



Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
"OUR MEMBERS: PARTNERS PRODUCING PROSPERITY"

May 23, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) [REDACTED]
Via e-mail: [REDACTED]

To the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

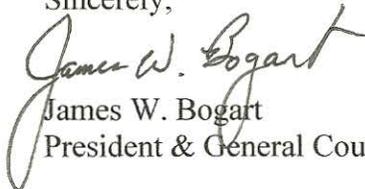
I am writing on behalf of the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California, a trade association representing over 300 growers, shippers, processors and affiliated industry members in Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. As you assess the state of California's needs while drawing new Congressional, Assembly, Senate and Board of Equalization Districts, please take these comments into consideration.

When determining communities of interests, we encourage you to look to the regional significance of Central Coast agriculture. The four counties represented by our organization are represented jointly due to their significantly similar needs. Geographically, growers and shippers in these counties face similar challenges. Legislative representation drawn by county lines represents their needs in a cohesive manner, allowing elected representatives to work in conjunction with local city and county governments to best represent their constituent's interests.

Central Coast agriculture faces a number of similar challenges related to shared watersheds, zoning, environmental circumstances, and food safety. A district developed according to county lines will lead to better representation on these issues and more. Additionally, this is a community in which representatives of each party have a history of winning elections on a city, county and statewide scale.

Finally, we encourage the Commission to continue to take the needs of disenfranchised communities into consideration throughout the course of this substantial undertaking.

Sincerely,


James W. Bogart
President & General Counsel

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