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PUBLIC HEARING

before

NEW JERSEY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

"To accept testimony from interested groups and members of the public regarding the establishment of Congressional districts for New Jersey for use during the 1990s"

February 19, 1992  
7:00 p.m.  
Room 273  
New Building of the  
Seton Hall Law School  
Newark, New Jersey

MEMBERS OF COMMISSION PRESENT:

Dr. Alan Rosenthal, Chairman  
Assemblyman Joseph V. Doria, Jr.  
Assemblyman Wayne R. Bryant  
Assemblyman Robert G. Smith  
Roger Bodman  
Mayor Gerald Calabrese  
Joseph Gonzalez  
Robert Jablonski  
Isabel Miranda-Mazzucca  
Glenn R. Paulsen  
Annette Quijano, Esq.  
County Executive William "Pat" Schuber

ALSO PRESENT:

Frank J. Parisi  
Office of Legislative Services  
Secretary, New Jersey Redistricting Commission

\* \* \* \* \*

Hearing Recorded and Transcribed by  
Office of Legislative Services  
Public Information Office  
Hearing Unit  
162 West State Street  
CN 068  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

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ALAN ROSENTHAL  
Chairman

**NEW JERSEY REDISTRICTING COMMISSION**  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, CN 068  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0068  
(609) 292-9106

FRANK J. PARISI  
Secretary

**C O M M I S S I O N   N O T I C E**

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE NEW JERSEY REDISTRICTING  
COMMISSION**

**FROM: ALAN ROSENTHAL, CHAIRMAN**

**SUBJECT: COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARINGS**

*The public may address comments and questions to Frank J. Parisi,  
Commission Secretary, or Kathleen Lieblang, Assistant Secretary, at (609)  
292-9106.*

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The New Jersey Redistricting Commission will hold its initial public hearing on **Wednesday, February 19, 1992 at 7 p.m. in Room 273 of the New Building of the Seton Hall Law School, Newark, New Jersey.** The hearing will conclude at **10 p.m.**

The commission will hold its second public meeting on **Friday, February 21, 1992 at 2 p.m. in Committee Room 8 of the Legislative Office Building, Trenton, New Jersey.** The hearing will conclude at **5 p.m.**

The commission will hold its final public meeting on **Tuesday, February 25, 1992 at 7 p.m. at Camden County Community College, Blackwood, New Jersey.** (Exact location will be announced in a separate notice.) The hearing will conclude at **10 p.m.**

The purpose of the public meetings will be to accept testimony from interested groups and members of the public regarding the establishment of Congressional districts for New Jersey for use during the 1990s.

To enable as many persons to speak as possible, testimony will be limited to 15 persons or to individual representatives of 15 groups who may speak for up to 10 minutes per hearing. Persons wishing to testify at any of the public hearings must register in advance by contacting the Secretary to the Commission by telephone or in person before the start of the meeting. Such persons will be registered on a first-come basis. Written testimony may be sent to the Secretary and will be accepted at any time.

**DIRECTIONS TO SETON HALL LAW SCHOOL:**

**From Northern New Jersey (via New Jersey Turnpike)**

Exit 15E and follow signs for Newark, which brings you on to Raymond Blvd. The school is approximately 2 miles West on Raymond Blvd. on the right-hand side (just past Penn Station and the Gateway Hilton).

**(Via Route 3)**

Take Route 3 to Route 21 South (McCarter Highway). School is about 4 miles South on Route 21 on the corner of Raymond Blvd. The main entrance is at 111 Raymond Blvd.

**From Western New Jersey (via Garden State Parkway)**

Exit 145 for Route I-280 East. Take Interstate 280 to Newark (Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.). At traffic light at end of exit ramp, make right. Go under bridge. Make next left. Proceed 2 blocks to Broad Street. About 6 lights down bear left onto Park Place. The fourth light is Raymond Blvd. Proceed to the school.

**From Southern New Jersey**

Follow directions from the Garden State Parkway Exit 145 or the New Jersey Turnpike Exit 15E, as listed above.

PLEASE NOTE: The closest available parking garage is directly across the street from the school at Raymond Parking Garage, a commercial valet garage which must be entered from McCarter Highway. There are several other lots in the area and police escorts to area parking lots are available as needed.

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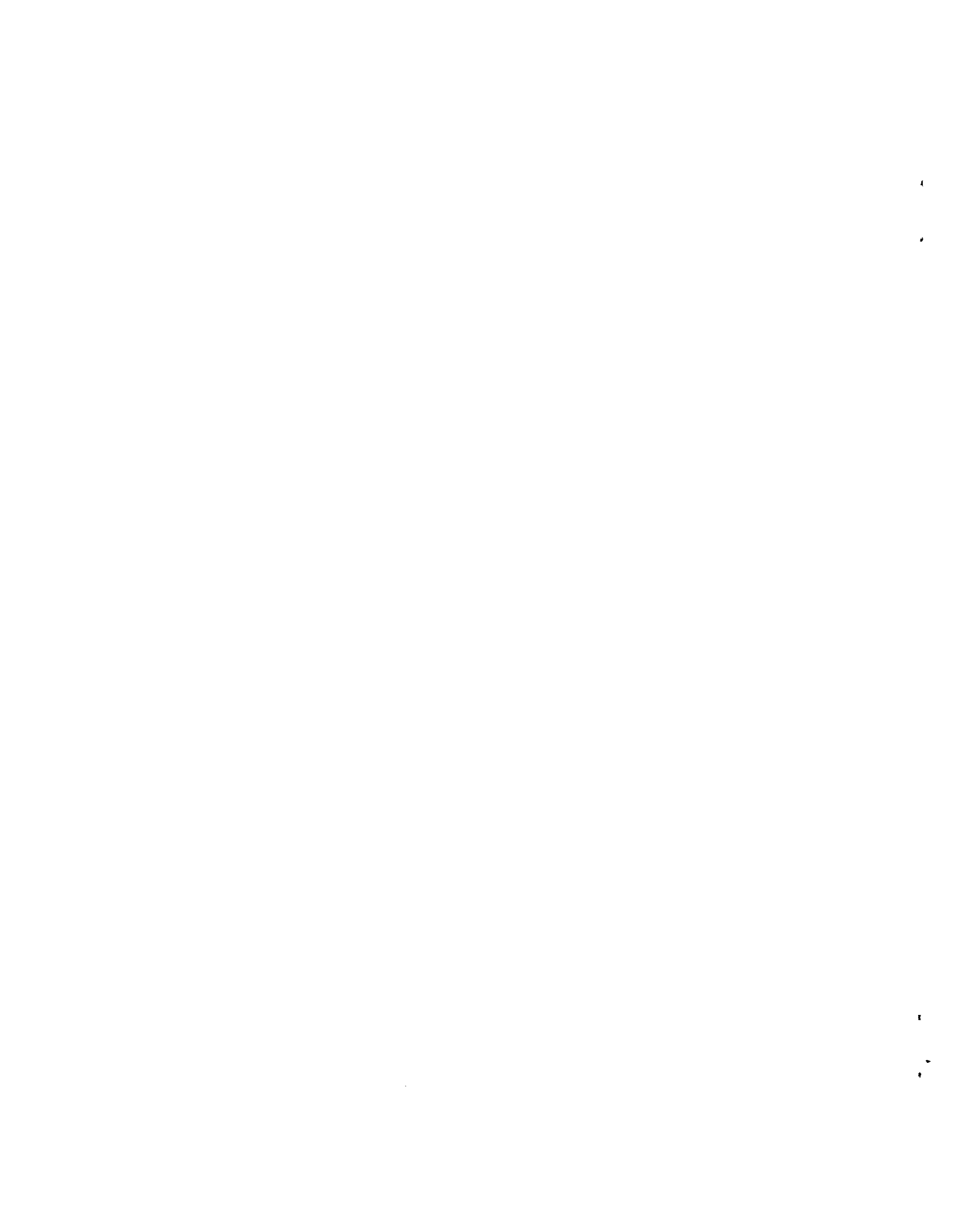


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ALAN ROSENTHAL (Chairman): Good evening. I would like to call the New Jersey Redistricting Commission to order and have the roll called by Mr. Frank Parisi of the Office of Legislative Services.

MR. PARISI: Robert Smith? (no response)

Pat Schuber? (no response)

Annette Quijano? (no response)

Glenn Paulsen? (no response)

Isabel Miranda-Mazzucca? (no response)

Henry Kuhl? (no response)

Robert Jablonski?

MR. JABLONSKI: Present.

MR. PARISI: Joseph Gonzalez?

MR. GONZALEZ: Present.

MR. PARISI: Joseph Doria? (no response)

Gerald Calabrese? (no response)

Wayne Bryant? (no response)

Roger Bodman? (no response)

Chairman Rosenthal?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Present.

This is the first of three public hearings that the Commission will hold. The next public hearing will be Friday in Trenton from 2:00 to 5:00 in the afternoon. The third public hearing will be Tuesday, February 25, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., at the Camden County Community College in Blackwood, New Jersey.

At this public hearing, and at the other public hearings, we will be following certain rules of procedure. We will get started on time, and we will end on time. We will take, at each hearing, testimony from 15 people. We are restricting each person's testimony to 10 minutes, so we can get through the number of people in the time allotted. That will also allow for a minute or so of questioning by any member of the Commission.

Generally, we will take people in the order in which they have signed up. I know the people from the shore district are anxious to be present and to be heard, but we also have to provide a forum for the people from other districts. Therefore, what we have done at this meeting is, we have signed up to take testimony from three representatives of the shore district, including Congressman Frank Pallone.

