

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CITIZENS REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (CRC)

In the matter of:

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

Sacramento, California

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Reported by:

Peter Petty



APPEARANCESCOMMISSIONERS

Derric Taylor, Chair
Pedro Toledo, Vice-Chair
Isra Ahmad, Commissioner
Linda Akutagawa, Commissioner
Jane Andersen, Commissioner
Alicia Fernandez, Commissioner
Neal Fornaciari, Commissioner
J. Ray Kennedy, Commissioner
Antonio Le Mons, Commissioner
Sara Sadhwani, Commissioner
Patricia S. Sinay, Commissioner
Trena Turner, Chair
Angela Vazquez, Commissioner
Russell Yee, Commissioner

STAFF

Alvaro Hernandez, Executive Director
Ravindar Singh, Administrative Assistant
Anthony Pane, Chief Counsel
Fredy Ceja, Communications Director
Marcy Kaplan, Director of Outreach
Sulma Hernandez, Outreach Coordinator

TECHNICAL CONTRACTORS

Kristian Manoff, AV Technical Director/Comment Moderator

INTERPRETERS

Margarita
Jose Reyes

LINE DRAWING TEAM

Sivan Tratt, HaystaqDNA
Andrew Drechsler, Q2 Data & Research, LLC

Also PresentPUBLIC COMMENT

Christine Bubser
Ann O'Connor
Stuart Waldman, VICA
Dan Ichinose, OCCET
Eileen Delaney
Ann McKeown
Phil Ortiz, City of El Cajon
Nazish Hamid

Also PresentPUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

Ramiro Adeva, City of Agoura Hills
Rosalind Gold, NALEO
Alex Garcia
Tony Maldonado
Sky Allen, Inland Empire United
Kathy Kassel
Karen Diaz, CHIRLA
Jesus Garcia, Delores Huerta Foundation
Lourdes Oliva
Kasey Reynolds
K. Patrice Williams
Mary Nees
Soila Rodriguez
Steve Gomez
Adria Jimenez, City of Buena Park
Jeremy Payne, Equality California
Doug Elliott
Jose Verduzco
Dr. Lucia Vazquez
Samuel Garrett-Pate, Equality California
Samuel Sukaton
Liz Suk
Leslie Abasta-Cummings, Livingston Community Health
"Susan"
Rahmo Abdi, PANA
Amy Campbell-Blair
Daniel Maldonado
Naheed Soomar
Chris Kelley, City of Hercules
Christina Nguyen, OCAPACA
Renee Ledbetter
Mike Ai, Equality California
Pedro Ramirez
Debbie Avila
"Marivel"
Brian Kane
Terry Supahan
Pamela Merritt-Bennett
Jeanine Erikat, PANA
"Arianna"
Takita Terman
Charlene Kazner
"Leticia"
Lakisha Bodie
Ana Charco
Maria Valencia

Also PresentPUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

"Margaret"

Rashad Al-Dabbagh

Kristin Nimmers

Amy Wong, Active San Gabriel Valley

Patricia Ramos Anderson

Juana Torres, Nature for All

Fayne Lane

Susan Paulson

Elizabeth Higgins Rarup

Kevin Werner

Hina Ahmed

Chris Lopez

Graciela Ortiz, City of Huntington Park

Luis Alejo, Monterey County

Betty Wilson, The Business Council

Spencer Sias

Ann Walsh

John Monsen

Karina Macias, City of Huntington Park

Steve Quinonez

Janet Mulder

Unidentified Speakers

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P R O C E E D I N G S

Friday, November 19, 2021 3:00 p.m.

CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome, California. Welcome, listening public. Welcome, fellow community members both near and far. It is 3 p.m., Friday, November 19th, 2021, and I call this California Citizens Redistricting Commission public map input session to order.

I hope everyone is well, looking forward to the weekend, and perhaps some relaxation, but also excited about redistricting and our path towards final maps. My name is Derric Taylor, and I'm the rotating chair for this cycle of meetings. And along with Vice-Chair Pedro Toledo, we will be helping to facilitate today's session.

We are offering today LanguageLines for Spanish-language speakers to listen to the meeting in their native language. Could I please have the Spanish interpreter provide our LanguageLine number where the public can listen to today's meeting in Spanish?

INTERPRETER: Yes, Chair. This is Margarita, Spanish interpreter. I will do a reading of the LanguageLine instructions; is that correct?

CHAIR TAYLOR: That is correct. Thank you.

INTERPRETER: Okay. You're welcome. (Spanish spoken). Thank you.

CHAIR TAYLOR: (Spanish spoken). Thank you.

1 Ravi, can we go to the roll call, please?

2 MR. SINGH: Yes, Chair.

3 Commissioner Toledo.

4 Commissioner Turner.

5 COMMISSIONER TURNER: Here.

6 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Vasquez.

7 Commissioner Yee.

8 COMMISSIONER YEE: Here.

9 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Ahmad.

10 COMMISSIONER AHMAD: Here.

11 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Akutagawa.

12 COMMISSIONER AKUTAGAWA: Here.

13 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Andersen.

14 COMMISSIONER ANDERSEN: Here.

15 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fernandez.

16 COMMISSIONER FERNANDEZ: (Spanish spoken).

17 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Fornaciari.

18 COMMISSIONER FORNACIARI: Here.

19 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Kennedy.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEDY: Here.

21 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Le Mons.

22 COMMISSIONER LE MONS: Here.

23 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sadhwani.

24 COMMISSIONER SADHWANI: Here.

25 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Sinay.

1 COMMISSIONER SINAY: Here.

2 MR. SINGH: Commissioner Taylor.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: I am present. And I think we have
4 some little ones that are president -- present as well.
5 So we thank you, everyone, for being here.

6 A little background on the commission before we
7 begin. Every ten years, after the federal government
8 publishes updated census information, California must
9 redraw the boundaries of its congressional state Senate,
10 state assembly, and state board of equalization
11 districts, so that the districts correctly reflect the
12 state's population. The fourteen-member commission is
13 made up of five republicans, five democrats, and four not
14 affiliated with either of those two parties. The
15 commission must draw the district lines in conformity
16 with strict, non-partisan rules designed to create
17 districts of relatively equal population that will
18 provide fair representation for all Californians. More
19 information can be found at www.wedrawthelinesca.org.

20 In the overview of the next few meetings, today,
21 November 19th, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m., we're having
22 feedback regarding the draft Senate district maps.
23 Tomorrow, Saturday, November 20th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
24 during the first session, we are receiving input
25 regarding the board of equalization. For session two on

1 that day, on Saturday, we are receiving feedback for any
2 districts. On both Monday and Tuesday, November 22nd and
3 23rd, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., we are receiving
4 feedback on any district, so we encourage everyone to
5 participate in those meetings.

6 The draft map input sessions are an opportunity for
7 the public to provide feedback on the draft maps that we
8 released on November 10th, 2021. Participating in those
9 meetings is not the only way to submit input on the draft
10 maps to the commission. We encourage you to please use
11 our draft map feedback form, which provides real time
12 input to the commission. The link is available on the
13 livestream landing page and on our website,
14 www.wedrawthelinesca.org.

15 Also, the statewide database has created Draw My CA
16 Districts, an online tool for creating district maps and
17 Draw My CA, a free-to-use plug-in for the opensource GIS
18 platform, QGIS, where you can submit maps to the
19 commission. You can see more information at
20 drawmycalifornia.org.

21 A few housekeeping rules. The commission will be
22 enforcing a two-and-a-half-minute time limit for
23 appointments and will provide a warning at thirty and
24 fifteen seconds remaining. When you start your input,
25 please identify which district plan and region you will

1 be providing input for, so the maps can bring -- so the
2 mappers can bring up the map. We will open the lines at
3 the end of the day when we reach our public comment
4 session.

5 The number to provide public comment is listed on
6 the live stream landing page. For your reference, it's
7 also listed -- for your reference, also listed below in
8 the tables, should you want -- I'm sorry -- all right.
9 It is my hope that during these meetings that we are
10 thoughtful, considerate, and consider all of Californians
11 in our deliberations.

12 Katy, it's now in your hands. Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much, Chair.
14 Good afternoon. Welcome to the draft map feedback
15 session. If you have not do so already, and if your
16 unique ID ends in 001 through 037, please use the raise-
17 hand button at the bottom of your screen. You will be
18 identified by your assigned unique ID number, which you
19 received with your invite for this session.

20 When it is your turn to speak, I will promote you to
21 have the ability to enable your own audio and video or
22 video in the lower left corner of your screen.

23 Public input time limit is two minutes and thirty
24 seconds. You will receive a verbal warning at thirty
25 seconds remaining and fifteen seconds remaining in your



1 speaking time. There will also be an active timer on the
2 screen for your convenience.

3 When you start your input, please identify which
4 district map and region you will be providing input on.
5 And one more time, please use the raise-hand button at
6 the bottom of your screen to enter the public comment
7 queue line indicating you are present and ready to
8 comment if your unique ID ends in 001 through 037.

9 And we will be starting off this afternoon with
10 unique ID 009. And then up next after that, will be 005.

11 009, I will be promoting you now. 009, you can now
12 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
13 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of the
14 district plan and region you would like to address, the
15 floor is yours.

16 MS. BUBSER: Thank you, Katy. Good afternoon,
17 Commissioners. I'm going to be referencing SDECA draft.

18 Okay. Thank you very much.

19 My name's Chris Bubser, and I am going to be talking
20 about the Senate district that encompasses our part of
21 the Sierra Nevada. I'm a resident of Mammoth Lakes in
22 Mono County in the eastern Sierra, and citizens across
23 the Sierra Nevada have attended multiple meeting, where
24 we've given oral comments. We've also given quite a few
25 written comments about why we needed a Sierra district.

1 The visualization from 1107 that includes the
2 eastern Sierra Nevada doesn't even begin to address the
3 Sierra Nevada. It's actually called VSD San Joaquin
4 Stani. So it crosses the Sierra for one reason only is
5 what we learned when we looked back at the meeting where
6 the maps were drawn. It was to grab population.

7 That means it breaks two rules. It breaks the rule
8 of contiguity, and it also breaks the rules of community
9 of interest. And it may also break others.

10 The 1102 visualization was much more like a Sierra
11 district, and we're wondering why that dramatic shift
12 occurred.

13 So as our community has said repeatedly, the only
14 reasonable community of interest for Inyo, Mono, and
15 Alpine County is with the rest of the Sierra Nevada,
16 heading north.

17 This very point was made by at least one of the
18 commissioners in the meeting of November 10th, when you
19 were discussing the congressional districts. At that
20 time, as you were reviewing maps, the importance of
21 keeping a Sierra community of interest together was made.
22 So that was about -- this, today, is about the Senate, as
23 I know, but the point holds. The community of interest
24 runs along the Sierra crest, and to move westward just to
25 pick up population dilutes the importance of our

1 community and essential needs.

2 As we've mentioned in the past, if you have to go
3 west, the place to do that would be in Placer County
4 around Roseville because there's concentrated population,
5 but they still are a community that's very attached to
6 the rest of the Sierra.

7 So like the congressional assembly districts, this
8 district --

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 MS. BUBSER: -- now breaks the rule of contiguity.

11 Once again, the Sierra Nevada community is pleading
12 that you have -- allow us to have a representative that
13 will keep our community intact. We know it's possible.
14 It's existed in different visualizations throughout the
15 day.

16 One last question. Why is it so essential to make
17 the Sacramento or Central Valley have a certain limit to
18 the number of districts in population? The splits are
19 going to have to occur in population centers, and to just
20 randomly divide, you know, rural and wilderness areas,
21 isn't fair. Thank you.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
24 have 005. And up next after that will be 028.

25 005, I will be promoting you now. 005, you can now

1 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
2 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
3 district plan and what region you'd like to address, the
4 floor is yours.

5 MS. O'CONNOR: Yes, event SFV. I'm Ann O'Connor,
6 and I'm the team leader of POSO, part of Sherman Oaks and
7 Northern Sherman Oaks, and we are a community of 6,900
8 residents who won our renaming to Sherman Oaks in 2009.

9 On behalf of POSO, I'd like to thank you for a
10 beautiful state Senate map. It keeps us whole with
11 Sherman Oaks, which is a goal that we've had. The use of
12 the straight line from the 405 freeway east along Oxnard
13 to Hazeltine keeps POSO's borders intact, and it has no
14 carve-outs and, therefore, no loss of residents or
15 businesses. We implore the commission to use this map as
16 an excellent example in modifying the north border of our
17 congressional and assembly maps to look just like the
18 state Senate map.

19 We are very perplexed about the congressional and
20 assembly maps, which have a strange carve-out on our
21 north border, which excludes 200 homes near Oxnard and
22 Vesper. There is another omission of our entire northern
23 street Tiara, which excludes another 400 homes, totaling
24 about 2,000 people, and gives them back to the City of
25 Van Nuys. Van Nuys has a positive deviation, more than

1 Sherman Oaks, in their congressional map and very close
2 deviation in their assembly map. There is room to make
3 this happen. Please return our residents to Sherman
4 Oaks.

5 Additionally, the congressional and assembly maps
6 arbitrarily take POSO businesses along Sepulveda
7 Boulevard and give them to the Van Nuys congressmen and
8 assemblymen. Van Nuys does not need to steal our assets.
9 They have the Van Nuys Airport and a ton of businesses of
10 their own. Our POSO businesses are a big part of our
11 COI. We can walk to all of them: Target, Hampton Inn
12 Hotel, BevMo!, Petco, FedEx, medical building, eight-
13 story office building, cafes, a market, gas station, a
14 car repair.

15 POSO has significant economic impact on these
16 businesses along Sepulveda, and our kids are hired at
17 these businesses and can walk to work. They are members
18 of the Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce. Please put
19 our --

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MS. O'CONNOR: -- assets to Sherman Oaks.

22 Commissioner Le Mons, since you represent the
23 valley, we are hoping that you will advocate for us and
24 restore our business assets, as well as the 2,000
25 residents. The north sides of both Califa and Tiara are

1 included --

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MS. O'CONNOR: -- in our council file, and because
4 we know that this can be confusing, that is why we are
5 recommending the long-held precedent of using a straight
6 line down Oxnard, like we did in the state Senate map and
7 our current city map. Thank you. We're very happy with
8 the state Senate map.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right, now we will
11 have unique ID 028. And up next after that will be 015.

