

The seal of the Florida Senate is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a palm tree, a plow, and a sheaf of wheat. Above the shield is a banner with the word 'SEAL'. The shield is flanked by two figures: one holding a sword and the other holding a staff. The entire seal is surrounded by a rope-like border. The text 'SENATE' is at the top, 'SEAL' is in the center, 'STATE OF FLORIDA' is at the bottom, and 'SENATE OF FLORIDA' is on the left and right sides.

*Welcome
to the
Florida Senate*

Florida Constitution standards

Article III, Section 16—The legislature...shall apportion the state:

- 30 to 40 consecutively numbered senatorial districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory.
- 80 to 120 consecutively numbered house districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory.

Article III, Sections 20 and 21—In establishing...district boundaries:

- a) No apportionment plan or... district shall be drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent; and districts shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice; and districts shall consist of contiguous territory.
- b) Unless compliance with the standards in this subsection conflicts with the standards in subsection (a) or with federal law, districts shall be as nearly equal in population as is practicable; districts shall be compact; and districts shall, where feasible, utilize existing political and geographical boundaries.
- c) The order in which the standards within subsections (a) and (b) of this section are set forth shall not be read to establish any priority of one standard over the other within that subsection.

Supreme Court's Conclusions

(slide 1 of 3)

- The Legislature's constitutional duty is to “adopt a joint resolution of apportionment conforming to the judgment of the supreme court.” Art. III, § 16(d), Fla. Const.

Supreme Court's Conclusions

(slide 2 of 3)

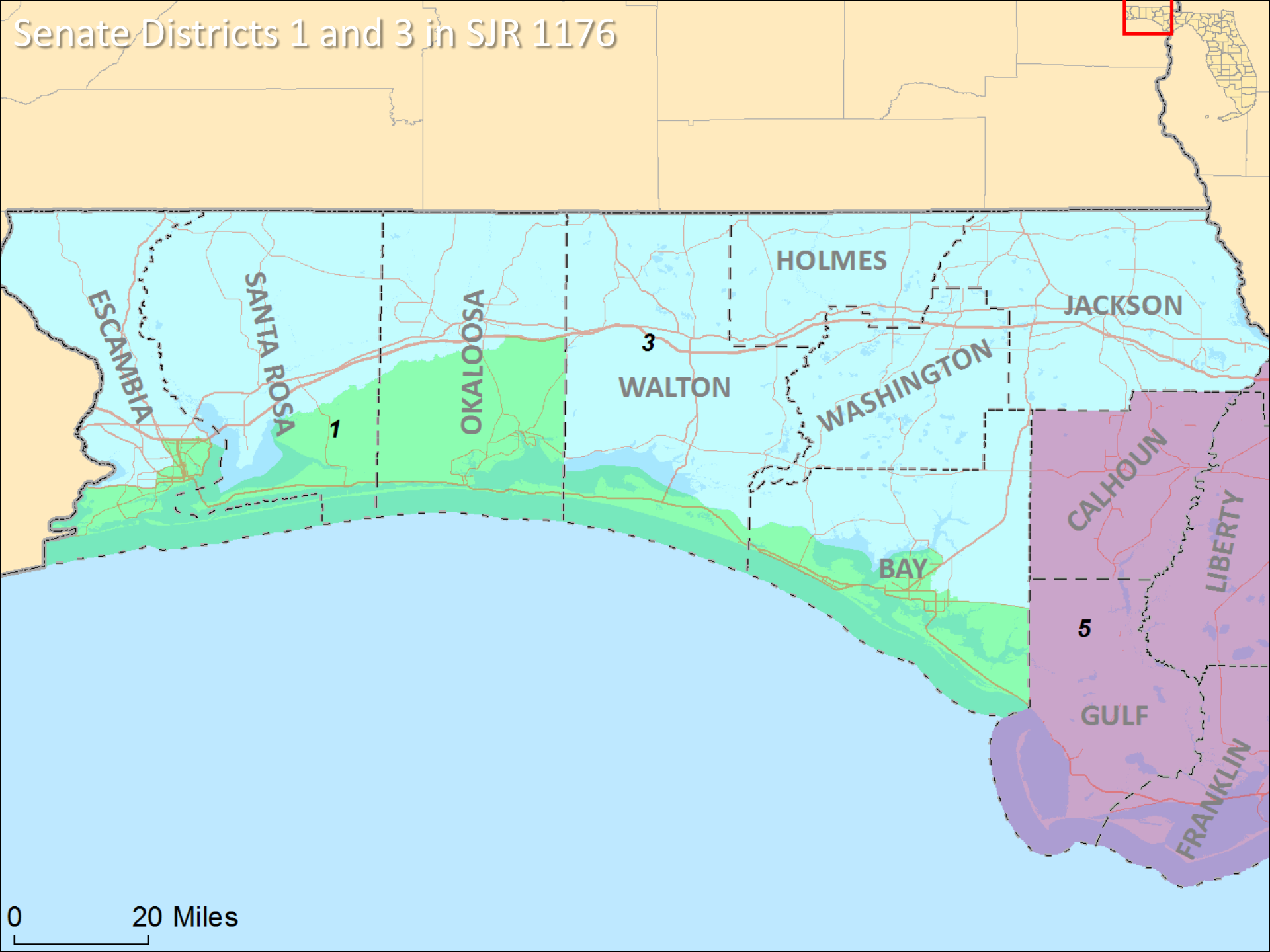
- “We have held that Senate Districts 1, 3, 6, 9, 10, 29, 30, and 34 are constitutionally invalid. The Legislature should remedy the constitutional problems with respect to these districts, redrawing these districts and any affected districts in accordance with the standards as defined by this Court....”

Supreme Court's Conclusions

(slide 3 of 3)

- “As to the City of Lakeland, the Legislature should determine whether it is feasible to utilize the municipal boundaries of Lakeland after applying the standards as defined by this Court.”
- “[T]he Legislature should renumber the districts in an incumbent-neutral manner.”

Senate Districts 1 and 3 in SJR 1176



0 20 Miles

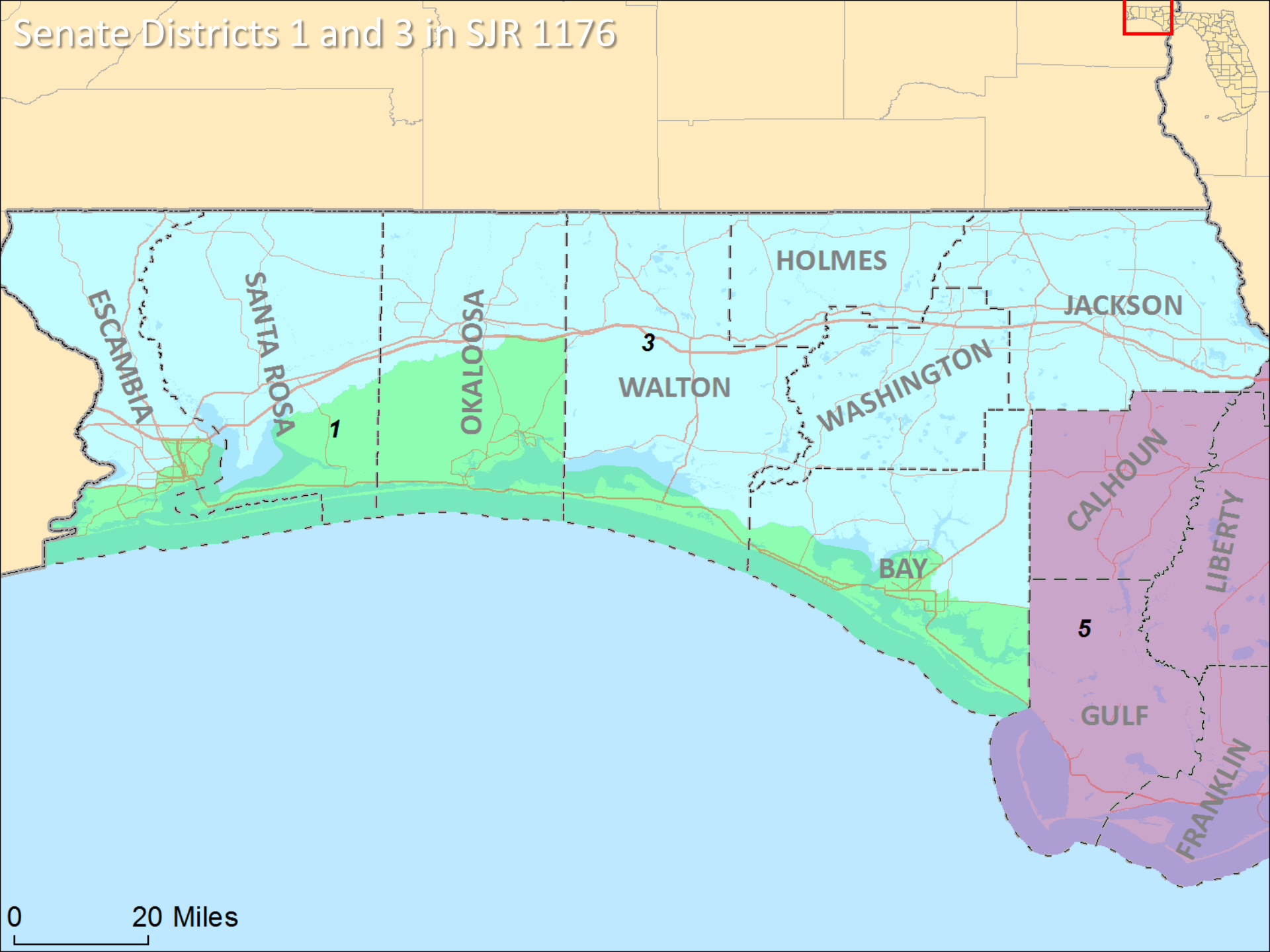
Districts 1 and 3 (slide 1 of 2)

- Horizontal orientation of Panhandle districts violates compactness and utilization of political and geographical boundaries.
- “The drawing of the districts sacrificed compactness—a constitutional imperative—in order to keep coastal communities together.”

Districts 1 and 3 (slide 2 of 2)

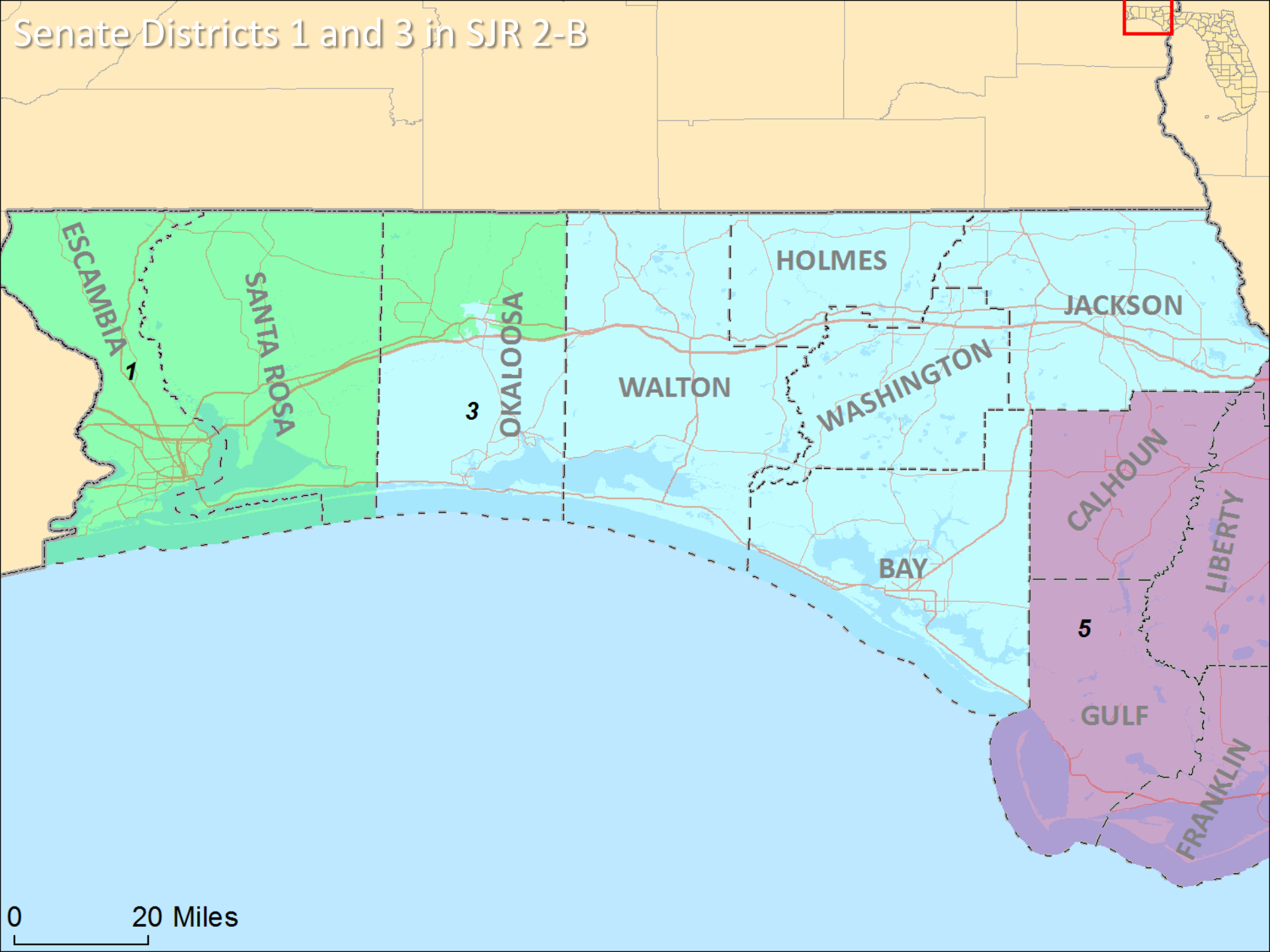
- “Further, although the Senate followed numerous different boundaries when drawing District 1 and 3, often switching between different types of boundaries within the space of a few miles, it sacrificed compactness . . . to create a coastal district and an inland rural district.”

Senate Districts 1 and 3 in SJR 1176



0 20 Miles

Senate Districts 1 and 3 in SJR 2-B



0 20 Miles

Districts 1 and 3 (metrics 1 of 3)

- The amendment renumbers these districts.
- District 2 is in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and the northern part of Okaloosa County.
- District 1 is in southern Okaloosa County, plus all of Walton, Holmes, Washington, Jackson, and Bay Counties.

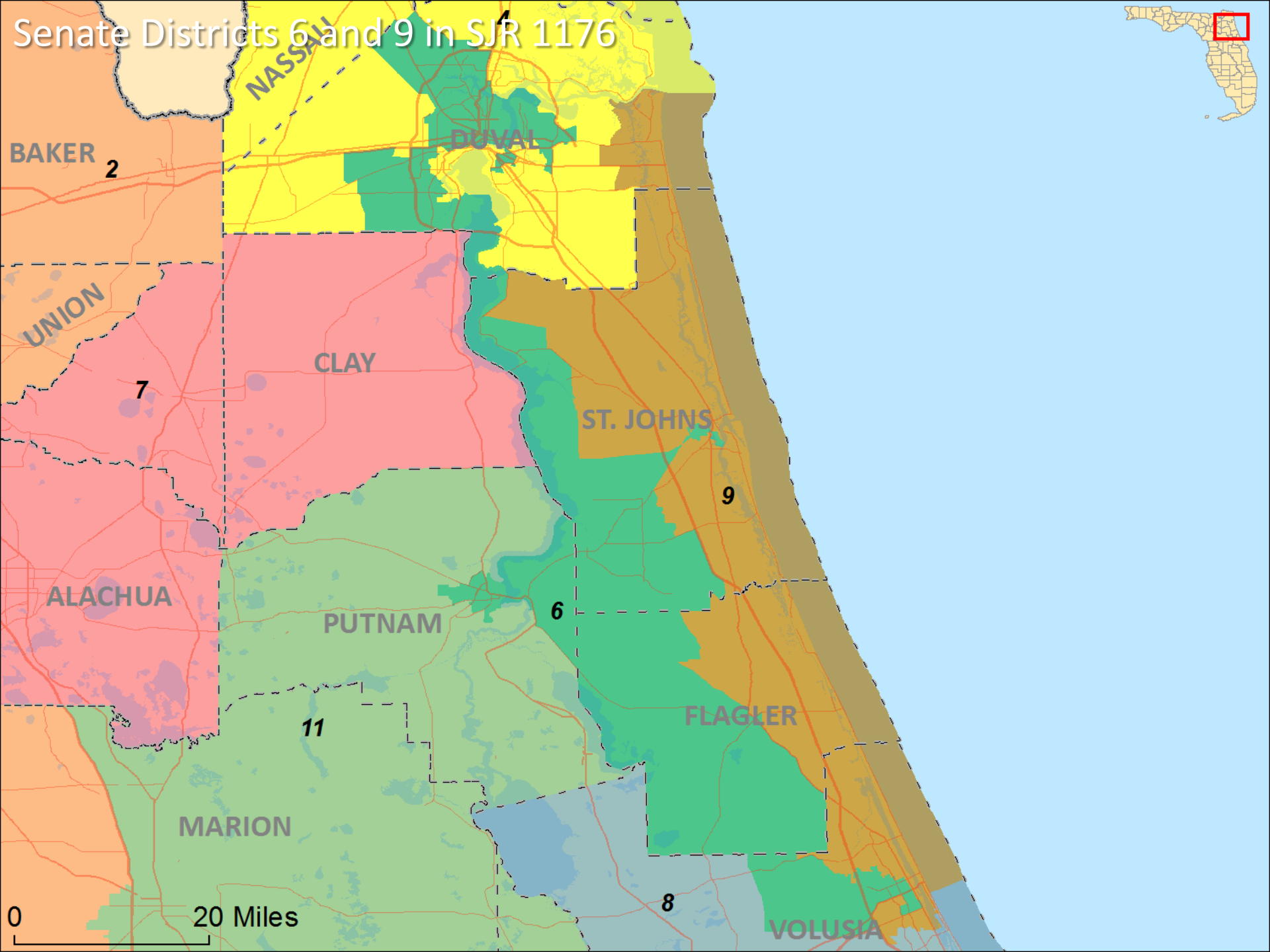
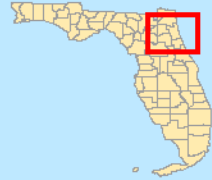
Districts 1 and 3 (metrics 2 of 3)

- Functional Analysis: Not applicable.
- Geometric compactness:
 - Average end-to-end distance decreases from 148 to 102 miles.
 - Average Reock score increases from 0.20 to 0.44.
 - Average Convex Hull ratio increases from 0.60 to 0.79.

Districts 1 and 3 (metrics 3 of 3)

- The number of counties split by the two districts decreases from 5 to 1.
- None of the 45 separate municipalities in the western Panhandle is split by the two districts.
- The district borders follow political and geographic boundaries for an average of 99% of their length.

Senate Districts 6 and 9 in SJR 1176



BAKER 2

UNION 7

ALACHUA

MARION

NASSAU

DUVAL

CLAY

PUTNAM

ST. JOHNS

FLAGLER

VOLUSIA

0 20 Miles

6

9

8

11

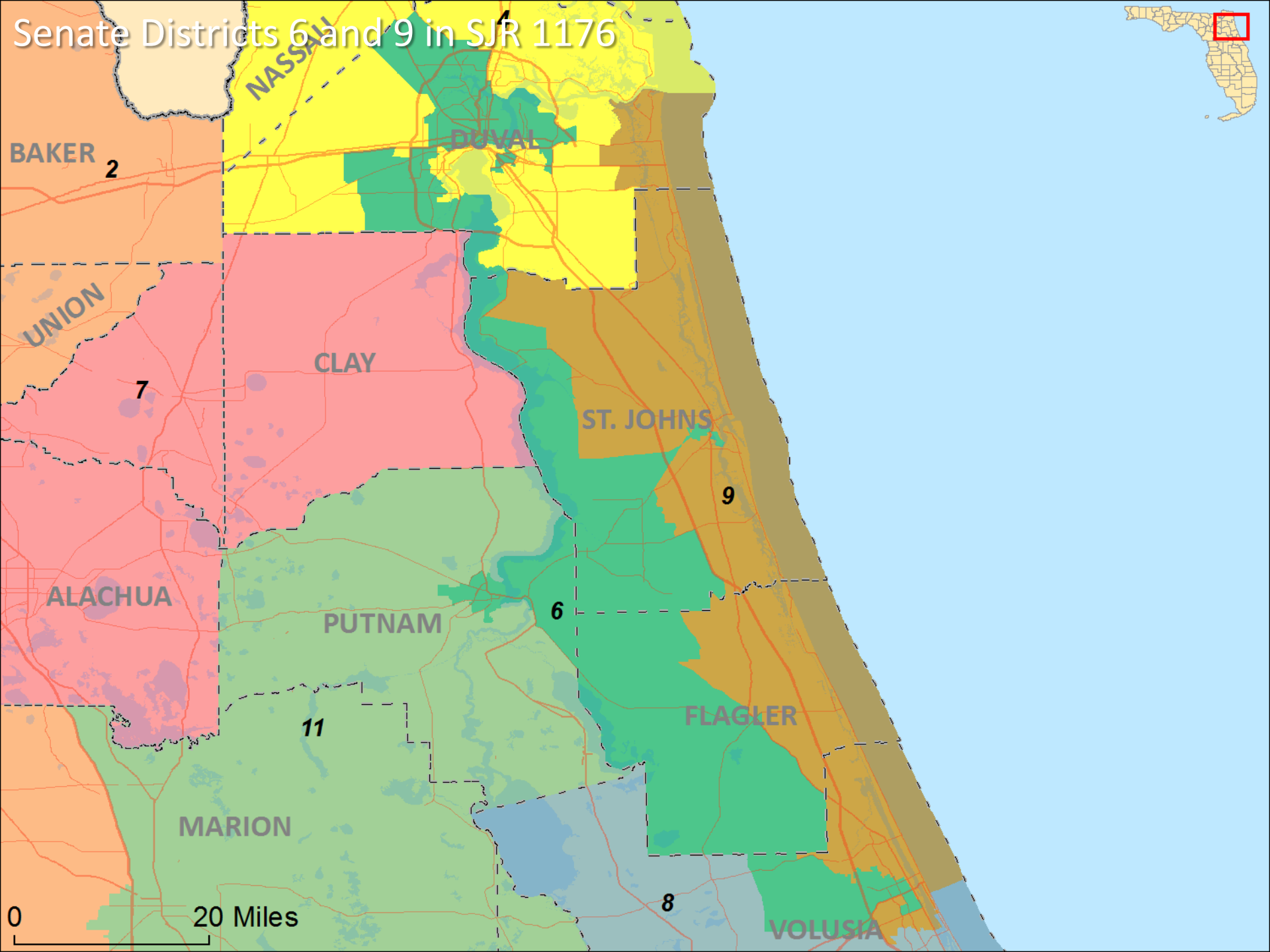
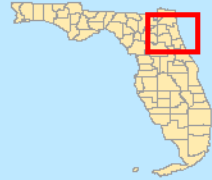
Districts 6 and 9 (slide 1 of 2)

- District 6 “sacrific[es] compactness and utilizing boundaries when not necessary to do so to avoid conflict with the minority voting protection provision.”
- A district that is based solely in Duval County would be “much more compact[]” and “likely afford black voters the ability to elect candidates of their choice.”

Districts 6 and 9 (slide 2 of 2)

- “Further, although adjoining District 9, standing alone, is not invalid, the reason for its lack of compactness and failure to utilize political and geographical boundaries was its location adjacent to District 6. As a result of District 6 being made more compact, District 9 becomes more compact as well.”

Senate Districts 6 and 9 in SJR 1176



BAKER 2

NASSAU

DUVAL

UNION

CLAY

ST. JOHNS

ALACHUA

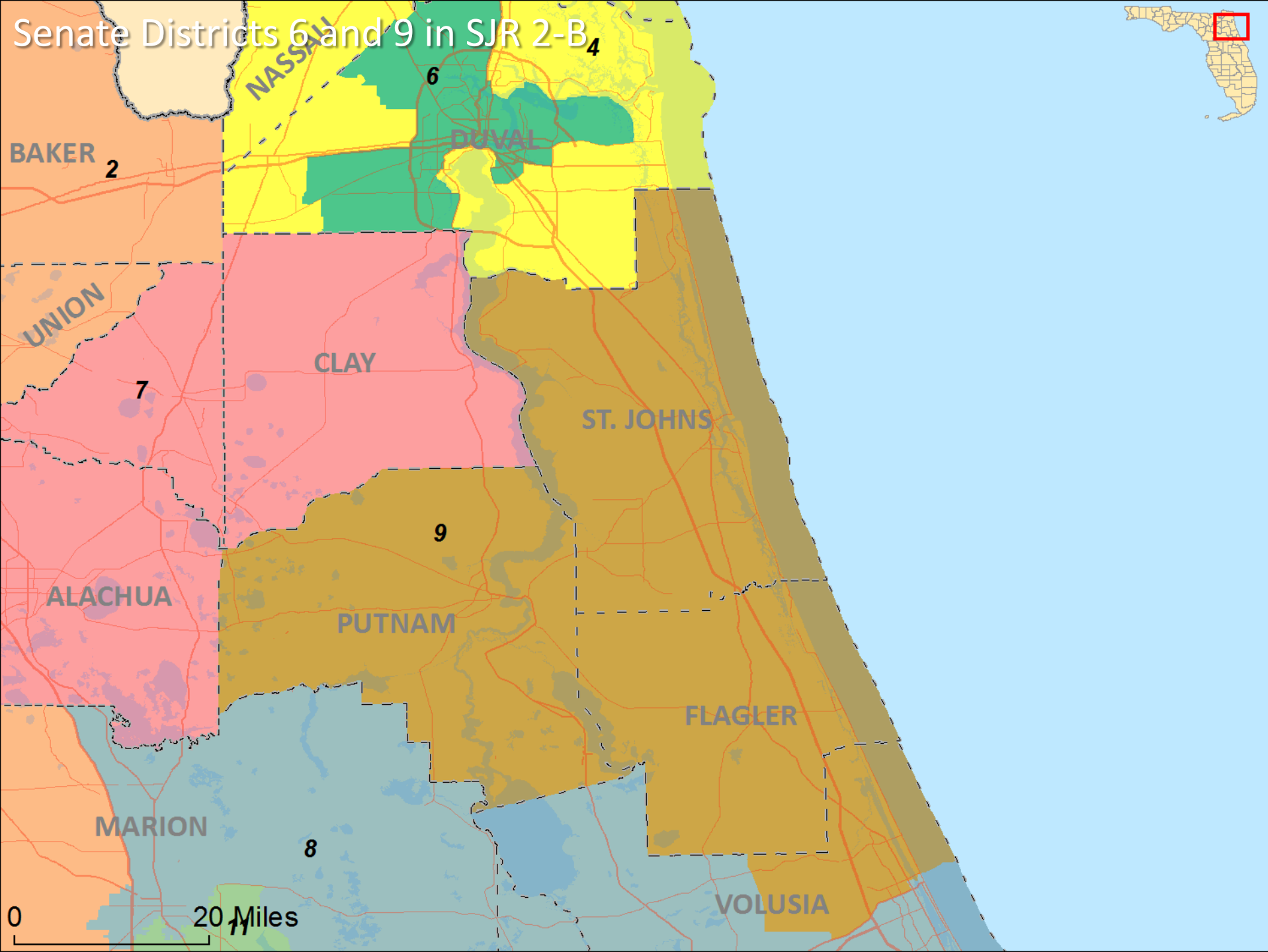
PUTNAM

FLAGLER

MARION

VOLUSIA

0 20 Miles



Districts 6 and 9 (metrics 1 of 5)

- Functional Analysis shows that in the new configuration of District 6 (now numbered District 9), black voters made up 66.3% of electorate in the 2010 primary.
- Among blacks who are registered to vote, 90% are Democrats. Most voters are Democrats, and most Democrats are Black.

Districts 6 and 9 (metrics 2 of 5)

- Therefore, both the minority district and the adjacent coastal district could be more compact without diminishing opportunities for Black citizens to elect candidates of their own choosing.
- Geometric compactness:
 - Average end-to-end distance decreases from 97 to 55 miles.

Districts 6 and 9 (metrics 3 of 5)

- Geometric compactness:
 - Average end-to-end distance decreases from 97 to 55 miles.
 - Average Reock score increases from 0.14 to 0.45.
 - Average Convex Hull ratio increases from 0.52 to 0.71.

