

## Explanation of Assembly Majority Proposed Congressional Districts

The New York State Assembly's Congressional proposal meets equal population requirements, honors the Voting Rights Act of 1965 securing the voting rights of minority groups and incorporates the traditional redistricting principles of maintaining the existing cores of districts, making districts compact and contiguous, respecting municipal boundaries and avoiding contests between incumbent Representatives.

In this regard it must be noted that all current Congressional districts in New York have populations smaller than is the population that is required. All new districts must grow to meet the equal population standards under "one person, one vote," including all existing districts in the "covered counties." Because the "core" of the existing districts usually includes almost all of the protected communities, population expansion will, as a simple matter of arithmetic, produce a somewhat reduced percentage of the total for the protect community if it remains the same size.

### Equal Population

The 27 proposed Congressional Districts presented in the Assembly's Plan are drawn at 717,707 or 717,708, ensuring no greater than one person deviation between proposed districts. Each remaining district has to grow an average of 53,163 people to achieve that population.

### Voting Rights Act

The Voting Rights districts in the "covered counties" (Bronx, Kings and New York Counties) are preserved, ensuring protected groups continue to have the opportunity to elect Congressional Representatives of their choice.

There are nine districts with a majority minority population in the Assembly proposed plan. There are four incumbents who identify themselves as African-American and two incumbents who identify themselves as Latino or Latina. Three districts with a majority minority population have either a majority non-Hispanic black population (Districts 10 and 11 in Brooklyn) or a substantial plurality non-Hispanic black population (District 6 in Queens). Two majority minority population districts have a majority Hispanic population (District 14 in the Bronx and District 15 in the Bronx and Manhattan). Two majority minority districts have a substantial plurality Hispanic (District 7 in the Bronx and Queens and District 12 in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens). The remaining majority minority districts does not have a substantial plurality of any one racial or Hispanic group (District 5 in Queens and District 17 in the Bronx, Westchester and Rockland).

In the "covered counties" there are two districts with a majority non-Hispanic black population (District 10 and District 11 in Brooklyn) and two districts with a majority

Hispanic population (District 14 in the Bronx and District 15 in both the Bronx and Manhattan). In addition there is one effective Hispanic district (District 12 located in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens) which has a 44.82% Hispanic plurality. There is one district which has a substantial Hispanic plurality (44.42%) (District 7 located in the Bronx and Queens). District 7 also has 25.15% of its population who indicate that they are Asian.

There is one effective non-Hispanic black district (District 6) located outside the “covered counties” which has a 46.51% non-Hispanic black plurality.

There are two districts that have less than a majority non-Hispanic white residents but where no other group comprises a substantial plurality (District 5 in Queens and District 17 in the Bronx, Rockland and Westchester).

#### Preserving Existing Cores of Districts

The loss of two federally apportioned congressional seats creates pressure for growth in each Congressional District, often substantial growth. This requirement notwithstanding, the Assembly Congressional Redistricting Plan maintains the core of each district, minimizing displacement on most districts.

#### Making Districts Compact and Contiguous

The Assembly’s Congressional District approach upstate is to anchor districts in major cities and build around them to include each city’s metropolitan area; this results in a more compact and contiguous upstate map. The Assembly plan acknowledges each metropolitan area’s “brand” character, recognizes its unique economic and social challenges and ensures a single Representative will have the opportunity to focus his or her efforts on a major metropolitan region. The Assembly plan deviates from this approach in the Western New York area, where substantial testimony was offered at both LATFOR hearings in relation to dividing the African-American communities of the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls. The Assembly proposal keeps the communities together, maintaining the historical urban core of the district.

#### Respecting Municipal Boundaries

The Assembly’s Congressional proposal respects municipal boundaries and follows village lines on Long Island and city, town and county lines north of New York City. It includes two wholly contained seats in Queens County and maintains one wholly contained seat in Bronx County. Where cities have historically been divided in Buffalo and Yonkers, the Assembly Plan continues the split. 43 counties are undivided and remain whole.

## Avoiding Contests Between Incumbent Representatives

The Assembly recognizes the value of incumbency in relation to Congress, where seniority makes a considerable difference and acknowledges that were we to ignore incumbency, it would substantially disadvantage New York State. To that end, the Assembly Congressional Plan avoids pairing incumbent Representatives. However, the loss of two federally apportioned Congressional seats presents a challenge in this regard. The Assembly Plan meets this challenge by eliminating the currently configured 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District and pairing incumbent Queens Representatives Crowley and Turner in a wholly contained Queens County Congressional District. The newly configured 5<sup>th</sup> District consists of population from both Representative Turner's currently configured 9<sup>th</sup> District (335,310) and Representative Crowley's currently configured 7<sup>th</sup> District (242,586) -- more from the Republican incumbent than from the Democratic incumbent.

