



TESTIMONY

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map attached is 2<sup>nd</sup> page

I grew up and have lived in the Southeastern area of San Diego for over fifty years. The area is roughly bordered by Highway 15 (Wabash now Escondido Fwy) on the west, Highway 94 on the north, Division Ave. in the south and the city of Lemon Grove on the east.

My immediate neighborhood is Emerald Hills in the southeast area. An area that is predominately African American. It is bordered by Hwy 94 on the north, Euclid Ave. on the west, Market Street on the south and 60<sup>th</sup> Street on the east. It is a single family residence area.

My neighbors and community members in the contiguous neighborhoods have common history, group aspirations, economic desires, concerns on reducing gang crime and effective political representation.

My Southeastern community and neighborhood includes parks, schools and some shopping. The area has a growing ethnic diversity. The contiguous populations share common social and economic interest in combination with unique cultures. There is a specific concern for quality of education facing minority children. There are concerns with opportunities in economic growth and development, as well as job availability and access. There is an existing unique mind set and synergy in this community. The Market Creek project (located at Market St. & Euclid Ave.) is an example of a united community effort and working together for a common community good. Another example of common goals is, gang activity in this area is addressed and viewed differently, and there is a unity in addressing the uniqueness of this condition in Southeastern San Diego.

Due to the uniqueness of the community and common bounds the residence share, it is vital that it is not divided, any more than it is. Any redistricting that splits or downsizes the district can reduce the communities' fair and effective representation.

To have a fair common voice and an effective voice for community improvements, change and problem solving in this area, any redistricting that splits or downsizes the district can reduce the community fair and effective representation.

The ethnicity of the community gives it a unique common bonding. In my opinion the district should be expanded on the western boundary, giving the community a more effective common representation.

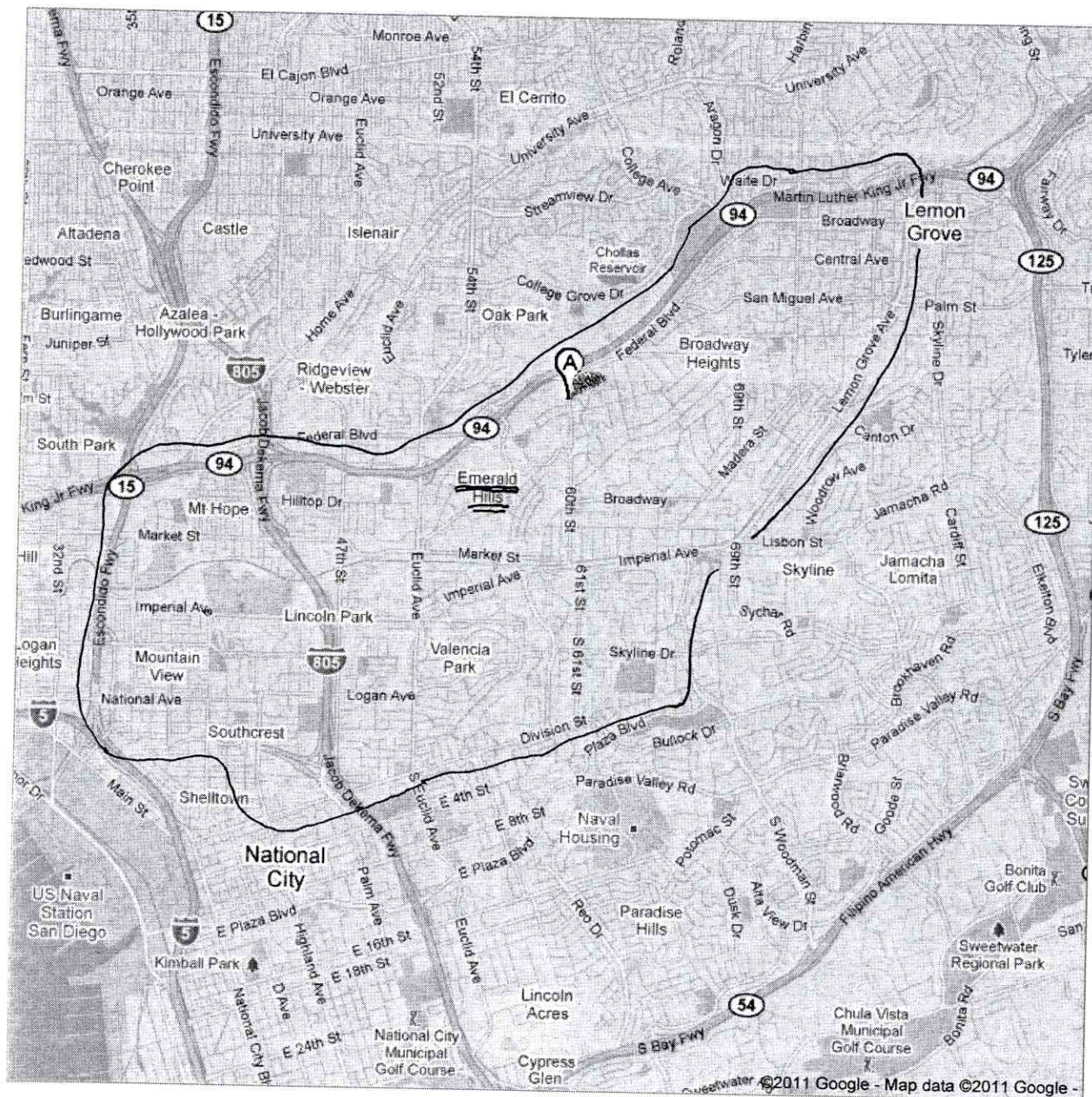


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05.14.11B

- Speaker # 1

Redistricting: The Trans-Sierra Assembly District: Isolated and Sparse Population COI

Good afternoon and thank you for the opportunity to speak for a Trans-Sierra Assembly District that would represent the unique isolated mountain communities located on both sides of the Sierra Nevada at the eastern edge of our geographically diverse state. Route 80 to the North and Route 49 to the West are our logical Transportation Corridor boundaries; it also allows for closely maintaining county lines in Placer, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Mono and Alpine Counties.

There are many economic and cultural similarities that tie these communities together; the anchor is the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The beauty and hardships of the mountains have forged a unique lifestyle in our communities of isolation. Many of our residents first came for the outdoor recreation but made the Western Foothills and Eastern Sierra Mountains home. The sparse population lends itself to smaller "mom and pop" enterprises, the backbone of our communities. Many businesses, retirees and volunteers who live or visit see themselves as guardians of the fragile environment, wilderness areas and national parks. We are committed to the seasonal rhythms of the mountains, the weather and the roads. Our livelihood and passions revolve around the tourist related economy, be it trout fishing, skiing, snowboarding, birding, biking or any level of a walk in the great outdoors. In the summer Yosemite, Sonora and the John Muir Trail are our calling cards for visitors from all over the world.

We believe our steadfast commitment to our mountain environment and its tenacious economy gives us a determined perspective to manage and preserve our autonomous region as an Assembly District.

I also want to say "thank you" to the Redistricting Group at Berkley Law Center, California Common Cause, The James Irvine Foundation and the Greenlining Institute for all their support and education in this redistricting effort.

Susan Sanders

Mammoth Lakes 93546

# Trans-Sierra Assembly District: COI Isolated & Sparse Population

Boundries: Route 80 North, Route 49 West, Nevada Line East