12 028, I will be promoting you now. 028, you can now
13 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
14 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
15 what region you'd like to address and district plan, the
16 floor is yours.

17 MR. WALDMAN: Once again, the San Fernando Valley.
18 Stuart Waldman from -- president of VICA and with the San
19 Fernando Valley Redistricting Coalition.

20 Looking at the maps for the Senate, we're quite
21 happy. We think that the commission did everything that
22 we asked. We asked the communities be kept whole,
23 including POSO. We asked that the districts do not go
24 south of Mulholland, which the commission did. And there
25 are no changes that we could suggest whatsoever.

1 I know the one Senate district is 48.3 percent
2 Latino CVAP. We would like to see it possibly get to 50
3 percent. I haven't been able to try and figure that out
4 quite yet, but if there are adjustments that do come,
5 that's something that we would ask that we could try.

6 But as the maps stand, we're pretty happy with them,
7 and we want to thank you. And we hope they stay this
8 way.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
11 have 015. And up next after that will be 036.

12 015, I'll be promoting you now. 015, you can now
13 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
14 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper what
15 district plan and what region you'd like to address, the
16 floor is yours.

17 MR. ICHINOSE: Yeah. My name is Danny Ichinose.
18 I'm research director at the Orange County Civic
19 Engagement Table. I'll be speaking to state Senate
20 districts in Orange County.

21 So the state Senate draft map, it's looking pretty
22 good to us here in Orange County. In the Santa Ana area
23 and district SAA, we truly appreciate your recent shift
24 towards a configuration that's similar to Federal Voting
25 Rights Act districts at the assembly and congressional

1 levels. South Fullerton, West Anaheim, and Santa Ana
2 have numerous shared interests, as you've heard,
3 including the need for affordable housing and common
4 concerns with policing and immigration enforcement.

5 We do want to flag that this district does divide
6 two communities of interest: the Korean American COI in
7 North Buena Park and Northwest Fullerton, as well as the
8 AMEMSA communities spanning South Buena Park, La Palma,
9 and Cypress in Orange County and Cerritos, Artesia in
10 L.A.

11 The commission can unify the Korean American COI by
12 moving portions of Fullerton north of Bastanchury Road
13 and west of Euclid Street from district IOC to district
14 SAA. While the AMEMSA community would prefer to remain
15 whole in an Orange County-based district, community
16 leaders do recognize that Cerritos, Artesia have been
17 drawn into a required Los Angeles-based VRA district.

18 Vietnamese American communities in Garden Grove and
19 Westminster, Fountain Valley, and Pacific Islander
20 communities in Garden Grove are together in district NOC
21 Coast. Their fit with the beach communities is a little
22 odd. Those communities are far more native born and
23 higher income, but we recognize that the pairing may be
24 required given the structure of the adjacent Federal
25 Voting Rights Act district.

1 The one major problem in the Senate draft map is the
2 division of Irvine and the splitting of the Irvine, Costa
3 Mesa, and Tustin COI. I mean, you've heard from alliance
4 members about the importance of keeping these
5 disproportionately immigrant communities whole and
6 together, especially as Irvine --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 DAN ICHINOSE: -- grows rapidly.

9 We're exploring alternate configurations, and we'll
10 be sharing them with you. But I believe that Irvine can
11 be kept whole by balancing population in the south county
12 area.

13 We do want to emphasize that any changes to the
14 Irvine area should be made without major changes to the
15 district in and around Santa Ana, West Anaheim, and South
16 Fullerton. You're almost there in Orange County --

17 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

18 DAN ICHINOSE: -- and we wouldn't want to take steps
19 backwards. So again, thanks so much for all your hard
20 work on these districts. It's really paying off.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
23 have 036. And up next after that will be 011.

24 036, I'll be promoting you now. 036, you can now
25 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of

1 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
2 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
3 is yours.

4 MS. DELANEY: Good afternoon, Commissioners. I'm
5 going to be discussing San Diego area, and I would like
6 to thank you for your service to our community and our
7 state.

8 I'm Eileen Delaney. I'm the chairperson of the
9 elected Fallbrook Community Planning Group. We represent
10 over 50,000 Fallbrook residents in north San Diego
11 County.

12 Fallbrook is a rural community with rural concerns
13 that set us apart from coastal and urban communities. We
14 have collaborative agreements with fire departments, as
15 well as law enforcement in our region. We are part of a
16 college district, a health district in our region as
17 well. We enjoy farming -- excuse me -- and agriculture,
18 and a rural lifestyle. We should not be drawn into a
19 district with Pacific Beach and Mission Beach within the
20 City of San Diego that's over sixty miles away. We have
21 little, if anything, in common with that city area.
22 Their needs and concerns and way of life are much
23 different than ours.

24 Instead, I urge you to keep Fallbrook in the SECA
25 district map with surrounding unincorporated communities

1 and rural-type cities in Northern San Diego County, like
2 Valley Center, Pala, Pauma Valley, Bonsall, Escondido,
3 Oceanside, and even Temecula, which is in South Riverside
4 County. We are all communities of interest and
5 contiguous to each other.

6 I also ask that you please revise the November 10
7 assembly draft map to include Fallbrook, Bonsall, and
8 Rainbow with other rural communities along the I-15
9 corridor, as we are communities of interest there as well
10 and share the rural lifestyle and so many other
11 collaborative services in our region.

12 Again, thank you for your time, and I hope you
13 consider our suggestions. Thanks a lot.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
16 have 011. And up next after that will be 012.

17 011, I'll be promoting you now. 011, you can now
18 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
19 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
20 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
21 is yours.

22 MS. MCKEOWN: Thank you. I am here today to comment
23 on draft Senate map (indiscernible), which is in northern
24 Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

25 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead.

1 MS. MCKEOWN: Great. Thank you. My name is Ann
2 McKeown. I live in Acton. I spoke to you yesterday
3 about some of the challenges our area faces. This map
4 also keeps us with the surrounding High Desert
5 communities, and we thank you for that. It gives a voice
6 to minority voters, whereas the previous Senate map
7 disenfranchised them. This is an important change you've
8 made.

9 Our Latino population continues to grow, and having
10 a Senate district where Latino and African American
11 voters have a voice to select and elect a candidate who
12 will best represent us is crucial. It also gives us a
13 chance to work together to confront climate change head
14 on. The solar farms in this district are huge and are
15 crucial for California to reduce our reliance on fossil
16 fuels.

17 While water in the High Desert has been an issue
18 before, but it has reached crisis proportions. Wells are
19 running dry. One-hundred-year-old junipers are dying.
20 We feel a bit like the canary in the climate change coal
21 mine. And being districted together will give us the
22 ability to do everything we can to mitigate the effects
23 of the changing climate.

24 Surprising us, illegal marijuana grow houses are
25 actually a huge problem for us, with an estimated 200 in

1 tiny Acton alone. The growers steal water, contaminate
2 the ground water, which is our drinking water, and jerry-
3 rig electrical connections that result in fires.

4 At the Acton town council emergency meeting, the
5 task force sent to help came from San Bernardino County
6 because grow houses are an issue in the area surrounding
7 Victorville too. There are already state and county
8 agencies who recognize the things our areas have in
9 common and who are working with us to try to improve
10 them. Transportation, as well, already crosses county
11 lines. A new high-speed rail between Palmdale and
12 Victorville is planned by the Brightline company. The
13 highway known as blood alley, highway 138 --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. MCKEOWN: -- joins the Antelope Valley with
16 Victorville and came in at number 4 on ABC's list of
17 America's seven most infamous highways. One attempt to
18 lower the death toll has already happened. Hopefully,
19 the new infrastructure bill will provide funding for a --

20 COMMENT MODERATOR: Fifteen seconds.

21 MS. MCKEOWN: -- more permanent improvement. And
22 this commission and your action of putting us together
23 will help us fight for it. We feel both seen and heard,
24 an unusual thing for us. Thank you.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now, we will
2 have 012. And then up next after that will be 020.

3 012, I'll be promoting you now. 012, you can now
4 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
5 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
6 district plan and region you would like to address, the
7 floor is yours.

8 MR. ORTIZ: Hi. Good evening, Commissioners. Thank
9 you very much. I'll be discussing San Diego County map,
10 no map in particular. I just want to comment as a whole.

11 My name is Phil Ortiz. I'm the current city council
12 member for the City of El Cajon. And I submitted my
13 comments via text earlier this month, but I felt the need
14 to express them verbally.

15 I want to comment and reenforce what a -- earlier
16 callers about the rural versus urban divide in our maps.
17 Currently, we have El Cajon, Santee, Poway, Ramona,
18 Alpine, Lakeside represented as East County San Diego.
19 Current maps don't represent and keep that as a community
20 of interest.

21 We have -- for example, our hospital districts are
22 the same. Our school districts are the same. Our fire
23 districts are the same. Our water districts are the
24 same. And the -- so much so, East County San Diego
25 identifies itself as East County. Our chamber of

1 commerce is affectionately known as east -- the East
2 County Chamber of Commerce. Our city council unanimously
3 voted on a resolution in an attempt to convey this to
4 keep East County San Diego cities together for these
5 reasons.

6 Our regional airport, Gillespie Field, borders the
7 northern part of El Cajon and the southern part of
8 Santee, directly on the border. That is a regional asset
9 that we work closely in community together. On any given
10 day, these cities -- these rural and -- these rural
11 cities are the gateway to the greater rural areas of San
12 Diego County. And they have more in common than we do
13 with coastal San Diego or mid-city San Diego.

14 A chicken farmer in East County has more in common
15 with East County cities than someone living in an
16 apartment complex in mid-city San Diego. So our state
17 maps are cutting up East County San Diego.

18 Historically, we have been lumped together. Even if
19 you go on Wikipedia, it will --

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MR. ORTIZ: -- list these cities. Santee, El Cajon,
22 Poway, even going up into North San Diego, Escondido,
23 Valley Center, Vista. The urban and rural divide should
24 be represented as its own community of interest.

25 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

1 MR. ORTIZ: I appreciate your time. Thank you very
2 much.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now, we will
5 have 020. And up next after that will be 032.

6 020, I'll be promoting you now. 020, you can now
7 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
8 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
9 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
10 is yours.

11 MS. HAMID: Thank you very much. I am a resident of
12 Irvine in Orange County, so I believe I'll be speaking to
13 SDIOC draft and SD north OC coast draft maps.

14 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

15 MS. HAMID: Thank you. So thank you, Commissioners,
16 for the work you're doing and for giving me an
17 opportunity to make public comment in the redistricting
18 process. I'll try to keep my comments brief and make
19 just three points.

20 My name is Nazish Hamid, and I'm a resident of the
21 City of Irvine and a community services commissioner
22 here. I moved to Irvine eighteen years ago, and I've
23 seen my city grow by leaps and bounds in my time here.

24 An interesting fact, roughly 48 percent of our
25 residents identify as Asian American as of 2020. This

1 large diaspora represents a community of interest as per
2 the definition used by the Census Bureau. We have one
3 city council, one school district, one water district,
4 until now, one Senate district. This community should
5 not be fractured and should stay united.

6 My second point is that Irvine should also try and
7 stay connected to Tustin, Costa Mesa, and Laguna Beach.
8 These communities have more in common with each other
9 than any other community. For example, our efforts to
10 address climate change.

11 I've also looked at your proposed maps and see that
12 one suggestion puts Irvine and Garden Grove together.
13 The Asian American communities in Irvine and Garden Grove
14 are actually quite different. I would suggest that they
15 remain separate as distinct communities of interest.

16 Those are all of my points. Thank you so much for
17 considering my feedback.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
20 have unique ID 032. And up next after that will be 023.

21 032, I'll be promoting you now. 032, you can now
22 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
23 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
24 district plan and what region you'd like to address, the
25 floor is yours.

1 MR. ADEVA: Yes. Hi. I will be doing SD Shoreline
2 draft.

3 All right. And good afternoon, members of the
4 commission. My name is Romiro Adeva, and I'm the
5 assistant city manager for the City of Agoura Hills.
6 First, let me start by thanking the commission for all
7 the time each of you has spent in preparing these draft
8 maps. We recognize it's been a road full of challenges
9 and difficult discussions, so thank you for your efforts.

10 As for the current draft of Senate district boundary
11 maps, we have concerns about the new lines being drawn in
12 a way that hurts rather than helps, not only the City of
13 Agoura Hills, but the overall Las Virgenes-Malibu council
14 of governments. Our COG, consisting of the cities of
15 Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, and
16 Westlake Village, submitted a letter to the commission in
17 April regarding a desired community of interest, where we
18 outlined multiple reasons why it's critical to draw the
19 district boundary lines in a way that keeps the COG
20 cities together. The current Senate boundary lines
21 contain the COG only proposed to keep four of the five
22 cities together, while Hidden Hills is included in a
23 different district.

24 Our COG has a combined population amongst the five
25 cities of only 68,000 people. Although that population

1 seems small, we have forged a strong collective voice
2 over time, regularly partnering with each other to tackle
3 similar challenges with regional solutions. Those
4 solutions often include the involvement of shared Senate
5 representation.

6 Additionally, with all due respect to the South Bay
7 cities down the coast, towards Rancho Palos Verdes, the
8 proposed expansion of the district boundary southward
9 combines very different agencies, so much so that it's
10 near impossible to have a unified voice towards any
11 common issues.

12 For starters, Agoura Hills is located in the upper
13 western reaches of the proposed Senate boundary, where
14 many years have been spent collaborating with the
15 surrounding agencies to create a unified voice focused on
16 preserving and protecting open space, as well as natural
17 habitat and ecosystems within and connecting to the Santa
18 Monica mountains.

19 In this respect, the area is very much suburban and
20 rural, contrasted with the agencies we are proposed to be
21 combined with, which are more urban and densely populated
22 and who have different socioeconomics and demographics.
23 We are concerned --

24 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

25 MR. ADEVA: -- the new boundaries, as presented,

1 will dilute the strength of longstanding advocacy efforts
2 and accomplishments that have spanned over decades as a
3 result of legislative representation that understands our
4 local and regional community. Once again, we thank you
5 for your commission's efforts and respectfully --

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

7 MR. ADEVA: -- request that the boundaries be
8 revised to keep the COG together and to move the district
9 line to a point that minimizes agency differences and
10 results in districts that can be truly representative of
11 its constituents. Thank you for your time.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
14 have 023. And then up next after that will be 016.

