 discussed it thoroughly. So it shouldn't be  
18 directed — it should be directed towards

14 us.  
15 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I will  
M tell yOu this. It is new five after 4:00.  
17 They will be back at 4:20.  
18 (Whereup0n, the Full Legislative  
19 Ccmmitttee recessed at 4:05 p.m. and  
20 reccnvened at 4:20 p.m.)  
21 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: At this  
22 time I will ask Clerk Muller tc read the  
23 item that's befcre us. Item Number Twc cn  
24 the calendar, special meeting is a vcte cn  
25 prcpcsd lccal law cf 2013, a lccal law tc  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 amend Annex A of the County Government Law  
3 of Nassau County that describes the 19  
4 legislative district based upon the 2010  
5 federal census data. May I please have a  
6 motion?  
7 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.  
8 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.  
9 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by  
10 Legislator Nicoletto, seconded by Legislator  
H. Muscarella.  
12 As we have discussed during the  
18 hearings, there were changes to the map and  
14 at this time I would ask for a motion to  
15 support an amendment in the nature of a  
16 substitution.  
17 LEGISLATOR BELESI: So moved.  
18 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: Second.  
19 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by  
20 Legislator Belesi, seconded by Legislator  
21 Dunne. All those in favor of the amendment  
22 in the nature of a substitution signify by  
23 saying aye?  
24 (Aye.)  
25 Any opposed?  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 (No verbal response.)  
3 The vote is unanimous. Now we  
4 are going to the amendment itself. I'm just  
5 going to present the amendment, just let you

6 know what the amendment is.  
7 The amendment makes the minor  
8 changes to the map as discussed in previous  
9 hearings. You still can't hear me. Those  
10 changes were to Legislative District 2 and  
11 H. Legislative District 19.  
12 I know that at this point in  
13 time, there may be a discussion on this  
14 amendment and if there is anyone who wants  
15 to speak to this amendment? Legislator  
16 Kevan Abrahams.  
17 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Just really  
18 briefly, and I appreciate your indulgence in  
19 this matter. We had the caucus to discuss  
20 the amendment at hand. Some of you,  
21 obviously you realize the fact that we are  
22 still in opposition to the map that's before  
23 us.  
24 However, the amendment that is  
25 before us is two measures that two of our  
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I Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 legislators — actually all of us have  
3 fought for. The first measure is including  
4 an area which is, historically, always been  
5 a part of Legislative District Number 2 and  
6 Jericho Gardens, that is something that  
7 Legislator Troiano fought for. Some of you  
8 that were here, that was part of his debate  
9 and discussion with Mr. Moroney late into  
10 the wee hours of last week, Monday, and that  
11 is something that is a measure that we would  
12 like to see in that and we support that's a  
13 part of the Republican amendment.  
14 The other measure as most of you  
15 can probably decipher is the fact that  
16 Legislator Denenberg is put back into his  
17 district. We always felt that him being put  
18 into the same district with Legislator  
19 Scannell was unfair. We would like and  
20 appreciate the sentiments from Legislator  
21 Ford as well as her colleagues that  
22 supported her on this measure, we truly  
23 believe that was a strong gesture and a step  
24 in the right direction.  
25 However, we wanted to see more.  
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J Full Legislature/3-5-J3

2 We would have like to have seen Merrick  
3 altogether. We would have liked to have  
4 seen not as many changes to Elmont. We  
5 would have liked to have seen Hempstead not  
6 be separated into three districts or Roslyn  
7 being separated into four. But from that  
8 matter, we truly believe that the gesture  
9 that the Republicans have made on the  
J0 amendment is a fair one and one we can  
JJ support.

J2 On the Full Legislature vote, in  
J3 terms of what we see here and how we got to  
JA this, we still will vote on the opposition  
J5 in the affirmative of no. But on the  
M amendment as is, in regards to the gesture  
J7 that has been made, we will support the  
JB amendment because that speaks to two  
J9 particular things that we fought for and  
20 we're glad to see it will be incorporated  
2J though into a map that we believe is flawed,  
22 will be incorporated into the map, and thank  
23 you.

24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other  
25 comments regarding the amendment?

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13

2 (No verbal response.)

3 There being none, all those in  
4 favor of the amendment signify by saying  
5 aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 Any opposed?

8 (No verbal response.)

9 The amendment passes unanimously.

10 Now we have to vote on the item as amended.

H. Motion, please.

12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

13 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

15 Legislator Muscarella, seconded by

M Legislator Nicoletto. Now, before we vote  
17 on the item as amended, I have received a  
18 request to do a roll call. That request



19 will be honored. So, at this time, since  
20 all of the discussion on the item and the  
M. amendment has been made, it is in order for  
22 us to take a vote. So we will begin — hold  
23 on. I was just advised that, is there any  
24 other public comment or any others who wish  
25 to be heard? You may come up.

