Submit a Public Comment

To submit a public comment to the commission, send us an e-mail directly to [redacted] or by using the form below.

The California Citizens Redistricting Commission is eager to accept your supplemental attachments. The following file formats are supported: .pdf and .jpg. Files not submitted in this format will not be posted on the Public Comments page.

Public Comments may also be submitted via mail to the following address:

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax: (916) [redacted]

Your Name (required)
Lee Lemke

Your Email (required)

Region and county this comment pertains to (required):
3 - Orange

Subject
Irvine placement in new congressional district

Your Message
Please have Irvine in the same Orange County congressional district as Tustin, Mission Viejo and Laguna Niguel. Irvine has more in common with these cities than with the coastal cities.
July 21, 2011

Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I have been an Irvine resident since 2007. I currently serve on the PTA of Eastshore Elementary School in Irvine, volunteer with the Irvine Public School Foundation and sit on the USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association Orange County Committee.

I wanted to thank you for keeping Irvine in South Orange County where it belongs with our fellow “El Toro” cities like Lake Forest and Mission Viejo. Irvine has historically been aligned with South Orange County and has historically had opposing interests with cities in North Orange County and the coast, such as the issue of the El Toro Airport. Huntington Beach and Newport Beach supported the airport and the “El Toro” community did not support the airport.

I also support the latest map visualizations that keep Irvine whole. As an Asian American, I chose to move to Irvine for the strong public schools and the ethnic diversity. It is important that Irvine remain whole so that our ethnically diverse community voice is not diluted. Please do all that you can to keep Irvine whole in all legislative maps.

Thank you for your efforts in creating fair redistricting maps that represent the interests of the community.

Sincerely,

Yvette Ollada
Irvine Resident
Subject: La Habra redistricting

From: Eileen Okazaki <[redacted]>

Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 08:03:47 -0700 (PDT)

To: [redacted]

To whom it may concern:
I have been a resident of the City of La Habra for 21 years. I am very concerned about the new proposal to include La Habra with Los Angeles County cities.

Before living in La Habra, I lived in Santa Fe Springs, Diamond Bar, and unincorporated Whittier--all Los Angeles County cities. Also I have worked in education and am well aware of the differences between Orange and Los Angeles Counties.

La Habra is distinctly Orange County. All the children in my community go to schools in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District. Our ties and our identity are to Orange County and we would not be fairly represented if the majority of voters in our new district are from Los Angeles County.

Thank you for allowing me to provide input.

Eileen L. Okazaki

La Habra, CA 90631
If I wanted to live in LA county I would have bought a house in LA county. Please leave La Habra the way it is. It is bad enough that the LA Fire Dept Services us now. I will sell my home if you continue to make us LA.

Thank you,
Kathy Marsh
Subject: La Habra
From: Judi Snyder <judy.snyder@example.com>
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 18:40:22 -0700
To: [redacted]

Please allow La Habra to be in the Diamond Bar-Yorba Linda or Anaheim-Fullerton Assembly Districts and Diamond Bar-Yorba Linda Senate District. I am a 40 year resident who lives in Orange County for a reason. I do not want to be a part of Los Angeles County.
This is regarding the redistricting of the City of La Habra. My self and my fellow La Habrans are very happy being in Orange County. Despite the fact that we are near the LA / Orange County line, we feel no connections at all with the rest of LA County. We Are Orange Countians to the core! Please do not do this and ruin our representation. The fact that you would carry out this deed without informing La Habra residents infuriates us even more. Many of us bought our homes and invested our lives and money into this area because of the fact it was in Orange County.

I and my LH friends urge you to please not do this!

Victor Laveaga
La Habra resident for 27 years
Subject: Letter to CRC RE Board of Equalization and Little Saigon
From: "Delp, Christy" <delpc@ocgov.org>
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 10:50:35 -0700
To: <delpc@ocgov.org>
CC: <delpc@ocgov.org>

Please see attached a letter to the Citizen Redistricting Commission from Orange County Board of Supervisor Janet Nguyen regarding the Board of Equalization and Little Saigon.

Feel free to contact our office should you have any questions.

Christy Delp
Policy Advisor
Office of Supervisor Janet Nguyen | First District
Orange County Board of Supervisors
office: 714.834.3110 | cell: 949.939.6523

CRC - Board of Equalization Lines and Little Saigon.pdf
July 19, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Board of Equalization District Lines and Little Saigon community

Dear Citizen Redistricting Commissioners:

The Citizen Redistricting Commission (CRC) was charged with establishing new district lines that are built around communities of interest and keeping them whole where possible.

The 1st draft of maps for the BOE is best to protect Orange County’s unique business communities. While any business can appeal to any BOE office, it is essential that the BOE staff serving a geographic region identify with that region’s unique ethnic mix. That’s why we believe we would be better served in a BOE seat that includes San Diego rather than Los Angeles.

For Orange County to be included with Los Angeles County simply means we will be drowned out. Our economic engine will suffer and our needs will go unmet. As we have learned, in the current State Legislature Los Angeles always comes first. Orange County’s business model is more closely aligned with San Diego’s, therefore, if drawn into Los Angeles, we believe our business community will be drowned out and unrepresented.

San Diego and Orange County have traditionally been together in the same BOE seat. Because of that, our small business owners and others who are serviced by the Board of Equalization have become accustomed to the staff in this district’s office and likewise the staff has become accustomed to our region’s unique business needs. For example, when we talk about South Orange County and coastal environmental needs the staff understands that. To remove this staff and its knowledge and turn it over to a staff representing Los Angeles would be detrimental to our communities, businesses, environmental needs and unique quality of life.

In addition, the draft maps that protect Little Saigon’s community of interest as a whole in Orange County will best serve this unique community. Little Saigon has the most significant concentration of Vietnamese Americans in the United States and the largest number of Vietnamese residents outside of Vietnam. The Vietnamese Americans in Orange County are concentrated within the city limits of Garden Grove, Westminster, Fountain Valley, and part of Santa Ana.

Over the last 30 years, Little Saigon has grown from simply being a few blocks around Bolsa Avenue to being a full-fledged community in the center of Orange County that covers several square miles. Little Saigon is more than just a concentration of population; there are Vietnamese-language newspapers, magazines, radio and television stations all headquartered here in the center of Orange County. Local businesses, including markets
and restaurants are common meeting places that help keep the community together. According to figures from the US Census, you will find continued growth of the Vietnamese American population in this area; growth in the number of immigrants with Vietnam as a Country of Origin; and growth in the number of those who know and can speak the Vietnamese language.

I urge you to consider supporting the 1st BOE draft maps to protect the unique and diverse business community and protect the community of interest for the Little Saigon area by keeping them in Orange County and Central Orange County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

JANET NGUYEN
Supervisor, First District
Orange County Board of Supervisors
Dear Redistricting Commissioners, I am writing to you today based on this most recent set of map visualizations that I found on your website. I am referring to "Option One." I noticed a difference between this map and past versions and one of those changes was the splitting of a community of interest of central, coastal OC. I am referring specifically to Irvine and Newport Beach. I noticed that they are in two separate Congressional Districts. I feel this does a great disservice to the residents of both Irvine and Newport Beach.

Irvine is a unique community, heavily influenced by its proximity to the coast and it belongs in a coastal OC district. Irvine should be linked with Newport Beach because the two are so closely connected in character and purpose. Irvine is a business hub and many Newport residents work in Irvine as well as going to school in Irvine as UC Irvine is the main university serving most of South OC, but especially residents of Newport Beach and Irvine.

Conversely, Newport Beach has some of the main regional shopping areas within it's city boundaries. I would say that between Hoag Hospital, UC Irvine and the recreational and shopping areas, residents probably cross over those city lines between those two cities several times a day without even realizing it.

Please keep our communities of interest whole, keep Irvine and Newport Beach together.
Thank you,
Subject: California Citizens Redistricting Commission - BOE District Maps
From: "Petteruto, Matt" [redacted]
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 15:53:25 -0700
To: [redacted]
CC: [redacted]

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Attached is a letter from Orange County Supervisor Bill Campbell regarding the proposed maps for the California Board of Equalization.

[Campbell- BOE.pdf]
July 21, 2011

SENT VIA EMAIL
Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear California Redistricting Commission Members:

The Citizen Redistricting Commission (CRC) was charged with establishing new district lines that are built around communities of interest and keeping them whole where possible.

The CRC established new district lines in its 1st draft of maps for the Board of Equalization (BOE) that clearly achieved this directive.

