



April 15, 2011

Commissioner Jodie Filkins Webber  
Citizens Redistricting Commission  
1130 K Street, Suite 101  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioner Filkins Webber,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the re-drawing of district lines in California. The Sonoma County Winegrape Commission (SCWC) represents over 1500 vineyard owners in Sonoma County. Winegrapes account for 70% of farm product sales and all wine related businesses contribute \$8.2 billion in economic activity.

The SCWC was interested to see the criteria in the Legal Handbook for the Citizens Redistricting Commission for drawing of district lines focuses on geographical compact and continuous areas that include agricultural communities of interest.

The SCWC appreciates this distinction and recommends that the northern California wine industry in the counties of Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma and Yolo be considered by the Citizens Redistricting Commission to be geographically continuous, compact and an agricultural community of interest and be incorporated into one Congressional district. All five counties are actively engaged in agriculture, grape growing and wine making. The citizens live in similar rural agricultural areas, share common social and economic interests, and many of the same standards of living such as common transportation facilities, work opportunities, and access to the same media outlets as relevant to the election process and therefore would be better served by not being drawn in the same district as an urban area.

Therefore the SCWC appreciates the Citizen Redistricting Commissions consideration of including Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma and Yolo Counties in one Congressional District.

Thank you for your service and consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Frey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nick Frey  
President

cc: Lake County Winegrape Growers  
Mendocino Winegrape and Wine Commission  
Napa Valley Grapegrowers  
Napa County Farm Bureau  
Napa Valley Vintners  
Winegrowers of Napa County  
Yolo County Visitors Bureau