

## Representative Mulally Map Proposal

<https://davesredistricting.org/join/a4a6ea8d-fcfe-49d7-89e6-cada4861bcae>

## Mockingbird Conurbation

The Proposed Mockingbird Conurbation replaces the committee's approved Rapid City Conurbation area and proposes a plan for Districts 32-35 that provides more options for shifts within Districts 27 and 30 to accommodate the population deviance. By voting to approve the Rapid City conurbation area so early in the process, before the general public was aware of these meetings and before the maps could be worked on, caused challenges which the committee is now having to resolve. Mockingbird aids in addressing the concerns voiced by the Native American Community regarding District 27 and North Rapid and assists the committee in abiding by the rules set forth in the Federal Voting Act of 1965.

### Pros of Mockingbird

1. Mockingbird adheres to standards of population deviance as established by judicial precedent and to standards of population deviance as prescribed by S.D. Const., Art. III, § 5; Mockingbird protects communities of interest by means of compact and contiguous districts. Mockingbird retains current political communities and separates and shifts as few precincts as possible into new legislative districts starting with core areas and working to maintain existing districts.
2. Mockingbird respects geographical and political boundaries by taking into consideration roads going in and out of districts, not just the appearance on the map.
3. Mockingbird protects minority voting rights consistent with the United States Constitution, the South Dakota Constitution, and federal statutes, as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court and other courts with jurisdiction. Mockingbird responds to recent public input from the Native American Community. During the 2011 Redistricting committee hearings, Senator Tom Katus stated that the north area of Rapid City, specifically the poor and minority citizens in North Rapid, has never received adequate attention or representation. The Eagle Map, proposed by Senator Heinert places most of North Rapid in District 34. Mockingbird creates a split district in 34 with the upper portion encompassing most of the North Rapid precincts. The Blackbird proposal places North Rapid in District 33 and dilutes the Native American vote by including North Rapid in a Legislative District, such as District 33, that historically has a proven record of electing strong Republican candidates.
4. The following table shows the percentage difference in Native American population between a combined District 34 and a split 34A and 34B.

	All People	All Native American	%	Voting Age Native American	%
Combined	26310	6575	24.99%	4356	16.56%
34A	12535	989	7.80%	661	5.27%
34B	13775	5586	40.55%	3695	26.82%

1. Responding to the Native American Community's concern of being underrepresented, Mockingbird creates a split district in 34: 34A and 34B. The Voting Rights Act requires South Dakota to draw and maintain districts that provide Native voters an equal opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. Mockingbird provides needed balance to avoid dilution of minority votes. Spreading minority votes across many districts or placing a particular community within a larger district that dilutes the Native American vote can deny minorities fair voting rights.

## **Mockingbird Conurbation Map**

2. District 27 and District 30: Shifts Wall from District 30 to District 27. Mockingbird proposes a total population for District 27 of 23,207 which is below the population deviance, but due to previous court Rulings, Mockingbird places importance on Continuity of Community within District 27. The total population is short by only 994 people. Mockingbird retains New Underwood, Wasta, and Caputa in District 30.
3. District 29: Mockingbird keeps the southern portion of EL in District 29 to maintain current representation of Ellsworth Airforce Base.
4. District 30 and 32: Mockingbird Proposal shifts RK and the southern section of 1-1 from District 32 to District 30 to accommodate deviance in population.
5. District 33: Blackbird Proposal removes Black Hawk 14. Mockingbird adds BH14 back into District 33 and shifts Black Hawk 15 from District 29 to District 33. Black Hawk is a small community north and northwest of Rapid City and should be represented by one district. Adding Black Hawk 15 makes sense as it is only 2 miles north of homes in 4-3 and 4-5 precincts. During the 2011 Redistricting, then Representative Larry Rhoden testified that Black Hawk is basically a suburb of Rapid City and that BH 10,14,16 and 19 are not in a Meade County school district and affirmed that Meade County is agricultural-based and urged that Meade County be kept together minus Black Hawk. Mockingbird places all of Black Hawk together.
6. District 34: Currently North Rapid is represented by four legislative districts. The Blackbird proposal places most of the North Rapid precincts in District 33, while Mockingbird proposes placing them in District 34. Mockingbird aims, as much as possible, to retain as many of the current District 34 precincts as possible. In response to public comment specifically from the Native American community to place most of North Rapid into one district to provide an opportunity for better representation, the following shifts were made within the interior boundaries of the Mockingbird Conurbation map. The majority of the shifts took place in Districts 33 and 34.
  - A. 4-3 is currently represented by District 33. Mockingbird divides 4-3 into 2 sections: southern and northern. Lakota Homes, a Native American Community, is set in the southern portion of 4-3. Mockingbird shifts this southern portion, Lakota Homes to District 34 while the remaining northern portion is retained in District 33. Lakota Homes has a total population of 936 people and a 72.4% Native American Population.

