

From: Dorelle Rawlings [REDACTED]  
Subject: Monterey Bay districts

Message Body:

Welcome to our home, Citizens Redistricting Commission.

We were gerrymandered in the last redistricting, so we're counting on you to restore our traditional districts.

The Monterey Bay area, long recognized as the three counties of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito, has always been viewed as a single region. We share our major industries: marine research in the bay, tourism in our coastal communities, and agriculture inland. Our county governments and transportation districts cooperate.

Our region is separated by mountains from other areas, so even our media coverage tends to be local. One of the annoyances of driving very far from home is losing my favorite radio station.

Since I have limited income and rent housing, I tend to move frequently - a few miles in one direction and then a few miles in another, but always in my "home" region. The election districts here are so badly gerrymandered, that it seems every time I move my elected representatives change.

Please reinstate our districts: a California State Senate district that encompasses the three counties of the Monterey Bay, with the same area forming Assembly districts split between the coastal communities and the inland agricultural areas. The coastal vs. inland alignment provides the best representation for our diverse population and their

industry interests. We want our congressional district here as well. Our population is very close to what is required for the different districts, and these districts are a great match for all of your redistricting criteria.

Since Monterey is the oldest county in California, it even makes sense to start drawing the lines around Monterey bay!

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