

April 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 322-0904
votersfirst@ccrc.ca.gov

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

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

It seems natural that people in a political district should be included with other people of similar interests and concerns, and that city and county boundaries should be used as much as possible when establishing those political districts. It also seems natural that San Joaquin County should be a Congressional District on its own. The county should have a state Senate District and an entire state Assembly District, but not more than two such districts within the county.

San Joaquin County ended up being in two Congressional Districts, two state Senate Districts and four Assembly Districts following the 2001 redistricting. That just seems like too many political districts for a county with so many people living here. It just seems that none of those elected officials will care enough about our needs and wants.

Keeping San Joaquin County as a Congressional District on its own would preserve the city and county boundaries. Californians from nearby communities should be included in the new San Joaquin County districts whenever possible, rather than splintering the communities and setting up remote "outposts" within far-flung districts. And district boundaries should not bypass nearby areas in favor of overreaching to gather population from distant communities. That is what happened with the 2001 redistricting and look at the mess we are in now.

So, I think it is only natural that San Joaquin County be made a Congressional District on its own; that we have one state Senate District; and that we have an entire Assembly District, but not more than two Assembly Districts in the county. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Betty Wingfield
Lodi, CA 95242
City of Lodi