

Subject: Public Comment: General Comment

From: Antonio Marquez <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 28 Jul 2011 22:26:14 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Antonio Marquez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Maps

Message Body:

Your maps are worthless. I have no idea how to get any information from them.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: redistricting opportunity to exclude diversity in communities

From: William Morrison <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 28 Jul 2011 18:27:14 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

Do not b inveiggled, bamboozeld, swayed by any reason, like now that we are redistricting we can choose who to exclude. Sincerely, Bill Morrison

Subject: Public Comment/Commissioner Aguirre

From: "Pete Brost" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Sat, 16 Jul 2011 08:45:41 -0700

To: <[REDACTED]>

News is now circulating that we have a commissioner who wasn't properly vetted and has a history of partisan affiliation. How can we now trust that the commission will work within the law in a non partisan manner. Public trust has been compromised. Commissioner Aguirre should do the right thing and step down.

Sincerely,
Nancy Brost
Nevada City, CA
95959

Subject: Public Comment: General Comment

From: Barbara Barrick <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 2011 17:27:45 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Barbara Barrick <[REDACTED]>

Subject: qualifications to sit on this board

Message Body:

Just received an email that tells of the background of Dr. Aguirre. It seems that he has a record of Democrat activism for certain causes. Please be certain that he recuses himself from anything to do with any districts where he has special interests and also conflict of interests. It is unfortunate that his full record was not disclosed.

I didn't make the rules, but someone did and apparently his credentials are not what the commission was originally looking for--too highly partisan.

And is not publishing the "final" maps for public review in keeping with the spirit of the commission?

Thanks for somebody to please pay attention to these issues.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

Subject: Public Comment: General Comment

From: Nisha Balaram <[REDACTED]>

Date: Thu, 28 Jul 2011 16:45:27 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Nisha Balaram <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Concerning Meeting Transcripts

Message Body:

Hello,

I was wondering when the latest meeting transcripts would be posted? I was hoping to look at the meeting transcript for yesterday, the 27th. Thank you.

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

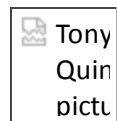
Subject: Fox and Hounds, July 28

From: "Tony Quinn" [REDACTED]

Date: Thu, 28 Jul 2011 12:20:47 -0700

To: [REDACTED]

[The Redistricting Commission's Primary Failure](#)



By Tony Quinn
Political Commentator and Former Legislative Staffer
Thu, July 28th, 2011

Dante condemned those who betray a public trust to the hottest place in hell. My candidate for Dante’ inferno this week is State Auditor Elaine Howle, who created the poll of candidates that formed the Citizens Redistricting Commission, now thankfully in its final weeks of existence.

Howle’s primary criterion was “racial diversity” in the pool, and not surprisingly the commissioners who emerged from her process made racial districting their primary goal. And now we have the final plans developed by this commission, and the product further Balkanizes California into racial enclaves. These lines will contribute to continued political polarization of this state, and will give us a legislature in the next decade less able to craft compromises and function as a deliberative body than the one we have now.

Race and ethnicity are difficult in California, a state with no racial/ethnic majority – far from it. And Latinos, who suffered from the 2001 gerrymander that denied them fair representation, deserved additional seats as this commission has created. But over the last month the commission has made race and ethnicity almost the only factors in its line drawing, and the final product can be accurately called a racial gerrymander.

Often the commission went to ridiculous extremes in its racial line drawing. Libert Ontai, a San Diego commissioner, made it clear he would not vote for the Senate plan unless two San Diego Asian areas miles apart were placed in the same district. The result is an absurd Senate district that’s probably unconstitutional as a violation of compactness.

The worst example of racial gerrymandering is in Los Angeles where the two African American commissioners made it clear their votes for the congressional plan required drawing three black congressional districts, even though Los Angeles black population, now only 8.3 percent of the county’s total, allowed for hardly more than one black district.

African-Americans had initially complained about being ignored, but when it became clear the congressional plan would fail without the votes of the two black commissioners the commission acquiesced to the three

black districts, although not without a tearful and bitter debate. And now it turns out that a white Democratic congresswoman is threatening to run in one of the black seats; the commission will probably be forced back to the drawing board to stop that.

The racial gerrymander has one probably unintended consequence: the Republicans were generally saved from extinction. As they created hugely minority districts, lily white Republican districts emerged on their periphery. I had hoped this would not happen; that Republicans would be forced to run in districts with more middle class Latinos, and that Democrats would have to respond to suburban concerns: in other words: the creation of truly competitive districts.