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 MS. RUBIO: For the record, my  
3 name again is Kearyn Rubio. I'm not sure if  
4 I'm missing something. Why is there a vote  
5 to go forth when there is no Democratic  
6 version of the map on the floor for  
7 discussion? Why?  
8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Because  
9 this is the map that has been presented at  
10 the hearings. Any other map that may have  
11 existed was not really filed in a timely  
12 fashion and, therefore, Ms. Rubio —  
13 MS. RUBIO: So this whole entire  
14 issue needs to be pulled for a vote and you  
15 have to start over again.  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Ms. Rubio,  
17 the item before us is the only item that's  
18 on the agenda, and, therefore, this is why  
19 we are voting on this particular map as  
20 amended.  
21 MS. RUBIO: So when are you  
22 voting for the Democratic version?  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: We're not.  
24 MS. RUBIO: Why?  
25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Primarily  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 because this is the only item before us  
3 today.  
4 MS. RUBIO: So you do realize  
5 that you just retracted your statement?  
6 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: No. I'm  
7 saying to you that this map is the only item  
8 on —  
9 MS. RUBIO: Okay. So if this is  
10 the only item, that means that there should

H. have been only \$250,000 allocated to your  
12 board to make one map, so why is there  
13 \$500,000 for two maps?  
14 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: You may  
15 speak to your heart's content, but I will  
M tell you right now, this is the map that's  
17 on the floor right now. Okay?  
18 MS. RUBIO: You haven't answered  
19 the question.  
20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: This is  
M. not the map that came out of the commission.  
22 All right?  
23 MS. RUBIO: So why was \$500,000  
24 allocated for two maps and there's only one.  
25 It's very simple. It's a very simple  
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J Full Legislature/3-5-J3  
2 question.  
3 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: I'm giving  
4 a very simple answer. The Temporary  
5 Advisory Redistricting Commission is not  
6 part of this body.  
7 MS. RUBIO: I didn't get that.  
8 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: They were  
9 commissioned to do what the charter tells  
J0 them — advises them to do. That was to  
JJ come up with a map. Unfortunately, they  
J2 were not able to agree on a map, all right?  
J3 Therefore, the Charter Revision Commission  
JA did not produce a map for this body to vote  
J5 on.  
J6 MS. RUBIO: So if they weren't  
J7 able to agree, that still has nothing to do  
JB with you saying from the previous meeting  
J9 that you would not allow for the Democratic  
20 version to even make it to the floor,  
M. whether they agreed or didn't agree, you  
22 said that, you said you would not allow for  
23 that map to get to the floor for a vote.  
24 So I don't see how come this is  
25 going like, you know, it's okay for whatever  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 te be amended when that's net the precess.

3 This is not a Democratic process that's  
4 going forward at all. It is very distasteful.  
5 The Constitution was put together to avert  
6 things like this. It was. Yes, it was.  
7 I'm not — we have rights. It was put  
8 together not for arbitrary not for any group  
9 to run the show. It's that simple.  
10 \$500,000 was allocated. You all  
H. here. We're all adults. Whatever time it  
12 took for the map to make the floor, it never  
18 even made it to floor to the public, only  
14 your version of what you wanted. How is  
15 that fair?  
16 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you  
17 very much, Ms. Rubio.  
18 MS. RUBIO: I'm hoping that I can  
19 get an answer. How is it fair? \$500,000 of  
20 taxpayer's money that went to this board is  
N. not going through, how is it fair? How?  
22 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Name,  
23 please.  
24 MS. MIRADAY: My name is Mida J.  
25 Miraday, I'm a member of the Baldwin Oaks  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Civic Association, high property tax payer  
3 of Nassau County. I just want to return,  
4 hopefully this discussion, to the issue of  
5 the body that sits before me, is a result of  
6 a bipartisan group that came together to  
7 break a significant power block in Nassau  
8 County and, sadly, it looks like we're going  
9 back to that, and to have a discussion that  
10 is dividing lines, not party lines, but  
H. we're talking about people here. We are  
J2 talking about residents. We are talking  
J3 about taxpayers, and we're talking about  
14 citizens whose voices have not been heard.  
15 My constitutional rights are  
J6 being violated here. My property rights are  
17 being violated here. The civil rights that  
JB were outlined for me, not by the  
19 Constitution, or the Bill of Rights, but the  
20 Civil Rights Act of 1948, as well as 1967,  
M. and '64 are being violated here.  
22 So I just want all of those that  
23 had any aspirations to further their