I would like to ask if there are people from other congressional districts, other than the Third Congressional District, or people who are involved in the districting other than in this effort to save the shore district. If they care to sign up and be heard this evening, there are lists at the front of the room where they can sign up, and they will be heard in order. If there are no other people who wish to be heard, we will take testimony from Third District representatives who are now on a waiting list to testify. So, we will listen to 15 people making their views known.

The first person we want to welcome to testify is Congressman Frank Pallone of the Third Congressional District. (applause) Mr. Parisi, you are going to keep track of time, right?

MR. PARISI: Okay.

C O N G R E S S M A N F R A N K P A L L O N E, J R.: Mr. Chairman, I was going to request that Senator Gagliano go first, only because of his time limitations. The three of us will stay up here. I don't know what order you want to call us in, but I would ask--

DR. ROSENTHAL: Does that mean you will get applause when you go on again? (laughter and more applause) That's fine. Mr. Gagliano?

S.. T H O M A S G A G L I A N O: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Actually, Frank suggested I go first because he is deferring to my age. (laughter) I think most of the people in the room know about that.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I am testifying as a former member and Minority Leader of the New Jersey Senate, as a native of Long Branch, and as a lifelong resident of Monmouth County, to express my concern that the congressional redistricting process, which is now ongoing, give the utmost respect and consideration to the preservation of a northern New Jersey shore district substantially similar to the current Third District.

The Third Congressional District in New Jersey has traditionally been comprised of at least Monmouth County and Ocean County municipalities. In fact, I was a member of the staff of the late Congressman, Jim Auchincloss, of Rumson, who represented the Third District for about 22 years. I worked for the Congressman while attending Georgetown University Law School, and at that time became totally aware of how important a Monmouth/Ocean district is to our communities. As you know, Congressman Jim Howard's Spring Lake Heights represented essentially the same district for about 24 years, and we are now represented by Congressman Frank Pallone.

Last fall, as a direct result of the Halloween coastal storm, a group of us formed the Jersey Shore Partnership, Inc. We now have, as members, the county governments of Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May, as well as over 30 companies and organizations, all of which are committed to issues that are unique and important to the coastal communities. We are presently working on stable funding for shore protection, an issue which certainly is important to the Third District, and which needs the utmost attention of a member of Congress who understands the shore.

Over the years, Monmouth and Ocean Counties have had very similar goals and objectives. Ocean County was originally created out of a larger Monmouth County, and there is a community of interest between the two which I believe will always exist.

Newspaper reports have indicated that the Third District may be "sacrificed" during the redistricting process, thereby eliminating the present configuration, if we go by law, from 14 to 13 districts. Reports further indicate that Monmouth County may possibly be represented by a member of Congress from Hunterdon County. The maps that I have seen in the press simply do not make sense, and would create an intolerable situation for those of us who feel so strongly about representation for this part of New Jersey.

I am aware that a group of residents and officials have requested that the Commission hold hearings in the shore area. I concurred with the request in my letter to you for local area hearings, but this was denied, apparently, and I am making my case here in Newark.

In the New Jersey Senate, my main interest and area of expertise dealt with transportation and coastal issues. I was the ranking member of the Transportation Committee, and a member of the Senate Special Committee on Coastal and Ocean Pollution. In 1989, I became Executive Director of New Jersey Transit, and I am now a member of the Government Affairs Department of the law firm of Giordano, Halleran & Ciesla, with offices in Monmouth, Ocean, and Mercer Counties.

Over the years, New Jersey worked closely with the Federal government on several major projects. I, along with many other people, was instrumental in the State Legislature with the electrification of the North Jersey Coastline Railroad, but the project would not have been completed without strong congressional support from our then Congressman, Jim Howard, and the completion of Route 18 and other transportation projects, with the result of a close association between the Legislature and congressional representatives.

The State of New Jersey recently reopened the Bay Shore office in Leonardo. Redevelopment of the bay shore will be a project and must be supported by Federal and State

governments if it is to be successful. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has under consideration at this moment a major beach replenishment and jetty and growing projects. The first phase of that project covering the Sea Bright and Monmouth Beach coastlines should commence shortly, but it must be assured that our representatives in Congress see to it that funding remains in place and that we get our fair share of the Investment Aid made by Congress in the Army Corps projects.

At this time, the proposal to extend rail service to Lakewood through Monmouth County is under consideration. This is another example of the close relationship between Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Monmouth County and Ocean County populations have grown substantially over the past decade, and I think, obviously, your information would indicate that to you.

It would seem appropriate for this area of New Jersey to continue to have its own member of Congress, rather than someone from another part of the State, who, "by the way," represents the shore. A community of interest has existed for decades, and it should be continued.

I thank you for this opportunity to provide my remarks for the record. I again request that this Commission recognize Monmouth County and Ocean County for their mutuality of interests and continue the Third Congressional District substantially in its present form.

I am available to answer any questions. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: I have been asked to request you to keep the noise down a little bit, particularly the stomping. There are classes going on in adjacent rooms, and it is disconcerting. So, if you could applaud and not stomp, I think we would all appreciate that.

Thank you, Mr. Gagliano. Are there any questions from any member of the Commission? (no response) Thank you very much.

MR. GAGLIANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Congressman?

CONGRESSMAN PALLONE: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and members of the Redistricting Commission.

My purpose tonight is to present the case for maintaining a congressional district in Monmouth and Ocean Counties that preserves the unique character of the shore region of our State.

I also want to recognize the presence of so many people from the Save Our Shore -- SOS -- district, a bipartisan organization composed of current and former elected officials and other Monmouth County and Ocean County residents.

SOS has formed, in the past few weeks, a reaction to the reports that the redistricting process may result in the current Third Congressional District being dismantled, with portions of the district being attached to three or more districts to the west or north. Such redistricting schemes would tear apart a region that has historically had a clear and enduring community of interests.

The Monmouth/Ocean shore region has a deep historic identity. Monmouth and Ocean Counties were a single county prior to the Civil War. A shore-based congressional district has existed in the two-county area in one form or another for more than 100 years.

Dating back some 50 years, the District's three Congressmen have all served on the House Public Works and Transportation Committee, the Committee with jurisdiction over water quality and shore protection issues. The Committee also has jurisdiction over the transportation issues that are essential to economic growth in the Monmouth/Ocean region.

In addition, and perhaps more important, the three Congressmen who have represented the shore district for these past 50 years have all resided in, and had their political bases in, Monmouth and Ocean Counties. I live in Long Branch. James Auchincloss, who represented the District for some 22



very way of life, would not be well served by one or more members of Congress with only a part-time interest in the shore.

Additional unique economic factors help to define the Monmouth/Ocean shore region. Fort Monmouth, an Army base in the very heart of the Third District, is at the center of a communications and electronics research region that includes much of the work force in Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

The Save Our Fort Committee was spearheaded by Congressman James Howard in the 1970s and was revived by myself and other elected officials in the two counties in 1990, in order to protect Fort Monmouth and promote the growth of jobs in the private sphere related to these important communications and electronics functions. Without a local Congressman from Monmouth or Ocean Counties, the region would be hard-pressed to fight the battle in Washington for Fort Monmouth and its community of interests.

The Monmouth/Ocean shore region also has unique transportation interests. Many residents of Monmouth and Ocean Counties commute to jobs in the northern part of the State or in New York. In order to bring these residents to and from work, and also to provide mass transit to shore visitors, the Third District Congressmen have developed a strong railway and highway system. More work needs to be done to better tie the region into the State's rail service network. It requires, I believe, a shore-based Representative serving on the Public Works and Transportation Committee to get this job done.

Various labor and business organizations wholly unique to the shore, such as the Monmouth/Ocean Central Labor Council and the Monmouth/Ocean Development Council, have formed in an effort to fight for the issues that affect the prosperity and growth of our region. These organizations have traditionally worked closely with the Third District Congressmen.

Our educational institutions in Monmouth and Ocean Counties are also tied together. Secondary schools have

traditional links through sports and extracurricular activities, such as the Shore Conference athletic leagues. Our colleges -- Monmouth, Georgian Court, Brookdale, and Ocean County -- work closely together and share students from the two-county region.

This sense of local identity is shaped by our local and regional media. The Asbury Park Press's primary circulation covers Monmouth and Ocean Counties, and is dedicated to an in-depth coverage of shore issues. In fact, the Press editorialized very forcefully in favor of preserving a Monmouth/Ocean shore district, as did other area newspapers, notably the Ocean County Observer. There are a number of weekly or biweekly newspapers dedicated to covering the bay shore and the coastal area. In addition, there are radio stations whose focus is on the two-county region.

The 1990 census data indicate that the Monmouth/Ocean region has been the highest population growth area of the State. On the other hand, population declines were experienced in the northeastern part of the State. On the national level, certain states had to accept the loss of congressional seats to states where population growth was higher. Common sense and judicial precedent argue strongly for applying that same principle within our State.

In recent weeks, two reapportionment maps have been put forward by leaders from both parties in our two counties. While the two maps have differences, both the Democratic map, which has been proposed by Assemblyman Dan Jacobson and Assemblywoman Marlene Lynch-Ford, and the Republican map, proposed by the Republican Chairmen of the two counties, would leave the Third District largely intact as a clearly defined shore district in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. I believe that an objective analysis of these two maps showed them to be an accurate reflection of population shifts and fair in terms of giving representation to the diverse regions of the State.