That is not the result. Republicans will hold ultra safe rural and suburban districts; Democrats heavily minority urban districts, and there will be fewer moderates, or anyone who can makes deals. This is the single greatest failure of this commission; and it did not happen by chance.

The first draft plan, released June 10, had a fair number of marginal and competitive districts. They came under immediate attack. Democratic Assemblyman Manuel Perez got a very competitive Riverside seat in the Coachella Valley that put him together with GOP Assemblyman Brian Nestande. Perez's people flooded the commission with demand he get a safe seat, and Commissioner Cynthia Dai, who handled Democratic Party needs on the commission, engineered a safe seat for Democrat Perez, and in the process for Republican Nestande. In the Assembly at least, both parties have a huge number of safe seats that probably guarantees an Assembly partisan split for the decade about like we have now.

But the commission did soil its reputation by partisan line drawing, although thankful only in the Senate plan. Commissioner Gabino Aguirre managed to obtain a Senate district for his friend, Democratic Assemblyman Das Williams, in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Aguirre made a campaign contribution to Williams after he was in the running for membership on the commission, and then helped craft the new Williams district without disclosing his contribution to anyone. He also helped draw the district intended to end the career of GOP Sen. Tony Strickland. Aguirre hosted a fund raiser in 2008 for the candidate running against Strickland's wife, the then Ventura Assembly member. These are the kind of people Howle thought were "impartial," the primary criterion for a commissioner.

The Senate plan gives the Democrats a two thirds margin in the Senate for the coming decade. It should be referred so the people can vote on it; but not for that reason. The commission operated in a partisan manner; but hey it's only business, nothing personal, as Michael Corleone would say.

The Senate plan should be referred because it is such a lousy plan; with districts running willy nilly throughout the state and one unconstitutional district stumbling over another. Sacramento County is divided into six Senate districts by the plan, one that runs to the lava beds on the Oregon border and one that runs to the outskirts of Las Vegas. The working class folks in Martinez, county seat of Contra Costa County, find themselves in the same district with Calistoga. I suppose the commission felt that working families spend their weekends sipping chardonnay at the \$400 a night mud bath spas of the Napa Valley.

Early on some people believed the commission's plans would look like the universally praised plans drawn by the Supreme Court Masters in 1991. Sadly they do not. In fact, in area after area, especially in the State Senate plan, the maps retain the odious gerrymanders of the legislature's 2001 plans. That is this commission's fault, but it all goes back to Auditor Howle who missed the opportunity to create a commission pool of people who would show more respect for state constitutional criteria of geographic compactness and districts composed of adjacent populations. This commission's product simply does not meet that constitutional goal.

Tony Quinn

[REDACTED]

New Home Page:

[REDACTED]

Subject: Public Comment: General Comment

From: Liane Giunta <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, 29 Jul 2011 15:38:41 +0000

To: [REDACTED]

From: Liane Giunta <[REDACTED]>

Subject: California Final maps

Message Body:

I would like to collect the new CA Legislative and Congressional maps in shapefile format as soon as they have completed passage.

Please direct me to the appropriate link on your website if and when they are posted.

Thanks so much!

