

From: **Rachel Dann** [REDACTED]
Date: Fri, Apr 15, 2011 at 10:51 AM
Subject: Santa Cruz/Monterey/San Benito Counties as a community of interest
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Dear Citizens Redistricting Commission and Staff,

I understand that a public meeting was held in SLO County recently to discuss where the communities of interest are on the Central Coast. Prior to the last redistricting effort which dramatically and illogically split our Senate district into three separate Senate Districts, the Santa Cruz Monterey Bay Area had one Senator representing our area. Those senate lines closely mirrored the congressional district lines and kept the Monterey Bay Area together. Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties have traditionally been a community of interest, our cities and counties work together regionally, we share the Monterey Bay, and share similar economies and demographic mix. SLO County has not shared interests with our area geographically, economically, or politically. This is further evidenced by the fact that our regional governing bodies such as AMBAG, the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Task Force, and the District's Air Quality Control Board has representatives from the three counties, but not a representative from SLO County. This is simply because they are not a community of interest with the Monterey Bay Area, and it is recognized as such.

Please consider returning our senate seat to one district which includes Santa Cruz County, Monterey County, and San Benito County as it was prior to the illogical redistricting done by the legislature ten years ago.

Thank you for your service to our State.

Sincerely,
Rachel Dann
Santa Cruz Resident
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