

**Subject:** City of Santa Rosa, Marin and Sonoma Counties

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** Fri, 8 Jul 2011 20:57:47 +0000 (UTC)

**To:** [REDACTED]

July 8, 2011

California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
[REDACTED]

Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am writing to express my concern about the visualization maps put forward by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

In doing so, I am motivated only by my conviction that the Sixth Congressional District as currently constituted makes the most sense. My electoral future is not at stake here. I have nothing to gain or lose politically from new district lines. I have announced my retirement from the United States House of Representatives at the end of my current term, after 20 years of representing all of Marin and 80 percent of Sonoma County. But I do believe my experience in serving the interests of this district, and my familiarity with the communities involved, ought to be considered by the Commission as new maps are drawn.

The Commission continues to miss the mark regarding the Sixth District. With every iteration of the congressional map, the Commission further violates its own guidelines and further departs from established redistricting practices.

The proposed district map represents a solution in search of a problem. The current district – all of Marin County and most of Sonoma County – works. Its only flaw is that it is short about 36,000 people, a deficit that can easily be made up by extending the district deeper into Sonoma County – either north toward the Mendocino County line or east through the Sonoma Valley.

Why try to fix something that isn't broken? The existing Sixth District is compact and cohesive, with a distinct identity based on shared values. It enjoys the overwhelming support of diverse populations in both counties. Splintering it defies the very principles the Commission laid out at the beginning of this process. The new visualization map ignores communities of interest; divides cities and counties; and creates huge urban-suburban and suburban-rural mismatches. To be clear, the congressional district that best represents the people of Marin and Sonoma Counties starts at the Sonoma-Mendocino border, includes the City of Santa Rosa, and stops at the Golden Gate Bridge in Marin.

I hope that the Commission will reconsider this proposal, and I am happy to discuss this with you.

Sincerely,

Lynn Woolsey  
Member of Congress

**Subject:** Redistricting

**From:** Colleen Kern [REDACTED]

**Date:** Fri, 8 Jul 2011 16:02:16 -0700

**To:** [REDACTED]

Dear Members of the Commission,

The first district map available to the public was perfect. Now I understand that San Francisco may be included. I hope you will listen to those of us who live in Marin County and keep our district north of the Golden Gate Bridge.

Our interests and lifestyles do not reflect those of an urban area. Please allow us to maintain representation appropriate to our needs .

Sincerely,

Sister Colleen Kern, SNJM