

Subject: Keep Marin and Sonoma in One CD!

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From: Lise Stampfli [REDACTED]

To: <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>

Conversation: Keep Marin and Sonoma in One CD!

I write to urge you to retain the integrity of the 6th CD including Marin and Sonoma counties. Much is at stake and our representation at the highest levels of government could lose out if our largely suburban/rural/agricultural/light industry district were redrawn to incorporate dense San Francisco or the industrial metro area of the East Bay.

Marin and Sonoma share geographical, cultural, physical and economic ties that form a cohesive, unified block of interests with more similarities than differences. We share strong environmental values and embrace green and sustainable practices, open space, outdoor recreation, protection of habitat, and best practices in agriculture. We invest in education, taxing ourselves to provide better schools and public amenities. We embrace, not subvert the interests of our many small communities, towns and villages and find value in their small town appeal for locals and tourists alike.

Marin and Sonoma share water sources, a vital interest that comes with challenges that are best solved by communities working closely together within the same congressional district. With coastal exposure along the bay front, ocean, rivers and streams, managing winter storms and floods is another shared challenge that will be best solved by calling for federal support and assistance with a unified voice undiluted by big city interests. Marin and Sonoma levies are long overdue for reinforcement and reengineering especially with rising water levels from global warming.

As a supporter of an organization that worked closely with Marin Supervisor Brown to pass the Ross Valley Flood Drainage Fee, intended to mitigate seasonal flooding in my community, I know that our local fee that raises \$40 million will still need another \$60 million from State and Federal sources to more fully protect our homes, businesses and infrastructure. I don't want to see our voices diluted by dense, voter packed urban interests who don't see disaster planning the way we do in Sonoma and Marin. I want my Marin vote to count and I find far more unity of interest with Sonoma than across the Bay.

Lise Stampfli Torme
President, Flood Mitigation League of Ross Valley