I. CONVENE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM by Senator Kevin Kelly.

The following commission members were present: Senator Kevin Kelly, Senator Martin Looney, Senator Bob Duff, Senator Paul Formica, Representative Matt Ritter, Representative Vincent Candelora, Representative Jason Rojas, Representative Jason Perillo, John McKinney

Absent were:

II. OPENING REMARKS

Senator Kelly welcomed everyone and asked for any comments. Representative Ritter remarked that he is optimistic that the Commission will soon have a Congressional map ready to be voted on. Senator Kelly noted that the Commission has been working on this process during a pandemic which delayed Census data. Further, the change in legislation regarding the prison population played a part. He went on to remark that the pandemic also led to a difference in the way public hearings were conducted. Given all of that, the Commission was able to complete House and Senate maps. The Commission will now turn their focus to the Congressional map and asking the Supreme Court for an extension will allow the work to continue. Senator Looney then pointed out that ten years ago the Commission followed the same procedure and needed to ask the court for additional time to complete the Congressional map. Representative Candelora commented that it should be noted that this Commission has dealt with completing this process in unprecedented times. Census data was received five to six months later than typical and this led to a truncated process. Given this, an adequate amount of time hasn’t been available to discuss the Congressional map. An extension of three weeks should give the Commission appropriate time to complete the task.
III. Motion to Request an Extension of Time for the Commission to Adopt a Congressional Plan of Districting

Senator Kelly then read a letter to be sent to the Connecticut Attorney General from the Commission that will formally request an extension. It reads:

“We, the members of the 2021 Reapportionment Commission, respectfully request that your office file a petition with the Connecticut Supreme Court on our behalf and as registered voters, for the limited purpose of requesting that the court remand the duty of adopting a Congressional Plan of Redistricting back to the Commission until December 21, 2021.”

There was a motion to approve the letter from Representative Ritter and this was seconded by Senator Looney. After no further discussion a role call vote was taken and was unanimously approved.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Senator Kelly then thanked everyone again for their time and effort on the process. He asked for additional questions and seeing none, suggested adjournment. Senator Duff made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Representative Ritter and the meeting was adjourned by Senator Kelly at 3:42 PM.

Beth Waters
Administrator