

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

**Subject:** Please extend deadline for submission of written comments to June 28

**Date:** Tue, 21 Jun 2011 11:29:44 -0700

**From:** Eugene Lee <[REDACTED]>

**To:** [REDACTED]

**CC:** Deanna Kitamura <[REDACTED]>

Daniel Ichinose <[REDACTED]>

Joanna Lee

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

We believe that the Commission's announcement yesterday (Monday, June 20) that members of the public have only until June 24 to submit written comments raises significant issues about the fairness of the Commission's process for allowing public comment on its June 10 draft maps.

We note that the announcement of this deadline was made only several days before the deadline will occur. The public's normal, reasonable expectation was that the public comment period on the Commission's June 10 maps would end on June 28.

For several months now, the Commission's post-draft June hearings have been noticed and the Commission's schedule has been posted on the Commission's website. Members of the public viewing the Commission's June hearing schedule would reasonably expect that the last public hearing scheduled on June 28 signifies the end of the public comment period for both oral and written comments.

That members of the public would have this normal, reasonable expectation is underscored by the fact that the deadline for submitting written comments during the April/May input period did coincide with the Commission's last pre-draft hearing, which was the San Jose hearing on May 23.

In fairness to the public, the Commission should have announced any deviation from this expectation immediately after it released its June 10 draft maps, rather than only a few days before the truncated

deadline.

We also note that during the pre-draft input period, the Commission announced the deadline for written comments much further in advance of the deadline. Specifically, the Commission announced the May 23 deadline for submission of written comments on May 10, almost two weeks before the deadline. In comparison, the Commission's announcement yesterday is tardy.

We understand the difficult task before the Commission, which involves establishing and implementing a new process and meeting tight deadlines. I cannot adequately say how much we appreciate your tireless commitment, and the personal sacrifices you have undoubtedly made, in providing the public with opportunities for input.

However, fair notice of these opportunities cannot be something that falls to the wayside. To remedy this concern about fairness, we ask you to extend the deadline for submission of written comments to June 28 and hope that you can announce this extension as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

Eugene Lee

**Eugene Lee**  
*Voting Rights Project Director*

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