

Reg 9 - Shasta County

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April 26, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

I was in the audience at the very first hearing which was held in Redding on Saturday, April 9, however I did not speak. I had very good reason NOT to speak. You may not be aware that a large percentage of the group who showed up for that hearing was from the alliance of unions who are very well organized in Shasta County. I own a small business in Redding and was fearful to stand before you after I saw who was sitting in the audience.

For the past year there has been an increasingly intense relationship brewing between our local unions and anyone who feels differently about any issue than the unions feel. Several businesses have been targeted by the unions if they speak out in opposition to any stand the unions have taken.

I came to the CRC hearing prepared to explain my views of redistricting, but quickly decided to remain silent after hearing the first speakers (who were organized and coached by the union leaders) and realizing my views differed from theirs. I must think first of my family, and my small business cannot withstand the unions' retaliation that I've seen spewed against other small businesses struggling here in Shasta County.

Your website comment page requires my personal information which I don't feel comfortable giving, so please accept this letter.

I urge you to not lump the coastal counties in with the valley counties or in with the high desert counties of Northern California. We in the valley have nothing in common with the coastal beaches, nor do we have anything in common with the dry high desert plains of the counties against the Nevada border.

Also, our north-south highway system lends itself to north-south travel which means our elected representatives would be more inclined to visit their districts if they could actually drive to them in one day.

Thank you for accepting my opinion, and for understanding that I cannot afford to have my business in jeopardy for having expressed it to you in public.