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Stand-Up Mobile: New Map an Overdue but Important Step ** August 9th Vote Must Come with No Strings Attached**

Mobile, Ala – <u>Stand Up Mobile</u> released the following statement in response to the <u>newly proposed</u> <u>redistricting map that appears on this week's City Council agenda</u>. The new proposal includes a fourth district with a 53% majority Black voting age population and appears to be very similar to the community coalition's proposed map with the major difference being rather than moving a handful of neighborhoods into District 1, it moves them into District 5.

"We are grateful that after six months of pleading with this Administration and Council that they meet their legal and moral obligations by providing a fourth district which allows the Black community the opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice, they appear ready to do so. This is an important step to finally providing appropriate representation in Government Plaza for all our citizens."

"With annexation just around the corner though, it is essential that this map does not come at a steep cost of losing this representation before we ever get it and for decades to come. It would be a complete travesty for this important step to be undone through an annexation and with the numbers publicly floated in the past few weeks, there is NO WAY it would not be. There must not be any strings attached to an annexation proposal – whether publicly or in the backrooms of Government Plaza."

"While we remain in unity behind the community map, over the next week citizens will have an opportunity to review this new map and the previously introduced ones before the final vote on August 9th. Let us complete this process and then we can move on to an open and transparent discussion of how best to grow our city while finally truly serving the city we already have."

Stand Up Mobile: A Blueprint for US is committed to bringing the power of the black vote to elections at all levels. We believe that it is important that all people have their voices heard, especially those that are too often excluded from the political, economic, and social institutions that shape their lives. More information on the organization is available here: https://sum-blueprintforus.org/about-us