Finally, while I appreciate this opportunity to address the Commission, I must also express reservations about how this process is being conducted. The hearing process is greatly restricted, in my opinion, with only a limited number of spots for people who wish to testify. Most troubling is the failure of the Commission to schedule one of its hearings in the Monmouth/Ocean area. Shore residents must travel an hour or more to attend any of the Commission hearings. It is not too late for the Commission to schedule a fourth hearing at the shore, and I urge you to do so, as did Senator Gagliano. (applause)

I also wish to make known my deep concerns about suggestions in press accounts that a map that would eliminate the Third District, as favored by certain northern New Jersey political forces, was agreed upon prior to the Commission ever meeting. I believe that the Commission should make a special effort to prevent such a conspiracy from taking place under the guise of its authority. The Commission was authorized by the Legislature to make the redistricting process more fair -- that was the point -- not to rubber stamp a back-room deal.

The case for a Monmouth/Ocean shore district goes far beyond partisan politics. You will see Democrats and Republicans testifying on our behalf. Over the years, both parties have worked hard to elect a representative from our counties. If the shore district is preserved, our region will continue to produce very spirited races for this congressional seat. It has for the last 50 years. But what unifies us now is the unmistakable and self-evident community of interests that has come under threat from forces outside our area. This unique community must be recognized by the Redistricting Commission so that its people can continue to be fairly and effectively represented.

I thank you for everything. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Are there any questions from Commission members to Congressman Pallone? (no response)  
Thank you, Congressman Pallone.

CONGRESSMAN PALLONE: Thank you.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Dan Jacobson, the Save Our Shore District Coordinator.

DANIEL P. JACOBSON: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am a Save Our Shore District mail recipient also.

In front of me, as you see, is a selection of petitions and letters we have received as part of the outpouring of interest in the shore area. This is just what has started to come; we have more back home. We intend to present the Commission with copies of all of these documents when we have a final stack in the mail bag. As you can see, there is quite a lot. It shows you how concerned people are back home about what could happen to the Third Congressional District.

I would also like to make a statement, too. As a former State legislator, I represented the Eleventh Legislative District along the coastline in Monmouth County in the State Assembly between 1989 and 1991. Prior to that time, I served as a staff person for the late Congressman, Jim Howard. Before that, I served now Congressman Frank Pallone when he was a State Senator. I have also served as a Councilman in Ocean Township, which is in the Third Congressional District, for four years, and I have lived my entire life in the shore area.

There exists among the two counties -- Monmouth and Ocean -- a community of interest that historically relates to our greatest resource, the ocean. The need to protect our ocean and the coastline of Monmouth and Ocean Counties demands that our Congressional District remain united. Our fragile coastline, depleted fisheries, and tidal regions are unique in that they face a host of similar needs and problems. This region has faced the concentrated brunt of the ocean pollution

problems that have plagued our shore. The proximity of Monmouth and Ocean Counties to New York City and the Newark and Elizabeth waterways make this area the frontline for many different kinds of pollution -- oil spills, offshore woodburning, ocean dumping of sewage sludge, floatable pollution, including medical waste, and nonpoint source pollution. It is all here, unfortunately. But I think that constant threat demands a local Congressman and a congressional district attuned to those requirements.

A major part of the tourism industry in this State is concentrated in the Monmouth/Ocean area. Many of the towns in our area have a lot of rental units that are utilized primarily on the weekend. During the summer, the North Jersey Coast Railway is able to link the shore area with other parts of the State and with New York. Our area is within a closer driving distance for those same people coming from northern New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut. We are the summer playground for millions of people from three states, and our ability to battle ocean pollution on all fronts is key to retaining that tourism industry. Again, our community of interest centers around the ocean, a clean ocean, and all ocean-related issues.

The fight against ocean pollution is one that we are currently winning. We are approaching the end of ocean dumping of sewage sludge. We are also phasing out many of the other forms of ocean pollution, but this is an effort that has taken years of hard work and persistent effort by Congressmen Howard and Pallone, as well as the many public citizen groups and activists involved. As a former staffer of both gentlemen, I know what it takes to try to address those problems and how important it is to have them, or have someone there, regardless of whether they are Democrat or Republican.

We are winning this fight because we have been unified in our presence and our voice in Washington. Our Congressmen from the Third District have used their positions on the House

Public Works Committee to fight this important battle. The fight against pollution is one that is not over. We must remain ever vigilant against other new forms of pollution.

The ocean also supports both the commercial and recreational fishing industries in this area. The Third District currently has two commercial fishing co-ops; one in Belford and one in Point Pleasant. We also have several areas that are meccas for recreational fishing and party boat fishing. As a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, I have worked closely with both segments of this fishing population, and I can tell you that even though these two groups are often at odds, they are united in their quest to sensibly manage our fisheries and prevent man-made pollution from destroying them.

The relationship of our two counties has been a long and historical one. Ocean was a part of Monmouth under British Colonial rule and during the early years of the American Republic. Previously, the State Legislature and the courts have recognized the historic relationship of the two counties and the community of interest that exists here. The State Legislative Districts along the coast of Monmouth County and northern Ocean County, numbers Ten, Eleven, and Thirteen, basically make up the current Third Congressional District. These coastline State Legislative Districts share the same interests and have traditionally been part of one single congressional district.

One key point that I have not previously mentioned is the fact that our two counties have grown in population over the past 10 years. Monmouth and Ocean Counties are the single fastest growing counties in the State.

As a State legislator, I introduced a piece of legislation that redrew the State's congressional districts to reflect the loss of population in the northeast corner of the State and recognize the population gains in the Monmouth/Ocean

region. The proposed map also takes into consideration the historic nature of the shore district and recognizes its traditional linkage of three State legislative districts, by providing for such a district as I put in my legislation. This was the only map that had been introduced in the Legislature, and I ask that you seriously consider it during your deliberations. I hope you will take this as a formal request to consider the map which I introduced in the last legislative session. I will also, by separate mail, send you a copy of the map and the legislation, which is a matter of public record.

The key thing about this map is that it reflects the fact that the area where population was lost in the northeast, is the area that loses a congressional district, which I think is critical for fairness, and critical to comply with the Federal statutes and case law.

I would also like to express my opposition to the manner in which this public process has been conducted. While I appreciate the gracious nature and consideration of Chairman Rosenthal in all this, we really need a public hearing at the shore. Although we have many people here who came tonight, it was very difficult to get them here. Trenton, Newark, and Camden are not easy for us to reach; not easy for senior citizens to reach, or people who are working all day. I would like all of you to reconsider your decision and have a fourth public hearing, as you are allowed to do under the law that established you, in the shore area. (applause) I would also like to request that such hearings-- Obviously, we have very enthusiastic people from the shore who are very committed to this issue. At least, I suggest that you set up a day to come down to the shore. It is a very nice, relaxing place to be. We have some very good restaurants. (applause) You could take your time and basically have unlimited public testimony. I think you would find it very interesting and very fruitful.

But again, I would like you to consider our position. It is my contention, as a former member of the Legislature, as Co-Chairman of the Save Our Shore District Coalition, and as someone who has introduced a map in the Legislature and did do a little bit of the drawing, an exercise which you are all due, that the population shift was from the northeast to the central part of the State. We need to continue to have our representation. We need to continue preservation of the Third Congressional District.

I would like to thank you all again for your consideration. We will be providing you with copies of these (indicating previously mentioned petitions and letters) once we can get them all in order. Again, they are still flowing into my law office, so I would like to give you a big stack when it is all over.

Thank you very much for your consideration. (applause)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: May I say something?

DR. ROSENTHAL: No, I don't think so. That would be out of order. We have a list of witnesses to get through.

Thank you, Mr. Jacobson. Are there any questions?

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: Yes, Mr. Chairman, if I might?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Yes.

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: A question for Mr. Jacobson, I guess prefaced by about a 10-second-- (brief discussion about microphones) Is there a black mike? Okay.

I have a question for Mr. Jacobson, if I might. As a member of this Commission, I hope to learn from each witness' testimony something that can help in making this very difficult decision for the State of New Jersey. No matter what we do, we have 14 incumbent Congressmen in the State of New Jersey. No matter what we do, at the end of this process -- at the end of 1992 -- there will be one less Congressperson from the State of New Jersey. I have had the chance to know Congressman Pallone

for many years, and I know what an outstanding State legislator he was, and what an outstanding Congressman he is, especially on environmental issues. (applause)

I would like to ask former Assemblyman Jacobson the question that I am going to ask every witness. In fact, Senator Gagliano got out before I had a chance to think of it. Every witness that I anticipate in the next three of these meetings will be saying, "Please don't cut my Congressperson." The difficulty we have with that is that telling us what not to do does not help. We need to know what to do, and good reasons for doing it.

In Congressman Pallone's testimony, the Congressman referred to a Democratic map proposed by Assemblyman Jacobson and Assemblywoman Ford, and a Republican map proposed by the Republican Chairmen of the two counties. Former Assemblyman Jacobson, if you can, tell me what your map and Assemblywoman Ford's map looked like. What Congresspeople were put together? What was the rationale for that? And, if you can, tell me what Congresspeople were put together by the Republican map and what may have been the rationale for that.

MR. JACOBSON: Okay. First of all, the map that I put in with former Assemblywoman Marlene Ford recognized the population shift and the applicable Federal statutes and case laws, such as the Voting Rights Act, such as the need to have a very low deviation, such as the need to preserve the community of interest, such as the need to have compactness in districts. The map left the Third District fairly intact, with some small changes within the Marlboro area, but basically left it intact. The two districts that were combined is the district that is currently represented by Congresswoman Roukema and Congressman Torricelli. The theory behind that, and the reason why we thought it was important to do that -- draw the map in that fashion -- was because of the population shift out of that region -- out of that north/northeast region. There

was really no other way to redraw congressional lines that would comply with the Federal standards.

In addition, as you know, there are Voting Rights Act requirements. There is a district that Donald Payne currently represents in Newark that must be preserved under Voting Rights mandates, and that puts even additional pressure on the north/northeast part of the State. The map that I quoted had an extremely low deviation. I believe it was about six voters in the district. It is, as I said, a matter of public record, as introduced in the Legislature.

As you mentioned, Assemblyman Smith, each witness is going to say to you, "Do not eliminate the congressional district I am from." But I think that the people coming from the Third District have the facts and have the cause on their side, because you cannot turn the facts upside down. Where the population shifts is where the district should go.

Similarly, among the different states in the country, when the population shifts from one state to another, those states lose congressional seats, and some gain. For example, we are losing one; California is gaining, I believe, six now. That is a reflection of a population shift. The same thing should happen within the State, and that's why I drew the map the way it was.

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: How about the Republican Chair's maps? Do you have any insight into that?

CONGRESSMAN PALLONE: The Republican map-- I believe that Bill Dowd, who was the Republican Chairman in Monmouth County, is going to testify, I think, at the Trenton hearing, and he may be joined, or if not, he will also be representing Mr. Joseph Buckelew, who is the Republican Chairman in Ocean County.

Essentially, for the Third District, it leaves the District in place along the shore of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. It basically travels a little further south, so it

takes up more of Ocean County and less of Monmouth County than the current District. But the principle is the same. Essentially, it covers all of the coastal municipalities in the two counties.

Again, it follows the pattern of what Assemblyman Jacobson said, which is to eliminate -- or to combine, if you will -- congressional districts in the northeast part of the State, reflecting population decline, if you will, in Bergen, Passaic, Hudson, Essex, and Union Counties, in a relative sense, of course.

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: Does it also put Roukema and Torricelli--

CONGRESSMAN PALLONE: No, no. It puts-- I guess reflecting Republican sentiments, it puts Congressman Roe and Congressman Torricelli together.

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: Thank you.

DR. ROSENTHAL: May I invite Mr. Newman to submit that map to the Commission -- the map that has been drawn up.

MR. JACOBSON: Is that--

DR. ROSENTHAL: Mr. Jacobson. I'm sorry.

MR. JACOBSON: Yes, yes. And, as I said--

DR. ROSENTHAL: That will be submitted to the Commission, then?

MR. JACOBSON: As I said in my testimony, I will submit the map -- both the actual map itself as well as the legislation for the Commission.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Okay. Are there any other questions?  
(no response) Thank you, Mr. Jacobson.

MR. JACOBSON: Thank you. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Tom Kesolits of the Central New Jersey Chapter of the American Defense Preparedness Association?  
(applause)

**T O M K E S O L I T S:** I wish to thank the Commission for allowing me the opportunity to provide my comments on the issue

of congressional redistricting. I am a licensed professional engineer, and a resident of Holmdel in the Fourth Congressional District. I am Past President of the Central New Jersey Chapter of the American Defense Preparedness Association, and currently serve on the Board of Directors of this Chapter and the New York Chapter. I am also an active participant in the Save the Fort Committee -- Fort Monmouth. My other professional associations include the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. I am very active in efforts to preserve the industrial base in the northeast United States, and to expand high technology growth in the Monmouth and Ocean County areas.

Monmouth and Ocean Counties, especially the geographic area encompassing the Third Congressional District, have been a magnet for high technology industries. This district has one of the highest concentrations of engineers and scientists in the State. Located in the Third District are Fort Monmouth, and the U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command, Bell Communications Research, and hosts of small yet very important innovative companies. Monmouth College, Brookdale Community College, and Ocean County College are also located there.

Active synergism is maintained with Bell Laboratories in Holmdel, Sarnoff Laboratories in Princeton, with other major educational institutions such as the New Jersey Institute of Technologies, Rutgers University, and Princeton University.

In my limited time I would like to expand upon the role the Save the Fort Committee had in preserving high technology research in the Third District, and why the current structure of the Third District was instrumental in its success.

The Save the Fort Committee was originally established by Monmouth and Ocean County residents, scientists, and engineers. Elected officials, during the 1970s prevented the closing of Fort Monmouth and the transferring of the U.S. Army

Signal School to Fort Gordon, Georgia. This effort was spearheaded by the late Congressman Jim Howard, who represented the Third District for over 20 years. This group was reactivated in 1990 in order to fight the transfer of the U.S. Army high technology communication electronics functions from Fort Monmouth to Huntsville, Alabama.

The Fort Monmouth community rallied together in the 1990s as it did in the 1970s out of a deep sense of patriotism that the work conducted at Fort Monmouth was essential to our nation's defense, and the costs associated with such a move were in excess of any postulated savings.

Our group realized very quickly that a community of interests existed among the residents of Monmouth and Ocean Counties that are tied to the mission of Fort Monmouth. Fort Monmouth is located in the virtual heart of the Third District, with the majority of its 8000 employees being residents of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. Supporting Fort Monmouth's missions are a host of support contractors, service organizations, and defense related economic entities. Over 40,000 people in these entities, directly or indirectly, support the 8000 employees at Fort Monmouth.

The Save Our Fort Committee won the first round in the very aggressive battle to literally gut Fort Monmouth's Army Communications and Electronics Command. We are currently engaged in another battle to prevent a move of the highly productive and award winning Electronic Technology and Devices Laboratory -- ETDL -- to Adelphi, Maryland. In this regard we are seeking to expand the role of ETDL at Fort Monmouth rather than see it contracted or be transferred.

In 1993 a new Federal commission will identify another round of military installations to be closed. The commission did listen to us before thanks to our well structured arguments and strong community of interests. This gives us an edge for the next fight. There is a strong possibility that Fort

Monmouth could be on the 1993 target list; however we are taking a proactive position to prevent this.

For the Save Our Fort Committee to function effectively it is mandatory to have a local congressman from Fort Monmouth and Ocean County. Such a congressman knows the issues and has the experience to fight the battle for Fort Monmouth, and in effect, the technological future of the area. If you dismantle the Third District you will lose considerable clout on this issue that the Third District congressmen have been able to build over the last 30 years, and that has recently been reinforced.

It takes time for a congressman to learn where C-Comm and Fort Monmouth fit into the Army operations and how to effectively maneuver through the Pentagon's archaic planning process. It was important for that learning process to have begun before the 1991 battle began, and it's an advantage a new congressman will not have next year.

It may also be a very important question of commitment to the Fort Monmouth fight. While the Fort is at the heart of the existing Third District, it could be less of a focus for a congressman whose district is based in other counties. If this area is absorbed into Middlesex or Hunterdon or some other county, its significance gets diluted. People out there do not commute that kind of distance to Fort Monmouth. They certainly do not have the same job identification with Fort Monmouth that people in Monmouth and Ocean Counties do.

Fort Monmouth continues to be, as it has for decades, on the cutting edge of communications and electronics research, often with long-range applications beneficial to civilians. The Monmouth/Ocean shore area is a home to major communications electronics research facilities such as Bell Communications Research, Bell Laboratories, and a large array of defense firms linked to Fort Monmouth. Our institutions of higher education such as Monmouth College, Ocean County College, and Georgian

Court College have strong links to Fort Monmouth and its related private sector research. The region continues to grow as an important computer, communications, and information technology center of the region and nation.

It would be unfair to our local economy to break up the community of interest that exists in the shore regions of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The 1990 census data indicate that the Monmouth/Ocean County region has by far the highest population growth in the State, while the population declines are experienced in the northeastern part of the State.

On the national level certain states have to accept the loss of congressional seats to states where population growth is higher. Common sense argues strongly for applying that same principle within our State. The Monmouth and Ocean County areas have, indeed, grown.

Finally, I would like to make one last comment about the public hearing process. You have heard this before, but I want to get my two cents in on this. I thought the Pentagon had some strange procedures and practices, but the Pentagon can take some lessons from the current hearing process, as I see it. Many people from the Save Our Fort Committee and interested parties wanted to testify at a public hearing, which we felt, logically, should be down at the shore. Others, I understand, were denied an opportunity to speak here this evening. I would ask that you provide an additional opportunity for all Monmouth and Ocean County residents to be heard. Thank you very much. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Kesolits. Any questions for Mr. Kesolits?

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Mr. Chairman?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Yes.

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: I just have one question for Mr. Kesolits: Who was denied the opportunity to speak here this evening?

MR. KESOLITS: I do not know the answer to that question, but I was told that some people were denied, so I just put it in my testimony.

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Well, I think you should get your facts straight. Nobody was denied the opportunity, as I understand it.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: I was.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: You're only allowing 15 people to speak.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Assemblyman Doria, we were limiting testimony to 15 people, and the--

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Oh, I wasn't aware of that. Okay.

DR. ROSENTHAL: And the time of the hearing was 7:00 to 10:00. (applause)

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Mr. Chairman, my only question would be that obviously, maybe it might be better to consider, if we find that so many people do want to testify, we just limit their comments. Rather than going on for 10 minutes, allow them to speak two minutes, so everybody could be heard. (applause)

I understand the problem, and I understand we have to limit the time, Mr. Chairman. That might be a solution. I wasn't aware that that was--

DR. ROSENTHAL: I mean, I think we would have to limit the time in any case. There are more people who want to speak than there is time.

