

Subject: Fwd: Letter to the Redistricting committee

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 14:13:00 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

To: The Citizens Redistricting Commission: I fully endorse the contents of the letter from Arthur A.Copleston dated June 26, 2011. Sincerely, Kerstin B. Pollack, [REDACTED], Palm Springs, CA 92264

Redistricting_letter.doc

Subject: Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley

From: Jamie Humphrey <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 15:50:14 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley

Jamie Humphrey

[REDACTED]
La Quinta, CA 92253

Subject: Comment on Draft maps for the Coachella Valley and Imperial County

From: "Peter East" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 10:50:50 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

My compliments to the Commission on your work so far – a difficult job done fairly and openly.

However, I do feel that you have missed the mark somewhat in the redistricting proposal for the Coachella Valley and Imperial County.

In particular the proposed IMSAND congressional district including Imperial and part of San Diego County is unnecessarily contorted and difficult to justify, as is the continued division – North and South through the Salton Sea - of the contiguous Coachella and Imperial valleys.

Several of those giving testimony, including Dr. William Gudelenas and Mr. Greg Rodriguez, provided extremely cogent rationales for joining the latter two areas into one overlapping Congressional district and CA Assembly District. There are significant geographic, economic and demographic reasons for creation of such districts. Similarly, there are abundant reasons NOT to connect the Imperial Valley to the Southern strip of San Diego County.

As a resident of Palm Springs, I urge you to reconsider the current proposal in light of these rationales.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter F East

Palm Springs CA

Subject: Keep Coachella Valley w/ Riverside!

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 22:12:40 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

PLEASE KEEP COACHELLA VALLEY WITH RIVERSIDE FOR VOTING PURPOSES! THANK YOU!!

Diana G. Gottschalk

[REDACTED]
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Subject: Coachella Valley & Imperial County

From: Paul Lewin <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 14:08:15 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Redistricting Commission:

When I first heard about your historic role I was quite excited at the prospect of a non-partisan process to re-draw our political boundaries. As a life-long resident of the Coachella Valley, I know Southern California intimately. I firmly believe that Imperial County and the Eastern Coachella Valley are truly a community of interest. Ethnically, economically and environmentally they are essentially one region - divided only the arbitrary line of the Imperial/Riverside county border. This region has nothing in common with coastal communities like San Diego or non-desert regions like Murrieta and Hemet.

Rather than have our economic and environmental concerns diluted by coastal communities whose residents rarely venture to our areas, we need solid undivided representation so that our region can be effectively represented.

Please revise your plans - Imperial County is truly a community that matches the Eastern Coachella Valley; we need your historic body to make the right decision so that we can finally begin to tackle the economic, social and environmental issues which we share.

Sincerely,

Paul Lewin
Palm Springs, CA
[REDACTED]

Subject:

From: "Ann Reeves" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 17:25:42 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley. please Keep Coachella Valley with Riverside County.

Lillian P. Reeves

[REDACTED]

Palm Desert, CA 92260

Subject: CD 45 Redistricting

From: CE Krause <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 12:05:12 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission:

I am dismayed to see that once again the desert communities have been divided into multiple Congressional Districts. The districts in the region are still running about a decade or more behind what is reflected on maps in relation to the growth eastward, and to the huge influx of minorities, largely of Hispanic decent.

For too long the area that I am in (the 45th Congressional District) has been under-represented because a focus on the other side of the San Jacinto Mountains has taken precedence. For example, we have been unable to see any movement towards a light rail commuter train to tie into L.A. Metro.

We also are shamefully under-served in relation to issues of health. Our county hospital is all the way on the other side of the mountains - in Moreno Valley. Many of those in under-served areas on the desert side are reliant on public transportation to get there, and public transportation connecting both sides of the mountains is totally inefficient and inconvenient. Even for one who drives, and especially for the most vulnerable and the elderly, Highway 60 - which winds through the mountains - is not an easy drive. We obviously warrant our own public health care facility, based optimally in Indio or Coachella, to serve residents of both the Coachella and Imperial Valleys.

Also, we have a very poor system of mail delivery. Often mail takes as long to get across the country as it does to get to a next-door neighbor. This is because, incredibly, everything is going through San Bernardino and not handled locally. With all the growth we have experienced, surely the desert communities warrant our own U.S. Postal Service processing and distribution center. Due to the district being so spread out, as with the problem of public transportation, we have been disenfranchised, and it's time things changed to reflect the reality of the situation and circumstances in the desert.

We are facing a huge environmental disaster in what continues to unfold as it relates to the Salton Sea. It doesn't make geographical sense to cut this body of water in half. This natural wonder is left to imminent destruction due to it's being within more than one Congressional District.

The residents of our desert communities in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys share rich social and economic interests, and we cannot afford yet another decade of neglect and disenfranchisement. For too long the desert area has been looked at as simply a resort area for the well off. There are now, and will continue to be many who make their homes here year-round. Our average citizens are getting the short end of the stick, to say nothing about how this creates conditions where Mexican farm workers suffer pathetic, tragic conditions unworthy of our country, such as in Duroville, which was put into receivership by a district court.

The residents of all of our desert communities, rich and poor alike, should be within a single shared Congressional District; we should not be fragmented and fighting for resources that go to the western side of the district into San Bernardino, Moreno Valley,

etc, as is the case today, or even as far as Cabazon and Calimesa, with which we have next to nothing in common. Don't cut us off from residents of the Imperial Valley, with whom we clearly share so much.

The San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains which now divide our clearly incongruous 45th Congressional District are both a physical barrier and a psychological one that cause a detrimental break in continuity for addressing the urgent needs and commonalities of the desert as a whole. The desert needs its own Congressional District!

So, please redraw the first draft map so that it excludes Cabazon and beyond, and includes Desert Hot Springs and the Imperial Valley. Don't continue to cater to the west side of the mountains. Don't exacerbate the problem of disenfranchisement that we've suffered for decades; rather, ameliorate our situation and promote our sense of dignity and integrity. We have no choice but to trust you to protect our growing and shamefully under-served communities.

Sincerely,

Carolyn E Krause
La Quinta, CA 92253



Subject: Keep Riverside County's Coachella Valley Intact!

From: Debbie Hobbs <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 00:07:42 +0000 (UTC)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commission Members:

As a resident of Riverside County's Coachella Valley, I want to thank you for the insight and wisdom in your actions to develop legislative district lines within our community.

I applaud your professionalism and fortitude in maintaining our valley as an economic, political and single community of interest. I believe strongly that the following factors exemplify the need to maintain Coachella Valley's proposed legislative district boundaries.

