Subject: Redistricting should be racially diverse
From: nancy vimla
Date: 7/23/2011 9:33 AM
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Please be sure that all districts are racially diverse.

Thank you.
Nancy Vimla
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment: General Comment
From: Voter <votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov>
Date: 7/23/2011 10:18 AM
To: 6 Kings

July 22

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Public Comment: General Comment
Date: Sat, 23 Jul 2011 06:46:42 +0000
From: Michael Fay
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

From: Michael Fay
Subject: Please publish population polygon compactness

Message Body:
Dear Commissioners:

Please post the "population polygon" measure of compactness for all districts. The software you are using, "Maptition", can do this automatically.

For any districts with a score of less than .40, please make sure you provide an adequate explanation.

In the 1970 redistricting, drawn by a court special master and widely viewed as fair, no district had a population polygon below .40. Population polygon i

Just guessing, I'd say the Senate and Assembly districts that contain Hanford won't meet the .40 threshold; perhaps you can say "the Voting Rights Act made

By the way, the few California counties still subject to Justice Department scrutiny should appeal to opt out in the future; clearly, there is no attempt to

Keep up the good work!

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
Subject: Concern citizen

From: [Redacted]

Date: 7/23/2011 7:43 PM

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

I will not accept any reduction in the African American political representation---at any level---Assembly, Senate or congress.
Thank you for listening.
C. Ellis
July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Statewide Assembly Concerns and Recommendations

Dear Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of MALDEF, I highlight the following concerns and re-submit the following districts from the Unity plan submitted on June 28, 2011 as recommendations for the statewide Assembly plan.

1. Central Valley - An additional Section 2 District is possible
   The Unity 6/28 Assembly plan proposes an additional Section 2 Assembly district in the Central Valley. Furthermore, the proposal maintains the Section 5 requirements for both the Kings County and Merced County respective Assembly Districts, avoiding retrogression. The CCRC 6/10 Draft, and all visualizations to date, ignore the creation of this additional 50% LCVAP district in the Central Valley in the Bakersfield/southwest Tulare County region. The commission has received public comment from communities in Bakersfield and western Tulare County supporting the Unity configurations.

2. East San Jose
   The Commission should take care to avoid splitting the Latino community of interest in East San Jose. The CCRC has received numerous testimony from both Latino and Asian community members in support of district configurations similar to the MALDEF 5/26 AD 23 and Unity 6/28 AD SJEGV districts. From information gathered from east San Jose workshops, MALDEF recommends CCRC visualization AD SANJO move the northern boundary from McKee Road to Marbury Road and including all of Alum Rock and East Foothills Census Designated Places.

3. Central Coast
   CCRC visualizations have complied with Section 5 of the VRA with its AD MONT district; however, MALDEF makes the following recommended edits to the visualization:
   • Add the small communities of Pajaro, Castroville, and Las Lomas to AD MONT, as there was community desires to include those small farming towns with Salinas and Watsonville.

4. Inland Empire - An additional Section 2 District is possible.
   The CCRC 6/10 draft draws two Section 2 Latino districts in western San Bernardino County, following the benchmark; however, it does not create a new Section 2 Latino-majority district in Riverside County, nor does the CCRC create a Latino opportunity district in any visualization.
   The Unity 6/28 plan creates a Section 2 Latino opportunity district primarily in Riverside county and going into San Bernardino County.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Ochoa
National Redistricting Coordinator
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

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The Unity 6/28 plan creates a Section 2 Latino opportunity district primarily in Riverside county and going into San Bernardino County.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Ochoa
National Redistricting Coordinator
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
From: Eduardo Hernandez

Subject: The Commission

Message Body:
I applaud your work in trying to consider the public comments and what the law says you need to do in order to make these new maps. Frankly, I am glad that you guys are doing the maps. If politicians would've done these new maps it would have been a nasty process.

I hope you guys keep up the good work, and I am sure you guys are doing the right thing. Try to keep an even keel and try to do the best job you guys can.

An ardent supporter of the commission and of democracy.

