

AGPA01

From: David, Henry [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2010 7:44 AM
To: Voters First Act
Subject: California's Citizens' Redistricting Commission//Gina Simas

You have undertaken a very difficult, but extremely important task--one that will help determine what our State will be. I write to strongly suggest that you include Gina Simas on the Commission.

I worked with Gina from 2003 to 2006. At the risk of telling you what you already know, she is very bright, very hard-working, and very committed. Although she comes from a family with a long political history in Stockton, Gina has no political ambitions herself. The Commission will be an "ends", not a "means," to her. She wants to be on the Commission to help "get it right," not as a stepping stone to some future position or a resume builder. Although Gina belongs to one of the two major parties (I do not), she certainly is not a "Republic In Name Only" or a zealot out to advance the party's agenda (whatever that might be). Gina will listen others, but she also will challenge members from both parties to ensure that the public's interests and legitimate interests are advanced, not the parties' interests. I have no doubt that Gina will advocate the public's interests, and challenge the parties' interests, in a coherent, persuasive way such that the other members will carefully consider what she has to say--which does not mean that they will necessarily agree with her. On the other hand, she will not be a gadfly or a disruptive participant. She understands the need to try to reach a consensus, and will work hard to achieve one.

I cannot speak as to the qualities of the other "finalists;" I do not know them. But I can say with confidence that Gina would be an excellent and committed member.

Thank you for your consideration of these points, and for your own hard work to date.

Henry S. David
Partner

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