1. Military
2. Transportation
3. Regional Airport
4. Economics
5. Healthcare

I strongly urge your continued commitment to keep Coachella Valley intact and not integrate our legislative districts with Imperial or San Diego County who have more in common with each other.

Sincerely,

Deborah Hobbs

[REDACTED]
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: New redistricting considered

From: "Rob Atkins" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 11:02:40 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

A better plan is to merge eastern Riverside County and Imperial County.

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Arturo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 01:18:57 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Arturo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Public comment

Message Body:

June 27, 2011

TO: Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission

FROM: Arturo J. Hernandez

Dear Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission:

I was very disappointed to see that once again the desert communities were divided up into multiple Congressional Districts. The districts in the region seem to be running about a decade or more behind what is reflected on maps in relation to the growth eastward, and a huge influx of minorities largely of Hispanic decent.

For too long the area that I am in (the 45th Congressional District) has been under-represented because a focus on the other side of mountain range has taken precedence. For example we have been unable to see any movement towards a light rail commuter train to tie into L.A. Metro.

Also, we have a very poor system of mail delivery. Often something can be sent across the country as quickly as it gets to a next-door neighbor. This is because, incredibly, everything is going through San Bernardino and not handled locally. With all the growth we have experienced surely the desert communities warrant their own U.S. Postal Service processing and distribution center. Due to the district being so spread out we have become, in essence, step children.

We are facing a huge environmental disaster in what continues to unfold as it relates to the Salton Sea. This natural wonder is left to destruction due to it's being within more than one Congressional District.

We also are very under-served as it relates to issues of health. Our county hospital is all the way on the other side of the mountain in Moreno Valley. There is a lack of public transportation which many of those in under-served areas are reliant on to get there. Even for one who drives, and especially anyone who might be elderly, Highway 60 - which winds through the mountains - is not an easy drive (think white-knuckle). Again here, as in the situation with the U.S. Postal Service, we warrant our own public health care facility based optimally in Indio or Coachella.

The residents of our desert communities in the Coachella Valley and Imperial County share rich social and economic interests that cannot afford yet another decade of neglect. For too long the desert area has been looked at as simply a resort area for the well off. There are now, and will continue to be, many who make their homes here year-round. Our average citizens are getting the short end of the stick, to say nothing about how this creates conditions where Mexican farm workers suffer tragic conditions unworthy of our country, such as in Duroville, which was put into receivership by a district court. The residents of the desert communities rich and poor alike, should be within a single shared Congressional District and not fragmented and fighting for resources that go to the western side of the district into San

Bernardino, Moreno Valley, etc.

The mountain range that now divides the 45th Congressional District is both a physical barrier and a psychological one, that causes a detrimental break in continuity for addressing the needs and commonalities of the desert. We are counting on you to protect our under-served communities.

Sincerely,

Arturo J. Hernandez, M.A.S.
Palm Desert, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Donald Bilby <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:42:13 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Donald Bilby <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Coachella Valley & Imperial County

Message Body:

Please keep these two areas together. In addition to the Salton Sea issues, there are major agricultural issues within these two areas that are best served by one representative. Thank you.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Keep Coachella valley with San Diego

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:13:15 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Keep Coachella Valley with SanDiego, NOT with Palm Springs. Don Anderson

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Dennis Elsasser <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 18:46:08 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Dennis Elsasser <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Cochella Valley

Message Body:

Please include Imperial County in the Cochella Valley district. We have very similar interests.

Thank you.

Dennis Elsasser

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Keep Imperial Valley out of Riverside County's Coachella Valley

From: Ken Hobbs <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 00:20:38 +0000

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commission Members:

As a former public employee and a former gubernatorial appointee for the State of California, I applaud your efforts and dilligence in traveling throughout this great state of ours in your efforts to fairly and equitably subdivide legislative and political districts.

You had a yeoman's task and I offer my public acknowledgement of the professionalism and competence of the Commission and it's staff.

I strongly endorse your existing proposed redistricting maps for the Coachella Valley. We believe our valley is a community onto itself and its unique political, economic and social characteristics that distinguishes it from Imperial County. I implore your continued support to maintain the redistricting maps as presently drawn and released by your Commission.

Again, congradulations on a well planned and proffessionally developed redistricting maps for Riverside County's Coachella Valley. Please keep Imperial County out of the Coachella Valley.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth S. Hobbs

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Joanne Bourquin <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:38:23 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Joanne Bourquin <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Coachella Valley/Imperial Co.

Message Body:

The Coachella Valley has more in common with Imperial County than San Diego does. Therefore Imperial County should be included in the same district with the Coachella Valley.

The Coachella Valley has more in common with Imperial County than San Diego does. Therefore Imperial County should be in the same district with the Coachella Valley.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Judith Butler <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 14:21:34 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Judith Butler <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Imperial County

Message Body:

Please do not redistrict Imperial County. It belongs where it is, with the Coachella Valley portion of Riverside County. Imperial County has significant similarities with the Coachella Valley and almost nothing in common with San Diego!
Thank you for your consideration.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Please listen to us.....

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 21:25:51 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

To our elected officials and the Sacramento Assembly:

I am a voting resident of the Palm springs area; and I implore you to please keep Palm Springs and the surrounding areas in the Riverside County.....keep Imperial County with San Diego.....we are a unique area that thrives with tourism, and special issues that are better served by remaining as we are. Many of the people living here have a second home in Los Angeles. Please do not lump us in with Imperial County. If this happens; we will lose jobs and support.....thank you!

Lauran Findlay

[REDACTED]

Palm Desert, Calif. 92255

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Arturo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 01:18:24 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Arturo Hernandez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Public comment

Message Body:

June 27, 2011

TO: Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission

FROM: Arturo J. Hernandez

Dear Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission:

I was very disappointed to see that once again the desert communities were divided up into multiple Congressional Districts. The districts in the region seem to be running about a decade or more behind what is reflected on maps in relation to the growth eastward, and a huge influx of minorities largely of Hispanic decent.

For too long the area that I am in (the 45th Congressional District) has been under-represented because a focus on the other side of mountain range has taken precedence. For example we have been unable to see any movement towards a light rail commuter train to tie into L.A. Metro.

Also, we have a very poor system of mail delivery. Often something can be sent across the country as quickly as it gets to a next-door neighbor. This is because, incredibly, everything is going through San Bernardino and not handled locally. With all the growth we have experienced surely the desert communities warrant their own U.S. Postal Service processing and distribution center. Due to the district being so spread out we have become, in essence, step children.

