NEWS RELEASE Luther Strange Alabama Attorney General



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AG ANNOUNCES PRECLEARANCE FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

(MONTGOMERY) — Attorney General Luther Strange announced that the U.S. Department of Justice has precleared the 2012 redistricting plans for the Alabama House of Representatives and the Alabama Senate.

Attorney General Strange's Office submitted these redistricting plans for review to the U.S. Attorney General and to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act. Section 5 requires such review of any change in voting practices in certain states, including Alabama.

The Alabama Attorney General's Office received a letter dated today from the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, stating that the U.S. Attorney General does not object to Act No. 2012-602 and Act No. 2012-603, the legislation that set the new House of Representatives and Senate districts. The preclearance was based on information received by the Justice Department on August 6, 2012, and additional information received through September 25, 2012. USDOJ's action moots the lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, and the redistricting plans for the State House of Representatives and Senate can now be put into effect.

"We are pleased that the Department of Justice has agreed with our position and approved these redistricting plans," said Attorney General Strange. "I am proud of my team in the Attorney General's Constitutional Defense Division for handling this matter so quickly and for achieving a good result." He also commended former Assistant Attorneys General Jack Park and Charles Campbell, who provided their expertise and leadership in guiding this through the preclearance process.

