

Subject: Humboldt comment

From: Karen Brooks <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 00:30:40 -0700

To: "Office, Communications" <[REDACTED]>

Dear staff

The Internet was down most of today and many people in our area could not comment. I just wanted to give you a heads-up for their late submissions and ask the commission to accept our comments after your 5 pm cut-off.

To: Redistricting Commission

From: Karen Brooks - [REDACTED] Bayside, CA 95524

Date: 6-28-11

RE: Comment on First Draft 2011 Maps

Map Configuration:

I feel that all the rural communities being represented by rural-exclusive elected leaders will best serve our future. Rural districts from Nevada to the coast in an east-west configuration will be economically, environmentally, and socially better than north-south. Using the American River and Hwy 5 as the dividing line for the rural assembly districts would produce a west district of western Shasta, western Siskiyou, western Tehama, Trinity, Glenn, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties. The east district would be the eastern parts of Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama all the way to Colusa, Sutter and Butte counties to the south and then east to the Nevada border.

We do not want Marin or Sonoma in any of our districts as they have become too affluent & urban.

Communities of Interest: Rural Lifestyle, Water Interests and Highway Improvements

I live in very northern, coastal California which has historically been represented by north-south districts. In the 1940's our assembly district was just three counties, Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino. After World War 2 more and more people came to California and while all of the county populations grew, the rural counties have not grown to the extent of the urban areas.

Today the assembly district is 5 full counties plus one partial county which means the three original counties have become under-represented over time and this will only continue. The current population-based criteria for districts unfairly represent the urban areas rather than the rural areas of the state. As a result, we have seen our resource-based economies become tied up by the government, or voted away by urban areas, to the extent that our way of life has been severely compromised. It drives people away from these rural areas in search of work in the more densely populated urban areas. And our representative districts grow larger and larger.

The north-south coastal districts no longer represent rural communities and this will only get worse in the future. For the first time in the history of our state, your commission can redraw these rural areas to keep them intact and so we can work together on common issues.

Two of the biggest issues we face, for our future, are water rights and east-west road improvements. This area is known as the "Six Rivers" area and we supply much of the water the state uses. Unfortunately the politicians that have represented us have allowed our watersheds to be diminished and redirected too much water away from our rivers. Two of the six rivers in our area are dying, namely, the Klamath River system and the Eel River. Over the next 10-20 years the water rights on these rivers, as well as others, will be renewed. The rural counties need to work together to hold on to our water interests. We will be much stronger working together than divided and marginalized.

Furthermore, the north-south district has much improved Hwy 101 but not the roads going east-west. Today, there is so much congestion going south and without a railroad goods must be trucked 4-5 hours to Sonoma or 6-7 hours to San Francisco to meet a transportation hub. Hwy 5 and the rail lines to the east are only 3 hours from Humboldt Bay – designated as a short-shipping port - but the roads are in need of improvement. Over the next 10-20 years Hwy 299, 36, 20 and 199 would see much more improvements having our districts configured east-west.

Lastly, the east-west areas are more socially linked than north-south. The folks in Redding come to our coastal communities and we go there. The folks from Sonoma do not come north, we go south for shopping and services but it is becoming too congested and there is more crime. Over the past 20 to 30 years the southern part of our districts, specifically Sonoma county, have grown so much that we are now two distinctly different areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment!

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Karen Brooks

home
fax

To: Redistrict Commission
From: Karen Brooks – [REDACTED] Bayside, CA 95524
Date: 6-28-11

RE: Comment on First Draft 2011 Maps

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Today the assembly district is 5 full counties and one partial county which means the three original counties have been marginally represented. The current population-based criteria for districts unfairly represent the urban areas rather than the rural areas of the state. As a result, we have seen our resource-based economies become tied up by the government to the extent that our way of life has been severely compromised. It drives people away from rural areas in search of work in the more densely populated urban areas.

The north-south districts no longer represent rural communities and this will only get worse in the future. For the first time in the history of our state, your commission can redraw these rural areas to keep them intact and work together on common issues.

Water and roads are two of the biggest issues for our future. This area is known as the Six Rivers area and we supply much of the water the state uses. Unfortunately the politicians that have represented us have diminished our watersheds and redirected too much water away from our rivers. Two of the six rivers in our area are dying, namely, the Klamath River System and the Eel River. Over the next ten to twenty years the water rights on these rivers, as well as others, will be renewed. The rural counties need to work together to hold on to our water interests. We will be much stronger together than divided.

Furthermore, the north-south district has much improved Hwy 101 but not the roads going east-west. Today, there is so much congestion going south and without a railroad goods must drive 4-5 hours to Sonoma, or 6-7 hours to San Francisco to meet a transportation hub. Hwy 5 and the rail lines to the east are only 3 hours from Humboldt Bay but the roads are more difficult without improvement. Over the next ten to twenty years Hwy 299, 36 and 299 would see much more improvements having our district configured east-west.

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Map Configuration:

I feel that all the rural communities being represented by rurally-focused elected bodies will best serve our future. Rural districts from Nevada to the coast in an east-west configuration will be economically, environmentally, and socially better than north-south. Using the American River and Hwy 5 as the dividing line for the rural assembly districts would produce a west district of western Shasta, western Siskiyou, western Tehama, Trinity, Glenn, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties. The east district would be the eastern parts of Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama all the way to Colusa, Sutter and Butte counties to the south and then east to the Nevada border.

Subject: Public Comment: 9 - Humboldt

From: Adrienne LeMieux <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 14:26:51 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Adrienne LeMieux <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Redistricting

Message Body:

I would like to say that including Marin County with Humboldt/Mendocino makes no sense. We have very little in common with each other and obviously as the counties with the least assets and lowest population, the rural counties would be left at the gate. Link the rural counties together so they have some strength in their voice. Thank you

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 9 - Humboldt

From: Chet OGAN <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 16:48:14 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Chet OGAN <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Humboldt-Del Norte-Mendocino

Message Body:

(I got cut off- add this to my comment)

Our tree, amphibian, gastropod (snails and slugs), and mammal diversity is much more like Oregon than the rest of California.

For these and the reasons of my cut-off part of this message, we should not be included with Marin and Sonoma counties.

I commend you for tackling this difficult task on a non-political basis. As commissioners I urge you to become familiar with our area.

Chet Ogan
Eureka, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 9 - Humboldt

From: ernie degraff <[REDACTED]>

Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2011 18:15:49 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: ernie degraff <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Humboldt & Marin/Sonoma Counties

Message Body:

Please do not include Marin and Sonoma counties with Humboldt/Mendocino when you redraw the lines. Keep Humboldt/Del Norte/Mendocino together and reach out to the east to include parts of Siskiyou and Trinity counties when redrawing the lines. Humboldt has more in common with them than with Marin/Sonoma. Thank you.

/s/ ernie degraff

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 9 - Humboldt

From: Loretta Magnuson [REDACTED] >

Date: Thu, 30 Jun 2011 02:36:39 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Loretta Magnuson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: hearings

Message Body:

Where is the hearing scheduled for Humboldt County? If you are redistricting please come here to get our opinions! Who can afford take a trip to Sacramento? We need to be joined with other counties who are similar in economy.

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