We are facing a huge environmental disaster in what continues to unfold as it relates to the Salton Sea. This natural wonder is left to destruction due to it's being within more than one Congressional District.

We also are very under-served as it relates to issues of health. Our county hospital is all the way on the other side of the mountain in Moreno Valley. There is a lack of public transportation which many of those in under-served areas are reliant on to get there. Even for one who drives, and especially anyone who might be elderly, Highway 60 - which winds through the mountains - is not an easy drive (think white-knuckle). Again here, as in the situation with the U.S. Postal Service, we warrant our own public health care facility based optimally in Indio or Coachella.

The residents of our desert communities in the Coachella Valley and Imperial County share rich social and economic interests that cannot afford yet another decade of neglect. For too long the desert area has been looked at as simply a resort area for the well off. There are now, and will continue to be, many who make their homes here year-round. Our average citizens are getting the short end of the stick, to say nothing about how this creates conditions where Mexican farm workers suffer tragic conditions unworthy of our country, such as in Duroville, which was put into receivership by a district court. The residents of the desert communities rich and poor alike, should be within a single shared Congressional District and not fragmented and fighting for resources that go to the western side of the district into San

Bernardino, Moreno Valley, etc.

The mountain range that now divides the 45th Congressional District is both a physical barrier and a psychological one, that causes a detrimental break in continuity for addressing the needs and commonalities of the desert. We are counting on you to protect our under-served communities.

Sincerely,

Arturo J. Hernandez, M.A.S.
Palm Desert, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Roberta Grubb <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 07:32:36 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Roberta Grubb <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting to include the Imperial Valley

Message Body:

We are proud to think of the Coachella Valley as a diverse community of open spaces and agriculture and a perfect retirement home. It is a favorite tourist destination because of it's vast open vistas, fields, and non urban sense. The Imperial valley with its farms, the Salton Sea, the country schools are an integral part of what is thought of as the Coachella Valley. Including the Imperial Valley in this newly formed district gives voice to the shared interests of all the farmers, laborers and businesses who serve a rural community and who certainly should be viewed as a vital part of our unique political district.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Susan Guardino <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:36:35 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Susan Guardino <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Riverside & Imperial Counties

Message Body:

Please consider keeping the Coachella Valley & Imperial County within the same district. As a 20+ year resident of the Coachella Valley and realtor, the Salton Sea is a major concern of mine. Both counties have a vital interest in the restoration of the Salton Sea. Thank you.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 2 - Riverside

From: Walter Clark <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:04:17 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Walter Clark <[REDACTED]>

Subject: 80 AD and 45th CD

Message Body:

Because the counties of Riverside and Imperial are much more connected than Imperial and the San Diego area, please reconsider your recommendation.

As well, the communities of Banning, Beaumont, San Jacinto, Hemet and Calimesa should be connected to L.A., instead of our desert.

Thank you.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Please don't ignore shared vital interests of Eastern Riverside County, and Imperial County.

From: Tracy Turner <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 14:48:34 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

CC: Tracy Turner <[REDACTED]>

Dear Chairman Yao and Members of the Commission:

I was very disappointed to see that once again the desert communities were divided up into multiple Congressional Districts. The districts in the region seem to be running about a decade or more behind what is reflected on maps in relation to the growth eastward, and a huge influx of minorities largely of Hispanic decent.

For too long the area that I am in (the 45th Congressional District) has been under-represented because a focus on the other side of mountain range has taken precedence. For example we have been unable to see any movement towards a light rail commuter train to tie into L.A. Metro.

Also, we have a very poor system of mail delivery. Often something can be sent across the country as quickly as it gets to a next-door neighbor. This is because, incredibly, everything is going through San Bernardino and not handled locally. With all the growth we have experienced surely the desert communities warrant their own U.S. Postal Service processing and distribution center. Due to the district being so spread out we have become, in essence, step children.

We are facing a huge environmental disaster in what continues to unfold as it relates to the Salton Sea. This natural wonder is left to destruction due to it's being within more than one Congressional District.

We also are very under-served as it relates to issues of health. Our county hospital is all the way on the other side of the mountain in Moreno Valley. There is a lack of public transportation which many of those in under-served areas are reliant on to get there. Even for one who drives, and especially anyone who might be elderly, Highway 60 - which winds through the mountains - is not an easy drive (think white-knuckle). Again here, as in the situation with the U.S. Postal Service, we warrant our own public health care facility based optimally in Indio or Coachella.

The residents of our desert communities in the Coachella Valley and Imperial County share rich social and economic interests that cannot afford yet another decade of neglect. For too long the desert area has been looked at as simply a resort area for the well off. There are now, and will continue to be, many who make their homes here year-round. Our average citizens are getting the short end of the stick, to say nothing about how this creates conditions where Mexican farm workers suffer tragic conditions unworthy of our country, such as in Duroville, which was put into receivership by a district court. The residents of the desert communities rich and poor alike, should be within a single shared Congressional District and not fragmented and fighting for resources that go to the western side of the district into San Bernardino, Moreno Valley, etc.

The mountain range that now divides the 45th Congressional District is both a physical barrier and a psychological one, that causes a detrimental break in continuity for addressing the needs and commonalities of the desert. We are counting on you to protect our under-served communities.

Sincerely,

Tracy Turner
Palm Springs, CA



Subject: Keep eastern Riverside County together with Imperial County

From: "Hannah" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 11:16:21 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

It is very important that the eastern Riverside County and Imperial County remain together. They have the same issues with the desert and the Salton Sea, among other things. Please DO NOT separate these two counties! Thank you.

Hannah Cline

[REDACTED]

Rancho Mirage CA 92270

[REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting of the Coachella Valley and Imperial County

From: Kris Mazure <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:49:21 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

I first of all want to thank you for your efforts in this very tedious process. Your professionalism and openness are to be highly commended. I also want to apologize on behalf of some of the public who seem to attack you in personal ways that are not warranted for the task you have taken on.

I am a resident of the city of Cathedral City, in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. I have resided here for 14 years. I am disappointed in the tentative maps released by the Commission on June 10th as they appear to perpetuate the cannibalization of Riverside County that has been the pattern under previous decades' redistricting through the Legislature.

Riverside County has a population of over 2 million people and is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the frame of reference or starting point for the drawing of legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and significant size of the County and appears to start at the Pacific Coast, moving inland to accommodate districts based in populations in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties: once again treating the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

Riverside County is diverse and has unique challenges that cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. Our population is lower income, suburban and rural, with large communities of retired people. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians.

