The voters of California have chosen to have citizens redraw our legislative districts. To that end, the California Citizens Redistricting Commission has held countless public hearings and has solicited numerous written submissions. In person and by e-mail, many individuals and elected officials from our region have pointed out that our Tri-County constituents share many commonalities: media markets, shared local governmental planning (Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments), coastal agricultural techniques, shared water issues, the San Lorenzo, Pajaro and Salinas River basins, and even that the local adult softball league covers our three counties.

Our constituents have been represented in the California State Senate since the last redistricting by individuals residing in Merced, Stanislaus, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Santa Clara Counties, but they have not been able to elect a State Senator from their home counties of Santa Cruz, Monterey or San Benito.

As elected officials in Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties and as members of the Tri-County Association of Latino Elected Officials (TCALEO), we, the undersigned, request that the California Citizens Redistricting Commission develop a Tri-County State Senate District where our constituents will have an opportunity to elect a State Senator of their choice, rather than spending the next ten years as a Monterey Bay Area tail on a very large Central Valley dog.