



REGION 3:
ORANGE

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Orange, CA 92868 |

July 1, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

As the hub for good public policy among Orange County Cities, we must object to certain aspects of the Commission's first draft of Congressional, Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization district maps.

When the Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) was asked to submit input regarding the redistricting process, we focused on contiguous representation for cities to the maximum extent possible, keeping cities with common community character, interests and challenges together and ensuring that districts are not drawn to discriminate against an incumbent, candidate, or political party. It is our belief that the first draft district maps do not meet these criteria.

Our primary concerns are the legislative and congressional representation of the cities of Dana Point, La Palma, Los Alamitos, La Habra and Laguna Niguel.

- **Dana Point** is a city at the southern point of Orange County that was essentially divided in two in both the Assembly and Senate maps, sending half of the city into a San Diego County District.
- **La Palma** was placed into Congressional District in Los Angeles County.
- **Los Alamitos** was placed in Senate and Assembly Districts that are largely coastal in nature. The Los Alamitos Congressional District will either be in a coastal district as well or in a district with Long Beach and other Los Angeles cities.
- **La Habra** was also placed into an Assembly District that is composed completely of Los Angeles cities.
- **Laguna Niguel** was divided in two in the Congressional District maps.

At the very least, these cities should be grouped with other neighboring county cities because of common issues facing the cities, strong working relationships and shared issues. Cities on the outer edge of Orange County should not be placed into districts comprised primarily of interests outside their borders.



Many of these Orange County cities share services with their neighbors such as fire, police and medical trauma centers. They also have similar transportation and water concerns and would be best served to have a unified voice.

The ACC-OC stands behind Orange County cities and their justified reasoning to be placed in districts with common communities of interest and city boundaries to be respected. The ACC-OC has also created draft Senate and Assembly District Maps which have been submitted to the Commission. These maps meet the needs of these Orange County cities while at the same time respecting a reasonable degree of balance in voting population. We strongly urge the Commission to review the ACC-OC Maps and consider incorporation of our ideas for the next draft round. On behalf of our members I would like to thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Robert Ming
President
Association of California Cities – Orange County

Cc:

Doug Chotkevys - City Manager, Dana Point
Dana Point City Council
Dominic Lazaretto - City Manager, La Palma
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