



California
COMMON CAUSE
Holding Power Accountable

www.commoncause.org/ca

Los Angeles • Sacramento • San Diego • San Francisco

January 10, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
Attention: Janice Lumsden, Deputy Secretary of State, Operations
California Secretary of State's Office

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

We are writing to request a Commissioner to speak at our RedistrictingCA Conference as the Welcome Speaker on January 25, 2011. The conference will be held at the California Endowment's Center for Healthy Communities at 1000 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The conference is open to the public and aims to help educate interested members of the public about the California redistricting process. We will cover what the laws are, how to prepare to present, and what tools and assistance exist to help.

The RedistrictingCA Conference is being hosted by an alliance of non-profit, non-partisan organizations including: African American Redistricting Collaborative, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, California Common Cause, California Forward, Center for Governmental Studies, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy, League of Women Voters of California, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund, National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund, Rose Institute for Government Studies, The Greenlining Institute, and The Redistricting Group at Berkeley Law. This same RedistrictingCA Alliance helped convene a conference in 2009, where the Bureau of State Audits' Elaine Howle and various staff spoke about the importance of applying to the Commission. Like the 2009 recruitment efforts that generated over 30,000 applicants, we hope that we can similarly excite the public to become engaged in the upcoming state redistricting process.

We would like to invite a member of the Citizens Redistricting Commission to provide the Welcome Address to our conference attendees. The Welcome Address could be an inspiring statement about the importance of citizen participation in redistricting and the mandate of the newly formed Citizens Redistricting Commission.

We have a time slot available from 9:00 – 10:00 am for the Welcome Address and are willing to work with the Commissioners' availability and any other concerns to schedule within that time frame. We can also work with the SoS to record and broadcast the speech via the web, in order to make the statement as available to the public as possible. Because we understand that the Commission must abide by Prop. 11's open hearings and public outreach requirements, we are willing to work with Secretary of State's staff to abide by the rules that govern such a public appearance.

You have all worked so hard to be part of our Citizens Redistricting Commission and we appreciate the time and effort that you have taken to be part of this historical achievement. We hope that you will be able to share with our attendees on why it is so important to be part of this redistricting process.

Attached is the proposed agenda. Please let us know by January 17th if you are available to participate. We sincerely look forward to hearing from you. To coordinate travel arrangements and any other details, please contact Megumi Kaminaga at [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Kathay Feng
Executive Director, California Common Cause

cc. Cy Rickards, California Secretary of State's Office

[REDACTED]



January 25, 2011 - Redistricting CA Conference Agenda

Time	Session
8:30 AM	Registration
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	"All Aboard!" Welcome Address
10:10AM – 11:00 AM	Breaking Ground The A,B,C's of redistricting
11:15AM – 12:15PM	Spikes and Bolts: Criteria used to draw maps Staying on Track with the Voting Rights Act Full Steam Ahead: Redistricting legal issues Ticket to the Data Train: Finding data and technical assistance centers
12:30PM – 2:00PM	Taking the Transcontinental: Words of wisdom from redistricting experts from around the country
2:15PM – 3:15PM	Train Crossing Ahead: How to navigate multi-racial districts Laying Tracks: Teaching your community to testify – training the trainers Taking the Express: Testifying about your community Shoveling the Coal: A hands-on redistricting exercise Taking the Local: Preparing for city, county, and school board redistricting
3:30PM – 4:30PM	Laying Tracks: Teaching your community to testify – training the trainers Taking the Express: Testifying about your community I Think I Can: Using data and tech tools Surveying the Land: Analyzing and evaluating maps Watch Your Step! Prisoners, non-citizens, and other hot topics
4:35PM – 5:00PM	Final Stop Closing Address