

Cedric Reese  
Member Friends of the San Joaquin Valley  
Individual Testimony

Regarding the Merced 12<sup>th</sup> California Senatorial District

We respect the challenge the Commissioners face in designing what is today the 12th California Senatorial District. The 12<sup>th</sup> District has been a Central Valley place-based district. The First-drawn map of the 12<sup>th</sup> District is not a place-based creation. We encourage the Commissioners to consider place-based alignment in this District. Place-based Community is a community of people who are bound together because of where they reside, work, visit or otherwise spend a considerable amount of their time. In the early days of the United States these places were near river and canals; the water “pathways” creating “nodes on a network” connecting community of places. As modern day life emerged, these pathways are not now reflected by rivers or canals but marked by highways, by civic engagement, by retail sales, by school districts, by health care centers, by political engagement, by media distribution such as newspapers, radio and television. These are all linkages and multipliers with our local place.

Can we say the proposed Merced 12<sup>th</sup> District voters living in Hollister or Santa Clara County shop in Los Banos or Merced, read the Merced Sun-Star or Modesto Bee, Drive Highway 99 or I5 to work, watch Modesto TV stations or have their babies born at Mercy Hospital, Merced. Of course the answer is no. Those King City, Hollister and Santa Clara residents fail the test of being part of a Central Valley place-based district. We urge you to reconsider the Merced 12<sup>th</sup> District as it is currently proposed and apply the linkages and multipliers as described above.

Cedric Reese



Fresno, CA 93745

**ject:**Redistricting concerns  
**Date:**Wed, 22 Jun 2011 15:33:49 -0700 (PDT)  
**From:**carol streit <[REDACTED]>  
**To:**[REDACTED]

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Hello Citizens Commission:

I am not at all well informed about the redistricting but have learned a couple of things that are **extremely disturbing.**

1. The initial redistricting plan places Shaver Lake in a Sacramento area. Excuse me Shaver Lake is only 40 miles from Fresno and 300 miles or more from Sacramento. How can the people of Shaver Lake have access to a member of congress under those conditions? The other side of this how in the world would a Congressman be able to represent an area 300 miles from his area? Does this make any sense? **ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!**

2. Sanger also in Fresno County would be in a Congressional district 80 miles south. Sanger also a suburb of Fresno is 20 to 25 miles from Fresno. Small cities in counties **NEED** congressional representation. These two Fresno County suburbs should send whoever is involved in the redistricting back to do their homework. Probably many other locations who feel the redistricting is whacky should also do the same.

A better plan would be to draw regional districts which have specific number of populations and size them together so as to give each region central representation. Fresno is to big to be one district but the Representative we have now, while doing an excellent job, does not live in Fresno. There is a small part of Fresno that does have a local congressman but his district goes south not north. Come on folks do the homework and get this job

done correctly not politically,  
okay.

Thank you.

Carol Streit  
Fresno, CA

PS Also sent as a fax to [REDACTED] to be sure you receive.

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