Subject: Public Comment: 9 - Siskiyou
From: "Jon E. Lopey, Sheriff-Coroner (Siskiyou County)"
Date: 7/22/2011 11:37 AM
To: 

From: Jon E. Lopey, Sheriff-Coroner (Siskiyou County) <Jon.E.Lopey@co.siskiyou.ca.us>
Subject: RECOMMEND SISKIU COUNTY & SHASTA COUNTY IN YUBA DISTRICT VICE ROSEVILLE/SACTO

Message Body:

July 18, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commission Members:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that I strongly oppose your most recent attempt to formulate maps which redistrict Siskiyou County in compliance with Proposition and 11 and 20. I also assert my right, as an elected official, for the commission to properly coordinate such actions with me and other county officials. I am convinced that your decision, if finalized under this proposal, will adversely impact public health and safety in Siskiyou County and leave our residents without a collective voice to oppose unreasonable programs, policies and future plans initiated by various federal and state officials. As you are aware, coordination and consistency is required for all such decisions made by federal or state political leaders which impact our citizens. I strongly believe that Siskiyou and Shasta Counties should remain in the same district. You have drafted districts that may meet the population guidelines but I believe they violate the important provisions of Propositions 11 and 20. You have included portions of the far northern areas of the state with Sacramento, which does not make sense to me. Simply adding population from Sacramento into a district primarily comprised of rural agricultural counties is not a logical community of interest.

Splitting Siskiyou County and including it in the coastal or delta districts will adversely impact my ability to effectively perform public safety services because the new districts will include political leaders, citizens, environmental, special interest dynamics, and law enforcement concerns contrary to the traditional and contemporary interests of the people of Siskiyou County. I strongly feel that we should remain in a district away from the coast and the delta and draft districts based on our major economic connections of transportation and common infrastructure traditions. There should be an I-5, Hwy 395 and a separate Hwy 101 district. The North State should not stretch into Yolo or Sacramento Counties.

Major flaws exist in your maps published on July 11th, yet there are simple ways to alter the drawn districts that will be more consistent with regard to communities of interest and simply more logical.

Citizens Redistricting Commission
Page 2
July 18, 2011

Please remove Siskiyou County, Shasta County, the City of Lincoln, the City of Rocklin as well as the surrounding rural agricultural areas of Placer County from the Mt. Cap district and place them in the more appropriate Yuba District. I recommend that you remove Roseville, Rancho Cordova, Citrus Heights, Carmichael and as much of Sacramento...
County as possible from the Yuba District and place them in the Mt. Cap district.

These changes only affect the Yuba and the Mt. Cap districts and have no effect on any other lines. Yet these changes create a much more logical and community minded district layout. By keeping the I-5 communities together and removing large suburban and urban areas from the Yuba District you are creating a more balanced district, agriculturally, socially, traditionally, and economically. Additionally, by shifting Roseville and Sacramento Counties to the Mt. Cap district you keep established communities together in the Sacramento area and the very important Roseville/Sacramento infrastructure link consolidated in one district.

In my opinion, Shasta County should be located in the Yuba District and populations should be shifted in Butte County to make this accommodation. The economic connections created by the I-5 corridor are very important and are a significant link between our communities. Siskiyou County would also be a very logical addition to this district but since the commission has decided that Yuba County must be linked with Sutter County the populations ratios appear to be unworkable.

I request that you not separate our well-established regions. I feel that your efforts, if executed as currently planned, would have an adverse impact on public health and safety and would be detrimental to the economic, traditional, social, and historic interests of the citizens of Siskiyou County.

As you are aware, I have the right to assert my right to coordinate with federal and state authorities and the Commission to discuss these issues directly if you feel my request cannot be honored. Federal and state law, executive orders, case law, and other provisions of law such as the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and Data Quality Act apply and require you to honor my request for coordination to ensure proper consistency is achieved between your decisions, objectives and the needs of Siskiyou County citizens and officials. Thank you in advance for your assistance and support. Should you have any questions, please contact me at [redacted]

Sincerely,

Jon E. Lopey, Sheriff-Coroner

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Message Body:
Please do not redistrict us. We are very happy with the representation we now enjoy. We have very little in common with the coast and it is a long ways away geographically, economically and culturally. The counties to the east of us are even farther away geographically but are more economically and culturally like us. Our area has been hard hit by environmental zealotry. Our timber industry has been shut down, mining of any kind has been stopped, grazing on public lands is under severe attack. We have used grazing allotments for over a hundred years and would not be able to continue ranching without them. Now the environmentalist want our irrigation water. If there is no more logging, mining, ranching or farming, what is left? How do we Live? Our business are being boarded up because there is no business taking place. How much more anti resource use can we stand? Population centers have no idea where their food, energy or building materials come from. Please let! us continue to be represented by people who understand our businesses and way of life.

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