In situations where incumbents need to be located in the same district, efforts were made to prevent those pairings from having any partisan overtones. The three instances where incumbents are required to be in the same district involve two situations where an incumbent Democrat and an incumbent Republican are in the same district. In one of those two Republican-Democrat pairings (proposed District 20), the incumbent Democrat has already announced that he will not seek re-election in the Hudson Valley and his current district (old 22) has been eliminated as described in the previous paragraph. In the other, the incumbents have similar portions of their current district found in the proposed new district in Queens (District 5) as described previously. The other "pairing" occurs when two Democrats reside in a proposed new district on Long Island (District 2). There is one instance where a district has no current incumbent found within its borders (District 7).

### District 1

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	12.45%
NH Black	4.89%
NH Asian	3.67%
NH White	77.96%

The Assembly Congressional Plan preserves the core of the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. 92% of the population is the same as the district as currently configured, almost completely maintaining continuity of constituency. The Towns of East Hampton, South Hampton, Southold, Shelter Island, Poospatuck, Shinnecock and Riverhead are all wholly contained in this district; additionally the villages of Bellport, Patchogue, Shoreham, Lake Grove, Old Field, Poquott, Port Jefferson, Belle Terre, Head of the Harbor, Village of the Branch and Nissequogue all remain in this east end district This district is

represented by Congressman Timothy Bishop who, first elected in 2002, is completing his fifth term and gaining seniority. His committee assignments of Education and the Workforce and Transportation and Infrastructure are important both to his Long Island constituency and New York State, particularly East Side Access, a major federal project that creates Long Island Rail Road access to Grand Central Station, the New York metropolitan area's primary transportation hub.

Testimony regarding keeping the east end of Long Island intact was offered at the Farmingdale LATFOR hearing:

“First, the maps for new legislative districts must make geographic sense. Second, the critical industries to eastern Suffolk County's economy must be protected from political gerrymandering and not split and weakened so that they continue to be heard with a clear voice in Albany. And third, special attention must be paid to leaving communities intact.

Regina Calcaterra  
Partner, Barrick, Rodex and Basine  
Farmingdale, October 5, 2011

#### District 2

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	22.66%
NH Black	11.16%
NH Asian	7.30%
NH White	57.73%

The Assembly Congressional plan preserves the majority of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District as currently configured. 60.5% of the population remains constant, substantially maintaining continuity of constituency. The villages of Northport, Asharoken, Huntington Bay, Lloyd Harbor in Suffolk County and Laurel Hollow, Cove Neck, Oyster Bay Cove, Bayville, Centre Island, Mill Neck, Lattingtown, Matinecock, Upper Brookville, Muttontown, Brookville, Old Brookville, Sea Cliff, Roslyn Harbor, East Hills, Roslyn, Roslyn Estates, Old Westbury, Westbury, North Hills, Lake Success, Russell Gardens, Great Neck Estates, Great Neck Plaza, Kensington, Saddle Rock, Great Neck, Kings Point, Plandome Heights, Plandome, Plandome Manor, Munsey Park, Flower Hill, Sands Point, Port Washington North, Manorhaven and Baxter Estates in Nassau County are all wholly contained in this district. Additionally, the City of Glen Cove is wholly contained.

The primarily Hispanic communities of Brentwood, Central Islip, Islandia, North Bay Shore, Baywood and Bay Shore, which constitute a community of interest, remain in the

district. Compelling testimony in both the first and second rounds of LATFOR hearings focused on the importance of keeping this community of interest whole.

“The large and growing African-American and Latino communities in Nassau and Suffolk counties are concentrated in the same villages and hamlets. District boundaries that divide one group, diluting its voting power, divide both...Respect black, Hispanic and Asian-American communities and not cut them up for political reasons, even if the communities cannot make up a majority in a single district.”

Roderick Pearson, Pastor  
President Islip Town NAACP  
Farmingdale, October 5, 2011

“I live and vote in Brentwood. Please do not split my community in half. Please do not approve the maps that dilute my – and my community’s voting power. Our community needs unity more than ever.”

Denise Sandoval  
Long Island Progressive Coalition  
February 9, 2012

This district is currently represented by Congressman Steve Israel, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2000.

### District 3

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	8.38%
NH Black	1.96%
NH Asian	5.33%
NH White	83.66%

The Assembly Congressional proposal secures the core of the current 3<sup>rd</sup> District, substantially maintaining continuity of constituency. 65.98% of the population in the proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> District is currently represented by Congressman Peter King, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1992 and serves as Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, a critical assignment for a Member who represents communities hard hit by the events of September 11 and their aftermath. Representative King also serves on the Financial Services and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

The district includes portions of the towns of Brookhaven, Islip, Babylon, Smithtown, Hempstead and Oyster Bay. The villages of Ocean Beach, Saltaire, Brightwaters, Babylon and Lindenhurst in Suffolk County and Farmingdale and Massapequa Park in Nassau County are wholly contained in this proposed district.