24 careers, let it be known that your names and  
25 your information and your roll call vote  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 today will be documented and will be  
3 remembered in our community. Think on that.  
4 Thank you.  
5 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Any other  
6 comment from the audience? Yes.  
7 MR. LILLY: My name is Martin  
8 Lilly, Long Beach, New York. You don't want  
9 my age, do you? I told you that earlier.  
10 You remembered. Thank you.  
11 I just want, I don't know if it's  
12 for the record or not, but I did notice at a  
18 number of the hearings I went to that no one  
14 from the audience or the commission or the  
15 legislature spoke in favor of this map.  
16 Some of the comments that were  
17 made today, and I'm trying to remember on  
18 February 25th, I may be correct at that time  
18 also, a couple of members on my left, your  
20 right, did contradict and ridicule some of  
21 the speakers. I think that's wrong.  
22 But I also want to note that not  
23 only did no one speak in favor of this map,  
24 no one really had too much in the form of  
25 comments. I also remember for the second  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 time today, and, again, I like Mr. Moroney,  
3 but he, again, today did not answer to my  
4 satisfaction the questions that were posted  
5 to him. I don't think he believes in this  
6 map himself. But, again, I don't want to  
7 put words in his mouth, so I just wanted to  
8 say that for the record and I know there  
9 will be a majority today who will do the  
10 right thing.  
11 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you,  
12 Mr. Lilly. Scottie.  
13 MS. COADS: I'm Scottie Coads,  
14 and today I wore black because — I wear  
15 black all the time, but especially today

M because I knew it would be a sad day. And  
1] we, at NAACP, when we lose a freedom  
18 fighter, we always send out e-mails saying  
19 sad news. And, so, this woman from  
20 Charleston, South Carolina who saw and  
M. witnessed as a kid what it was like to have  
22 to hide under beds because the night riders  
23 in white sheets were out, it's not easy to  
24 sit back and watch some of you try to  
25 destroy the Democracy that we worked so hard  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 for through the years to get to where we  
3 are.  
4 I'm very sad today that I know  
5 you're going to make this vote that's going  
6 to tear communities apart, not just in the  
7 minority communities, but in the communities  
8 that, as I made my point on February 25th,  
9 where Chaney, Goodman, Schwerner —  
10 Schwerner & Goodman representing New York,  
H. how they fought for us to have some  
12 minorities sitting in front of us to  
13 represent their communities. You're taking  
14 this apart. Taking it away from us.  
15 You're taking — you tore up the  
M Jewish community, in the Five Towns, and,  
17 again, I go back to what I started to say.  
18 I wore black today and I actually was going  
19 to distribute black ribbons to everybody  
20 today because I knew it was going to be a  
21 sad day.  
22 I pity you. I pity all of you  
23 who do not understand what it is to fight  
24 for freedom and fight for fairness and fair  
25 representation at the poles.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I don't go into parties when I'm  
3 representing the NAACP. I will say this,  
4 you conservatives tried to take it away from  
5 us in 2012 at the poles across the country.  
6 We're not going to stand idly by. I promise  
7 you, eight months from now, this whole group

8 and more will be at somebody's polling site  
9 making sure that you are challenged in every  
10 way possible.

11 CLERK MULLER: Your three minutes  
12 have expired, Ms. Coads.

13 MS. COADS: I very tired —

14 CLERK MULLER: Ms. Coads, your  
15 three minutes have expired.

16 MS. COADS: It's okay. It's  
17 okay. I don't need any more minutes to tell  
18 you how disappointed we are. Thank you very  
19 much.

20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Is there  
M. anyone else who wishes to speak? There  
22 being none —

23 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: So moved.

24 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

25 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Motion by

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2 Legislator Nicoletto, seconded by Legislator  
3 Muscarella. And it's time for a vote. As  
4 it was requested, it will be a roll call  
5 vote.

6 CLERK MULLER: Deputy Presiding  
7 Officer Nicoletto?

8 LEGISLATOR NICOLELLO: Yes.

9 CLERK MULLER: Alternate Deputy  
10 Presiding Officer Kopel?

11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I'm voting for  
12 it reluctantly. I will say that because —  
13 I want to make it very clear. It's not for  
14 some of the reasons that I've expressed.

15 I don't believe there is any  
M racism involved. I don't believe the Eive  
17 Towns somehow will go flying apart as a  
18 result of this vote. It's simply that I  
19 feel badly that a lot of the people who I  
20 work very hard to represent are going to be  
21 in another district.

22 I understand that there are some  
23 legal necessities for it, and I will  
24 continue to work with my friends on both  
25 sides of the line as well as all legislators

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2 on either side of any lines.

3 CLERK MULLER: Is that yes, Mr.

4 Kopel?

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I said yes.

6 CLERK MULLER: I'm sorry, I

7 wasn't sure. Legislator Troiano.

8 LEGISLATOR TROIANO: I'm not sure

9 that after multi-months, multi-hearings,

10 hours of testimony, hundreds of people

11 coming and talking to the legislature that

12 there is much left that hasn't been said.