A more just and effective starting point for delineating Riverside County districts is the eastern border of the State (the Colorado River) which is also the eastern border of Riverside County. A more in-depth analysis of the populations in the inland portion

of California shows the community of interest shared by Imperial County and eastern Riverside County. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County (the eastern half of the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County are identical. In addition, these communities are contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality. The boundary between Imperial and Riverside County is entirely man-made while the boundaries between Imperial and San Diego on the one-hand and the Coachella Valley and western Riverside County on the other hand are physical, natural mountain ranges that separate populations on either side, preventing economic, social and physical interaction. The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties also divides the Salton Sea—an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters and splitting the legislative representation among six (6) different state and federal legislators will not facilitate the solution need to avoid catastrophe when the Sea begins to dry up in 2017.

The appropriate districts to meet the population targets required by law would create an Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border (Blythe, Palo Verde, Ripley) and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist entirely of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate "snow-bird" populations that spend the winters but are not full-time residents. This phenomenon supports hospitality, retail and health-care based local economies.

A second Assembly District would start at the political boundaries separating the city of Rancho Mirage from Palm Desert which is also the boundary between Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Sands Unified School District, and move west to include the communities of Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Thousand Palms, Palm Springs and the Banning/Beaumont Pass area to the northwestern county line. While these communities share a number of characteristics with the eastern valley, their economies are not based on agriculture and emphasize conventions, tourism, retirement and health care to a greater extent. In past years, when the community newspaper was locally owned, one version—the Desert Sun—covered the western portion of the Coachella Valley and the Pass while the Indio Daily News covered the eastern portion of the valley. The valley was only unified by the media with the entry

of national media companies purchasing local outlets.

If these two Assembly Districts are then nested in a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. All of the incorporated cities are small (under 100,000) and no single city will dominate. The challenges of job growth, the needs of a Latino plurality community and economies of tourism, agriculture and the infrastructure needs of a fast growing inland region will be well-represented by a single State Senator, resident in the district.

The criteria established to support the Assembly and Senate districts apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial (pop. 174,000) with Riverside County justifies three full Congressional districts to represent these two like counties. This allocation is justified by the population size and profile.

I urge you to end the days where Riverside and Imperial Counties are used in the redistricting process to fill-out urban districts centered in San Diego, Orange or Los Angeles Counties. Given the needs, the size of the population of Riverside County and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, I ask you to use this region as a primary frame of reference and not an afterthought, subordinate to the needs of coastal California.

Thank you for considering my thoughts,

Sincerely,

Kris Mazure

[REDACTED]

Cathedral City, CA 92234-4391

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re-Districting Map for Coachella Valley

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:15:51 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

To Whom it May concern:

As residents of Indio we are quite concerned with the redistricting map draft recently. We understand that a bipartisan committee spent many hours and much thought when drafting the preliminary map. We in the Coachella Valley are pleased to see that finally we all could be in one district with similar needs and similar issues to be addressed.

Now, we understand there is some consideration to include Imperial County in with the Coachella Valley district. This seems to be strictly a "POLITICAL MOVE" as Imperial County is much more aligned with San Diego County in many ways.

We sincerely encourage those responsible to truly consider that residents of Coachella Valley can best be served by having us in one district alone. The addition of Imperial County has total different needs and issues. We hope you will make the "Draft Map" the final plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

Bob & Rosa Lee Schneck

[REDACTED]

Indio, CA 92201

Subject: redistricting of Imperial Valley and Riverside counties

From: "Anne LaConde" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 10:01:12 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

As a resident and voter in the Coachella Valley I strongly support keeping the Imperial Valley with Riverside county.

Anne LaConde

Palm Desert

Subject: redistricting in Riverside and Imperial Counties

From: "Barbara & Mel Liner" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 12:05:45 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
La Quinta, CA 92253

June 27, 2011

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

We are residents of the city of La Quinta, in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. We have resided here for six years. We are disappointed that the tentative maps released by the Commission appears to continue the cannibalization of our area of Riverside County, which has been the pattern in past redistricting by the Legislature. Riverside County is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and treats the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

The population in Riverside County is of lower income, suburban, and rural, with larger communities of retired people, than the coastal communities if has been combined with. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians. Our unique challenges cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County, which is the eastern half of the Coachella Valley, and Imperial County, are identical. These communities are also contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality.

The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties divides the Salton Sea, an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters, and splitting the legislative representation among six different state and federal legislatures will not facilitate the solution needed to avoid the disaster expected when the Sea begins to dry up in the next several years.

The districts needed to meet the population targets required by law would create one Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border, and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate large populations that spend the winters, but are not full-time residents. This population supports hospitality, retail and health care based local economies.

A second Assembly District would start at the political boundaries separating the city of Rancho Mirage from Palm Desert, which is also the boundary between the Palm Springs Unified School District and the Desert Sands Unified School District, and move west to include the communities of

Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Thousand Palms, Palm Springs and the Banning/Beaumont Pass area to the northwestern county line. These communities' economies are not based on agriculture and emphasize conventions, tourism, retirement and health care to a greater extent.

If these two Assembly Districts are then united into a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. In addition, the criteria established to support the two State Assembly Districts and one State Senate District, apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial with Riverside Counties justifies having our Congressional district represent these two like counties, both in population size and profile.

We hope you recognize the needs, size of population of Riverside and Imperial Counties, and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, to redistrict our local communities into the two State Assembly Districts, one State Senate District, and one Congressional district, which will effectively represent our communities.

Sincerely,

Barbara and Melvyn Liner

Subject: Redistricting - Coachella Valley & Imperial County

From: "Susan Guardino" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 12:40:23 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Please keep the Coachella Valley and Imperial County part of the same district. In addition to the Salton Sea, major agricultural issues are at stake here.

Thank you.

Donald Bilby

[REDACTED]
Palm Springs, CA 92262

[REDACTED]

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 10.0.1388 / Virus Database: 1513/3729 - Release Date: 06/27/11

Subject: Redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:46:27 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Friends; My husband & I truly feel this is very important matter. It is a must that we

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley.

Please Keep Coachella Valley with Riverside County.