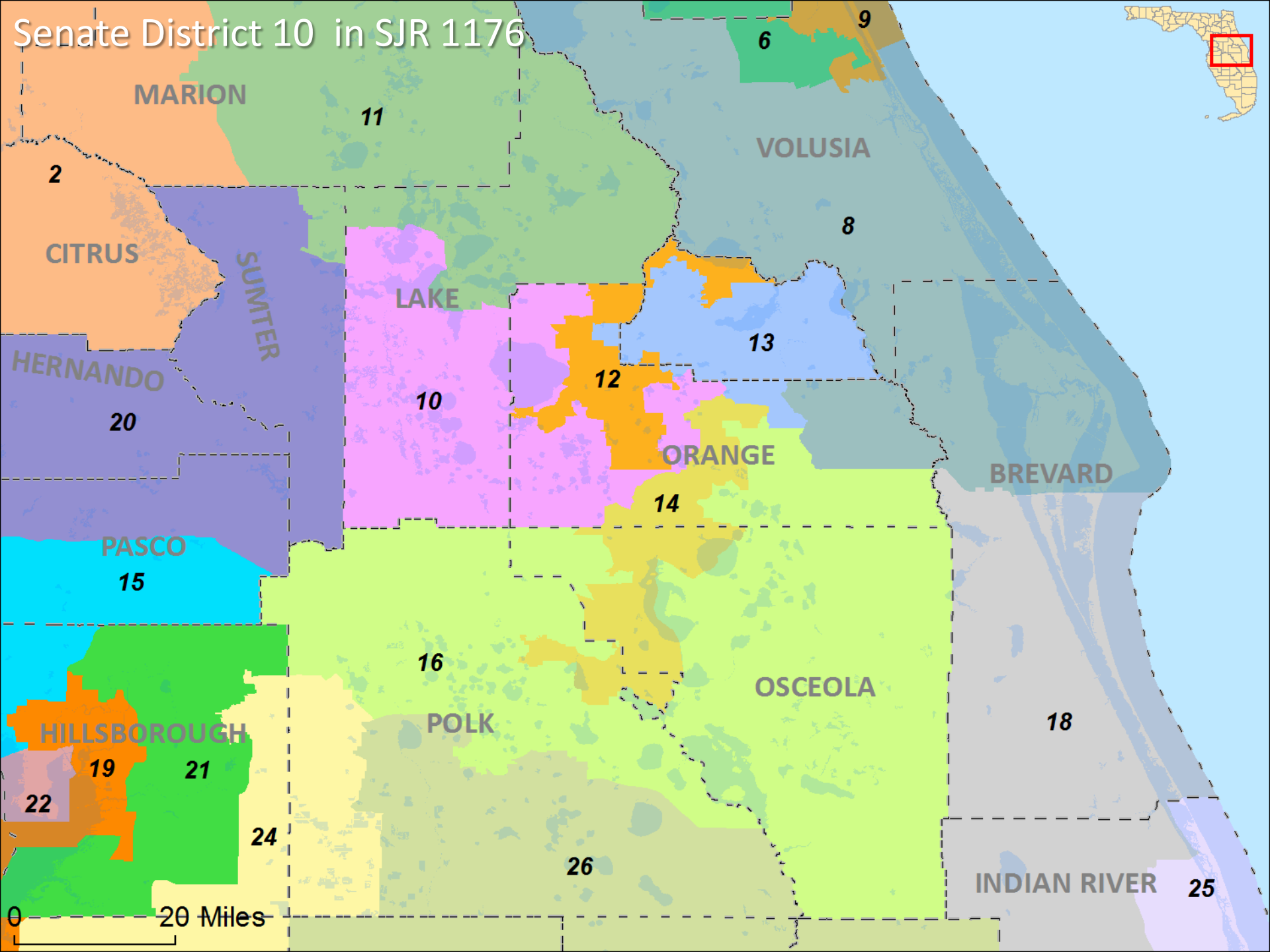
Districts 6 and 9 (metrics 4 of 5)

- The random renumbering by the amendment that is before us switches the numbers of these two districts. Six becomes 9 and 9 becomes 6.
- District 9 is entirely in Duval County.
- District 6 is in the northern portion of Volusia County, plus all of St. Johns, Putnam, and Flagler Counties.

Districts 6 and 9 (metrics 5 of 5)

- The number of counties kept in a single district increases from none to three.
- Among the 17 separate municipalities in this part of the state, only the two largest, Jacksonville and Daytona Beach, are split by either of the districts.
- The district borders follow political and geographic boundaries for an average of 88% of their length.

Senate District 10 in SJR 1176



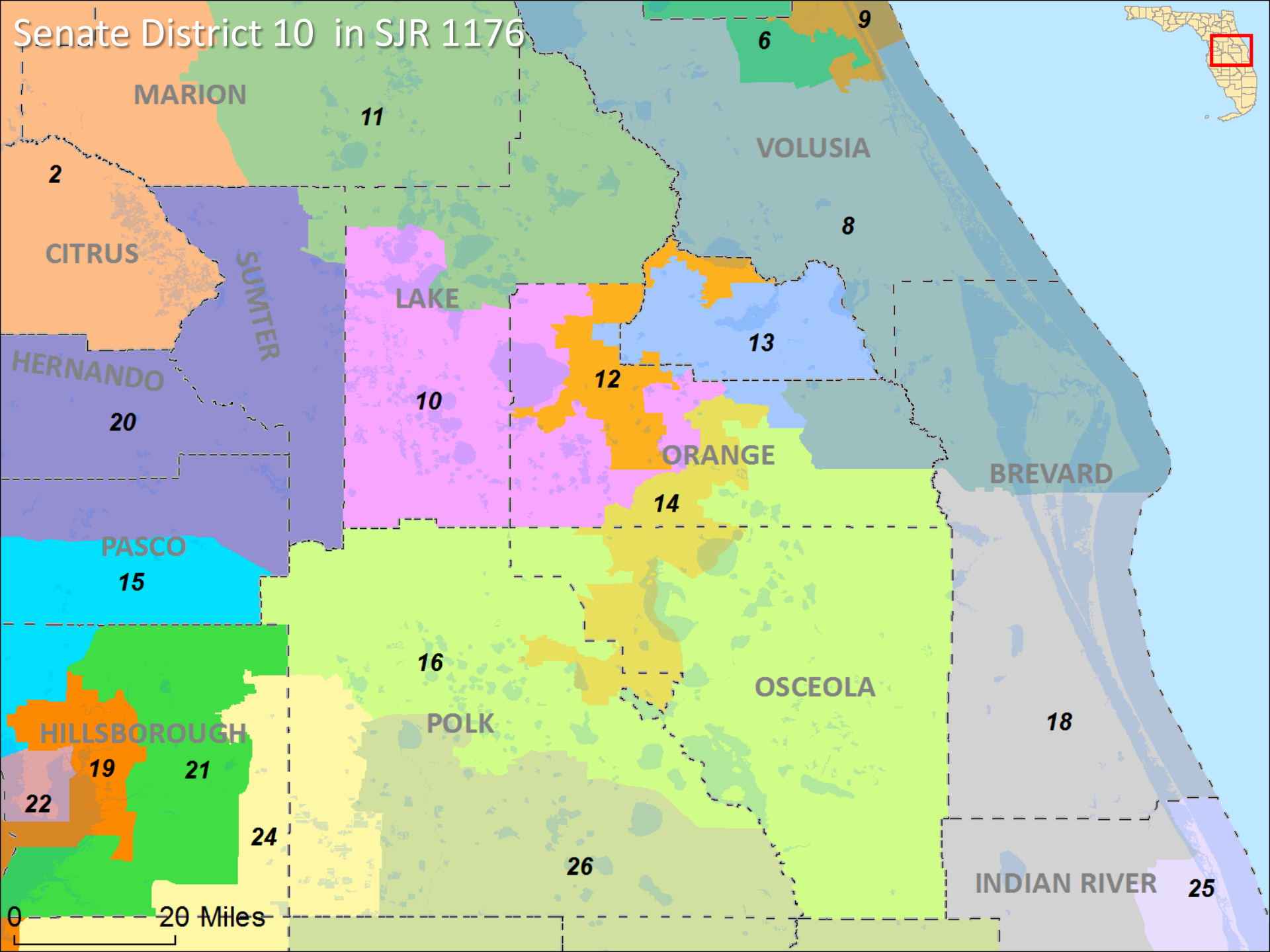
District 10 (slide 1 of 2)

- “District 10 is visually non-compact as a result of the bizarrely shaped appendage” between Districts 12 and 14.
- “The dividing line between the District 10 appendage and surrounding Districts 12, 13, and 14 does not consistently follow any particular political or geographical boundary.”

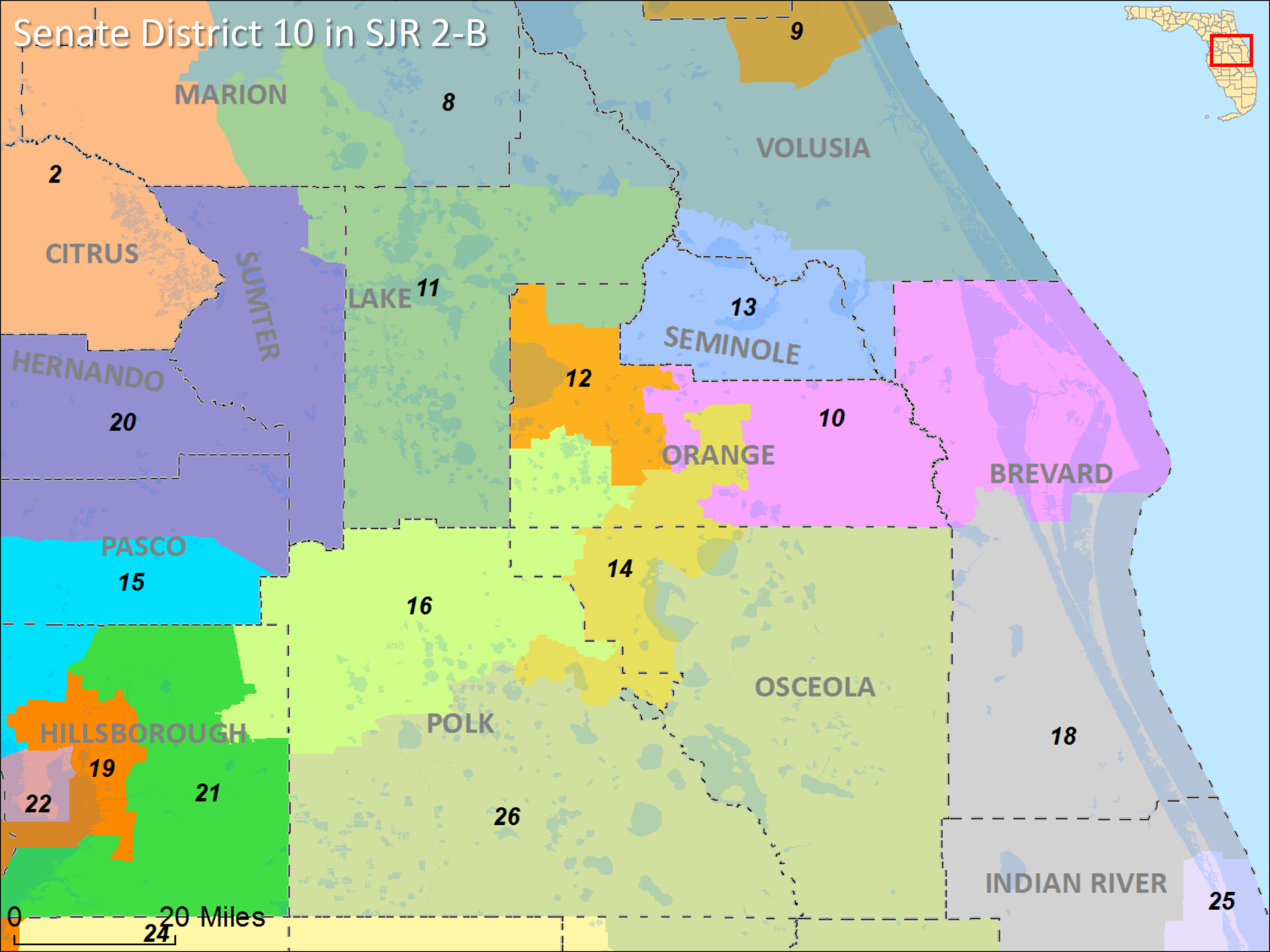
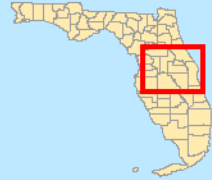
District 10 (slide 2 of 2)

- “District 10 violates constitutional mandates because it is visually non-compact with an appendage that reaches out to clearly encompass an incumbent.”

Senate District 10 in SJR 1176



Senate District 10 in SJR 2-B



0 20 Miles 24

Central Florida (metrics 1 of 5)

- District 10 borders a black opportunity district on the north and a Hispanic district on the south.
- Applying the same method recommended by the Supreme Court for the Jacksonville and Fort Lauderdale districts, a significantly more compact district can be drawn entirely in Orange County.

Central Florida (metrics 2 of 5)

- Functional Analysis shows that in the new configuration of District 12, black voters made up 66.3% of the electorate in the 2010 Democratic primary, that almost 90% of black voters are Democrats, and that Democratic candidates win elections.

Central Florida (metrics 3 of 5)

- For the Hispanic district on the south, functional Analysis shows that in the new configuration of District 14, Hispanic voters made up 28.3% of electorate in the 2010 Democratic primary, and blacks add another 19.7%. This is a level of participation with which Central Florida candidates preferred by Hispanic voters have had success.

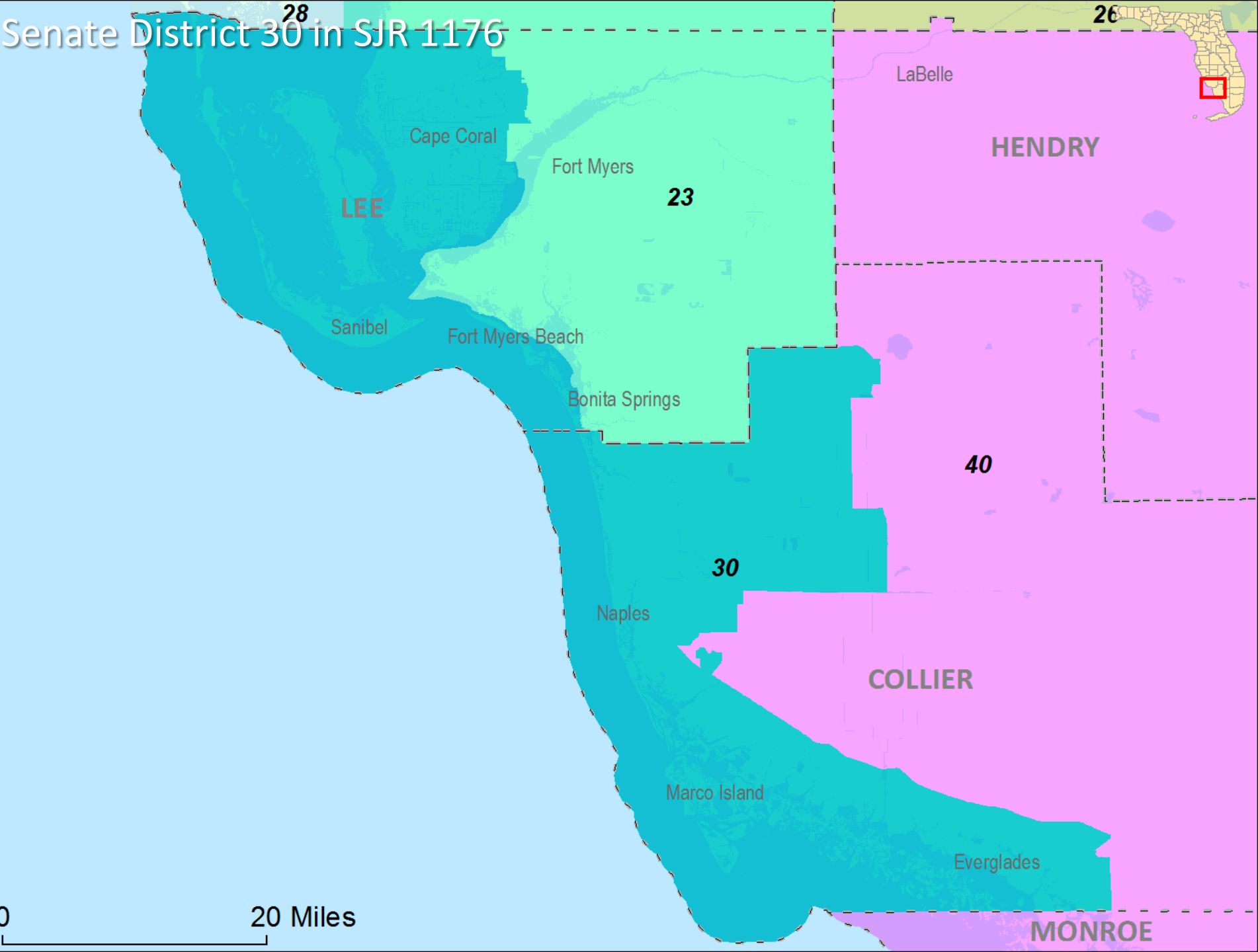
Central Florida (metrics 4 of 5)

- Shifting District 10 (District 13 with the new number applied) to the east of Orlando results in a district that gets only 12.1% of its population from the current Senate District 9.

Central Florida (metrics 5 of 5)

- Geometric compactness:
 - End-to-end distance of District 12 decreases from 34 to 29 miles.
 - Its Reock score increases from 0.24 to 0.40.
 - Its Convex Hull ratio increases from 0.41 to 0.74.

Senate District 30 in SJR 1176



28

26

LEE

HENDRY

23

40

30

COLLIER

MONROE

0 20 Miles

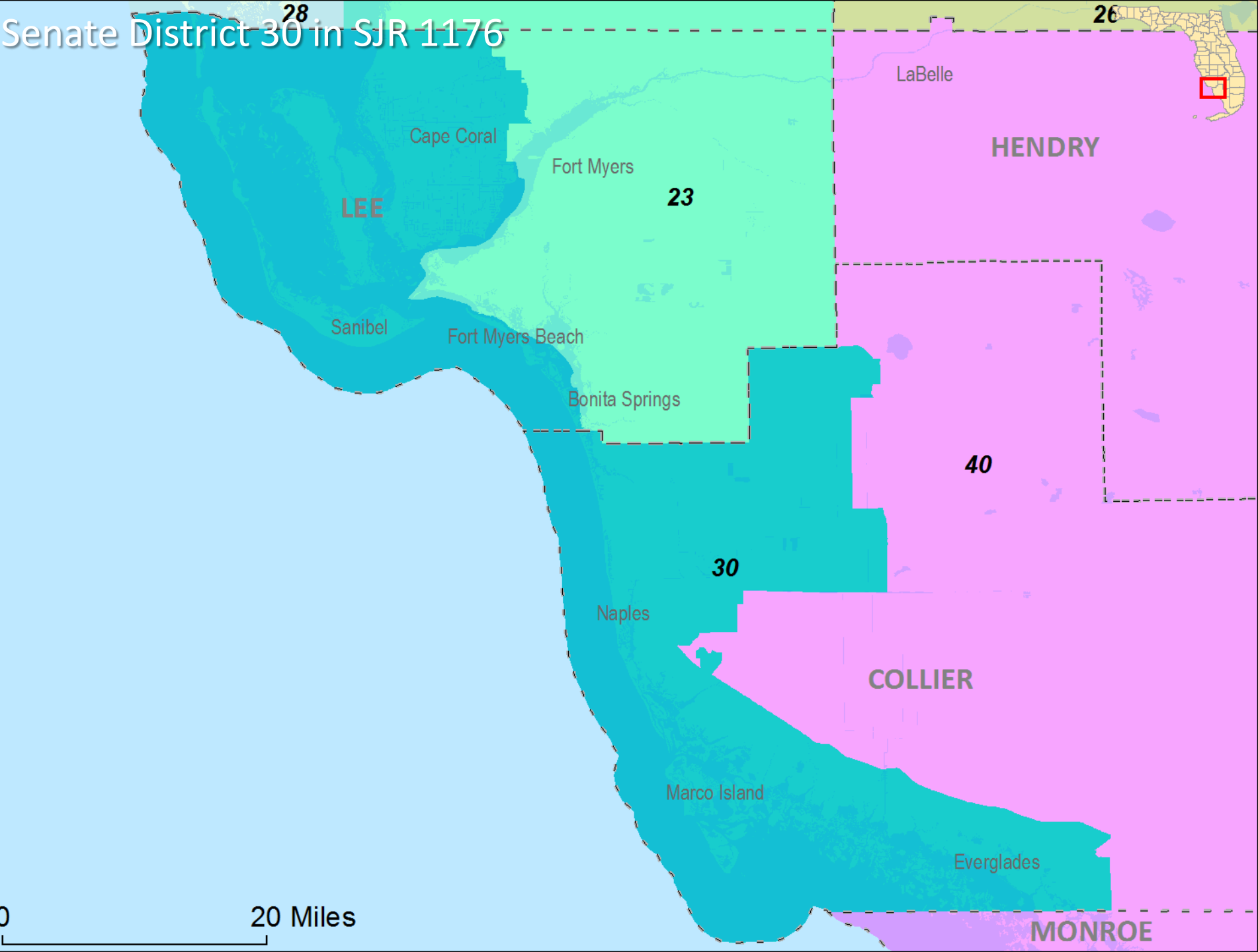
District 30 (slide 1 of 2)

- District 30 “is visually non-compact, and the mathematical measures of compactness support this conclusion. . . . [I]n addition to being non-compact, District 30 splits counties, municipalities, and geographical features.”
- “With the exception of the boundary it shares with District 40, District 30 does not need to be configured to avoid diminishing minority voting strength....”

