

From: **Tony Quinn** [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Apr 27, 2011 at 11:48 PM
Subject: Long Beach Hearing
To: [REDACTED]

April 27, 2011

My Dear Commissioners and Staff:

I was very disappointed tonight that when asked the ethnic makeup of the proposed new 37th Congressional District, your staff answered 19% African American, 12% Asian and 52% Latino. This is the raw population; it is completely irrelevant to the actual character of Los Angeles area districts.

Voters, my dear commissioners, voters are what matter. According to the California Target Book, of which I am co-editor, the actual voter base in the current 37th CD is 17% African American, 26% Latino, 3% Asian and 4% Filipino. At the Target Book, we make it our business to know the voter profile of all districts because that is what our clients need to know. You need to know that too. Giving you raw population is completely useless; you need to know CVAP in all Section 2 districts, and more importantly the actual ethnic make up of each district's voters. Did your staff brief you on the history of this district? It is an historically African American district but when the late Rep Millender McDonald died in 2007, the resulting special election pitted a strong African American candidate, who won, against a strong Latino candidate, who lost, and that the special primary broke down on racial lines. This is vital for you to know.

You received much testimony to restore Wilmington and San Pedro to the 37th AD, reconfiguring it as it was under the 1991 Masters and undoing the terrible gerrymander

that runs Palos Verdes off to an Orange County district and gives these communities to the coastal 36th CD. I don't believe that was ever justified, and I thought it was wise advice that you should restore San Pedro and Wilmington to the 37th CD. But did your staff tell you that to do so will increase the Latino voter base and dilute the African American voter base? Did your staff tell you that this will make a racial conflict between African Americans and Latinos more likely? You need to know these things before you make these crucial decisions.

You must immediately demand that your staff provide you with the actual voter mix of every district in Los Angeles County before you proceed further. There is an excellent service that has compiled an ethnic voter name file; we have used it at the Target Book for more than a decade.

You must know these things before you make these vital decisions that could enhance or deny representation to the many ethnic groups that make up Los Angeles County.

Tony Quinn

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