We agree with the following points:

The Coachella Valley's top revenue source is tourism

- The Coachella Valley is a desert resort community that provides world class attractions: World Class Golf Resorts, Major Golf Tournaments, The San Jacinto Santa Rosa Mountain National Monument, Joshua Tree National Park, Major Concerts such as *Coachella* and *StageCoach*, Casinos and The Palm Springs International Film Festival just to name a few.
- Hotels, restaurants and retail all feed off of tourism and major events

Transportation

- The majority of the tourism industry is fed from either Palm Springs International Airport (PSP) or the I-10 from Los Angeles
- Palm Springs Airport now services over 1 million flights per year. A 3% increase during hard economic times (2010 CVEP Report)
- Car rentals in the Coachella Valley have increased by nearly \$700,000 in car rentals from 2009 to 2010 to total over \$32 million dollar revenue. (CVEP)

Healthcare

- The Coachella Valley and the Inland Empire have a first rate Healthcare system
- Healthcare in the Coachella Valley and Inland Empire continues to grow. Major hospitals such as Eisenhower, JFK, Betty Ford Center, Loma Linda all serve patients in the Inland area.
- The inland area has added over 5,000 healthcare jobs since 2007 despite the recession

Military

- 29 Palms Marine Base sits just north of the Coachella Valley. PSP provides transportation for incoming troops. May troops are transported between 29 Palms and March Air Reserve Base for deployment.
- The Coachella Valley benefits from military serviceman who visit from 29 palms

Past Funding

- Recently major funding was delivered to the Coachella Valley to help increase its tourism with the building of a new airport tower as well as major construction to the I-10 fwy to deal with increased tourism

Residents

- Many residents living in the Coachella Valley also own houses in the LA/OC area.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Lilley [REDACTED], La Quinta, Ca. 92253 [REDACTED]

=

Subject: Redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 19:36:33 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Please keep the Coachella Valley with Riverside County...

John Hendrick

[REDACTED]

La Quinta CA 92253

Subject: REDISRICTING

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:47:54 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

MAKR: PLEASE KEEP IMPERIAL COOUNTY WITH SAN DIEGO,--NOT RIAVERSIDE AND KEEP
COACHELLA VALLEY WITH IRVERSIDE COUNTRY ROBERT T. JONES [REDACTED]
PALM DESERT, CA 92260-5979

Subject: RE: Riverside County and Imperial County

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:10:56 -0400

To: [REDACTED]

To the Redistricting Commission:

I am a fourth generation decent of the Golden state of California. My Great-Grandparents hailed from Mexico in 1886. We arrived into the Imperial County in 1886 and later settled into the Coachella Valley, Riverside County in 1887. Both my parents, Gregorio Ybarra Cervantes and Antonia Carrasco Cervantes were born in California in 1920, both my parents are alive and resdie on our ranch in the city of Coachella, California.

I have family members who "today"reside in Imperial County. My grandparents purchased our ranch in Coachella in 1912. Over 247 members of our family members [Residents of Imperial and Riverside County] believe that it is deeply wrong to separate Imperial County from the Coachella Valley, Riverside County. We truly believe that we are culturally one family. We also believe that It is equally unfair to discourage Latinos from being able to work together to resolve our problems in the area which suffers so deeply from poverty and and high unemployment rates.

There are some major historical developments which certifies both Imperial County and Riverside County as unique "Communities of Interest". A few of these items are as follows: The Salton Sea unites both Imperial and Riverside County; Agribusiness unites Imperial and Riverside County; Water Developments and future Infrastructure Developments Unite Imperial and Riverside County; Renewable Energy Technology and Energy Transmission Service [Lines] Unites Imperial and Riverside County; Public Safety and Education factors tie both counties together.

For the first time in the history of the state of California, since its inception to the Union of the United States in 1850; both Imperial County and Riverside County have been respectfully represented by its majority population. To date, said counties have two Latino representatives in the California State Legislature, Assembly Member Manuel Perez and State Senator Juan Vargas. Only prior to California being admitted to the Union, were we represented by former Governor Pio Pico of California.

Pio Pico - Last Governor of Mexican California

Pio de Jesus Pico (1801-1894) was born at the Mission San Gabriel to one of the earliest families in Los Angeles. Ethnically, being of African, Indian and European descent, he foreshadowed the diverse ethnic quilt of the future Los Angeles.

Pico was the last governor of Mexican Alta California before its surrender and final absorption into the United States. His terms as governor were for a very brief period in 1832 and again from March 1845 to July 1846. As governor of Alta California, he moved the

provincial capital to Los Angeles. One of the key events during his administration was the finalization of the secularization of California's missions.

Pico was aghast at the growing number of American immigrants in his province. He stated:

"What are we to do then? Shall we remain supine, while these daring strangers are overrunning our fertile plains, and gradually outnumbering and displacing us? Shall these incursions go on unchecked, until we shall become strangers in our own land?"

Pico's fears became more real when American troops invaded California in 1846. Unable to obtain a commitment of troops from Mexico City and only able to muster a hundred poorly armed militia, he determined the situation to be near hopeless and decided to flee south. He apparently felt that the Americans would not treat him kindly. Before leaving, he rapidly sold off 12 million acres of public land (including Catalina Island) at ridiculously low prices to raise money for the war and keep as much land out of the hands of Americans as possible. This did nothing, however, to enrich himself.

In 1848, after Mexico ceded Alta California to the United States, Pico returned to his home in Los Angeles. Here he lived as a private citizen, rancher, businessman, hotel owner, and Los Angeles City Councilman. He owned the ranch *Rancho de Bartolo* or "El Ranchito" in modern-day Whittier (now represented by Pio Pico State Park) and a large home overlooking the Los Angeles Plaza. In 1870, he built Pico House that, for its time, was the largest and most luxurious hotel in Southern California and center of local society. A flood destroyed his beloved El Ranchito in 1884, forcing him to mortgage his remaining properties in order to rebuild.

In order to build on the future, the Commission must remember the past....our history is pinnacle to the success of our future. Our future is in your hands. Please do not separate communities of interest. Allow our communities the ability to work together in order to address and resolve the many challenges of our day. Thank you for your attention to my letter.

Sincerely,

Gregorio Carrasco Cervantes, Jr.

[REDACTED]
Coachella, California 92236
[REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting Riverside and Imperial Counties

From: Carl Poirot <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 10:29:49 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Friends,

I moved to Indio, CA, in Riverside County about two years ago from San Diego, where I had resided for almost twenty-five years. I am a 72 year-old retired citizen, intensely interested in my community and in the future of our great state. My careers included public service both in governmental positions, including in the first Jerry Brown administration, and in the non-profit, charitable sector.

I was astounded to learn that the redistricting committee is considering a plan for Riverside County that is illogical and blatantly partisan. This is a great disappointment to those of us who were anticipating fairness and balance in the new redistricting process.

The primary issue is district commonality. Having lived in both San Diego County and Riverside County, I can attest to the essential and inherent differences between the coastal, urban characteristics typical of San Diego County and the inland, rural and agricultural characteristics of Riverside County. These differences manifest themselves in their respective economic systems, employment and housing patterns, cultural values, ethnic diversity, standards of living, and other basic socio-economic traits typical of the respective counties.