15 023, I will be promoting you now. 023, you can now
16 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
17 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
18 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
19 is yours.

20 MS. GOLD: Good afternoon. I'm Rosalind Gold, chief
21 public policy officer with the NALEO Educational Fund,
22 and I'm going to be just making general comments about
23 the congressional maps and the state legislative maps
24 that you commissioners have put together with such
25 tireless time and wonderful dedication.

1 And by the way, we are delighted to hear that some
2 of you commissioners seem to have some future California
3 voters and perhaps some future commissioners with you as
4 we work on this all together.

5 So with our mission at NALEO to participate --
6 excuse me -- to facilitate full participation of the
7 Latino population in the American political process, we
8 really look to see to what extent the maps at these three
9 levels of government provided Latinos with fair
10 opportunities for representation in compliance with the
11 Federal Voting Rights Act and the U.S. Constitution,
12 which is the top two criteria of the commission.

13 And we would note that we do believe the draft maps
14 offer some improvement from where we are right now, but
15 that the commission could indeed do a better job with
16 respect to fair Latino representation.

17 And one measure of this is the number of Latino
18 majority citizen voting age population districts that the
19 maps provide. And we encourage the commissioners to look
20 at the map submitted by our partners, MALDEF, as a target
21 for the number of those Latino majority citizen voting
22 age population districts that your map should have.

23 So for example, at the congressional level, the
24 commission's maps has 13 of those districts. MALDEF's
25 maps have 16. At the assembly level, commissioners' maps

1 have 19, and MALDEF's map have 24. At the state Senate
2 level, the commissioners' maps have 8, and MALDEF's maps
3 have 11.

4 Again, we see those number of Latino majority
5 districts as a target we think the commission should
6 strive to meet. We would note that if you look at the
7 last decade, the Latino populations increase contributed
8 to more than two-thirds, 69 percent, of the overall
9 population growth of California between 2010 and 2020.
10 We urge you to take that --

11 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

12 MS. GOLD: -- into account, and we urge you to
13 continue to ensure that your maps really provide Latinos
14 with fair opportunities for representation to make our
15 California democracy stronger and to make sure that
16 Latinos --

17 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

18 MS. GOLD: -- can elect representatives that are
19 accountable and responsive to their communities. Thank
20 you so much again for your hard work, and thank you so
21 much for your time.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
24 have 016. And up next after that will be 001.

25 016, I'll be promoting you now. 016, you can now

1 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
2 your screen. And if you'll please let the mapper know
3 what district plan and region you'd like to address, the
4 floor is yours.

5 MR. GARCIA: Thank you. Hello, Commission. I will
6 be commenting on the Senate drafts in the Southern
7 Central Valley.

8 My name is Alex Garcia, and I am from Western Kern
9 County. There has been a lot of testimony of folks
10 claiming Bakersfield and Fresno are so different, so
11 polar opposite they cannot possibly be in a Senate
12 district together. Listening to hearings, you would
13 think Fresno and Bakersfield are like Jupiter and Mars,
14 worlds apart. Most of those comments were initially
15 about Congress, but now some are saying the same thing
16 about the Senate.

17 This is really confusing for many of us who have
18 lived, worked, and gotten an education in Bakersfield and
19 Fresno, like myself. It's absurd, actually, because
20 Bakersfield and Fresno have been in the Senate district
21 together since 1991. These two anchor cities of the
22 South Valley were put in a Senate district together by
23 the California Supreme Court because of historic
24 redlining. This gave voice to communities of color who
25 were often marginalized and had their interests ignored,

1 like mine.

2 After 30 years, it's suspicious that no one
3 complained about Fresno and Bakersfield in a Senate
4 district together until this November. The obvious issue
5 is that now, for the first time ever, your Fresno Kern
6 draft map combines wealthy, white parts of Fresno and
7 Bakersfield together, North Fresno and West Bakersfield.

8 Please remember why you must do this though. If
9 Fresno doesn't go south, then it must go north into the
10 Sierras. And you've heard plenty of testimony against
11 that option. If Bakersfield does not go north, then it
12 must go south into the High Desert, and you've heard
13 plenty of testimony against that.

14 I'm not here to complain about Fresno and
15 Bakersfield together. If anything, I would encourage you
16 to look at your Latino VRA district teams, Kern, and
17 include more of Fresno. As it is currently, you are
18 dismantling a historic and successful pairing of our
19 South Valley anchor cities.

20 After ensuring districts have equal population, your
21 number one priority and responsibility to valley families
22 is to make as many strong Latino VRA districts as
23 possible. So Commission, do what is necessary to make
24 that happen.

25 And as for your Fresno Kern district, Fresno and

1 Bakersfield are not worlds apart like Jupiter and Mars.

2 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

3 MR. GARCIA: They're, in fact, both a part of our
4 great Central Valley, the Golden Empire. Thank you.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
7 have unique ID 001. And up next after that will be 029.

8 001, I'll be promoting you now. 001, you can now
9 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
10 your screen. And if you'll please let the mapper know
11 what district plan and region you would like to address,
12 the floor is yours.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. Good afternoon,
14 Commissioners and Chair Taylor. I would like to address
15 the Orange County Senate district draft map titled SDSAA
16 today.

17 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. In this proposed
19 map, the City of Buena Park and the City of Fullerton are
20 placed in separate Senate districts.

21 And I'd like to reference one of the earlier
22 speakers today with the Orange County Civic Engagement
23 Table and the People's Alliance, and amplify the message
24 that ignoring the critical ties the residents in these
25 cities share with one another -- Buena Park and

1 Fullerton -- would be very disadvantageous for fair
2 representation. These cities have a considerable Asian
3 American, Pacific Islander population, specifically many
4 Korean residents whose diversity is reflected in
5 churches, restaurants, markets that tie the two
6 municipalities together as a community of interest.

7 Both municipal governments here have a proven track
8 record of productive collaboration on regional issues
9 like transportation, crime, and homelessness. In
10 addition to this, local -- the local economies have a
11 symbiotic relationship and would be much better served by
12 being represented in a district with other North Orange
13 County cities.

14 Thank you for allowing me to submit my comment, and
15 I urge you to consider these variables in proposed drafts
16 of Senate district boundaries going forward. Good
17 afternoon.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
20 have unique ID 029. And then up next after that will be
21 017.

22 029, I'll be promoting you now. 029, you can now
23 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
24 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
25 what district plan and region you'd like to address, the

1 floor is yours.

2 MR. MALDONADO: Thank you. Can you hear me?

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

4 MR. MALDONADO: Okay. I'm interested in -- I would
5 like to address the Santa Clarita map. Thank you. Good
6 afternoon.

7 My name is Tony Maldonado. I'm Latino, and I live
8 in Santa Clarita. I'm vehemently opposed to the map for
9 Santa Clarita, which forces it to once again be joined to
10 the City of Los Angeles. I'm strongly suggesting a total
11 revision for the Santa Clarita Valley to include Simi
12 Valley, all areas of the greater Santa Clarita Valley,
13 and Antelope Valley, and to entirely remove the San
14 Fernando Valley East, with whom we share nothing in
15 common and have a very bad history with. In full
16 agreement with Commissioner Sadhwani, I suggest keeping
17 the entire San Fernando Valley as one district.

18 In 1987, Santa Clarita seceded from the City of Los
19 Angeles due to Los Angeles using Santa Clarita Valley as
20 its dumping ground, landfill, nuclear missile silo site,
21 munitions site, and other egregious acts.

22 Accepting this map will be equal to forcing a victim
23 who recently found freedom after leaving a long-term
24 abusive relationship to once again be forced to live with
25 their abuser in perpetuity. That's unconscionable.

1 The Santa Clarita, Simi, and Antelope Valleys, which
2 I call the Tri-Valley, have governments that strongly
3 focuses on its residents, developing forward-thinking
4 projects that benefit the whole of our respective areas.
5 But the Tri-Valley have more to do for our residents,
6 including furthering our infrastructure and transport,
7 developing new hospitals, keeping crime low, and other
8 needs. But if joined with the San Fernando Valley East,
9 we won't be able to do so, as their problems are severe.

10 The San Fernando Valley East, as part of the City of
11 Los Angeles, is an area with high levels of crime, severe
12 income disparities, shockingly high levels of poverty,
13 skyrocketing homelessness, incredibly large community of
14 undocumented migrants, who have specific needs, and would
15 be entirely divorced from the equally large Latino San
16 Fernando Valley West. These are problems of a megacity,
17 problems that only a joint San Fernando Valley or City of
18 Los Angeles Senate district can address without Santa
19 Clarita being included. Thank you.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
22 have 017. And up next after that will be 013.

23 017, I'll be promoting you now. 017, you can now
24 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
25 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of

1 what district plan and region you'd like to address, the
2 floor is yours.

3 MS. ALLEN: Yes. Can you hear me?

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

5 MS. ALLEN: Perfect. If you could start off by
6 zooming in to SDSBRC.

7 All righty. Good afternoon and happy Friday,
8 Commissioners. My name is Sky Allen with IE United, and
9 I'm calling today on behalf of IE Redistricting Hub. We
10 recognize that these are very much draft maps, and you're
11 continuing to change and clean them up, but there are two
12 big concerns that we wanted to ensure are looked at
13 today.

14 First, we don't feel as residents of the IE, the
15 SDSBRC makes that much sense from a community of interest
16 perspective, and it's also not the only way to create VRA
17 districts in this area. We propose that instead of
18 nesting San Bernardino and Moreno Valley into a Senate
19 district, that you nest VRA districts within the
20 counties.

21 So for San Bernardino, you can nest ADSBCHR with
22 ADRCFR, creating a strong VRA district for Latinx voters,
23 empowering black voters, and honoring communities of
24 interest. Similarly, Riverside County, it would make
25 sense to nest ADJRC with ADMPH in creating a VRA Senate

1 district there.

2 Our second concern is with respect to the Coachella
3 Valley, to the east. Dozens of folks called in over the
4 summer emphasizing that they wished for the Coachella
5 Valley region, as a whole, to all be in one district, and
6 that came from folks that we organized and many, many,
7 many folks that we don't, just because it's such a
8 strong -- it's such a strong community that wants to be
9 kept together.

10 Now, we submitted maps ourselves at the Senate
11 level, so we understand -- or at every level. So we
12 understand that having that entire region together isn't
13 possible at every level, but it is possible for the
14 Senate, right? In our submission, we created a district
15 that united Imperial County with the entire Coachella
16 Valley, the San Gorgonio Pass, which is that Banning,
17 Beaumont area and the Morongo Valley. We like that
18 configuration.

19 If you need to do it a different way, we understand
20 that, but we hope that whatever changes you make allow
21 the Coachella Valley region, from the Desert Hot Springs
22 all the way down to North Shore, to be together at the
23 Senate level.

24 I know this is tricky stuff. We just want to thank
25 you for your hard work and your commitment, and we look

1 forward to continuing to think through what the IE will
2 look like at all the levels. Thanks so much.

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
5 have unique ID 013. And then up next after that will be
6 004.

7 013, I'll be promoting you now. 013, you can now
8 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
9 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
10 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
11 is yours. Unique ID 013.

12 MS. KASSEL: Yes. I'll be addressing draft map
13 SDSECA. I'm Kathy Kassel. I'm president and CEO of the
14 Lakeside Chamber of Commerce, and I'm also a resident of
15 Lakeside for over 40 years. I understand and appreciate
16 the time and energy and challenges the commission faces
17 in drawing these lines for our state.

18 The current draft maps for the state Senate do not
19 meet the needs of the Lakeside community. Draft maps
20 have literally split the community of Lakeside in half
21 and has also separated many of the East County San Diego
22 neighboring communities, such as Lakeside, Alpine,
23 Descanso, Jamul, Santee, Poway, Rancho San Diego, El
24 Cajon, and Ramona.

25 We share a wide variety of common interests, such as

1 a shared economic, social, and cultural interest, and we
2 must be kept together. Our sister unincorporated areas,
3 along with many of its neighboring cities, such as El
4 Cajon, Santee, and Poway, understand our unique culture
5 and way of life. I'm struggling to find any community of
6 interest with the City of San Diego or with desert
7 communities, such as Brawley or Needles. We should not
8 be placed in districts with North Park, Chula Vista,
9 Pacific Beach, or University City in the City of San
10 Diego. These communities would not understand about the
11 struggles of living and working in an unincorporated area
12 of East County.

13 Our state representative must have firsthand,
14 intimate knowledge of our needs, resources, and
15 challenges living and working in Lakeside. If the
16 current draft maps move forward, we would ultimately end
17 up with little to no representation. My community's
18 access to fair allocation of resources and effective
19 government depends on your decision. Thank you for your
20 time.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
23 have unique ID 004. And up next after that will be 033.

24 004, I'll be promoting you now. 004, you can now
25 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of

1 your screen. And if you will please remind the mapper of
2 what district plan and region you would like to address,
3 the floor is yours.

4 MS. DIAZ: Good evening, Commissioners. Today I
5 will be speaking on draft map SDSAA. Again, good
6 evening. My name's Karen Diaz, and I'm the electoral
7 field manager for the Coalition for Human Immigrant
8 Rights, CHIRLA. Our mission is to achieve a just society
9 fully inclusive of immigrants. I'm also a member of the
10 People Redistricting Alliance, a coalition of 16
11 community-based organizations statewide and locally in
12 Orange County. We want to express our appreciation to
13 the commission and commission staff for taking the input
14 from our communities.

15 Immigrant community members in Santa Ana share a lot
16 of common challenges, like rent control, access to low-
17 income affordable housing, mental, and health care access
18 for houseless and undocumented communities.

19 During the COI testimony, you heard from a CHIRLA
20 community member, who was documented, which means that he
21 has access to a work permit, and he's allowed to live and
22 work in the U.S., but this is only a temporary protection
23 that he's able to renew every two years.

24 Like him, there is a lot of other community members
25 that have this temporary work permits and many who are

1 undocumented.

2 The community member that you heard of, he's a
3 wheelchair user, and he has a speech impediment. He's
4 described the challenges of navigating the health care
5 for community members without status -- communities in
6 Santa Ana, West Anaheim, and South Fullerton. There are
7 many community members who, just like him and others,
8 face even harder challenges due to a lack of work permit,
9 Social Security numbers, and even language barriers.

