



The House of Representatives

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JOE CRABB • STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 127

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FEB 13 2003

OPINION COMMITTEE

RQ-0017-GA

February 11, 2003

The Honorable Greg Abbott
Attorney General of Texas
Attn: Opinions Committee
PO Box 12548
Austin, TX 78711-2548

FILE # ML-42974-03
I.D. # 042974

Re: Opinion Request

Dear General Abbott:

As chairman of the House Committee on Redistricting, I am requesting an official opinion on the subject of congressional redistricting. I am requesting this from you since you are the chief legal officer of the State of Texas.

As you know, the congressional redistricting process was not addressed by the 77th Legislature. Therefore, a three-judge federal panel drew the map for the 2002 General Election, reflecting the 32 congressional districts awarded to the State of Texas.

I would like your official opinion as to the Legislature's legal rights and responsibilities. Was the map drawn by the three-judge panel a de novo map for the 2002 elections, since the Legislature had not acted? Does the Legislature have a mandated responsibility to enact a permanent map for the electoral period 2003 through 2010?

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Joe Crabb

JC/jay

Original by certified mail: 7001 2510 0008 9006 2526

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