

Patrick Johnston  
Dean Andal  
c/o San Joaquin County Citizens for Constitutional Redistricting  
██  
Stockton, California 95219

VIA FACSIMILE (916) 322-0904

28 April 2011

Daniel Claypool  
Executive Director  
Citizens Redistricting Commission  
1130 K Street, Suite 101  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: San Joaquin County State Senate, Assembly, and Congressional Districts

Dear Mr. Claypool and Citizens Redistricting Commissioners:

We are former elected officials from San Joaquin County. Patrick is a registered Democrat and former representative of California's 5th Senate District. Dean is a registered Republican and former representative of California's 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. We have come together specifically to address the California Citizens Redistricting Commission about our concerns that state Senate, Assembly, and Congressional districts be drawn to keep San Joaquin County whole.

When we represented the residents of San Joaquin County in the 1990's, both districts respected the county boundary. The senate district included all of San Joaquin County and the assembly district was completely within San Joaquin County. In a grave injustice to our county, the 2001 redistricting chopped San Joaquin County into four Assembly Districts, two Senate Districts, and two Congressional Districts. The result: Not one of those eight elected officials lives in San Joaquin County and half of them do not even live in counties adjacent to San Joaquin County.

This arrangement provides neither fair nor effective representation to a county of 685,300 people, more than 291,700 of whom live in Stockton. We urge the Commission to recognize this disparity and agree that:

- San Joaquin County should constitute its own Congressional District.
- San Joaquin County should be placed in only two Assembly districts.
- San Joaquin County residents should be kept together in a single state Senate District.

Drawing the district boundaries in this manner will follow the requirements of the Voters First Act and comply with the U.S. Constitution, the federal Voting Rights Act, and the California Constitution.

**San Joaquin County's population is consistent with maintaining the integrity of its boundaries**

San Joaquin County's population equals 98 percent of the "ideal" population for a Congressional District. Including in the district about 20,000 people from a community immediately adjacent to San Joaquin County means the district would meet the population equality requirement for a Congressional District. Including those residents from adjacent communities is what voters had in mind when they passed Propositions 11 and 20. That is what it means to respect county boundaries.

San Joaquin County's population equals 74 percent of the ideal population for a state Senate District. Including people from communities immediately adjacent to San Joaquin County would create a Senate District that meets the population requirement.

San Joaquin County's population is enough to form one state Assembly District and 47 percent of a second Assembly District. Recognizing that adjacent county populations will need to be included with San Joaquin County, no more than two Assembly districts are necessary to accomplish this task. Of course, that would help in the formation of the state Senate District, because of the requirement that Senate Districts be formed by two adjacent Assembly Districts.

All of the districts should be formed without splitting any city within San Joaquin County.

**San Joaquin County's geography is consistent with maintaining the integrity of its boundaries**

San Joaquin County is rather self-contained with transportation and other services sufficient to service significant population centers in Stockton, Lodi, and the south county cities of Tracy and Manteca. It is then desirable and logical to contain San Joaquin County and the cities within San Joaquin County in a single Congressional District, in no more than two Assembly Districts, and the entire county within one Senate District.

**San Joaquin County is a community of interest**

The state Constitution requires that a community of interest be respected. It defines a community of interest as: "a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Examples of such shared interests are those common to an urban area, a rural area, an industrial area, or an agricultural area, and those common to areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media of communication relevant to the election process."

**The boundaries of San Joaquin County should be respected**

We urge the Citizens Redistricting Commission to keep San Joaquin County as its own Congressional District so that the common interests of all citizens within the county will be fairly and effectively represented. San Joaquin County is the 15th largest county in the state with 685,306 residents and verges on the “ideal” population mark for a Congressional District. It is fitting that it be a Congressional District of its own and its citizens have an elected member of Congress living in the county.

We also urge the Citizens Redistricting Commission to form only two Assembly Districts within San Joaquin County so that all citizens within the county are fairly and effectively represented. Finally, we urge that San Joaquin County residents be kept in a single state Senate District. This will also allow San Joaquin County citizens to be represented in the State Senate by an elected official living within the county.

Sincerely,



PATRICK JOHNSTON  
former California State Senator



DEAN ANDAL  
former California State Assemblyman