13 But I want to congratulate you

14 all for coming out today despite the fact

15 you knew when you got up this morning that

M it was a fate accompli. That the decision

17 had already been made. I'm not saying that

18 because of partisan politics and bickering.

19 I'm saying it because of the process.

20 Because today is March 5th and the county

21 charter requires us to vote today.

22 So no matter what you said today,

23 and many of you made very compelling

24 arguments, and I believe that my colleagues

25 are people of good will, and that they hear

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2 you, that they hear you, that they like more

3 time to give consideration to what you have

4 to say, but we are simply up against the

5 wall and a vote has to be taken today.

6 But I do want to say that it

7 didn't have to be this way. On January 3rd,

8 the commission could not reach a decision as

9 to which map to put forward. It was 11 days

10 later before the presiding officer asked the

11 codirector of the commission to begin

J2 developing a new map. 11 vital days were

13 lost and, now, we're left having, at the

14 last minute, to take comments from you and

J5 cast a vote today.

16 There is no opportunity for us to

J7 amend the map any further. It would be a

JB violation of the way the charter was

19 constructed. So that's a shame that it

20 occurred that way.

21 But I want to, again,  
22 congratulate you and thank you for being  
23 here and I do what I love to do. I love  
24 being an elected official. I want to thank  
25 you for the support that many of you have  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 shown to me at the election booth. I want  
3 to thank you for the support that you've  
4 shown today, and for the many hearings that  
5 we have gone through together to stand by  
6 and be a witness to history. And in many  
7 cases, to be among those who speak truth to  
8 power.  
9 I'm very pleased, very happy, I  
10 am honored to represent not just those of  
H. you in my district, but all of you who are  
12 in the county, because you're all my  
18 constituents. Because of the sentiments  
14 you've expressed, because of your fortitude  
15 and perseverance, I am proud to cast a loud,  
M emphatic, and resounding no.  
17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
18 Solages?  
19 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: I would also  
20 like to express deep gratitude to all those  
M. who took the time out of your busy schedule  
22 to come down to this building and to provide  
23 testimony. Your patriotism was courageous  
24 and it was inspirational. And I thank  
25 everyone who provided testimony.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I thank all those who helped  
3 educate neighbors and their community  
4 members as to the great injustice that is  
5 about to occur here today. In 2011, the 3rd  
6 Legislative District, truly Republicans,  
7 Democrats, people from all backgrounds, they  
8 made history by electing a young man who  
9 truly believed in change. I thank you for  
10 that. I think the 3rd District is only one  
11 of the very few districts that we have seen  
12 elections that can be swayed either to



13 Democrats or to Republicans under each map.  
14 I have great concerns for the map  
15 presented by the majority and Mr. Moroney  
M here today. This map, clearly, as it  
17 relates to the 3rd Legislative District,  
IB violates the Equal Protection Clause. Truly  
19 to have a district go from one shape, if  
20 you're talking about Jell-O, you are using  
21 the stencil of a shape of Texas, and also  
22 made changes to a stencil of a shape of a  
23 Lockness Monster. The courts have clearly  
24 said and as we know in other cases that that  
25 is suspect at best.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Mr. Moroney, his testimony was at  
3 best convenient. He admitted to broken  
4 promises that he made at a hearing in Elmont  
5 which he promised that Elmont will remain  
6 under one legislator, and that is not the  
7 case.  
8 Legislator Muscarella, your  
9 previous testimony was not truthful. Yes,  
10 the Elmont district has been split in two,  
H. but not to the extent that we see under the  
12 new map.  
13 As one person, and we share  
14 something in common, because our communities  
15 love us so much that not only have they  
M voted for us, but also our families. So as  
17 one favorite son of Elmont to another, it is  
16 a disgrace if you vote for this map. It is  
19 a disgrace. The same way you voted to close  
20 our police precinct, the same way you are  
M. going to vote to create another injustice in  
22 our community. I may not be the legislator  
23 of those in the eastern part of Elmont  
24 anymore under this new map, but I will be  
25 sure to let them know of your voting record.  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I will be sure to do that.  
3 Furthermore, I really thank,  
4 again, everyone who provided testimony and

