

From: **Benjamin Gamboa** [REDACTED]  
Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2011 at 8:37 AM  
Subject: Selection of Consultants and Legal Counsel  
To: [votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov](mailto:votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov)

Voters First Act Commissioners:

I am contacting you in regards to the selection process of the District Line Consultants and VRA Legal Counsel. These consultants and counsel should be selected with the same deference granted to the commissioners themselves. It has come to my attention that the bidders and applicants, respectively, are comprised of multiple highly partisan firms and individuals. If the redistricting process and final product is to be respected, then these highly partisan firms and individuals must be excused from the process. It makes no sense to have given the redistricting process to the People only to have the technical work and legal advice outsourced to the same individuals and firms that were a part of the old process.

I live in Highland, a suburb of the San Bernardino/Riverside area, that should see considerable growth in representation at the conclusion of this process. Our area has been carved and gerrymandered into odd-shaped districts that aren't representative of the communities within which we all live. I am concerned that the highly partisan groups--both liberal and conservative--being considered will only perpetuate the gerrymandering of our city, community, and neighborhoods into faux legislative districts.

Please don't let ideologues continue to carve us up.

Kind regards,

Benjamin Gamboa  
[REDACTED]