

Region # 1 : San Diego County

TESTIMONY OF GAGANDEEP KAUR

At Public Hearing Held By

COMMISSIONERS OF CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

For The State of California

DATE: MAY 13, 2011 LOCATION: SAN MARCOS

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Per _____

-My name is Gagandeep Kaur. I have lived in San Diego County for 13 years and am a financial advisor. I am Vice President of The Sikh Foundation San Diego in Poway. I am co-founder of the Poway Interfaith Team, the interfaith group of Poway, and am familiar with many faith based leaders and places of worship in Poway.

Sikhs are South Asians, and in large part, are immigrants. Many Sikhs came to the U. S. as students or professionals from India for a better life. They tend to stay cushioned and insulated as do other South Asian communities.

Sikhs contribute socially, culturally, and economically within the City of Poway and with other surrounding communities in the northern part of the City of San Diego. They have young children who go to school and are active in extra-curricular activities throughout Poway. They are middle class or upper middle class and have similar levels of education and earnings per capita as other Poway residents.

There are about 150 to 200 Sikh families in San Diego. The majority of them live in Poway, Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sabre Springs, and Rancho Bernardo.

There are two Sikh temples, one in Escondido and one in Poway. The Poway temple is the oldest built Sikh institution and is very active in the greater San Diego community.

Many Sikhs are business owners of 7/11s and gas stations. But the majority of Sikhs in San Diego are professionals who hold at least Bachelor's degrees if not higher levels of education and work for companies like Qualcomm, NCR, Sony and other corporations throughout San Diego. We also have many individuals who hold Doctorates in Science working in biotechnology and many veterinarians throughout of Sikh community.

The Sikh community are residents of the U.S. who earn a living, pay taxes, raise their children to provide every opportunity that the US affords them while still keeping their cultural and spiritual identity. They have more in common socially and economically with other South Asian communities in Poway, Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sabre Springs, and Rancho Bernardo than with other areas of San Diego. In Mira Mesa, there is a business area on Black Mountain Road where many South Asians own or operate Indian-cuisine restaurants and other retail businesses such as groceries, imports and other products of India. These ethnic businesses draw South Asians from all over the county.

Our Sikh community together with other South Asians, constitute a community of interest. I ask the Commission to draw a district that keeps the City of Poway whole.

In addition, I ask that the City of Poway be joined with Mira Mesa, Rancho Penasquitos, Sabre Springs, and Rancho Bernardo which share common social and economic community of interests.

Thank you for this opportunity to present this testimony.

CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
DATE: MAY 13, 2011 LOCATION: SAN MARCOS

TO: COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
FROM: ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER CITIZENS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
RE: STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR TESTIMONY OF GAGANDEEP KAUR

I have read the testimony of Gagandeep Kaur ("Speaker") testifying before this Commission on May 13, 2011. I am a resident of San Diego County and U. S. citizen of voting age. I have personal knowledge of the community of interest factors raised by Speaker. I, therefore, support Speaker's testimony.

In order to avoid any appearance of partisan or political influence, I further represent that I am not a(n) 1) Incumbent or staffer to an incumbent at State or U. S. Congressional level, (2) current candidate or staffer to a candidate at State or U. S. Congressional level, (3) former State level elected officeholder or staffer in the immediate past three years, (4) current Board member or staffer of any political action committees (PACs), or (5) Central Committee member of a political party.

Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>DAWIT K. DHINDRA</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>San Diego CA 92128</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>GAGANDEEP K. KAUR</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>S.D., CA 92129</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>INDERPREET S. DHINDRA</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>SAN DIEGO CA 92128</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>UPINDER RAHAR</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>SAN DIEGO, CA-92127</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>JASPREET S. DHINDRA</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>San Diego, CA 92128</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>KARANDEEP RAHAR</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>SAN DIEGO CA 92127</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>[Redacted]</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>[Redacted]</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>Suneet Kambo</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>San Diego, CA-92127</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>ANJANA SINGH</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>San Marcos, CA 92069</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>ADARSH RAS</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>S.D. 92127</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>KAVITA KAUR VIS</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>SAN DIEGO, CA, 92131</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>UPKAR DHALIWAL</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>S.D CA 92130</u>
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>Jaspreet Kambo</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>San Diego CA 92127</u>	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u> Print Name: <u>Mandira Kaur</u> Email Address: <u>[Redacted]</u> Residence Address: <u>Carlsbad, CA 92009</u>

CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: MAY 13, 2011 LOCATION: SAN MARCOS

TO: COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
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Form with multiple rows for signature and contact information. Includes handwritten name 'Gagandeep Singh Vii' and address 'San Diego, CA 92131'.

Region #1: San
JUN 07 2011 Diego

Milton L. Dale

San Diego, CA 92114
May 16, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Comm.
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioners:

For the 5 congressional seats in San Diego County, Imperial County and the southern fringe of Orange or Riverside County, I recommend that the 51st district be made extremely Democrat (over 70%) and the 52nd district be made extremely Republican (over 70%). Hopefully, the other 3 seats could have a Republican registration between 50 and 53%.

Thank you.

Milton L. Dale

JUN 07 2011

Region #1:
San Diego

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

My name is Mateo Camarillo and I was a Commissioner on the City of San Diego redistricting commission ten years ago, so I know the importance of good legal advice. Thus, I would like to point out two critical preliminary conclusions your counsel reached on June 1st regarding the application of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act in San Diego County:

1. That the Latinos in San Diego County appear to form a sufficiently large, geographically compact, cohesive voting block to form a Section 2 Assembly District.
2. That the Latino communities in the San Diego metropolitan area and Imperial County are not geographically compact, due to the physical distance and non-Latino populations between them, and thus could not form a Section 2 Assembly District even if Latinos make up 50% or more of the CVAP.

As the Commission is well aware, the California Constitution places compliance with the Voting Rights Act second only to compliance with the equal population requirements of the federal Constitution. Federal law does not allow a Section 2 district to be replaced by a non-Section 2 district. In *League of United Latin American Citizens v. Perry*, 548 U.S. 399, 430-431 (2006) the court stated, "[T]he State's creation of an opportunity district for those without a § 2 right offers no excuse for its failure to provide an opportunity district for those with a § 2 right." Thus, even if the "border district" previously directed by the Commission exceeds 50% Latino CVAP, it cannot substitute for the creation of a geographically compact Latino district wholly in San Diego County.

Your technical staff has already concluded these options are mutually exclusive. The creation of the border district would prevent the creation of a Section 2 district entirely in San Diego County. Indeed such a border district would divide the previously identified compact, cohesive Latino population in San Diego County.

Thus I urge the Commission to include the likely Section 2 district wholly in San Diego County in your draft and final maps and include Imperial County in another district.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Mateo Camarillo
Mateo Camarillo

Chairman, S.D. LATINO REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

June 1, 2011