10 CHIRLA has been working with those communities in
11 Orange County to win local and state level protections
12 for immigrant, Latinx communities. That's why we are
13 truly grateful and appreciative of the commission's
14 recent shift towards configuring similar Federal Voting
15 Rights Act districts at the assembly and congressional
16 level, which we have been speaking about the past few
17 days.

18 Like those levels, the Senate district for Santa Ana
19 communities of interest together, that align with South
20 Fullerton, West Anaheim communities of interest.

21 For the reasons, we want to thank them for listening
22 to the communities' COI by drafting --

23 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

24 MS. DIAZ: -- Senate maps that support immigrant
25 communities.

1 I want to emphasize, any changes to this map should
2 be made without major changes to districts around Santa
3 Ana, West Anaheim, and South Fullerton. Again, we're
4 almost there. Thank you so much for listening. And we
5 don't want to make sure that we're not --

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

7 MS. DIAZ: -- taking steps back that could affect
8 the immigrant communities. Have a good rest of your
9 evening.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: You as well. Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
12 have unique ID 033. And then up next after that will be
13 030.

14 033, I'll be promoting you now. 033, you can now
15 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
16 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
17 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
18 is yours.

19 MR. GARCIA: Yes. Commissioner, my name is Jesus
20 Garcia, and I am the drawer for the Delores Huerta
21 Foundation maps. What I'd like to say is that the
22 commission has ignored the work of the people here in the
23 Central Valley by placing us in districts that are the
24 equivalent of Beverly Hills to Boyle Heights. That would
25 be Rosedale, Seven Oaks.

1 Part of the issue has been that the commission has
2 adopted what I consider to be fantasy communities of
3 interest by groups that do not recognize the value here.
4 The great growth of the community has been the Latino
5 population here in the Central Valley. And so that's
6 caused, actually, quite a number of issues.

7 Examples are, for instance, in Bakersfield, the
8 Senate district followed more closely the lines. We're
9 also working with MALDEF in the creation of the inspired
10 lines. Other issues include the separation of the
11 Antelope Valley from Simi Valley and definitely Santa
12 Clarita. Those are issues that are very important.
13 Those communities' voices would be drowned out.

14 Another issue would be in -- of placing valley
15 counties -- valley communities with the mountainous
16 areas. That, again, is an issue that is of great concern
17 to the Delores Huerta Foundation and MALDEF. There's --
18 most of the growth in the Central Valley has been due to
19 the increase in the Latino community. And I believe by,
20 again, creating these fantasy VRAs, fantasy communities
21 of interest from people that do not recognize what's
22 happening here has been an issue.

23 Evidence of our work for the past nine months is
24 looking at the -- just Google board of supervisors in the
25 Central Valley, Kern, Fresno, Tulare, and you'll see the

1 great work that the Delores Huerta Foundation has been
2 doing at promoting local control by local people that
3 understand.

4 So again, thank you for the opportunity to present,
5 but we are strongly opposed to many of the lines that are
6 being drawn in the Central Valley because they
7 disenfranchise the community at the expense of -- at the
8 expense of the growth that we are bringing to this area.
9 Thank you, Commissioners, and have a great day.

10 And you will be getting -- visit DHF, and we have
11 lines that you can --

12 MR. MANOFF: Twenty seconds.

13 MR. GARCIA: -- review. So again, we're working
14 closely with MALDEF on those lines, and you'll be hearing
15 more about that. Thank you very much.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
18 have unique ID 030. And then up next after that will be
19 006.

20 030, I'll be promoting you now. 030, you can now
21 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
22 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
23 what district plan and region you would like to address,
24 the floor is yours.

25 MS. OLIVA: Thank you very much, commission. Hola.

1 Hello from Fresno, California. I'm Lourdes Oliva, and I
2 will speak on the Senate draft maps for the Central
3 Valley, California.

4 Thank you, commission and California for We Draw the
5 Lines. As I am here again as I was yesterday for the
6 assembly district maps. I'm back to support and to
7 promote this commission to strive for the Central Valley
8 to get its needs met, as far as the need to have equal
9 population and making sure that Latino VRAs are effective
10 and strong.

11 As a Latina of Guatemalan and Columbian parents, who
12 grew up with the power of the Chicanos, Mexicanos, and
13 Californianos, I want to see the Central Valley maps to
14 give us empowerment because (Spanish spoken). I'm very
15 concerned that the Senate maps in our region do not
16 create effective Latino Voting Rights Act districts. You
17 seem to be hitting the Latino CVAP, but what you must
18 understand is these are not effective seats that empower
19 the Latino community to elect candidates of their choice.
20 Additionally, you are displacing and misplacing many
21 Latino communities in the Central Valley from Merced,
22 Fresno, to Bakersfield. Your November 2nd versions were
23 a much stronger map.

24 As Latinos, we need to be united, and we need to
25 also be recognized for the power we bring to the table,

1 as we have been the essential workers. We have been
2 those ones that are moving the communities and moving our
3 school districts and moving, more than anything, the
4 American Dream.

5 As I said, I'm very concerned. You seem to know
6 additionally, that you're displacing and misplacing the
7 Latino communities from the Central Valley. As it stands
8 today, with your official drafts, you have displaced
9 Merced County, putting it into a big mountain district in
10 the ECA draft. This is a big problem because Merced is a
11 Central Valley county, and our farm worker communities in
12 Merced, Livingston, and Los Banos deserve to have their
13 voices uplifted in the Central Valley district, not a
14 district with Inyo, Mono, Calaveras, and Mariposa.

15 In Fresno you have removed --

16 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

17 MS. OLIVA: -- a lot of the City of Fresno and south
18 side of Fresno from the South Valley seat. Your Kings
19 Kern draft should include more of Fresno County and parts
20 of the City of Fresno. There's a big historic connection
21 between us, and we want you to look at those because we -
22 -

23 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

24 MS. OLIVA: -- are a community of interest.

25 Thank you very much for your work, and (Spanish

1 spoken) .

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
4 have unique ID 006. And up next after that will be
5 unique ID 025.

6 006, I'll be promoting you now. 006, you can now
7 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
8 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
9 what district plan and region you'd like to address, the
10 floor is yours.

11 MS. REYNOLDS: Hi. My name is Kasey Reynolds, and
12 I'm the vice-mayor of the City of Chico, and I'd like to
13 address the Northern California map -- North Coast.

14 My compliments to the commission on the draft Senate
15 congressional maps. I think you are headed in the right
16 direction overall, but I feel like the draft assembly
17 maps of northern California really need some work.

18 For starters, Butte County has been taken out of the
19 Northern Central Valley assembly district, and instead
20 drawn into the far North Coast portion of the state.

21 Butte County is a rural farming county. It belongs
22 with other rural farming counties like Tehama, Sutter,
23 and Butte Counties. It does not make sense to tie Butte
24 County into the mountain assembly district from the far
25 north. I would recommend drawing mountain assembly

1 district that consists of Siskiyou, Shasta, Modoc,
2 Lassen, Plumas, and Nevada County. This would keep all
3 of the mountain counties together in one district.

4 To create valley ag district, I would recommend
5 combining Tehama, Butte, Yuba, Sutter, Glenn, and Colusa
6 Counties. All six of these counties are very flat
7 counties, where agriculture is the primary economy --
8 driver of economy.

9 I know my board of supervisors in Butte County have
10 sent a letter requesting the same, that they should be
11 tied together in rural ag communities. Tehama, Glenn,
12 and Colusa are connected through the interstate, I-5.
13 And Butte, Yuba, and Sutter are all connected along
14 Highway 99 and the Highway 70 corridor.

15 I don't understand why the commission would want to
16 connect rural Yuba Sutter district with Sacramento urban
17 areas like Granite Bay and mountain areas like Nevada
18 City. These areas have completely different economies,
19 lifestyles. The mountains should have their own
20 district, and suburban Sacramento should have their own
21 district. And rural farming counties in the valley
22 should have their own assembly district as well.

23 I hope you'll consider making these common-sense
24 changes before any maps are finalized. And I sincerely
25 thank you all for all your hard work on all these maps.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
3 have unique ID 025. And then up next after that will be
4 unique ID 035.

5 025, I will be promoting you now. 025, you can now
6 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
7 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
8 what district plan and region you'd like to address, the
9 floor is yours.

10 MS. WILLIAMS: Hi. I'm not sure the map I know --
11 well, but I'm talking about Solano County. I think it's
12 map Napa Byron. I think.

13 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

14 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you. My name is K. Patrice
15 Williams. I'm a business owner, founder of BrandGOV and
16 Empower Solano. We've done 140,000 engagements through
17 the pandemic throughout Solano County. I have been in
18 Solano County for 20 years and 11 months.

19 I am calling because I am very pleased with the
20 Senate and the assembly maps, which keep Solano County
21 whole.

22 Actually, I'd love to pause for a minute and just
23 give you all a round of applause for this. It's so
24 important.

25 Even though Solano has nearly half a million people,



1 Solano often is treated as an afterthought by some of our
2 neighbors, neighboring counties -- neighboring counties
3 are often better at being louder. But you all did a
4 great job at making sure that Solano voices were not
5 lost. By keeping Solano County whole, you ensure that we
6 have a fair chance to be heard.

7 Solano County is increasingly changing. In previous
8 districts, Solano has been split with Sacramento and
9 other parts tied to the bay area. But due to more bay
10 area transplants coming to our county in search of
11 affordable housing, the entire county of Solano County is
12 increasingly becoming the greater bay area. It wasn't a
13 mistake that you all included Solano County in outreach
14 zone C with other bay area counties. Please continue to
15 respect the needs and the community interest of Solano
16 County as you move forward toward drawing those final
17 maps. Thank you so much.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Right now we will have
20 035. And then up next after that will be 007.

21 035, I'll be promoting you now. 035, you can now
22 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
23 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
24 what district plan and region you would like to address,
25 the floor is yours.

1 MS. NEES: Good afternoon, Commissioners. Thank you
2 so much for your time. If you could put your attention
3 to the City of San Diego, the central part of the City of
4 San Diego.

5 My name's Mary Nees (ph.). I'm a resident of the
6 Greater City Heights area in the City of San Diego. I
7 will be discussing assembly, Senate, and congressional
8 maps that split City Heights as well as southeast San
9 Diego. And I'm suggesting that the black hub maps be
10 referred to to keep our central San Diego COIs together
11 and not have our voices diluted, ignored, or face
12 intimidations by links to either East County cities --
13 East County of San Diego, cities that have extremely
14 negative or painful links to our communities, nor to
15 coastal or downtown San Diego.

16 Pairing City Heights or even portions of it with the
17 City of Santee will result in voter intimidation and a
18 dilution of our voice.

19 Perhaps you may have heard of armed anti-Black Lives
20 Matter protests in Santee in the summer of 2020 and
21 Santee grocery stores in which anti-BLM residents flouted
22 their ideas.

23 I live just east of City Heights at 59th Street and
24 El Cajon Boulevard, and my COI is definitely not aligned
25 with Santee, nor with coastal San Diego.

1 Additionally, pairing southeast San Diego or even a
2 portion of it with Coronado will also result in the
3 voices of COI, particularly in the Latinx community,
4 being drowned out, intimidated, and misrepresented as the
5 Coronado High School boosters did by throwing tortillas
6 at an opposing Latinx team a few months ago.

7 Santee, as well as affluent downtown San Diego and
8 coastal neighborhoods, don't represent the interest and
9 priorities lifted up by residents of City Heights and
10 southeast San Diego. We urge you to prioritize our COI
11 testimony this past summer and revise maps so that our
12 communities can stay together.

13 At this time, we strongly request more time and
14 concentration on our far southern region of the state.
15 It needs your fair share of time and consideration. We
16 know you started out in Northern California at the
17 meetings and spend a little bit more time on our southern
18 area.

19 Black communities in San Diego have continued to be
20 split and paired with dissimilar areas. Especially --

21 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

22 MS. NEES: -- for Santee in the assembly maps. Keep
23 City Heights and southeast San Diego COIs whole.

24 Thank you so much for your time. We showed up and
25 let you know this summer what COIs we want together.

1 Please show us that you listen and redirect your
2 demographers to keep --

3 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

4 MS. NEES: -- City Heights and southeast San Diego
5 whole. Thank you so much for this huge task you've
6 embarked on and for reviewing our COI testimony,
7 reenforce this week, and make the needed map revision.
8 We really do appreciate it. Thank you again.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
11 have unique ID 007. And then up next after that will be
12 008.

13 007, I'll be promoting you now.

14 MS. RODRIQUEZ: Hello. I'll be speaking today on
15 San Fernando SDSCSFB.

16 My name is Soila Rodriguez, and I've been a resident
17 of San Fernando Valley ever since I came to the U.S. at
18 the age of eight. As an immigrant, I am proud to call
19 the San Fernando Valley my home. I'm also a CHIRLA
20 member, and today I will be speaking about the Senate
21 draft map SCSFV. I want to express my gratitude to the
22 commission and the staff for creating opportunities for
23 public engagement for our residents in California.

24 The cities of Van Nuys, Pacoima, and Panorama City
25 are amongst the highest numbers of COVID areas -- COVID

1 cases. The lack of COVID testing and vaccine clinics
2 affected my community, and because they could not miss a
3 day of work, many were unable to secure vaccines earlier.

4 Last year in December, we lost our organizing
5 director, Antonio Bernabe, due to COVID. He lived and
6 died as an undocumented person in this country,
7 dedicating his life to organizing immigrant communities
8 across the valley for over 20 years. He helped thousands
9 of immigrants in Pacoima, Van Nuys, Panorama City, and
10 Canoga Park through Know Your Rights trainings, advocacy,
11 and leadership workshops.

12 Antonio supported and organized the Jornaleros in
13 San Fernando Valley, a population that is usually
14 forgotten and not taken into consideration in local
15 resources.

16 Now that he is gone, his leaders are carrying on the
17 lucha, but they need local leaders in the Senate who can
18 continue to empower and help the communities in the
19 valley. We need legislatures that will ensure our
20 communities have access to vaccines and COVID-19 economic
21 relief.

22 In San Fernando Valley, the commission has drawn an
23 SDSCFV draft. We appreciate the commission for keeping
24 immigrant communities and Latinx communities of East San
25 Fernando Valley together. As a community member, I would

1 like to take this opportunity to ask the commission to
2 strengthen the East San Fernando Valley Senate district
3 by drawing west of the 405 to the cities of North Hills,
4 Winnetka, Canoga Park, and taking out the region of Santa
5 Clarita. This will allow the commission to achieve a 50
6 percent Latino CVAP district that is representative of
7 the 1.8 million San Fernando residents, of which 40
8 percent are Latinos, many of them being immigrants.

