

February 1, 2022

To: The Honorable Sarah Copeland Hanzas, Chair  
House Government Operations Committee

From: Edith A. Miller  
On behalf of the East Montpelier Board of Civil Authority

The East Montpelier Board of Civil Authority (BCA) supports the redistricting map currently under consideration by the committee. In our opinion, the inclusion of East Montpelier, in its entirety, in the WAS-5 district meets the three (non-numerical) criteria outlined in 17 V.S.A. § 1903 (b) (1-3) which read as follows:

- (1) preservation of existing political subdivision lines;
- (2) recognition and maintenance of patterns of geography, social interaction, trade, political ties, and common interests;
- (3) use of compact and contiguous territory

The initial draft redistricting map introduced by the Legislative Apportionment Board (LAB) had assigned parts of East Montpelier to two different districts. The East Montpelier BCA spoke out strongly against that plan. The letter the BCA wrote to the LAB is attached.

We are gratified that the current alternative LAB map responds to our objective of including all of East Montpelier in a single district while following the criteria outlined in the law. We support this map and urge the committee to consider our concerns as it moves forward.

Encl: EM letter of 11/15/21 to LAB