

REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEEBenjamin L. Brown, *Chairperson*

Appointed by Governor (who named chair): Donna M. Felling; Norman M. Glasgow, Sr.; Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Senate President; R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr., House Speaker.

c/o Office of Planning
301 West Preston St., Room 1101
Baltimore, MD 21201—2365 (410) 225-4500

In May 1991, the Governor formed the Redistricting Advisory Committee. The Committee made recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on boundary changes for legislative and Congressional election districts. The changes reflected shifts in Maryland's population as recorded in the federal census of 1990. The Office of Planning provided staff for the Committee, and the Office of the Attorney General provided legal advice and assistance.

Congressional Redistricting. The Redistricting Advisory Committee held 15 public hearings across the State and received numerous recommended plans before announcing a proposal in August. Those hearings showed a public consensus for: 1) creating a minority district in the Washington suburbs; and 2) keeping intact three regions—Western Maryland, Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore.

The plan proposed by the Committee on August 20, 1991, contained certain features common to all plans that were to pass either house of the General Assembly. Those features were a minority district in the Washington suburbs that did not have an incumbent; a district that included all three Southern Maryland counties; a district that included Garrett, Allegany and Washington counties, and at least part of Frederick County; and a Baltimore City district with a minority population of over 70 percent.

After a public hearing on September 3, 1991, the Committee approved a second plan that month. Introduced as House Bill 7, the plan passed the House of Delegates on September 25, 1991, the first day of the Special Session. On the same day, the Senate passed Senate Bill 13 which was based on the Committee's August proposal. On the next day, the Senate amended House Bill 7 to be identical to Senate Bill 13 and passed it. The House took no action on Senate Bill 13, but recessed until October 21, 1991—three days before the Special Session would have been required by law to end.

On September 30, 1991, while the House of Delegates was still in recess, the Senate passed Senate Bill 14. On October 3, 1991, the House returned and passed House Bill 10. A week later, a conference committee was appointed on House Bill 10. The conference committee, consisting of Senators Pica, Blount, and Miller, and Delegates Kopp, Arnick, and

Mitchell, reached an agreement on October 21, 1991. The Senate adopted the conference committee report. On October 22, 1991, the House adopted the conference committee report.

House Bill 10 satisfied the Legislature's goals of creating a viable minority district in the Washington suburbs and keeping intact the three major regions that surround the center of the State. The bill was signed by the Governor on October 23, 1991 (Chapter 4, Acts of Special Session of 1991).

Legislative Redistricting. The Redistricting Advisory Committee developed a legislative districting plan for the Governor. In June 1991, the Committee adopted the publicly announced legal guidelines setting forth the criteria that were to guide its work. The Committee also scheduled a series of public hearings in the summer of 1991, and one in December 1991. Approximately 300 persons testified at the summer public hearings and another one hundred in December.

The Committee invited the public to make written submissions and proposed plans. The Committee considered over 42 proposed plans and extensive other submissions. The Committee incorporated many of these suggestions in its plan considered at the December 10 public hearing and in its final recommendation to the Governor on December 17, 1991. On January 8, 1992, the Governor submitted to the General Assembly the Legislative Districting Plan of 1992. That plan became law as Joint Resolution nos. 9 and 10 on February 21, 1992, when the General Assembly failed to enact a plan of its own.

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTIONSidney Kramer, *Chairperson*

Appointed by Governor (who named chair): Ronald L. Bowers; Edward B. Burger; Winifred W. Carpenter; Charles I. Ecker, Ph.D.; Noel T. Farmer, Jr., Ed.D.; Robert A. Gorsuch, Ed.D.; Vincent O. Leggett; Kevin G. Quinn, Esq.; Eileen M. Rehrmann; Dianne C. Smith, R.N.; Robert L. Swann; Edward B. L. Todd.

Nominated by Senate President: Clarence W. Blount; Arthur Dorman.

Nominated by House Speaker: Gene W. Counihan; Howard P. Rawlings.

Ex officio: Lucille Maurer, State Treasurer; Martin W. Walsh, Jr., Secretary of General Services; Nancy S. Grasmick, Ph.D., State Superintendent of Schools; Ronald M. Kreitner, Director of Planning.

c/o Executive Director
Public School Construction Program
200 West Baltimore St.
Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 333-2505