Orange County has a unique makeup of Asian, Latino and minority business communities more closely aligned with that of San Diego, not Los Angeles. While any business can appeal to any BOE office, it is essential that the BOE staff serving a geographic region identify with that region’s unique ethnic mix. That’s why I believe Orange County would be better served in a seat that includes San Diego rather than Los Angeles.

Orange County’s business model is more closely aligned with San Diego’s, therefore, if drawn into Los Angeles, we believe our business community will not be heard and will be unrepresented. Our economic engine will suffer and our needs will go unmet.

San Diego and Orange County have traditionally been together in the same BOE seat. Because of that, our small business owners and others who are serviced by the Board of Equalization have become accustomed to the staff in this district’s office and likewise the staff has become accustomed to our region’s unique business needs. To remove this staff and its knowledge and turn it over to a staff representing Los Angeles would be detrimental to our communities, businesses, environmental needs and unique quality of life.
Clearly, the 1st draft of new district lines established for the Board of Equalization protects the Voting Rights Act, keeps communities of interest whole including minorities, businesses and the environment, and provides competitive districts that will ensure fair representation for the entire electorate.

I urge you to consider supporting the 1st draft maps.

Sincerely,

Bill Campbell  
Supervisor, Third District  
Chairman, Orange County Board of Supervisors
To Whom It May Concern,

I want to express my concern and appreciation regarding the placement of Irvine within the new redistricting boundaries.

First let me say that placing Irvine with south county sister cities such as Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita and Tustin makes sense on every level. Keeping these communities together is the right decision. I appreciate the careful consideration the committee went through to arrive at this decision.

However, I want to also express concern that there may be some consideration being given to place Irvine with the completely dissimilar coastal communities. Irvine does not share important qualities with the coast and should not be attached to the coastal district.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tom Washoe
Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

As a resident of the City of Villa Park, I want to thank you for your service and your attention to the needs of local communities. The redistricting is an important issue to me. I'm aware of the difficulty you face as to how to handle our city and our desire to be kept whole inside a single congressional district.

Our city is unique. Unlike Santa Ana, which is the government seat for Orange County, or Anaheim, which has become a 24 hour tourist destination, Villa Park is a very small community of mostly residential properties and one small commercial center with few businesses and our City offices.

Putting Villa Park into a congressional district with Santa Ana and Anaheim would serve to minimize our voice and our ability to receive attentive representation. Therefore, it is our desire to be linked with other similar neighborhoods and smaller communities, such as Anaheim Hills, Tustin Hills and Tustin. This would allow us to work with communities of similar interests and not be dominated by the much larger and more influential cities of Santa Ana and Anaheim.

Thank you again for your service.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline S. Kaiser

Villa Park, CA 92861
Good afternoon –

I’m a voter in Orange, CA, and I think it’s important that, if at all possible, Orange and other cities in California, should not be split up into different Assembly, Senate and Congressional Districts. For example, Orange currently is represented by three assemblymembers (Miller, Norby and Hagman) – none of which are from our City. Orange would be better represented in our State Assembly I believe if our city had just one rep fully committed to our needs rather than three who view Orange on the periphery. I like and respect all three of Orange’s Assemblymembers, but I still believe redistricting to make the lines contiguous to cities would be a noble goal of your committee.

Thank you.

Brian Lochrie
Orange, CA  92866
To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a Comment Letter from Council Member Mark McCurdy regarding the proposed Redistricting maps.

Matt Mogensen
Assistant to the City Manager

[Mark McCurdy Legislative Redistricting Comment Letter 7.21.11.pdf]
July 21, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Redistricting/Public Input Hearings

To whom it may concern:

As a member of the Fountain Valley City Council and longtime Fountain Valley resident, I am pleased that the latest congressional map visualizations put Fountain Valley with Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa and not linking us with Santa Ana, while still keeping the Little Saigon community of interest intact with Fountain Valley.

Thank you for respecting these vital communities of interest. Please don't make any changes that would disrupt these communities of interest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark McCurdy
Fountain Valley City Council
July 21, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Redistricting/Public input Hearings

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the Citizens Redistricting Commission hearings and proposed Congressional Redistricting Maps, I would like to state as a resident of Fountain Valley, that our city -Fountain Valley-does not share a "Community of Interest" with the City of Irvine.

