



## Fwd: Redistricting

Voter <[REDACTED]>  
To: [REDACTED]

Thu, Jul 21, 2011 at 10:33 AM

Region 7 - Monterey  
July 20

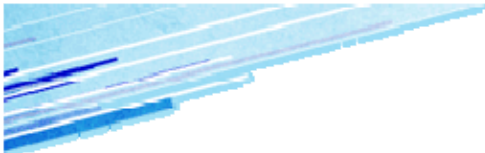
----- Original Message -----

**Subject:** Redistricting

**Date:** Wed, 20 Jul 2011 18:41:54 -0700 (PDT)

**From:** SONIA Martinez <[REDACTED]>

**To:** [REDACTED]



Date: July 20, 2011

To: California Citizens Redistricting Commission

From: Sonia Heredia

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.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Sonia Heredia

School board member

*Sonia Heredia*



"Peace be with you"

"El señor es mi pastor nada me falta"



REGION 7: MONTEREY

# MONTEREY COUNTY

## THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SIMÓN SALINAS, SUPERVISOR - THIRD DISTRICT



SALINAS, CA 93901

facsimile transmittal

To: Citizens Redistricting Commission

Fax: 916-651-5711

Date: July 21, 2011

Page(s): (Not including this page)

Re: Senate District 15 Recommendation

- URGENT
- For Review
- Please Comment
- Please Reply
- Please

From:  Supervisor Simón Salinas

- Chris M. Lopez, Chief of Staff
- Reyna Navarrete, Board Aide
- Sandra Olivarez, Administrative Ass
- 

Memo:

∴ Please call [redacted] for any problems with this fax ∴

# MONTEREY COUNTY



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - [REDACTED] Salinas, CA 93901  
SIMÓN SALINAS, SUPERVISOR - District Three - Chief of Staff, Christopher M. Lopez  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

July 21, 2011

Dear Commissioners,

As a current member of the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and previous representative of the 28<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, I am concerned that the Pajaro Valley, a vital part of our county, has been overlooked and therefore is not fairly represented on the proposed 15<sup>th</sup> Senate District. After an enduring struggle and numerous lawsuits, the Monterey County Latino population managed to secure a fair representation; however, the Commission's proposed maps undo the progress that has been made to ensure an adequate and fair representation of the Central Coast Region. The cultural and political differences between the Salinas Valley and the Central Coast are immense. It is time for the voters of Monterey County, Pajaro Valley and Santa Cruz to have the opportunity to elect a Senator that represents them and their interests. Therefore, I request that you consider Mr. Joaquin Avila's proposal and in addition include the Pajaro Valley, Watsonville, Moss Landing, and the areas surrounding the Elkhorn Slough to the Salinas Valley District.

### Mr. Joaquin Avila's 15<sup>th</sup> Senate District proposal

Having previously represented the Southern Santa Clara Valley in the State Assembly from 2006, the natural progression for the 15<sup>th</sup> Senate District boundary is a northern migration that encompasses Latino communities with similar demographics to that of the Salinas Valley. Mr. Joaquin Avila's 15<sup>th</sup> Senate District proposal achieves that objective. MALDEF's proposal, which was presented to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission June 28<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, divides Salinas Valley farming communities with the rural County of San Benito and the large agricultural areas of Santa Clara County that remain rural. A major difference between the Commission's proposed map and that of Mr. Avila's is that his map does not take the district over the Diablo and Gabilan mountain ranges in the East; however, the Commission's proposed map includes large swaths of the Salinas Valley. Mr. Avila's proposed map not only improves the makeup of the Central Coast Region, but also that of the Central Coast Region. Furthermore, it provides a cohesive identity to the Central Coast Region, which has long fought for political representation and autonomy. Most important is that Mr. Avila's proposed map allows the Central Valley to retain its own political representation and helps to avoid a clashing of divergent politics and legal history. The following are the characteristics that demonstrate the rationale for a northern migration.

- The residents of the Salinas Valley do not often travel to the Central Valley; rather, the majority of them go north to San Jose and the Bay Area for leisure and economic advancement.

- The educational institutions in San Jose including the National Hispanic University and California State University of San Jose appeal to the Latino community of the proposed Senate district.
- The family oriented Latino population prefers to see its children attend universities and colleges near their community. The institutions above provide high-quality educational options within driving distance of their community.
- The current 28<sup>th</sup> Assembly District represents the National Hispanic University and is located up along the eastern hills of San Jose.

**Inclusion of the Pajaro Valley, Moss Landing and Elkhorn Slough region**

I was raised by migrant farmworkers in the City of Watsonville. I can attest that the Pajaro Valley, which is located on the northern part of Monterey County's Second Supervisorial District, is primarily Latino and that it shares a common bond with the Salinas Valley. However, the inclusion of this northern part of this district has been placed in the coastal seat that has been proposed for the Central Coast region. To lump these residents into a district with the coastal areas of Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, disenfranchises a community that has long been overlooked and the result of gerrymandering of previous redistricting commissions. Utilizing this area to complete the proposed district fully ignores the racial makeup and cultural cohesiveness that the Pajaro Valley shares with the people of the proposed Salinas Valley and San Jose district.

The interests and needs of the residents living in the areas surrounding the cities of Santa Cruz and Monterey differ from the residents living in the Pajaro Valley and Watsonville areas. Additionally, there is a significant disparity in the incomes, educational levels and the quality of life between these areas and the cities of Santa Cruz and Monterey. The communities of Moss Landing and the areas surrounding the Elkhorn Slough should be included in the proposed Salinas Valley District as the waters of these communities have repeatedly flooded the poor Latino communities of the Pajaro Valley.

Enclosed with this letter is a map and data for your reference. Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to call me at (831) 755-5033.

Sincerely,



Simón Salinas  
Monterey County Board of Supervisors, District 3

Enclosures

**Income Disparity Chart**

City	% of Pop. Latino <sup>1</sup>	Per Capita Income (2000) <sup>2</sup>	% of Pop. Below Poverty Line (2000) <sup>3</sup>
Pajaro	94.1	9,893	22.2
Watsonville	81	13,205	15.4
Salinas	75	14,495	12.8
Santa Cruz	19.4	25,758	6.6
Monterey	13	27,133	4.4

I propose that you use the Salinas River, where it joins the Pacific Ocean near Castroville, as your delineation. This recognizes that the Salinas River is the system providing the water that allows the economies of our rural farmworking communities to flourish. It gives credence to the precept of self-government through control of the proposed districts most important asset. This is just another reason that the waterways that make up the Elkhorn Slough system that compromise a large portion of Monterey County's Second Supervisorial District should be included in the new Senate District.

<sup>1</sup> The population percentages represent the 2010 Census figures.

<sup>2</sup> The per capita income figures were obtained from the 2000 Census figures as the 2010 Census figures are not yet available.

<sup>3</sup> The percentage of the population living below the poverty line were obtained from the 2000 Census figures as the 2010 Census figures are not yet available.

