



Carroll County Board of Elections

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February 27, 2023

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Maryland House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

SB733 - Favorable

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members:

My name is Katherine Berry. I am the Election Director in Carroll County and here today representing my 5-member board in support of Senate Bill 733 - Carroll County - County Commissioner Districts – Alterations.

This bill addresses a concern that was identified after redistricting was completed in 2022 concerning voter privacy and secrecy of the ballot. Since Maryland adopted a law to have ballots by precinct, some of our 16 new precincts resulting from redistricting have so few voters registered that it may be possible to know how a voter voted. This is also more relevant today than previous elections since vote-by-mail is happening so widely and voters have three different ways to cast a ballot.

The table below lists eight precincts that would be impacted by the proposed change. These precincts would be merged into neighboring precincts similar to how they were structured prior to redistricting.

Precinct to Move	Registered Active Voters as of 2/22/2023	Current Commissioner District	Proposed Commissioner District
11-002	107	4	1
05-001	141	4	2
05-007	0	5	2
07-008	4	1	3
04-005	126	2	4
09-002	113	1	4
09-003	12	1	4
14-004	39	5	4

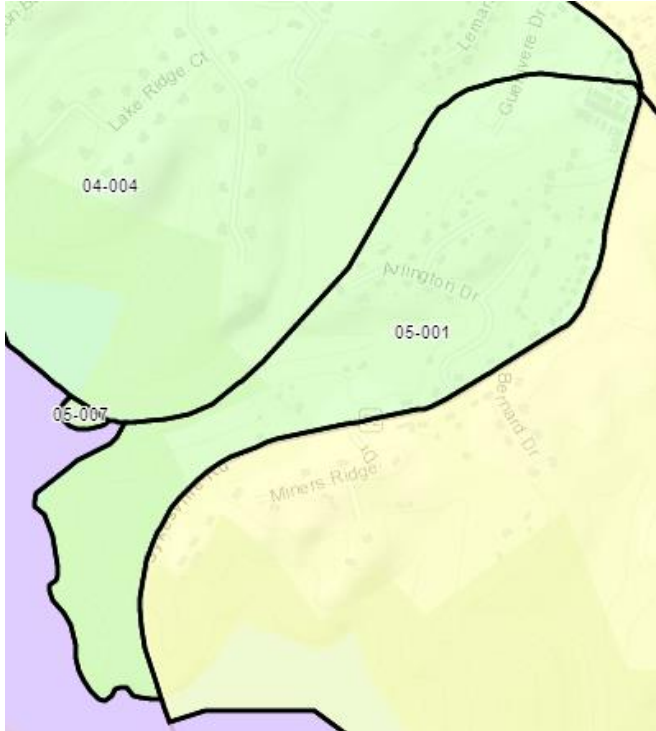
The table below lists each Commissioner District with its current population, proposed population, and how many voters (as of December 2022) each district would gain or lose if the suggested adjustments are made. This adjustment is within the standard deviation of redistricting and does not alter any election district, Congressional, or Legislative district boundaries.

District	Current Adjusted Population	Proposed Adjusted Population	Addition or Difference
1	33,730	33,731	+1
2	35,881	35,849	-32
3	35,648	35,656	+8
4	33,153	33,244	+91

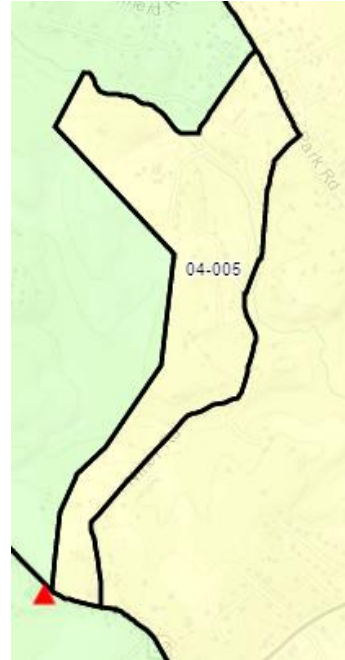
5	34,228	34,160	-68
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Below are images from the precinct map. Most are in more rural areas of the county.