Yours,
Eduardo Hernandez

--
This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
These maps are a disgrace. Talk about gerrymandering! If you honestly think that this is legal you are mistaken. This is political game that has no place in California.
Subject: Great job
From: Billy Woody
Date: 7/23/2011 1:30 AM
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Thank you for doing what is right and creating district maps that make sense.

Billy Woody
LAUSD Teacher
Subject: Terminology

What do these terminology and abbreviations mean?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>SGVP</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Deviation</td>
<td>-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>[% Deviation]</td>
<td>-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[% LCVAP_095]</td>
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<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[% ADCVAP_095]</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission
July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Statewide Congress Concerns and Recommendations

Dear Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of MALDEF, I highlight the following concerns and re-submit the following districts from the MALDEF Updated Congressional plan from June 28, 2011 as recommendations for the statewide Congressional plan.

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The MALDEF Updated Congressional plan resubmitted the same Congressional districts from MALDEF's 5/26 plan for the Central Valley, proposing an additional Section 2 Congressional district in the Central Valley. Furthermore, the proposal maintains the Section 5 requirements for both Kings County and Merced County. The CCRC 6/10 Draft, and all visualizations to date, ignore the creation of an additional 50% LCVAP district in the Central Valley.

2. Central Coast

The MALDEF Updated 6/28 Congressional plan created an additional Latino opportunity district, mirroring the significant community of interest testimony to link East San Jose to the Salinas area for the State Senate level. This configuration follows the existing split of the benchmark State Assembly and State Senate districts for Monterey County, drawn by Court Special Masters. MALDEF Updated 6/28 CD 17 contains eastern Monterey County, including Salinas, Castroville, Aromas, Pajaro, Las Lomas, Watsonville, Interlaken, Morgan Hill, San Martin, Gilroy, and the traditionally Latino community of East San Jose. These closely related communities create an effective district with 45.2%
LCVAP and 45.2% Latino registration.

3. Los Angeles County

The revisions made to MALDEF Congressional Plan presented to the Commission on June 28, 2011 in Los Angeles County were made with significant input from our Unity Map drawing partners, the African-American Redistricting Collaborative (AARC) and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC). Los Angeles County presents a complex challenge Los Angeles County in balancing the voting rights of Latinos, African Americans and Asian Americans. The Updated MALDEF plan includes input from all three communities and achieves the goal of protecting their opportunities for fair representation. MALDEF strongly urges the CCRC to adopt the Southern California MALDEF Updated Congressional map as a solution to compliance with Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act for the Latino community, trying to preserve the effective number of districts for the African-American community, and preserving a new Asian-American community effective district in the San Gabriel Valley.

4. Inland Empire - An additional Section 2 District is possible

MALDEF believes an additional Section 2 district in the Inland Empire can be crafted, as demonstrated by Updated MALDEF Congressional District 43. Currently in CCRC visualizations, significant Latino populations in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties reside in districts where they would not have an opportunity to elect candidates of choice. San Bernardino Latinos presently in a Section 2 district where they can elect a Congressmember of their choice and are now shifted out and placed in CCRC visualization CD SB. In Riverside, Latino community members in particular have been frustrated by the current benchmark district configurations which have not allowed them to elect any candidates of choice. MALDEF Updated 6/28 CD 43 and 44 would comply with Section 2 and add a new Latino opportunity district in the region. Other community members have also requested a similarly shaped Latino opportunity district.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Ochoa
National Redistricting Coordinator
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)

---

Attachments:

Letter_MALDEF_CDSec2VisualComments_072311.doc 33.5 KB
July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

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1 This does not constitute an endorsement by AARC or APALC, or any of their affiliate organizations.
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July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Statewide Senate Concerns and Recommendations

Dear Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of MALDEF, I highlight the following concerns and re-submit the following districts from the MALDEF Updated Senate plan submitted on June 28, 2011 (with Southern California Unity Plan Districts) as recommendations for the statewide Senate plan.

