

From: **Hugh T. Hoskins** [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Mar 30, 2011 at 5:33 PM
Subject: RE-DISTRICTING, Thoughts About
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov, rob.wilcox@crc.ca.gov

Hello Voters First / We Draw The Lines:

Please consider that the utmost outcome of this endeavor should be GOVERNMENT INTEGRITY.

Government needs to do a moral cleanup of itself. It does not need additional public relations for itself. Government should earn the citizens respect. We should not distrust the government.

One of the worst and most obvious forms of the lack of integrity is gerrymandering. Please consider the following technical **ratio**-driven rule-of-thumb to avoid all possibility of favoritism, discrimination, or gerrymandering. It will produce fair, equitable, and legally and morally defensible districts.

*==> When any area is being sub-divided for the purpose of determining districts for elected officials, then the **ratio** between the square of the length of the perimeter and the area of the district shall not be more than forty (40); however, where the geometry of the area being sub-divided makes this impractical, then the district lines which are coincident with the boundaries of the area being sub-divided may be considered as straight lines, and the allowable **ratio** increased to that of the area being sub-divided. <==*

Being unable to rely upon the wisdom of Solomon or Thomas Jefferson, with this sort of simplistic, technical geometric **ratio** approach, we could have a more reasonable, responsible, and representative government. The goal should be smooth, straight, sensible boundaries with no consideration for dividing any group or keeping any group together. By contrast the current districts are so obviously drawn to favor or dis-favor a group or incumbent, that they tend toward the ludicrous.

For coastlines and other natural boundaries, some smoothing of the perimeter length would possibly be necessary, as is typical in cartography when determining boundary

lengths.

For a frame of reference, among regular plane geometric figures the above-mentioned "**ratio**" is smallest for a circle (at 12.56) and largest for an equilateral triangle (at 20.78). Other typical figures and their ratios are: square, 16; "divine" rectangle (5 x 8), 16.9; a sheet of paper, 16.27; square with sawtooth sides, 32. At double the largest value for a regular figure, forty (40) seems a reasonable beginning target for consideration and refinement based on the **ratio** for the State, Counties, and Cities over which these divisions are laid.

Starting in the n.w.corner near Pelican State Beach and laying out rectangles over equal populations while maintaining a prudent and defensible **ratio** should yield results which are unchallengeable by the nay-sayers.

Thanks for Your Consideration -

Sincerely,

/s/

Hugh T. Hoskins

