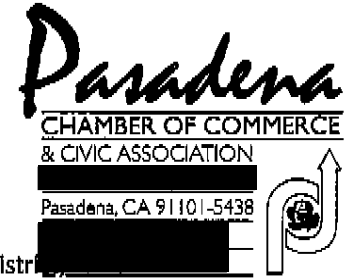


June 20, 2011
Citizens Redistricting Commission
1130 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
VIA FAX: (916) 322-0904



Re: Keep Pasadena whole, include with Glendale and Burbank in one congressional district, add Altadena to Assembly District

Dear Commission members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on redistricting for our area and thank you for the work you have done so far. On the whole, the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is pleased with the way districts have been drawn for state offices. We are very pleased to see that Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena have been included in a single Assembly district. That is a very positive development and one that we welcome.

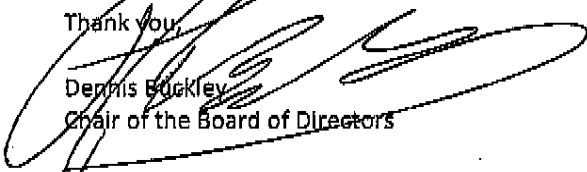
While we do appreciate that Burbank and Glendale have been kept in one Congressional district with the northern half of Pasadena, The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors strongly urges you to unite all of Pasadena in a single congressional district that is shared with the entire communities of Glendale and Burbank. Pasadena is a single community and does not deserve to be split among two districts for representation in the House of Representatives.

Further, the southern half of Pasadena has little, if anything, in common with the communities of Chino Hills, Diamond Bar and those at the extreme edge of the district. For your reference, the southern half of Pasadena houses the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena City College, Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts, major commercial office, hotels and hospitality companies. The population of that area is made up of families of Armenian, Latino, African-American, Asian extraction as well as white families. They are also affluent, middle class, working class and poor, as well.

We encourage the commission to reconnect those citizens with their community of interest by uniting Pasadena in one congressional district and continuing to link them with Glendale and Burbank. As you are aware, our three cities have much in common. Our three cities jointly own and operate Bob Hope Airport under the auspices of the Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena Airport Authority. Each of our cities is very similar in their operation, population and economies. All are charter cities with professional administration and part-time city councils. Each operates its own water and power utility and share in the ownership of various power generation plants throughout the Southwest, in addition to operating their own power plants. Each has its own public safety agencies, both police and fire and unified school districts. Each also has significant higher educational institutions, with Caltech, Art Center, Fuller Theological Seminary, Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Academy and Pasadena City College in Pasadena, Glendale Community College in Glendale and Woodbury University in Burbank. In addition, each city has significant and contributing populations of Armenian, Latino, African-American and white citizens.

Further, we appreciate the division for the State Assembly district that includes the entirety of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena, but would urge you to include Altadena, if at all possible, in that same district, as that community and Pasadena share much in common and hope you can accomplish that while maintaining the integrity of the district that includes Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, I urge the commission to place the entirety of Pasadena in the congressional district that includes Burbank and Glendale. Also, please do what you can to include Altadena with Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank in a single district for State Assembly elections.

Thank you,

Dennis Buckley
Chair of the Board of Directors



June 18, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
 1130 "K" Street, Suite 101
 Sacramento, California 95814

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	6/20/11	# of pages	1
To	CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION		From	WARNER CHABOT	
Co./Dept.	COMMISSION		Co.	CLCV	
Phone #			Phone #	[REDACTED]	
Fax #	[REDACTED]		Fax #	[REDACTED]	

Comments on the June 10 Draft Commission Map for the proposed LASCV Senate district

Dear Honorable Commissioners:

On behalf of the California League of Conservation Voters Educational Fund and our sister organization, the California League of Conservation Voters (with over 50,000 members and activists), we wish to express our support for the decisions of the commission to consider "environmental" factors when defining communities of interest. We also applaud the Commission's efforts in many areas to "nest" two Assembly districts within a single Senate district and to create districts that represent communities of interest.

However, we urge the commission to reconsider the boundaries of the proposed Los Angeles Santa Clarita Valley (LASCV) Senate district and to consider applying the above factors to this district. Specifically, we urge you to consider a LASCV district that nests the two contiguous Assembly districts of "West Side-Santa Monica" and Thousand Oaks-Santa Monica Mountains."