#### District 4

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	19.60%
NH Black	18.27%
NH Asian	8.22%
NH White	52.35%

The Assembly Congressional plan preserves the footprint of the currently configured 4<sup>th</sup> District; 84.87% of the population in this proposed district remains constant. This proposed district includes the City of Long Beach and the villages of Freeport, Hempstead, Garden City, Rockville Centre, Malverne, Valley Stream, Lynbrook, East Rockaway, Hewlitt Harbor, Hewlitt Bay Park, Cedarhurst, Hewlitt Neck, Woodsburgh, Lawrence, Atlantic Beach, Island Park, Stewart Manor, South Floral Park, Floral Park, Bellerose, New Hyde Park, Mineola and East Williston are all wholly contained. The district as currently configured is short 54,300 residents to complete the district. The Assembly proposes expanding into the Queens neighborhoods of Douglaston and Little Neck to meet equal population requirements. The district is currently represented by Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1996, building 16 years of seniority. Her current committee assignments include Education and the Workforce and Financial Services.

#### District 5

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	27.63%
NH Black	4.57%
NH Asian	24.67%
NH White	41.30%

The Assembly Congressional plan creates a second district wholly contained in Queens County, merging the Queens portions of the currently configured 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> districts. The loss of 2 districts requires pairing 4 incumbents; this district includes one such pairing. Representatives Crowley and Turner share the population with a split of (35% from Congressman Crowley's current district and 46% from Congressman Turner's current district.

This Queens County district includes the neighborhoods of Breezy Point, Roxbury, Neponsit, Belle Harbor, Rockaway Park, Seaside, parts of Howard Beach, Lindenwood and South Ozone Park, Ozone Park, Glendale, Ridgewood, Middle Village, Maspeth, Kew Gardens Hills, Forest Hills, Rego Park, Lefrak City, part of Pomonok, Sunnyside Gardens, Elmhurst, East Elmhurst, Astoria Heights College Point, Malba, Whitestone and Beechhurst.

## District 6

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	18.87%
NH Black	46.51%
NH Asian	14.87%
NH White	12.29%

The Assembly Congressional plan keeps the current 6<sup>th</sup> District intact, expanding by 65,943 people in the Briarwood, Hillcrest, Jamaica Estates Broach Channel and Belaire neighborhoods and maintaining the footprint of this wholly contained Queens district. This proposed district is 46.51% Black, 18.87% Hispanic and 14.87% Asian. The district as currently configured is 49.8% Black, 18.98% Hispanic and 13.27% Asian. 90% of the newly configured district comes from the currently configured 6<sup>th</sup> District.

This proposed district is currently represented by Congressman Gregory Meeks, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1998. He currently serves on the Financial Services and Foreign Affairs committees.

## District 7

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	44.42%
NH Black	11.90%
NH Asian	25.15%
NH White	16.95%

The Assembly Congressional plan's 7<sup>th</sup> District includes neighborhoods in both southern Bronx and northern Queens counties. 57% of the proposed district is in Queens and 43% in the Bronx.

The Queens portion of this newly configured district include the neighborhoods of Beechhurst, Bay Terrace, Bayside, Auburndale, Flushing, North Corona and Jackson Heights; the Bronx portion includes the neighborhoods of City Island, Pelham Bay, Westchester Square, Unionport, Schuylerville, Edgewater Park, Throgs Neck, Soundview, Castle Hill, Longwood, Hunts Point, Mott Haven and Port Morris.

This newly configured Queens/Bronx district is 44.42% Hispanic, 11.9% Black and 25.15% Asian.

48% of the proposed 7<sup>th</sup> District is currently represented by Congressman Gary Ackerman and would provide him a chance to continue his relationship with constituents he represents. Congressman Ackerman was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1982, building nearly three decades of seniority. He currently serves on the Financial Services and Foreign Affairs Committees as well as the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, important assignments to a community deeply affected by September 11.

#### District 8

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	10.64%
NH Black	4.50%
NH Asian	13.59%
NH White	70.27%

The Assembly Congressional plan maintains the traditional division of the east and west sides of Manhattan. The 8<sup>th</sup> District encompasses Manhattan's west side in New York County and portions of southern Brooklyn in Kings County. The proposed district is substantially the same as the district as currently configured, including the Upper West Side, Lincoln Square, Clinton, Chelsea, West Village, Tribeca and Battery Park City neighborhoods in Manhattan and Brighton Beach, Coney Island and Sea Gate neighborhoods in Brooklyn. Additional population in the southern Brooklyn neighborhoods of Sheepshead Bay, Manhattan Beach, Gerritson Beach, Mill Island, Mill Basin and Marine Park are added to complete the district.

The 8<sup>th</sup> District is represented by Congressman Jerold Nadler, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1992, building two decades of seniority and longstanding relationships with the constituents he represents.