Blackbird places the entire 4-3 precinct into District 33 and reduces the percentage of Native American influence to 38.7%---a dilution of the Native American vote. Separating 4-3 gives Native Americans in Lakota Homes a greater voice.

- B. To prevent further dilution of the Native American vote, Mockingbird divides 5-1 into two sections: Geographically, it makes sense to retain the eastern portion of 5-1 in District 34 and move the western portion to District 33. The eastern section of 5-1 is just across I-190 and geographically fits with North Rapid. The eastern portion of 5-1 has a total population of 952 people and a 30.8% Native American Population. In Blackbird's proposal to retain the western portion of 5-1 in 34, the percentage of Native American influence decreases to 12.5%. Separating 5-1 gives Native Americans in 5-1 a greater voice. Separating the precinct also assists with compactness and continuity.
  - C. To provide for the population deviance necessitated by combining North Rapid precincts into District 34, Mockingbird proposes dividing 3-2 between Districts 32 (2,910), 33 (1,589) and 34 (849.) Geographically, adding the southern flag of 3-2, Red Rocks in District 33, makes geographic sense. Prior to 2011, Red Rocks, the southern part of 3-2 was part of District 33. Red Rocks is surrounded by 3-5 and there's no road that connects the southern part of 3-2 to the northern part. Red Rocks is accessible only through 3-5.
  - D. In order to provide for population deviance resulting from adding North Rapid Precincts to 34, District 33 needed to add approximately 4,000 voters. One option was to divide more precincts, but Mockingbird proposes adding 5-3 (4,093) to District 33. It makes sense geographically because in order to access both the northern part of CL and DT, one must drive through 5-3.
  - E. A small portion of the 3-4 Precinct (81 people), was also shifted from District 34 to District 33 to make it more compact.
  - F. District 35: Blackbird Proposal removes VF (4,339) from the RC Conurbation map. Mockingbird retains VF and adds 3 precincts west of Box Elder: Precincts 2-2 (517), AW (645) and NH (905). Mockingbird shifts 4-2 (in North Rapid,) to place the majority of North Rapid in 34B as proposed.
7. Mockingbird creates a split district in 34: 34A and 34B. The Voting Rights Act requires South Dakota to draw and maintain districts that provide Native voters an equal opportunity to elect their candidates of choice. Mockingbird provides needed balance to avoid dilution of minority votes. Spreading minority votes across many districts or placing a particular community within a larger district that dilutes the Native American vote can deny minorities fair voting rights.

8. The Following table shows the composition of Districts 32-35 within the Mockingbird plan.

	District 32	District 33	District 34A	District 34B	District 35
RC Precincts	1-1 (Partial)	3-2 (Partial)	3-2 (Partial)	2-1	1-4
	1-2	3-4 (Partial)	3-3	2-5	2-2
			3-4		
	1-3	3-5	(Partial)	4-1	2-3
	2-4	4-3 (Partial)	5-2	4-2	
				4-3	
	3-1	4-5		(Partial)	
	3-2				
	(Partial)	5-1 (Partial)		4-4	
	5-4			5-1	
	(Partial)	5-3		(Partial)	
				5-4	
		5-5		(Partial)	
Penn Precincts		CL			AW
		DT			BE
		JS			NH
		WP			RV
					VF
					VV
Meade Precincts		Summerset			
		10			
		BH14			
		BH15			
		BH16			
		BH19			