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 MS. RODRIQUEZ: I thank you for receiving my input
11 and for creating these maps.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
14 have unique ID 008. And then up next after that will be
15 031.

16 008, as you have chosen to call in this evening, if
17 you will please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
18 star 6. And one more time, unique ID 008. The last four
19 of your phone would have been -- it's cut off for me.

20 Unique ID 008, if you will please follow the prompts
21 to unmute by pressing star 6. The last four of your
22 phone would have been 9586, and your unique ID is 008.

23 You may be having some type of connectivity issue at
24 the moment. I will come back to you.

25 Right now we'll be going to 031, and then up next



1 after that will be 002.

2 031, I will be promoting you now. There we go.

3 031, you can now enable your audio and video in the lower
4 left corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the
5 mapper of what district plan and region you'd like to
6 address, the floor is yours.

7 MR. GOMEZ: Thank you. My name is Steve Gomez. I'm
8 a retired educator of -- and was in education for 45
9 years, and I'll be talking about Merced County and the --
10 my comments will be about the Senate district but also
11 applied to Merced County in general.

12 I'm a resident of Merced County for the last 71
13 years. I was born there, worked there, and all my career
14 was in Merced County.

15 The last six years, I was a Merced County
16 superintendent of schools, and so one of the things that
17 stands out right away from an educational point of view
18 is that we are in -- of course, we are home to the newest
19 University of California and on the threshold of
20 developing a school of medicine that is going to bring
21 highly needed people to the -- to our area in what I
22 have -- what has been termed as a health care desert.

23 And so I think that we need to have someone who --
24 we need to have representation in Merced County that is
25 going to continue to promote that. Our legislators have

1 brought it this far, and we hope to have people who will
2 continue to do that and not have diversified interests --
3 other interests.

4 One of the things that has not been talked about is
5 water, and water is probably the most essential thing
6 facing California right now. And we -- particularly in
7 the San Joaquin Valley.

8 We see that it looks like the county is going to be
9 cut -- is proposed to be cut north and south and goes all
10 the way to Fresno. Fresno does not have the same
11 concerns as we do about water, or shares the same
12 interests necessarily. In fact, they've been litigating
13 for our water for some time.

14 I think as you look at the demographics -- and I
15 realize those districts have to be some demographics, but
16 if you can also take a look at the concerns that we have
17 about continuing to keep our water and be able to use it.

18 And I would suggest that you would look like -- look
19 at having --

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MR. GOMEZ: -- (indiscernible) Stockton and San
22 Joaquin County. The northern have the four areas. The
23 northern San Joaquin County like Merced and Stanislaus
24 and in Fresno and the southern San Joaquin, like
25 Bakersfield. If we can keep the districts --

1 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

2 MR. GOMEZ: -- within -- mostly within the counties,
3 all that's -- all of our legislative districts, not just
4 the Senate, I think that the area will be better served.

5 I want to thank the commission for this opportunity
6 to speak, and I know it's a very difficult job. And I
7 hope that --

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
10 have unique ID 002. And then up next after that will be
11 021.

12 002, I'll be promoting you now. 002, you can now
13 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
14 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
15 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
16 is yours.

17 MS. JIMENEZ: Good afternoon. My name is Adria
18 Jimenez, and I am the city clerk for the City of Buena
19 Park, and I'm calling on behalf of the city council.

20 First, we'd like to thank the commission for your
21 efforts to redraw California's boundaries. We understand
22 that this is not an easy task at hand, and we appreciate
23 all your work.

24 Buena Park has a longstanding relationship and
25 partnerships with its neighboring North Orange County

1 cities, and we'd like to ask the commission to continue
2 those relationships by reconsidering map SDS88. We have
3 partnerships with the cities of Anaheim, Brea, Cypress,
4 Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma, Placentia, and Yorba
5 Linda.

6 The city is proud to be a diverse community that
7 includes the largest Asian American Korean population
8 located in northern Buena Park. This demographic also
9 extends into the City of Fullerton. Korean Americans
10 living in these areas share many of the same resources
11 and belong to groups and organizations, such as the
12 Korean American Public Action Committee. The Korean
13 American Public Action Committee focuses on assisting the
14 communities of north -- of American -- Korean Americans
15 and assisted during the COVID-19 pandemic.

16 In addition, Buena Park also has very strong ties
17 and relationships and partnerships surrounding the North
18 Orange County communities, and this includes partnering
19 with these communities to provide for two navigation
20 homeless shelters in the areas, one located in Buena Park
21 and one in Placentia.

22 Buena Park also shares many educational
23 commonalities with its surrounding North Orange County
24 cities. And Buena Park's namesake high school, Buena
25 Park High School, is part of the Fullerton Joint Union

1 High School District.

2 North Orange County also was instrumental in
3 assisting and creating the Buena Park Police Department,
4 the North Orange County Task Force, Public Safety Task
5 Force. This joint partnerships with the cities of
6 Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra,
7 La Palma, Orange, and Placentia, and Yorba Linda has made
8 strides towards ending homelessness through shared
9 responsibilities. They provide innovative mentoring
10 services to youth and families in the community and
11 reinvent the lives of formerly incarcerated students by
12 providing housing, higher education, and career
13 placements.

14 Furthermore, the North Orange County cities support
15 like-minded businesses, both small and large, as part of
16 the North Orange County Chamber of Commerce. The
17 regional chamber of commerce supports businesses within
18 the cities of Buena Park, Fullerton, La Palma, and
19 Stanton. The success of these businesses and the
20 regional economy is crucial to the sustainability and
21 success of the North Orange County communities it
22 represents.

23 Separating Buena Park from these cities dilutes the
24 business relationships, networking, and communities that
25 strains the fiscal health of Buena Park and the other

1 member cities.

2 Buena Park has many shared --

3 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

4 MS. JIMENEZ: -- communities of interest with its
5 North Orange County partnerships, including the cities of
6 Anaheim, Brea, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma,
7 Placentia, and Yorba Linda. The Buena Park city council
8 believes that redistricting Buena Park into a different
9 Senate district will be detrimental to --

10 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

11 MS. JIMENEZ: -- Buena Park as it has more community
12 ties and shared community goals with these North Orange
13 County counterparts than other cities within the central
14 Orange County area. The city council would like you to
15 reconsider your Senate district mapping model and
16 redistrict Buena Park to be included with its established
17 shared communities --

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
20 have 021. And then up next after that will be 014.

21 021, I'll be promoting you now. 021, you can now
22 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
23 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
24 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
25 is yours.

1 MR. PAYNE: Hi there. Thank you, Katy. This is
2 Jeremy Payne calling with Equality California.

3 Today I'm not calling about any big structural
4 changes or recommendations. I'm just calling to express
5 my deep appreciation for Senate district Korcahone (ph.)
6 in San Diego. Again, I just want to express my deep
7 appreciation for the work you've done to reunify our
8 LGBTQ+ community in San Diego at the Senate level.

9 In the early visualizations -- the Senate
10 visualizations for San Diego, the LGBTQ Plus community
11 was split right in half through Hillcrest. But in the
12 Senate draft map Korcahone district, our community was
13 reunified, connecting downtown to LGBTQ Plus communities
14 in Balboa Park, Hillcrest, North Park, and South Park, as
15 well as connecting us to immigrant and refugee
16 communities in City Heights, which also include the
17 historic lesbian community of Azalea Garden, which I
18 mentioned yesterday. It also connects us to our Black,
19 indigenous, and POC communities in La Mesa and Lemon
20 Grove.

21 We share similar values and concerns and have long
22 worked together to elect candidates of choice who will
23 champion our intersexual civil rights interest.

24 And it's also important to note that Korcahone
25 rightfully does not include Santee, which is not racially

1 diverse and does not share our values of racial equity
2 and social justice.

3 So again, I just want to say thank you so much for
4 unifying our community at the Senate level. We hope to
5 see a similar unification of our LGBTQ Plus community in
6 San Diego at the congressional level, so we may be
7 unified with our immigrant, refugee, and BIPOC
8 communities in San Diego.

9 So thank you so much. And I hope you have a great
10 rest of your evening.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
13 have 018. And up next after that will be 024.

14 018, I'll be promoting you now. 018, you can now
15 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
16 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
17 district plan and region you would like to address, the
18 floor is yours.

19 MR. ELLIOTT: Good afternoon. I'm Doug Elliott from
20 Irvine, commenting on IOC Orange County district and also
21 the NOC post district.

22 We've been fortunate in Irvine for the past ten
23 years to see our community develop greatly and become
24 more diverse. During this time, Asian Americans have
25 become a plurality in a very diverse population. Now for

1 the first time, Irvine has an Asian American senator.

2 Unfortunately, the draft map threatens to reverse

3 that progress by splitting the city along the 405

4 freeway. This would have the effect of cracking and

5 substantially diluting Irvine's Asian American vote.

6 Most of the other communities in the two proposed

7 districts are less diverse than Irvine and lack the large

8 Asian American populations we have.

9 Additionally, the draft map would separate UC Irvine

10 from two-thirds of the city. UCI is not only Irvine's

11 largest employer, it's also the intellectual and cultural

12 heart and soul of our city. As a cutting-edge research

13 institution, UCI has attracted a number of major

14 businesses to the community, many of which would be in a

15 separate district from the university.

16 Our current state senator and member of congress,

17 not coincidentally, both come from the UCI faculty and

18 represent all of Irvine.

19 And like most Irvine residents, I live north of the

20 405, but have ties to the part of the city to the south.

21 I have zero ties with the North Orange County communities

22 like Yorba Linda and Brea. I rarely have occasion to

23 even go there.

24 We Irvine residents have no community of interest

25 with those distant cities and would be much better served

1 in a single district that includes all of us. For these
2 reasons, I urge you to adjust the boundaries on the draft
3 map so Irvine will be undivided --

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 MR. ELLIOTT: -- within a single district.

6 I was unable to speak at the hearing on the
7 congressional district map, but much of what I've said
8 today applies equally to that, except the boundary in
9 that case is the 5 freeway instead --

10 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

11 MR. ELLIOTT: -- of the 450. But basically, the
12 points are the same. We'd like to remain as one district
13 in both cases. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And, Katy, I think this
15 is going to be our last caller prior to break.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yes, Chair.

17 Right now we will have 024. I'll be promoting you
18 now. 024, you can now enable your audio and video in the
19 lower left corner of your screen. And if you'll please
20 remind the mapper of what district plan and region you
21 would like to address, the floor is yours.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you, Katy. And good
23 evening (audio interference) --

24 MR. MANOFF: 024, your audio is cutting --

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- because --

1 MR. MANOFF: -- out there.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- it unites the two (audio
3 interference) --

4 MR. MANOFF: 024, can you --

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- (audio interference) --

6 MR. MANOFF: -- hear me? 024, can you hear me?

7 024, can you hear me?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello.

9 MR. MANOFF: Hey, we're having some trouble with
10 your audio. It sounds like it's cutting out there.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello.

12 MR. MANOFF: Hello. 024, we're going to ask if you
13 could try dialing in, and we'll come back to you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, Kristian.

15 Katy, can you take one more?

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: I believe so, yes.

17 Uh, 034, if you will please follow -- or I will be
18 promoting you now. 034, you can now enable your audio
19 and video, and if you'll please remind the mapper, the
20 floor is yours.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. Hi. I'm calling about
22 Santa Clarita, ADSCD, and I'm calling regarding the draft
23 map showing Santa Clarita merged with San Fernando Valley
24 and is no longer with Simi Valley.

25 This would be very disastrous for us, and Santa

1 Clarita needs to stay with Simi Valley for these reasons.
2 Santa Clarita is powered by Southern California Edison.
3 We have our own water system. Santa Clarita and Simi
4 Valley rely on the public safety power shutoff, the PSPS,
5 to prevent wild fires. Since both cities experience high
6 wind, we heavily rely on the PSPS to prevent for
7 wildfires.

8 Each year both our cities face multiple threats of
9 fires. It is for the safety of our communities to have
10 representation -- a representative that understands our
11 PSPS. The Los Angeles San Fernando Valley is reg --
12 utilities are the Los Angeles Department of Water and
13 Power, and they are a municipal with different rules and
14 regulations governed by the water and power commissioners
15 and the city council.

16 Southern California Edison is under the PUC, Public
17 Utilities Commission. Both operate differently, and
18 therefore, with the threats of high wind and fire, trying
19 to regulate the PSPS with two completely different
20 utility companies would put all of our communities at
21 risk.

22 In addition, with Santa Clarita Valley serviced by
23 the Sheriff's Department and Fire. San Fernando is
24 serviced by the Los Angeles Department -- Los Angeles
25 Police Department and Fire.

1 We're two completely different cities. City of --
2 San Fernando belongs to the City of Los Angeles with
3 almost a population of four million, where Santa Clarita
4 has a population of almost 220,000. The City of Los
5 Angeles has a budget of almost -- I'm sorry. Our current
6 budget is 248.3 million, and we are much smaller. And we
7 just want to be represented correct -- represented --

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- so in addition, San
10 Fernando would better remain with its own sister cities
11 of -- communities of Van Nuys, Pacoima, Arleta, Panorama
12 City. And it's just better for them to remain with the
13 City of Los Angeles since they are independent. They
14 have their own --

15 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- ordinances and codes and
17 regulations and completely function on their own. Please
18 keep Santa Clarita Valley with Simi Valley. Thank you so
19 much.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And at this time, we'll
21 be taking a 15-minute break. If you're calling with an
22 appointment, please do not hang up, as you will lose your
23 place in line. So everyone, stretch out, take a minute,
24 come back in 15 minutes -- a short 15 minutes. We'll see
25 you back at 4:45. Thank you.

1 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 4:31 p.m.
2 until 4:45 p.m.)

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And welcome back to
4 today's public feedback session regarding our Senate
5 maps.

6 Prior to starting session 2, could I please have the
7 Spanish interpreter provide our LanguageLine number where
8 the public can listen to today's meeting in Spanish.

9 INTERPRETER: Yes, most certainly. And just to
10 clarify, did you want the full call instructions?

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: No. The instructions so people can
12 listen to today's meeting in Spanish.