1. Central Valley, Central Coast, and East San Jose

The Central Valley and Central Coast Senate plan is one of the most complicated areas to redistrict while trying to comply with both Section 2 and Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act and respecting various large-in-area communities of interest. Further complicating the issue is current benchmark SD 12, which combines Section 5 covered jurisdictions Merced County and part of Monterey County by crossing the mountains.

The CCRC in both its 6/10 draft and current visualizations leave eastern Monterey County linked to Merced County, crossing the mountains. The primary difference between CCRC 6/10 SD MERCD and CCRC current visualization SD MERCD is that the former uses East San Jose to bridge the two counties and the later uses western Fresno County as a bridge. Neither CCRC iteration results in Section 5 retrogression for Merced and Monterey Counties; however, they go counter to the vast public testimony the CCRC received about these communities preferring not to be linked across the mountains. The CCRC does maintain a Section 2 District containing the Section 5 covered Kings County in both its 6/10 draft and current visualization, avoiding retrogression for Kings County voters.
MALDEF's June 28 Updated Senate Plan provides an alternative on how to deal with the Section 2 and Section 5 issues, better respect community of interest testimony, and result in more geographically respectful shapes by preserving the mountain range. MALDEF Updated 6/28 SD SJMONT pairs the East San Jose area with the eastern Monterey County region, avoiding crossing the mountains into the Central Valley and generating numbers that do not retrogress Monterey County Latino voters. This configuration respects testimony heard from numerous community members in East San Jose to be paired south and grants the requests from Central Coast residents not to cross over the mountains.

MALDEF Updated 6/28 SD FRESMERC pairs western Fresno County with Madera City, Merced County, and western Stanislaus County. It avoids crossing the mountains into the Central Coast or East San Jose and generates numbers that do not retrogress Merced County. This configuration makes a more reasonable Central Valley district, avoids the need to send Merced County into Stockton, and preserves space to maintain a Section 2 Senate District for Kings County/West Turlare/Bakersfield, as visualized by MALDEF Updated 6/28 SD KINGBAK, which also avoids retrogressing the opportunity for Kings County Latino voters to elect a candidate of their choice.

2. Inland Empire

MALDEF believes an additional Section 2 district in the Inland Empire can be crafted, as visualized by Unity Senate District SBRIV. Currently, significant Latino populations in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties reside in districts where they would not have an opportunity to elect candidates of choice. San Bernardino Latinos are presently in a Section 2 district where they can elect a Senator of their choice, and are now shifted out. Riverside Latino community members in particular have been frustrated by the current benchmark district configurations not allowing them to elect any candidates of choice.

Following the Unity Senate plan, by placing the Pomona and East San Gabriel Valleys together, you can create space to create two Section 2 districts in the region, and respect the Asian American communities in the West San Gabriel Valley by creating an Asian effective Senate District by linking them to the Diamond Bar areas.

3. Orange County

MALDEF has serious concerns with the direction the CCRC is taking concerning Senate District "WSTNA" in central Orange County. We agree the Senate District does not have the opportunity to reach the Section 2 threshold level of 50% Latino CVAP, however a district option has been presented to the CCRC with the Unity Senate District OCSA that is both respectful of the Latino and Asian communities. The Unity option would not eliminate a district that has elected a Latino candidate of choice; being bounded by a series of community of interests you have identified for both the Congressional and Assembly level visualizations. The Unity district OCSA is at 37% LCVAP, a significant difference in Latino voter effectiveness from the 25% LCVAP your deliberations are leaning towards.

Further, the Unity configuration offered you an option that respected the Asian communities with Unity SD ORNOC in Orange County and Unity SD LASGV in Los Angeles County.

4. San Diego/Imperial/Coachella

As currently visualized, the CCRC SD ISAND is below 50% Latino CVAP. The Unity SD SAMIMP demonstrated a Section 2 district can be created, while at the same time protecting the Asian and African-American communities of interest in the National City/Encanto areas of San Diego by linking the Coachella Valley to the district. This is the only manner MALDEF
can determine to maintain a Section 2 Senate District in the area. It is also a "blending" of the visualized districts AD SSAND and AD COACH, further following CCRC criteria.