A much more compatible pairing of two counties sharing many common characteristics is Riverside and Imperial Counties. They each share the more rural, inland and agriculturally-based features, with a corresponding commonality of interests and the socio-economic characteristics mentioned above.

They are a natural and logical match to form a common district.

I urge you to give serious consideration to joining Riverside County (especially the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County as one District.

Sincerely,

Carl R. Poirot

[REDACTED]

Indio, CA 92201

Subject: Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley.

From: Sheri Borax <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 16:16:07 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley.

Sheri Borax

[REDACTED]

Palm Desert, CA 92211

June 27, 2011

Dear Legislators

I am a resident of the city of Palm Springs in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. I have resided here for over 20 years. I am disappointed in the tentative maps released by the Commission on June 10th as they appear to perpetuate the cannibalization of Riverside County that has been the pattern under previous decades' redistricting through the Legislature.

Riverside County has a population of over 2 million people and is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the frame of reference or starting point for the drawing of legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and significant size of the County and appears to start at the Pacific Coast, moving inland to accommodate districts based in populations in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties: once again treating the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

Riverside County is diverse and has unique challenges that cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. Our population is lower income, suburban and rural, with large communities of retired people. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians.

A more just and effective starting point for delineating Riverside County districts is the eastern border of the State (the Colorado River) which is also the eastern border of Riverside County. A more in-depth analysis of the populations in the inland portion of California shows the community of interest shared by Imperial County and eastern Riverside County. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County (the eastern half of the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County are identical. In addition, these communities are contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality. The boundary between Imperial and Riverside County is entirely man-made while the boundaries between Imperial and San Diego on the one-hand and the Coachella Valley and western Riverside County on the other hand are physical, natural mountain ranges that separate populations on either side, preventing economic, social and physical interaction. The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties also divides the Salton Sea—an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters and splitting the legislative representation among six (6) different state and federal legislators will not facilitate the solution need to avoid catastrophe when the Sea begins to dry up in 2017.

The appropriate districts to meet the population targets required by law would create an Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border (Blythe, Palo Verde, Ripley) and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist entirely of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate "snow-bird" populations

that spend the winters but are not full-time residents. This phenomenon supports hospitality, retail and health-care based local economies.

A second Assembly District would start at the political boundaries separating the city of Rancho Mirage from Palm Desert which is also the boundary between Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Sands Unified School District, and move west to include the communities of Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Thousand Palms, Palm Springs and the Banning/Beaumont Pass area to the northwestern county line. While these communities share a number of characteristics with the eastern valley, their economies are not based on agriculture and emphasize conventions, tourism, retirement and health care to a greater extent. In past years, when the community newspaper was locally owned, one version—the Desert Sun—covered the western portion of the Coachella Valley and the Pass while the Indio Daily News covered the eastern portion of the valley. The valley was only unified by the media with the entry of national media companies purchasing local outlets.

If these two Assembly Districts are then nested in a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. All of the incorporated cities are small (under 100,000) and no single city will dominate. The challenges of job growth, the needs of a Latino plurality community and economies of tourism, agriculture and the infrastructure needs of a fast growing inland region will be well-represented by a single State Senator, resident in the district.

The criteria established to support the Assembly and Senate districts apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial (pop. 174,000) with Riverside County justifies three full Congressional districts to represent these two like counties. This allocation is justified by the population size and profile.

I urge you to end the days where Riverside and Imperial Counties are used in the redistricting process to fill-out urban districts centered in San Diego, Orange or Los Angeles Counties. Given the needs, the size of the population of Riverside County and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, I ask you to use this region as a primary frame of reference and not an afterthought, subordinate to the needs of coastal California.

Thank you for considering my thoughts,

Don O’Loughlin

████████████████████

Palm Springs, CA 92264

Subject: Redistricting input in regards to the Coachella Valley and the greater desert areas.

From: Joe Salata <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 23:57:32 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

Thank you for your service in insuring and insisting that the new redistricting process is just and equitable for all Californians.

The maps of the Coachella Valley in Riverside County, as currently drawn, do not reflect the growth of the Latino population over the past 10 years.

If draft one of the map remains as is, and Latinos actually end up with less influence than they have now, it would not be in keeping with the 1965 Voting Rights Act (VRA). Let's keep in mind that Latinos comprise nearly 40% of California's population. Whether these communities are kept together or split up makes all the difference in whether the process is fair. For too long splitting has been done as a way to limit access, and trust is being put in the Commission to end this practice.

The new Census results show that in the last decade, California's Latino population accounted for 90% of the state's growth, and as such, all maps should reflect this growth and create plentiful opportunities for increased Latino representation.

I'm concerned that in the Commission's proposed maps of districts for both the Senate and Assembly, the Latino communities in Riverside County's Coachella area and Imperial County area are split. These communities should be united in the same districts because of their distinctly shared social and economic interests. These distinctly shared interests should also be reflected in our regional U.S. Congressional District which as you've drawn it, is not inclusive of both the Coachella and Imperial County communities.

Clearly, the Commission's maps currently do not provide sufficient opportunities for fair Latino representation, as required by the VRA, and could halt Latino political progress in the State.

I want to urge the Commission to draw districts that provide Latinos an equal opportunity to elect Representatives of their choice. Thank you again for your dedicated service and advocacy.

Sincerely,

Joseph Salata
[REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting

From: "rclawrencejr LAWRENCE" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:13:19 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with the Coachella Valley. Please Keep Coachella Valley with Riverside County only.

Thank you. A registered voter in Riverside County.

**Robert C. Lawrence, Jr.
Rancho Mirage CA**

Subject: Redistricting

From: "Jean Laurin" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:08:53 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Keep Imperial County with San Diego; NOT with Coachella Valley. please Keep Coachella Valley with Riverside County.

Thank you. A registered voter in Riverside County,

G.J.Laurin

Subject: Redistricting

From: Daniel Pepper <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 06:58:14 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

I am a resident of the city of Indio, in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. I have resided here for eight years. I am disappointed in the tentative maps released by the Commission on June 10th as they appear to perpetuate the cannibalization of Riverside County that has been the pattern under previous decades' redistricting through the Legislature.

Riverside County has a population of over 2 million people and is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the frame of reference or starting point for the drawing of legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and significant size of the County and appears to start at the Pacific Coast, moving inland to accommodate districts based in populations in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties: once again treating the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

Riverside County is diverse and has unique challenges that cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. Our population is lower income, suburban and rural, with large communities of retired people. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians.