We do however share a "Community of Interest" with the Cities of Huntington Beach and Costa Mesa for the following reasons:

1.) We share the same Orange County Sanitation District with Huntington Beach.

2.) We share many of the same School Districts with Huntington Beach.

3.) We share many of the same Cultural and Community Service Clubs (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.) with Huntington Beach.

4.) We share many of the same sports leagues and teams with Huntington Beach.

5.) Shopping (more likely to shop in Westminster and Huntington Beach Malls and South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa than shopping in Irvine).

For this reason we ask that we are included in upcoming redistricting maps with the Cities of Cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster and Costa Mesa.

Please do not include our city with Irvine.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark McCurdy
Fountain Valley City Council
Subject: Dana Point Resident-Opposed To Draft-Redistricting Map  
From: "Peter Hammer" <[redacted]>  
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 18:00:29 -0700  
To: <[redacted]>

Dear Honorable Chairman,

My Name is Glenn L. “Pete” Hammer and I have been a resident of Dana Point for over 18 years.

With regard to the current Draft of the Redistricting Map I would like to submit my objections and thoughts as follows:

- I am opposed to the current Draft of the Redistricting Map
- Any Redistricting should not split the City of Dana Point
- The entire City of Dana Point should be included in the same District as other South Orange County Cities

In your revised Draft, please modify this document to include the last two recommendations.

Thank You & Semper Fi, Pete Hammer

Dana Point, CA 92629
Subject: Diverse Community Leaders Oppose Oxnard & El Rio Split
From: "Maricela Morales" <maricela.morales@comcast.net>
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 12:37:19 -0700
To: "Voters First Act" <votersfirstact@gmail.com>
CC: "Hank Lacayo" <hlacayo@cox.net>, "Dr. Ramon Flores" <ramon.flores@oxnardca.gov>, 
"Dick Jaquez" <djaquez@cox.net>, "Ana Del Rio" <anadelrio@cox.net>, "Vince Stewart" <vincentem@cox.net>, 
"Lupe Anguiano" <lupeanguiano@cox.net>, "Alicia Flores" <alseflores@gmail.com>, "Vanessa Frank Garcia" <vanessa.frank@gmail.com>, 
"Jim Gilmer" <jgilmer@cox.net>, "Mendoza, Rebeca" <mendoza.rebeca@gmail.com>, "Dave Rodriguez" <daveroj@gcalum.org>, 
"Arcenio Lopez" <arcenio.lopez@cox.net>, "Mendoza, Rebeca" <mendoza.rebeca@gmail.com>, "Margaret Sawyer" <margaret.sawyer@cox.net>

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Hand Delivered

July 21, 2011

RE: Splitting of the City of Oxnard and El Rio CDP disenfranchises vulnerable populations

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of diverse community, faith, education, labor and local elected officials with constituents who live, go to school or work in the City of Oxnard, including the unincorporated area of El Rio, we write to you to protect vulnerable populations that are disenfranchised if segments of Oxnard and El Rio are split from the rest of the City of Oxnard in the “EVENT” Assembly District.

Vulnerable Populations concentrated in Oxnard

- The City of Oxnard has the third highest unemployment in Ventura County at 12.8% compared to the [1]
  Ventura County average of 9.5% [2]

- The Oxnard unemployment rate is one-third higher than the unemployment rate of Moorpark
- Oxnard’s Median Household Income ($56,618) is 24% below the County Median Household Income [3]
  ($74,828) [4]

- 37.4% of Oxnard residents are foreign born [5]
- 31% of Oxnard residents are Spanish speakers that speak English “less than very well” [6]
- 86% of Oxnard residents are Latino, African American or Asian American Pacific Islander
83% of the Oxnard youth under the age of 18 are Latino

**Vulnerable Populations of El Rio**

El Rio is a Census Designated Place (CDP) of 7,198 people; a population equivalent to the City of Ojai (population 7,461) in Ventura County. El Rio is immediately adjacent to the City of Oxnard and shares many demographic similarities to the City of Oxnard to such an extent that people assume El Rio is a neighborhood of the City of Oxnard. As an unincorporated area with a very high concentration of very low income, farm worker, immigrant, Mixteco Indigenous.