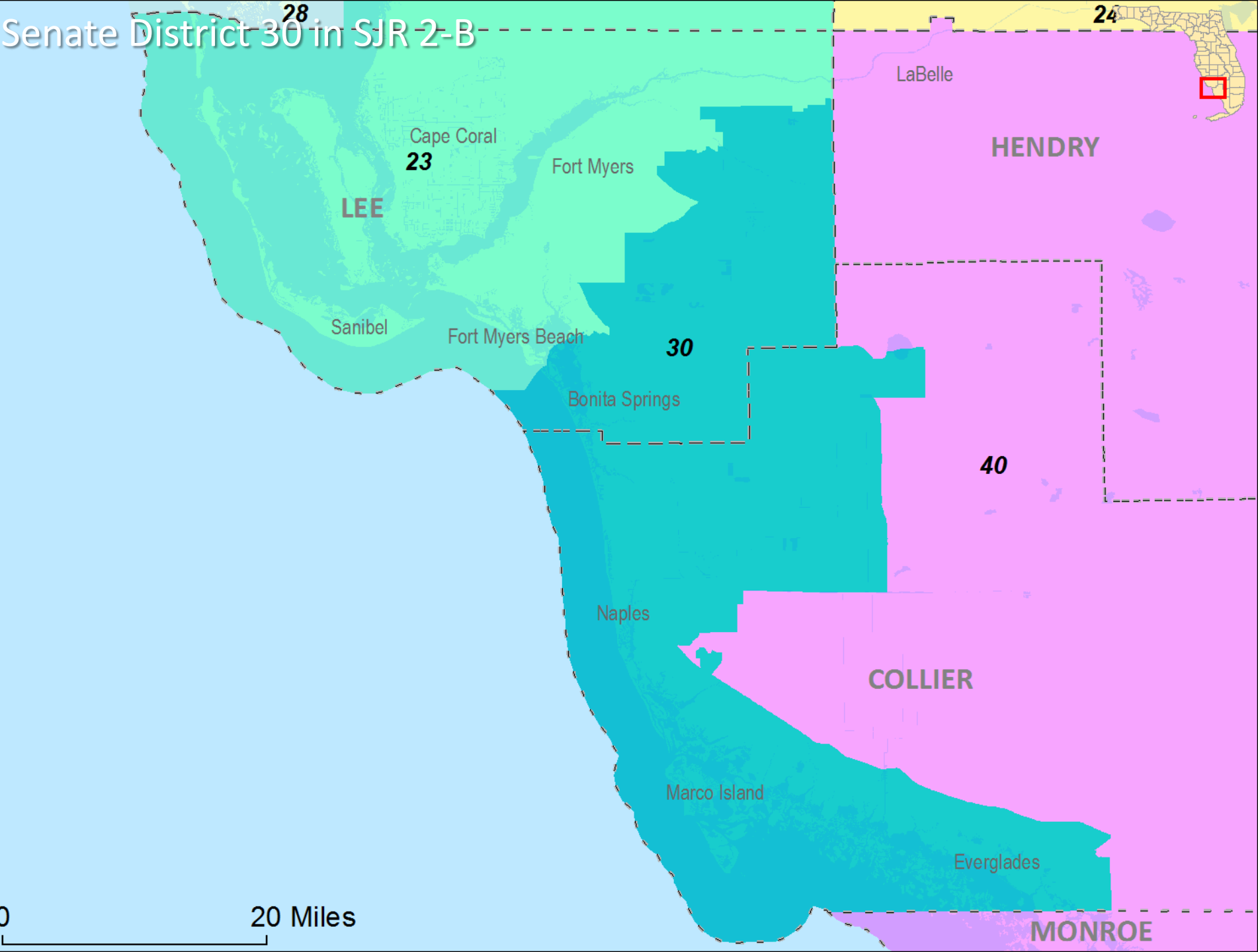
District 30 (slide 2 of 2)

- While “the Legislature intended to tie coastal communities together,” this is not a “valid constitutional justification” for a departure from Tier-Two standards.

Senate District 30 in SJR 1176



Senate District 30 in SJR 2-B



28

23

24

LEE

HENDRY

30

40

COLLIER

MONROE

0 20 Miles

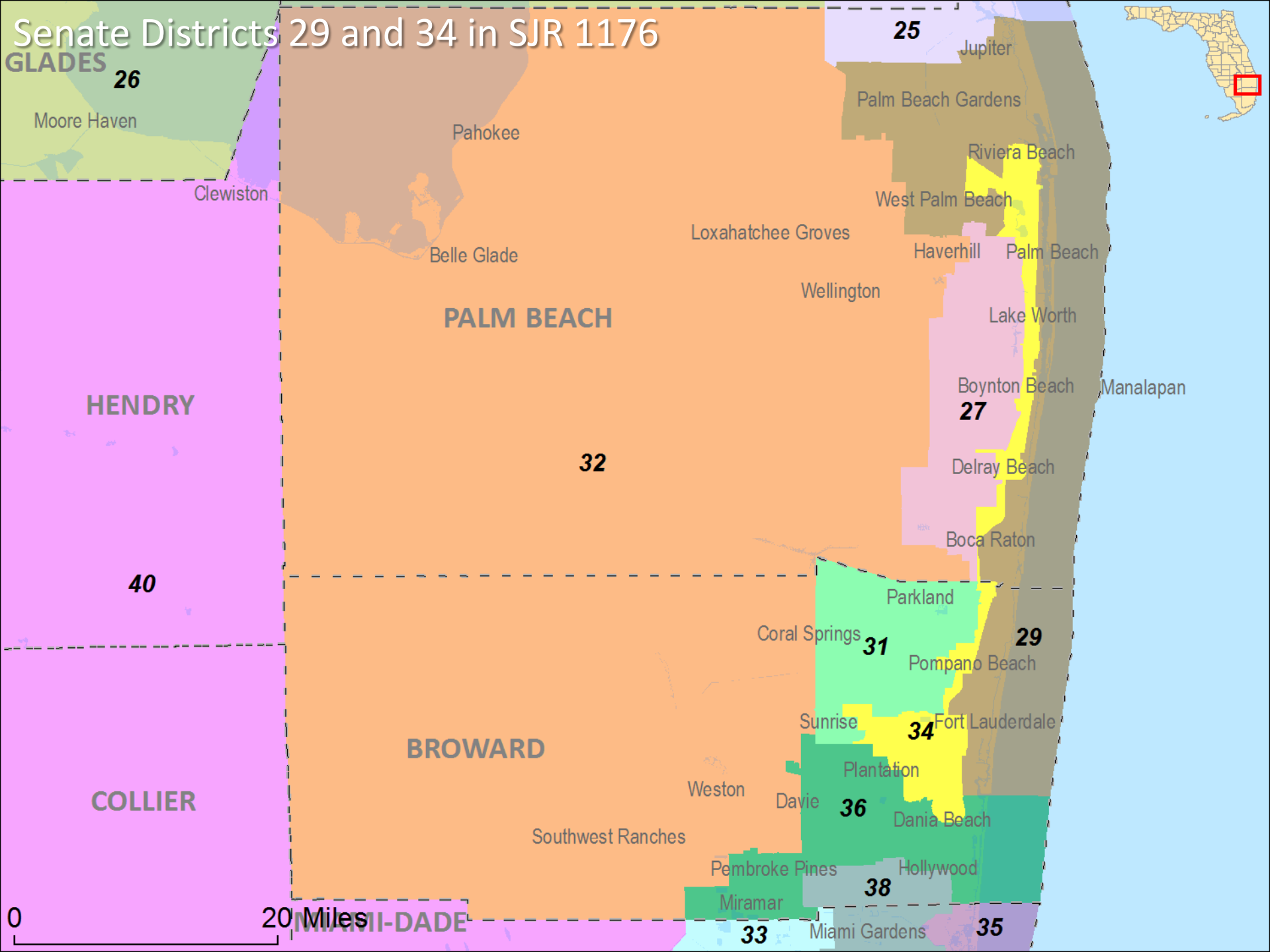
District 30 (metrics 1 of 2)

- The amendment renumbers District 30 to District 23.
- The border of the district now follows the Estero River, major roadways, and the borders of Bonita Springs and Lehigh Acres to connect with Collier County territories immediately to its north.

District 30 (metrics 2 of 2)

- Geometric compactness:
 - End-to-end distance of District 23 (formerly District 30) decreases from 95 to 67 miles.
 - Its Reock score increases from 0.19 to 0.32.
 - Its Convex Hull ratio increases from 0.56 to 0.67.

Senate Districts 29 and 34 in SJR 1176



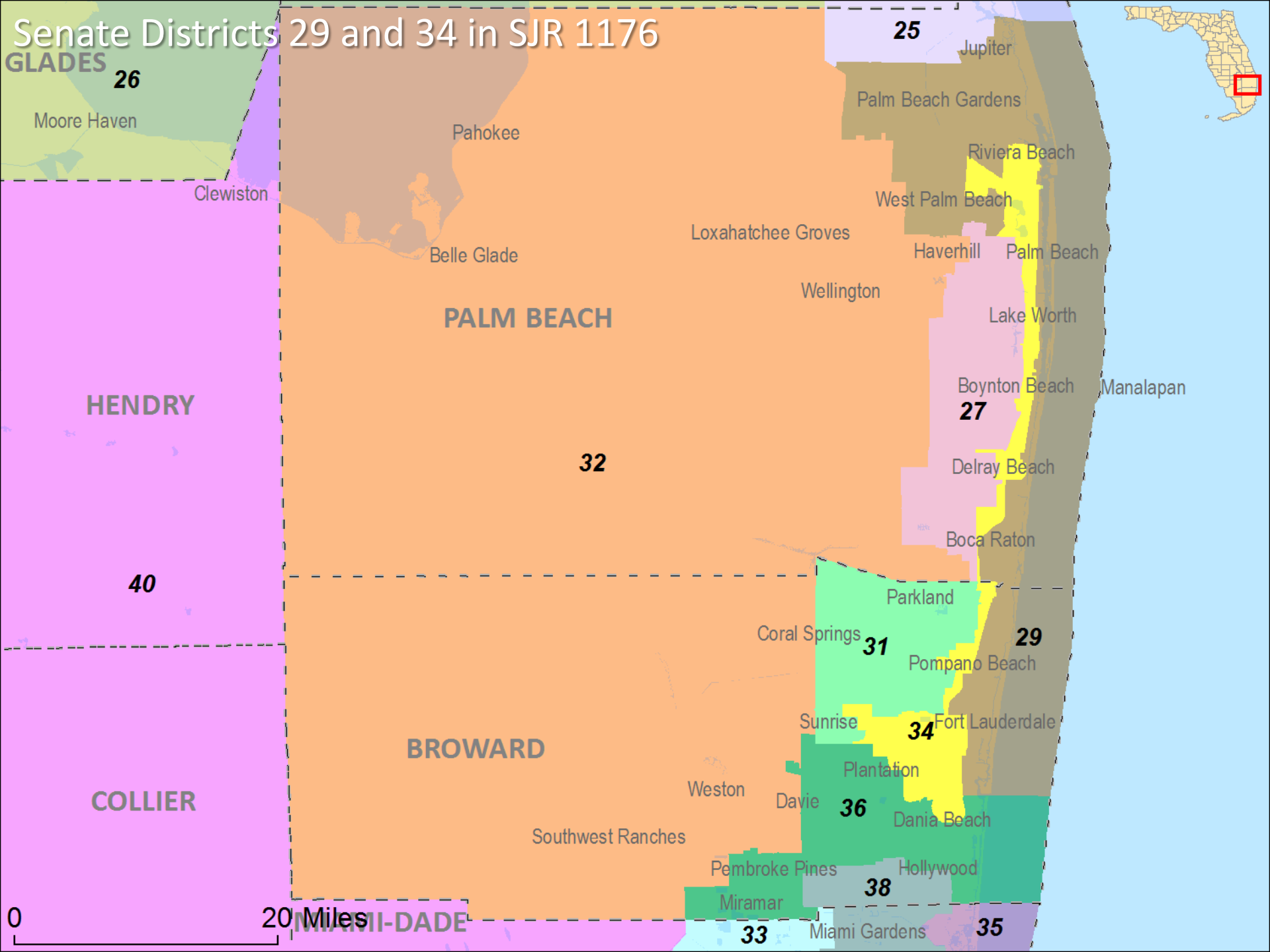
Districts 29 and 34 (slide 1 of 2)

