

Subject: Redistricting Congressional District 1**Date:** Friday, May 20, 2011 1:59 PM**From:** Nick Motto <[REDACTED]>**To:** <[REDACTED]>**Cc:** <[REDACTED]>**Conversation:** Redistricting Congressional District 1

Commissioners:

As a Humboldt County resident, I am troubled by the decision not to hold a full meeting in Eureka with the contingent that met in Redding, CA. I also understand, this is the case north of Santa Rosa on the Hwy 101 corridor.

Do the Commissioners think the residents north and west of Santa Rosa and Redding are unimportant to this process? Do they think the interests and needs of Redding are the same as that of coastal communities? From their behavior, it would be logical to draw this conclusion. The three hour drive that prevented most from attending should have been a clue.

I strong oppose any attempt to redistrict Congressional District 1 for the following reasons.

Geography dictates the boundaries of Congressional District 1.

Present boundaries reflect the actual needs and interests of the communities it encompasses. Alturas and Redding have nothing in common with the present District communities. Their needs and interests are those of inland, desert communities. They and coastal residents would be ill served if attempts were made to draw neat east west lines across the north state.

Counties in the present District have common interests in forestry, tourism, agriculture, and fishing. Anything east of the present boundaries does not have these interests. A representative in a district including Redding and Eureka would be hard pressed to serve both constituencies.

The I-5 corridor, which serves the inland north state, has it's own needs and problems the Hwy 101 corridor does not have. Those problems are much different than those of the inland route. An investigation into how much federal funding has gone to repair storm damage in coastal communities verses that of the I-5 corridor would show the needs of the coast are different than those of inland areas. Between the two main line highways, there is very little population. That is why the present boundaries are best.

The communities along the Hwy 101 corridor have a long and fruitful history of cooperation towards common interests and goals. The relationships by the counties

and the state along with the federal government help define who we are here on the north coast. I am sure the residents of Redding or Alturas feel the same about their area. Draw east west lines breaking up those Districts and it could take years to forge new relationships among entities serving the public.

In short, it "ain't" broke. So don't "fix" it.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Motto, Carlotta, CA