

J. FULLER: Jeanne Fuller, District 5, Puna.

J. FERGUSON: Jack Ferguson, District 8, Kailua-Kona.

M. VAN PERNIS: Mark Van Pernis, from ah..District 7, Holualoa.

J. FERNANDEZ: John Fernandez, District 9, North Kohala.

S. PAVAO: Steve Pavao, District 2, Hilo, Kaumana area.

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: My name is Pat Kahawaiola'a, I represent District 4 from Hilo to Keaukaha.

CHAIR: Missing tonight is Lawrence Balberde. Mr. Balberde resides in the 2nd District...3rd District. Thank you very much.

I couple of things I'd like to explain to you, I suppose that maybe if you have heard this before, I know that those of you who...some of you have come a number of times before, but for those for you who haven't and maybe don't know, I'd like to tell you, some of the things that we've done so far, some of the things we've planned to do, and some of the rules that guide us.

The County Charter rules are specific regarding the reapportionment and it has 4 guidelines that we must follow. They are that we are to re-draw the county council districts so that no district is drawn unduly favor or penalize the person or political faction. That, insofar, as possible districts should be contiguous and compact that district lines shall, where possible follow permanent and easily recognizable features and finally, districts shall have equal resident populations as required by applicable constitutional provisions.

In terms of the resident population, I think it seems that, if you've looked at any of these proposals or any of the...let me explain what...what's here on the board.

The first 3 islandwide maps starting from May, were maps that were proposed by various members of the Commission when one of our first meetings, I don't remember when was our first meeting or second meeting. The fourth map down the row...or down the line is the um...the Islandwide map of the existing council districts. And then the map that is tacked to the back board is the map that is proposed by Julie and Bob Jacobson and others from Puna. What we started with was 9 maps that members of the Commission proposed, we asked the staff to, as the Commission started maps, we started with the line and directions. For example, the map right next to Patrick was designed with the instruction to start at the Wailuku River and work counter-clockwise and draw line districts. That's how the maps came about. Those were the instructions the staff and based on the 4 requirements that this Commission has we applied those 4 requirements and came up with...its not quite this map, but something very much like it, we have again as a Commission looked at the map found that our instructions may be didn't quite fit our mandate and asked the staff to move some of the lines so that the populations figures would look better or be equal or that the districts will be more compact and contiguous. As you can see, given the thought that south Hawaii is sparsely populated and North Hawaii is sparsely populated, two of the districts...at least two of the districts on all of the maps are quite large and it was just the way around them.

Once we worked with the 9 maps and narrowed it down, six of them we concluded were not workable, and so we narrowed it down to 3 of the original 9 proposals, asked the staff to move some of the lines so that they met our criteria, we scheduled public hearings. We started in Puna, and that's where the map on the back of the wall was first presented to the Commission, and we met in Puna, in Hilo, in North Kohala and in

Hamakua. And we're here tonight in Kona and tomorrow night is the last public hearing, at least in this round, we may have a second round of public hearings. The last one is tomorrow night is in Naalehu. We have one absolute requirement and that is December 31st of this year. We have to submit to the County a Reapportionment Plan.

So there's no misunderstanding this Commission is the final drop to the reapportionment plan. Its not submitted to the County Council for approval or anything else. Its done when we're done. It doesn't mean it is done subject to challenges, we're trying to avoid that best we can by following the rules. And there is no other body that oversees us in the terms of we adopting...adopting the plan. Once its done here, that's the plan.

The reason for public hearings is pretty obvious, we want to know what the public feels not only about what we propose or what other people propose, but what we feel about reapportionment in general, and specifically what concerns you have regarding proposals in your own districts, or what you think your district should look like, or what you think the line between you district or the next district should look like. We each know a little bit about all of the Island. We each know more than a little bit, hopefully about our own districts, and we rely though, heavily on you to give us information about what you think is appropriate in your district.

Recognizing however that its our obligation to design something that's just appropriate for your district but is as appropriate as possible for the entire county.

Okay, having said that, 6 or 8 of you have signed up and I'll just call you in the order that your ...well, let me make sure, has everyone who wants to testify signed one of these white pieces of paper? No?

You want to testify? Okay.

GENTLEMAN SPEAK FROM AUDIENCE – INAUDIBLE.

CHAIR:

That's...that's fine.

Okay.

Um...then I'll just get started um... we, the members of the Commission are not only here to hear your comments, but if you have questions of the members of the Commission, please ask, that's why we're here. Questions about what we've done, questions about how to do, questions about...anything, really anything at all, we'll try to answer them. This is not a meeting of the Commission, however, and we will not decide anything, we will take information, give information if we can, but there's somethings we can answer. For example, what we're gonna do at our next meeting. We won't know until we get there, that's the whole point of the Sunshine Law. Our next meeting by the way is on the 18th of this month, and it is in the Council Chambers...County Council Chambers in Hilo.

Okay, unless there's anything from any other member of the Commission, I'll ask um...Miles Mullahy?

PERSON FROM AUDIENCE –INAUDIBLE.

Chair:

I prefer we just take them in this order, I'd like to get through this, so there is a microphone up here...there is a microphone up here and we're taping these proceedings, so if you would speak into the microphone so all of us can hear you and we get it on tape. Thanks very much.

M. MULLAHY:

I would like to defer my statement.

I came here tonight to speak about a plan that has not yet been presented. So...excuse me. I live in South Kona on Middle Keei Road, I came here, and

first I'd like to speak twice. Once, I'd like to speak as the Vice Chairman of the Democratic Party of the County of Hawaii (inaudible)...was not able to make some of the other meetings, I would like to let you know that we are not in favor of the canoe districts. This was decided at the August 21st meeting by unanimous vote. I think that all that has been...

M. VAN PERNIS: This Commission had nothing to do with the canoe districts.

M. MULLAHY: Thank you. Okay, and I also would like to make a point about (inaudible)...that's all I can speak as a member of the Democratic Party.

I would like to speak personally for a more contiguous sort of arrangement, I think some of the maps has some manipulations. If you look at some of the maps it don't seem to be quite as contiguous. I would really like to speak for something but I can't do it because the person that needs to present it is not allowed to speak yet. So I would like to try to put in a good word for Brenda Ford's proposal that she'll present as such time she is allowed to present it. And I would also like to speak in favor of Julie Jacobson's which is a more contiguous plan.

CHAIR: Thank you.
Curtis? I'm sorry...

M. VAN PERNIS: Mr. Mullahy, do you understand that Julie Jacobson's plans puts Keauhou into the South Kona and Pahala area?

M. MULLAHY: I understand that it (inaudible)... all of Ocean View perhaps (inaudible-speaking away from mike)

M. VAN PERNIS: And do you understand that Ms. Jacobson's plan divides North Kohala and South Kohala into different districts.

M. MULLAHY: I have not seen those plans of those districts.

M. VAN PERNIS: Thank you.

M. MULLAHY: Actually, I had hoped to see more of what the plans that they (inaudible)...

Oh...(turned mike back on) I guess, I've got a loud enough voice anyway. I had hoped to speak on some of the plans that were presented tonight and not to be the first speaker. I had hoped to see what they had to offer and perhaps speak a little more fully on that.

CHAIR; Let me clarify that and then stay here, because you may have more comments to make. None of us here is an advocate of any of those plans, and we're not here to present the plans. This is what the Commission has...this is the work of the Commission today. And these maps are um...we...we have no more information than you do with regard...we know how we got there, but we don't know any more than you do about what they mean and where the lines fall. If you have a question regarding any of the maps, we will ask the staff to try and answer the question. For example, whether the Volcano is split in half because actually half of the Volcano is in Puna and half of it is in Volcano. So we can answer those...the staff can answer those kinds of questions. But we're not here as advocates for any of those plans.

So you're just presenting the plans that's ...to us. Well again, I was caught a little off-guard because I had hoped that somebody would speak to the benefits of the plans and then we could make some comments later. I guess, perhaps I shouldn't have spoken so soon. All I can say is that based on the work that we've done so far, these are the plans that we thought best met our 4 mandates.

M. MULLAHY: Like except for...except for the one that I'm hoping that Brenda will present tonight, I have been more in favor of the continuousness of the, I guess, the Mark Van Pernis plan. I see the "mvp" there so I would think that's the secret code probably.

CHAIR: That's not so secret code.

M. MULLAHY: ...Not so secret code would show his ideas and I know he has put a lot of work into it, I have been quite impressed with that. I had hoped that your presentations about Julia, Bob's and Brenda's this evening would be able come ...

CHAIR: Thanks very much.

M. MULLAHY: Thank you.
Yes, Patrick?

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: Please pass the mike, please.
Ah yes, also the "pk" you see up there happens to be my secret code. However, the ah.....in this one here we asked the staff...every Commissioner has the opportunity, I asked the staff to start at the Wailuku River and go counterclockwise as the starting point to...to put the districts based on 16,520 residents or people in a district based...that was from the census tract of 140,677, the population for the Census 2000 tract. 6 thousand...excuse 16,500 that was my mandate to start from the Wailuku River to try to put 16,520 people in the district give or take the 5%. We asked them to do it if that was a possibilityso ah...again I came here with ...we have one that starting from this line, some line here and go clockwise, some went counterclockwise. Ours just went counterclockwise to just try to put again. So I want all of you to understand that this is ah...this does not mean it is what I want. Its not what I want, I just wanted something because we need to come up to the people with a plan. So that you know in some form that we need to say that I don't like the line here, I don't like it here, I don't like it for this reason. I see that we still need to make sure that 16,520 people, 5% is there. And if it can't be done, by all our imaginations, I think that's what we are to do. I think that's ...(inaudible).

CHAIR: Brenda Ford?

B. FORD: Um...I'm Brenda Ford. I live in Capt. Cook, South Kona. Um....I'm handing out some copies, I'm sorry they're not real good, these are the deviations based on the plan that I'm going to first explain and then show you. I got this assignment one week ago, and so I want you to understand where I'm coming from. And Charles isn't here right now, that's Chucky Flaherty. He's in another meeting and he's trying to get to this one. So if he gets here in time, I'll let him explain the map portion.

