July 7, 2011

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

Dear Commissioners,

I am a long time resident of Irvine, and I currently serve as an Irvine city councilman. I testified at the public hearing at Cal State Fullerton in June. As you move forward with drawing the new district maps, I'd like you to take the following into consideration:

First and foremost, Irvine is a South Orange County inland city that has little in common with North Orange County and coastal cities like Huntington Beach. We are an integral part of South Orange County and as such, share a community of interest with other south county cities such as Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Laguna Hills and El Toro. Much of the traditional alignment stems from the Irvine community's opposition to the proposed El Toro airport. Cities that align with North Orange County and Huntington Beach were in favor of the airport.

At the hearing there was a map submitted by Shawn Dewane who serves on the OC Water District Board. That map put Irvine back with other south county cities. I think it adequately addresses the needs of respecting Irvine's traditional communities of interest. I support it as a guide for keeping Irvine and its neighboring south Orange County communities of interest intact.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven S. Choi, Ph.D.
Councilmember