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: The other thing is, they can send written comments, can't they, Mr. Chairman?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Oh, they have been.

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Okay. They can, they are allowed to do that. We will be reviewing those also.

DR. ROSENTHAL: I mean, some people are not having the opportunity to speak, but other people are certainly being heard and listened to.

Are there any people at this hearing tonight who are not from the Third Congressional District -- not from Monmouth and Ocean Counties -- who would like to make a presentation on behalf of a different interest or district?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: In a minute.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Do I hear anyone else?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS FROM AUDIENCE: (affirmative responses)

DR. ROSENTHAL: All right. There is a waiting list for people, who I would also ask to limit their remarks to 10 minutes. I certainly appreciate the ability of the prior speakers to limit their remarks to 10 minutes.

Lois Flicek?

L O I S F L I C E K: Yes, I'm here.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Do you want to come down, and--

After Lois Flicek, we will be hearing, in this order, from Rudy Wunsch, Joseph Hawley, David Oxenford, Rick Kessler, and Carl Blumenthal.

MS. FLICEK: Mr. Rosenthal, thank you for letting me speak. I come as a person who loves the beach. I love the ocean. I love--

DR. ROSENTHAL: Excuse me. Could you state your name and address for the record.

MS. FLICEK: Sure, Lois Flicek. And what else? Just my name?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Your address or affiliation.

MS. FLICEK: Well, I'm the Assistant Coordinator for Save Our Shore District, and I live in Long Branch, and--

DR. ROSENTHAL: That's fine.

MS. FLICEK: --and I'm somebody who just loves the beach. I moved to Long Branch four-and-a-half years ago from Middlesex County. I always wanted to live down at the shore since I was a little girl. From what I remember 10 years ago when I started going to the beach a lot, it was dirty. You

couldn't walk down the beach without stepping on bottles and garbage, and things were floating in the water. You couldn't see your feet. You couldn't see anything. And it was terrible to swim in. And because of legislation from our Third District Congressman to clean up the ocean, and for all of the environmental efforts that he has made-- We had whales in the ocean this summer in Long Branch. And you could see dolphins out in the ocean. It was clean. You could see the fish swimming. It was the most beautiful thing. The seashells weren't covered with garbage anymore. You could actually pick them up and take them home and not have to bleach them and rinse them.

It makes such a difference to have somebody who cares about the ocean, being a legislator. What I feel is that if they are going to make a map that's going to connect us with Hunterdon County -- which is one of the maps that was presented -- what possible interest would someone from Hunterdon County have in protecting my beach. I don't see that they would have any interest. I don't see that they would care whether the shore has tourism, or whether our boardwalks are fixed up, or our seawalls are safe to walk on. That's why I'm urging you and the Commission to please preserve the shore district for me, for my son, who is going to be a resident of an ocean community, I'm sure. He loves to surf. I don't want to see him lose the strides that we have taken to clean up the ocean and to clean up the shore environment. Thank you. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: One minute. There may be a question.

MS. FLICEK: I'm sorry.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Ms. Flicek. Are there any questions for Ms. Flicek from the Commission? (no response)  
Thanks.

Rudy Wunsch? Is Rudy Wunsch here? (no response) I guess not. Joseph Hawley?

**J O S E P H H A W L E Y:** Yes. Mr. Chairman, somebody just handed this to me.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

MR. HAWLEY: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, my name is Joseph Hawley. I currently reside in Atlantic Highlands, where I have lived most of my life. I served the community in various capacities in appointed and elected office, and my remarks will be brief.

Since we have 10 minutes, I was wondering if I could possibly give half of my time to Councilman Joe Branin back here, who is a Councilman in the Borough of Highlands, who is also active in the fishing industry as a commercial fisherman? I would like to yield half my time to him.

I would just like to say that I find it very disturbing that the Commission has decided not to hold hearings at the shore area. Many people have expressed an interest to testify, to make their feelings known, concerning the possible break up of the district. I just would like to reinforce the importance of the district that currently exists in the State of New Jersey, not only in terms of economic stability, but you have to remember that the Third Congressional District is the home for the highest concentration of senior citizens in the State of New Jersey. Congressman Auchincloss, the late Congressman Howard, and Congressman Pallone would probably testify to the fact that at times their offices are somewhat of a social work extension for the senior citizens of the shore area who find difficulties with Medicare and other problems arising with Social Security and other things that must be attended to. And it is a very difficult task.

I think it's more important to hear it from somebody who is also a local official in the Borough of Highlands and who is active in the commercial fishing industry. Is Joe Branin-- I'd like to-- Is he here? Where's Joe. Oh, there he is. Councilman Joe Branin in Highlands. (applause)

**C O U N C I L M A N   J O S E P H   B R A N I N:** Good evening, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Good evening. Could you just spell your name, for the record. You don't have to spell Joe, but Branin, B-R-A-N-I-N?

MR. BRANIN: B-R-A-N-I-N.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Okay. Thank you.

MR. BRANIN: I can tell you a little bit more about commercial fishing than I can politics, because I'm an ex-councilman. I served one year as an unexpired term that I was elected to.

We down at the shore are very partial to our Congressman and all of our legislators. They have done a great job for us. As the young lady from Long Branch spoke, they have really cleaned up the seashore. As a commercial fisherman, I know that's a fact. Since the ocean dumping stopped out at Ambrose Tower, it has really cleaned up. But a congressman from Hunterdon County certainly isn't going to do a restoration on a seawall.

I still don't think, after the millions of dollars they just spent last year on the seawall, it's going to do much good. It needs a much more extensive program to save that seawall, which is going to wash away those shore towns in the very near future if there isn't a bigger job done. So it's going to take somebody active to stay on that and keep working on it.

We feel very hurt down here at the seashore. Right now I think everybody in the State of New Jersey is a little hurt. Taxes are very high. Everybody in the seashore area has their home on the market. You can't sell it. There is nobody coming in to buy them. Taxes are just killing us down there, and that hasn't got anything to do with-- What I am trying to get at is, by taking our congressman away, that's like taking another piece away from us.

It's very hard to live, nowadays. I don't have to tell anybody the shape of the economy. Everybody knows where

we are at. But the seashore needs a representative that cares, and needs men-- I don't remember the man before Mr. Howard, but Mr. Howard was always there. He came around with his mobile bus. We had problems-- He would come to all the towns. Set up a date, and if you were interested, if you had a problem, you could go right into his mobile bus. If he was available, he was there, if not there was a representative, and he took everything to heart and did a great job for us.

Mr. Pallone, he's doing a fine job for us and we really, really need him at the seashore. We want to keep him. And I think this little bit about tells you that we need him and we want him, and if you can have another meeting -- the fourth meeting you are talking about, I didn't realize that -- if you have one at the seashore, you will see 30 times this amount of people there, so you have to-- (inaudible due to applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Branin. Are there any questions of Mr. Branin by members of the Commission? (no response) Thanks.

MR. BRANIN: Thank you.

DR. ROSENTHAL: David Oxenford is the next person listed. Are you here, David Oxenford? (no response) Rick Kessler?

R I C K K E S S L E R: Good evening. Mr. Chairman, I believe I'm listed for testimony on Friday, as well. At this time I would like to devote my spot to Mr. Jim Yoos, who is head of New Jersey Waterfowl Association, if I might.

J I M Y O O S: I wish to make--

DR. ROSENTHAL: Jim Hughes, is that?

MR. YOOS: Jim Yoos, Y-O-O-S.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, sir.

MR. YOOS: I am the President of the New Jersey Waterfowl Association, a statewide organization made up of environmental people, duck hunters, people worried about wetlands and its habitats.

I do live in Middletown, New Jersey. I've lived there for over 35 years, and during this period, our Third Congressional District has had three congressional representatives during that term: James Auchincloss, a Republican; James Howard, of course; and now Frank Pallone, a Democrat. I think it's safe to say the general feeling in our district is that all served our district well, Republican and Democrat alike. The Third District is rather unique to other congressional districts around the State, in that all representatives have concentrated on this shore environment, and how that issue relates to the economic stability and the quality of life in Monmouth and Ocean Counties. They have played a key role in ending ocean dumping and in coastal water pollution, preserving wetlands, and maintaining beaches, and in securing Federal funds for North Monmouth sand replenishment projects.

As we all know, there was a great effort by the Governor to procure funds during our last storm, and Congressman Pallone has, along with Congressman Saxton and Hughes, fought for funds for these projects.

I ask this Commission: Would a congressman home based in the State's inner counties give these issues the same priority? I doubt it.

Granted, New Jersey must lose a district as required by population shifts reflected in our 1990 census. In general, these population shifts have been from the northern area of our State to the central and southern portions. Since 1980, the Third District has continued to grow while several northeast districts have declined. However, if we dismantle the Third District, we will lose the focus and the attention that our shore area not only deserves, but most certainly needs.

Therefore, logic would suggest that we need to concentrate on the northeast districts for a solution to the problem. I wish to thank you all for allowing me to speak here today. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Just one minute, in case there are any questions, thank you. Are there any questions by members of the Commission of Mr. Yoos? (no response) Thank you very much.

Carl Blumenthal?

C A R L B L U M E N T H A L: My name is Carl Blumenthal. I'm Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Long Branch, and also a resident of Long Branch.

You might think that Long Branch, as an urban aid community, which has suffered loss of population like other North Jersey cities, would like to join forces with more urban counties such as Middlesex. We happen to share many similar problems with the larger urban areas in the northeastern part of the State. The fact of the matter is, that we like it just fine in the Third District, and we would like it to stay that way.

