

Region 9: Nevada

-05.19.11.I

#15

Testimony on to the Citizens Redistricting Commission
May 19, 2011

My name is Judi Caler, # 15 and I'm an ordinary citizen from Nevada City, California.

Thank you so much for being here to listen to us. Your job in redistricting is so important; it can literally affect our future.

I looked at the maps of our current state and federal districts. They have a N/S orientation, are largely rural and, for the most part, follow county lines. ~~In our state senate district, the eastern part of Nevada County which includes Crater is difficult to access in winter, and therefore is logically included with the Tahoe area.~~

I believe we need to keep the N/S orientation of the districts as is, as we have commonality with the people in nearby counties, and we have access to highways to visit our congressional and state representatives. Nevada County shares demographics and an economy with those in our current districts where we are able to work together and travel to participate in the political process. To lump us together with coastal communities or the central valley where the economies are so different would interfere with our uniqueness as a district. In addition, this would probably create added time and expenses for our elected representatives in visiting their districts, for which we all foot the bill.

I'm very concerned with fixing something that isn't broken and developing unintended consequences. I'm pleased with our current districts.

I ask you to change things as little as possible in Northern California. And I urge you to vary the districts in terms of population by 2% or even less. Remember—if it's not broken, don't fix it.

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16

May 19, 2011

Camille Hald

Grass Valley, CA 95949

California Redistricting Commission
Region 9 Public Hearing

Greetings,

My name is Camille Hald, Speaker Number 16. I live in Grass Valley which is part of Nevada County rich in its history of gold mining and home of the Draft Horse Classic. We have many small farms growing local food for people here as well. Our community spirit is strong; in addition our connection with the outlying communities in neighboring counties.

The urgency of citizen participation was just recently stressed to me hence my presence here tonight to support a voice in that currently I am happy with the way that the lines are drawn for the election of our elected officials.

I was told that some were considering splitting us East/West opposed to the current lines which reflect a North/South orientation. The latter allows our officials as well as us as constituents easier travel accessibility to one another. Plus it cohesively keeps us together as rural vs. coastal areas which again is important due to different types of economies as well as demographics.

Another issue that was brought to my attention was the need to emphasize to you that it is most important to have the least amount of variance in population as possible. I suggest not more than a 2% variance since larger deviations will only favor the more populous areas.

Overall I am excited to be present here tonight giving my input as a citizen; in addition looking forward to participating in the upcoming hearings as well. In the meantime, I will continue to get others I know involved in this historic opportunity we have here in California at this time of redistricting.

Thank you.

Camille Hald

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20

May 19, 2011
Donna Burley
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Nevada County

California Redistricting Commission
Region 9 Public Meeting

Good Evening

My name is Donna Burley Speaker # 20 I'm from Nevada County, a rural area of California

Thank you for holding this meeting and allowing for this input. I appreciate that you realize this is a critical issue for California and especially our rural areas.

Rural areas, by definition, not being highly populated should not, in my opinion, be lumped in with coastal and largely populated city areas. It would not be fair representation for said rural areas to have one huge, so called, Mega District in the North State. I would urge that any consideration of a mega district be eliminated as a viable plan by this Commission...

"It's all about logistics" for our representatives, Federal and State representatives will find contacts with constituents logistically sound, as they do now, with the retention of the North/South configuration. It would not be feasible to make any change in that regard at this time or any time in the future. It makes no logical sense to draw lines in an east/west direction. North/South will allow representation to be fair, equal and easily accessible for our representatives. Also, deviations should be kept at 2% or less in order not to favor more populous areas.

Voters in rural areas should not be sectioned out!
South lines with the deviation at 2% or less

To summarize, No Mega District, Keep North/

Thank You

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#22

May 19, 2011

Fran Freedle

Grass Valley, CA 95945

California Redistricting Commission
Region 9 Public Meeting

Good Evening,

My name is Fran Freedle, Speaker Number 22, I live in Nevada County in the rural part of California.

Thank you for coming to Northern California and holding this meeting in Auburn to hear the interests and concerns of citizens who live in this part of our large and diverse state. I appreciate the time you have spent holding hearings throughout California. I'm sure you have learned a lot about our great state.

I choose to live in a rural area, and realize that it does not have a high population. This is a factor that requires my County to be combined with other counties to achieve voter population parity with other more populated areas. But, the idea of combining many rural counties into a mega and super district is not a good one. The districts, as they are presently drawn, serve us very well.

Present districts allow travel along north-south highways to reach constituents allowing our representatives to have contact with us. I cannot imagine drawing lines in any other configuration other than north-south that would be as effective. There are no common and easy-to-travel routes in any other direction.

We have unique economies in our districts that are similar creating compatibility among the citizens in rural northern counties.

We have unique demographics in our districts that are similar and compatible.

When drawing the districts, I urge you to maintain a 2% or less deviation. I feel that would be the most fair to everyone. We have elections where just a few votes could change the outcome, and if the deviation is greater, there would be less fairness. Isn't this what redistricting is supposed to achieve?

My main points are

- 1) no mega northern district
- 2) keep the districts as they are presently with north-south lines
- 3) keep the deviation to 2% or less.

Thank you.

FRAN FREEDLE