

## Notes

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**Title:** Fwd: Testimony for Salinas Hearing

**Date Created:** Monday, May 23, 2011 5:25 PM

From: steve trujillo <[REDACTED]>

Reply-To: steve trujillo <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sunday, May 22, 2011 2:26 PM

To: "[REDACTED]" <[REDACTED]>

CC: "[REDACTED] ca.us"

<[REDACTED] ca.us>

Subject: Why region 7 needs an extension for submitting testimony and why santa cruz county needs to be in one district for state senate and congress

first of all, thanks for reading. my name is steve Trujillo. i am a recently-elected member of the santa cruz city school board of trustees. i live in Capitola.

i have been active in civic affairs for years. i have been a public school teacher in CA for 34 years.

region 7, which includes our county, monterey county, san benito county and santa clara county needs the same amount of time that OTHER regions have to submit testimony. we have important information for you regarding your redistricting the state of CA. therefore , please grant us an extension to match other regions in CA.

here is why santa cruz county needs to have one district for congress and the state senate:

1. it is easier for a county school district office, encharged with oversight of the financial health of 11 school districts, to work with one congressman and one state senator , rather than 2 or 3. a number of our county's school districts are in precarious financial health this decade and need to work with ONE congressman and ONE state senator, not 2 or 3.

2. the center of higher ed is UC Santa Cruz, which draws people from all parts of the county for work, education and social integration, and HAS DONE SO FOR YEARS.

3. the largest newspaper, the Sentinel, is the only one that carries county-wide news. it is delivered county wide. no other newspaper outside of Santa Cruz county carries santa cruz county news on a regular basis. as it is, the Sentinel is fighting to hang on to its very financial existence. the

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fact there are fewer reporters to cover governmental affairs make division of our county into multiple senate and congressional districts more isolating and problematic.

4.as to television. only recently did the central coast FINALLY get an ABC network tv station, which is now available to all TV viewers in santa cruz county. KGO, which is the ABC affiliate in san francisco, is available to viewers only at extra cost. KGO channel 7 RARELY EVER reports news that is especially pertinent regarding local government affairs other than weather-related or natural disasters. dividing our county into multiple districts would LESSEN public knowledge of local government concerns .

4. Spanish is THE growing language of Santa Cruz county. the few spanish language media outlets we have barely cover parts of, or most of the county. They do NOT reach outside santa cruz county.

5. we have ONE community college that serves our county : Cabrillo. once again, this wonderful institution of higher learning would be weakened by having multiple representatives in congress and the state senate.

6. our coastline, which is part of the federally-protected Monterey Bay national sanctuary, is a region of natural interest that forms our western border gives our county jobs and is a natural resource of pride that would best benefit from a single representative in congress and a single state senator.

7. we are tied together by one major highway: highway 1. it is the lifeline for motorists who commute within , across and outside the county. it ties our county together.

cutting up highway one within our county to artificially create 2 or more state senate districts and congressional seats makes it more difficult to obtain government help in cases of weather emergency or natural disaster that could occur within the county.

in short , please do NOT cut our county up into smaller segments. we are almost entirely in one state assembly district. this has worked well for the county and should be maintained. please consider doing the same for our state senate district and congressional district.

sincerely, Steve Trujillo, [REDACTED] capitola CA 95010

[REDACTED] (cell)