At a Brooklyn LATFOR hearing, testimony regarding Congressman Nadler's relationship with the Borough Park community was presented:

“On the federal level, Borough Park is currently represented by the Honorable Jerry Nadler, who has been active in advocating for the needs of this community, for instance, introducing legislation to ensure that settlements paid to survivors are exempt from federal taxes, supporting and helping Jewish institutions who deal with survivors and look after their health; lobbying the governments of Europe to retain Jewish monuments and cemeteries and speaking out against anti-Semitism in all its forms.”

Joel Rosenfeld, Member Bobov Hasidic Community  
Brooklyn September 20, 2011

Further testimony regarding Congressman Nadler's relationship with his constituents in Coney Island was presented as well:

“One of the many common denominators and unifying factors of the various communities served by Congressman Nadler is the large number of senior citizens in general, and Jewish senior citizens in particular that reside in the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. In fact, the community district 13, in which the Coney Island and Seagate communities are located, have the highest concentration of seniors in the entire city of New York.”

“During his long, prestigious career, Congressman Nadler has come to know the needs of the district and has continuously addressed them. Among other things, he has supported institutions such as the Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island, all of the other social services agencies in the area which directly outreach to the elderly and to the poor and other populations that are in need of assistance. He's advocated on behalf of Holocaust survivors. He's been a tireless advocate for federal programs that support the elderly, such as Medicare and food stamps, Medicaid and Social Security.”

Rabbi Moshe Wiener  
Executive Director, Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island  
Brooklyn September 20, 2011

#### District 9

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	16.41%
NH Black	7.15%
NH Asian	14.88%
NH White	60.56%

The Assembly Congressional plan stabilizes the 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, holding constant its Richmond County core and the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bath Beach, Bay Ridge and Fort Hamilton, adding residents in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bensonhurst and.

65% of the population of the 9<sup>th</sup> District resides in Richmond County; 35% reside in Kings County.

#### District 10

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	15.91%
NH Black	51.33%
NH Asian	5.51%
White	25.57%

The Assembly Congressional plan preserves the footprint of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District as currently configured, shifting some population to the 11<sup>th</sup> District and supplementing the remaining population with additional Brooklyn residents, ensuring it remains a wholly contained Kings County district. 82% of the district as currently configured comprises the heart of the proposed district. The Census Bureau reports that the 10<sup>th</sup> District is 58.74% Black; the Black population of the 10<sup>th</sup> District as proposed is 51.33%. New York City's Black population loss of 100,000 helps explain this city district's Black population loss.

This proposed district is currently represented by Congressman Edolphus Towns, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1982, building two decades of seniority. Congressman Towns serves on the Energy and Commerce and Oversight and Government Reform committees.

#### District 11

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	13.14%
NH Black	51.65%
NH Asian	5.45%
NH White	27.94%

The Assembly Congressional plan maintains the core of the 11<sup>th</sup> District, preserving its compact geography and expanding at the margins to meet equal population requirements. 85% of this wholly contained Kings County district as proposed is unchanged; 85,299 additional residents were needed to complete the district. The Census Bureau reports that the 11<sup>th</sup> District is 53.50% Black; the Black population of the 11<sup>th</sup> District as proposed is 51.62%. The combined pressure of expanding over 85,000 residents and substantial loss of Black population in New York City explains the proportional loss of Black population.

The 11<sup>th</sup> District is currently represented by Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2006. She serves on the Homeland Security and Small Business Committees.

#### District 12

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	44.82%
NH Black	8.31%
NH Asian	19.26%
NH White	25.88%

The Assembly Congressional plan secures the populations in the three-county 12<sup>th</sup> District currently represented by Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, supplementing the current 672,358 residents with residents in the Sunset Park neighborhood of Brooklyn and the Sunnyside Gardens and Woodhaven neighborhoods in Queens.

The Asian populations of Manhattan's Chinatown and Sunset Park in Brooklyn remain within the proposed Congressional District. The preservation of these closely tied but geographically separated neighborhoods was noted and urged in testimony offered at several LATFOR public hearings:

“Here in New York the Federal Court in *Diaz v. Silver*, and Eastern District of New York Case in 1997, recognized that Asian-Americans in Manhattan's Chinatown and Brooklyn's Sunset Park were a community of interest that should be kept together within the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.”

Jerry Vatomala, staff attorney  
AALDEF  
Queens, September 7, 2011

The county division of the proposed district is 65.42% Kings, 11.76% New York and 22.82% Queens.

The Assembly proposed 12<sup>th</sup> District is 44.82% Hispanic and 19.26% Asian. The currently configured 12<sup>th</sup> District is 44.55% Hispanic and 18.64% Asian.

Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1992 and currently serves on the Financial Services and Small Business committees.

#### District 13

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	14.37%
NH Black	5.01%
NH Asian	14.88%
NH White	64.35%

The Assembly Congressional plan substantially maintains the continuity of constituency in the 13<sup>th</sup> District, which is anchored in east side New York County and includes the

Steinway, Astoria, Ravenswood, Long Island City and Hunter's Point neighborhoods of Queens County. The proposed district also includes Roosevelt Island. 88.8% of the population in the proposed 13<sup>th</sup> District is situated in the current 14<sup>th</sup> District, represented by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney.

