



NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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NNHRC to present at Aneth Chapter and Red Mesa Chapter on February 22nd

ST. MICHAELS, Ariz.—At the request of Navajo Chapter Presidents, the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission will present redistricting information and receive public input on Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 10 a.m., at the Aneth Chapter and at Red Mesa Chapter in Utah at approximately 2 p.m.

Navajo human rights officials want the public's input about San Juan County of Utah's redistricting after human rights officials provide a brief presentation about redistricting standards and explain the Voting Rights Act and how the Act effects Navajos and resident voters.

Redistricting is a national process which occurs every ten years, and voting boundary lines are redrawn for congressional and legislative seats in each state to remap for the future. Redistricting begins after the release of the U.S. census data, the census data is used for reapportionment and then redistricting occurs.

Congress enacted the Voting Rights Act in response to methods used by states which prevented minority populations from voting. The purpose of the Act is to ensure the rights of all citizens to vote, including the right to register to vote and cast meaningful votes, is preserved and protected as guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Section 2 and Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act are of particular importance for the Navajo Nation because the two sections prohibit discrimination.

Why Navajos?

Navajo citizens are dual citizens of the Navajo Nation and the United States. Navajo human rights officials want to ensure Navajo citizens' voting rights are protected.

Further, Navajo human rights officials also want personal public testimonials about any form of discrimination experienced in San Juan County, Utah.

For more information about the public hearing, contact the Aneth Chapter at (435) 651-3560 or contact NNHRC at (928) 871-7436.

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