- Districts 29 and 34 were drawn “to favor an incumbent and a political party by keeping District 29 essentially the same as its predecessor district.”
- District 29 “lean[s] Republican” in an area of the state that is “largely Democratic.”

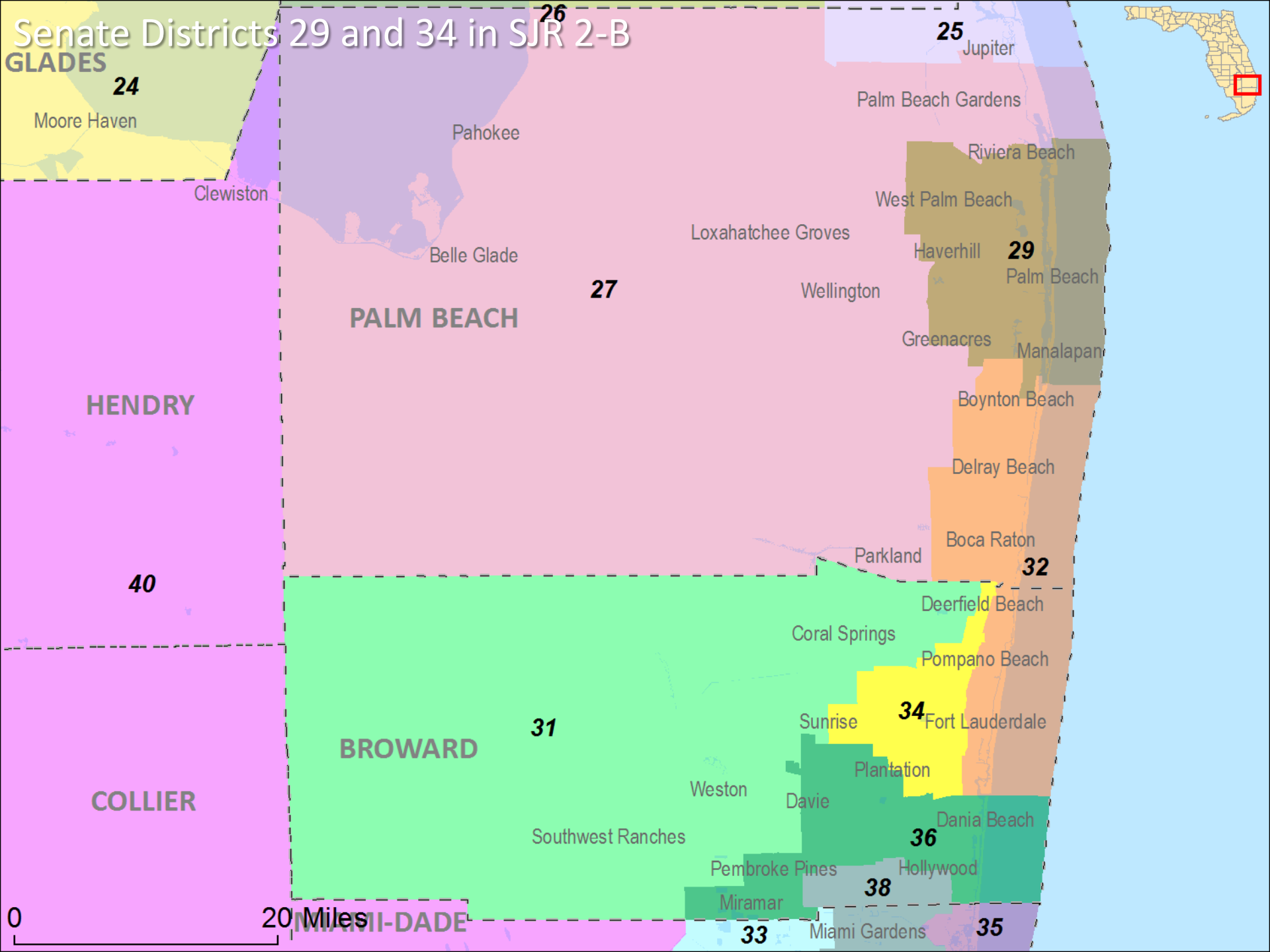
Districts 29 and 34 (slide 2 of 2)

- The districts in this area—including District 34—might have been drawn to “make[] the area, as a whole, more compact.” If the Legislature had “draw[n] logical, compact districts in a neutral manner,” the map would likely have reflected “five Democratic districts.”

Senate Districts 29 and 34 in SJR 1176



Senate Districts 29 and 34 in SJR 2-B



Districts 29 and 34 (metrics 1 of 5)

- Functional Analysis shows that in the new configuration of District 34 (now numbered District 31), black voters made up 61.2% of electorate in the 2010 Democratic primary.
- Among blacks who are registered to vote, 90.5% are Democrats. Most voters are Democrats, and most Democrats are Black.

Districts 29 and 34 (metrics 2 of 5)

- Therefore, both the minority district and the adjacent coastal district could be more compact without diminishing opportunities for Black citizens to elect candidates of their own choosing.
- Geometric compactness:
 - Average end-to-end distance of the five Palm Beach and North Broward districts decreases from 46 to 39 miles.

Districts 29 and 34 (metrics 3 of 5)

- Geometric compactness:
 - Average Reock score increases from 0.30 to 0.43.
 - Average Convex Hull ratio increases from 0.68 to 0.84.

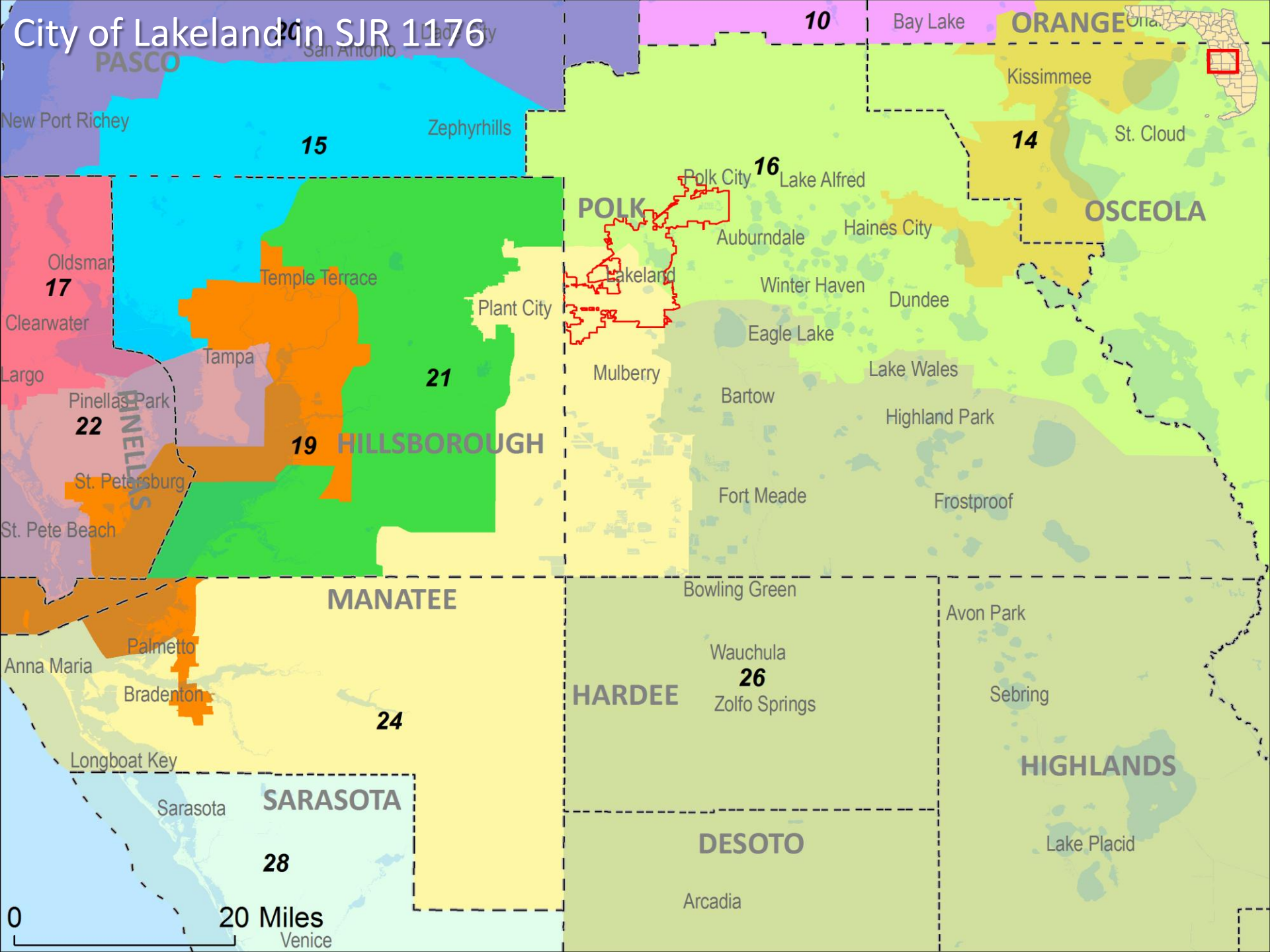
Districts 29 and 34 (metrics 4 of 5)

- The random renumbering by the amendment that is before us switches the numbers of these two districts. District 34 becomes District 31, and District 29 is absorbed primarily by Districts 25, 27, and 34.
- District 31 is entirely in Broward County.
- Only one district crosses the boundary between Broward and Palm Beach Counties, compared to three in SJR 1176.

