

I just checked for posting of my letter and realized that it must be pdf. I am re-sending it pdf for your convenience. The maps are on the way via first class mail.  
diana lejins



Working to make the World a better place,  
diana 😊

To: State of California Redistricting Commission

May 16, 2011

Email: [REDACTED]

RE: City of Long Beach in the County of Los Angeles  
37<sup>th</sup> Congressional District and Long Beach state representatives  
California Redistricting Region 4

First let me thank you, the Commissioners, for your time and consideration of this extremely important issue. In the past, the entire process of redistricting was governed by the very legislature that it would affect. **Gerrymandering** was rampant; and in the City of Long Beach, it became strikingly ridiculous. This calculated **exploitation** was a blatant conflict of interest and remarkably self serving. Ultimately, legitimate representation and the public's trust were severely compromised.

In the form of Proposition 20, the **voters of California spoke out**. The time has come for an objective look at fair and honest redistricting.

Incorporated in 1888, the City of Long Beach has a wealthy dowry of history with remnants of picturesque ranchos and the grandeur of numerous historic buildings dotting the landscape. This community is bounded by City borders to the north and west and the Orange County line to the east. The Pacific Ocean provides the southern boundary along our renowned long beach.

Signal Hill is an island of a City totally surrounded by Long Beach (LB) and the City of Avalon on the island of Catalina (made famous by the hit song "26 Miles Across the Sea") is just south of LB.

Many of our LB residents and those from cities I have included in my proposed District boundaries are employed at the Port of Long Beach or Boeing Aircraft. **We are also interconnected** through various forms of public transport and share numerous media communications.

Most residents of Long Beach pride themselves in the rich diversity of our City. We have a great many multi-national neighborhoods and causes for celebration throughout the year--Cinco de Mayo, Martin Luther King Parade, Cajun Fest, Cambodian New Year, Pacific Islander Festival, Carnival, Latin-American Parade/Festival, Juneteenth and the Scottish Highland Festival to name just a few. However, the City of **Long Beach has been fractured** for far too many years—divided among three Congressional districts/representatives. This only serves to foster a partition among the many ethnic and cultural groups of our community.

While you may have heard a good deal of testimony at your Long Beach redistricting meeting on April 27 in favor of keeping the City divided, this was due to a carefully orchestrated attempt on the part of the 37<sup>th</sup> District Congressional Representative to **manipulate** the outcome heavily in her favor. **Money and power** can be especially attractive aphrodisiacs to most career politicians.

A "strategic" meeting was held at her campaign headquarters, just two days prior to your meeting, outlining her goals. This focused on maintaining the status quo, thus ensuring her re-election, and capturing the powerful ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles for her portfolio/control. During the course of your April 27 meeting, one of her aides was on hand to pass out talking points, etc to those speaking in her favor. Unfortunately, this Machiavellian scheme only serves to undermine the will of the people and make a mockery of the entire process.

This type of abuse can only undermine the guiding principles of Proposition 20 (Voters First Act) if you allow it to unduly influence your decisions. After reading the selection process of the Commission and your resumes, I am trusting that you will see past this derisive behavior and make objective assessments truly based on **keeping communities of interest whole**.

Additionally, because the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles are so **critically vital** for the security, economy and well-being of the entire nation, they should be split between two representatives rather than consolidated.

The following are proposals that would **keep Long Beach intact** and include neighboring communities with contiguous borders, similar diversities and common social/ economic interests:

<u>Congressional – 37th</u>		Target	<u>702,905</u>
Long Beach	462,257		
Signal Hill	11,016		
Avalon	3,728		
Lakewood	80,048		
Bellflower	76,616		
Paramount	54,098		
Hawaiian Gardens	14,254	Total	<u>702,017</u> (0.001% deviation)

<u>CA State Assembly</u>		Target	<u>465,674</u>
Long Beach and Signal Hill		Sub-total	473,273 (1.6% deviation)
+ Avalon		Total	<u>477,001</u> (2.4% deviation)

<u>CA State Senate</u>		Target	<u>931,349</u>
Long Beach, Signal Hill, Avalon, Lakewood,			
Bellflower, Paramount, Hawaiian Gardens	702,017		
Cerritos	49,041		
Artesia	16,522		
Norwalk	105,549		
La Mirada	48,527		
Santa Fe Springs	16,223	Total	<u>937,879</u> (0.7% deviation)

I implore you to **make Long Beach whole again**, help heal this City and restore our faith in the government.

Sincerely,

Diana Lejins  
 Long Beach Resident  
 [Redacted]  
 LB, CA 90853

Tele: [Redacted]  
 Email: [Redacted]

p.s. While I have focused on the 37<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, I would hope that your redistricting for other positions will reflect similar concerns.