



**California's Citizens Redistricting Commission Comes To Bakersfield
To Hold Public Input Hearing On
The Drawing Of Congressional, Legislative And Board of Equalization Districts**

California's Citizens Redistricting Commission will hold a public input meeting in Bakersfield on Thursday, April 14, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Bakersfield City Hall South, 1501 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

The Commission was created by California voters to draw state Congressional, Assembly, Senate and Board of Equalization Districts.

Public participation in drawing these districts is critical to ensuring that communities have the strongest voice possible to express their preferences. When voters with similar interests are drawn into a district together, their voices multiply giving them a greater opportunity to express their preferences. When voters with similar interests are drawn into a district together, their voices multiply giving them a greater opportunity to express their views, elect candidates of their choice and hold their leaders accountable.

The public is encouraged to present testimony about the community they live in describing the kind of people who live in their community, important issues, community centers and community history. The Commission is taking testimony from Central Coast area residents before drawing its first round of draft maps which will be released in June. Final district maps must be approved by the Commission by August 15th.

Anyone wishing to speak at the meetings should note that comments are limited to 3-5 minutes (depending on the number who wish to speak).

Please visit the Commission's website at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov as more information and helpful tools will become available and be posted before the hearing.

All public input hearings are accessible in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Any person who wishes to request auxiliary aids or services, including translation, to participate in the hearing of the Commission, in accordance with State or Federal law, should contact Janeece Sargis at 1-866-356-5217, or e-mail votersfirstact@ca.gov, not later than five (5) business days before the noticed hearing date.

The public input hearing will be streamed live at www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov.