To Members of the Redistricting Commission:

Re: First Draft of Redistricting Maps, June 2010

I am disappointed to learn of some of the peculiar groupings that make up the districts in the first draft congressional map.

Ideally, I think congressional districts should be grouped together with other communities of interest; i.e. Folsom and Folsom Lake should be lumped together with El Dorado Hills and South Placer, rather than grouping us with Elk Grove. We want to be represented along with other similarly situated communities that have common interests and needs. To lump a rural mountain community with the southern region of Sacramento and Elk Grove makes absolutely no sense to me. We want our representatives to speak for us and be knowledgeable of our communities and neighboring interests. Freeway boundaries should not dictate political lines. Stretching the district boundaries for clearly political reasons means that the future representative of our community may have no finger on the pulse of our area. It does our rural mountain area injustice, as it likewise does injustice to the residents of Elk Grove.

We ask you to please go back to the drawing board and fix this error that will have long term consequences in our congressional representation.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Axelgard

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