

Subject: Please do not combine Marin with San Francisco or East Bay Counties

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From: Allen Appell <[REDACTED]>

To: <[REDACTED]>

Conversation: Please do not combine Marin with San Francisco or East Bay Counties

To: Redistricting Commission

Date: May 20, 2011

I have been a resident of Marin County and have commuted to San Francisco State University as a Professor of Business for 25 years. I am therefore very familiar with both San Francisco and Marin Counties.

Both counties are unique and significantly different so that they should remain separate voting districts. In addition, Marin should not be joined with East Bay districts for similar reasons. Some reasons are:

1. San Francisco is urban and Marin is suburban and rural with a preponderance of single family homes as well as ranches.
2. San Francisco has a high proportion of apartment renters who simply call a landlord when a problem arises. Marin has a high percentage of home ownership which gives people a different perspective than renters regarding factors like home maintenance and taxes.
3. Urban problems such as higher crime rates require different solutions than rural areas with lower crime rates.
4. Dealing with wildlife and predators require different solutions in rural areas than in urban areas where these problems are minimal. For example, if livestock must be euthanized because it has been mauled by a predator and no veterinarian can come in a timely manner, the rancher must use a gun to put the animal out of its misery (using drugs is illegal). Guns are basically illegal in San Francisco.
5. Dealing with water rights and irrigation are important issues in rural areas but not in urban ones.
6. San Francisco has a preponderance of single people while Marin has a significantly larger proportion of families with children in school.

The lifestyles, issues and worldviews of Marin County residents are significantly different from San Francisco or the East Bay and therefore should remain separate districts.

Thank you,

Allen L. Appell, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]
Kentfield, CA 94904
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