

Reg 9- Del Norte *

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CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889

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May 9, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) 322-0904

SUBJECT: Adjusting District Boundaries

Dear Members of the Commission:

The City Council of Fort Bragg would like to express our concern regarding the meetings of the Commission and our opposition to the idea of drawing district lines from east to west. For communities on the coast, this would not be welcome. We urge you to consider the following:

There is historical precedence for keeping communities together that have long considered themselves The North Coast or The Redwood Coast. Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity and Mendocino have a history of working together on issues of common interest. We exist together on the North-South 101 Corridor. Because of our topography and the difficulty of traveling from east to west, many kinds of partnerships and coalitions have developed in tourism, recreation, fishing, and agriculture. With the proposed cuts in travel budgets for Assembly and Senate members, adding distance and difficulty to covering the districts will not serve their constituents. For many constituents, the travel to the I-5 corridor is never easy, even in the best weather.

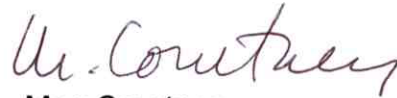
Many coalitions have developed along the north-south corridor in the areas of health care delivery, specialty agriculture, fishing, and commerce. We share bird, wildlife and marine protected areas. We share the California Coastal National Monument. Recently, an enormous collaborative effort regarding the Marine Life Protection Act has further brought us together. We share watersheds, salmon fishing, Redwood trees and wineries. Our coastal areas lie within the boundaries of the California Coastal Commission. Agriculture more suited to our temperate coastal areas is another distinguishing factor.

We understand the need to adjust some district boundaries, but urge you to keep the counties of Del Norte, Trinity, Humboldt, Mendocino and Sonoma in the same Assembly District, and to consider including Del Norte County in the Senate District. Our agriculture and wine industries complement each other and have brought a unique distinction to our region. This uniqueness includes our neighboring Lake, Napa and Yolo Counties and we urge you to have them also remain in our same Congressional District.

Sincerely,



Dave Turner
Mayor



Meg Courtney
Vice Mayor



Dan Gjerde
Councilmember



Doug Hammerstrom
Councilmember



Jere Melo
Councilmember