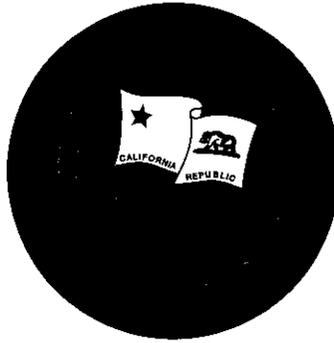


COUNTY OF SONOMA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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CHAIR

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JUN 08 2011

RECEIVED MAY 8 1 2011

May 20, 2011

Region #8: Sonoma

Commissioners
Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 2011 State and Federal District Re-apportionment

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to offer our input as you formulate the new Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional Districts boundaries. We appreciate your time and dedication to crafting the most logical, effective and appropriate districts and ask that you consider our comments in your deliberations.

Political districts which consist of similar communities of interest have stronger and more effective representation when their elected officials clearly understand and articulate county priorities from both local and regional perspectives. Further, we have seen our residents interests served more effectively by shared representation with our neighboring counties. Sharing districts with our neighbors provides Sonoma County the opportunity to work together on behalf of all residents to enhance the quality of life.

Historically as the largest county on the north coast, Sonoma County has been in legislative districts connected with surrounding counties who share similar issues such as agriculture, wine, natural resources, tourism, water, transportation, and coastal issues to name a few. Districts have traditionally run from north to south connecting coastal counties, such as Sonoma, to their adjacent neighbors (Lake, Mendocino, Napa and Marin) together. This has resulted in effective representation on quality of life issues and allowed us to better work together. Sonoma County has benefitted from being a "split" county and we believe it will continue to benefit Sonoma County residents.

As the Commission ponders district configurations, we ask you consider the number of factors

which connect Sonoma County to its neighboring counties and to whom a shared benefit exists from shared districts, such as we currently have. Please consider the following factors:

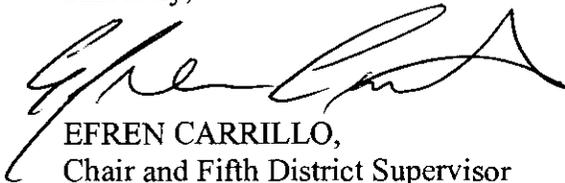
- Sonoma, Napa, Lake and Mendocino Counties all share the incredible wine industry and the economic engine of tourism;
- Sonoma and Mendocino County share a common watershed as well as coastal, timber, tourist and fishing issues;
- Sonoma County shares coastal issues such as fishing, transportation and tourism with Humboldt and Del Norte counties;
- Sonoma and Mendocino counties also share the Highway 101 corridor which connects us and provides a common route for North Bay and North Coast commerce;
- Sonoma and Lake counties share the largest geothermal fields in the world – an industry which is greatly impacted by federal legislation and regulation.

There are numerous other examples as well.

Having federal and state elected officials who understand our shared interests strengthens Sonoma County's voice in Washington and Sacramento. It is the history of effective enfranchisement to which the Board requests the Commission consider these factors as you deliberate. The people of Sonoma County are served well by districts which connect and empower. We have always had multiple state and federal representatives due to the County being split. This has served Sonoma County well and we ask that this continues. We urge the Commission to fully review the strength that exists from our current north to south running districts and the regional and community based representation they enable.

Thank you for your service to our state and for your consideration of our comments. If we can provide any additional information, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



EFREN CARRILLO,
Chair and Fifth District Supervisor
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

Region 8: Sonoma

Attn: California Redistricting Commission:

JUN 08 2011

Dear Commissioners:

My name is ~~La Verne Oyarzo~~ I am one of 250+ supporters that testified and we want our communities kept together. I am writing to urge your support of all of the Bay Area Maps being submitted by the California Conservative Action Group.

I support fair and competitive districts that fully comply with Proposition 11 with district geography criteria of natural geographical boundaries such as mountain ranges, bodies of water, of equal population and that comply with the Federal Voting Rights Act. I want my district lines to maintain district contiguity, and compactness by keeping cities, communities and neighborhoods intact as much as possible.