Sincerely,
Steven A. Ochoa
National Redistricting Coordinator
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)

Attachments:

Letter_MALDEF_SDVisualComments_072311.doc  44.5 KB
July 23, 2011

Via electronic mail
California Citizens Redistricting Commission
901 P Street, Suite 154-A
Sacramento, CA 95814

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1 MALDEF Updated 6/28 SD SJMONT contains 39.5% LCVAP and 38.3% Latino Registration.
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\(^2\) MALDEF Updated 6/28 SD FRESMERC contains 41.2% LCVAP and 39.4% Latino Registration.

\(^3\) Note that the Chinese American Citizens Alliance maps, submitted on June 14, 2011, also advocated for such a West San Gabriel Valley Asian effective Senate district and a similarly shaped Inland Empire Senate configuration, and that the Unity map contains the endorsement of APALC and CAPAFR in Southern California.
Further, the Unity configuration offered you an option that respected the Asian communities with Unity SD ORNOC in Orange County and Unity SD LASGV in Los Angeles County.

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Sincerely,

Steven A. Ochoa
National Redistricting Coordinator
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
Subject: Protect South LA - Don't Divide My Community!
From: Billy Gee
Date: 7/23/2011 2:14 PM
To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Your "redistricting" plans are nothing more than systematic efforts at voter suppression.
This is reprehensible, and members of the community do NOT condone it!
Please accept my comments in support of a socially just redistricting plan for the State of California. We look forward to seeing a comprehensive plan that reflects the due respect for the Latino working families and voters of the state.

On Behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Region Mexican American Political Association, I would like to share our comments in respect to the Senate and congressional maps created by the Redistricting Commission.

It is critical that the Latino Community which is the source for the majority of growth, be effectively represented at all levels of government. The undermining of the marginalized to not receive fair representation has hindered the socio-economic advancement of Latinos. This is perilous if the data shows and the primary education classrooms reflect a soon to be Latino majority California. This opportunity with the redistricting results, if done properly, can help launch a strong step forward for the whole state of California if Latinos are respected and fairly represented. It is for this reason that we share the logic with MALDEF. Below you will find the our position and support for the most recently updated maps created by MALDEF after they met with MAPA and many other Latino groups throughout the state of California. This reflects our input, needs and knowledge of ourselves, where we live and how best to identify with maps.

SUPPORT:

1) Updated MALDEF Senate Plan (submitted end of June)

   a) FRESNO/MERCED COUNTIES: It is critical that the valley basin communities not be split by such a large area like the mountains. Such a voluminous split also breaks the likeness of socio-economic and environmental issues. While the central coast still has a sizable farmworker community it has been diminishing with sprawl and is not as significant as it is in Fresno and other counties in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV). Pesticide drift and concentrated poverty are still persistent in the Valley Basin as is air quality. All of these set the SJV apart from the central coast and why the mountains should be observed as redistricting line opportunities, not bridges. The MALDEF updated Senate map does justice to the valley basin and the Latino farmworkers that inhabit it.

2) Updated MALDEF Congressional Plan

   a) FRESNO/MADERA/KINGS/TULARE/KERN COUNTIES: MALDEF has done a spectacular job in cutting with lines justly to encompass the reality of the region and the need of the marginalized peoples. These changes create two congressional districts to progress the
Congressional representation of Latinos in the region, state and nation. The San Joaquin Valley is the fastest growing region in the state and Latinos are the fastest growing population in the region. California is quickly becoming a Latino majority state and it makes sense that we should have more congressional districts not avoiding the influence of the Latino community, especially in the poorest region of the state and the nationally known, “Appalachia’s of the West”. We need Latino Champions to lead the Latino and farmworkers needs in the national capitol.

3) Support most recent MALDEF Assembly Plan

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3) Most recent MALDEF Assembly Plan

--
"Unidos Hacemos la Diferencia!"

Rey Leon
Associate President, San Joaquin Valley Region
Mexican American Political Association

Fresno, CALIFORNIA 93721

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING IN THE CAMPAIGN FOR POPULAR DEMOCRACY (CPD)?
Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for your hard work.