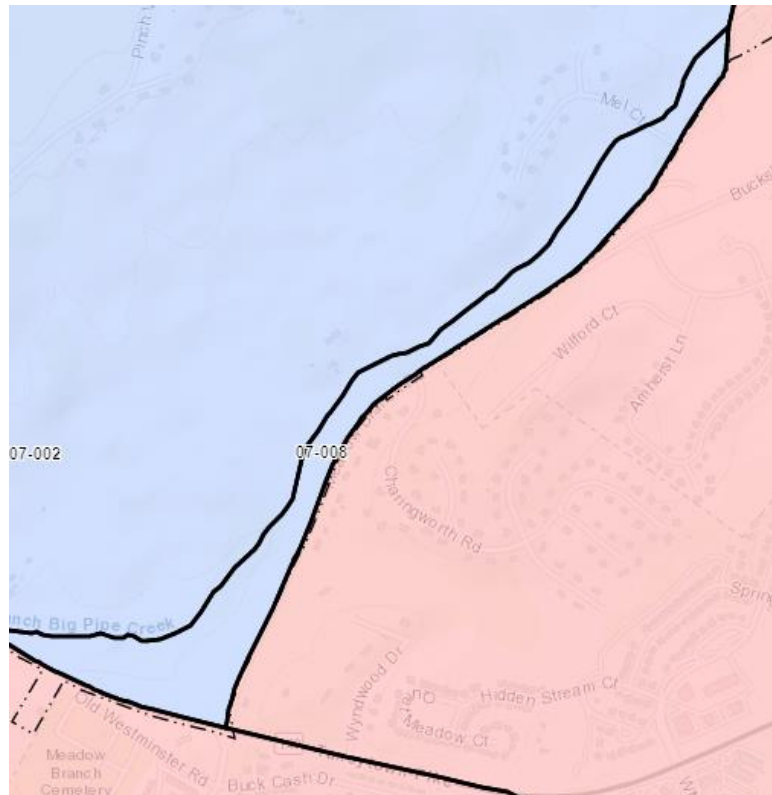
05-001 and 05-007



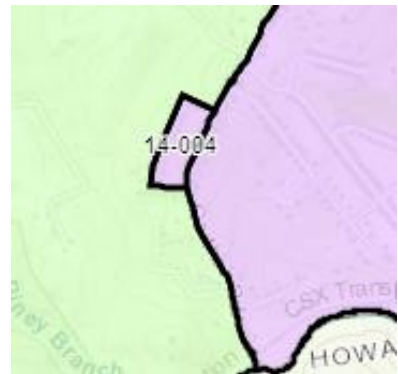
04-005



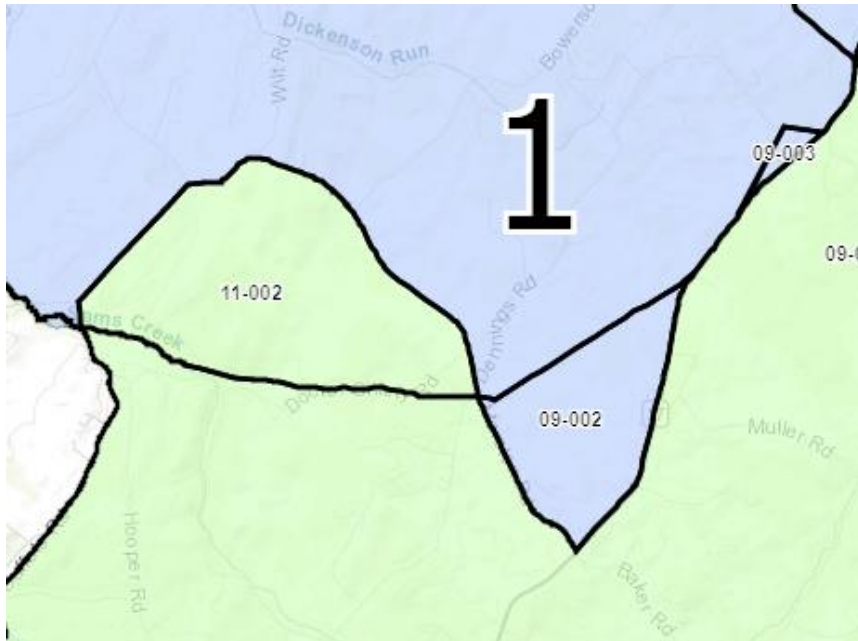
07-008



14-004



09-002, 09-003 and 11-002



I would like to thank the Senators and Delegates from Carroll County for submitting this bill on behalf of the Carroll County Board. I am appreciative to this committee for hearing testimony on this bill and look forward to a favorable report. If you have any questions, I am available at (410)386-2958 or katherine.berry@Maryland.gov.