5 please continue to believe in God and  
6 continue to believe in justice. Thank you.  
7 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Ford.  
8 LEGISLATOR FORD: It has been  
9 commented during legislators during these  
10 hearings that not everyone is —  
11 LEGISLATOR SOLAGES: Just to be  
12 clear, I vote no for the map.  
13 LEGISLATOR FORD: — 100 percent  
14 happy with this proposed map and I'm one of  
15 them. As this is the map that is before us,  
16 I must make a vote either for or against it,  
17 so the choice is for me, it's either this  
18 map or the default map which is the map from  
19 2011, which at that time I did not support.  
20 I know that by voting no, the  
21 2011 will go into effect for this election  
22 cycle, and I know that regardless of what  
23 map is chosen, the issue will wind up in  
24 court.  
25 I just want to make a comment and  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 I think Legislator Kopel touched upon that,  
3 that as we all sit up here and we have our  
4 distinct legislative districts, not one of  
5 us actually serves in a vacuum, that those  
6 of us that have — share communities, do  
7 work together. And in many instances on  
8 many issues, we go across party lines and  
9 across the boundaries into other districts  
10 and work well together.  
11 You had heard testimony that both  
12 Legislator Denenberg and I have worked  
13 together for the Western Bays amongst  
14 others. We all work together to fight for  
15 our water rights to protect our aquifers.  
16 I've even had the honor and  
17 opportunity to stand on the steps of the  
18 Hempstead Village Hall when we fought for  
19 rent stabilized apartments to make sure that  
20 they did not get unjustly increases to their  
21 rents.  
22 So I think that regardless of who  
23 and how many parts that a district may be or  
24 an area may be chopped up, which is not  
25 always the best thing, but it is something

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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 that happens, it's happened in other  
3 communities before, some are being put  
4 together and some are being torn apart. But  
5 I think that all of us, we do work together  
6 and we will continue, hopefully, to work  
7 together for the benefit of everybody.  
8 And I also want to say at this  
9 point, Judy, that you bring up a great point  
10 that we better start working together for  
11 the next map that must be drawn in ten  
12 years. But I have to say that I am  
13 gratified that this commission did listen to  
14 the residents in my area by keeping the  
15 barrier island whole and putting Island Park  
M back together and keeping this area in  
17 Legislative District 4. I vote yes.  
18 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
19 Scannell.  
20 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: I just  
M. wanted to thank everybody also who came down  
22 at the multiple hearings at the legislature.  
23 In my 13 years, I've never ever ever seen  
24 anything like the 12 hour hearing that we  
25 had, all the people, 99.9 percent of them  
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2 were against it literally, 12 hours. In my  
3 13 years, I've never ever seen such a long  
4 session with people who were so upset and  
5 disgusted about something.  
6 And Judy was talking about this  
7 earlier about some of the older budget  
8 sessions that we have had. We were here  
9 early early in the morning and they were  
10 long, but I think that one was by far the  
11 longest and the people spoke and, again, I  
12 want to thank everybody for coming down for  
18 that 12-hour hearing and, again, for coming  
14 down today.  
15 I don't support the map. I vote  
16 no.  
17 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Becker.

18 LEGISLATOR BECKER: I take this  
18 vote very seriously. The last four years  
20 I've had the opportunity to work a great  
N. deal in the minority community, visiting  
22 churches and doing things that help people  
23 in that community and I continue to hope to  
24 do that in the future. After this vote  
25 today, and these maps, three people I know;  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Legislator Solages, Legislator Troiano, and  
3 Legislator Abrahams, will likely continue to  
4 represent those communities since they do a  
5 great job and I respect them greatly.  
6 In looking at the breakdown and  
7 to satisfy my own conscious, I look at —  
8 first of all, the communities of Roosevelt  
9 remain 100 percent intact. The communities  
10 of Uniondale remain 100 together. The  
11 community of Hempstead, yes, is slightly  
12 broken up, and prior it was 85 percent — 15  
18 percent divided between two legislative  
14 districts. Currently now it will be, with  
15 the new map, 57 percent, 29 percent, and  
M then 14 percent in District 14. But 86  
17 percent of Hempstead is going to continue to  
18 be represented in Districts 1 and 2, and I'm  
19 sure that everybody in that community will  
20 be benefitted from those legislators in  
21 Districts 1 and 2, as well as the Legislator  
22 from District 14.  
23 Freeport is currently 10 percent  
24 in one legislative district, 73 percent in  
25 another, and 17 percent in another. I don't  
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2 know who those are, but those three  
3 districts will be now 34, 39 and 27, not  
4 really a significant change in my opinion.  
5 And, finally, Elmont, which has  
6 been greatly discussed, at least the  
7 percentage is currently 94 percent and 6  
8 percent between two legislative districts,  
9 and now will be 76 percent and 24 percent

10 between two legislative districts. Not,  
11 once again, in my opinion a great difference  
12 with the understanding that everybody, all  
13 19 of us, care a great deal about every  
14 community no matter what legislative  
15 district it would be in.  
16 So with this understanding and  
17 it's just disappointing to me, as a person  
18 of faith to hear so much discussion about  
19 race and minorities because I don't believe  
20 God created minorities, he created us all  
21 equal, he created us all his children, no  
22 matter what our race, color, creed.  
23 So, with that understanding, I  
24 vote yes.  
25 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 Muscarella.  
3 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Yes.  
4 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
5 Bosworth.  
6 LEGISLATOR BOSWORTH: It is so  
7 important that you came down today and you  
8 must not be discouraged because we have to  
9 keep up the fight. When there are issues  
10 that need to be spoken out against, we must  
H. be there to speak out against them.  
12 I would at this point just like  
18 to thank the League of Women Voters and  
14 various coalition groups who worked so hard  
15 to put together yet even a third map that  
M was a nonpartisan map and, unfortunately, as  
1] we didn't get to consider the Democratic  
18 map, we didn't get to consider that third  
19 nonpartisan map as well.  
20 But we appreciate the great  
21 efforts that you made to formulate that map,  
22 to go to so many different civic  
23 associations and community groups to speak  
24 about the map. It was important that our  
25 civic associations who worked so hard and  
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2 they did, at least made sure that the  
3 residents of our communities, whether they  
4 agreed with the map or didn't agree with the  
5 map made sure that people understood what  
6 the new map was, that they were educated,  
7 and that they were informed, and so that at  
8 some point we can all make that very  
9 informed decision. The informed decision  
10 that I'm making on this map is no.  
11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Wink.  
12 LEGISLATOR WINK: You know, as I  
13 sit here, I've heard a lot of hand wringing,  
14 a lot of crocodile tears, and I've heard a  
15 lot of very nebulous, unspecified and vague  
M concerns about the map from my colleagues on  
17 the other side of the aisle. Nothing  
18 specific. Nothing involving real details  
18 and nothing certainly that would have  
20 dissuaded them from voting the way they  
21 voted.  
22 To that end, I'm kind of reminded  
23 of the joke that when it comes to breakfast,  
24 there are a lot of people involved, there is  
25 the chicken that makes the eggs, but there  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 are people that are committed, and the pig  
3 is committed to that breakfast. For a lot  
4 of us in this room, many of you out there  
5 and a few of us up here, many of us are  
6 committed while the rest of them are  
7 involved.  
8 So here we are today looking at  
9 the reality that I think most of us and  
10 probably all of us in this room knew was  
11 coming which was that, no matter what the  
12 crocodile tears, no matter what the hand  
18 wringing that took place on the other side  
14 of the aisle, we knew that this was going to  
15 be the outcome from the very beginning. So  
M here we are, and let's have at it, and I  
17 vote no.  
18 CLERK MULLER: Legislator  
19 Venditto.  
20 LEGISLATOR VENDITTO: Just very  
M. briefly, Mr. Clerk, I don't want any one  
22 legislator to corner the market on

23 thankfulness to the residents. We are all  
24 very thankful. I think I speak on behalf of  
25 everybody who is part of this chamber, we  
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1 Full Legislature/3-5-13  
2 are all very thankful that you came down  
3 here to voice your opinions. While we may  
4 not agree on every issue, we still see what  
5 you said, that you're exercising your right  
6 to have your voice heard.  
7 With that being said, I will vote  
8 yes on the map.  
9 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Belesi.  
10 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Yes.  
11 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Dunne.  
12 LEGISLATOR DUNNE: I'm not going  
18 to talk about crocodiles or chickens or  
14 pigs, but I'm going to vote yes.  
15 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Jacobs.  
16 LEGISLATOR WINK: How about  
17 elephants?  
18 LEGISLATOR JACOBS: Hi. In the  
19 first place, I've been on this legislature  
20 for 18 years. I'm extremely thankful for  
21 that confidence that has been shown me  
22 through these 18 years. I have seen a lot  
23 of things. I really have. And I have been  
24 through up and downs on the legislature,  
25 some very sad ones, really sad ones, meaning  
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2 someone's life, but also very good ones and  
3 things we have accomplished.  
4 I'm personally heartbroken right  
5 now to lose part of my district that I've  
6 had for 18 years, and that part of course is  
7 where I live. Some of it is just gone and  
8 will be gone.  
9 A good note to say to everybody,  
10 you now heard Legislator Ford join with my  
11 sentiments why we don't have enough time, in  
12 ten year's time, to change the way we  
18 redistrict in Nassau County. Let's be out  
14 there. Let's make history. Let's show

15 people there is a way to do this that  
M wouldn't leave you with the feelings that  
17 you expressed so beautifully today of  
18 distrust and feeling that we weren't doing  
19 our jobs to represent you the right way.  
20 Because, honestly, I can tell you that  
M. nothing is further from the truth. I speak  
22 for myself, when I say that to you, but,  
23 unfortunately, this is the system we right  
24 now have to redistrict under.

25 We can change it. I think you've

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2 got one person on one side of the aisle, one  
3 on the other, and we have the League of  
4 Women Voters, really, who really broke their  
5 back so to speak to try to make this a  
6 change. Let's get it together. We can do  
7 it.

8 So I just want to say thank you  
9 to all of you and I'm going to vote no.

10 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Walker.