- El Rio’s median household income of $38,893 is only half that of the Ventura County median income
- 18% earn below the federal poverty level
- 28.2% of El Rio residents are foreign born
- 87.7% of the El Rio CDP population is Latino, African American or Asian American Pacific Islander

**Current Assembly, Senate and Congressional Disenfranchisement of Oxnard and El Rio**

The above populations based on unemployment, poverty level, household income, place of birth, language and race/ethnicity are historically and presently commonly disenfranchised populations. They are concentrated in the City of Oxnard including El Rio. Nevertheless, in 2001, the City of Oxnard – including El Rio - was the ONLY city that was:

1) split at the Assembly District level;
2) placed in a Senate District based in Los Angeles County; **AND**
3) placed in a Congressional District based in Santa Barbara County. At all three state and national district levels for the past decade the City of Oxnard has been disenfranchised.

_We the undersigned implore the Redistricting Commission to return to the “EVENT” Assembly District visualization of July 16 that kept Oxnard whole thus protecting the fair representation of the most vulnerable and underrepresented working poor, immigrant and people of color and youth concentrated in the City of Oxnard and El Rio._

Sincerely, on behalf of two dozen diverse community, education, faith, labor and local elected officials,

1. Hank Lacayo  
President, Congress of California Seniors

2. John C. Zaragoza  
Ventura County Board of Supervisor, District 5

3. Ramon Flores  
Vice President, Ventura County Board of Education, District 5

4. Art Hernandez  
Vice Chair, Ventura County Community College District, Area 5
5. Carmen Ramirez Esq.
Council Member, City of Oxnard

6. Manuel Lopez
Commissioner, Oxnard Harbor District
Ret. Mayor, City of Oxnard

7. Socorro Lopez Hanson
President, Oxnard Union High School District Board

8. Dick Jaquez
Vice President, Oxnard Union High School District Board

9. Ana Del Rio-Barba
Trustee, Oxnard Elementary School District

10. Jason Hodge
Commissioner, Oxnard Harbor District

11. Vince Stewart
Commissioner, City of Oxnard Planning Commission

12. Wes Davis
President, Oxnard Federation of Teachers and School Employees

13. Tony Skinner
President, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 952

14. Lupe Anguiano
Stewards of the Earth

15. Alicia Flores
Executive Director, Hermandad Mexicana de Oxnard

16. Vanessa Frank Garcia Esq.
Chair, Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice of Ventura County

17. Jim Gilmer M.A.
Black & Brown Alliance of the Oxnard Plains

18. Irma Lopez
Co-Founder, Rebozo Festival

19. Rebecca Mendoza
President, Ventura County Mexican American Bar Association

20. Don Montgomery
Chair, Black American Political Association of CA (BAPAC), Ventura County

21. Dave Rodriguez
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Ventura County
22. Margaret Sawyer and Arcenio Lopez
Directors, Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project

23. Marcos Vargas PhD
Executive Director, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy


Organizations are listed for affiliation purposes
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
Hand Delivered

July 21, 2011

RE: Splitting of the City of Oxnard and El Rio CDP disenfranchises vulnerable populations

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

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- Oxnard’s Median Household Income ($56,618) is 24% below the County Median Household Income ($74,828).
- 37.4% of Oxnard residents are foreign born.
- 31% of Oxnard residents are Spanish speakers that speak English “less than very well.”
- 86% of Oxnard residents are Latino, African American or Asian American Pacific Islander.
- 83% of the Oxnard youth under the age of 18 are Latino.

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- El Rio’s median household income of $38,893 is only half that of the Ventura County median income.
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- 28.2% of El Rio residents are foreign born.

1 CA EDD May 2011 http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/?pageid=1003
2 Ibid
3 American Community Survey 2005-2009
http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_ts=
4 Ibid
5 Ibid
6 US Census 2010
7 American Community Survey 2005-2009
http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_ts=
9 Ibid
10 Ibid
87.7% of the El Rio CDP population is Latino, African American or Asian American Pacific Islander.\(^{11}\)

**Current Assembly, Senate and Congressional Disenfranchisement of Oxnard and El Rio**

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*We the undersigned implore the Redistricting Commission to return to the “EVENT” Assembly District visualization of July 16 that kept Oxnard whole thus protecting the fair representation of the most vulnerable and underrepresented working poor, immigrant and people of color and youth concentrated in the City of Oxnard and El Rio.*

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1. Hank Lacayo  
   President, Congress of California Seniors

2. John C. Zaragoza  
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   Council Member, City of Oxnard

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   President, Oxnard Union High School District Board

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\(^{11}\) Ibid  
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11. Vince Stewart
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12. Wes Davis
President, Oxnard Federation of Teachers and School Employees

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Stewards of the Earth

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21. Dave Rodriguez
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), Ventura County

22. Margaret Sawyer and Arcenio Lopez
Directors, Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project

23. Marcos Vargas PhD
Executive Director, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy
Please see the attached signed letter on CA Redistricting.

Best regards,

Christine Shirkani

This email (including any attachments) may contain privileged, confidential and/or proprietary information intended solely for use by the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, dissemination, distribution, or use of any of the information contained in or attached to this transmission is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by reply email and then delete this email and any attachments immediately.
DATE: July 19, 2011
TO: Citizen Redistricting Commission
RE: Board of Equalization District Lines

Sent via e-mail: [REDACTED] and votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

The Citizen Redistricting Commission was charged with establishing new district lines that are built around communities of interest and keeping them whole where possible.

The Citizen Redistricting Commission established new district lines in its 1st draft of maps for the Board of Equalization that clearly achieved this directive by keeping communities of interest whole.

Orange County has a unique land of Asian, Latino and minority business communities more closely aligned with that of San Diego, not Los Angeles. While any business can appeal to any BOE office, it is essential that the BOE staff serving a geographic region identify with that region’s unique ethnic mix. That’s why we feel we would be better served in a seat that includes San Diego rather than Los Angeles.

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Clearly, the 1st draft of new district lines for the Board of Equalization draws lines that protect the Voting Rights Act, keep communities of interest whole including minorities and businesses, and provide competitive districts that will ensure fair representation for the entire electorate.

I urge you to consider supporting the 1sr draft maps.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Subject: FW: ca redistricting/Citizen Redistricting Commission
From: Christine Hess <>
Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 15:21:45 -0700
To: < >

Please see attached signed letter for CA Redistricting.

Dan Harkey

This email (including any attachments) may contain privileged, confidential and/or proprietary information intended solely for use by the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, dissemination, distribution, or use of any of the information contained in or attached to this transmission is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you received this email in error, please notify the sender by reply email and then delete this email and any attachments immediately. CA Dept. of Real Estate Broker [Redacted]
DATE:       July 19, 2011
TO:        Citizen Redistricting Commission
RE:        Board of Equalization District Lines

Sent via e-mail: [REDACTED] and votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

The Citizen Redistricting Commission was charged with establishing new district lines that are built around communities of interest and keeping them whole where possible.

The Citizen Redistricting Commission established new district lines in its 1st draft of maps for the Board of Equalization that clearly achieved this directive by keeping communities of interest whole.

Orange County has a unique land of Asian, Latino and minority business communities more closely aligned with that of San Diego, not Los Angeles. While any business can appeal to any BOE office, it is essential that the BOE staff serving a geographic region identify with that region’s unique ethnic mix. That’s why we feel we would be better served in a seat that includes San Diego rather than Los Angeles.

For Orange County to be included with them simply means we will be drowned out. Our economic engine will suffer and our needs will go unmet. As we have learned, in the current State Legislature Los Angeles always comes first. Orange County’s business model is more closely aligned with San Diego’s; therefore, if drawn into Los Angeles, we believe our business community will be drowned out and unrepresented.

San Diego and Orange County have traditionally been together in the same BOE seat. Because of that, our small business owners and others who are serviced by the Board of Equalization have become accustomed to the staff in this district’s office and likewise the staff has become accustomed to our region’s unique business needs. For example, when we talk about South Orange County and coastal environmental needs the staff understands that. To remove this staff and its knowledge and turn it over to a staff representing Los Angeles would be detrimental to our communities, businesses, environmental needs and unique quality of life.

Clearly, the 1st draft of new district lines for the Board of Equalization draws lines that protect the Voting Rights Act, keep communities of interest whole including minorities and businesses, and provide competitive districts that will ensure fair representation for the entire electorate.

I urge you to consider supporting the 1st draft maps.

Sincerely,

[Signature]