

Subject: Fwd: district letter

From: [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 13:22:11 EDT

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

July 21, 2011

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

Dear Commissioners,

Yesterday I became aware of the latest draft of California's State Senate seats, and was shocked to see the City of Turlock drawn into a district that is over 500 miles long. Not only is this district unmanageable for a State Senator, it makes zero sense to draw a district with one of the most plentiful agriculture areas in the state and a 3,000 square mile desert.

As you might know, Turlock has a strong agriculture based economy. We produce nearly all of our nation's almonds, clingstone peaches, and fresh market snap beans. In fact, Stanislaus County is the 6th largest agriculture producing county in California, with over \$2.3 billion in total agriculture value. Inyo County, on the other hand, is ranked 51st in the state on agriculture production. Their production is valued at just over \$19 million. Based on that alone, it is more than clear that Turlock should be placed in a state senate district with other San Joaquin Valley cities like Merced and Fresno.

This plan has also linked Turlock with foothill counties like Calaveras and Mariposa, as well as suburban Sacramento communities. Turlock is completely isolated from its sister cities in the San Joaquin Valley. If this plan was approved, our State Senator would have no leverage to help make improvements to State Highway 99, water quality and quantity issues, housing challenges, and other common economic issues.

Finally, a district this size is nearly impossible for a state senator to properly represent. How can this official meet with constituents in Tecopa (the most southeast town in the district, only 77 miles from Las Vegas, NV) and then attend a Chamber of Commerce function in Rancho Cordova (the most northwest point in the district)? This Senator would need at least four district offices and a staff of nearly 30 to properly represent the needs of this district.

It makes much more sense to shed Salinas, Hollister, Gonzales, Soledad, and Greenfield from the Merced seat, and replace those communities with Turlock. Turlock and Merced have much more in common with one another than Merced does with the Salinas area.

Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions about Turlock, or the surrounding area. I can be reached at [REDACTED]

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry Rumbeck
[REDACTED]
Turlock, CA 95380

Subject: Public Comment: 6 - Stanislaus

From: Richard Savini <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 15:06:17 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Richard Savini <[REDACTED]>

Subject: district boundaries

Message Body:

The current State Senate map is not good for Turlock.

Arguments are:

- Turlock is a city that has an agriculturally based economy. Thus, it belongs with other communities that have AG based economies.
- The Merced Senate district includes communities in Stanislaus, Merced, Fresno San Benito and Monterey Counties that all have AG based economies.
- Turlock has much in common with those communities including: common economic concerns, highway 99 transportation issues, farm worker/labor issues, fears of water shortages, and a significant Spanish speaking population.
- Under the current visualization, Turlock is included in a district which stresses from Rancho Cordova in Sacramento County to Death Valley in Southern California. The district does not have flatland AG interests, has no ties to the Highway 99 corridor, has a radically different economy, has health care concerns that are totally foreign to those faced by the people who live in Turlock.
- Under the current visualization, Turlock is linked to foothill counties like Amador, Calaveras, and Mariposa as well as mountain counties like Inyo and Mono. As noted, it is also linked to suburban Sacramento - but totally isolated from other Central Valley communities. Under the current configuration, the city and its interests will be ignored as representatives will struggle to represent such a massive seat and be unable to balance AG, suburban and mountain region concerns.
- It would make more sense to include Turlock (population 68,549) with the Merced seat and have the Merced seat shed some population in the Fresno area near Fowler and Kingsburg. Both these cities and the population in that area are south of the city of Fresno and far more connected to that city than to the communities in the Merced seat.
- You could make these changes and both seats would be improved.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 6 - Stanislaus

From: Mike Gemperle <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 21 Jul 2011 23:11:06 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Mike Gemperle <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Senate Norcal lines

Message Body:

- Turlock is a city that has an agriculturally based economy. Thus, it belongs with other communities that have AG based economies.
- The Merced Senate district includes communities in Stanislaus, Merced, Fresno San Benito and Monterey Counties that all have AG based economies.
- Turlock has much in common with those communities including: common economic concerns, highway 99 transportation issues, farm worker/labor issues, fears of water shortages, and a significant Spanish speaking population.
- Under the current visualization, Turlock is included in a district which stresses from Rancho Cordova in Sacramento County to Death Valley in Southern California. The district does not have flatland AG interests, has no ties to the Highway 99 corridor, has a radically different economy, has health care concerns that are totally foreign to those faced by the people who live in Turlock.
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- You could make these changes and both seats would be improved.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 6 - Stanislaus

From: Jerry Powell <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 22 Jul 2011 03:24:41 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Jerry Powell <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Turlock

Message Body:

I would like to comment on the Merced Senate Map. Turlock is treated unfairly in this map by separating it from its neighboring flat land communities and placing it in a mountain district that stretches from Sacramento to Inyo counties. Turlock is an agricultural community with ties to hyw 99. It deserves to be in the same district as Ceres and Merced, instead of being tied to Elk Grove and Death Valley. Please add Turlock to the Merced Senate seat. As an offsetting adjustment, you could drop some of the areas to the south such as Fowler from this map and put them in a Fresno district map where they belong.

Thank you for contemplating my input.

Jerry Powell
Turlock, CA

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: 6 - Stanislaus

From: Michael Frantz <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 22 Jul 2011 03:56:18 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Michael Frantz <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Senate District

Message Body:

My comment relates to the Merced Senate visualization. My name is Michael Frantz and by profession I am involved in the nursery business and also serve as a Board Member of the Turlock Irrigation District. Your current Senate map visualizations have dire consequences for adequate representation for Turlock. Please consider placing Turlock in the Merced Senate district. Like the other communities in the Merced senate map, Turlock's economy is largely agricultural in nature. We have little in common with the more mountainous communiites that the commission has combined us with. We need a representative that will be squarely focused on the needs of the communités of the valley floor (ag, water,) and not one that is is stretched from Sacramento to Death Valley. It makes much more sense to eliminate the notch and to add Turlock to the Merced Senate map. As an offsetting change, you can reduce some of the Fresno Co area from the Merced map and add that to the Fresno senate map.

Thank you.

Michael Frantz

Board Member, Turlock Irrigation District

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