

6 Stanislaus

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August 12, 2011

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

Re: Proposed Boundaries for State Senate District 12

Dear Sir / Madam:

Please find enclosed a Resolution of the City of Turlock (Stanislaus County) formally opposing the proposed boundaries of State Senate District 12 ("Foothill") and recommending that the City of Turlock be included in Senate District 8 ("Merced").

The proposed boundaries cleave Turlock from neighboring communities that share the same social and economic interests and create a district that is not geographically compact and does not have a fairly regular shape.

The Turlock City Council believes that by including Turlock with Merced would make for a better Merced District by keeping natural constituency interests aligned. Since the boundary between Districts 8 and 12 lies directly south of Turlock, shifting the boundary to include Turlock in the Merced District would be relatively straightforward. To account for the change in population, portions of the Merced District in Merced, Madera or Fresno counties could be shifted into the Foothill District. It may make the most sense to shift the small towns in Fresno County, like Fowler and Kingsburg, into the Foothill District to keep them with Clovis.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very Truly Yours,

Michael I. Cooke
Regulatory Affairs Manager

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BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TURLOCK

IN THE MATTER OF OPPOSING THE }
BOUNDARIES PROPOSED BY THE }
CALIFORNIA CITIZENS REDISTRICTING }
COMMISSION FOR STATE SENATE }
DISTRICT 8 ("FOOTHILL") WHICH }
INCLUDES THE CITY OF TURLOCK, AND }
RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY OF }
TURLOCK BE INCLUDED WITHIN THE }
PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF STATE }
SENATE DISTRICT 12 ("MERCED") }
AND NECESSARY DOCUMENTS }

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-161

WHEREAS, every 10 years, after the federal census, California must redraw the boundaries of its Congressional, State Senate, State Assembly, and State Board of Equalization districts, to reflect the new population data; and

WHEREAS, California voters authorized the creation of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission to draw the boundaries of California's Congressional, Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization electoral districts; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Senate District 8 ("Foothill") that includes Turlock is illogical because it cleaves Turlock from its San Joaquin Valley neighbors and places it in a large and disparate district that commences in the suburban Sacramento community of Rancho Cordova to the north and then stretches south and east to include the foothills, the Sierra Nevada, and Death Valley; and

WHEREAS, the proposed District 8 is primarily rural with an economy based on natural resources and tourism; and

WHEREAS, Turlock is in the heart of the Central Valley and is rooted in an agriculturally-based economy which has little in common with the communities in the foothills and mountains; and

WHEREAS, to keep natural constituency interests aligned it would be more appropriate for Turlock to be included in Senate District 12 ("Merced") which stretches along the Interstate 5 corridor; and

WHEREAS, the proposed senate district boundaries are illogical as they place Turlock in a district with communities with whom Turlock shares few common social and economic interests; and

WHEREAS, the proposed district boundaries detach CSU Stanislaus from its core catchment area; and

WHEREAS, Turlock should be located in a senate district whose boundaries are substantially co-terminus with those of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and

WHEREAS, the proposed senate district boundaries could impede the City's ability to work effectively on regional transportation planning issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Turlock does hereby:

1. Oppose the boundaries proposed by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission for State Senate District 8 ("Foothill") which includes the City of Turlock.
2. Recommend that the City of Turlock be included within the proposed boundaries of State Senate District 12 ("Merced").
3. Direct the Mayor to send a letter to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission on behalf of the Turlock City Council outlining the City's concerns with the proposed State senate district boundaries.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Turlock this 9th day of August, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers Bublak, DeHart, Jackson, White and Mayor Lazar
NOES:	None
NOT PARTICIPATING:	None
ABSENT:	None

ATTEST:


Kellie E. Weaver, Deputy City Clerk
City of Turlock, County of Stanislaus,
State of California