

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

The Rose Institute of State and Local Government

June 1, 2010

Gloria Gamino, Legal Analyst
Bureau of State Audits
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Proposed rulemaking for Citizens Redistricting Commission

Dear Ms. Gamino,

I would like to commend the State Auditor and her staff for the dedication you have shown in the process of selecting California's first-ever independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The latest rulemaking reflects the time, thought, dedication and independence that all of you continue to bring to this process.

Overall, I endorse the new regulations. I believe they reflect the goals and intent of California voters when they approved Proposition 11 in the November 2008 election, and I believe the proposed regulations will contribute to the smooth organization of the Commission.

I also thank the Auditor and her staff for your willingness to extend your support to the Commission beyond that strictly required by the Constitution. Your support will fill that important gap between your required support and the beginning of support from the Secretary of State.

I particularly want to applaud the proposed requirement for the final six Commission members to be selected as a full slate. I had not thought of that approach, but I am persuaded by your reasoning that this represents a logical and reasonable implementation of the Constitutional language.

I have only one proposed regulation that I would request you revise prior to the final rulemaking: Section 60804.1.(3)(B). This section defines the term "public office." I would request that you include all public offices (as otherwise defined by the regulations), and not restrict the definition to those providing compensation greater than \$5,000 per year or per diem payments above \$100 per day. A number of politically influential public offices are completely unpaid (including Regent of the University of California system) and I would also exclude Commissioners from holding such positions.

Thank you again for all of the work that you and everyone at the Auditor's office have put into this work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas Johnson".

Douglas Johnson
Fellow