



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Civil Rights Division

*Office of the Assistant Attorney General*

*Washington, D.C. 20530*

**MAR 14 2012**

The Honorable E. Duncan Getchell, Jr.  
Solicitor General  
Office of the Attorney General  
900 East Main Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Solicitor General Getchell:

This refers to Chapter 1 (H.B. 251) (2012), which redistricts the congressional districts for the State of Virginia, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submission on February 2, 2012; additional information was received on February 6, 2012.

The Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the specified change. However, we note that Section 5 expressly provides that the failure of the Attorney General to object does not bar subsequent litigation to enjoin the enforcement of the change. Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 28 C.F.R. 51.41.

Because the Section 5 status of the redistricting plan is before the court in *Virginia v. Holder*, Civil Action No. 1:12-cv-00148 (D.D.C.), we are providing a copy of this letter to the Court and to counsel of record in that case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. E. Perez", written in a cursive style.

Thomas E. Perez  
Assistant Attorney General