As you have heard from other speakers here tonight, there are many historical reasons why Monmouth and Ocean Counties make up a unity. The shore, of course, joins them all together. In terms of their growth patterns over the last 20 to 30 years, it's clear that Monmouth and Ocean Counties have grown together. We're made up of small cities such as Long Branch, and larger suburban growth areas. The future of Long Branch depends very much on those surrounding suburban areas, which are right now in the Third District.

There are many other ways in which the coast has been recognized as a unity. From the fact that the CAFRA area is exempt from the State plan, and that for many years now we have been trying -- the State Legislature -- to put together a development plan that would balance building and the environment, specifically for the shore, of which, of course, the Third District is a part.

As recently as yesterday, at the Shore Summit, there it was reported by Dery Bennet, the Director of the Littoral Society, suggested that development should be guided to the

areas where it now has occurred. In other words, not in the ocean counties, in order to preserve the southern shore areas which are less developed. So you can see that in many ways this area, as one area, should not be divided up.

It's obvious, also, that the shore is the key to urban renewal in Long Branch. Tourism, you've heard that before. We feel that we would not be-- A small city like Long Branch would not be well represented in a much larger, more sprawling district. We therefore urge you -- or I urge you -- to keep the Third District that in some fashion maintains this unity. Thank you.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Blumenthal.

Are there any questions of Mr. Blumenthal from members of the Commission? (no response)

Thank you.

Eugene Lavain?

EUGENE LAVERGNE: LaVergne.

DR. ROSENTHAL: LaVergne. Sorry.

MR. LAVERGNE: Thank you. I just want to thank Assemblyman Doria for giving me the opportunity to be heard tonight. When I came to this public hearing it was my understanding that I was, in fact, going to be denied the right to be heard, and I have some questions as to whether or not this was democracy in action, or in fact, some rubber stamp. I'm giving the Committee the benefit of the doubt. We do have a clean slate to my understanding and, with that, I would just like to preface this by saying I would hope that you would consider Congressman Pallone and Senator Gagliano's recommendation that an additional hearing be held at the Jersey shore. (applause)

Now I understand that the entire State must have the opportunity to be heard at these public hearings, however, I don't see 200 people -- or busloads of people -- coming an hour-and-a-half in what is almost a rainstorm, all the way to

Newark to be heard about their districts. I think if democracy is actually going to work, we should be given the opportunity to be heard in our home area and I would imagine if you did that you would have a lot more people than you have here tonight and the hearing would probably go a lot longer.

Having said that, I would like to talk about, just briefly, the problems that are unique to the Jersey shore area. The problems that are unique to the Jersey shore area are things such as storms, water pollution and the like. We had problems with the closing -- or the potential closing of Fort Monmouth. These are things that affect our lives directly, but more significantly, there's been talk about having the Congressman from Hunterdon County representing Monmouth County.

Now, I'll go back ten years ago when Congressman Pallone -- and let me just preface this -- I'm a big Frank Pallone fan, but I'm here fighting for the shore also. I want to see Frank Pallone stay in Congress, but I also want to see the shore area be represented; hopefully, by Frank Pallone. Ten years ago we had the very, very serious hurricane which wreaked havoc along the coastline up to Sandy Hook, Sea Bright -- if you're from the area, we refer to those type of storms where the bay meets the sea. Hundreds of thousands, or millions of dollars worth of damage occurred. At that time, Congressman Pallone was a State Senator. People flew in from Washington and from all over the State to be available for the photo opportunities in the newspapers and months after the debris-- In months after the pictures had been taken while the debris was still being cleaned up, then State Senator and now Congressman Frank Pallone was still fighting when there were no cameras around to give him support or a pat on the back. He was still fighting for the shore area issues such as trying to get shore protection funding and the like.

We had a similar storm, I would say this is about four or five months ago, around August or early September. Once again we had people converging from all over the State, as I presume our Congressman from Hunterdon County would, for the photo opportunities. However, once the storm was over, you look at the people that have been fighting continually to rectify the situations, you have our shore area Congressman.

We have interests that are unique and should be addressed. I think the Committee should consider that because I feel the Committee has an inherent obligation when formulating what 14 people will be going to Washington and what 14 parts of this State will be represented. I feel you have an inherent obligation to cut the State up, so to speak, in such a way as to give the State and citizens of New Jersey the best possible angle -- if you will call it, speaking street vernacular -- the best possible angle that we will have to fight for our special interests. It is like they said, someone from Hunterdon County comes to the beach in the summertime and if there are Congressmen, they will come to take pictures when there's a debilitating storm. However, if we have a Congressman from our hometown, from our area to watch out for our interests, they'll be there to watch out for our interests 12 months out of the year and not just when there's a photo opportunity.

So, having said that, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to be heard. As I said, I didn't expect to be heard tonight so I'm not as prepared and organized as I would like to have been. But having said that, thank you very much. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. LaVergne.

Any questions of Mr. LaVergne? (no response)

Thanks a lot.

MR. LAVERGNE: Thank you.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Ramona Young.

R A M O N A Y O U N G: My name is Ramona Young and I'm from Red Bank which is on the inland in the shore area. I'd rather stand up because I'm very nervous, besides being angry with the newspapers and things that they said about our district.

I would like to mention one thing, and that was Mr. Rosenthal said that we would start on time, at 7:00. However, all the Committee was not here at 7:00. (applause) I take exception to that, number one. It says that there is somewhere, somehow, some lack of interest, that you didn't get here on time. I'm sorry to chastise you but I think that it is a note to be taken into your consideration. But I would like you to know that there are statements there that were read by Mr. Gagliano, Congressman Pallone and someone else, I think, Dan Jacobson.

I'm what you call a clam digger, affectionately. Well, when I worked in Trenton they tried to tell me that a clam digger was something negative. But, we clam diggers love our shore. I grew up there. I learned to swim in that ocean when it was clean, then it got dirty. It's now clean again and we want to keep it that way. We need a representative there.

Secondly, I wrote this down while I was listening, Hunterdon County only knows about the southern Jersey shore, Island Beach, Cape May. That's what they know about. The people that come to the northern Jersey shore come from up here in Essex County and New York City and Staten Island. They don't come here to testify but they'll know that there's no representative when things are deteriorating because the Congressperson from Hunterdon County doesn't have an opportunity to get down to the shore as often as someone that would be from a home district.

Also, no one has mentioned senior citizens, but as you know, New Jersey grows older every year. And many of you seem to have a little snow on your roof, just as I do. (laughter) Therefore, it costs money to call your Congressperson in

Hunterdon County. It does not cost a lot of money to call your Congressperson in the Monmouth and Ocean counties, wherever they are, wether it's Congressman Pallone or someone else. (applause) Now I'm not here to egg on Congressman Pallone whether he's there or he isn't there, but whoever is there will answer to us. We can't reach that person in Hunterdon or Bergen or way somewhere up here where it costs senior citizens a lot of money to make a phone call. You can get on a bus in Monmouth and Ocean counties to go see your Congressperson. Any day you can go to a town hall and see your Congressperson. Where Jim Howard left off, Frank Pallone picks up.(applause) Mr. Doria said he wanted reasons why; there are some. Please take note.

The third thing is: Why, in the name of God, would any Congressman fight for pleasure fishing off the jetties in Monmouth and Ocean counties. We know what that means, when somebody wants to go down there on a Tuesday afternoon and throw their reel into the ocean and catch some fluke, or catch some flounder, or somebody says, "Hey, the bluefish are running." All you've got to do is go down there and scoop them up. Nobody's going to fight for that in Hunterdon County. They don't even know what we're talking about. We need somebody there that understands us, that will fight for us. We don't have to pay to go and do that which was something that happened several years ago.

Okay, I guess that I covered those things, but I had to get it out. If anyone has any questions I'll take them now, but I doubt if you do.

Thank you. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Any questions? (no response)  
(laughter)

Marilyn McGuire?

**M A R I L Y N M c G U I R E:** Good evening. I'm Marilyn McGuire and I'm from Middletown, New Jersey. I welcome also

the opportunity to address you tonight. I didn't think I was going to have the opportunity, but thank you very much for listening to whatever I have to come up with here. So it's going to be off-the-cuff, a bit unprepared but nonetheless, well-intentioned.

I'm one of those transplants that came from North Jersey to South Jersey; born in Essex County, raised in Bloomfield and those areas. I have now moved, as they say, down to the shore, and I love that shore. I love the Jersey shore, Monmouth County, Ocean County, and I work very hard down there. I'm very involved in the activities down there and I wouldn't move back.

What I'm concerned with is that there's a lot of population that has moved down there and I think that that has to be taken into consideration as our Congressman mentioned. You have to look at the population and where it's moved to. Everyone I meet when I'm down in Monmouth County, down in Middletown, they're all from Hudson County, Essex County and other parts north. So I'm concerned because we can't lose our representation. As a part of Monmouth County, I will tell you, I have to commute to work. And I commute up toward Hunterdon County and I know that anyone from Hunterdon County and all the areas in between are not going to be too interested in the Jersey shore. I commute every day.

And thanks to Jim Howard, we, from the Jersey shore, can now get to Trenton. We have a highway named after Jim Howard. (applause) I doubt if we would have that highway if we didn't have our Congressional district down there that would have represented us to get us that highway. And we couldn't have gotten to Trenton from there because it's hard to get there from here. We got here tonight on a school bus. That's how intentioned we were to have our voices heard from you people. We want you to please keep our district. I know that I work very hard for Frank Pallone, worked very hard for Jim Howard.

