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From: **Hassebrock, Robert** [REDACTED]

Date: 2011/5/4

Subject:

To: "votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov" <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Honorable Commission Members

Re: The 35th Assembly District

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

I was very interested in the process from inception and actually signed up to be considered as a member but could not commit to the time required so I pulled out of consideration. With that said I would firstly like to thank you for your dedication to what I think is the preeminent need for the repair of our political process in this once golden state. The work performed by the commission has potential to restore hope in not only the American Dream but the Dream of the West that has embodied California for many decades but has lost it's allure of late. Many of our educated population is leaving as are many employers that provide the base of hope for common citizens not born to luxury and riches.

In the very near future you will be announcing your first draft of assembly, state senate and congressional districts. Over the last 10 years the Central Coast has received national attention for gerrymandering at its worst. It has been obscene the way boundaries were drawn to accommodate the established politicians and ensuring the most hard-line from either side are assured election each cycle. The old senate and congressional districts until 2002, were essentially comprised of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. And all of Santa Barbara County

was in one Assembly District.

Currently the Santa Barbara County is cut in half. At your recent hearings in San Luis Obispo you heard almost every person testifying asking that you keep all of SB County in one Assembly District. Significantly, that request has strong bi-partisan support being led by former Assembly Members, Democrat Pedro Nava and Republican Brooks Firestone. **And we understand that the Commission is going to work hard to assure minority vote is not disenfranchised. On that front it is very significant that at your Oxnard hearing the non-profit SCORE fully supported this same approach requesting that all of Santa Barbara County be included in one Assembly District as well.**

At the end of the day, given the national attention of the gerrymandered central coast districts, this is where people will look first to see whether redistricting was really done in the objective way that the voters hoped would happen when they passed the initiatives creating the Redistricting Commission and giving you the power to take politics out of the process. We hope you will heed the voters' wishes.

In closing, I wish to thank you for your consideration of this very important matter in particular and once again for your dedication to this commission and its ideals.

Sincerely,

Robert Hasebrock

Pacific Area QHSSE Manager

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