1. I strongly oppose the Sierra Club Bay Area plan that violates the Voting Rights Act and gerrymanders the TriValley.
2. I agree with the Sierra Club plan ONLY on the one point, not to cross the Bay and Golden Gate Bridges.
3. I reject the San Joaquin County Citizens for Constitutional Redistricting plan; they carve up the TriValley to create a San Joaquin district favorable to a tiny fraction of our Bay Area population.
4. I reject the Latino Policy Forum maps; they create an absurd district that jumps over the water to connect Marin, half of San Francisco and West Oakland in violation of the Federal Voting Rights Act.
5. I strongly oppose the California Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan and insist that districts not jump across the East Bay hills, because the communities from San Leandro to Milpitas have little in common with the Tri-Valley, and everything in common with each other. The commission got overwhelming testimony in the Oakland input hearings to this effect, both from Tri-Valley and from Oakland, San Leandro, Milpitas, Richmond, El Cerrito etc. to the effect, "Keep the Berkeley Oakland Hills as a natural geographic barrier between urban, ethnic, diverse communities west of the hills and suburban bedroom and office park communities east of the hills."
6. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) gerrymander of Union City, an overwhelmingly Asian and Latino city along the East Bay shoreline that CIJEE links with the Tri-Valley communities such as San Ramon and Livermore. Union City is linked to its neighbors in Fremont and Newark by ethnicity, inh patterns, and I-880. It has no connection whatsoever to Danville! Additionally there was very clear testimony at the Oakland input hearing from community groups centered around the auto industry who did NOT want to be connected to Tri-Valley.
7. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan forcing communities of Lamorinda and Pleasant Hill into a district with Berkeley, as was done in 1981, and is being resurrected by CIJEE. The Berkeley-Oakland area is different in every demographic respect from the suburban communities on the other side of the mountains.
8. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan gerrymandering that put the mid-Peninsula area around Palo Alto with the city of Santa Cruz - a city on the other side of a mountain range, in a different county, and on the ocean.
9. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan which splits the Latino community in San Jose into two Assembly districts, although it should be kept together in one district.
10. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan for Marin. Any AD based in Marin should expand north along Hwy 101, to reach people who work in Marin. It should not be gerrymandered far east to Benicia, which it has nothing in common with.
11. I strongly oppose the Institute for Jobs, Economy, and Education (CIJEE) plan which merges North Bay districts with SF districts. We insist that the North Bay districts be kept separate from the SF districts.
12. I reject the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting CAPAFR plan. Specifically but not limited to joining Fremont with The Tri Valley: the City of Pleasanton.
13. I reject the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) plan for violations of the Voter Rights Act and abusive gerrymandering. So ridiculous that one commissioner spoke out during MALDEF's presentation on 5/26 in Northridge stating "Why so many Gerrymander Fingers?"

Thank you,
LaVerne Oyarzo

Laverne Oyarzo
 [Redacted]
 Colton, CA 94515.1321

PETALUMA AREA

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JUN 08 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: North Bay Assembly Districts

Dear Commissioners:

The Petaluma Area Chamber of Commerce has reviewed the initial concept of redistricting of our area's legislative boundaries and would like to express our concern.

This concept divides the communities that constitutes Sonoma County's Highway 101 corridor, separating Petaluma from its sister cities of Rohnert Park, Cotati and Santa Rosa. These communities share a common bond in a great many areas including economy, demographics, water supply, transportation needs and visions for our area's future.

On the other hand, Petaluma would be a junior and isolated segment of the proposed Coastal District, the majority of which will be agrarian with totally different economic factors at play.

It would certainly appear that Lake County would be a much better fit for the Coastal District than Petaluma. This swap of Lake County with its population of 65,000 and Petaluma with our population of 58,000 (plus unincorporated areas surrounding Petaluma to equalize the populations of the swapped territories), would be an easy exchange. It would leave Petaluma and Lake County both in districts in which each shares common characteristics and communities of interest with rest of their districts. This would allow for better representation of both districts.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Onita Pellegrini, CEO
Petaluma Area Chamber of Commerce

to
Petaluma Area
Chamber of
Commerce
representing
businesses and
professionals who
together with a
community and to
support and improve
the local business
community to order
to enhance the
quality of life in the
greater Petaluma
area.

6
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URI



Region 8: Sonoma

CITY OF PETALUMA

PETALUMA, CA 94953-0061

JUN 08 2011

Mike Healy
Councilmember

June 5, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re.: North Bay Assembly Districts

Dear Commissioners:

I write with respect to one specific aspect of the Commission's June 1 draft visualization regarding North Bay Assembly districts.

As you are aware, the major population centers in Sonoma County are found along the 101 corridor. Viewed this way, the visualization cuts off Petaluma (the second largest city in Sonoma County) from our sister cities directly to our north, Rohnert Park (third largest) and Santa Rosa (largest). Petaluma also has much in common with Marin directly to our south, but I'm not going to suggest joining with them because of the domino effect on other proposed districts.

I ask that you move Lake County (2010 Census population: 64,665) from the Santa Rosa - Napa district and place it instead in the North Coast District. You can then move the city of Petaluma (57,941) and its immediate environs from the North Coast district to the Santa Rosa - Napa district.

Petaluma has far more in common with the proposed Santa Rosa - Napa district than with the proposed North Coast district. Conversely, rural Lake County has more in common with Mendocino County and the rest of the North Coast than with prosperous and Bay Area-oriented Napa County.

This proposed change also eliminates a peculiarity of the visualization's proposed Assembly districts, namely that Petaluma - at the far southern end of the North Coast district and cut off from the rest of the district along the 101 corridor - would otherwise be that district's largest city.

Sincerely,

Mike Healy
Petaluma City Councilmember

Petaluma City Hall
Petaluma, CA 94952