13 INTERPRETER: Perfect. Okay.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 INTERPRETER: Give me one second. Absolutely, no
16 problem. (Spanish spoken). Thank you.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Gracias. Thank you.

18 All righty, Katy. Now back to you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much, Chair.

20 Welcome to the draft map feedback session. If you
21 have not done so already and if your unique ID ends from
22 001 through 077, please use the raise-hand button at the
23 bottom of your screen. You will be identified by your
24 assigned unique ID number received with your invite for
25 this session.

1 When it is your turn to speak, I will promote you to
2 have the ability to enable your own audio and/or video in
3 the lower left corner of your screen. Public input time
4 limit is two minutes and thirty seconds. You will
5 receive a verbal warning at thirty seconds remaining and
6 fifteen seconds remaining in your speaking time. There
7 will also be an active timer on the screen for your
8 convenience. When you start your input, please identify
9 which district map and region you will be providing input
10 on.

11 And one more time, please use the raise-hand button
12 at the bottom of your screen to enter the comment queue
13 line indicating you are present and ready to comment if
14 your unique ID ends in 001 through 077.

15 And right now we will begin with 014. And then up
16 next after that will be 00 -- I apologize -- 014. And
17 then up next after that will be 061.

18 014, I will be promoting you now. 014, you can now
19 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
20 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
21 what district plan and region you would like to address,
22 the floor is yours.

23 MR. VERDUZCO: Good afternoon. Let me --

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 014, it appears you are
25 in the meeting twice, possibly on two devices, and that

1 would have caused that reverberation. If you could
2 disconnect your other device, it may make it so that you
3 can provide your comment without that happening.

4 You can go ahead and unmute yourself once that is
5 complete.

6 MR. VERDUZCO: Can you hear me now?

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

8 MR. VERDUZCO: Sorry about that.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: It's okay.

10 MR. VERDUZCO: My other laptop crashed, so it's
11 technical issues.

12 All right. Good afternoon. My name is Jose
13 Verduzco, resident of Tulare County, in particular
14 Ivanhoe, California. The map I'm referring to is the
15 Fresno Kern one.

16 I was recently a member of the Tulare County
17 Redistricting Commission and have some insight at the
18 local level, which I'd like to share, in particular with
19 the Fresno Kern map and the communities of Ivanhoe and
20 Woodlake in northeastern Tulare County.

21 Small Latino communities, like Ivanhoe, are not
22 being properly respected in the commission's draft Senate
23 maps. One thing I learned during my time as a county
24 redistricting commissioner is the importance of creating
25 effective Latino districts that enable the Latino

1 community to elect candidates of their choice, also
2 respecting their communities of interest.

3 The Kings Kern -- the Kings and Kern Senate draft
4 map leaves out small Tulare County communities, such as
5 Ivanhoe and Woodlake, and places them in the Fresno Kern
6 map, two places I know like the back of my hand. I
7 encourage you to put these small Tulare County towns in
8 the Kings Kern Senate district map. Ivanhoe and Woodlake
9 are in the same county supervisor's seat as Dinuba and
10 Oroshi. And I feel they should be in the same state
11 Senate district as well. It makes sense on multiple
12 fronts.

13 One thing I learned during my time as a commissioner
14 is people in those areas share a lot of common interests.
15 They're rural farm worker communities. They work in
16 packing houses, in the fields, picking our fruits and
17 vegetables. They shop together. They do business
18 together. So placing them in a district that encompasses
19 West Bakersfield and communities like Clovis and North
20 Fresno is not necessarily a good idea and in their best
21 interest.

22 Lastly, I would like to ask the commission to
23 establish effective Latino VRA districts throughout the
24 entire Central Valley. Thank you for your time and have
25 a nice night.

1 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

2 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
3 have 061. And then up next after that will be 039.

4 061, I'll be promoting you now. 061, you can now
5 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
6 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
7 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
8 is yours.

9 DR. VAZQUEZ: Find my notes here. Good afternoon.
10 I'll be talking about the Central Valley, so Tulare,
11 Fresno, Kern, Central Valley.

12 My name is Dr. Lucia Vazquez. I'm from Tulare
13 County. My concerns are the Kerns Kern (sic) draft, the
14 Fresno County Kern drafts, the Senate maps, and the
15 Central Valley.

16 So the first thing I would ask again that the
17 commission make rural areas a priority. The cities have
18 city councils to take care of them. The counties have
19 county supervisors to take care of them. But what if
20 they don't have effective leadership? What if things
21 aren't working out? Then those little rural counties
22 don't have anybody to (audio interference) them. And
23 that's why it's so important that the commission does due
24 diligence to make sure that they're making rural
25 counties, rural towns, and areas their priority. This is

1 the idea behind the VRA to make sure that everyone has a
2 voice.

3 The rural counties also have the problem of having
4 freeways going right through them. So when you do try to
5 make wonderful, beautiful lines, please make sure that
6 you're getting both sides of those freeways when there's
7 a small town in the way and that they be able to do that.

8 The other thing is we must not only have VRA
9 districts but strong VRA districts so that we will have
10 effective -- get effective leadership and be able to
11 empower those communities.

12 When in doubt, you know, go to the MALDEF maps, go
13 to the equity coalitions that were helped supported by
14 the Delores Huerta Foundation. These were collaborative
15 maps that were put together by community members that
16 live in those communities. So they've done the work for
17 you. You know, I really appreciate all the work that's
18 been put in.

19 Again, I want to address, as Mr. Commissioner
20 Verduzco did, the Kings Kern draft leaves out Ivanhoe and
21 Woodlake. These are overwhelming Latino communities that
22 really need to go back into the Kings Kern district and
23 not into the Fresno Kern district.

24 I have one more ask and to please in your ending
25 recommendations to as a commission and as each individual

1 commissioner that you can promote this third-party
2 commissioners. These third-party commissions for our
3 cities, for our counties so that we can stop the
4 gerrymandering. There are so many counties and so many
5 districts that are packed, that are cracked, and that are
6 gerrymandered, and the only way --

7 MR. MANOFF: Twenty seconds.

8 DR. VAZQUEZ: -- we're going to be able to make any
9 movement is to be able to have individual commissions
10 such as yours. Thank you, Commissioners. Thank you,
11 (audio interference). And thank you for everyone putting
12 in their input. Have a good night.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. You, too.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
15 have 039. And up next after that will be unique ID 008,
16 as they are a retry from earlier.

17 Right now we will have 039. I'll be promoting you
18 now. 039, you can now enable your audio and video in the
19 lower left corner of your screen. If you'll please
20 remind the mapper of what district plan and region you'd
21 like to address, the floor is yours.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I am in
23 Senate district 21 for Lancaster Antelope Valley, and I
24 see that the district is moving quite a bit to the east.
25 As I was looking for the original maps, it seems like you

1 are sharing the area north of us that was very
2 overwhelmed with that huge vast territory.

3 And yes, some of those areas -- I'm all right with
4 this particular draft. I think they need to share some
5 of it --

6 There we go. It keeps moving around. All righty.

7 Well, actually, it looks like you deleted some of
8 Kern County. I think you could split that up a little
9 bit more and make the 21 that I'm in a little bit smaller
10 and let Kern County keep that other part where
11 Johannesburg up to Searles Valley, where it shows Ft.
12 Irwin. I know we do have a good highway system from up
13 Barstow coming down to 58 that comes through the north of
14 the -- Antelope Valley -- actually, it goes into Kern
15 County up just above Rosamond and up. Anyhow, I'm okay -
16 -

17 There we go. There we go.

18 Yes, you've increased the 21 just a little bit. I'm
19 not quite sure how much further it goes out from these
20 maps. All these lines are kind of confusing.

21 Anyhow, it's -- I don't know what you can say. We
22 are sharing some of the area that was a vast area for the
23 other county.

24 And are you just strictly keeping with the Senate
25 district tonight, or may I make a comment on the

1 congressional?

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Tonight is Senate issues.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Just strictly, okay.

4 All right. It looks okay.

5 Oh, there we go. Is that the one that's proposed
6 now, the draft, or is that what's current? I just see
7 the dark lines. I don't see the different color lines.

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Yeah, I think we can
10 make it a little bit smaller. Yeah, up in that area,
11 that should go back into the Kern County area in that
12 upper left corner. Yeah, I think that should go back to
13 the Kern County because that's a huge land area.

14 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, thank you very much.
16 Have a good evening.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. You as well.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will be
19 retrying unique ID 008. And then up next after that will
20 be 042.

21 008, as you have called back in, if you will please
22 follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. Oh, one
23 more time. Unique ID 008, if you'll please press star 6
24 one more time, the floor is yours.

25 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. Yes. Thank you,

1 members of the commission. I'm addressing all of the
2 Central Valley districts. And I'm very concerned about
3 the lack of San Joaquin Valley representation on the
4 commission. The only valley cities represented on the
5 commission are Tracy and Stockton, which are at the very
6 far forth end of the valley.

7 When I look at the Senate map, I see both Stockton
8 and Tracy have maintained their geographic integrity,
9 while the remainder of the larger cities in the San
10 Joaquin Valley have been sliced up like pizza. I'm very
11 concerned about what appears to be preferential treatment
12 for the cities of Tracy and Stockton to the detriment of
13 the other larger cities in the Central Valley.

14 Commissioners, you only get one more bite at the
15 apple. This is your opportunity to create a fair map for
16 the entire San Joaquin Valley. Thank you.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
19 have unique ID 042. And then up next after that will be
20 049.

21 042, I'll be promoting you now. 042, you can now
22 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
23 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
24 district plan and region you would like to address, the
25 floor is yours.

1 MR. GARRETT-PATE: Thank you. I'll be speaking
2 about Los Angeles, specifically the SDNILA district.

3 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

4 MR. GARRETT-PATE: Sure. Good afternoon,
5 Commissioners. My name is Samuel Garrett-Pate. I'm the
6 managing director of external affairs for Equality
7 California. I'm also a resident of downtown Los Angeles
8 and part of our emerging LGBTQ Plus community here in
9 DTLA.

10 I want to start by thanking all of you for your
11 focus on listening to, uniting, and empowering LGBTQ Plus
12 communities throughout the state and throughout this
13 process. We are deeply grateful to all of you for the
14 recognition, that it is important to keep LGBTQ Plus
15 communities of interest together and empowered and
16 united.

17 Specifically, on SDNILA, we want to thank the
18 commission for your robust conversation about how to keep
19 West Hollywood and Hollywood together in the Senate maps.
20 Unlike the assembly map, which divides the LGBTQ Plus
21 community in West Hollywood and Hollywood, this Senate
22 map does actually keep those communities together.

23 And I want to specifically thank Commissioner
24 Kennedy for his remarks about the fact that the LGBTQ
25 Plus community is not just in West Hollywood and

1 Hollywood, but also extends into Silver Lake, Los Feliz,
2 and beyond. There is a deep history within Silver Lake,
3 in particular, where the Black Cat Uprisings happened.
4 One of the first LGBTQ Plus uprisings against police
5 brutality notably happened two years before the Stonewall
6 Riots in New York.

7 So it is very important that we keep the LGBTQ Plus
8 community together. The Senate districts being larger
9 does allow you to do more of that, and we are very happy
10 with this map.

11 If we saw any changes to this map, we would just
12 appreciate the commission uniting more of Westlake in the
13 SDNILA district. This would help to increase the Latino
14 CVAP as well, and that population could be offset by
15 moving some of Bell into -- or uniting Bell with Bell
16 Gardens --

17 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

18 MR. GARRETT-PATE: -- (indiscernible) to water
19 district directly south.

20 So again, just want to thank the commission for your
21 commitment to uniting the LGBTQ Plus community. Would
22 urge you respectfully to unite Hollywood and West
23 Hollywood in the assembly and --

24 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

25 MR. GARRETT-PATE: -- ten district the way you have

1 here in the SDNILA district. Thank you so much.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
4 have unique ID 049. And then up next after that will be
5 067.

6 049, I'll be promoting you now. 049, you can now
7 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
8 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
9 district plan and region you would like to address, the
10 floor is yours.

11 MR. SUKATON: Good evening. Please go to district
12 ECA in the Senate plan. Thank you.

13 Members of the commission, good evening. This is
14 Samuel Sukaton from the California Environmental Voters
15 Education Fund. I appreciate your forbearance in taking
16 public feedback so quickly and so robustly.

17 I did want to draw your attention initially to the
18 Eastern Sierra. We've had a number of conversations
19 about Zone G. Some of our partners have been very
20 expressive. We appreciate the very hard boundary between
21 the desert -- the San Bernardino Desert and the broader
22 Eastern Sierra -- Inyo San Bernardino line, which has
23 been consistent this entire process.

24 I do want to note -- and I will refer a number of
25 times back to our presentation, which was submitted about

1 a month again -- that we did suggest that if you're going
2 to draw a Sierra district, that you dip in once, and you
3 dip in at Roseville. This was not the case in that
4 Merced -- we call it the Modesto dip in that -- in all of
5 the plans, the Sierra district dips in at least to take
6 Modesto, occasionally Fresno, and in some cases as far
7 west as Merced.

8 We do believe that self-determination for the Sierra
9 Nevada is a really critical part of environmental
10 stewardship, and we would ask that you refer back to our
11 Eastern California plan, which takes in one Senate
12 district from Sierra County in the north to Inyo in the
13 south, dipping in to pick up population in Roseville that
14 leaves space for effective Latino VRA districts in the
15 Central Valley.

16 Moreover, if you could go north to SD North Coast, I
17 appreciate kind of the responsiveness -- and you'll hear
18 this when we talk about the other plans as well -- I want
19 to refer back to a Karuk tribe and -- Karuk tribe and
20 Yurok tribe letters asking that Siskiyou County -- or at
21 least the western part of Siskiyou County, where their
22 native lands are, be drawn west into a coastal district
23 at all levels of government. You can compensate for the
24 minimal population switch by taking more of Sonoma into
25 the Napa Byron and (indiscernible) congressional and

1 assembly districts.

2 Finally, to the Inland Empire, just as a resident of
3 the City of San Bernardino and who grew up in SBRC, I
4 will echo MALDEF's statement that this is a great
5 district for ten years ago, and it's not now. The cities
6 of San Bernardino, of Riverside, and then the broader
7 Pomona, Ontario Fontana --

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 MR. SUKATON: -- corridor can constitute three
10 separate Senate seats. In Riverside, it makes sense to
11 include Riverside with Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, and
12 Perris. San Bernardino and Rialto should be kept
13 together. And then Pomona, Ontario, together with
14 Fontana being split to make up the difference.

