

AGPA01

From: Katie Stevens [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 4:10 PM
To: Voters First Act
Cc: [REDACTED] Kathy Van Osten; Georgeanne White; Peter Weber
Subject: Mayor Swarengin Support for Teresa España

Please see the attached comments from City of Fresno Mayor Ashley Swarengin in support of Redistricting Commission candidate Teresa España.

Thank you,

Katie

Katie Stevens
Government Affairs Manager
Office of Mayor Ashley Swarengin
City of Fresno
[REDACTED]

12/14/2010



MAYOR ASHLEY SWEARENGIN

December 14, 2010

Bureau of State Audits
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814
VIA Email: votersfirstact@auditor.ca.gov

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I write in strong support of Teresa España's application to serve as a member on the Citizen's Redistricting Commission. As a college instructor, and a member of the city of Fresno's Historic Preservation Commission, she has displayed integrity and impartiality in the face of challenging circumstances. I personally appointed her to the Historic Preservation Commission in 2009 and she has proven to be an intelligent, actively engaged member. As a member, she is required to study, interpret and weigh intricately detailed materials (e.g., formal staff reports, legal documents, research, historic surveys, maps, public testimony) in order to support conclusions and judgments that she is charged to make. Thoughtful and productive analysis requires a clear understanding of the objectives, an ability to determine when additional information is required, and the courage to ask relevant and thoughtful questions. Ms. España has demonstrated her aptitude and professionalism in this regard.

Ms. España also has a keen understanding of California's diverse demographics and geography. As a resident of Fresno, born and raised, she lives and works in a community where over 100 languages are spoken. It is the largest metropolitan area in the eight-county San Joaquin Valley - Kern County to San Joaquin County - that encompasses 62 cities with 25,000 square miles and continues to be one of the fastest growing regions in California. Yet, it is an area that is often underrepresented. In the interest of geographic diversity, it is vitally important that the 14-member Redistricting Commission adequately represent all regions of the State, including the San Joaquin Valley. If chosen, Ms. España would be the *first* member to represent the San Joaquin Valley region on the commission. Additionally, Teresa could fill one of the two remaining slots for members not affiliated with democratic or republican parties, as she is a registered member of the Green Party.

I can appreciate the tough decision before you. Ms. España has proven that she possesses the skills, abilities and experiences that would make her an important contributor to the commission. I encourage you to carefully consider her candidacy.

Thank you,

Ashley Swearengin
Mayor, City of Fresno

CITY OF FRESNO

