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Fwd: New Majority Orange County recommendations on districts boundaries in Orange County

Voter <[Redacted]>
To: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

----- Original Message -----

Subject: New Majority Orange County recommendations on districts boundaries in Orange County

Date: Fri, 22 Jul 2011 17:58:48 -0400

From: Tom Ross <[Redacted]>

To: [Redacted]

CC: [Redacted]

Dear Redistricting Commissioners –

The New Majority recognizes the complexity of the Commission’s job and appreciates your commitment to developing the fairest possible electoral boundaries across California.

We respectfully submit the following recommendations to the California Redistricting Commission as it relates to Orange County Districts. These recommendations articulate the belief that communities of interest – cities and regions that face similar challenges and opportunities – be grouped together as much as possible.

- The **City of Orange** should only be represented by one congressional district. It is too small of a city to have to spread its representation between two districts. Additionally, it’s communities of interest are cities like Tustin and Villa Park – not Santa Ana.
- **Coto de Caza** should not be split into two congressional districts. This small neighborhood would effectively lose its voice if it were to be divided in two.
- The **City of Fountain Valley** should be grouped with Huntington Beach in all legislative boundaries, including congressional and assembly districts. These two cities share a long history and benefit from contiguous representation. Grouping Fountain Valley with Garden Grove and Westminster does not uphold the Commission’s “community of interest” criterion.
- The latest **Board of Equalization** maps seem wildly illogical and problematic for Orange County. As currently drafted, the vertical orientation of the BOE districts groups southern California cities with those on the Oregon border! Rather than this confusing configuration, the counties of Orange, San Diego, Imperial, San Bernardino and Riverside should be grouped together, while Los Angeles has its own BOE district.

Thank you for your sincere consideration of these recommendations.

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Tom Ross
Political Director,
New Majority Orange County