

----- Original Message -----

Subject:One San Joaquin County

Date:Thu, 26 May 2011 09:06:54 -0700

From:Brian Ratto <brian.ratto@sanjoaquincounty.net>

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of San Joaquin County and an LGBT person and activist I ask that you please keep San Joaquin County whole.

While the LGBT community within San Joaquin County share similar goals with our brothers and sisters in the Bay Area and the Sacramento area (like civil and human rights) our economic and cultural interest couldn't be more different and that is why we ask the commission to please keep San Joaquin County whole.

An example of our differences: Our annual AIDS Walk charities. For every \$10 raised to care for a single patient in the County of San Francisco, only \$1 is raised in San Joaquin County. The disparity could mean the difference between life and death.

San Joaquin County now has almost 700,000 residents after the 2010 census. That's enough population for one full State Senate seat, a Congressional representative, and two Assembly districts. These districts must be in San Joaquin County so that we have elected officials who focus on representing our needs.

Being LGBT Community in San Joaquin County and active in local politics I do not see the representation of myself and other San Joaquin County Residents. As of right now, May 2011, there is not a single senate, or assembly member that lives within San Joaquin County. By keeping the county whole and not splitting it up, there will be a representative that will live within the county and will voice the concerns of the residents in San Joaquin County.

Further, in dividing San Joaquin County in the Assembly plan I hope you will consider the needs of the LGBT community. Tracy is made up of many transplants from the Bay Area who tend to have more open and tolerant views regarding sexual orientation. Similarly Stockton is a relatively large and diverse city and thus offers some of the few opportunities for the LGBT community to come together. Keeping these cities together would allow San Joaquin's LGBT community to have a voice in determining who represents them in Sacramento.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signature:

Name (print):

Resident of San Joaquin County

Address: [REDACTED]

City, State, Zip: Stockton, Ca 95212

Date: 5-24-11

--
--

Sincerely,
Brian Ratto
