

REGION 8: CONTRA COSTA

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To the members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Per _____

As constituents of the draft Senate district EALAM, we are calling upon you to assign an odd number to our district as you go through the process of numbering the districts. The majority of our district is now in Senate District 7. It is an odd-numbered district, and we are due to elect our next Senator in 2012. If you choose to make our Senate district an even-numbered district there will be no election for State Senator until 2014. Thus, our current Senator will need to step down leaving us with no legitimate representation in the State Senate for two years. It is unacceptable to disenfranchise the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda counties in this manner.

Cities, elected boards, non-profits and businesses in this district all have need for representation from a State Senator duly elected by the people of the district. State funding for education, transportation, health and human services, parks and recreation, water resources and a host of other services are critical for the district. We need a Senator elected by us to represent us to ensure we receive our fair share of state resources

We strongly urge you to retain our district as an odd-numbered district so that the residents and businesses of Contra Costa and Alameda counties are not disenfranchised.

Sincerely,

*Victoria Smith - Orinda City Council Member,
currently serving as Mayor*