First of all, trying to do this in one week, ah...Char...Chuck and I developed a tremendous appreciation for the challenge that this Commission is faced. We came to this project from a little different perspective. We didn't have this mapping function, this mapping function is only after the County Elections Office's and its not available to anybody else, and the raw date that went into this is the U.S. Census deadline without excluding any of those little categories that I'm going that I'm going to talk about in a few minutes. And we didn't want to do

that. We wanted to get the exclusions in there, and we were partially successful. So anyway, I just want to say that um...this is a very difficult assignment and not only for us, but we recognize that it is very difficult for the Commissioners and the reason we got into it is because some of us in south....I'm sorry, West Hawaii were very concerned about these particular maps. We didn't feel that they reflected the community of common interest. At least certainly not in West Hawaii and that was our biggest concern, because the computer doesn't know those kinds of things. And I'm not suggesting that I know it, or Chucky knows, knows more than anybody else in this room. But we took a shot at it from the little different perspective as I said. We believe that the district boundaries of these maps needed to be amended because the community interests are not being aligned. We did follow the County Charter for the four mandates that was already explained to you but we also added some working assumptions on our project.

The first one was that we had to keep communities of common interests together and that means a community of common interest to us meant that the people lived in the same geographical area, they have a similar economic base. And I don't mean money, amounts of money, I'm talking whether they are agricultural, rural, whether they're urban or light industrial, or they're resort areas, or whether they are transportation center like an airport. Um...that they also shouldn't say they share the same town center for their daily stuff. For instance, where their schools are, where the churches are, where the shopping is, um...where their cultural events take place. If that's are the daily stuff that we all go through on a daily basis, you know, where that takes place is...as a common area.

And then we also looked at where the people go when they need to get to a larger area to do, say major shopping. And there's on our Island, of course there are three major areas, Kailua, Hilo and Waimea. And which of those areas were these people more aligned with. So we, that's the attempt that we made, ah, those were some of the working assumptions, we also did the very best we could to keep subdivisions together and intact. We only one or two subdivisions that we actually had to split and that's because the census tracts were so huge, they had, some of them had ten thousand people, or 7 thousand people, we had to split some of the over to Puna section. Sorry, Julie.

Um...the other thing that we did is, we used a different target number than this Commission did. They used 16 thousand 5 hundred twenty, and that's because they used the U.S. Census Data and they did not have the exclusions at all. And we had some of the exclusions. And I apologize in advance because I'm sure our map is going upset every council member, every boundary changes. We...one of the things that was raised at another meeting was how difficult it is to print ballots when you don't have overlapping House and Senate and County districts. And we took a look at that and we finally threw up our hands and said, there's no way. We're going to have to print multiple ballots if we're going to align ourselves based on the Charter and based on our community of common interests. There's no way that we're gonna make the boundaries of the maps. I am...I have been a precinct worker for the last two years and I can tell you for the...for the issues of who shows up in what precincts to vote, if you're in the wrong precinct, the precinct leader will call your correct precinct, have your name removed from that precinct so you can't vote twice, and you'll vote right where you are. We don't make people run around, so the issue of people going to the wrong precinct is really a non-issue. Its hard on the precinct workers, but we get it done. At least we get it done in West Hawaii.

The other thing is, there will be multiple ballots because people are going to have to vote for one Senate and there's gonna be, possibly in another...in another County district. So let me tell you how we got started on this. I called the County Elections Office and asked them for the information, the Census data and I was refused because this is a licensed piece of software that we're using, and they can't let anyone else use it, they couldn't download any data to me even though it was public data. They could not, even if they wanted to, and so I called the State, I got hold of the State Reapportionment staff, and I gwhabled..and I begged, and I got them to download the U.S. Census Data to me for this Island,

and then I got them to download two of the three exclusion groups. There's the non-resident military dependents which we all heard about, we all know of that disaster. That's still is not available because the State Commission has not made the decision to exclude it and so they haven't required their staff to do that job. So we don't have that information. However, we did get the active military, and our Island has only 62 active military personnel. Only 62. And so the number of dependents that they're gonna have with this is gonna be a very low number. It probably won't even make a decimal point change in any district. But it should be there but it isn't. The other thing that I hadn't heard about was non-resident students at the universities. That was part of the exclusion base that was not included in some of these maps. So the total number...the total number that we started with was slightly lower than what the...this Commission worked with. And we had this information down to the Census block. We've got a huge data base that we've created now with a lot of this information and then we borrowed the maps from Mark through Curtis, and we put them together on the floor of my living room and we've been crawling for 5 days on our hands and knees across these maps. And we looked at the way the things...the blocks and the tracts are designed, the blocks are the very tiniest units, usually that's a little tiny neighborhood, maybe bordered by two or three or four streets. And then those blocks are put together into a tract. Um...and we decided when we look at the census tracts that there were lines that were just defied any reason. They were...the doggedly, they ran helter-skelter all over the place and they...it looked...it..it not only looked bad, there was no reason for it. And so when we did our cut, we actually got down the maps and found the census blocks that were in unusual places and we straightened out the lines. Okay? So those were the...that's how we did this job, we did it manually and plugged the information into my database.

So I'm gonna ask for some help, I'm going to ask my husband, Sandra, if you want to help, um...I've got a map here and I'm gonna apologize in advance. We started this map late this afternoon, we got half of the map drawn, and I've got a little tiny map with the Island on it. So we want to show you what we've got, and the Commission needs to see this. Is it possible...Chuck, come on up, you can explain. Chucky's here, he can explain map to you. I didn't see him come in. Come in here, we have to give them our spill.

C. FLAHERTY:

(INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING FAR FROM MIKE FROM

AUDIENCE)

Boy, what an influence, yeah?

Okay, um...as Brenda said we um...the first thing that we started off with was the fact that District 6 or the southern district of this Island is going to be huge no matter what you do. Its gonna be cumbersome for whatever council person has to deal with it. Um...from what we had heard, the map that was being preferred had Kealahou Bay aligned with Volcano and down towards Mt. View in the same district which I and Brenda just didn't think was plausible. So, we looked more on the lines, aligning Ka'u and South Kona, both of which are rural, both of which are agricultural, and both of which are still relatively pristine open areas, as well as, have large populations of native Hawaiian peoples and who are seeking, you know, all of their practices. Um...the other thing we wanted to do was, we want to do what...as we're looking at these numbers, we realize that a Kailua-Kona district would be created. Ah...and so that's what we did. We created an urban light industrial, Kailua-Kona urban area which gives on the general plan, zones to be an urban area. And so we tried to include all the areas um...within Kailua that's scheduled for urban development within a district. Doing that allowed us to remove the Volcano Village an areas east from District 6, and moved District 6 up towards Kailua-Kona so that it includes a good deal of the Kona Coffee Belt. Ah.. we did try...we did look and tried to include the entire Kona Coffee Belt, um...in a district because of its importance to Hawaiian agriculture, but its just because of the distribution of the population, the way that the Island is, and having 9 council members, there's just no way to do it...or at least not at this time around.

So we got as much of the Kona Coffee Belt included in District 6 as we could, again, in keeping what the rural, agricultural nature of that. So we have an urban district for Kailua, then the district, and that would be District 7. The District 8 would then become what we call a residential resort community district that contains Kona International Airport, (inaudible), as well as, Kawaihae Harbor, so some major transportation hubs for West Hawaii. And this entire coastline is slated for luxury golf course resort type developments, as well as, the ancillary supporting communities that will be necessary for the workers, such as Waikoloa Village, which in itself had...we're really surprised that one of the census blocks that contain Wailoaloa Village has 7,000 people in it. So it's a substantial number of people within that particular areas as well.

CHAIR: Mr. Flaherty, please hold up for a second.

C. FLAHERTY: Sure.

CHAIR: Since it is the Commission that you need...oh, I'm sorry, that and I'd like to be fair to everyone who signed up to speak. So the Commission members are pretty familiar with some of the things that you say. So if you just explain the map, as to where the boundaries are...

C. FLAHERTY: Okay.

CHAIR: ...and leave the advocacy maybe for our meeting on October 18...I'm...

C. FLAHERTY: Sure

CHAIR:sure you'll appreciate it.

C. FLAHERTY: Well, anyway the challenge was to again bring communities together, so basically what we have is the North Hawaii district which is the communities of Hawi, Kapaau, those two, Waimea, as well as, Honokaa. Um...which is, of course, will serve the Kohala geographic area. We have North Hilo district which extends down the East coast to Kawaihae from Honokaa into actually, down into Hilo. Again, through Hilo urban...is essential Hilo which is sort of like central Hilo, and then we have basically a suburban Hilo area, which is also an urban area. And then we created two districts for Puna and we tried to draw as many Hawaiian Homelands as we could get it into the north Puna district and also south Puna district as you can see has already been drawn out on this wall. And the only subdivision that we had to separate was the very small portion of Hawaiian Paradise Park. All of the other subdivision we were able to keep intact.

So basically that is the proposal that we came up with. We only had a week to do it, obviously we would have liked to had more time to be able to tweak a little bit more, creating a little bit more of a buffer zone around Waimea, for instance, because it is this the way the district is drawn right now. This comes rather close to that...to that area. But the concept that we came up with, the reason that we came up with this, we wanted to keep the urban areas represented by urban council people and rural agricultural areas represented by rural council people. And that represents, I mean, that is more degradable of the demographics of this Island, as well as, the geography um...of this Island as well. So obviously, there's no perfect solution but that is one that we came up with.

Thank you.

CHAIR: Thank you. Um...if the both of you could sit up here, I have a couple of questions. Um...assuming that the Commission wants to work further with the map, we would appreciate if you would give us the information regarding the census blocks so that we can ask the staff to do more work with the census blocks that you worked on. Um...other than that I don't have any questions.

Does any other member of the Commission?

M. VAN PERNIS: You just said that there are 3 economic centers on the Island, Hilo, Kona and Waimea. We've heard quite a bit of testimonies that Puna considers itself to be an economic center, too. You didn't consider that to be another economic center?

