



CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

• SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 •

GENERAL

7/5/2011

RECEIVED JUL 06 REC'D

Alice A. Huffman
President

California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Gwen Moore
1st Vice President

Sacramento, CA 95814

Kenneth L. Nelson
2nd Vice President

Dear Commissioners:

Naomi Rainey
3rd Vice President

As you enter the final phase of your work, please accept these comments from the California NAACP. We believe the last few days of your work are probably the most important, and the ability of the public to have quality input is critical.

Ida M. Johnson
Secretary

Your prior format for public input was deficient. You made no distinction between those speaking as individuals and those representing members. As the state president of the NAACP I came to Los Angeles to properly present our issues. The two minutes were insufficient and you would not permit anyone there to transfer time to me. This seemed to be an arbitrary decision since allowing other attendees who had properly registered to speak yield their time to me would have resulted in no net increase in public speaking time. Almost everyone there knew my position and that I represent 52 Branches and more that 30 youth and college divisions, well over 25,000 Californians. We were also distressed and incensed over the tone of the Chair, which when combined with the arbitrary speaking rules, noted earlier, raises questions about the fairness and meaningfulness of the process.

Olivia Verrett
Assistant Secretary

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Treasurer

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Area Director Southwest

Delois Edwards
Area Director North

LaJuana Bivens
Area Director Central

Dan Daniels, Sr.
Area Director Coastal

Christopher Jackson
Area Director West

For those of us who joined the campaign early and stayed through both initiative processes, this is an important civic undertaking. We believe input to the Commission was seriously hampered by insisting that public input be reduced to almost childlike speeches and that, given this approach, you unnecessarily and unfairly limited the public's substantive input. For the last round of meetings, we encourage you to reconsider this approach. Instead, consider allowing organizational heads more time or, alternatively, allowing public members who have properly registered to speak to transfer all or part of their time to their leader. You might even combine this latter approach with a reasonable cap on any particular organization's speaking time.

The second area has to do with the discussion about establishing a hierarchy in the criteria as set forth in the initiative. The proponent of the initiative indicated to the California State Conference Executive Committee that all of the criteria were to be

considered but that none took precedence over the other. After so much input please advise us as to exactly how you are applying the criteria. This, of course, goes to the matter of transparency, an issue that has haunted redistricting processes known all too well for their history of cloaked decisions in smoke-filled rooms.

Thank you.



Alice A. Huffman

President

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT -- Please Please Please

From: James Wright <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 2011 13:23:46 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Commissioners and Staff;

PLEASE ...

... do not hurry the voting process on either the second or final release maps because of any follow-on scheduled event such as a news conference.

Any news conference can be instantly rescheduled and relocated. It must not be cause for making momentous decisions in haste. Please take all the time you need to make proper and defensible decisions.

Jim Wright
a voter from San Jose

Subject: Redistricting issue

From: "Kathy Lakey" [REDACTED]

Date: Wed, 6 Jul 2011 15:20:09 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Please do NOT include the coastal areas in the new redistricting area, we believe you need to include the areas above Sacramento to Yreka, no costal areas.

Sincerely, Kathy Lakey

[REDACTED], Hat

Creek, CA 96040

Hat Creek Hereford Ranch RV Park & Campground

Howard & Kathy Lakey Owner's - [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] Hat Creek, CA 96040

[REDACTED]
~ **Camp on a Private & Pristine Ranch** ~