Districts 29 and 34 (metrics 5 of 5)

- The number of counties kept in a single district increases from two to four.
- Among the 38 municipalities in Palm Beach County, only three, West Palm Beach, Jupiter, and Boynton Beach, are split by districts.

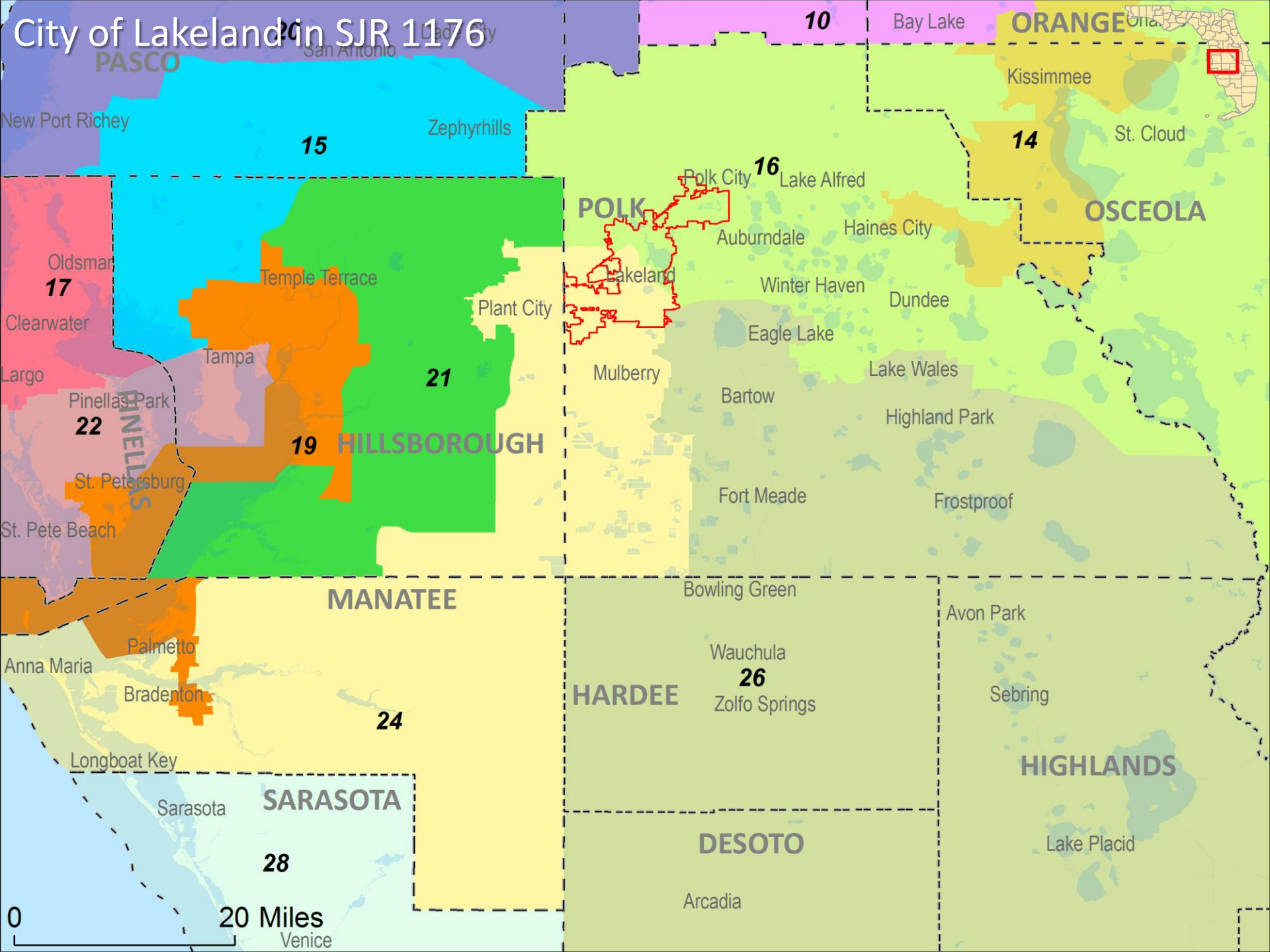
City of Lakeland in SJR 1176



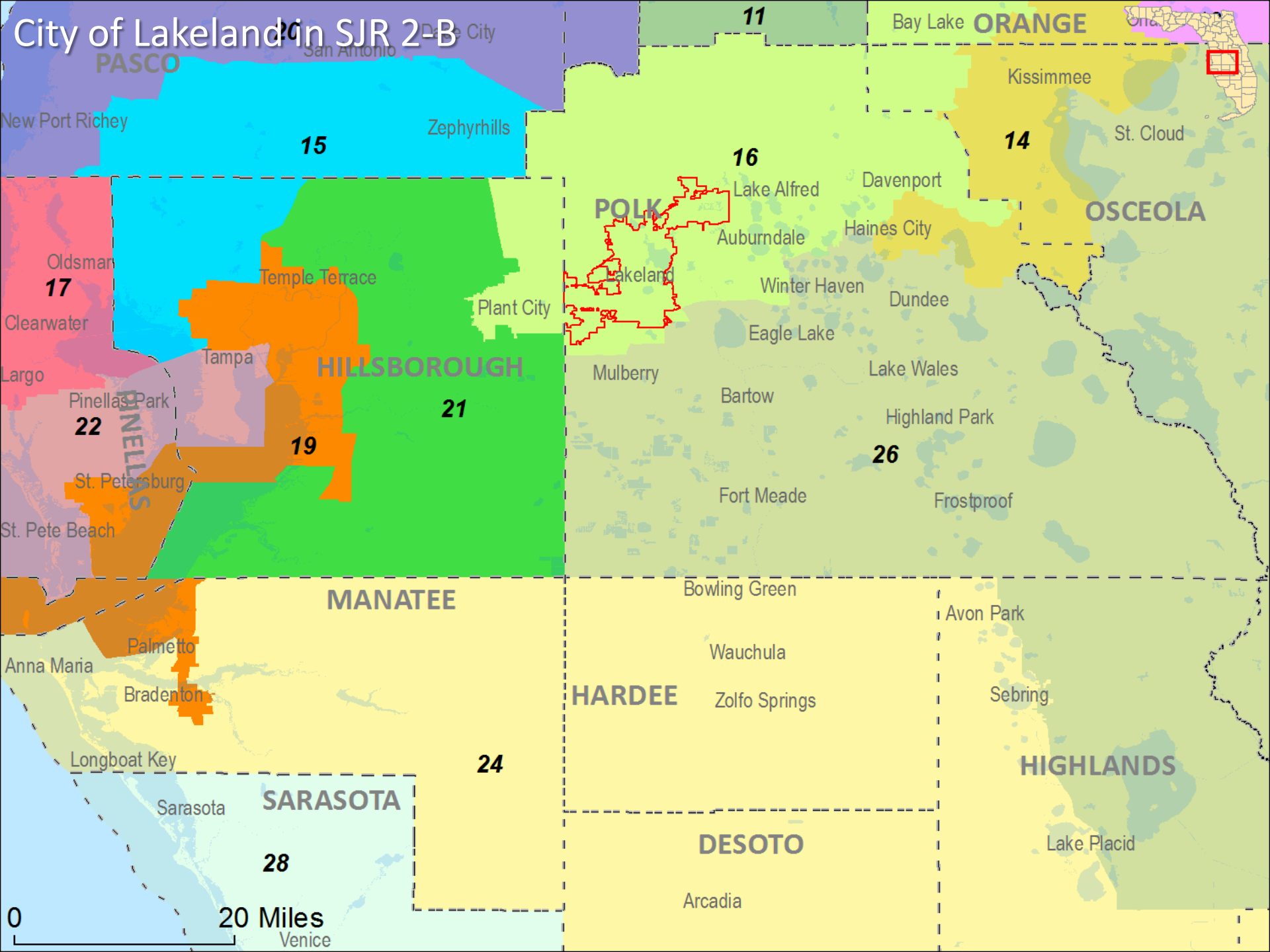
City of Lakeland

- “[T]he Senate failed to adhere to any consistent definition of ‘political and geographical boundary.’ This is especially evident because in the case of District 24, the Senate placed part of inland Lakeland with the coastal communities of Manatee County...”

City of Lakeland in SJR 1176



City of Lakeland in SJR 2-B



Metrics...

	Benchmark	SJR 1176	LWV	SJR 2-G
Whole counties	22	36	45	43
Whole cities	284	356	369	364
Political and geographic borders	74.2%	82.7%	81.4%	83.4%
Average perimeter	286.8	249.4	244.4	224.4
Average end-to-end	71.2	67.9	64.4	62.7
Convex Hull	0.636	0.693	0.735	0.754
Reock	0.314	0.351	0.397	0.4
Polsby-Popper	0.207	0.279	0.274	0.337

Numbering (slide 1 of 2)

- “[T]he Legislature is prohibited from numbering districts with the intent to favor or disfavor an incumbent.”
- A “system that significantly advantages incumbents by increasing the length of time that they may serve by two years most assuredly favors incumbents.”

Numbering (slide 2 of 2)

- “Purposefully manipulating the numbering of districts in order to allow incumbents to serve in excess of eight years would also appear to frustrate the intent of the voters when the term limits amendment was adopted.”

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