B. FORD: (INAUDIBLE – SPEAKING FAR FROM MIKE)

M. VAN PERNIS: Do you think its appropriate to divide North Kohala from South Kohala and divide Hamakua in two districts when we've heard quite a bit of testimony and evidence of North Kohala basically is entirely West Hawaii oriented and its economic place both in terms of jobs, shopping or ...so what you do is basically divide Hamakua, and divide Kohala for the sake of creating two more Kona oriented districts. Do you think that's appropriate to divided North and South Kohala into two different districts.

B. FORD: Yes, I personally do, the fact remains that we have to have the right numbers, we all know this. If the fact also remains that even North Kohala and South Kohala may be West Hawaii oriented or Waimea oriented, it's the fact that we drawn these lines in a particular manner isn't going to stop that, we're still going to be involved with this. We thought it was most important and we have the numbers to justify it that south...the South Point area, all of that area, Kailua urban area, the North Kona, South Kohala section and the North Kohala have representatives inside those districts representing the West Hawaii perspective. And most of these other maps basically give us, we representatives on this side of the Island, because they drag Ka'u and South Kona all the way over to Puna...

CHAIR: Oh....

B. FORD: ...and we thing that's totally inappropriate.

M. VAN PERNIS: So basically you devised this to basically create corner districts where representatives and move the lines forward and move the rest of the area....

B. FORD: No, we did not let the lines go where they may. We did the very best job we could to make this reasonable cut. We believe that Puna is with the numbers and entitle them to two districts, our numbers entitled us to four. Its not...its not a matter of trying to do somebody out of something, we have the numbers to justify this.

M. VAN PERNIS: And your District 6, where is this northern boundary?

B. FORD: Its um...Chucky what's the northern boundary on 6?

C. FLAHERTY: It runs...it runs just from the south of Keauhou Bay, basically up mauka.

M. VAN PERNIS: So Keauhou Bay does it run Kahaluu for instance?

C. FLAHERTY: I'm sorry?

M. VAN PERNIS: Does it run as far as Kahaluu?

C. FLAHERTY: Ah...no.

M. VAN PERNIS: Is it on the north side of Keauhou Bay?

C. FLAHERTY: No, its on the south side of Keauhou Bay and it runs through an area which at this point is relatively undeveloped. It runs through these ...through the south of Keauhou Bay Estates, south of the golf course, it runs north of the Hokolei'a Development that's basically a very open ranch land type of area at this point. So it is sort of a natural demographic break, so...

M. VAN PERNIS: So, its between Kainaliu and Keauhou Estates?

C. FLAHERTY: Its between ...its between Kainaliu, it runs basically through the Honalo area.

M. VAN PERNIS: And would you feel that studentsoh, that's all right (referring to B. Ford)...students who reside here are not entitled to representation?

C. FLAHERTY: Ah...Brenda would like to address that.

B. FORD: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING AWAY FROM MIKE)

M. VAN PERNIS: Okay.

C. FLAHERTY: There's two things I'd like to say. One thing is, all the other plans divide Kailua Village in half.

CHAIR: Ms. Ford, would you simply answer the question?

B. FORD: The students...no, I do not believe that non-resident students who have homes on some other Island or some other continent should be voting in our State and should not be included in our census data base.

M. VAN PERNIS: Even if they're registered to vote?

B. FORD: If they're registered to vote and their non-resident students, they are not telling the truth.

M. VAN PERNIS: Or do you feel that ah...if they're living here the majority of the time are they entitled to representation?

B. FORD: My opinion is, if they are a legal resident someplace else, then they vote someplace else. If they are legally a resident here, then they shouldn't...then they won't be paying non-resident fees to the university, because then they are legally a resident. My son spent a year as a Honolulu resident...

M. VAN PERNIS: Are you that if a person votes here they are entitled to representation. If they don't vote here, they are not entitled to representation.

B. FORD: Yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: So all of the kids here are too young to vote and are not entitled....

B. FORD: No.
There...if you are a child of a legal resident here, then you have...you should have complete representation. That's what the census is all about.

M. VAN PERNIS: But if you are a legal resident but are not registered to vote?

B. FORD: How can you be a legal resident and not be registered to vote?
We have friends that are registered in other states.

We have snowbirds that come in and...

M. VAN PERNIS: There's lots of people ...

B. FORD: Okay. Yes, you're...

M. VAN PERNIS: If you're not registered to vote or...

B. FORD: Then they can't vote (emphasized). Then why...why would they be counted?
They're probably counted in the census population, I don't think that the students who are non-residents should be part of our census space, and they are excluded by the State.

CHAIR: Mr. Pavao?

S. PAVAO: Why...I don't know what the right word would be but why is District 4 – 5 and why is District 4 –5?

B. FORD: That's the way the districts are today. And the numbers are really immaterial, but right now, South Puna is..

S. PAVAO: If you look through the numbers the logical sequence would go 1 – 2- 3 – 4 – 5...and

B. FORD: I numbered them the way it exists today. They can be renumbered or relettered if that's...

S. PAVAO: But that's the way it exists today, and the number...

B. FORD: Julie, what district are you in?

S. PAVAO: 6.

B. FORD: 6?

S. PAVAO: That District 4 is 5.

B. FORD: Okay. That's....I can get in a race 8 and take care of that.

S. PAVAO: The other two questions I have is, maybe I'm wrong...you don't tell me what tax block the school is. As I count it, I count 10 districts, maybe you have opened up another

B. FORD: No, no, no.

(END OF TAPE 1)

Even worst than that some of the census blocks have three or four thousand people in them. And so it makes it real awkward trying to separate them. I...I don't know if you can do anything about it, but whatever, its Hawaiian Paradise Park.

J. FERGUSON: All right, the next question is how many people were cut and put into another area?

B. FORD: It went...we went district by district. and we took the census....we tried to...

J. FERGUSON: Just on the map you substituted, how many people...?

B. FORD: I have to look at the database. I'm not even going to guess.

J. FERGUSON: And ah...how many students?

B. FORD: Seven hundred thirty eight non-residents students.

J. FERGUSON: Seven hundred thirty eight?

B. FORD: That's from the State and 62 active military. No numbers yet on the others.

CHAIR: Thank you very much. Any other member have a question for Ms. Ford?

Mark?

M. VAN PERNIS: I see you split 7...you split mauka from makai in your District 7, all right? Is that split along Mamalahoa Highway?

B. FORD: Part of it. Um...Chucky, I can't...this map doesn't have the streets on.

M. VAN PERNIS: So basically, you decided to put the makai side of Mamalahoa Highway...

C. FLAHERTY: No.

M. VAN PERNIS: ...In District 7 and the makai side in District 8?

C. FLAHERTY: UM...Mamalaho Highway...Okay...

M. VAN PERNIS: I'm sorry, I can't see it.

C. FLAHERTY: Where Mamalaho Highway splits from Kuakini in Honalo. Okay, we basically included District 8...excuse me, District 6 basically goes all the way to...

M. VAN PERNIS: I'm talking about District 7 only.

C. FLAHERTY: Oh, District 7 only?

M. VAN PERNIS: Your District 7.

C. FLAHERTY: Its basically from Kuakini mauka until you get into the area of the Department of Water Supply Road, then it goes up at that point, I believe, and follow...where is it? So, it basically follows Kuakini, then it goes back up um...I'm trying to see...

M. VAN PERNIS: That longest stretch from south to north, is it along Mamalaho? It appears to be.

C. FLAHERTY: At the very bottom?

M. VAN PERNIS: No, at the top, that longest stretch.

C. FLAHERTY: Yes, that's Mamalaho Highway, it comes down, you see it comes down with an indention, that is the area below Holualoa which is the coffee growing region then it comes back up to where there's a lot of urban development..

M. VAN PERNIS: Well, Holualoa is not...well, you can call it coffee but its more urban than anything else, it's a bigger community than Kailua-Kona, I live there. But the point I'm making is that you felt that it was appropriate to divide 7 from 8, at least for a significant portion by Mamalaho Highway?

C. FLAHERTY: Um...we did the best we could, certainly someone elses work ...

M. VAN PERNIS: I appreciate your effort. I'm just trying to get information, but I'm wondering whether you split that because of geography because you felt there was some cultural or economic difference between the mauka and makai side.

C. FLAHERTY: We were looking....we were trying to look at economic differences, people who...and lifestyle differences, people who were more, for instance, in town versus people who prefer a more rural environment, um...suburban, to me is more people who are utilizing an urban whereas rural is someone who doesn't necessarily have a need to go into town.

M. VAN PERNIS: Is this on Mamalaho north or south Palani Road?

S. PAVAO: North.

C. FLAHTERY: As far as?

M. VAN PERNIS: This division. Is it on Mamalahoa, north of Palani Road?

C. FLAHERTY: No.

M. VAN PERNIS: Thank you.

C. FLAHERTY: No. We weren't able to...we weren't able to because of the numbers unfortunately.

CHAIR: Thank you very much. Thank you both very much. Julie Jacobson?

J. JACOBSON: Thank you. That was...I'm sorry. Thank you very much, and I won't go into depth because you've seen our plan and you know about it. Let me urge the rest of you if you want to know more about ours to take a look at it, I think there's a real chance to mill these ideas, because like I said from the very start with my idea, the main thought that I thought you're correcting was the 6th District in particularly the large spread out nature of it and then um...in particular to the fracturing of the Puna area. That's a legal term about when you divide a community, then you pull one area away, you pull areas out of another area, in order to weaken a political...weaken an influence of an area. So that's where I see is being done and why I had to get so involved personally is because I...when there were 9 plans, I looked at all 9 of them, the they were just all had the same general flaw for the Puna area, so that's what got me going, and I want to thank my colleagues in Kona, basically my contact with them was going to the CERG meeting and just telling that group how I was dissatisfied, and they went and just went on their own and did this. This is my first time to take a look at it myself. I have a couple specific suggestions because that I know you're probably thinking this, too, from hearing the Paradise Park people come from the very beginning saying, "Don't split Paradise Park". But I think that's a pretty easy adjustment there which is to trade the Orchidland Subdivision for that portion of Paradise Park and then you can keep Paradise Park intact and I guess, I'm speaking of that in particular because some of the strongest supporters working on this and coming every single time was Paradise Park, where they didn't want to be split.

And then, you heard me say that I kinda want this group to know from your last, a week ago, Sunday article about the difficulty about creating ballots and precincts, and I just want all of you (emphasized) to think about this that Hawaii, just remember, compared to a mainland state with a hundred, two hundred counties compared to a mainland state with literally hundreds of legislators, we have this...this simplest government on the whole in terms of numbers of people to elect in any state. We've got 4 counties, we have no other municipal governments and that means we have, I guess, Kauai has a body of 7, we have a body of 9, and the other districts, 9, so that's a very small thing. And even our entire State Legislature is very tiny, and of course, we all know our congressional delegation is 4 people. So I think our task in terms of creating ballots on this Island is kind of like a kindergarten level test compared to any other state that's working at the college level. So to complain about a few more ballots, I think that's really a red herring, and I hope none of you get side tracked by that idea of being a difficulty.

But at any rate, I want thank the Committee, the Reapportionment Commi...Commission, for hearing us again, and as you can see, people in Kona

care a lot about this, you've had good turnouts in Kona and Puna, so maybe that's where you need to think about areas that really have a strong need for adjusting. You know when you compare Kohala had a few people speak about it, we had 26 people, 50 people at the meeting saying over and over about the message about Puna, so I hope you've heard it.

Thank you.

CHAIR: Ms. Jacobson, I have a question.

J. JACOBSON: Yes?

CHAIR: The map that was just proposed here, seems to and I think Patrick and Steve Pavao were both talking about that point, seems to include Keaukaha and Panaewa with the upper Puna district, isn't that correct?

J. JACOBSON: I don't that's what you combined. Pardon me, yes. Part of it, we're... I assume you used that same district, the Hilo-Puna judicial district line.

CHAIR: No, Ms. Jacobson, what I saw was Keaukaha and Panaewa in the same district with Volcano, Kurtistown, Mt. View. So would you give us your comments on that proposal?

J. JACOBSON: Well, I don't really think I'm prepared to just...this is my first time to hear it, and actually you're just correcting me. I thought they were using that judicial border, so I don't its appropriate for me to comment till I really look at it.

CHAIR: Thank you. Any other questions of Ms Jacobson?
Thank you, Ms. Jacobson.

J. JACOBSON: Thank you all.

CHAIR: Sandra Scarr?

S. SCARR: Good evening, thank you for coming over to Kona, and thank you for listening to us, and I guess as you can see that many people in Kona are very concerned about how our districts are construed. I'd rather you listen (inaudible-speaking away from mike). I am speaking to all of you. Let me speak first to you.

Um...thank you for coming and I appreciate your listening to us, and I think we thought a lot about the guidelines under which you're working, which is to draw contiguous districts that are not too favor any...or disfavor any existing arrangement, or person. All right?

And I think it was very hard for us to say, okay, let's think ten years ahead. Let's think what our County is going to look like in ten years. Where is it going to grow, where do we need to predict what kinds of economic and demographic interests people will have in common. And I think that what Brenda and Larry...Brenda and Chucky had presented and Larry, as well, has such compelling underlying interests. Let me, I want to say them again.

If you take the area from Ka'u through South Kona and then the mauka lands of North Kona where people are farming, you have a solid agricultural district and you would have a representative elected from that area representing agricultural interests. I also live in Holualoa and I'm a coffee farmer so I...I feel that strongly...that, that's a very important group not to be deluded by the growing urban numbers. Now, speaking for the

urban Kailua-Kona district there is no reason that 20 thousand people who could be construed as being as being in urban Kailua-Kona that's certainly a council district. Why should we be divided? Why should Kailua-Kona have to have half its representation in one district and half in another? Its seems sensible at this point in time, and maybe it wasn't sensible ten years ago but its sensible now and henceforth to say, "Kona deserves a council district all in itself, Kailua-Kona". And then we have the suburban people on the north side of North Kona who orient some to Kailua-Kona but some to Waikoloa. There are people...some of them who work out in the resorts. Then you have Waikoloa Village, surely, a lot of those people are working in the resorts and up north. And then you have many developing residential areas in North Kohala, north of Kawaihae. I drove up that area just less than two week ago, and its astounding how much luxury resorts, luxury subdivisions are going in up there. So, there's a lot of coherence between the resort areas of south Kohala and the resort areas of north Kohala. But when you get past, you know, before you get to Hawi, now you still got traditional sugar lands, cane workers, ex-cane workers, resident...rural agricultural and ranching people. And that extends all the way back down to Waimea but on the north side. So I'm saying there's a lot of coherence to what Brenda Ford and Chuck Flaherty had presented to you in those districts. I think we feel less confident, I will speak for myself about speaking to the people of Hamakua or speaking to the people of Puna. And I think you've heard from them as to what they want. But I think talking about West Hawaii, we do have some knowledge and we do really think that this presents at least the beginnings of a very good plan, and we'd like you to take it seriously.

Thank you.

CHAIR:
Commission have questions of Ms. Scarr?

Thank you. Do any of the members OF THE

Thank you.
Virginia Isbell?

V. ISBELL:

Aloha. Thank you very much for being here. Um...I wouldn't want your job for anything because no matter what you do, you're not going to please anybody. And that's probably a good sign. If you please one group and you don't please another group, then you're in worst trouble. So its better you don't please anybody. Um...we've come to that conclusion. I just have to mention something. When you talk about Kailua Village as having a separate district, there aren't that many people living in Kailua Village because the district is...the boundaries is the Kailua Vill...ah..district has a little group that meets and helps the politicians make decisions. Its only a very small area. As far as giving a lot of credence to mauka, makai, rural, agricultural, urban, I think what I have found out, is that the person who represents, equally represents everybody. They don't just say, because you're a farmer I'm going to represent you because you are a merchant in Kailua, I'm going to represent you. Um...I have found that that the council people to be very well-rounded, and willing to represent whoever's in that district. To make a boundary to meet all the criteria the way the population is right now is impossible. You will never be able to do it because the coffee land is a ribbon that goes right across Kona. Having being a representative, I can only tell you that when I first started I represented the whole West Hawaii, all by myself. And then it go smaller and smaller and smaller and you still have the same kind of people in the group. So I'm looking at the map and saying, you know you really need to take a look at keep Kohala together because North Kohala and South Kohala do the same things. The people in West Hawaii, they're either living there as second home residents, many of them but mostly in the Kohala area. And then you have the Oceanside 1250 which is gonna a new kind of thing for West Hawaii that has been created for the second home type of people. I don't think they're even going to be residents. So forget that. Um, as far as the West Hawaii goes, I think the important part is to make sure that whoever gets the southernmost part, is able to travel all the way from Puna to the south Kona area because that's how its gonna be no matter how you look at it

that's a huge district because you got a lot of volcanoes, you got a lot of barren land and you have a smattering of people here and there. And so the only way to do is to get a dart and throw it at the map and say, "Okay, wherever it lands". No, he started at the Wailuku River and I think that's all right, except that next time we do this we should start in Kona at, maybe one of our little places that is a defining mark like the Hualalai Road or something like that, and then go whatever you want to, counterclockwise or what. A lot of what happens depends on where you start. And if start in Hilo, probably you gonna get away with it this year. But ten years from now, watch out. Because our population is exploding and its going to be more over here, so you might as well get used to it and give us 4 people. So you can do that by having the map that's next to the last, looks pretty good. It has Kohala together, it has North Kona, then you have little Kona, South Kona and Ka'u and part of Puna which you cannot change. I just don't see how you're gonna ever get that. So, just to let you know that you're not going to please anybody and whatever you do when you draw the lines, it has to be what's best for the people, not for how to get re-elected. If that's the only reason people are running is to get re-elected, and that the district has to be that way, that's not the right reason, it should be that no matter where they live they will represent the people in their districts. So just for what its worth I say to you, good luck, you're not going to please us, I know that, but at least take a look at giving Kona 4 representatives in the County Council and next time around, ten years around be 5, possibly 6. Okay?

Mahalo.

CHAIR:
have a question?

Thank you. Does any member of the Commission

(INAUDIBLE-MIKE TURNED OFF)

Wallace Nakamoto?

W. NAKAMOTO: Thank you for being here and listening to the testimonies. My name is Wallace Nakamoto, I live in Kona, born and raised, I work in a family business and that's second generation so I've seen a lot of changes in Kona. And I concur with Virginia when she said that, you know, by this meeting we're looking how we could best represented. And I'd like to say that I firmly support that South Kona-Kau mvp 2. In my views, district...especially for District 7 which I live and work here, I think its best represented by the community and the type of agriculture that's in the area and so is District 8 by that map, I think they have things in common by the community and economics of the area.

Thank you very much.

CHAIR:

Thank you.
David Holzman?

D. HOLZMAN: My name is David Holzman. I live in Kailua and I'll read along with you here so the audience can hear it. First for all, aloha and thank you for giving us this opportunity. I know your guiding principle has to be one person-one vote and you're not bound to please anyone, its just not possible and I commend you for taking on a difficult responsibility. In the hope of not making your job more difficult, I wish to make a suggestion on how you can enhance and make more perfect the principle of one person-one vote. Sections 37-317 of the County Charter, Item 4, states the Reapportionment Commission shall determine equal population districts as required by a applicable State Constitutional provisions. Now our Charter does not spell out what those applicable State Constitutional provisions are. So I went and looked them up. The Hawaii State Constitution, Article 4, Section 6, ask you to be guided when practical, I guess you know these, by the criteria of not favoring political parties, districts should be

contiguous, compact and easily recognizable geographic features, and don't mix different social-economic areas. That's what I think has been overlooked so far. Don't mix different social-economic areas. However, on the criteria of different social-economic areas, the Constitution ask the Caveat that submerging one area in another district with a substantially different social-economic interest shall not be...shall be avoided. Now that's the only one of those provisions that Constitution then says, shall be avoided. This Caveat is very applicable to our County and I will present reasons why it should adhered to.