This morning the commission received a new proposed map for all four Board of Equalization seats from California Taxpayers' Association and several Chambers of Commerce, the Chamber map. This new map is a radical departure from the Commission's work up to this point and its late submission, for such a radical change, can only be seen as a ploy to limit public comment.

**Ignores Communities of Interest**
The proposed Chamber map ignores well known communities of interest. By taking Sacramento County out of the inland valley area and linking it with San Francisco, the new map violates the long standing relationship Sacramento has with the Central Valley. Sacramento news stations cover the area from Chico to Modesto regularly. Sacramento has clear transportation connections to the valley area with rail, shipping, freeways (both 5 and 99), government with organizations like Sacramento Area Council of Governments ([http://www.sacog.org/about/](http://www.sacog.org/about/)), and education with the Los Rios Community College system that includes parts of Yolo, Placer, El Dorado, and Sacramento County ([http://www.losrios.edu/lrc/lrc_about.php](http://www.losrios.edu/lrc/lrc_about.php)).

Moreover, Sacramento is an inland community and shares many of the demographics and issues, water and the delta system being principal among them, facing our neighboring counties to the north and south. Sacramento shares little with the big urban centers of San Francisco and San Jose and their neighboring counties that make up the greater Bay Area. The coastal counties are united by their geography both in terms of their proximity to the ocean but also because of the mountain range and transportation corridor. It's relatively easy to get from San Luis Obispo to San Francisco via Highway 101. It's not easy at all to get from San Luis Obispo to Sacramento. This similarity in the coastal counties is reflected in your maps for Assembly, Congress, and Senate along the coastal region where none of the districts dig into the inland area. The proposed Chamber map violates communities of interest principals and should not be considered.

**Not Compact**
While it is difficult to make any district compact that covers one fourth of the population of the State, the proposed super district in the Chamber map is not compact in the Proposition 11/20 measure. In this case, the Chamber is grabbing population from distant coastal areas in lieu of much closer population inland. In the same vein, by putting Sacramento together with the Bay Area the chamber map is dismissing the closer population in San Joaquin, Merced, and Stanislaus for the much more distant population in the Bay. With existing transportation corridors, it is faster to reach the population in Fresno and Bakersfield from Sacramento than it is to reach the population in Santa Cruz. The proposed Chamber map violates the compact and contiguous requirement and should not
be considered.

**Too Radical**
The proposed map is a radical departure from anything submitted before. It breaks up the coastal area, separates Sacramento from the inland valley, oddly cuts LA county, and ignores public comment and activity regarding San Bernardino and Riverside counties. It also all too conveniently keeps incumbents safe. If the map had been submitted earlier in the process, it might have been a good opportunity for more public comment and more discussion. However, at this late date the map's submission is such a radical change it hardly gives time for proper consideration. The proposed map also completely ignores the hard work you have done building Assembly and Senate maps. The proposed Chamber map is too radical in its divergence from the Commission's work as well as established communities of interest and should not be considered.

**Keep the CRC Visualizations**
While the July 11/18 visualizations include the odd district connecting San Diego to Siskiyou county, there is at least basis for that connection in looking at the mountain counties from San Bernardino on up. That linkage is also supported with the recent proposal for a South California, including the 13 counties you presently have in the ORSD district. The linkage is also supported by public testimony to keep Riverside and San Bernardino counties together for the BOE. There is also a clear connection among the counties on the border of the state, much as there is a clear connection among coastal counties.

Similarly, the Central Valley counties are correctly contained in the East district, and the Coastal counties contained in the West district. Moreover, the visualizations recognize the clear connection southern LA county has with northern Orange county -- they are nearly indecipherable when driving south -- and the clear connection southern Orange County has with San Diego.

You could consider adding the area west of Highway 27, south of 101, to the Ventura county line to make an almost perfect population for both the East district and the LA districts (the East district is currently under by roughly 63K and the LA district is over by 60K, it appears from rough maps the area west of highway 27 and south of 101 to the Ventura county line contains about 60K people).

**Thank You,**

Chris Parker
Sacramento, CA