Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission,

I'm attaching my comments for the Congressional district map.

Regards,
Fabiola

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redistricting_comments.doc 27.0 KB
July 27, 2011

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

Re: Extend San Bernardino Congressional District North Above Rancho Cucamonga to Include The San Gabriel Mountains

Dear Citizens Redistricting Commission:

The iconic San Gabriel Mountain range is located north of the 210 Freeway and runs from 1-14 on the west in Los Angeles County to I-15 in the east in San Bernardino County. I am very concerned about the future of the San Gabriel Mountains, where my friends and family are frequent visitors. I am pleased that the Commission has generally placed the federal public land in the San Gabriel Mountains in the same Congressional Districts as the foothill and watershed communities to the south of the range, which form a community of interest. However, I believe that the Congressional District visualizations for the eastern San Gabriel Mountains above Rancho Cucamonga fall far short of the mark by including this heavily used section of the range in the same Congressional District as Death Valley far up north, with which it has almost nothing in common with. Even worse, the most heavily populated foothill city adjacent to the San Gabriel Mountains, Rancho Cucamonga, would no longer be included in the same Congressional District as its backyard mountain range.

Like the Pasadena area to the west, Rancho Cucamonga has a very intimate relationship with the San Gabriel Mountains. I urge the Commission to place the San Gabriel Mountains to the north of Rancho Cucamonga in the same San Bernardino Congressional District as Rancho Cucamonga, and to reflect this change in its visualizations of the district. This will also better link Rancho Cucamonga with the remainder of the district to the east by expanding the linkage in the San Gabriel Mountains.

I salute the Commission for recognizing the important link between foothill and watershed communities and their public lands in the San Gabriel Mountains. With this boundary adjustment the entire San Gabriel range and the citizens who have the strongest relationship with the mountains will be located in a series of well-designed Congressional Districts, which is very much to the public benefit.

Sincerely,

Fabiola P. Lao
Los Angeles, CA 90027
Subject: Public Comment: 2 - San Bernardino

From: Jerie Lee <removed>
Date: 7/27/2011 7:44 PM
To: <removed>

From: Jerie Lee <removed>
Subject: Redrawing the lines

Message Body:
Please, keep Rancho Cucamonga whole, do not split us up! We need to have our State offices in the same city!

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
I believe it is a huge mistake to NOT align Redlands, Loma Linda, Yucaipa and the east side of the city of Highland in the same district. To split Redlands is unacceptable for a host of reasons, one being the fact that all these areas are either in the same school district or the same community college district. The incumbent in one current district should not have to move in order to continue to represent much of his current district.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Redistricting 2011

I am a resident of MT Baldy, California 91759 and would like to call attention to specific factors that redistricting will directly affect my community. Unlike most other communities, MT Baldy is a small, unincorporated mountain village located within the Angeles National Forest, straddling the Los Angeles-San Bernardino County line. Since we have no local government, we have San Antonio Town Hall, composed of representatives from homeowner groups, water purveyors and citizen organizations, acts as a liaison with governmental agencies. These include but are not limited to Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Code Enforcement, Building Department, Sheriffs Department, Assessor's Office, Voter Registration, trash collection, County Fire Department, Public Works and Road Department, and corresponding agencies in San Bernardino County. In addition, we must deal with the U.S. Forest Service, Angelus National Forest, two offices of the California Highway Patrol, and a county line that literally divides next-door neighbors. Fire services are divided among the MT Baldy Volunteer Fire Department, Los Angeles and San Bernardino County Fire Departments, and the U.S. Forest Service. State agencies including Fish and Game also affect MT Baldy. Emergency 911 services are often dispatched to wrong or nonexistent addresses and locations. When I first moved here and had to summon the sheriff through 911, no one showed up, because my street address could not be located. Two and a half hours elapsed before I called a second time. (An inebriated neighbor was discharging a firearm at people working outside my house).

Ours is a special case that requires unity in order to deal with the constant threat and reality of devastating wildfires. Currently, our Fire Safe Council works with other mountain communities and with foothill communities in the wild land-urban interface areas. If we are placed through redistricting with communities hundreds of miles away, not only will our quality of life and representation be compromised, but the efficacy of fire prevention and control will be taken out of local jurisdiction, affecting our health and safety as well.

Town Hall helps us filter and direct citizen input to regional government--no small task. Redistricting and fracturing our community even more will make a difficult situation impossible. If we are divided regarding county and Federal representation, our community will not recover. We are few, but we are a close-knit community with a unique history and local identity. We deal with different county agencies and Highway Patrol offices to get a snow plow in the winter, to monitor traffic on snow weekends, for permits, and just about everything else. Historically, MT Baldy has had to deal with major floods, earthquakes, and fires that have devastated and isolated it. There have been times when emergency services have been unable to reach us for weeks at a time. Due to this isolation, we have gathered supplies and organized our citizens to deal with interruptions in services. Adding to this, we do not even have cell phone service, and with power outages (which are relatively frequent), communication with the outside world has to be made by radio. We are self-reliant, but we need and deserve adequate representation, as do all citizens.

Sincerely,
Linda Frost
MT Baldy California 91759
Hi Folks,

I am a resident of Mt. Baldy. Your proposed redistricting draws a line right through my community. I will now be represented by folks out in San Bernardino (40 miles from where I live), while my neighbors two blocks away will continue to be represented by folks just down the hill where we all work and shop. You are dividing our mountain town in two which seems to be directly in contradiction with the stated goals of your commission. Please leave Mt. Baldy intact, we have an active town site council and pull together more then any other Southern California community I have been a part of over issues of fire, water, and community. We are unfortunate enough to have the county line passing through our village, dividng us as has been proposed will disenfranchise half our community.

Sincerely,

mmason

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Martin S. Mason
Professor of Physics and Engineering
Mt. San Antonio College
Walnut, CA 91789