First I want to call your attention to the Constitutional Convention of 1968, Section 5, which reads as follows:

Whenever possible, the division of areas with substantial community interest (social-economics) is to be avoided. That homogenous group should participate in the political process as a unit, rather than be split up arbitrarily into small fractions of two or more groups. The homogenous groups, your committee needs to decide, the numbers of which are alike in the social-economics status to the extent possible, your committee believes that areas with substantial community interests shall not be divided.

Now this criterion of not dividing social-economic groups has been challenged and upheld in State and Federal courts. First, your Supreme Court with *Burns v. Richardson 1963* and again *Burns vs. Gill 1972*, those are Hawaiian challenges to the Constitution. The Federal courts found that artificially chopping up canoe districts results in a complete loss of meaningful representation. Now I believe the Constitution is exclusive on this point, and the Federal courts agree that because it gets to the heart of equal representation under the Law and compliments and makes more perfect the importance of the one person-one vote. Think of it. If you put equal numbers of people in each district, you have not necessarily given equal rights to each person's vote. Because of one social-economic group is in the minority, and of a lower status and has different needs than the majority higher status group, you've weakened the political power of the minority group . '

Now, there are several different methods that identifies social-economic status. But more social side is generally agreed that it is comprised of the factors that gives people and their children similar-like chances to achieve a higher quality of life. Those factors are primarily family income, educational level and political power. When you look at the Hawaii County Data Book of family income, educational level and unemployment rates, which is related to income, you will find 3, a defined clusters of social-economic groups. One is Hilo, urban area has been stated, the other is Kailua-Kona urban area and the third is Puna. If you look at the other districts, we are fairly close to the County average of social-economic status. As Brenda and Charlie pointed out, it tends to be more rural. And some were income and some were educational levels. The census data shows, many of you know intuitably, that Puna has a lower family income, a low educational level than Hilo or Kailua-Kona. The family income differences can be as much as 2 to 1, between Hilo and Puna and Kailua and Puna. Educational levels are twice as high in Hilo, than Kailua-Kona as in Puna. Unemployment last year 2000 was 50% higher in Puna than Hilo and over 1 hundred per cent higher than in Kailua-Kona. So given that low family income and educational level to citizens of Puna and their children have very little chance of bettering their lives compared to the 9 political representation. Political representation is difficult at best, but almost impossible if elected officials have to represent 2 widely different social-economic populations. It becomes a tough juggling act to submit capital improvements needs, offer legislative remedies and keeps folks on the needs of your constituents.

Now because social-economic status is highly correlated with the types and frequencies of criminal offenses and the need of social services, consideration should be given to following the judicial district boundaries in the County as much as possible. As you know, the police, fire, public works, parks and recreation, and the courts are all organized by judicial districts. Therefore, to use judicial districts as the guiding principle and take

care not to split the three socio-economic defined groups of Hilo, Kailua-Kona and Puna, you'll go a long way to the needs of the people with their political representatives and the social services, and the safety of fire and police protection that they need. This is very doable because north and south Hilo judicial districts of the population, 49, 106, the three council districts, the Puna judicial district has enough population, 31, 335 for two council districts, and the north and south Kona judicial districts have more than enough, 37,132 for two council districts. Since north and south Kona have excess population, it becomes necessary to look for equita...equitable ways to figure the south, north and remainder of the west areas. I leave that up to you and to your Office of Elections staff. That I don't want to get into, I see what happens when you get into that. I urge the Commission to ask the County Office of Elections to prepare a new map, a map that gives the highest priority of the several constitutional criteria to social-economic status, and above all avoid splitting upper Puna into 2 districts, one of which is Hilo. Where the maps start as key, therefore, I order you...in order, excuse me...I order you...I take that back. Excuse me. In order to keep faith with our State Constitution I recommend the maps to start at the judicial district between Hilo and Puna.

One last statement. When the Hawaiians started their society along naha ahupuaas, they wisely guaranteed that each group had access to all that is necessary to their quality of life. Everyone in the Island could access to the forest for wood, the midlands for agriculture and the ocean for fish. The alii did this to minimize the conflicts between the groups. Look ahead ten years from now, and you should be as wise because we all live on an Island and one segment is to deny access to the means of improving the quality of their lives we will never truly enjoy our harmonious Island.

CHAIR: Thank you very much. Any member of the Commission have a question for Mr. Holzman?

M. VAN PERNIS: Mr. Holzman, I didn't get it but where do you live?

D. HOLZMAN: I live in Kailua.

M. VAN PERNIS: And ah...do I understand you right, you are advocating the poor folks be in one district and the rich folks in another district and so on and so forth?

D. HOLZMAN: Ah...that's where the poor folks live and that's where the rich folks live.

LADY FROM THE AUDIENCE: (INAUDIBLE-FAR FROM MIKE)

M. VAN PERNIS: So you're basically advocating that the division by economic divisions is more important than getting the numbers right?

D. HOLZMAN: No, I didn't say that.

M. VAN PERNIS: But you want the numbers divided so that the poor won't be all in one district and the average and rich are all in another districts?

D. HOLZMAN: No, I didn't say that either.

M. VAN PERNIS: Well, that's the way I hear you're saying.

D. HOLZMAN: Well, you better listen to what I'm saying, I said there are two urban areas with higher educational levels and higher income and that's Hilo and Kona...Kailua-Kona basically.

M. VAN PERNIS: So you're basically advocating two... all poor folks be in two districts, right?

D. HOLZMAN: You're making it sound like I'm kicking the poor people into Puna, I didn't didn't put people in Puna, but I'm looking at the County Data Book....

M. VAN PERNIS: But you're advocating that the... that they not be mixed with the socio-economic...

D. HOLZMAN: That they can't get out, that I'm putting a bridge and I'm tearing down barriers?

M. VAN PERNIS: For instance, would you be satisfied....would you be satisfied if there was a district that had 3 quarter of the poor people in it and 1 quarter of the middle class and upper class in it so the poor people can still control the district?

D. HOLZMAN: That's highly hypothetical, I'm not going to respond to it.

M. VAN PERNIS: If its hypothetical, you see it on 3 maps here.

D. HOLZMAN: Where is that? Show me the socio-economic status of those maps. You can't do it! (emphasized)

M. VAN PERNIS: I can't do it, sir. But the point I'm making is that you seem to be advocating Ms. Jacobson's plan, is that correct?

D. HOLZMAN: No.

M. VAN PERNIS: Okay, the two perfect districts for Puna and the rest you say, leave it to us to work out?

D. HOLZMAN: I say, follow the Constitution, not split socio-economic groups. As a sociologist, I have a PHD in sociology, and I can tell you there are only 3 identifiable, clearly identifiable, statistically significant socio -economic groups, one is in Hilo, one is in Kailua, and one is in Puna, upper and lower Puna.

M. VAN PERNIS: And....

D. HOLZMAN: That is statistically significant socio-economic groups.

M. VAN PERNIS: How about the Kohalas? Where do they fall?

D. HOLZMAN: Close to the average.

M. VAN PERNIS: They do...and you're sure?

D. HOLZMAN: Of course, you're gonna find pockets here and there, yeah.

M. VAN PERNIS: Well, there's some very rich folks in Kohala and some very poor folks in Kohala, so together they are average.

D. HOLZMAN: Some of those poor folks aren't even residents there.

M. VAN PERNIS: Now, um...you said you'd leave it to us, you've advocated two districts in Puna and two districts in Hilo and you'd leave the rest to us...

D. HOLZMAN: 3....3....3.

M. VAN PERNIS: 3 in Hilo and and you'd leave the rest to us and...

D. HOLZMAN: And 2 in Kailua.

M. VAN PERNIS: 2 in Kailua and you leave...and how much of the ah...south part of the Island would you put in the Kailua district?

D. HOLZMAN: I have no idea on that.

M. VAN PERNIS: And how much of the ah...Hamakua ah...districts would you put in the Kohala.

D. HOLZMAN: You have my presentation, I didn't make a single statement about where you put those.

M. VAN PERNIS: So you don't have any idea how the splits goes?

D. HOLZMAN: I gave you a guiding principle, Constitutional principle...

M. VAN PERNIS: All right.

D. HOLZMAN: And I gave you the 3 socio-economic groups, I gave you the judicial districts, I make no other claim, I have no other knowledge that I wish to present to you tonight.

M. VAN PERNIS: And if we need to make some other division of the Kona, Puna and Hilo districts in order to accommodate these other geographic areas in order to meet the one man-one vote principle, you are for or against that?

D. HOLZMAN: For what?

M. VAN PERNIS: In order to meet the one man-one vote principle we would have ...

D. HOLZMAN: That was the first part of the question?

M. VAN PERNIS: If we had to divided up Puna, divided up Kailua-Kona, divide up West Hawaii, divide up Hilo and add to parts of Hamakua or the south part of the Island, in order to meet the mandate of one man-one vote, would you say that the socio-economic requirements are more important?

D. HOLZMAN: Is there one answer to that question?

M. VAN PERNIS: I'm asking you, sir.

D. HOLZMAN: Listen to what I'm trying to say. We have one vote-one person, one person-one vote. But if you put those people in predominantly social...predominantly...don't take exception, predominantly, different, socially-economic groups, the Constitution, the Supreme Court, and the Federal Court will tell you, you have violated the Reapportionment rules.

M. VAN PERNIS: You have defined as I understand it, 3 districts?

D. HOLZMAN: Correct.

M. VAN PERNIS: Is that correct?

D. HOLZMAN: I...no, no. I have defined 3 socio-economic groups.

M. VAN PERNIS: All right.

D. HOLZMAN: Well, I used to call it

M. VAN PERNIS: You're advocating based on your logic, 2 districts in Puna, correct?

D. HOLZMAN: They have the numbers.

M. VAN PERNIS: And you're advocating 2 districts in West Hawaii?

D. HOLZMAN: No, I didn't say anything about West Hawaii.

M. VAN PERNIS: Well, 2 districts in Kona..

D. HOLZMAN: Ah....Kona, yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: All right. Is there any difference between that and West Hawaii, I'll accept that. And how many districts in Hilo?