This Senate district is currently defined by coastal and San Fernando Valley communities that border on the Santa Monica Mountains. They share the natural environment of the coast and the Santa Monica Mountains. These contiguous communities share a common interest in the watershed, wildlife, open space and recreational values of the coast and mountain ecosystems in this region. The communities also share common socio-economic, cultural, educational transportation corridors, and infrastructure interests.

PROBLEM –The draft LASCV Senate district substantially fails the Commission's own criteria to create a geographically compact district with a fairly regular shape. The proposed district does not respect the communities of interest surrounding the Santa Monica Mountains. It poorly "nests" the two relevant Assembly districts, by excluding almost 75 percent of the West Side-Santa Monica district. The proposed LASCV Senate district now includes a third (distant) Assembly district that is far inland (up to 50 miles from the coast), with few characteristics common to the communities (within the two Assembly districts), adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains.

SOLUTION – We therefore urge the commission to create a geographically compact Senate district that respects the communities of interest by an increased nesting the two above mentioned Assembly districts rather than adding a third, inland Assembly district. We urge the Commission to consider including a greater percentage of the West Side-Santa Monica Assembly district into the LASCV Senate district. This will create a Senate district that far more accurately meets the Commission's fundamental criteria. It will respect the communities of interest and uphold the Federal Voting Rights Act. It will improve the coordination between Senate and Assembly representatives in this region. Finally, it will create boundaries and districts that contribute to the quality of life for the communities and people within them.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully

Warner Chabot
 CEO, CA League of Conservation Voters and CLCV Education Fund



Alliance for a Better Community

Los Angeles, CA 90017

Phone:

Fax:

June 17, 2011

CA Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street
Suite 154-A, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814

Founded by a coalition of leading organizations and civic leaders, Alliance for a Better Community (ABC) operates within an ever-changing dynamic to promote equity for Latinos in education, health, economic development and civic participation throughout the Los Angeles region.

Edward J. Avila - President
President of Project Restore

María Casillas
President
Families in Schools

Hector Flores, M.D.
Co-Director
Family Medicine Residency Program
White Memorial Hospital

Linda Griego
President
Engine Company No. 28

Mónica Lozano
President & CEO
La Opinión

Carolina Reyes, MD
Executive Director
LA Best Babies Network

Frank Quevedo - Treasurer
Vice President of Equal Opportunity
Southern California Edison

Angela Sanbrano
President
National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities (NALACC)

Raul F. Salinas
Managing Shareholder of the LA Office
Adorno, Yoss, Alvarado & Smith

Fernando Torres-Gil
Associate Dean
UCLA School of Public Policy
& Social Research

Arturo Vargas - Secretary
Executive Director
National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO)

Peter Villegas
Vice President, Senior Manager
Office of Corporate Responsibility
JPMorgan Chase

To Whom it May Concern:

The Alliance for a Better Community (ABC) - a multi-strategic, community-based Los Angeles advocacy organization- urges the California Citizens Redistricting Commission to revise the newly proposed map in order to ensure full and fair representation of Latino communities across Los Angeles County.

Latinos represent 40% of the population in our state and account for 90% of the state's population growth in the last decade. However, the current maps fail to reflect this communities growing electoral influence. In fact the new maps would disempower minority and socio-economically disadvantaged communities. Specifically, ABC is asking the Commission to redraw the maps so that the community of Pico Union in the mid-city Los Angeles region is included with neighborhoods to the south of it. As the map stands now the Pico Union area -- a densely populated community and Latino immigrant hub -- is being included with Beverly Hills and Malibu: two affluent communities that do not share the same interests or needs as the heavily Latino community.

According to the Palisadian Post, "the mandate of the commission was to align electoral districts with common-sense geographical boundaries without breaking up neighborhoods or 'communities of interest' that share social and economic concerns." Yet, the alignment of Pico union, Beverly Hills and Malibu would severely disrupt the political process in these areas.

On a larger scale, the new map only includes seven Latino "opportunity districts," the same number they currently hold, out of 53 congressional districts. The static number of opportunity districts does not represent a community that has outgrown its minority status. More importantly, the maps as they are drawn now would violate the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which protects underrepresented communities from discrimination in the electoral process.

ABC urges the commission to rectify this injustice by redrawing the maps and including the Pico Union area with areas to the south of it.

Sincerely,


Angelica M. Solis
Executive Director