



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General

Jason S. Miyares
Attorney General

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July 20, 2022

SENT VIA UPS and
EMAIL (ACloeter@roanokecountyva.gov)

Anna Cloeter
Director of Elections and General Registrar
Roanoke County
900 Chestnut Street
Vinton, VA 24179

Re: Request for Certification of No Objection

Dear Ms. Cloeter,

The Office of Civil Rights has completed its review of the above-referenced Request for Certification of No Objection submitted to the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia – Office of Civil Rights in accordance with the Virginia Voting Rights Act, Va. Code §24.2-129. We received your submission on May 18, 2022. This Office sent you a request for additional information on June 8, 2022, and the County responded to this Office on June 16, 2022. This Office sent you a follow-up request for information on June 17, 2022, and the County provided the requested information to this Office on June 24, 2022.

As outlined in your request, Roanoke County plans to make changes to its district boundaries following the decennial census. All districts are within five percent of the ideal district size and all voting age demographic shifts are one percent or less.

All polling places appear to be within the precincts or within one mile of the boundary, and the County has certified these locations comply with all local, state, and federal building codes, as

well as all statutes and regulations, including, without limitation, the Americans with Disabilities Act.

These changes do not appear to have the purpose or effect of denying or abridging the right to vote based on race or color or membership in a language minority group, nor does it appear that these changes will result in the retrogression in the position of members of a racial or ethnic group with respect to their effective exercise of the electoral franchise.

Under these facts, we find no reason to object to Roanoke County's proposed changes. Accordingly, on behalf of the Attorney General and pursuant to Va. Code § 24.2-129, this letter serves as the Attorney General's **certification of no objection** to the proposed changes.

Please be advised, however, that the Attorney General's certification of no objection will not bar a subsequent action to enjoin any qualification, prerequisite, standard, practice, or procedure should the Attorney General subsequently have reason to believe such practice may have a discriminatory effect on members of a racial or ethnic group. Moreover, this certification of no objection does not remove or otherwise alter any requirement imposed upon Roanoke County by any federal, state, or local ordinance, statute, or regulation, including **any requirement imposed by the Department of Elections that you provide them with this certification of no objection**.

If you have any questions, please contact us at (804) 786-3998 or at votingrights@oag.state.va.us.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christine Lambrou Johnson".

Christine Lambrou Johnson
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Chief, Office of Civil Rights