Liane

~~~~~

Liane Giunta

Data Analyst

Aristotle International

Phone: ([REDACTED])

Email: [REDACTED]

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** Final Draft Plan files?

**From:** "Douglas Johnson" <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Thu, 28 Jul 2011 00:23:15 -0700

**To:** <[REDACTED]> "Wilcox, Rob" <[REDACTED]>

<[REDACTED]>  
**CC:** "Dave Meyer" <[REDACTED]> "Paul Mitchell" <[REDACTED]>  
"Rexroad Matt" <[REDACTED]>, "John Kim" <[REDACTED]> "Steven  
Ochoa" <[REDACTED]> "Eugene Lee" <[REDACTED]>

I see the images of the maps on the Statewide Database page, but none of the equivalency, shape, geographic or KML files are posted to the "Download Visualizations" page. Are those under way, and if so when will they be available?

We're eager to see them, and of course the clock is ticking to the Friday vote . . .

(I may have spoken too soon -- the "final draft" maps are listed in the pull-down menu, but now all the maps on the site stopped working and just the blank base map appears).

- Doug

Douglas Johnson

Fellow

Rose Institute of State and Local Government

m [REDACTED]

o [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Public Comment: General Comment

**From:** Clay Dana <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Thu, 28 Jul 2011 08:54:09 +0000

**To:** [REDACTED]

**From:** Clay Dana <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** DO NOT SPLIT RANCHO CUCAMONGA!

**Message Body:**

I am very concerned that the northwest portion of our city is currently included in a proposed Assembly District that stretches out to the San Fernando Valley and places it with a half-dozen LA County communities that do not resemble Rancho Cucamonga.

Clay Dana

--

This mail is sent via contact form on Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Subject:** APALC comment - CVAP errors in Senate final draft map

**From:** Eugene Lee <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Thu, 28 Jul 2011 10:12:58 -0700

**To:** Voters First Act <[REDACTED]> Rob Wilcox <[REDACTED]> Daniel Claypool <[REDACTED]>

**CC:** Joanna Lee <[REDACTED]> Daniel Ichinose <[REDACTED]> Deanna Kitamura <[REDACTED]>

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission,

We respectfully offer the observation that as we look at the final draft map for Senate districts posted last night at <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/gis/gis2011>, the CVAP numbers that appear when clicking on an individual district are incorrect.

For example, Senate District LAELA in the immediately prior visualization had a LCVAP of 52% (the version labeled "2011-07-19 02:01PM q2 senate state"). We understand that no changes were made to this district during the July 22-24 meeting. However, in the final draft map posted at <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/gis/gis2011>, the LCVAP is listed at 30%.

As another example, Senate District POMSB in the prior visualization had a LCVAP of 51%. We understand that no changes were made to this district during the July 22-24 meeting. However, in the final draft map, the LCVAP is listed at 37%.

We assume that this is simply the result of a data error that can easily be corrected, and we wanted to bring this to your attention since today and tomorrow many members of the public will be looking at the final draft maps posted at <http://swdb.berkeley.edu/gis/gis2011>.

We did not notice this issue for Assembly or Congressional districts.

Sincerely,  
Eugene Lee

**Eugene Lee**

*Voting Rights Project Director*

---

**ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER**

Member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice

[REDACTED]  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

T [REDACTED]  
F [REDACTED]

[www.apalc.advancingjustice.org](http://www.apalc.advancingjustice.org)  
[apalc-logo-vertical.gif](#)

**Subject:** RE: Redistricting attacks on Black Representation

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** Mon, 18 Jul 2011 18:16:17 -0400 (EDT)

**To:** [REDACTED]

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I AM IN TOTAL PROTEST OF THE REDISTRICTING PLANS TO FURTHER ISOLATE BLACK REPRESENTATION IN THIS STATE AND INDEED THE COUNTRY. WHAT TRULY APPALLS ME IS THE FACT THAT THOSE IN POLITICAL OFFICE WOULD STILL BE ABOUT THE BUSINESS OF THE FORMER HYPOCRITICAL PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO LIE AND SAY WITH THEIR MOUTHS THAT THEY ARE FOR ALL PEOPLE, WHEN THE REALITY IS THEY ARE ABOUT THE BUSINESS OF FURTHERING THE AGENDAS OF BIGOTS AND THOSE WHO HAVE AN UNNATURAL DISTAIN FOR BLACK PEOPLE WHOSE ONLY DESIRE SINCE THEY HAVE COME TO THIS COUNTRY IS TO HAVE THE SAME EQUAL RIGHTS AS THOSE WHO FORCED THEM TO COME BY WAY OF THE YOKE AND THE LASH. AFTER ALL OF THE YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR RIGHTS WHICH WE SHOULD HAVE EARNED WHEN THE FIRST BLACK MAN GAVE HIS LIFE FOR FREEDOM IN THE FIRST THEATRE OF WAR. I AM A 62 YEAR-OLD VIET-NAM VETERAN OF ONE OF THOSE WARS AND HAVE YET TO ACTUALLY SEE THE FREEDOM FOR WHICH I WAS SUPPOSEDLY FIGHTING FOR. I SUSPECT THAT I WILL PASS FROM THIS LIFE TO NEVER HAVE EXPERIENCED THAT BLISS. HOWEVER, BEFORE I LEAVE THIS WORLD I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ONE THING. WHAT DID WE DO TO WHITE PEOPLE THAT WOULD MAKE THEM HAVE SUCH A COLLECTIVE HATRED FOR US THAT IT WOULD BECOME INSTITUTIONALLY SOUND, EVEN TO US. HAVE WE NOT DONE EVERYTHING ASKED OF US, EVEN REQUIRED OF US TO WARRANT A PIECE OF THE SO-CALLED AMERICAN DREAM. NOW YOU ASK US TO GIVE UP OUR GAINS AND UNSEAT OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS SO THAT YOU CAN WIELD MORE POWER AND CONTROL. AND SO, WE WILL MAKE OUR STAND. AND YOU WILL TAKE YOURS. GIVE THE PEOPLE WHAT THEY WANT. LEAVE OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ALONE.

MR. NATHANIEL PERKINS