Congresswoman Maloney, first elected to the House of Representatives in 1992, has built two decades of seniority and currently serves on the Financial Services and Oversight and Government Reform Committees.

Testimony presented at the first Manhattan LATFOR hearing supported maintaining the traditional East Side - West Side division on Manhattan congressional districts.

“No one who is familiar with East and West sides of Manhattan could suggest that their constituencies are the same. They are both great but they are different. And the issues faced by the various neighborhoods are different...I strongly urge that the East and West side Congressional districts not be consolidated.”

Gale Brewer  
Member, New York City Council  
Manhattan, September 21, 2011

Further testimony related to Congresswoman Maloney's longstanding relationships with her constituents was offered during LATFOR hearings:

“My name is Linda Heimer, and I've been actively involved in the Roosevelt Island community for 19 years...I was mugged on the subway, became very active. I set up a task force. Congresswoman Carolyn – was my first – was at my first and subsequent meetings and was instrumental in securing funding needed to install closed circuit TV cameras, enunciators and other safety measures in the station leading to Roosevelt Island.”

Linda Heimer  
Manhattan, September 21, 2011

“Our area benefits from having a Member of Congress like Carolyn Maloney who represents a multitude of museums and other arts organizations, who works with the large local and the small cultural – the small and the large cultural institutions and fights to ensure they receive their fair share of federal dollars. I believe it is vital to have a Member of Congress who is familiar with the economic importance to our city of these local arts organizations.”

Leida Snow  
Manhattan, September 21, 2011

“My name is Loula Loi Alofoyiannis, and I’m the president and CEO of the Euro-American Women’s Council and very active member of the Hellenic American community since 1974. In my view, there is a natural connection between Western Queens and East Side Manhattan. They should be drawn together. Western Queens is at the heart of the Hellenic community in the United States but our Archdiocese is headquartered also on the East Side and many of our organizations are located there and many members of our community live there. As a Greek-American woman I can tell you that no matter – no Member of Congress was paying attention to Greek issues until the two areas were united. Recognizing the importance of our community in the district, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney created the Hellenic Caucus in the Congress...our issues have received the attention they deserve.”

Loula Loi Alofoyiannis  
President, Euro-American Women’s Council  
Queens, September 7, 2011

“More people of Hellenic ancestry live in Astoria than in any urban area outside of Greece. While so many of us live in Queens, many of our organizations are headquartered on the East Side of Manhattan, including our cathedral, the headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Church. Despite the presence of so many Hellenes in western Queens, our issues were largely ignored until our community was united with the East Side of Manhattan. By joining these communities of interest together, Hellenes finally received the attention we deserve. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney listened to our concerns and formed the Hellenic Caucus.”

George Malandrakis  
Queens, September 7, 2011

#### District 14

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	59.23%
NH Black	28.87
NH Asian	3.16%
NH White	7.27%

In creating the 14<sup>th</sup> District, the Assembly Congressional proposal secures the foundation of the 16<sup>th</sup> District as it is currently configured. Wholly contained in Bronx County, the proposed 14<sup>th</sup> District is comprised of 71.57% of the currently configured 16<sup>th</sup> District.

Population expansion into the Bedford Park, Norwood, Pelham Parkway, Pelham Gardens, Morris Park and Van Nest neighborhoods was required to accommodate population shifts from Bronx and Queens County Congressional Districts.

Hispanic population in the proposed district is 59.23%; Hispanic population in the currently configured 16<sup>th</sup> District is 66.52%.

This district is represented by Congressman Jose Serrano, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1990, has built more than two decades of seniority in Congress. He currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee, a beneficial assignment for his Bronx constituents and all New Yorkers.

#### District 15

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	51.04%
NH Black	25.82%
NH Asian	4.42%
NH White	17.33%

The Assembly Congressional plan substantially maintains the continuity of constituency of the currently configured district; 83.73% of the population in the proposed congressional district comes from the currently configured 15<sup>th</sup> District.

The district holds its Harlem anchor and northern Manhattan neighborhoods of Spanish Harlem, Morningside Heights, Washington Heights, Manhattanville, Hamilton Heights and Inwood, consisting of 601,940 residents and includes an additional 115,790 in the Marble Hill and University Heights neighborhoods in Bronx County.

The importance of securing a Harlem-based district cannot be overstated; since 1945, Harlem has been represented by just two Members of Congress – Adam Clayton Powell and Charles Rangel. The Harlem-based district was acknowledged as an important and nurturing cradle for the civil rights movement and the social, cultural and economic center for Americans of African descent. The importance of this Harlem district is not important only as an historical symbol. Congressman Rangel’s seniority and influence have helped his northern Manhattan constituents, the African-American community across New York State and the African-American community across the United States.

