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June 3, 2011

VIA MESSENGER

Honorable Ronald D. Leonhardt

City Clerk

Milwaukee City Hall – Room 205

200 E. Wells Street

Milwaukee, WI 53202

Re: Common Council File No. 110063.... An ordinance relating to Aldermanic District Boundaries commencing in 2012

Dear Mr. Clerk,

I am enclosing a number of copies of a newspaper article entitled, “Hispanic Group Aims at Redistricting” which appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Interactive Service on Friday, June 3, 2011 at 2:37 p.m.

It would be appreciated if a copy were placed in the above file in connection with the hearing that is scheduled for Monday June 6, 2011 at 1:30 P.M. before the Judiciary & Legislative Committee. The subject item appears on the Agenda as No. 16.

Also, it would be appreciated if you would place the name and address of the undersigned on the mailing grid for this file.

Thank you for your attention to this communication.

Very truly yours,

FRIEBERT, FINERTY & ST. JOHN

John D. Finerty

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Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard Pfaff, Manager, LRB (via messenger w/ Attachments)

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Hispanic group aims at redistricting

By Georgia Pabst of the Journal Sentinel

June 3, 2011 2:37 p.m. [\(0\) Comments](#)

A new coalition—Hispanics for Leadership—has formed to insure the growing Latino community gets fair representation in the new redistricting plan for the city of Milwaukee.

“We didn’t start soon enough at the county level and I had no idea the Hispanic community would be collateral damage,” said Zeus Rodriguez, who said he’s among a number of Latinos forming the loosely knit coalition.

“We believe the Milwaukee County Board has already made a huge mistake by not paying enough attention to the significant growth in the Hispanic population and in hastily passing a plan that diminishes the political power of Latinos in the county,” he said.

“We’re not an official organization, but a coalition that started about a month ago under a name and a brand to address the redistricting issue,” he said Friday.

The city is in the process of redistricting.

Rodriguez said he and others met recently with Common Council President Willie Hines and Ald. Ashanti Hamilton on a plan that would create two largely Latino aldermanic districts.

“No other group has grown more than Hispanics and nobody has put an effort into making sure Hispanics are fairly represented,” he said.

The group will hold a press conference on Monday (June 6) at 12:30 p.m. at City Hall to push for better representation, he said. The group is collecting signatures of other Latinos who support the redistricting effort, he said.

Rodriguez, lives in Oak Creek, but said his family has lived in the city of Milwaukee since the 1940s and feels he has historical ties.

“The heart of the Hispanic community is on the south side and that’s where the community is most powerful and we have to make sure there’s proper representation,” he said. “If we can’t win there, where will we win?”

Rodriguez is president of the newly formed Hispanics for School Choice that pushed for the expansion

of choice. He said some may label Hispanics for Leadership as conservative. But, he said, the new group is not designed to promote a conservative political agenda.

“I’m not a Republican. I’m a conservative because I’m Catholic,” he said. The new group will be made up of Hispanics from various party and ideological lines and deal only with the redistricting issue, he said.

Others who are part of the group include Victory Huyke, publisher of El Conquistador, a community newspaper, and Daisy Cubias, a community activist who recently retired as a staff assistant to Mayor Tom Barrett.

Find this article at:

<http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/news/123120748.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.