11 LEGISLATOR WALKER: I, too, would

J2 like to thank everyone who has come over the  
IB many weeks that we've had hearings here. I,  
I4 too, as you look, I'm in the Hicksville  
I5 Bethpage area. My area has also been split  
M up. I can tell you one thing which is what  
I7 I say to all my residents all the time. I  
IB work very, very hard in my district and I  
J9 work hard for all the residents of Nassau  
20 County because, although, as I say to the  
M. kids in my school district, you all don't  
22 live in my house, but you're all my kids.

23 So when we do things, we do it  
24 for a whole. When I'm working for something  
25 in Hicksville or Bethpage, it doesn't stop

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2 at Duffy Avenue or Spindle Road or whatever,  
3 it's for the entire district, the entire  
4 community. I'm also pretty lucky in the  
5 fact that I am still very involved with our  
6 school district. I do a lot with our



7 athletic teams. I get to spend time in many  
8 of your other communities.  
9 I know people in your  
10 communities. I know some of the issues in  
11 your communities because I'm with them, they  
12 talk about them, and I always give them my  
13 card when I leave and I say, look, I know  
14 I'm not your legislator but always feel free  
15 to reach out to me also.  
16 I can tell you, no matter who  
17 calls my office, no matter where they live  
18 in Nassau County, I'm sure sometimes my  
19 assistant doesn't always appreciate it, I  
20 don't pass them off to someone else. We try  
21 to address their issues. I always remind  
22 them, I'm not your legislator, so and so is,  
23 but if we can rectify your problem,  
24 especially if it's a problem that deals with  
25 another department or anything, why do they  
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2 have to go and be shuffled off to someone  
3 else, not that I'm thinking I'm shuffling  
4 them or their legislator won't help them,  
5 but they're speaking to us, let's get them  
6 addressed right away.  
7 So I think it's time, as I have  
8 had the pleasure of working often with  
9 Legislator Jacobs, we do many things  
10 together because our districts work  
11 together. I chaired with Legislator  
12 Troiano. I do a lot with the area around  
13 Jericho Gardens, and they're in the  
14 Hicksville School District, although they're  
15 in Legislator Troiano's legislative  
16 district.  
17 So, again, not just in what  
18 you've said before, but I think we all have  
19 to learn that we all have to work together  
20 up here as far as the communities. So I  
21 vote yes.  
22 CLERK MULLER: Legislator Walker.  
23 Legislator Walker votes yes. Legislator  
24 DeRiggi-Whitton, now it's your turn.  
25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:  
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2 Thank you, I concur with Judy Jacobs and  
3 many of the other people up here saying that  
4 there has to be a better process. I think  
5 the residents of Nassau County deserve  
6 transparency and honesty. And whether it's  
7 finances or public safety or redistricting,  
8 we really do owe that to all of you.

9 I want to thank on our side, we  
10 have Lauren Corcoran and Bonnie Garone for  
H. making every effort to have the meetings. I  
12 really wish that this was done even the way  
13 our charter describes today and tried to  
14 come up with something — it almost started  
15 to happen here give and take. It would have  
M been — really, that's what we really wanted  
17 to have seen, however, since that has not  
18 happened, and I am not satisfied, I do vote  
19 no.

20 CLERK MULLER: Legislator

21 Denenberg.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: First, for  
23 obvious reasons, I want to thank for coming.  
24 I have to say it's been very humbling and  
25 gratifying to see so many people come out to  
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2 speak on my behalf, but, also, more  
3 importantly, to speak on all of our behalf,  
4 because that's what it's about. All of us,  
5 we, the people here of Nassau County.

6 I think it's clear that this has  
7 been a desperate attempt to carve 12  
8 majority Republican districts in a county  
9 that's no longer Republican.

10 The result is a dilution of the  
H. minority community that should be obvious to  
12 everyone.

13 The result is District 14 that,  
14 look at it, it really does, it looks like a  
15 snake with its head disjointed. It's just  
16 ridiculous.

17 The Five Towns have become the  
18 1.25 towns. In Roslyn, I defy anyone to  
19 know who their legislator is going to be

20 because it's so split up.  
21 And then, finally, my home  
22 community of Merrick literally had a sliver.  
23 Some people called it a finger, someone  
24 today said it was so small it couldn't be  
25 more than a knuckle taken out just to get me  
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2 out. And though I'm very, very thankful  
3 that I was put back in, none of my neighbors  
4 were put back in, and that little area of  
5 Merrick could have been put back in without  
6 any change in population. That's just  
7 wrong. It's absolutely wrong on political  
8 reasons, on One Man One Vote reasons, on  
9 reasons that are not just important to  
10 Merrick, Roslyn, the Eive Towns, or the  
11 minority community, on reasons that should  
12 be important to all of us. I vote no.  
13 CLERK MULLER: Minority Leader  
14 Abrahams.  
15 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Thank you,  
16 Mr. Muller.  
17 One of the beauties of being able  
18 to vote right before the presiding officer  
19 is I get to see how the vote is going. When  
20 you do a roll call vote, you can count the  
21 M. votes, and I'm sure those of you in the  
22 audience, I notice everyone to my right has  
23 voted yes, and everyone to my left has  
24 pretty much voted no.  
25 So I kind of get the sense that  
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2 this is going down party lines and I know  
3 some of you in the audience could start to  
4 feel that this process is in vain. Granted,  
5 that feeling may be somewhat true, this  
6 fight is not over. This fight has two more  
7 steps in my opinion before it's over.  
8 So if you got to go home and eat  
9 your Wheaties, take your vitamins, eat your  
10 Centrum, go home and do it. This fight,  
11 though we fought for fair redistricting, and