The currently configured 15<sup>th</sup> District is 46.14% Hispanic and 26.9% Black; the Assembly proposed 15<sup>th</sup> District is 50.99% Hispanic and 25.84% Black.

The 15<sup>th</sup> District is currently represented by Congressman Charles Rangel. Congressman Rangel was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1970; he is one of the most senior Members of Congress, and currently serves on the Ways and Means Committee.

#### District 16

Total Population	717,708
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Hispanic	22.66%
NH Black	16.13%
NH Asian	5.63%
NH White	54.39%

The Assembly Congressional Plan's 16<sup>th</sup> District preserves the core of the currently configured 18<sup>th</sup> District including the towns of Ossining, New Castle, North Castle, Mt. Pleasant, Harrison, Mamaroneck, Rye and Pelham and the cities of Rye, White Plains and New Rochelle and part of the City of Yonkers and most of the town of Greenburgh. The district expands into the northern Westchester towns of Mt. Kisco, Pound Ridge, Lewisboro, Cortlandt and part of Yorktown as well as the City of Peekskill; it also expands into part of the city of Mt. Vernon and also south into Co-Op City in Bronx County. 74.44% of the proposed 16<sup>th</sup> District population is in the currently configured 18<sup>th</sup> District.

This stable proposed district is 22.66% Hispanic and 16.13% Black.

This District is currently represented by Congresswoman Nita Lowey, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1988 and has built more than two decades of seniority in Congress. She currently serves as a member of the House Appropriations Committee and is the Ranking Member on the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### District 17

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	20.63%
NH Black	23.35%
NH Asian	5.70%
NH White	48.75%

The Assembly Congressional proposal's 17<sup>th</sup> District population is substantially stable relative to the currently configured 17<sup>th</sup> District. 76.20% of the population in the Assembly proposed district is held constant, including the Bronx neighborhoods of Riverdale, North Riverdale, Fieldston, Woodlawn, Wakefield, Williamsbridge, Edenwald and part of the town of Greenburgh and parts of the cities of Yonkers and Mt. Vernon and the Rockland County towns of and the towns of Ramapo, Orangetown and part of Clarkstown. The proposed district expands into the Westchester County Town of Easchester and Rockland County is wholly contained.

The currently configured 17<sup>th</sup> District is 25.57% Hispanic and 30.38% Black; the Assembly proposed district is 20.66% Hispanic and 23.35% Black.

Testimony was offered at the Westchester LATFOR hearing in relation to keeping Rockland County wholly contained in a single congressional district:

“Let me state up front – we view the current congressional districting process – redistricting correct a gross injustice imposed upon the people of Rockland County, in the adoption on June 5, 2002 of the legislation that established our current congressional districts. Up until that time, Rockland – the smallest land mass county outside the boroughs of New York City, composed – along with a small portion of Orange County, the former 20<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. And for 30 years, we had one congressional representative, the great statesman Ben Gilman. Our current representatives, notably Nita Lowey and Eliot Engel – carry on in that very fine tradition. The legislation in 2002 carved up Rockland County into three districts.”

“...we find justification to reunite Rockland County, and return our constituents to a single Congressional representative, a single Congressional champion to represent all of us equally.”

Jan Degenshein  
Westchester, August 10, 2011

This district is currently represented by Congressman Eliot Engel, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, building 24 years of seniority. His current committee assignments include Energy and Commerce and Foreign Affairs.

#### District 18

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	12.36%
NH Black	8.47%
NH Asian	3.11%
NH White	74.94%

The Assembly Congressional proposal holds the northern Westchester, Putnam and lower Dutchess County and east Orange County towns of the currently configured 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District as the anchor of this lower Hudson River district. The Assembly proposes expansion north into the balance of Dutchess County, keeping it wholly contained. Facilitating the elimination of the currently configured 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District, the Assembly proposes expanding into Ulster County to ensure no single district absorbs so much of the 22<sup>nd</sup> District that a seated incumbent is disadvantaged.

This district is currently represented by Congresswoman Nan Hayworth, who was first elected in 2010. She is on the Financial Services Committee.

#### District 19

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	8.88%
NH Black	5.30%
NH Asian	2.05%
NH White	82.67%

The Assembly Congressional Plan preserves much of the existing core of the currently configured 20<sup>th</sup> District, expanding into Northern Ulster, Sullivan and Orange counties to absorb population to facilitate the elimination of the 22<sup>nd</sup> District. Northern Washington County is ceded to meet population requirements for Congressional Districts to the north. Columbia, Greene, Delaware and Sullivan counties are wholly contained in this district.

This district is represented by Congressman Chris Gibson who was elected in 2010. He is on the Armed Services Committee and the Agriculture Committee.

