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From: LAWSON_BRIAN [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 12:24 AM

To: Commission, Prop11

Subject: Lawson public comment on additional resources

Hello Voters First Act:

I was wondering if you could distribute the attached public comment to the commissioners and staff in time for the January 26th meeting.

Thank you,

-- Brian

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Prepared January 25, 2011 for the January 26, 2011 meeting

TO: California Redistricting Commission Members and Staff
FROM: Brian Lawson

RE: Additional Resources

1. **“Commissioners-in-waiting”**

- (a) Any one of the 36 applicants still eligible as of November 20 could have been randomly selected to serve on the commission. It is possible that some of the 23 individuals not currently serving on the commission may be called on to do so in the future.
- (b) For this reason it may be a good idea to encourage these individuals to remain involved in the process (especially Mr. McKaskle, if he is so inclined). They might be asked if they are willing to serve as contact people in the area where they live or to provide whatever help they could to the commission.

2. **Learning from the Past**

- (a) I attended the morning session of the CRC on January 13, 2011. In the afternoon I followed up on the public comment from Traversaro (1/11/2011) describing the resources available at the California State Archives (at 1020 “O” Street, literally around the corner from your current meeting place). I spent about two hours at the archives, first learning how to request information, then briefly examining the material in about 6 different boxes from the Senate committee on redistricting (I didn’t have time to request the Assembly material). Some of the documents I found in the archives are posted here:
 - i. Documents for the 2001 redistricting are here:
http://homepage.smc.edu/lawson_brian/redistrict/documents2001.htm
Particularly useful is the Senate link to commission transcripts (which includes a cover page with a summary of all witnesses attending) and a letter on the status of legal cases as of December 2001.
 - ii. Documents for the 1991 redistricting are here:
http://homepage.smc.edu/lawson_brian/redistrict/documents1991.htm
This includes a discussion of the issue of “deferred areas” created by the redistricting of Senate districts. Most of the documents are from the Senate committee, rather than from the Special Master’s material.
- (b) To learn what mistakes were made in the past and to potentially prepare for them you might follow up on the public comment from Traversaro and see if the staff at the Archives could give you a brief 2-3 page executive summary on redistricting in California.
- (c) You might also, in an arms length sort of way, request staff who conducted the 2001 redistricting to give you a brief summary of their “lessons learned” from their experiences with the redistricting process.