Chambers of Commerce Alliance

VENTURA & SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES

February 22, 2011

Mr. Daniel Claypool, Executive Director
CA Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Preventing cities from being split into two legislative districts

Dear Mr. Claypool and Honorable Commissioners,

On behalf of the Chambers of Commerce Alliance of Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, I am writing to urge you to keep our cities within single districts—as opposed to a number of our cities being split between two districts as is currently the case.

As it is now, some of our cities have been split into two districts which tends to result in confusion among stakeholders and sometimes lack of attention from the legislators. Keeping our cities in single districts will make it easier for our residents and employers alike to communicate well with their legislators.

Clearly, the redistricting commission has a challenging but important set of tasks at hand with competing interests and sometimes conflicting priorities. In our review and interpretation of state and federal rules guiding redistricting processes, the basic objective appears to be keeping communities together.

To that end, the Chamber Alliance urges the commission to do just that—keep our communities together so that we can work more collaboratively and effectively with our region's lawmakers on issues of which our cities share common concerns and policy objectives.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Scar

Suzanne Scar, Chair
Chambers of Commerce Alliance of Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties