

Subject: CA Redistricting for Ventura County

From: "Ariana Milman" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 21:40:22 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

To Whom It May Concern,

I grew up in Thousand Oaks, and currently live in Camarillo and work in Ventura and Santa Paula. I support the Commission's 1st Draft "EASTVENT" Congressional District that keeps the Oxnard, Port Hueneme and the Santa Clara Valley whole, together, and in a Ventura County based congressional district.

I also support the 1st Draft "SBVENT" Senate District that keeps the Oxnard, Port Hueneme and the Santa Clara Valley whole, together and in a West Ventura County and Santa Barbara County based senate district.

I recommend changes to the draft Assembly map that would affect EVENT, SBWVT, SLOSB, LAVSF, LASCV. These changes would keep Oxnard whole and with Port Hueneme, El Rio, and Nyland Acres, and keep Thousand Oaks whole. Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Camarillo and Thousand Oaks are a community of interest. As a resident with ties to both Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, and Ventura, I view these areas as communities of interest.

I also work with a community group in Santa Paula, Vecinos Unidos, which has ties to groups in Oxnard and Camarillo. I therefore support the effort represented by SBWVE to keep the Santa Clara Valley whole and in a Ventura / Santa Barbara based district.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Ariana Milman

[REDACTED]

Camarillo, CA 93012

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Geographic and Historical Background

Every ten years our country, due to the census, has to draw new lines for state and federal districts. The point is to make representation as fair and equal as possible.

Two facets of our local redistricting conundrum that we are all concerned about have perhaps not yet been considered.

The Santa Susana/Simi Hills Mountains create a natural geographic boundary that has worked for local residents since the days of the Chumash Indians. Indian villages named Shimiyi and Taapu (from which the words Simi and Tapo are derived) were their settlements, long before European influence began.

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In 1795, when Santiago Pico got a royal concession from the king of Spain to operate El Rancho Simi, it consisted of 113,000 acres that included Moorpark. Only a very small portion was in Los Angeles County, when the lines were finally drawn between the two counties.

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Pioneers, working hard to begin a community, felt isolated "except for tax time." However those early families stayed with it and gradually Simi has gained stature along with the rest of our ten cities

These are the reasons that Moorpark and Simi should not be at the outer edge of Los Angeles County. The geographic hurdle will be almost impossible to conquer. For all these years, these natural boundaries have been in place. There is no need to disregard them now.

Simi and Moorpark will be isolated once again.

Sincerely,

Patricia Havens, Simi Historian

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Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: paul pietro <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 21:52:09 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: paul pietro <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

I have lived in Ventura County, specifically Simi Valley, for more than twenty years now. I moved here for the very reason that we are not Los Angeles County. I want nothing to do with LA County. There concerns and views are very different than those of us in Ventura County. All your redistricting is moving almost everything in favor of the Democratic party. This is not right and I do not want to be part of it.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Jill Collins <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:33:12 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jill Collins <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Realignment of County Districts

Message Body:

I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District.

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Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Nick Zepeda <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:56:43 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nick Zepeda <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

Ventura, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru do not share community interests with Santa Barbara and should not be lumped with Santa Barbara in redistricting.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: "Harry R. Copeland" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 25 Jun 2011 06:35:04 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Harry R. Copeland <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting Committee

Message Body:

I attended your hearing in Oxnard on June 20th. I was very disappointed to see what you have presented to the people of this County and in particular the drawing of Congressional District lines. You have grossly violated five of your criteria for drawing the lines. You have gerrymandered our Ventura County to deliberately disenfranchise Republican voters. Our district, as proposed, is not connected, it includes far away portions of Los Angeles County that take hours of time to visit. like Santa Catalina Island !!! Gross!!! This is a blatant disrespect for our Ventura County community. This certainly isn't a compact area. Why not include the south seas or Humboldt County while your at it? We have no connection economically, socially, or politically to these far flung areas in this completely ridiculous drawn district that you are proposing. You have carved up Ventura County like it was a piece of meat in a butcher shop!!. Furthermore you have apparently even violated y!

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Very truly yours,
Harry R. Copeland

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Susan Goldberg <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 23:36:54 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Susan Goldberg <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

"I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District."

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Laurie Maas <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:11:44 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Laurie Maas <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting of Simi Valley

Message Body:

No No No We do not want to be part of Los Angeles district. Our taxes are paid to and we live in Ventura county and we want to be a part of the district we are currently in !!!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Richard Rowell <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:32:00 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Richard Rowell <[REDACTED]>

Subject: County District Realignment

Message Body:

I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Realignment of County Districts

From: "Richard Rowell" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 15:47:58 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District.

Richard Rowell

Jill Collins

[REDACTED]
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Subject: PLEASE ADOPT THE OXNARD/THOUSAND OAKS UNITY MAP - EVENT!

From: "Barbara Macri-Ortiz" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 14:47:54 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Commissioners,

I attended the hearing at Oxnard College on June 22ND with the intention of addressing you on behalf of the Mexican American Bar Association of Ventura County (MABA), but since my speaker number was # 148, the hearing ended before my number was called.

I listened to about 2 ½ hours of testimony. With that in mind I would like to provide you this email in place of my testimony.

I was not able to come earlier to line up to speak because I had a client meeting that could not start until my clients got off work. These clients are typical of the residents of this blue collar town. That is probably why so many of the earlier speakers were from out of town. Most of the Oxnard folks arrived later, after work, and so they were heard toward the end or not at all.

At the hearing people spoke passionately about the coastal and inland areas, the 101, the mountains, and of course Reseda, the hub of the San Fernando Valley, and they all urged that you somehow incorporate their Community of Interest into the maps. Yet as an Oxnard resident listening to their testimony, I realized that since you can't satisfy everyone, you will have to essentially rank these requests: Which are "wants" and which are "needs"? Your challenge will be to identify the true "needs" and then somehow do the math so it all balances out. Quite a challenge!

To me "Community of Interest" is first and foremost the people themselves because our democracy is first and foremost a vehicle for people to govern themselves. That is why I came to speak in favor of the Oxnard/Thousand Oaks Unity Map - EVENT.

I have lived and practiced law in Oxnard for over 20 years. I am a community lawyer specializing in affordable housing, education and employment matters. My clients are primarily low income Latino families and individuals, including farm workers and students. Oxnard was a sleepy farm worker town in 1970 when I first worked here as a UFW staff member. Over the years, the face of Oxnard has changed -- housing and commercial developments replaced celery and lettuce fields -- but its soul remains intact. Today many of my clients are the sons and daughters of the farm workers and community people I met here during the 70s and 80s. Oxnard is a vibrant, diverse, immigrant community that has been and continues to be home to generations of close knit, extended families, whose members live throughout the City -- in the old and the new neighborhoods alike.

Oxnard's promise is our youth. We have a young population that will be the future of our democracy. MABA is committed to fulfilling that promise through education, community service, and engaging the community in participatory democracy. Our members mentor students, coach high school mock trial teams and raise funds for scholarships. The youth of our City come together in school, and at sports activities, community groups, churches, and affordable housing developments. Oxnard is one community.

The division between the SBWVENT and EASTVENT Assembly districts running down Ventura Road cuts right through the heart of this Community of Interest, and in the process it marginalizes our community and minimizes our ability to participate in state government. It splits families, and splits up the schools within the Oxnard and Hueneme Elementary School Districts and the Oxnard Union High School District. What chance would Oxnard ever have of electing one of its own to be a member of the Assembly, when the candidate's hometown family, friends and neighbors can't even vote for him or her because they live on the wrong side of Ventura Road? And how would that candidate even stand a chance coming from the town that would be nothing more than the tail of the two big dogs?

To give you an example of what I am talking about, let me share my personal situation with you. I live one block east of Ventura Road, and my daughter and grandson live about a mile and a half to the west. Election time has been a time to come together over dinner to [discuss](#) the issues of the day, and [decide](#) who we think might be best able to serve us. How is that going to work [under the proposed Assembly Districts](#)? Each of our votes will be lost, and we will be ignored unless and until the big dog in our respective districts decides to scratch [its](#) tail.

PLEASE ADOPT THE OXNARD/THOUSAND OAKS UNITY MAP!!!

Thank you for your consideration! And most important, I thank you all for all your hard work and dedication to this monumental responsibility that you have gratuitously undertaken on behalf of the citizens of California.

Si se puede!

Barbara Macri-Ortiz

[Redacted]

Oxnard, CA 93031

[Redacted]

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Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Patricia Havens <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:52:29 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Patricia Havens <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Taking Moorpark and Simi Valley out of district

Message Body:

I am sending a message by attachment to the [REDACTED] address.

This area of Ventura Co. has always been a geographical and historical entity, defined by the mountains.

Please read my summary attachment at the other address. Thank you.

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Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Phyllis Jones <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:10:38 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Phyllis Jones <[REDACTED]>

Subject: new lines

Message Body:

Please don't redraw the county line and put Simi Valley and Moorpark into L.A. County!!!

We deliberately chose Simi Valley to stay OUT of L.A. County.

We are retired and this change would impact us financially in a negative way.

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Si se puede!

Barbara Macri-Ortiz
Law Office of Barbara Macri-Ortiz
[REDACTED]
Oxnard, CA 93031
[REDACTED]

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Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 15:47:58 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District.

Richard Rowell

Jill Collins

[REDACTED]
Simi Valley, CA 93063

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Richard Rowell <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 22:32:00 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Richard Rowell <[REDACTED]>

Subject: County District Realignment

Message Body:

I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Laurie Maas <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 16:11:44 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Laurie Maas <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting of Simi Valley

Message Body:

No No No We do not want to be part of Los Angeles district. Our taxes are paid to and we live in Ventura county and we want to be a part of the district we are currently in !!!

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Susan Goldberg <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 23:36:54 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Susan Goldberg <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

"I believe you are doing serious harm to the voters of Simi Valley and Moorpark by taking us out of Ventura County and instead placing us within the Los Angeles County, Santa Clarita District. You are not respecting city and county boundaries or considering the natural communities of interest. We are separated by mountains from Los Angeles County. Our taxes go to Ventura County for roads, improvements, schools and quality of life. How can a representative who is largely responsible for Los Angeles County voters give equal representation to a small number of voters in Ventura County. I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposed congressional district and keep Simi Valley and Moorpark within a Ventura County District."

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 5 - Ventura

From: Nick Zepeda <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 17:56:43 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nick Zepeda <[REDACTED]>

Subject: redistricting

Message Body:

Ventura, Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru do not share community interests with Santa Barbara and should not be lumped with Santa Barbara in redistricting.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission