Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz
From: Joseph Cosentino
Date: 7/16/2011 12:55 AM
To: 

From: Joseph Cosentino
Subject: Proposed Congressional Redistricting

Message Body:
I am distressed and disappointed that the current proposed congressional district lines will split the city of Santa Cruz. That makes no sense whatsoever and will do harm to Santa Cruz in that it will be relegated to secondary status with its obvious common interests capriciously divided. I realize there is a concern with diluting Latino voting power down in Monterey, but I would rather this potentially minor matter be decided by a court than a commission precluding further discussion. Many thanks for your consideration.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Santa Cruz should be kept whole. It is a small town in a small county. No divisions. We are One.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Public Comment: 7 - Santa Cruz
From: Stephen Hauskins <Stephen Hauskins>
Date: 7/16/2011 10:48 AM
To:  

From: Stephen Hauskins <Stephen Hauskins>
Subject: Santa Cruz

Message Body:
Don't split Santa Cruz county. Leave it under one representative.

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Dear Commission:

Thank you for all the hard work you're putting into redrawing California's district lines. Trying to adequately represent the diversity of our great state is an enormous undertaking.

That being said, I have a suggestion for how to redistrict Santa Cruz County. Currently, the map (http://swdb.berkeley.edu/gis/gis2011/) shows the northwestern region being lumped together with cities "over the hill," such as Mountain View, Cupertino, and Santa Clara. We share very little in common with these cities. We are rural, while they are urban. Our newspapers, radio stations, school districts, fire districts, law enforcement, etc. are all different. Even our underlying cultures are different.

It would make far more sense to set the upper boundary along Highway 35/Skyline Blvd., and include the towns of Boulder Creek, Ben Lomond, Felton, Scotts Valley, and Santa Cruz-Westside with the rest of Santa Cruz County. If the lower borders then requires adjusting, push it either just north or south of Watsonville. These area together represent a far more cohesive community than what the current lines represent. Putting towns, such as Santa Cruz-Eastside, Capitola, Aptos, Live Oak, and Rio Del Mar with towns as far south as Soledad and King City simply does not make regional sense.

I look forward to seeing more cohesive, community-based redistricting in the next draft.

Thank you for taking the time to consider citizen concerns.

Best regards,
Sarah J. Wilson
Freelance Editor and Writer
Homeschool Review
Gifted Homeschoolers Forum, Editor-in-Chief
Cub Scout Pack 623, Committee Chair and Den Leader