

**AGPA01**

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**From:** Sara T. Mason [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 4:39 PM  
**To:** Voters First Act  
**Subject:** Public Comment on proposed slate

I am writing to urge the 8 commissioners to reconsider this proposed slate and appoint Paul McKaskle to the Citizen's Redistricting Commission. To not do so will question the integrity of the entire panel. The knowledge and experience McKaskle can bring to this position are unique and invaluable.

From an outsider's perspective, it appears that someone of his caliber would only be passed over because those making the decision feel intimidated by his expertise. I would like to remind all 8 of you that all of you did not get to this position because you have the exact same skills and knowledge as everyone else and the goal is to have 14 clones making decisions. Each and everyone of you has a unique perspective and background that can help this commission be successful. Mr. McKaskle's background is an integral part of that success. His technical knowledge will be nothing less than a huge asset to the other 13 commissioners, possibly shortening the learning curve for many, so that more time can be spent discussing the important issues.

Think of how it looks to the people of California if you pass over someone who has a proven track record of helping develop fair districts for someone who happens to know a few neighborhoods in the Central Valley better, but cannot come close to having equivalent skills and knowledge.

If you were going out to sea for the next 8 months, would you pick a sea captain to come with you or a history teacher? The teacher might be nice, but the captain can guide you through the rough seas much better. It looks like you're leaving the captain on the dock, and you have no good reason to.