A more just and effective starting point for delineating Riverside County districts is the eastern border of the State (the Colorado River) which is also the eastern border of Riverside County. A more in-depth analysis of the populations in the inland portion of California shows the community of interest shared by Imperial County and eastern Riverside County. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County (the eastern half of the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County are identical. In addition, these communities are contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality. The boundary between Imperial and Riverside County is entirely man-made while the boundaries between Imperial and San Diego on the one-hand and the Coachella Valley and western Riverside County on the other hand are physical, natural mountain ranges that separate populations on either side, preventing economic, social and physical interaction. The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties also divides the Salton Sea—an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters and splitting the legislative representation among six (6) different state and federal legislators will not facilitate the solution need to avoid catastrophe when the Sea begins to dry up in 2017.

The appropriate districts to meet the population targets required by law would create an Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border (Blythe, Palo Verde, Ripley) and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist entirely of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate "snow-bird" populations that spend the winters but are not full-time residents. This phenomenon supports hospitality, retail and health-care based local economies.

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years, when the community newspaper was locally owned, one version—the Desert Sun—covered the western portion of the Coachella Valley and the Pass while the Indio Daily News covered the eastern portion of the valley. The valley was only unified by the media with the entry of national media companies purchasing local outlets.

If these two Assembly Districts are then nested in a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. All of the incorporated cities are small (under 100,000) and no single city will dominate. The challenges of job growth, the needs of a Latino plurality community and economies of tourism, agriculture and the infrastructure needs of a fast growing inland region will be well-represented by a single State Senator, resident in the district.

The criteria established to support the Assembly and Senate districts apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial (pop. 174,000) with Riverside County justifies three full Congressional districts to represent these two like counties. This allocation is justified by the population size and profile.

I urge you to end the days where Riverside and Imperial Counties are used in the redistricting process to fill-out urban districts centered in San Diego, Orange or Los Angeles Counties. Given the needs, the size of the population of Riverside County and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, I ask you to use this region as a primary frame of reference and not an afterthought, subordinate to the needs of coastal California.

Thank you for considering my thoughts,

Daniel V. Pepper

Subject: redistricting

From: Pat Jerich <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 20:38:13 -0700

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

Please leave the district as it is in the Coachella valley.
Patricia Jerich

Sent from my iPad

Subject: Voting Districts

From: "Douglas Hanson" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 21:46:11 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Coachella Valley must remain apart from Imperial. As a property owner in Imperial County, I can tell you that Imperial County is better served by remain connected to San Diego. The borders issue being just one of the issue plus water.

To connect Imperial with Coachella would be a huge mistake and create problems for Imperial County.

Thanks,
Douglas H Hanson

Subject: redistricting

From: regina schroeder <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 21:38:39 -0600

To: <[REDACTED]>

No redistricting! Keep Coachella Valley in Riverside County!!

Regina Schroeder [REDACTED] Bermuda Dunes, Ca 92203

Regina Schroeder PA-C

Research Coordinator

Cardiothoracic Surgery Associates of the Desert

[REDACTED]

Rancho Mirage, Ca 92270

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Comment on Draft Maps

From: Julie Bornstein <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 22:48:08 -0700

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

To: Citizens' Redistricting Commission
From: Julie Bornstein, Riverside County
Re: Draft Maps for Coachella Valley

Thank you for this opportunity to submit comments on the proposed districts you are drafting pursuant to the recently adopted voters' initiatives. I am writing to ask you to reconsider the Assembly, Senate and Congressional districts you are drafting that will represent the population of the Coachella Valley—the eastern portion of Riverside County. Specifically I urge you to include Imperial County and eastern Riverside County in the same Assembly, Senate and Congressional district. I speak from experience.

I was elected to the 80th Assembly District seat after the redistricting of 1991. In that decade, a commission also drew the boundaries of the legislative districts when the Legislature and the Governor could not agree. The Commission in 1991, established by the courts, was required to apply many of the same criteria that is required in your considerations, including but not limited to Voting Rights Act concerns, communities of interest, contiguity and in addition, nesting of Assembly in the Senate Districts. After applying these criteria, the 80th Assembly District and the 37th Senate district joined Imperial County to the Coachella Valley. I had the honor to represent the district for two years.

Joining these two counties in a single legislative district recognizes the similarities and integration of the two sections of the region. The dominant ethnic group is Latino (I am Spanish-speaking) in both eastern Riverside County and Imperial County with many families having lived in the two-county area for generations. Some branches of the family are in the Brawley-El Centro-Calexico area and others in Indio-Coachella-Mecca. For example, the Anderholt family comes out of Holtville in Imperial County but included elected officials in the Coachella Valley as well as Imperial County. A member of the Santillan family served as City Manager in Brawley, Blythe and Coachella. Residents freely move within the two-county region for work, family, shopping, education and health care. The economies are largely agricultural and tourism based.

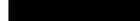
As a resident of the Coachella Valley, I felt I could provide the representation that had been denied to both sections of the AD in previous configurations. When I first moved to the area in 1984, my Assembly representative lived in Southern San Diego County and was never seen in the Riverside County portion of the district. Imperial County was constantly out-voted by the San Diego portion of their district and their needs were subordinate to the larger and very different urban/suburban populations of San Diego County. My first elected position was as a Community College Trustee (Desert Community College District) which was then represented by three Assembly Members, two Senators and two members of Congress. We were such a small portion of each of these legislators' districts that I couldn't even get an appointment to meet with many of them to educate them on the needs of our community college students. This only changed in 1991 when the Coachella Valley was consolidated with Imperial County in an all-desert district.

We have many serious challenges affecting the south-eastern California desert region—higher than average and persistent unemployment, air quality problems from PM-10, water conservation needs, job creation and most specifically the impending destruction of the Salton Sea. Residents of coastal counties like San Diego do not know of these issues and have little interest in devoting the necessary resources to address them. If there is to be a split in population to meet the targets in the Assembly District, the split should be between the western Coachella Valley (Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage and the Pass) which have little or no agricultural influence and depend on tourism, real estate and hospitality for their economy and the eastern valley (Palm Desert, La Quinta, Indio, Coachella, Mecca, Oasis) which house farmworkers, agricultural businesses and snowbirds. Imperial County is more like the eastern Coachella and Palo Verde Valleys. These two areas should then be nested in a single Senate district to provide responsive and accessible representation. It worked for us for ten years 1991-2001 and I believe this configuration best meets the needs of the residents of Imperial and eastern Riverside County—the currently proposed maps do not.

Thank you for considering the issues raised by this comment. I appreciate your service in this very important task.

Julie Bornstein
The Bornstein Group
[REDACTED]

Palm Desert, California 92261



Subject: Keep Imperial Valley out of Riverside County's Coachella Valley

From: Ken Hobbs <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 28 Jun 2011 00:19:10 +0000

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commission Members:

As a former public employee and a former gubernatorial appointee for the State of California, I applaud your efforts and dilligence in traveling throughout this great state of ours in your efforts to fairly and equitably subdivide legislative and political districts.

You had a yeoman's task and I offer my public acknowledgement of the professionalism and competence of the Commission and it's staff.

I strongly endorse your existing proposed redistricting maps for the Coachella Valley. We believe our valley is a community onto itself and its unique political, economic and social characteristics that distinguishes it from Imperial County. I implore your continued support to maintain the redistricting maps as presently drawn and released by your Commission.

Again, congradulations on a well planned and proffessionally developed redistricting maps for Riverside County's Coachella Valley. Please keep Imperial County out of the Coachella Valley.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth S. Hobbs

Samuel H. Medrano

[REDACTED]
Cathedral City, Ca 92234-3788

[REDACTED] H) [REDACTED] C)
[REDACTED]

Round II-Comments on Tentative Maps

I am a resident of the City of Cathedral City, in the Coachella Valley portion of eastern Riverside County. I have resided here for 12 years. I was born and raised in California, then having lived in both southern California and northern California I am very aware of our California landscape and diverse population.

I join with others as outlined in this letter in my disappointment in the tentative maps released by the Commission on June 10th as they appear to perpetuate the cannibalization of Riverside County that has been the pattern under previous decades' redistricting through the Legislature.

Riverside County has a population of over 2 million people and is the fastest growing County in the State of California, yet the frame of reference or starting point for the drawing of legislative district boundaries seems to ignore this growth and significant size of the County and appears to start at the Pacific Coast, moving inland to accommodate districts based in populations in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties: once again treating the Inland Counties of Imperial and Riverside as afterthoughts.

Riverside County is diverse and has unique challenges that cannot be met if our Legislative representation is combined with coastal communities. Our population is lower income, suburban and rural, with large communities of retired people. The County is about 50% Latino with small populations of African-Americans and Asians.

A more just and effective starting point for delineating Riverside County districts is the eastern border of the State (the Colorado River) which is also the eastern border of Riverside County. A more in-depth analysis of the populations in the inland portion of California shows the community of interest shared by Imperial County and eastern Riverside County. The climate, the economies and the population demographics of eastern Riverside County (the eastern half of the Coachella Valley) and Imperial County are identical. In addition, these communities are contained within the political boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District and are part of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) statutory planning area for transportation, housing and air quality. The boundary between Imperial and Riverside County is entirely man-made while the boundaries between Imperial and San Diego on the one-hand and the Coachella Valley and western Riverside County on the other hand are physical, natural mountain ranges that separate populations on either side, preventing economic, social and physical interaction. The boundary between Riverside and Imperial Counties also divides the Salton Sea—an environmental challenge contained in the State's largest inland body of water. The communities around the Sea need to work together to mitigate impending air quality disasters and splitting the legislative representation among six (6) different state and federal legislators will not facilitate the solution need to avoid catastrophe when the Sea begins to dry up in 2017.

The appropriate districts to meet the population targets required by law would create an Assembly District that includes all of Imperial County, the communities of the Palo Verde Valley at the border (Blythe, Palo Verde, Ripley) and the eastern Coachella Valley from Palm Desert east. These communities consist entirely of cities no larger than 80,000, with economies based on tourism, retirement and agriculture. They all accommodate “snow-bird” populations that spend the winters but are not full-time residents. This phenomenon supports hospitality, retail and health-care based local economies.

A second Assembly District would start at the political boundaries separating the city of Rancho Mirage from Palm Desert which is also the boundary between Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Sands Unified School District, and move west to include the communities of Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Thousand Palms, Palm Springs and the Banning/Beaumont Pass area to the northwestern county line. While these communities share a number of characteristics with the eastern valley, their economies are not based on agriculture and emphasize conventions, tourism, retirement and health care to a greater extent. In past years, when the community newspaper was locally owned, one version—the Desert Sun—covered the western portion of the Coachella Valley and the Pass while the Indio Daily News covered the eastern portion of the valley. The valley was only unified by the media with the entry of national media companies purchasing local outlets.

If these two Assembly Districts are then nested in a single Senate district, the result is a cohesive district with economic, geographic, demographic and social communities of interest. All of the incorporated cities are small (under 100,000) and no single city will dominate. The challenges of job growth, the needs of a Latino plurality community and economies of tourism, agriculture and the infrastructure needs of a fast growing inland region will be well-represented by a single State Senator, resident in the district.

The criteria established to support the Assembly and Senate districts apply as well to the local Congressional district. Combining the population of Imperial (pop. 174,000) with Riverside County justifies three full Congressional districts to represent these two like counties. This allocation is justified by the population size and profile.

I urge you to end the days where Riverside and Imperial Counties are used in the redistricting process to fill-out urban districts centered in San Diego, Orange or Los Angeles Counties. Given the needs, the size of the population of Riverside County and the additional anticipated growth in this region of the State, I ask you to use this region as a primary frame of reference and not an afterthought, subordinate to the needs of coastal California.

I sincerely urge the Commission to protect the areas of community interest as incorporated in the Voters Act.

Samuel H. Medrano

Samuel H. Medrano

Begin forwarded message:

From: Debbie Hobbs <[REDACTED]>
Date: June 27, 2011 5:07:42 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Keep Riverside County's Coachella Valley Intact!

Dear Commission Members:

As a resident of Riverside County's Coachella Valley, I want to thank you for the insight and wisdom in your actions to develop legislative district lines within our community.

I applaud your professionalism and fortitude in maintaining our valley as an economic, political and single community of interest. I believe strongly that the following factors exemplify the need to maintain Coachella Valley's proposed legislative district boundaries.

1. Military
2. Transportation
3. Regional Airport
4. Economics
5. Healthcare

I strongly urge your continued commitment to keep Coachella Valley intact and not integrate our legislative districts with Imperial or San Diego County who have more in common with each other.

Sincerely,

Deborah Hobbs
[REDACTED]
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Subject: KEEP IMPERIAL COUNTY WITH SAN DIEGO - NOT WITH COACHELLA VALLEY!

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2011 22:16:21 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

PLEASE KEEP IMPERIAL COUNTY WITH SAN DIEGO AND NOT WITH COACHELLA VALLEY!!!
THANKS!

Diana G; Gottschalk

[REDACTED]
Palm Desert, CA 92260