15 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

16 MR. SUKATON: Finally, since I have a little bit
17 more time, I do want to refer to the SCSOCNSD draft.
18 Removing Little Saigon and Aliso Viejo, and using the 405
19 as a boundary between inland and coastal would be
20 crucial. You can see that in our maps running as far
21 south as Carlsbad.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
24 have unique ID 067. And then up next after that will be
25 056.

1 067, I'll be promoting you now. 067, you can now
2 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
3 your screen. And if you'll please remind the mapper of
4 what district plan and region you'll be addressing, the
5 floor is yours.

6 MS. SUK: Thank you. I'll be addressing assembly
7 district maps for Oakland and for Alameda County. We are
8 very satisfied with the Senate maps.

9 My name is Liz Suk. I'm the executive director of
10 Oakland Rising. We represent and engage over 60,000
11 voter supporters in Oakland and broader Alameda County.
12 As a Korean living on Ohlone land, I identify strongly as
13 an Oaklander and East Bay resident, having lived here for
14 almost 40 years. As a long-time resident, I've seen the
15 region shift and change, and some feel like inevitable
16 changes and other feel like -- felt hard and heart
17 breaking.

18 Decades of disinvestment, disenfranchisement,
19 gentrification have shifted our region in very dramatic
20 ways, where once we were strong -- we had a strong,
21 thriving Black communities, we now see smaller pockets
22 and smaller -- of small businesses -- and small
23 businesses. We need representation at the state level
24 that will fully advocate for our communities that
25 represent us fully and wholly.

1 Currently, the CRC proposes a map that splits some
2 of these critical COIs, and I wanted to address two
3 directly, Oakland, Emeryville and unincorporated Alameda
4 County, specifically Ashland.

5 We're glad to see that a strong city like Oakland
6 continues to be connected with the east and west Oakland
7 neighborhoods intact. However, we're concerned about
8 splitting Emeryville from Oakland. Emeryville and
9 Oakland -- particularly West Oakland -- seem like they've
10 been divided by a freeway, but in fact, there's a large
11 unhoused population that spans these two areas.

12 We also have a regional shoreline and major and
13 small business districts that these communities clearly
14 access, West Oakland Shops in Emeryville, and in order
15 for -- and in order generally access Emeryville,
16 Oaklanders and other East Bay residents drive through
17 West Oakland.

18 Also, in regards to Ashland, the smaller cities,
19 like Ashland and Cherryland, with Castro Valley and
20 Hayward, are deeply tied. Because these communities
21 geographically are so small, they bleed right into each
22 other and all access points to these communities are
23 shared. The identity of these communities are closely
24 tied to Hayward and Castro Valley.

25 However, the map is currently placing Hayward with

1 Livermore and Pleasanton, which is divided by a very
2 giant hill, and it takes at least 20 minutes to drive
3 there, so I don't understand why --

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 MS. SUK: -- we would -- we need those communities
6 to be -- we need those communities to stay together, and
7 we hope that you will incorporate Ashland, as it is
8 unincorporated, and it needs representation --

9 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

10 MS. SUK: -- fully that doesn't receive at the
11 county level. I appreciate your time and thank you.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
14 have 056. And then up next after that will be 070.

15 056, I'll be promoting you now. 056, it appears to
16 have some connectivity issue with you connecting, the
17 audio and video option. I'll be doing the audio only
18 option at this time, if you will please follow the
19 prompts to unmute on your screen.

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Hello. Can you hear me now?

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. The floor
22 is yours.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay. Thank you. Sorry
24 about that.

25 Yes, I'm here representing the Sacramento Valley

1 Landowners Association, and I would like to refer to the
2 map in the north part of the state, Yuba Sutter.

3 First, I want to compliment the commission on
4 keeping the rural valley counties north of Sacramento
5 together in your draft Senate and congressional maps. So
6 we do appreciate your listening to our feedback.

7 I would like to make one suggestion to improve the
8 north state Senate map. Lake Tahoe belongs with Placer
9 and El Dorado Counties. Cutting off Tahoe out of the
10 Placer El Dorado district and placing it into the far
11 north of the Senate district should be avoided, as Tahoe
12 is a major contributor to the Placer El Dorado economy.
13 Instead, the commission should consider adding Trinity
14 County into the North California -- Northern Cal Senate
15 district.

16 I believe that there has been substantial testimony
17 provided as to how Trinity and counties like Shasta and
18 Siskiyou are interconnected.

19 Additionally, the commission should look at
20 connecting West Roseville to the north -- Northern
21 California Senate district. West Roseville is near the
22 Sutter County line, and the two communities share a
23 similar interest. Residents often living in West
24 Roseville use Baseline Road to connect to Highway 9970,
25 and there are plans underway to develop that portion of

1 West Placer to the Sutter County line. This would seem a
2 natural connection. So adding Trinity County and West
3 Roseville to the Nor Cal district would allow the
4 commission to keep Lake Tahoe in the Placer and El Dorado
5 district.

6 Again, thank you so much for listening to us this
7 evening and taking our input. Have a good evening.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: You, too. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
10 have 070. And then up next after that will be 052.

11 070, I'll be promoting you now. 070, you can now
12 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
13 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
14 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
15 is yours.

16 MS. ABASTA-CUMMINGS: Hi. Good evening,
17 Commissioners. I am commenting on the draft map for
18 Merced and Stanislaus County, as well as the -- for both
19 assembly and the Senate districts today.

20 Good evening. My name is Leslie Abasta-Cummings,
21 and I am the CEO for Livingston Community Health. We are
22 a federally qualified health center, providing primary
23 and preventive health care services to the underserved
24 and often undocumented residents in Merced and Stanislaus
25 County.

1 I'm calling today to offer comment because I saw on
2 the draft maps that the commission was considering
3 dividing Merced County in half, and that the line also
4 effectively splits the service territory that Livingston
5 Community Health serves. We have locations in Hilmar,
6 Livingston, Delhi, Waterford, Turlock, and Hughson. And
7 the maps would put half of our locations in one district
8 and the other half in a different district.

9 The reason we have locations in these areas that we
10 do is because of the shared cultural and economic
11 histories of the people who now call this area home.
12 There are so many small but vitally important pockets of
13 diversity in these areas, including many Hmong, Latino,
14 Portuguese, Punjabi, Laotian, and Mien communities. Many
15 of these groups came here to escape violence,
16 instability, and extreme poverty and these are all
17 aspects we cater to in order to provide culturally
18 competent care.

19 Livingston Community Health, as did most federally
20 qualified health centers arose because of the need
21 that -- that there was their financial resources were
22 not. They worked to provide access to healthcare, but we
23 also try to lift up our communities to help them to be
24 seen to those in power and -- and who would otherwise
25 would never know who they were.

1 But most of the first generation in these
2 communities were marginalized in their own countries, and
3 so it is vitally important that they do not experience
4 the same here in California. Unfortunately, your current
5 draft maps divide these communities. I know for many
6 people driving up the 99, one town may look just like the
7 rest, but drawing a line between them might seem to have
8 no consequences, but in this case, it would further the
9 divide that we are already seeing.

10 I would ask that the Commissioner take a closer look
11 at the Merced and figure out a way to keep these
12 communities of interest together. Thank you so much for
13 your time.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
16 have 052 and then up next after that will be 077.

17 052, I'll be promoting you now. 052, you can now
18 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
19 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
20 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
21 is yours.

22 MS. CHENG: Hi. I'd like to address the state
23 senate map for Orange County.

24 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead please.

25 MS. CHENG: Okay. Good evening. My name is Susan

1 and I'm the organizing director at AHRI for Justice, a
2 non-profit organization focused on youth organizing
3 living engagement and providing immigration legal
4 services in Orange County.

5 Before anything else, I would like to thank you for
6 your commitment to this crucial process. We understand
7 that executing plans, collecting and organizing data
8 takes a lot of work, communication, time, and dedication.

9 Today, I wanted to comment on the communities of
10 interest in Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin. As an alumni
11 of the University of Irvine and an older sister to my two
12 other siblings who have also attended University at UCI,
13 I'm no stranger to this area. It's so important that we
14 keep the communities of interest in Irvine, Costa Mesa,
15 and Tustin together because of the common challenges
16 faced such as access to affordable housing,
17 transportation, and environmental justice.

18 These parts of Orange County should be drawn
19 together, especially keeping Irvine whole and with Costa
20 Mesa.

21 While the overall state senate draft map looks
22 pretty good for Orange County, I really wanted to flag
23 this -- this problem, which is the city of Irvine and the
24 larger Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin COI that are
25 divided.

1 You heard -- you've heard from members of the
2 People's Redistricting Alliance about the importance of
3 keeping these -- this proportionately immigrant
4 communities whole and together, especially as Irvine
5 grows rapidly.

6 So we really believe that Irvine should be kept
7 whole by balancing population in the south county area.
8 And I also wanted to emphasize that any changes to the
9 map should be made without major changes to the districts
10 in and around Santa Ana, west Anaheim, and south
11 Fullerton.

12 Yeah, I just wanted to -- lastly, I just wanted to
13 thank you all for your time and commitment and listening
14 to all our comments for the Orange County maps. Have a
15 nice evening.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. You as well. Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
18 have 077 and then up next after that will be 059.

19 077, as you have chosen to call in this evening, if
20 you'll please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing
21 star six. If you'll please remind the mapper what
22 district plan and region you'd like to address, the floor
23 is yours.

24 MS. ABDI: I'll be speaking on senate, assembly, and
25 congressional maps. Good evening commissioners. My name

1 is Rahmo Abdi. I'm a community organizer with PANA. I
2 have been living in City Heights for 25 years. Today I'm
3 calling on behalf of Black African Immigrant and Middle
4 Eastern Refugee Communities in San Diego. In the
5 neighborhood of City Height, La Mesa, Lemon Grove,
6 southeastern San Diego, Spring Valley, and El Cajon.

7 We live in underserved community in San Diego. We
8 are shut out of all decision making processes. We want
9 to bring change in our community by being a unified bold
10 in black. The refugee community experiences high rate of
11 hidden homelessness with families doubling up in the same
12 homes, are for rent, and having to face navigating a new
13 environment without (indiscernible) aspects.

14 This makes simpler -- simple tasks like applying for
15 a job, visiting doctor appointments, and running your
16 kids to school, or going to DMV is a very difficult for
17 my community.

18 In congressional draft maps, City Heights is split
19 in two with Santee. As I have shared in previous
20 meetings, we do not have anything in common with the
21 Santee residents. We don't share any interests with
22 Santee.

23 In the new draft map, I ask that you keep all City
24 Heights and southeastern San Diego districts together.
25 The senate draft map protects -- protects and pair the

1 Black (indiscernible) COI and a minor -- in a minor
2 similar (indiscernible) planned.

3 I ask that you do not pair City Heights with
4 Humboldt, or Costa, or downtown San Diego County
5 community. In the newest senate draft map, I ask that
6 you keep the city of El Cajon whole and do not pair it
7 with Santee. Like I said, we don't have anything in
8 common with Santee residents.

9 But instead, pair with other immigrant communities
10 in this area. I urge you to keep our community of
11 interest together and give us the opportunity to bring
12 change to our community. Our Black, African, Middle
13 Eastern, Muslim refugee communities are tired of being on
14 the menu. We want to be at the table. Thank you for
15 your time and keep -- please keep our community together.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
18 have 059 and then up next after that will be 071.

19 059, I'll be promoting you now. 059, you can now
20 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
21 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
22 district plan and region you would like to address, the
23 floor is yours.

24 MS. CAMPBELL-BLAIR: Good evening. I will be
25 discussing the proposed maps for senate district on the

1 north coast and senate district NorCal in the far north
2 of California.

3 Yeah, all the way up there. Okay. Yes. Okay. So
4 my name is Amy Campbell-Blair and I am a community
5 organizer and a resident on the north coast of
6 California.

7 And I'm here today to speak in support of the Karuk
8 Tribe, who is asking for their tribal lands to be kept
9 together in District 2. The Karuk Tribe recently sent a
10 letter to the commission, informing you of their
11 community of the interest. That instead of being split
12 across districts as they are now, currently between
13 Districts 1 and 2, the Karuk Tribe stated the importance
14 of being fully connected through political representation
15 with the Yurok and Hupa Tribes, whose lands are in
16 District 2.

17 In particular, this political representation is
18 really important when it comes to the restoration of
19 fisheries and the river. Western Siskiyou was included
20 in District 2 in the commission's October 27th map
21 visualization, which the Karuk Tribe endorsed in their
22 letter. However, the current draft map not only leaves
23 Western Siskiyou in District 1, but it includes a
24 northeast corner of Humboldt in District 1 as well.

25 I want to commend the commission for keeping the

1 Karuk Tribe lands together. However, they're being kept
2 together in the current draft map in the exact opposite
3 district that the Tribe originally advocated for.

4 The Tribe sent a follow up letter to the commission
5 where they expressed their concerns about their lands
6 being kept together in District 1 instead of District 2,
7 and I quote, "Because our interest in water and natural
8 resource management are more aligned with that of coastal
9 communities," end quote.

10 One final point I would like to might is that prior
11 to publishing your draft maps, there was a proposed
12 visualization that took Del Norte County out of District
13 2 and included it in District 1. In response, the Yurok
14 Tribe put out a press release explaining why that was
15 against their interest and the threat to their tribal
16 sovereignty since their lands are located in both Del
17 Norte and Humboldt, and putting Del Norte in District 1
18 would split their lands between districts.

19 In the release draft maps, the interests of the
20 Yurok Tribe were -- were reflected and honored and Del
21 Norte in the -- in the draft map was kept in District 2.
22 And I would -- I would encourage --

23 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

24 MS. CAMPBELL-BLAIR: I would encourage you to give
25 the Karuk Tribe that same consideration of their stated

1 interests for their community. And finally, I would
2 encourage the commission to review both of those letters
3 that were sent on November 3rd and November 10th and
4 consider making a change to the state senate map district
5 lines --

6 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

7 MS. CAMPBELL-BLAIR: -- in order to reflect the
8 community of interest comments from the Karuk Tribe.
9 Thank you for your time.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
12 have 071 and then up next after that will be 040.

13 071, I'll be promoting you now. 071, you can now
14 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
15 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
16 district plan and region you would like to address, the
17 floor is yours.