D. HOLZMAN: I said that already, 3.

M. VAN PERNIS: All right, that's 7 districts, right?

D. HOLZMAN: Oh, God. Oh, man. What did you do?

M. VAN PERNIS: Isn't that 7 districts?

D. HOLZMAN: What....what? No, listen. I'm not going to answer those silly questions like that.

M. VAN PERNIS: Well...

D. HOLZMAN: Its so hypothetical, I mean....

M. VAN PERNIS: Well...

D. HOLZMAN: I gave you my presentation, I told you what I had to offer, and you got me playing a numbers game....

M. VAN PERNIS: Well...

D. HOLZMAN: And now you tricked me in a numbers game. Ooh...good for you.

M. VAN PERNIS: You've advocated 7 districts....

D. HOLZMAN: I have not advocated 7 districts! (emphasized)

M. VAN PERNIS: ...and I want to know...

D. HOLZMAN: I have not advocated 7 districts and in answer to your silly questions, I still say, I don't know!

M. VAN PERNIS: All right, that's what I wanted to hear.

D. HOLZMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR: Do any other member of the Commission have a question for Mr. Holzman?

Mr. Holzman, thank you very much.
Jeff Turner?

J. TURNER: Is it going to scream at me? Okay, we got it fixed. Aloha, is it on?

(END OF TAPE 2)

Tonight, I didn't know that Brenda and Chuck were making a proposal like that, I knew Bob and Julie had and ah...downloaded on e-mail ten days ago and brought to the County Reapportionment and the State Reapportionment hearing and was so engrossed in that I didn't get to read it. I work about 16 hours a day, 7 days a week, um...so I had looked at the Jacobson proposal and just a cursory overview being a malahini, I only lived here about 15 years. I'm not really that politically even if I have green t-shirt on. And it seems to me like of all the proposals we've seen, that's the most sensible, contiguous chunks of real estate for any of the districts that look like this.

Um...and the District 6 on all these maps I think is criminally inappropriate...um..I don't think anybody would want to do what Julie does and problem with that district and based on what Dave and other people have said ah...you can't do that.

Ah...typing people in all that distance from all those different communities is just wrong. So maybe that's where we have to start is in Ka'u. They've been stuck for years. Um...I looked in my wardrobe to pick out a shirt for tonight and found this think I hadn't worn for awhile, its kinda hard to read so it says, "Democracy. When do we start?" And I think we could start this year, we took a pretty good first baby step ten years ago and we admitted the County Charter and we had single member district voting for the Council. Before then, we didn't have democracy. We had old plantation system. So we've been experimenting with democracy and we have discovered that we can get what we want, and we want fairness and we want communities that are cohesive and can have some representation on the Council. And so I think Brenda's opening remarks about what consideration should be made in your attempt to distribute one person-one vote which could be done a thousand ways could be your preamble, Mr. Chair, to presenting this to the County Council when you're done with your decision. And I don't know the details of all the census tracts and everything that the Jacobson's have done and Brenda and Chuck and people helping have done, but I'm very impressed with what they did in a week and ah...I hope you can consider those things and I'm sure there's a lot of tweaking to do and its not easy at all and you give consideration, please, to making real representation for people while you do one person-one vote. One person-one vote is the last thing on the checklist, not the first thing on the checklist. Please pay attention to the communities.

CHAIR: Thank you. Do any of the members of the Commission ...any member of the Commission have a question?

(MIKE TURNED OFF-NO RECORDING)

J. TURNER: (MIKE TURNED BACK ON)
Well you may not know that I am a CPA. I have a bit of a way with numbers, but I didn't come prepared to address any numbers tonight. The only intelligent, perhaps, comment I'd like to make about numbers, because I don't know about that issue that has been brought up, I haven't researched it. Is it...maybe I could help Bob count. He's got 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 5 in numbering the districts around the Island. Even if they can make a 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and that would be an improvement.

CHAIR: Thank you.
Any other questions?
Thank you very much, Mr. Turner.
Curtis Tyler?

C. TYLER: Good evening. My name is Curtis Tyler. I come here this evening as a life long resident of Kona and West Hawaii. I guess my Hawaiian side of my family has been in this West Hawaii area for over a thousand years. I do not come to you as an elected official. Absolutely, as you've heard me say when you came for your confirmation, this should be an apolitical process. And I'm going to try to keep it that way as much as I can and Mr. Chairman, I hope you'll correct me. Um, again I'd like to welcome you all here and thank you very much. Each one of you and including the member who couldn't be here this evening, Mr. Balberde, ah..for the work that you've been doing. I have spent some time on this and I can just tip of the iceberg, appreciate the difficulty that you encounter every single day that you have to face this. And I also want to acknowledge and thank the folks from Elections, they also, like you, have certain constraints under which you are operating, and I don't think I can begin to fathom the difficulty that you have and so I'm so grateful for the efforts that each of you have made, and I wanted to make that point at the beginning because I really appreciate the work you've done. And I think you've done a good job in defining these maps down to 3 maps and I'm gonna address

those maps because those are the ones are on the table this evening and those are the ones about which I have some information on. Perhaps give some very brief comments about the map that's on the back wall and I didn't see the other one very clearly, ah...I don't know exactly what it says, but I'll give you in principle what I think you ought to be looking at. And I'll home in on one map at the end. I'm gonna start with each one and I'm gonna go down, but as I looked at this process, it seemed to me that, of course, as I told you when you came for your confirmation hearing, there are certain paramble. Mr. Holzman, Dr. Holzman has ah...talked about them tonight, giving you some handouts in terms of Constitutional provisions. And that is what is pololei, that is what is legal, that is what is right and that is the correct, we know what is one person-one vote. The more difficult issue that you've been having to deal with at every public hearing and every day that you've been on this Commission, is really at the end, what is pono? What is that that is really um...addresses as many of the needs of this diverse community as possible. Each one of you represents a particular district in which you live. And we all know there's great diversity within a district and among the districts. So as I looked at this and was thinking about comments I might make...make this evening that hopefully will helpful to you, I tried to look at the bottom line which is pono. And Commission Kahawaiola'a spoke about this, a little bit this evening. Um...I also thought that in addition to these constitutional things, these pololei things, that maybe we should try to keep the traditional communities, and I don't mean just subdivisions, the subdivisions is kind of a word that means we divide people. And I'd like to think about bringing people together. That we keep our property lines pretty much together, where we can, that we minimize the change. We all know that there needs to be change and each district is gonna have to absorb a portion of that change. But we minimize the change so that we can maximize the voter participation and the interests in this community, both now and in the future.

We heard about keeping Kona-Kona, I know Hilo wants to be kept as Hilo, I know Hamakua wants to be kept as Hamakua, I know Kohala wants to be kept as Kohala, Puna wants to be kept as Puna, Ka'u, Puna and Ka'u and South Kona. But we all know that none of us can help with, you certainly can, where people live. You know, you have to face the facts and look at them. And I realize that the census tracts and the census blocks may not be ideal way that each of you or each of us will have to divide the communities, but that's what you have. That's what we have to begin with. And so with that in mind, um...because I...I wasn't very well informed about how this process works, besides I looked at the census tract maps and tried to understand where they were. And I found that there's 215.01 which is Kalaoa. And I found out that, that entire census tract is currently in District 8. And there's ...and the new ah...and the new census count, there are 9, 505 people, give or take a few. I also found that census tract 21601 is called the Kailua tract and that takes in not only portions of Kailua town but also above Kailua. Areas that directly impact makai, if you looking from watersheds perspective, and that's another perspective that I looked at is the watershed. Um...and then I found another one, 215.02 Hualalai, and Hualalai as we all know goes...starts up in the north and goes way down, and actually part of it goes into one of the current District 6. And um...by the way Kailua in its entirety is approximately 5,987 people. Now if you take Kalaoa which is currently District 8, and Kailua which only part of which is in District 8, and you combine that...combine those 2, keep all of Kailua and Kalaoa together, and you have approximately 2,000 from the 3,688 Hualalai because its much more populated than the north of Hualalai than it is in the south, you come up with 17,492 for District 8.

And by the way, I'm speaking about District 8 and District 7 mostly and partly of District 9 because I no like maha'oe, and you know I not...I'm not familiar to East Hawaii like many of you are, and I'm gonna stay out of that because I don't think that's my kuleana. And I leave it up to you...those of you who represent those districts to be able to provide that. So that's sort of where it began. Then I said, "Okay, well, how do I find those specifics for this?" And so I got the census maps, I looked at that, then I said, "Oh, I want to look at your 3 maps".

And let me start with South Kona and Ka'u because I know other people want to speak and I just want to try to wrap this up. Generally speaking, South Kona and Ka'u beginning in the north, splits up Kohala. And I say, I no like maha'oe, but I think Kohala has always been together and what I heard this evening, Mr. Fernandez, Commissioner Mr. Fernandez's, the people in Kohala should be together. And you know, my own experience as a 55 year resident and I lived there for...in Waimea for 7 years, that's the way people feel. Um...then I looked down and I saw District 9 on this map now, saw Kona-Ka'u, coming down and dividing up Kalaoa quite substantially, and I said auoli pono kela, I didn't think that that was the way the community up there really feels. And this is based on literally thousands of people, certainly hundreds that I've talked to in this process but over the six years that I've served that community as well as the 50-plus years as a resident, this is not the sediment that I've heard to split this up. Um...and you go down and look at Kailua, all of a sudden you see Kailua extending all the way to Keauhou, makai of the Hawaii Belt Road. And while that seems to be more urban, more resort...Keauhou and Kailua are different. And its not only different but your census tracts are different there. For some reason that was the census tract. There's 3 different census tracts in there, if you look at you map. So I said, "well, if I'm going to sail into the commercial side, and say, I think this one has some good points but its not your best ever".

And by the way, the map on the back of the wall is pretty much does the same kind of thing, it divides Kohala, divides up Kona, Kona...Konawaena, and Kona hemo. If you go to Commissioner Kahawaiola'a's suggestion beginning at Wailuku and headed to the north. Um...you see, oh...you see wonderful. Kohala seems to be together till you see oui....? District 8 goes up to Puako, almost to Kawaihae. So, where did that come from? Well, of course, it came from the numbers. But this is not traditional. It also includes Waikii in District 8, which is...is in Kona, Kohala hema, its in south Kohala, its always been there. Okay?

So, and then we get to Kailua. You look at District 8 and...and...and you see...oui? Well, then that looks pretty good, its almost mauka-makai there. Probably a little bit of tweaking between, around Kailua area you probably could have pull on up, but by the same token, the District 8 goes up in the south Kohala, so I get some pilikia with that one.

Moving to North Kona-South Kohala map which I think is your absolute best effort to date, I want to commend you on it, and I'll tell you why, and I'm going to speak only for West Hawaii, like I said. I'm going to stay out of East Hawaii. Is number 1, Kohala is all together. Waimea, Waikoloa, Halaula, all these areas, all together. Kawaihae, Puako, and you're using the traditional north Kona, South Kohala boundaries. And you see it goes up, it doesn't include Waikii and doesn't even touch Saddle Road, comes up to Pua'apele, which is in the middle of...in the middle of Pohakuloa Training Area, nobody's there. And then it comes down...oh, then you do a strange thing on this map and it seems that between Palani and Mamalahoa Highway is that little triangle. Doesn't seem to make sense, ah... the dots there and as you look along Alii Drive, which is kinda hard to see on the map, it goes way down to ah...almost to Holualoa. As it goes into Holualoa, it goes down into Alii Drive Subdivision. And what I found about that is you get...I know from the census tracts, it goes back and forth and it zigs and zags. Its very confusing for people. In fact, one candidate some years ago was walking the district, he found he was in District 8 but actually was in District 7. And ah...so my suggestion is that...and so I wanna...I think this is an excellent map, from my perspective as a West Hawaii resident. And I would suggest that you use specifically, and I'm almost done, Mr. Chairman. Is that with respect to the District 8 and District 7 boundary that you consider to follow. That you consider keeping Kailua and Kalaoa together. And that you also consider keeping a portion of Hualalai as I mentioned to you also together. And I am going to give you specific case of where I think the numbers will work out. But I don't have all the census block maps, I can't be absolutely positive.

Kailua Village, someone mentioned it earlier, the special design district goes to Lunapule which is Yamas. And if you go mauka from Yamas, behind Yamas you have...you have an ahupuaa wall which is Waiaha 2 separated from Kahului One. And if you go straight mauka from there, you're gonna have all of Lunapule, you're gonna have all of Hillcrest Subdivision, and you go straight up its going to come to Waiaha right where the boundary goes up over the mountain and meets the Judd Trail. And I would suggest you keep that exactly the same. And you give up District 8 would give everything south of that. All the condominiums, all of Alii Drive Subdivision, everything in-between that because there's a lot of people that live there. And you know, we recognize that there's growth, we recognize District 8 has to be made smaller. So I can give you more specifics, or once....if you follow that line up, your map...ah...your Puna, I'm sorry, the previous map, gives us specific, I want to refer you to, some of the lines, the one that goes to Puako. If you look at map number...if you look at the Wailuku River pk2, if you look at the Kona Region map, you can see how you have the infield there between Mamalahoa and Palani? And I think you do not go down to ah...into Holualoa, Puapua'a One, Puapua'a Two, Kahului One, Kahului Two, you will be able to...to have almost the mauka-makai line there, and you'll have almost 17 thousand 5 hundred people.

One final comment, and if you need more.. you know, we can talk about this another time, there's many people here tonight. One final comment, and that with respect to District 7, and I do not represent District 7 but I think if at all possible you could ...the map, which one is it? The South Kona-Ka'u map shows District 7 going all the way down to the traditional...the line at Manuka, the line between Ka'u and South Kona. Any way that you can take that line as far south, there's very few people that live there, mauka-makai, very few. It would make a lot of sense for the reason that some of the people who live there have given their decision.

Thank you very much. Sorry for the length of my comments. Thank you again.

Yes.

L. BARTON:
Kailua together.

(Inaudible- mike turned off)...keeping Kalaoa and

C. TYLER: Yeah, Kalaoa and Kailua have traditionally been together but if at all possible you should keep Kalaoa and Kailua together and if you look at those numbers, you come up to about 15 thousand. Okay, and if you look at your census tracts maps you're gonna see that those are absolutely together, and then, if you go straight up on the Hualalai one, that makes up the difference right there, and I think the point is approximately Yamas. And by the way that keeps all of Kailua-Kona Village together, it doesn't split it up, all the other maps split it up. All the other maps split it up.

M. VAN PERNIS: Commissioner Van Pernis, thank you I would ask the staff if theyIt is my understanding is that you basically take the(INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING FAR FROM MIKE)

C. TYLER: Which map are you referring to, sir?

M. VAN PERNIS: I'm referring to the North Kohala-South Kohala map.

C. TYLER: The Kona Region?

M. VAN PERNIS: The Kona Region map...

C. TYLER: Yes, sir.

M. VAN PERNIS: ...you would ah...divide 7 and 8 at the ahupua'a line at the south side of Lunapule Subdivision...

C. TYLER: Yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: ..on the south side of Lunapule Road?

C. TYLER: Yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: and go up that ahupua'a line to the Kuakini Highway?

C. TYLER: Ah...go to Queen Kaahumanu extension, that's Hawaii Belt Road.

M. VAN PERNIS: And would you... that's between Queen Kaahumanu Road, and Hillcrest Subdivision be in 7 or 8?

C. TYLER: It would be in 8.

M. VAN PERNIS: In 8.

C. TYLER: Right.

M. VAN PERNIS: So Hillcrest Subdivision and Lunapule Subdivision would be included in 8.

C. TYLER: Yes, because they're in Waiaha Two. The stonewall goes straight up there.

M. VAN PERNIS: And going up on the stonewall on the south side of Lunapule Subdivision and on the southside of Hillcrest...

C. TYLER: Hillcrest. Yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: And then everything south of that along the shoreline as shown on this map will be transferred to 7?

C. TYLER: Yes.

M. VAN PERNIS: Thank you. I hope the staff got that.

C. TYLER: And...I will show you...

M. VAN PERNIS: Can I ask you to write that down and perhaps demonstrate it on the map...

C. TYLER: Well, as long as I don't have to do it before Thursday, we have council meetings tomorrow and Wednesday.

SOMEONE FROM AUDIENCE – INAUDIBLE SPEAKING FAR FROM MIKE

C. TYLER: I can...I don't want to influence these people, what is it that you want me to do, Mr. Chairman?

M. VAN PERNIS: I would like you to write it down and show us on the map what you just discussed and provided it to us and the staff.

CHAIR: Actually, I think the directions for the staff needs to come from the Commission, so I think it would be better if you provided it to us and what we decide what to do with the staff has to come from us.

C. TYLER: I think that's a better idea, I'd feel much more comfortable in that.

L. BARTON: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING FAR FROM MIKE)

CHAIR: To be very frank, we're interested, that's why we want that in writing.

C. TYLER: Thank you, are there any other questions?

CHAIR: No.

C. TYLER: Thank you again.

CHAIR: All right, we have one other speaker signed up, Nancy Pisticchio?

N. PISICCHIO: Good evening, thank you very much for the work you're doing. I know it's a volunteer effort, I'm sure it can be excruciating at times, I didn't appreciate the enormity of it until I went up to Brenda's house and over the weekend and crawled all over the floor and looked at the census tracts plus the blocks and its an enormous task and I didn't see Brenda's results but I sure heard a lot of swearing and cussing and screaming as they crawled around the floor. But I'm gonna make some general philosophical statements, everybody has to indulge in a little philosophy, um...regarding the comments made on the socio-economic groups and the need for separation, I personally don't agree with that. I have notice my experience representing District 7 that mixing socio-economic groups can be tremendously empowering for everyone. And I think that's a beautiful thing about this Island and a beautiful thing about this community. And I...I... have seen places that I've been back East where lower economic, lower educated regions are politically separated out and left to rot. And...and I think that we have a beautiful opportunity on this Island as a whole and to avoid that to mutually empower each other and that's one thing that keeps me very optimistic in this County. Um...and regarding districts, I think Virginia made this statement before, if a...if a person representing a line on the maps its representing the district. It doesn't really matter in every case where all...whether all lines are exactly where people want them and again they'll never gonna be where everybody wants them. Um...I come from a more planning perspective. My particular interest that didn't get in the final results here, I see, for a more concentrated Kailua city type of a district, this is the fact that Kailua is becoming a city and it has different planning problems and I think if we could have ended up like maybe your or one of your Ka'u map or one of your earlier renditions that could have delineated an urban core for Kailua town more clearly, it would have helped in the planning process, but so be it, it didn't end up and ten years from now, then years goes by very quickly...quickly, quicker than I want, but time goes very quickly and we're gonna be in a whole new ball game but um.. and we will

be faced with that at that time with the problems and the opportunity of quickly and the increasing population.

Regarding the diversions we're ending up with, ah...on the south border of District 7, I agreed with Wally, that I think a further southern pull of the southern border of District 7 more suits the area, whether it's the Wailuku River or the North Kona version, either one need to be pulled further south down to about the Honaunau area to include the Coffee Belt more completely. Right now the Coffee Belt is fractured, you know, between Honaunau and Kealakekua could have been north of the Kealakekua Bay area, and you get people from across the street from each other's coffee farm, I think... if you could pull that border down a little bit, for example, lets see, and the Wailuku River rendition you show that District 7 is now a minus 4%, its about 6 hundred and forty people. If you increased it 4% you could capture potentially over another thousand people which will allow you some space to pull that southern border down. So if you have room to juggle it think that would be an improvement for District 7 specifically because of the coffee-agriculture community that currently is fractured and the current council district.

Regarding the northern district of District 7, where its possible, and I know it gets very difficult with the high density of people to try to keep more of a straight mauka-makai delineation and also not to divide right down in the middle of a street where possible. You end up with a situation where some people in one district is on one side of the street and other people on the other side of the street are in another district and I don't think that serves a neighborhood. I know again that when you get into that area that's a very high density population and its difficult, but wherever possible, I think on the, let's see...the North Kona-Kohala map, that is currently a minus 1% if you could shift from census tract 216.01 and add it to 216.02, I think it would better suit that region. And I can supply these for you later if you wish. I think that's its too fractured in that northern curve up to the Palani junction there, I think if you could pull that down and make it more of a clean mauka-makai line there, it wouldn't separate Kailua town quite as much.

Those were primarily my statements, to pull the northern boundary of District 7 a little bit further to the south and make it straighter and pull the southern boundary of District 7 further south to include the Coffee Belt.

Thank you.

CHAIR;
Commission have a question?

Thank you. Do any of the members of the

L. BARTON:

(INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING AWAY FROM MIKE)
...request be put it in writing.

CHAIR:
Great, thanks very much. Um...I missed one of these things, and Nita Isherwood would like to address the Commission.

N. ISHERWOOD:
I will keep this brief for several reasons, one of which I just followed three speakers who made some very important points and are far more knowledgeable than me. But there are 3 issues I'd like to bring up to the Commissioners to consider.

The first one is that I have heard no one make mention of our General Plan and this, too, is a ten year plan plus supposedly if the General Plan is approved, we will be working on regional plans. It would certainly be extremely helpful I think, if the councilmatic districts corresponded to the regional plans. My understanding is that we don't know what the districts are for the regional plans. Is that correct, Nancy?

My understanding is we do not know what the districts will be for the regional plans. But certainly if these corresponded to the councilmatic districts it would make it far easier to develop regional plans. Also the regional plans presumably, the most important point is one that has been mention many times tonight which is to keep neighborhoods...to keep regions together. Particularly, as much as possible, along the old ahupuaa, mauka-makai lines. So that for that reason too, I think its important to consider this and perhaps we can even consider it at some point requesting that the councilmatic districts become the regional....the districts for the regional plans since there are 9 of those, too. Ah...I don't know, I just want, I hope the Commissioners will consider this.

Second point I'd like to make I am from Kona, I am from Keei which is better known today as Capt. Cook, um...not my choice but that what it is. South Kona, I think, has shown this year that it is not only a contiguous community that is very active, very integrated, we by the way had almost 85% voting in the last election contrary to the articles you've seen in the paper. And that's because we are very active, viable district. I think its extremely important this time to keep South Kona together. In the past South Kona has been split horizontally, with Julie Jacobson on the makai section, and Nancy Pisicchio in the mauka section, not entirely but through a good bit of it. It is extremely important to us I think in south Kona that we become again a unified district, and I hope that the Commissioners will give this serious consideration. Ah, there are others here who can speak better than I can as to where the proper lines lie but certainly to Honaunau or perhaps somewhat below.

Ah...the third issue that has been touched on tonight, but to me its one of the most important is that as was said earlier, the Hawaiians knew what they were doing when they made the ahupuaa. Many of us here and in many, many districts because I've seen it in the papers, have been faced with the problems of watersheds causing flooding with things that are done mauka affecting makai and so forth. The only way that you can begin to address this problem properly is to have councilmatic districts as much as possible run mauka-makai so that the people in the mauka area and the makai area can discuss their mutual problems instead of having the mauka area bulldozed and flood the makai area, and the makai area doing similar things develop too much and cause problems for the mauka area. So those were the only three points I wanted to mention. I think you are doing a tremendous job. I hope, very much perhaps one thing you might consider is, since each of you are from an existing councilmatic district that maybe you wanna have a meeting yourselves, each one of you, within your districts and see if you can get more public opinion. Ah...most of our districts have become extremely vocal, and this I see is one of the biggest strengths of the Big Island. And no, I think either that population necessarily to the mark means one vote to one...one...one vote-one person. Ah...its also a question to getting to the people that have similar interests and have similar aspirations for the future. And here's for taking a little bit about the General Plan and the regional districts if you will, would help perhaps.

Thank you.

CHAIR:
comment for Ms. Isherwood.

Do any member of the Commission have questions or

L. BARTON:

INAUDIBLE - COMMISSIONER SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE

...and I'm sure there are other districts that...but please don't forget.....that there are some districts with similarities that want to work together...

CHAIR:
don't think...

I don't think I missed any of these sign-up sheets. I

I'm sorry, did you want to address the Commission?

LADY FROM AUDIENCE SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE.

CHAIR: Please come on up.

J. KELIPIO: I just have something short to say, my name is Josephine Keliipio, I am originally from Keaukaha with Patrick, and... but have been living in Kona, north Kona, ah...gosh, since 19...maybe 85, and I just want to say this. That it really bothers me that we're urbanizing North Kona so much. It really upsets me, ummm...because when I lived on the east side of the Island, um...Kona was our sanctuary. And so in...I'm...I'm just thinking ahead that I'm not sure if we should um...expect this Island to be continually growing, and growing, and growing.

In light of what happened on September 11th, I think we should start to do things differently with this Island. For one thing our leaders have not brought up sustainability. So I don't know where this all fits in, I'm not really in favor of any one map. I understand this was a difficult job for you people. I don't envy what you're doing. Um...I'm not in favor of anything but it just bothers me when we keep talking about North Kona being, you know the urban core. Although it looks that way, I just don't feel it...it should be that way and... and may be way ten or twenty years from now. Not in light of what's happening on the other side of the world, or in the next continent.

That's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

CHAIR: Thank you. Do any of the member of the Commission have a question?

Then, thank you.

Is there anyone else who wish to address the

Commission?

PERSON FROM AUDIENCE: INAUDIBLE – SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE.

CHAIR: Thanks, can you take the mike and give us your name?

Oh, and tell us where you live.

M. ERWAY: Aloha, I am Margery Erway and I live in White Sands Estate which is right here in Kailua-Kona. I only have a gut feeling right now, I'm not going to deal with numbers, I am not even wanting to deal with numbers. I just want to tell you my gut feeling is that we probably do need a Kailua district, that is necessarily going to make me friends with the two council members, current council members, who I consider to be very good friends of mine. But it feels to me, in both my head and my gut that its time for that.

Thanks.

CHAIR: Any questions?

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE -SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)
Do we need another one besides 6, 7, 8.....?

M. ERWAY: And you're make....

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)

...7 representing Kailua and 8 is also representing in Kailua?

M. ERWAY: Well, I don't care what you call it, what you number it. Um...this one is fairly, the new one that ah...Brenda and Chucky have put together kind of quickly maybe is a good beginning of representation.

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)
My reason for asking that ma'm is that the mandate is set to have 9 districts.

M. ERWAY: That's right.

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE=SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)
So I'm just saying that right now 7 and 8 are in Kona. Kailua is in 8....and 6 is also represented....that's...that's why I'm getting confused. When you say Kailua...ah...then you change the boundaries ...

M. ERWAY: Well, that's the Kailua Village. And obviously the Kailua Village which is represented by the Design Committee has no where near the numbers. And that we need 4 districts, but they have worked on a design... a district thing, of representation that perhaps is a good start.

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)
And...and...I'll just...as a comment there is a...and again, let me start at the beginning. It is based on the census figures. It contains...I think, if Brenda's one is incorrect. And the Chairman will inform us 148,677 is the figure. I have asked the staff is plus or minus with 5%, either way. And when you do numbers and that basically what's going to challenge, that would be 17,346and 15,594

And I don't think they will argue that. I have a challenge in our mandate as to what we need to do andtalk about challenges that we may or may not...but I'm saying that those are the numbers and figures that we are bound to look at, you know... in a way that if it comes out ...I...I...

M. ERWAY: I think that you...your task is with numbers.

P. KAHAWAIOLA'A: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)
I'm glad you all know that.

CHAIR: Um...I'm at loss to call you again, you have a question?

LADY FROM AUDIENCE: (INAUDIBLE-SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE)

CHAIR: Let me respond briefly and I think this is something that we can address again at our October 18th meeting. It is an issue that we did address as a body, and we chose this number once. If we wish to revisit that, that as a body then we certainly can but um...we were aware that there were certain groups that may or may not be excluded under certain views or what....what....what's appropriate. We chose the number we chose as a

body, and again if we wish to revisit that, then certainly one of us ought to bring it up when we meet at our next Commission meeting on the 18th.

Um...I want to, on behalf of the Commission thank you all very, very much. I think, my sense, and I think I speak for all of us, my sense is that you all put a lot of thought and a lot of work into this. And I know that I, tonight got a lot of very valuable information not only about how you feel, but maybe how we ought to be looking at these things as well. So, I really want to appreciate our thanks and I want to really express our thanks to you, um...for taking the time, um...its hot, its late, and I think you're all uncomfortable as I am, and um...

Yes, sir?

GENTLEMAN FROM AUDIENCE SPEAKING WITHOUT MIKE – INAUDIBLE.

CHAIR: Stand up and give us your name. Come.

H. MURATA: My name is Harold Murata, I am a resident of Kailua-Kona. Ah...my question, oh, I'd like to make a statement. Um...with respect to adoption about the changes. The boundary changes however, if determined will have significant impacts. Its just like bringing a big bulldozer and start ripping the lands. And they are required to make appropriate disclosure of what the proposal is and what the significant impacts of that action is. By the same token, the boundary lines would have a significant, I would say, social-economic impact and cultural impacts, too. Now, so I ask the Commission to consider as part of the adoption processif they could be a document or process, something similar to an EIS, so that there'd be a public disclosure of the action and what will happen because of the action.

Thank you.

CHAIR: You know, I wish that were possible, um..it...it would certainly help us all. I think we would appreciate that kind of information, but I'll tell you that if I ask the staff to do that, they would come to my house and kill me. We really rely on the staff to work the final draft and possible come back to the community again.

I thank you all for coming and for your input which we will consider at our next meeting which is October 18th in the Hawaii County Councilroom in Hilo.
This concludes our public hearing.

HEARING ENDED AT 9:40 P.M.