

Subject:

From: Norma [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 20:30:30 -0400 (EDT)

To: [REDACTED]

please do not combine the Coachella Valley with Imperial. thank you. Norma Margot

Subject: What to do with the Salton Sea

From: Ellen Swensen <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 23 May 2011 22:08:03 -0700 (PDT)

To: [REDACTED]

Honorable Commissioners,

I know you are weighing different ideas for the Salton Sea. I asked around my community and got the following idea, which makes perfect sense from all perspectives:

Keep the Salton Sea as it is now, partly in Riverside Co and partly in Imperial Co. The reasons are:

1. This will allow for 2 representatives per legislative house, doubling the odds of getting government help to clean up the Salton Sea's environmental problems. Both counties will share the air quality problem if the Sea dries up, so it's best to have both counties and lots of representatives fighting for a solution.
2. This option will keep each county intact.
3. The Northern Salton Sea (in Riverside Co) was once a recreational destination and could become one again if the Sea is cleaned up. This would fit with the Coachella Valley's tourism COI.
4. The geothermal energy is in the South Salton Sea (in Imperial Co). Keeping this part of the Sea in Imperial County, as it is now, would preserve Imperial's opportunity to develop their geothermal energy, creating more jobs for this relatively lower-employment county.

I hope you consider this option as you draw your preliminary maps.

Ellen Swensen
Rancho Mirage

Subject: Public Comment: Riverside County

From: Elizabeth Barkis <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 00:18:53 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Elizabeth Barkis <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Riverside County

Message Body:

Greetings, thank you for the time you are putting in to draw fair lines throughout our state.

I am typing on behalf of myself and the other 3 voting members in my household. Terry Barkis, Dianne Barkis, and Christopher Barkis

We all truly want Corona, Norco and Eastvale to remain together. Both Norco and Eastvale were unicorporated parts of Corona until they incorporated. The mayors of all of the cities work together to make sure our region stays unified and prospers. Our Children all go to school in the same school district. To be split apart for redistricting just does not make sense.

When it comes to state and federal offices, a
I have always found it odd that my districts go into Orange County. I do not think they should.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Revised 5-5-11 Testimony sent e-mail before 5pm today.

From: Dennis Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 00:19:14 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Dennis Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Revised 5-5-11 Testimony sent e-mail before 5pm today.

Message Body:

Honorable members of the California Redistricting Committee, I submit this testimony as a resident of the City and County of Riverside from 1982 through 1984, and again from 2000 to today. My wife and I chose to raise our children in the City and County of Riverside. Since September of 2000 our children attended schools of the Riverside Unified School District and UC Riverside and my wife and I have voted in Riverside in local, state and national elections.

As a citizen, resident, tax payer and voter, I look to the California Redistricting Commission to adhere strictly to the Voting Rights Act, with specific reference to Section 2, which includes protection the voting rights of the growing number and proportion of Chicano/Latino residents of California. My primary concern as a Riverside County/Inland Empire resident is the protection of Chicanos/Latinos voting rights in this region.

During the last 11 years I have resided in this area I have observed a tendency of State Assembly, State Senate and Congressional representatives in Riverside consistently vote for legislation which is anti-immigrant, anti-bilingual education, and other legislation that is consistently undermines the interest of the Chicano/Latino population, and other people of color, in the Riverside County and Inland Empire region. Consequently, I believe the California Redistricting Commission must maintain fidelity to Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act for this region in your work to determine the Congressional, State Assembly and State Senate district boundaries for the next 10 years.

Attached to my testimony are maps proposing two State Assembly Districts, a State Senate District, and a Congressional District. (See maps submitted with my original testimony on May 5, 2011) Based on the 2010 Census, each of these districts adheres to the required number of residents for State Assembly Districts, State Senate Districts, and Congressional Districts, respectively. Each of these districts is contiguous, respects local political boundaries, and within the County of Riverside. I ask the Redistricting Commission to consider revisions of my proposed map based on CVAP data to ascertain whether Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act to maximize the ability of Chicano/Latino Voters to elect a candidate of our choice.

I have worked in education for over 30 years and I continue to volunteer assisting low-income, under-represented ethnic minority students to prepare for college, graduate school, and professional schools. I am compelled to do this volunteer work due to the on-going educational crisis in the Inland Empire is evidenced by: (A) 40 consecutive years of low UC and CSU freshmen admissions eligibility compared to other counties in California, particularly for under-represented ethnic minorities, and (B) the Riverside County public schools achievement gap between affluent White students and under-represented ethnic minority students, including Chicano/Latino students, Spanish-speaking/English Learner students, lawful permanent residents, and undocumented immigrant students required to attend school from k-12 as permitted by the U.S. Supreme Court decision in Plyler vs. Doe, (1982).

Given the growth in total population in Riverside County, including the growth in the Chicano/Latino population, I urge you to create two Assembly Districts, a State Senate

District, and a Congressional District, within Riverside County that adhere strictly to the Voting Rights Act section 2, with respect to "protected groups" for which there is case law documenting violations in California of Chicano/Latino Voting Rights.

I propose one Assembly District to be comprised of the following communities: El Cerrito, Corona, Coronita, Home Gardens, Norco, North-Western Census tracks of the City of Riverside, Pedley, Rubidoux, Glen Avon, Sunnyslope, and parts of unincorporated North-Western Riverside County. (See map submitted with my original testimony on May 5, 2011)

I propose a second Assembly District comprised of the communities of El Sobrante, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Perris, March Air Force Base, Central, Southern and Eastern portions of the City of Riverside, and the entire City of Moreno Valley. Please refer to the attached map to view two sections of unincorporated Riverside County which are contiguous to cities mentioned above in the listing of cities and communities for this Assembly District. (See map submitted with my original testimony on May 5, 2011)

I propose a State Senate District which can be comprised of Coronita, Corona, El Cerrito, Home Gardens, El Sobrante, Norco, Mira Loma, Glen Avon, Rubidoux, Highgrove, the City of Riverside, the City of Moreno Valley, March Air Force Base, the community of Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Perris, Romoland, and unincorporated areas of Riverside County contiguous to the northern cities and communities and the El Cerrito and Corona communities listed above in this description of this State Senate District. (See map submitted with my original testimony on May 5, 2011)

I propose a Congressional District which can be comprised of Glen Avon, Pedley, Rubidoux, Highgrove, Riverside, Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Perris, Romoland, Nuevo, March Air Force Base, Moreno Valley, and unincorporated areas of Riverside County contiguous to the northern cities and communities and other unincorporated areas contiguous and between Nuevo, Romoland, and Perris listed in this description of this Congressional District. (See map submitted with my original testimony on May 5, 2011)

As a 11 year resident of the City and County of Riverside these districts from 2000-2011, plus my previous 2 year period of residence from 1982-1984, my experience is that these State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional districts correspond to my family's normal business dealings, family health care, shopping, governmental agencies, and civic community volunteer service of low-income, under-represented ethnic minorities access to colleges and universities, including English learners, lawful permanent residents, and undocumented immigrant graduates of local public high schools.

I reiterate my greatest concern that the California Redistricting Commission maintain strict adherence to all provisions of the Voting Rights Act, particularly Section 2, to deliberately protect the voting rights of under-represented ethnic minority populations. With the growth in the Chicano/Latino population in California generally, and the Inland Empire region specifically, the Commission's adherence to Section 2 standards of the Voting Rights Act will ensure that the Inland Empire not become the site of a violation of Chicano/Latino voting rights.

I am aware that time for testimony is limited so I will close my testimony by offering the California Redistricting Commission members and staff my cell phone number, e-mail address, and mailing address should you have any questions of me regarding your important redistricting tasks.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Revised 5-5-11 Testimony sent e-mail before 5pm today.

From: Dennis Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 00:18:29 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Dennis Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Revised 5-5-11 Testimony sent e-mail before 5pm today.

Message Body:

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As a 11 year resident of the City and County of Riverside these districts from 2000-2011, plus my previous 2 year period of residence from 1982-1984, my experience is that these State Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional districts correspond to my family's normal business dealings, family health care, shopping, governmental agencies, and civic community volunteer service of low-income, under-represented ethnic minorities access to colleges and universities, including English learners, lawful permanent residents, and undocumented immigrant graduates of local public high schools.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: Region 2

From: Alexis Weisbrod <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 24 May 2011 06:24:04 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Alexis Weisbrod <[REDACTED]>

Subject:

Message Body:

Having been a resident for the last three years, I bought my first home in Murrieta last year. Both my husband and myself are not native Californians; nor did we have work or social ties to the area when we chose to relocate. Instead we were looking for a vibrant, growing community central to many areas of Southern California. With its close proximity to Temecula, we found just this in Murrieta. Over the last three years we have become a part of the community and learned a great deal about its remarkable growth over the last decade.

Although Murrieta and Temecula are separate cities, the close ties between the two create a community of residents who easily move between the two areas. My time is evenly split between both communities for both business and pleasure. What happens in Temecula directly affects Murrieta, as the day-to-day lives of most residents appear to take place in both cities. Although Temecula is larger, Murrieta is growing right alongside it. And as both cities develop there is an increasing blurring of borders between the two as the communities merge and become interconnected.

While I have never lived in Corona or Norco, I imagine a similar relationship to exist between these two cities. During my commutes from Murrieta to Los Angeles and Orange County I am struck by how similar Corona and Norco appear to be in relation to Murrieta and Temecula. Both are comprised of two cities, the close proximity of which creates a constant flow of people between and across borders. In fact, in my experience, for both Corona and Temecula areas, these borders mean increasingly less as residents pay less attention to their common movement between Temecula and Murrieta or Corona and Norco.

More significantly, both pairings of cities share a relationship to the other larger cities of Southern California. Although distant from these larger metropolises, the growth of both areas seems to be the result of transplants from Orange County. These are often younger families looking for affordable homes in family-friendly neighborhoods. As a result many of the residents of both Temecula/Murrieta and Corona/Norco frequently commute to other larger cities for both business and pleasure. This creates unique communities that are interconnected not only to each other but also the rest of Southern California in a unique manner not typical of residents in larger cities such as San Diego, Anaheim or Los Angeles.

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