12 just got gerrymandering redistricting, this  
13 fight, after it passes today, goes up to the  
14 fourth floor, or upstairs, to the county  
15 executive.

16 The county executive will have  
17 the opportunity to veto this map and stamp  
18 of approval will indicate your vindication  
19 that this process has been flawed. That's  
20 his opportunity to say that he has heard the  
21 countless hours of testimony that have been  
22 given by you, the sacrifice of losing,  
23 whether it be time on the job, time away  
24 from your families, that will be his  
25 opportunity to say to you thank you, Nassau  
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2 County taxpayers, for coming up and down to  
3 this process.  
4 So don't mistake the fact that  
5 you may feel defeated based on this vote  
6 today, but the county executive, yes, our  
7 goal now must be shifted to upstairs and  
8 flood the county executive's e-mail, flood  
9 him with letters before he tries to pass  
10 this.  
11 My interpretation would be that  
12 he probably has the pen and the paper  
13 waiting to sign it right after this meeting  
14 tonight, so it wouldn't behoove us to be  
15 able to go upstairs to express our opinion  
16 on how this process has been unfolded.  
17 That being said, I resoundingly  
18 vote no against this map.  
19 CLERK MULLER: Before I call  
20 Presiding Officer Gonsalves, all 18 members  
21 I believe have voted so, Presiding Officer  
22 Gonsalves, you're last.  
23 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Thank you  
24 very much, Mr. Muller.  
25 First of all, I think you should  
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2 be commended for taking the time and the  
3 energy to attend all of the hearings. I

4 know that you're disappointed with the vote  
5 that's being taken today, but I truly  
6 believe that you have done your part in the  
7 Democratic process by having your voices  
8 listened to, and, if not to the point where  
9 you would have liked to hear them completely  
10 heard, you were here and you did your job as  
11 the residents of Nassau County.  
12 I have to say thank you to my  
13 colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I  
14 think there is a great deal of stress  
15 involved in an item such as this one,  
M something that is of extreme importance and  
17 like some of us have alluded to, that will  
16 affect us for possibly ten years.  
19 Changes could be made along the  
20 way to change the process, but right now we  
M. have a map that is going to truly be voted  
22 for in a partisan way, because this is the  
23 way you believe, but I think all of us, all  
24 of us took a look at this map and, let me  
25 say from the beginning, from the very  
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2 beginning, there were areas outside of  
3 Jericho Gardens, outside of District 19,  
4 Great Neck, Plainview, Glen Cove, the  
5 barrier islands. Amendments were made, or  
6 changes, I should say, were made to this  
7 map.  
8 So there was testimony given at  
9 the various meetings of the commission that  
10 alluded to the need to make those areas  
H. whole. I think we did as best we could  
12 under the circumstances.  
13 I, for one, know that you were  
14 not completely happy with the way things  
15 turned out. But if it follows the law, it  
M makes me happy and, therefore, I vote yes.  
17 Thank you.  
18 CLERK MULLER: By a vote of 10  
19 ayes, and 9 nos, the local law passes.  
20 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: May I have  
M. a motion to adjourn?  
22 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.  
23 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.  
24 CHAIRWOMAN GONSALVES: Moved by

25 Legislator Walker, seconded by Legislator  
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2 Belesi. All those in favor of adjourning,  
3 please indicate by saying aye.  
4 (Aye.)  
5 The committee is adjourned.  
6 (Whereupon, the Full Legislative  
7 Committee adjourned at 5:10 p.m.)

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I  
2 C E R T I F I C A T E

3  
4  
5 I, FRANK GRAY, a Shorthand Reporter and  
6 Notary Public in and for the State of New  
7 York, do hereby stated:  
8 THAT I attended at the time and place  
9 above mentioned and took stenographic record  
10 of the proceedings in the above-entitled  
11 matter;  
12 THAT the foregoing transcript is a true  
13 and accurate transcript of the same and the  
14 whole thereof, according to the best of my  
15 ability and belief.  
16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set

1] my hand this 21st day of March, 2013.

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20 \_\_\_\_\_  
FRANK GRAY

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