

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Al Austin II <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 1 Jun 2011 00:16:42 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Al Austin II <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Long Beach Area

Message Body:

I live in the Bixby Knolls area of Long Beach, which is located within the 37th Congressional District, 25th Senate District, and 55th Assembly District.

I am in support of preserving existing lines for federal and state representation for this area. The City of Long Beach shares many common interests with our neighboring communities of Compton, Carson, Wilmington and San Pedro. In my opinion, our current representation, has served our community well over the past decade. Our current representation also reflects the unique diversity and varied interest of the Greater Long Beach area.

You may hear from others suggesting that there be a congressional district, senate district and assembly district specific to Long Beach. I ask that you reject the notion of a Long Beach centered state and congressional district model. In my opinion, such a model is ill conceived and would drastically reduce the voice of local communities in Sacramento and D.C. More specifically, it could significantly minimize representation for communities of color, which as I understand would violate the spirit and intent of the Voting Rights Act. If the line had to be changed, a north south spit would be the most reasonable approach.

There are several reasons to consider maintaining our existing congressional and state representation lines, and ensuring that the diversity of this unique city and area remain represented. To quote Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, "Long Beach is a Tale of Two Cities". I agree. And most people who live in the Long Beach area know that to be a very real description of Long Beach. For example, when you take into consideration communities of interest, there are stark differences between North Long Beach and East Long Beach or Belmont Shore. When you look at socio-economic, ethnic, and other key demographic information, you will discover that the International City is really segregated by clear geographic areas with very different interest. The district maps as they are currently drawn allow for most constituencies and communities throughout the greater LB area to have opportunity for representation.

The current district maps that include Long Beach have allowed for Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Latinos, women and LGBT communities to have representation at the state and federal level. A Long Beach centered representation model would significantly reduce the possibility for such diverse representation. A historic look at citywide elections in Long Beach would support this viewpoint.

Each of the communities nested within the current 37th Congressional District and 55th Assembly District are connected by transportation corridors such as the MTA Blue line, the Alameda Corridor, and a freeway network that includes the 405 Fwy, 710 Fwy, 91 Fwy and 110 Fwy. Ports, air pollution, goods movements, mobility and public transportation are issues shared by communities within these districts. It is important that such communities remain represented by state and federal representatives who have experience working on these issues that are vitally important to their constituencies.

I respectfully ask the Citizens Redistricting Commission to do everything within your authority and the law to ensure diverse and sound representation for communities

throughout the Greater Long Beach area.

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Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Jann Shaw <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 1 Jun 2011 01:16:54 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jann Shaw <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Fernando Valley

Message Body:

There was a meeting at CSUN in Northridge where an organization called VICA presented their recommendations for redistricting the San Fernando Valley. I think their ideas are horrible. This group is aligned with the Chamber of Commerce. Their plan would once again carve up communities and put non valley communities that are far away from valley communities. The valley deserves to stay together. We are very populous and should not have to share a district with locations that are over half an hour to an hour away depending on traffic. I currently have representatives in my state Assembly and Senate that are in Santa Clarita which has totally different concerns than I have in the SFV. I have been told there are rules regarding districts that have to be majority Latino which makes it hard to carve up the rest of the valley. Is this true? I wish we had better options this time but it feels like the same mess all over again. I also read that your commission is favoring putting the North SFV with part of Santa Clarita for the congressional district. I live in Northridge and I can tell you this would be a big mistake. Santa Clarita does not want this and neither do the San Fernando voters. Please Please Please do not make this mistake.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 4 - Los Angeles

From: Jann Shaw <[REDACTED]>

Date: Tue, 31 May 2011 23:16:40 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jann Shaw <[REDACTED]>

Subject: San Fernando Valley

Message Body:

The districts should be kept within the San Fernando Valley. The population is large enough to do this. I live in Northridge and do not want a district that includes either Santa Clarita or Simi Valley. I have had to endure the worst gerrymandered State Senate(17th) and Assembly (38)districts that include parts of three counties (Simi, L.A., and Ventura). The San Fernando Valley is much more diverse and has completely different concerns. Please keep the San Fernando Valley together. Northridge should be with neighboring communities of the SFV.

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