

Subject: California Redistricting

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Tue, 21 Jun 2011 00:40:36 +0000 (UTC)

To: [REDACTED]

Dear State Redistricting Commissioners,

After reviewing the proposals, I strongly feel that:

(1) San Francisco's State Senate seat should receive an **odd number**, in order to avoid a situation where the majority of San Francisco -- including the entire east side of SF and most of District 8 -- loses its representation in the State Senate for a two year period as a result of a quirk in numbering the senate districts (described in more detail below), and,

(2) The redistricting commission not divide the LGBT community between San Francisco's two Assembly Districts by removing many LGBT people from the 13th Assembly District (East Side of town, currently Tom Ammiano) into the 12th Assembly District (West Side of town, currently Fiona Ma), thereby diluting the strength of the LGBT community. The neighborhoods with heavy LGBT populations that are tentatively set to be transferred from the 13th to the 12th are Diamond Heights, Twin Peaks, the Upper Haight, parts of Cole Valley, and parts of the Western Edition.

Representation is absolutely one of the mos important parts of our working democracy and to deprive so many of us from having our own state senator for two years is just simply not good government or fair government.

Thank you.

Mark Scheuer

[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94117

[REDACTED]

Subject: Redistricting in San Francisco
From: David Troup <[REDACTED]>
Date: Mon, 20 Jun 2011 19:43:48 -0700
To: [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern:

As I will be out of town and unable to attend the CRC public input meeting in San Francisco on June 27, please accept the following as my testimony on the statewide redistricting as it affects us in San Francisco.

As a resident of San Francisco for many years, and a gay man, I am extremely concerned about the proposal to divide San Francisco's LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community in the redistricting, thereby taking a knife to the political strength of the LGBT community. It is crucial, and only fair, that my community's members be kept together in the same Assembly district (currently the 13th) so that we have some reasonable chance of electing an Assemblyman/woman who represents us and our issues. Splitting the GLBT community in San Francisco into two different Assembly districts would result in exactly the sort of disenfranchisement that "good districting" is supposed to prevent.

San Francisco's GLBT community is diverse in many ways, but is uniquely connected by a variety of social and political interests. While the Castro and greater Eureka Valley neighborhoods are traditionally considered the heart of the city's GLBT community, there are vast numbers of GLBT residents in areas you propose to transfer from the 13th to the 12th District, including Diamond Heights, Twin Peaks, Cole Valley, the Upper Haight, and parts of the Western Addition. To split our community in half would significantly reduce our ability to influence the laws and policies which affect us every day, and would potentially catapult our community back 39 years in the past, to a time when our issues were largely ignored by our elected representatives.

I urge you to find a way to keep San Francisco's GLBT community in one Assembly District, as the 1990s redistricting managed to do. This is one of those cases where a little creativity in drawing the lines is justified by the societal makeup of this central part of San Francisco.

Thank you for considering my comments,

David Troup
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San Francisco, CA 94114
[REDACTED]