

NEWS RELEASE

Luther Strange

Alabama Attorney General



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AG SEEKS PRECLEARANCE OF NEW CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION DISTRICTS

(MONTGOMERY)--Attorney General Luther Strange today announced that, pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, he has filed a declaratory judgment action in Washington, D.C., seeking judicial preclearance of Alabama's Congressional and State Board of Education redistricting plans. The Legislature redrew these plans to take account of 2010 census data which was released earlier this year.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder is the named defendant, and the case will be resolved by a three-judge district court, with any appeal going directly to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Voting Rights Act authorizes the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia or the U.S. Attorney General to determine whether certain jurisdictions covered by the Act, including Alabama, have met nondiscrimination guidelines in drawing up new districts.

"I am hopeful that the new districts approved by the Legislature after much thought and deliberation will be precleared promptly," said Attorney General Strange.

Pursuant to the Voting Rights Act, Alabama's Congressional and State Board of Education redistricting plans cannot be implemented until precleared.

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