Yes, I'm in politics and I am the Democratic Chairman of Middletown which is one of the largest townships in the State of New Jersey. (applause) As Chairman of Middletown, I want to tell you that the proposed map, the only one I've seen so far, the one that was in the newspapers, cuts my town right down the middle. And that really pains me, because I'm going to tell you, it's not easy doing my job trying to get someone elected. And if I have to get someone elected and have to be in two different districts trying to do that, that's going to be very, very difficult. It's not easy these days.

So, I'm asking you, please -- when you consider the maps -- please look at the maps that are going to be proposed that keep our shore area intact, and certainly that's going to keep Middletown intact. Because we're a large area, we can't stand to be divided in our township, and we can't stand to have our shore area divided.

I thank you again for your attention. Any questions?

DR. ROSENTHAL: Any questions? (no response)

Portia Adams?

I think you have to go around the other way because there's a block there.

P O R T I A   A D A M S: One of those musical chairs.

DR. ROSENTHAL: How would you like to go to law school and be in class every night?

MS. ADAMS: Hello. I'm Portia Adams from Ocean Grove.

I have two gripes. One is that Jim Howard built a transportation station in Asbury Park. And now it's open but it closes every day at 1:30. So what happens to people that come home 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 and get off the trains and then they get mugged, or something? What do we do in a situation like that? I still think it should be open later than 1:30. I asked a gentleman about it and he says, "We don't have enough funds. They don't have enough funds. What can I do?"

Did you write that down? (laughter)

DR. ROSENTHAL: You're being taped. It will appear in the record.

MS. ADAMS: Oh, okay. Now, did you get that straightened out now? Because I've got another gripe. Okay?

Well, my husband and I bought a car in 1988 -- Topaz -- and when we did our income tax in '89 we couldn't declare that whole tax on the car, on the income tax, right? So then I find out the other day, I called the bank and I said I want a notation on the interest that I paid to you, you know, the finance charges. They said, "Oh you can't claim that now." And we only paid over \$1 thousand and we can't claim it on our 1991 tax. How do you like that? That's why I go around picking up the pennies.

All right? That's it. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Any questions? (no response)

(Referring to Congressman Pallone) There's the man to speak to about that. (laughter) You may like him, but he doesn't seem very effective to me.

Elvira Hoffman?

E L A I N E H O F F M A N: That's Elaine.

DR. ROSENTHAL: All right, well, Elaine Hoffman. Elvira isn't here. (laughter)

MS. HOFFMAN: My name is Elaine Hoffman and I wasn't prepared to speak tonight either. I didn't think I'd get an opportunity. I wrote on the card that I'm Regional Vice-President for the State of New Jersey Mobile Homeowners Association, and I am, as well as a number of other things. That's not important, though, although that represents thousands of senior citizens throughout New Jersey. In my area I must have at least 3500 alone, down from New Brunswick from Freehold down to Highlands.

I recently went to a town hall meeting in Long Branch where Congressman Pallone was speaking with people trying to get offshore oil drilling. If we didn't have that

representative I don't think it would have turned out quite the way it did, or go the way it's going to.

I, too, moved down there 28 years ago from Union County. And, we used to go down on the weekend, go to the beach, get some sun, and so forth. And all we cared about was the right suntan oil, and what restaurant, and where we could go to the bathroom, and mundane things like that. Well, we moved down there. Having four children we couldn't afford to stay in the city, and I realized it wasn't just an open wasteland. Migratory birds from all over the country come to New Jersey -- its waterways, its roadways, its wetlands. And please don't think we spend our time on the beach because we work hard. But it's so clean. Well, it's cleaner than it was and it's getting cleaner. It is so different from up here in the city. It's lovely. And when I lived in North Jersey and I went down there, I didn't think about those things. I can't expect a man or a woman from North Jersey to be concerned about things like that. I mean, you have to be-- You have to get real. We need someone who understands us. You need someone up there in Hunterdon County who knows about the deer tick and poison sumac in the woods, blight on fir trees, and that sort of thing. I know about that because I read a lot. But we need someone who's there, and who has grown there, and who knows people, and understands, and whose heart is there. And please don't cut our district. Please don't do that. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Are there any questions for Ms. Hoffman? (no response)

Thank you very much.

Joseph Foster.

J O S E P H R. F O S T E R: My name is Joseph Foster. I'm a life-long resident of Long Branch and the Middletown area. I'll make my statement very brief.

I just want to state that I spent four years in the Coast Guard in the early days of the water pollution control

and legislation, so it's been kind of on my mind. I got out in '73 and worked over at Fort Monmouth in various capacities, so I'm aware of the situation that we went through once before and what Frank was working on back in 1990.

The only thing I'd like to say is that, to me, this is almost a home rule issue that -- the need to have somebody close by -- that we can grab by the collar if we need to. Frank gives us that. The district, like it was stated before, is not necessarily a partisan issue. You could be Republican or Democrat. Mr. Auchincloss, Frank, and Jim Howard, they've all served the district well. I always felt that there was somebody there that we can talk with. I don't have that same feeling going to Hunterdon County or one of the other areas. I live on the water so the water quality, like I stated before, can be very important. I've seen it at its worst and I've seen it cleaned up and I've seen it go back again. So, I think that to be proactive on this we need that type of representation; that the district should be kept intact.

That's all I have to say. Thank you for allowing me this time to speak.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Any questions of Mr. Foster? (no response)

Thank you, Mr. Foster.

David Bryce?

I just want to take a moment to explain to you that we've heard from more than 15 people. We did not necessarily want to restrict it to 15, we wanted to make sure that people got a chance to give 10 minutes of testimony. The testimony has been much shorter so we will hear from as many people as we can in the time allotted, until 10:00. (applause)

**D A V I D B R Y C E:** My name is David Bryce. I live in Hazlet, New Jersey and I've spent 33 of my 49 years living in Frank Pallone and Jim Howard's and Mr. Auchincloss' district.

I'm going to mention just one concern here that has not been brought up. We've all repeated ourselves continually here about why we want to keep the district together and how we relate to ourselves as a community and how we want our own Congressman. I do want to mention something that has turned up in the papers -- in the Asbury Park Press, and I saw it in The Star Ledger, and I've been aware of this from private conversations over the last couple of years. There seems to be kind of like a silent political issue involved here between the-- Within our New Jersey Congressional delegation, especially the Democratic Party of which I am a member. It deals with having differences with our own Congressman and it is my perception that some of these Congressmen are using the opportunity of this redistribution to squeeze out the seat of our Congressman to avoid an irritation rather than letting us in Monmouth County deal with our Congressman themselves. (applause)

We, the people of this district, expect our Congressman to protect our interests, and part of that is to play ball with the House leadership. Any success at playing that game will have an influence on whether or not we return him to the Congress, and that's our call. My perception is that this effort that I perceive is happening to the Asbury Park Press -- and frankly, you've heard it before -- is rather sinister and it is the reason why this Commission has been formed; it's the reason why we have to have Commissions like this. And that is that once we have established, I think, boldly here and clearly, that this district should not be cut out -- because obviously the population has moved here, not up to Congressman Torricelli's district -- we expect this Commission to protect our district and the people of this district, to let us deal with our own Congressman and our own political interests ourselves, and let this district stand.

And if you're going to redistribute, you're going to deal with the population and not with the political agenda to eliminate irritation. That is our call as whether or not it should be eliminated.

Thank you very much.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Are there any questions for Mr. Bryce? (no response) Thank you, Mr. Bryce.

ASSEMBLYMAN SMITH: How about a question for Congressman Pallone? Is he really an irritation? (laughter)

MR. BRYCE: He's not to us, I can tell you that. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Ralph -- is it Rucco?

R A L P H R U O C C O: Ruocco.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Ralph Ruocco.

MR. RUOCCO: Good evening, Mr. Chairman. I am Ralph Ruocco. I currently live in Hazlet, New Jersey. I was born and raised in Jersey City. As a young fellow I used to come down to the shore and go swimming, fishing, crabbing, etc. When World War II started -- two years after it -- I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. I served the United States Marine Corps for 22 years. My story is a little more unique, I guess, than the others up here.

I'm a little nervous also. I could have retired in California, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, or Florida, but I chose to come back to the State where I was born and raised, and come down to the shore where as a child I used to love to go into the water. I also, when I was in the South Pacific, dreamt about coming back to the shore area.

I want to thank Congressman Pallone, also, for keeping Fort Monmouth open. I utilize Fort Monmouth for the Commissary, Post Exchange, and medical facilities, which is part of my benefits for serving in the United States Marine Corps. I wish to thank the Congressman for making sure that my retirement in the State of New Jersey didn't go for naught.

I want to thank Congressman Pallone for taking care of us, senior citizens now. Now I'm a senior citizen. I served my country and he's serving me, and I want to thank you very much, Mr. Pallone. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. Ruocco. Any questions? (no response) Linda Harrison?

L I N D A H A R R I S O N: Is there any way I can speak from up here, because my legs are shaking? (laughter)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Are you Linda Harrison?

MS. HARRISON: Yes.

DR. ROSENTHAL: We've got to get you on the record. (after short discussion witness comes to witness table) She needs it on this mike.

MS. HARRISON: My name is Linda Harrison. I have to sit down too, huh? (laughter)

DR. ROSENTHAL: You can stand up or sit down.