#### District 20

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	2.51%
NH Black	2.96%
NH Asian	1.66%
NH White	91.93%

The Assembly Congressional proposal creates a newly configured rural district that includes the wholly contained counties of Essex, Warren, Herkimer, Fulton, Otsego, Chenango, Cortland and Broome. Portions of Washington, Saratoga, Oneida, Madison and Tioga counties are included to meet the population requirements. 40.41% of the population in this newly configured district is currently represented by Congressman Richard Hanna, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2010. His committee assignments include Transportation and Infrastructure, Small Business and Education and the Workforce for this largely rural district, which includes three State University of New York campuses (Oneonta, Cortland and Binghamton).

#### District 21

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	5.22%
NH Black	9.48%

NH Asian	3.75%
NH White	79.99%

The Assembly Congressional Plan maintains the core of the existing district, fusing the entirety of Albany, Montgomery, Schenectady and Schoharie counties with the cities of Rensselaer and Troy in Rensselaer County and the City of Saratoga Springs in Saratoga County. This district, in keeping with the Assembly’s upstate approach, anchors the urban core of the Capital District and includes its surrounding metropolitan area.

88.9% of this district is currently part of the district represented by Paul Tonko, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2009. His Science, Space and Technology Committee assignment is relevant to the high-tech corridor being developed in the Capital Region. The State University of New York’s Albany campus is home to the premier Nano-Tech lab in the nation and the development of chip manufacturing facilities in Malta are making New York’s Capital District a notable high-tech corridor that enhances economic and educational opportunities.

#### District 22

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	3.65%
NH Black	8.84%
NH Asian	3.73%
NH White	82.11%

The Assembly Congressional Plan preserves Onondaga County as the core of the 22<sup>nd</sup> District. Onondaga County represents 69.8% of the currently configured 25<sup>th</sup> District, which is home to 668,869 residents. As the anchor of the proposed 22<sup>nd</sup> District, Onondaga County would comprise 65.1% of the total population. The balance of the Assembly proposed 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District includes the whole counties of Cayuga (80,026 total population), Tompkins (101,564 total population) and nearly all of Madison (73,442 total population), where the Town of Hamilton is divided and the Town of Brookfield lands in an adjoining district.

Oral testimony at both rounds of LATFOR hearings demonstrated community support for keeping Onondaga County whole and continuing its status as the core of a newly configured Congressional District. Representatives of government, business and political interests from both major parties echoed this sentiment:

“We’ve got two key recommendations on behalf of our organization. The first one, keep county and metro areas as whole as possible, especially in congressional redistricting. It is beneficial to both the citizens and those representatives, either at the state or federal

level to have a clear identification with an area of common interest and economic interconnectedness.”

The Congresswoman representing this district is Ann Marie Buerkle and she serves on Foreign Affairs, Oversight, and Government Reform Committees.

Debra Warner  
Vice President of Public Policy  
Center State Corporation for Economic Development  
Syracuse, July 19, 2011

“I believe it is important to allow Onondaga to maintain an opportunity to keep at a minimum one congressional representative that understands our community and our regional needs. I believe keeping Onondaga’s representation under one member of Congress is the best approach considering that no matter how these new lines are drawn Onondaga County’s more than 500,000 residents would likely represent the lion’s share of the constitutionally required 719,000+ residents. Due to our large population, I believe it would be a disservice to slice our county into multiple parts because it would dilute our voice in Congress and not accurately reflect the concerns of this region.”

Thomas Dadey, Chairman  
Onondaga County Republican Committee  
Syracuse, July 19, 2011

“Syracuse is one of our state’s significant cities, as you said a metropolitan area. It is a significant part of our county’s identity and our community’s identity. It is a significant center for Central New York. Segmenting the Central New York hub area, Onondaga County could derail the political, social and economic progress and goals achieved for the people in this county over the years. Syracuse, New York is a center and needs to retain its radius of influence and direct association around it, thus leaving Onondaga County intact at the congressional level will continue to provide fair representation at the federal level for Central New York residents. The idea of splitting Central New York into two or three slices at the congressional level is essentially splitting people – it’s an attack on their representation and the commonalities that are being formed in this region.”

Vita DeMarchi, Chair  
Onondaga County Democratic Committee  
Syracuse, July 19, 2011

An additional virtue of this proposed district is the joining of both of Central New York’s major university centers, Syracuse and Cornell universities, acknowledging and fusing an important community of interest.

### District 23

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	3.48%
NH Black	4.37%
NH Asian	1.73%
NH White	88.68%

The Assembly Congressional Plan maintains the core of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District; 74.81% of the population in the currently configured district remains. The proposed district includes the whole counties of Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego counties and expands into most of Oneida County. This proposed district maintains the character of New York's North Country, typically defined as Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Jefferson and Lewis Counties. The St. Lawrence Seaway and Lake Champlain are unifying social and economic factors in this district. Substantially the same as the current district, the expansion further into Oneida County includes the small cities of Utica and Rome. This district contains several State University of New York campuses, including Plattsburgh, Canton, Potsdam and Oswego.

