

From: **Gene Beley** [REDACTED]
Date: Sat, Apr 23, 2011 at 9:31 PM
Subject: Contact form: [your-subject]
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Gene Beley [REDACTED]
Subject: Public Comment to Commission

Message Body:
24 April 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
c/o 1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 322-0904 <tel:%28916%29%20322-0904>
votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Re: San Joaquin County's State Senate, Assembly and Congressional Districts

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I want San Joaquin County in a single Senate District!

It is very important in our representative government that there be fairness and proportional balance of power. The boundaries for political districts must be redrawn for that to happen in San Joaquin County. I believe that San Joaquin County should be established as its own Congressional District, that we should have a full Assembly District and no more than two Assembly Districts in the county, and that we should be in one state Senate District. That would give us long overdue political fairness in San Joaquin County.

You see, this is the problem. After the redistricting in 2001 we ended up with two Congressional representatives, two state senators, and four Assembly members representing San Joaquin County. That forces average citizens and even our locally

elected officials to track down eight – that’s eight – state and federal elected officials to get anything done. That is just not fair. That is just not efficient. That is just not right.

Looking objectively at San Joaquin County will lead a person to see that we have natural physical barriers that make the county rather self-contained. We have the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Altamont to the west, open agricultural lands to the north, the foothills to the east, and the Stanislaus River and open agricultural land to the south. San Joaquin County’s uniformed geography and common land-use issues lend it to a single representative unit. And because population centers outside the county are rather distant and accessible only by congested highways, county residents tend to look within San Joaquin County’s borders for jobs, transportation, services, entertainment and culture.

As you can see, it makes sense to have San Joaquin County as a Congressional District on its own. And it makes sense also to map out for the county an entire Assembly District of its own – and no more than two Assembly Districts in the county – and to have the county in a single Senate District.

Sincerely,

Gene Beley

