

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Mar 18, 2011 at 10:04 AM
Subject: Hiring of Technical Consultant Karin Mac Donald
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

March 18, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Site 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

This letter is in support of your Commission hiring Karin Mac Donald as a technical consultant.

Ms. Mac Donald's years of experience working with census data and other applicable redistricting data in academic and practical applications make her highly qualified to assist this Commission.

Ms. Mac Donald served as a consultant for the City of San Diego Redistricting Commission in 2001. Ms. Mac Donald encouraged public participation and an open and transparent process. She guided this local commission in identifying and analyzing communities of interest in a fair and balanced approach. As a result, the City of San Diego Redistricting Commission's redistricting map in 2001 was never challenged through litigation.

In 2010 I attended a redistricting workshop conducted by Ms. Mac Donald. Her knowledge of analyzing complex census data, socio-economic factors, census blocks and tracts, and other data and how to apply that myriad of information into redistricting maps was impressive. Her knowledge of the Voting Rights Act and U. S. and California laws on redistricting including the requirements of Proposition 11 was equally impressive. Her presentation highlighted her skills as an objective researcher and an effective communicator.

This Commission's task is daunting given the short timeframe within which

to draw new districts for State Assembly, Senate, Board of Equalization and United States Congressional seats. Utilizing Ms. Mac Donald's combined years of experience as an academic researcher analyzing census and other complex relevant data and understanding redistricting laws and as a consultant in redistricting mapping to government and other institutions will serve you and the people of California well.

Sincerely,

Palma Hooper
President
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