MS. HARRISON: I live in Middlesex County and interestingly enough I'm here to support Congressman Pallone, because I've had the good fortune of working with him. I think that he well represents people. But more importantly, I'm here to represent the shore. I was born in Hoboken. I live in Middlesex County and I work in New York, but I spend much of my summer at the shore.

I don't think anyone-- I went to school out of State, abroad in fact. If you asked them one thing about New Jersey they'll say, "Jersey shore," of course. There is a period where I was embarrassed of the shore -- I'm quivering -- and I wouldn't step off a towel without having sneakers on because I was afraid of what I might step on. That's changing and I'd hate to see that reversed.

I think anyone knows the importance of our natural resource -- our greatest asset -- which is the Jersey shore, and to take away its representation I think it just can't stand. That's all. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Bob Baxter?

R O B E R T B A X T E R: Good evening. My name is Bob Baxter. I'm from the Elberon section of Long Branch. I've been in New Jersey, born in New Jersey more years ago than I'll mention -- in North Jersey, Essex County. I spent summers at the Jersey shore as a young kid, and moved down there all year round in 1947, and graduated from Long Branch High School. At that time-- Then I got a job at the Asbury Park Press selling advertising.

One of the biggest issues that we had at the Asbury Park Press at that time was to welcome the Garden State Parkway to the Jersey shore, which enabled people from the North Jersey area to come down to the shore. And they are obviously still coming down to the shore, based on the population trends that we just heard about and that you know about.

I would also say that I'm a registered Republican, which would make some of you people, I imagine, very happy. The problem of the matter is, I've been voting Democratic since I met Frank Pallone. (laughter and applause) And I intend to. I left the Jersey shore area in 1956. (Commission members talking among themselves) Am I interrupting? (no response) I left the Jersey shore in 1956 to pursue my chosen profession. I moved back here about six years ago, when I was transferred by my company to New York.

I did kind of the obligatory one-day trip to Connecticut and turned that down quick. We couldn't wait to get out. I looked up in the North Jersey section; Essex County, and Morris County, and we came to where I knew my home was at the North Jersey shore. And we need, desperately, to have representation here at the North Jersey shore.

I have a feeling also -- and I will stand corrected and I will apologize at the proper time if I am dead wrong -- that some of the pollution that we're experiencing in the Third Congressional District, in the waterways down there, happen to

come from some areas in North Jersey, and that bothers the hell out of me. (applause) How are some of the people that are representing those districts, up here right now dumping on us, going to take care of it later? Thank you. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Richard Clapp?

R I C H A R D C L A P P: That's an ambidextrous chair. (referring to seat at witness table) (laughter) I'm like a lot of people who came here a few minutes ago, I really did not expect to speak so I had to scribble my notes out. But I have a little disadvantage that the others don't have. I cannot read my writing. (laughter)

First of all, my name is Richard Clapp -- C-L-A-P-P -- and I live in Wall Township. I'm actually in Mr. Smith's District. I'm not in the Third District, represented by Congressman Pallone. For what it's worth, I'm a registered Republican. However, I'm a big supporter of Frank Pallone because he's a big supporter of the environment. I'm here tonight representing the Sierra Club in the Monmouth and Ocean County areas. We have over 2000 members, and I'm the Program Chairman of the Sierra Club's Jersey Shore Group.

My comments are as follows: The Congressman in the Third District is expected to stop dumping of sewage sludge in the ocean, stop wood burning, and help preserve our ecosystems. We also need to preserve the wetlands in the tidal zones which is where the bird habitats are located. It is important to also eliminate building in wetland areas. A clean ocean attracts tourists that may normally go out of the State for their vacation. Thus, a clean ocean keeps these tourists within the State. We retain their dollars. We increase the sales tax that's paid in New Jersey as a result of that tourist effort, the retention, and in addition to that we promote healthy shore businesses which we need in a time when the economy is very bad.

It is in everybody's interest to leave the Third District intact, as it benefits many residents throughout the State. All of the residents from the different counties in the northwest of the State as well as in the northeast of the State, I'm sure, bring their families down to the ocean, and this is something that all of the residents can enjoy. As you know the prices of the admission to the beaches is very reasonable now, compared to what it was a few years ago, and it's probably our State's biggest tourist attraction. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Are there any other individuals who would like to testify at this Commission meeting? We have time, and we're certainly listening. (witness stands up from audience) Yes?

M I T C H E L L N E W M A R K: My name is Mitchell Newmark.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Do you want to testify?

MR. NEWMARK: Yes.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Could you just come down.

MR. NEWMARK: Members of the Committee, I thank you for hearing me out. I'll make it pretty brief. I really feel that I actually owe it to my parents to speak to you. They aren't able to be here. I'm sure that if they were in the area they would be here, probably, speaking to you.

My father actually grew up in urban Manhattan, an immigrant from Germany. He came to the area through Fort Monmouth. My mom is a native from Long Branch and, currently, job related responsibilities have taken them out of the area to Virginia. They intend to be back in the area upon retirement. Long Branch is something they've really grown to love -- Long Branch, Oceanport.

I'm actually from Oceanport. I've lived my whole life in Oceanport. Given the opportunity to live anywhere in the United States, I know my parents, and my family -- we'd all choose to be back in the area, primarily because of the beach,

and we have a lot of friends and family in the area. I really hope that you can see your way through to keeping the Third District whole because we need to keep our interest intact. Thank you. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thank you.

Adam Flicks (phonetic spelling)? (no response)

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER FROM AUDIENCE: They want Adam to talk, but he doesn't want to.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Okay. He doesn't have to talk. Thanks. You don't have to talk. Is there anybody else who would like to address the Commission? (witness stands up in the audience) Do you want to just come down?

J O H N N A J A R: I want to thank the members of the Commission for permitting me to speak. I'm John Najar. I am a Principal in Wall Township. I just happen to be the Principal of West Belmar Elementary School, the school for which Jim Howard was also a Principal. I feel that he gave us a lot of inspiration. He did a lot for the economy, and the environment. We always looked to him for help, and as a focal point. As an educator and also as a realtor, the shore is -- I consider -- a diamond and a prize where many people come to visit and live, and it has a very positive effect on the State as a whole.

I also have here tonight my walking friend of 90 years old, Sidney Maxwell (phonetic spelling), who is obviously a senior citizen. He does not want to talk, but he seeks comfort in the fact that he does live in the Manasquan/Point Pleasant Beach area. Sidney can walk into the railroad station in Manasquan and visit Frank if he needs any help. So, I speak for Sidney tonight, who has joined me this evening. God bless him. He's a great person. (applause) So, I wanted to say my few words, and I thank you all very much.

DR. ROSENTHAL: Thanks. Mitchell Newmark?

MR. NEWMARK: I spoke previously.

DR. ROSENTHAL: I'm sorry, you did. Thank you. Is there anyone else?

MR. HAWLEY: Mr. Chairman, is it possible to ask a question of the Commission?

DR. ROSENTHAL: I think we can take a question, sure.

MR. HAWLEY: I just wanted to ask the Commission -- I spoke before; Joseph Hawley, Atlantic Highlands -- tonight if they would have a meeting in the shore area. It's been asked to you tonight and suggested that one should be held, and there are many other people who want to address this particular issue. There are a lot of senior citizens who could not get here tonight, who find it impossible and very upsetting to them that they have to travel so many miles to get to a hearing to be heard on a matter that affects them a great deal. So would you, maybe, try, Mr. Rosenthal, to address that question and possibly schedule a hearing somewhere in Monmouth or Ocean County. There would be plenty of places that would host it for you, like I told you before.

DR. ROSENTHAL: I'm not going to answer the question, but we will consult on it among the members of the Commission.

MR. HAWLEY: When can we have an answer by? What time? (applause) Let me start with Mr. Doria. Would you favor having a Commission meeting at the shore?

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: I think we have to all sit down as a Commission and discuss that.

MR. HAWLEY: Can we have your word though, that you will take it into consideration, especially for the senior citizens of the Third District?

ASSEMBLYMAN DORIA: Through the Chairman, I think the Chairman is speaking for us.

MR. HAWLEY: Okay. Well, when can we expect an answer by, that we could--

DR. ROSENTHAL: We'll give you an answer in a few days.

MR. HAWLEY: Okay.

DR. ROSENTHAL: If we have a hearing you'll know about it in advance. Let me indicate that we have listened to a number of people here. We've been happy to listen to them, as long as there wasn't other people from other areas who wanted to make their views felt. We will undoubtedly be visiting with members of the shore community in Trenton, and we will be visiting with them in Camden as well. So, it's not as if we're not hearing. We're listening to representatives of the shore community.

In addition, you know that you can write, and you are writing. Each letter or postcard -- every communication -- is going to the Office of Legislative Services and Frank Parisi, who is staffing the Commission, is having these letters and postcards duplicated and they're being circulated to every member of the Commission. The ones I get, we're all sharing in that correspondence. So, we're getting the message and we're hearing, and we will consult on the issue of whether to have a fourth meeting at the shore.

MR. HAWLEY: Just so that you keep that in mind, as you know -- you've been in education a long time -- it's a lot different to submit a written statement as it is to hear people's individual stories, and their hopes and concerns about a particular area. I think you should at least try to afford the senior citizens of the Third District that chance, for a lot of them could not get here tonight who really wanted to go. As you know, it's a lot different when somebody appears in person as opposed to on a piece of paper. (applause)

DR. ROSENTHAL: Oh yeah. Any more testimony? (no response) Hearing no more requests for an opportunity to speak to the issue, I will adjourn the meeting and will resume the public hearings in Trenton on Friday. (applause)

(HEARING CONCLUDED)