Congressman Bill Owens represents this district. He serves on the Agriculture, Armed Services and Small Business Committees. He was first elected in 2008.

### District 24

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	2.25%
NH Black	3.54%
NH Asian	1.13%
NH White	91.94%

The Assembly Congressional proposal for this rural central and western New York district includes the whole counties of Wayne, Seneca, Yates, Schuyler, Chemung Steuben, Allegany, Wyoming and Livingston and portions of Monroe, Genesee, Ontario and Tioga counties. 41% of the population in this rural district are currently represented by Congressman Tom Reed, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2010. Congressman Reed's committee assignment is Ways and Means.

### District 25

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	7.38%
NH Black	15.43%

NH Asian	3.65%
NH White	72.45%

The state Assembly proposes that the newly configured 25<sup>th</sup> District be anchored by the City of Rochester in Monroe County and includes eastern and southern Monroe County suburbs. The proposed district also includes the cities of Canandaigua and Geneva, encompassing most of Ontario County. Separating the eastern and western anchors of the currently configured 29<sup>th</sup> District is in keeping with the Assembly’s approach, particularly upstate, to use urban centers as congressional district anchors and incorporate the surrounding metropolitan areas as sound redistricting principles that result in more compact districts that share social and cultural institutions and media markets.

The proposed 25<sup>th</sup> District is currently represented by Congresswoman Louise Slaughter who, first elected to the House of Representatives in 1986, has built more than two decades of seniority, which earned her an assignment on the critically important House Rules Committee.

#### District 26

Total Population	717,708
Hispanic	2.56%
NH Black	15.60%
NH Asian	2.76%
NH White	77.71%

The 26<sup>th</sup> Congressional District as currently configured must expand population by 42,903. The Assembly Congressional plan consolidates the western portion of the existing 28<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (which is currently represented by Monroe County Congresswoman Louise Slaughter) with the western portions of the 26<sup>th</sup> District, creating a second solid Western New York district that is geographically compact. This proposed District continues the historical connection of the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls. It includes the entirety of the counties of Niagara and Orleans and all but five towns in Genesee County. This proposed district is 15.60% Black.

In both LATFOR Buffalo hearings, testimony was offered that supports joining communities of color centered in Erie County’s City of Buffalo and Niagara County’s City of Niagara Falls.

The August hearing included testimony directly related to Congressional redistricting:

“I think in the case of the 28<sup>th</sup>, what it did was empower people of color for an opportunity to not, you know, next year – maybe not two years from now, but to have the

option of being able to elect a representative of color. There's not any other district, quite frankly, in upstate New York that provides that opportunity. The vast majority of the African-American community and Latino community in Rochester and Buffalo and certainly I believe Niagara Falls as well, are located within the 28<sup>th</sup>. Now, that spans two counties and a lot of different communities and different media outlets, but it also puts a group of people in a position where if they wanted to two years from now – four years from now – or even next year if they wanted to put forth a candidate that would have an opportunity to be elected, then they'd have that opportunity. If that changes, then they don't have that – at least not in Western New York.”

Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes  
Buffalo, August 18, 2011

The February hearing included several Western New York residents protesting the division of the Buffalo and Niagara Falls African-American communities in the proposed state Senate plan. Though the protest was specifically related to the state Senate lines, the sentiment echoes that voiced at the August hearing by Assemblywoman Peoples-Stokes: Don't divide the community.

“The idea is to create a redistricting plan that separates the two African-American communities; the one in Niagara Falls; the one in Buffalo so collectively they will not have enough voting power to elect one of their own.”

Frank Messiah, NACCP Buffalo  
Buffalo, February 16, 2012

“Both cities are the urban core of Western New York. And they share characteristics...there is every reason to keep these areas together so they have a more united and stronger voice (in Albany)”

Janet Massaro  
Buffalo, February 16, 2012

“This plan would result in African-Americans having less opportunity than the rest of the electorate to participate in the electoral process and elect a representative of our choice.”

Shirley Hamilton  
Buffalo, February 16, 2012

This proposed district is currently represented by Congresswoman Kathy Hochul, who was elected in a special election in 2011 and has not yet completed a full term.

## District 27

Total Population	717,707
Hispanic	5.65%
NH Black	5.52%
NH Asian	1.48%
NH White	85.66%

The Assembly Congressional plan secures the core of Western New York's 27<sup>th</sup> District. The US Bureau of Census reports 2010 population here as 629,271, 88,436 short of a complete congressional district. Supplementing this district, which includes part of Erie and all of Chautauqua County with Cattaraugus County (80,317 total population) nearly completes the district. Moving the Town of Alden to an adjacent district and including a portion of the Erie County Town of Lancaster completes the district.

86.69% of the proposed district is currently represented by Congressman Brian Higgins, who was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2004. His current committee assignments include Foreign Affairs and Homeland Security, important assignments to US border communities.