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To: Rep. Paul Mirski, Chairman, House Special Committee on Redistricting

From: Pam Smarling, Committee Researcher
House Committee Research

Date: April 21, 2011

RE: Allocation of Representative Seats to Cities;
Use of Floterials in City Districts

Although it may be the goal to assign a finite number of representatives to each of the thirteen cities in the state, committee members may want to consider noting that at least some cities could be combined with neighboring towns to create districts. Also, wards in some cities could be combined with neighboring towns.

This memorandum lists the cities that have wards too small to be assigned a representative seat. It also shows how floterials have been created in cities in the most recent decade in which floterials were included in the New Hampshire state representative plan.

Cities with Ideal Ward Populations that will not justify a full seat in the House

Assuming that every city retains the current number of wards that they now have, four cities will have ward populations too small to support a state representative seat.

| City | Current Wards | 2010 Population | Population/Wards |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Laconia | 6 | 15,951 | 2,568.5 |
| Berlin | 4 | 10,051 | 2,512.8 |
| Franklin | 3 | 8,477 | 2,825.7 |
| Somersworth | 5 | 11,766 | 2,353.2 |

Combining Cities with Towns

In the 2001-2011 districts, four cities were combined with neighboring towns to create city/town at-large districts.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Berlin, Milan and Success | 4 seats |
| Franklin and Hill | 3 seats |
| Somersworth and Rollinsford | 5 seats |
| Claremont, Lempster and Unity | 5 seats |

Use of Floterials

The 1991-2001 districts used floterials in the following ways. Examples of each type of different configuration are listed below.

Using city wards

Keene

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Ward 1 | 1 seat |
| Ward 2 | 1 seat |
| Ward 3 | 1 seat |
| Ward 4 | 1 seat |
| Ward 5 | 1 seat |
| *Wards, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | 3 seats |

Nashua

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Ward 1 | 3 seats |
| Ward 2 | 3 seats |
| Ward 3 | 3 seats |
| Ward 4 | 3 seats |
| Ward 5 | 3 seats |
| Ward 6 | 3 seats |
| Ward 7 | 3 seats |
| Ward 8 | 3 seats |
| Ward 9 | 3 seats |
| *Wards 1, 2, 3, 5 | 1 seat |
| *Wards 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 | 1 seat |

Dover

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Wards 1, 2, 3 | 4 seats |
| Wards 4, 5, 6 | 4 seats |
| *Wards, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 | 1 seat |

* indicates floterial district

Entire City combined with a Town to create a Floterial

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Lebanon | 4 seats |
| Enfield | 1 seat |
| *Lebanon and Enfield | 1 seat |

* indicates floterial district

City Wards combined with a Town in a Floterial

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Portsmouth Ward 1 | 1 seat |
| Portsmouth Ward 3 and Newington | 1 seat |
| Portsmouth Ward 4 | 2 seats |
| *Wards 1, 3 and 4, and Newington | 1 seat |

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Portsmouth Ward 2 | 1 seat |
| Portsmouth Ward 5 | 2 seats |
| *Wards 2 and 5 | 1 seat |

* indicates floterial district

If I can provide further information on this, please let me know.