18 MR. MALDONADO: I'll be addressing the Santa Clarita
19 map.

20 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead please.

21 MR. MALDONADO: Hello. My name is Daniel Maldonado
22 (ph.) and I am Latino. My Commissioner Sadhwani, I
23 suggest giving San Fernando Valley neighborhoods an
24 adjoined San Fernando Valley district.

25 The current Santa Clarita senate map makes no sense

1 at all as it lumps two large areas with extremely
2 opposite interests and needs into the same senate
3 district. In all honesty, there is no logic to this map
4 outside of a population grab, or to entirely do away with
5 the interests and needs of the residents of Santa Clarita
6 as it provides no benefit to us of any kind.

7 The current map combines Santa Clarita, which has
8 higher incomes, very low levels of poverty, low levels of
9 crime and gang activity, a very low undocumented migrant
10 community, strong housing development, high levels of
11 employment, offers a better work-life balance, and is a
12 suburban and rural community, with the densely packed San
13 Fernando Valley east which, is a hundred percent the
14 opposite and has extremely high levels of crime and gang
15 activity, large income disparities, shockingly high
16 levels of poverty, large numbers of low income
17 households, extreme amounts of homelessness, has mostly
18 multi-family housing, and has a large undocumented
19 migrant community, who would be separated from the San
20 Fernando Valley west that has a large community of voting
21 qualified Latinos.

22 I suggest creating a senate district for Santa
23 Clarita that joins us with comparable cities and
24 communities to our north, east, and west, such as those
25 in the Antelope Valley or Ventura County. This cities

1 and communities share workforce industries, community
2 college interests, national forests, wildlife threats,
3 and public safety power shutoffs. Because we are
4 serviced by SoCal Edison.

5 We also share a large law enforcement population,
6 which I'm sure commissioner Taylor understands the needs
7 and -- of law enforcement representation. Lastly, they
8 are nearly identical socially and economically.
9 Therefore, please remove the San Fernando Valley east
10 from the Santa Clarita map --

11 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

12 MR. MALDONADO: -- and create a map that truly
13 represents us. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
16 have 040 and then up next after that will be 066.

17 040, I'll be promoting you now. 040, you can now
18 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
19 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
20 what district plan and region you would like to address,
21 the floor is yours.

22 MS. SOOMAR: Sorry. Hello. You can stay exactly
23 where you are right now. My name is Naheed, and I'm a
24 resident of Santa Clarita Valley as well and the -- the
25 speaker who spoke before me reflects exactly what I was

1 going to say, okay?

2 San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita Valley are the
3 exact opposites. They have nothing in common. Santa
4 Clarita Valley is less dense. It's a suburban community.
5 It has newer infrastructure, newer homes, whereas San
6 Fernando Valley is older and has more in common with
7 western San Fernando Valley as the previous caller very
8 eloquently explained.

9 And so I would -- I just wanted to echo what -- what
10 he said. That San Fernando Valley has very unique set of
11 problems with congestion, crime, poverty, homelessness,
12 and aging infrastructure. And they really, really need
13 focused representation. And by splitting San Fernando
14 Valley and lumping them with Santa Clarita really, really
15 hurts them. And -- and doesn't represent Santa Clarita's
16 interests either.

17 So it would make more sense to keep San Fernando
18 Valley's -- Valley communities together and then
19 surrounding cities that are less populated, that are
20 newer in nature, and are more similar in terms of
21 economic drivers together as a separate district from San
22 Fernando Valley.

23 And I really appreciate this -- this panel to give
24 ordinary residents like myself the opportunity to
25 participate in this very important process. So thank you

1 and have a great night.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you, same. Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much. All
4 right. Now we have caller 066 and up next after that
5 will be caller 054. Or unique ID 066. I apologize.

6 Unique ID 066, I'll be promoting you now. 066, you
7 can now enable your audio and video in the lower left
8 corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the
9 mapper of what district plan and region you'd like to
10 address, the floor is yours.

11 MS. KELLEY: Thank you. Hello. My name is Chris
12 Kelley and I am the mayor of the city of Hercules. We
13 are located in the east bay of the San Francisco Bay
14 area, and I would like to address the proposed assembly
15 district map for Solano County. This map pulls in my
16 city of Hercules and my neighboring city of Pinole, and
17 it makes absolutely no sense because we two cities have
18 nothing in common with the rural cities in Solano County.

19 Hercules and Pinole are located across the Carquinez
20 Bridge from Solano County. We need to remain in assembly
21 district east bay with our west Contra Costa cities and
22 Alameda County. The residents of our cities are inner
23 suburban cities and we have very little in common with
24 Solano.

25 We, in Hercules and Pinole, we work, shop, play

1 throughout Contra Costa County and Alameda County. Our
2 children attend schools in the West Contra Costa Unified
3 School District, Albany, Berkeley, and other areas of
4 Contra Costa. If you merge us with Solano County, we
5 will completely lose our voice and be drowned out by
6 other concerns. This is just not fair to our cities.

7 The vast majority of Pinole and Hercules, we are
8 oriented south and east. We are ethnically diverse.
9 Most of us have moved here from bigger cities, so we have
10 big city concerns and big city needs. I urge you to keep
11 us in the East Bay assembly district. Thank you.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
14 have unique ID 054 and up next after that will be 073.

15 054, I'll be promoting you now. 054, you can now
16 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
17 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
18 district plan and region you'd like to discuss, the floor
19 is yours.

20 MS. NGUYEN: Hello. I'd like to discuss the state
21 senate map in Orange County. Cool. All right. Hello
22 and good evening. My name is Christina Nguyen. I am a
23 resident of Irvine in Orange County and I am also with
24 the Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community
25 Alliance or OCAPICA.

1 I understand that this commission takes numerous
2 factors and comments into consideration and I really
3 would like to thank the hard work this commission has
4 done to center our communities of interest.

5 I wanted to bring up that the city of Irvine has --
6 has experienced a significant growth in the past decade,
7 resulting in the city of Irvine now having the largest
8 population of Asian Americans, along with a growing
9 population of Pacific Islanders and then sub residents. The
10 city of Costa Mesa similarly has a significant population
11 of Pacific Islanders and Latinx populations.

12 We feel that it's important in the redistricting
13 process to keep the city of Irvine whole and to include
14 the city of Costa Mesa together with it. The city of
15 Costa Mesa has been included in the coastal cities -- in
16 previous redistricting efforts. However, it actually has
17 more in common with cities like Irvine and parts of
18 Tustin. Their communities face similar issues around the
19 lack of affordable housing and language access, as
20 well -- as well as receive from our public programs that
21 provide rental assistance and workforce development to
22 target communities in both of these cities.

23 While the overall state senate draft map looks
24 pretty good for Orange County, I wanted to flag the most
25 serious problem in which both the city of Irvine and the

1 larger Irvine, Costa Mesa, and Tustin communities of
2 interest are divided. You've heard from members of the
3 People's Redistricting Alliance about the importance of
4 keeping these disproportionately immigrant communities
5 together in whole, especially as Irvine is growing
6 rapidly.

7 We believe that Irvine can be kept whole by
8 balancing the population in the south county area. We
9 also all want to emphasize that any changes to the map
10 should be made without any major changes to the districts
11 in and around Santa Ana, west Anaheim, and south
12 Fullerton.

13 You're almost there in Orange County. We don't
14 really want to take any steps backwards. Other than
15 that, thank you so much for this opportunity and for all
16 the work you have done on behalf of our communities so
17 far. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
20 have 073 and then up next after that will be 043.

21 073, I'll be promoting you now. 073, you can now
22 enable your audio and video and if you'll please remind
23 the mapper of what district plan you -- and region you
24 would like to address, the floor is yours.

25 MS. LEDBETTER: I'd like to address Stanislaus

1 County. Great, thank you.

2 My name is Renee Ledbetter and I'm a realtor and the
3 executive director of the Ceres Chamber of Commerce. I'm
4 here today because the preliminary maps do not reflect
5 communities of interest within Stanislaus County or the
6 city of Ceres.

7 For those of you not familiar with Ceres, we have a
8 vibrant community. We have been actively improving our
9 downtown district and have a number of civic events each
10 year that bring together residents from across our city
11 and across the valley, actually. However, we do face
12 many challenges that are shared with our neighbors here
13 in the Central Valley, like Merced County.

14 We simply do not have shared interests with
15 Calaveras, Amador, Tuolumne, Alpine, Mono, or Inyo
16 Counties, which is how we have been drawn in the current
17 senate map. We also do not have shared interests with
18 Fresno County. You currently have our city split up in a
19 congressional district with half of our city being
20 grouped with parts of the south valley and part of our
21 city being grouped with counties in the mountain region.

22 Our town is very small compared to many of the major
23 urban areas across the state. Our community needs will
24 not be addressed if we are split up and placed with
25 portions of the state with -- that do not share our

1 economic interests, our agricultural interests, and our
2 cultural interests. Stanislaus County's treatment in the
3 draft maps only makes the situation worse, given the
4 commission has split the county up in such odd ways.

5 I cannot understand the rationale behind decisions
6 like grouping Patterson with parts of Sacramento County
7 and then grouping Ceres with Inyo --

8 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

9 MS. LEDBETTER: -- County when Patterson and Ceres
10 are both in the same county and much more aligned in
11 interests and demographics. I'm concerned that the
12 commission is carving up part of the state without a
13 focus on common interests because its priority --

14 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

15 MS. LEDBETTER: -- prioritizing the interests of
16 other regions. That is not fair to the people who live
17 here, work here, and are raising their families here. I
18 thank you for your time and I ask you to please have
19 the -- the maps redrawn for our region. Thank you.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
22 have 043 and then up next after that will be 024.

23 043, I'll be promoting you now. 043, you can now
24 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
25 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what

1 district plan and region you would like to discuss, the
2 floor is yours.

3 MR. AI: Hello, commissioners. I am looking at
4 A-N-T-V-I-C-V-A-L, Antvicval.

5 Hello, commissioners. Oh, I'll wait until you get
6 that there. Great.

7 Hello, commissioners. My name is Mike Ai. I'm here
8 on behalf of Equality California, the nation's largest
9 statewide LGBTQ Plus civil rights organization with
10 hundreds of thousands of members statewide. I'm also
11 calling as a resident of San Bernadino County.

12 Personally, as a San Bernadino County resident, I
13 think it would make more sense for San Bernadino -- San
14 Bernadino County mountain communities like Yucaipa, Big
15 Bear, Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead to be with
16 Victorville and the high desert and Antvicval.

17 And I would also note that numerous callers from
18 these communities have said the same thing about the
19 congressional maps. That they wanted to be with the high
20 desert because of their shared interests, priorities, and
21 values.

22 I'd like to thank the commission for your
23 recognition that our LGBTQ community throughout the state
24 should be united as much as possible and -- and your work
25 to do so in the Coachella Valley with the bounds of VRA

1 constraints in your maps.

2 Again, I would like to express our deep
3 disappointment that the draft assembly maps still
4 separates Desert Hot Springs and Thousand Palms from Palm
5 Springs and Cathedral City, dividing the heart of our
6 desert LGBTQ Plus community. While Palm Springs may be
7 widely known as a city with large LGBTQ Plus population,
8 it would be a mistake to assume that the community is
9 confined within the city limits.

10 Many of the LGBTQ elders in California, and now the
11 first generation of people living with HIV to live into
12 their senior years, live in the neighboring communities
13 around Palm Springs, which includes Cathedral City,
14 Desert Hot Springs, Thousand Palms, and beyond.

15 A desert LGBTQ Plus communities in Palm Springs,
16 Cathedral City, Desert Springs, and Thousand Palms shared
17 housing interests, small business priorities, tourism,
18 hospitality industries, and the Palm Springs Unified
19 School District. These communities should be united and
20 NBCB draft assembly district NBCB, which already includes
21 most of the Coachella Valley.

22 I respectfully urge the commission to revise the
23 draft assembly maps, unite Desert Hot Springs and
24 Thousand Palms currently located in the Sika (ph.)
25 district with Palm Springs and Cathedral City and NBCB.

1 And I respectfully urge the commission to unite San
2 Bernadino County mountain communities like Yucaipa --

3 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

4 MR. AI: -- Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, with
5 Victorville and high desert and Antvicval. Thank you so
6 much.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
9 have 024 and then up next after that will be 074.

10 024, I'll be promoting you now. 024, you can now
11 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
12 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
13 district plan you would like to discuss, the floor is
14 yours.

15 MR. RAMIREZ: Thank you very much, Katy. My name is
16 Pedro Ramirez, and I want to -- a resident here of the
17 Central Valley in Tulare County. I'd like to speak on
18 the Central Valley senate district maps, particularly the
19 Merced, San Benito, and -- and Fresno map. And then the
20 Fresno and Kern map.

21 We respectfully urge the -- the commission to
22 consider and -- and continue to convey the message that
23 valley communities need to be held accountable together.
24 So when we look at the map right now, we see that Merced
25 has been separated from the senate district that we

1 currently have drafted. We -- we want to respectfully
2 encourage that Merced as a whole, as a county, be
3 continued to be part of the Salinas Valley for the shared
4 interests of agricultural workers.

5 Both of the communities have large population of
6 immigrant and documented folks -- Latinos. And so
7 looking at that and how it complies with the voting
8 rights act, we encourage the commission to -- to further
9 unify those communities. Those communities have very
10 little -- particularly in the Merced County area, with --
11 with the current district map with the -- the foothill
12 communities and the mountain communities. The -- the --
13 the foothill communities and the ag communities in Merced
14 are not aligned.

15 And then looking at the southern valley senate
16 district, we encouraged the commission to look at
17 unifying Sanger with -- with that senate district and
18 moving the district a little bit more into the city of
19 Bakersfield.

20 We appreciate the work and thank you very much.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
23 have 074 and up next after we'll have 095.

24 074, I'll be promoting you now. 074, you can now
25 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of

1 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
2 district plan and region you would like to discuss, the
3 floor is yours.

4 MS. AVILA: Yes, my name is Debbie Avila and I will
5 be discussing the maps in Stanislaus County. The
6 congressional assembly, as well as the senate map. I'm
7 here today because I have concerns that this commission
8 is not giving enough attention to Stanislaus County and
9 the communities of interest that exist here. To be
10 frank, when you look at the maps, Stanislaus County looks
11 like an afterthought. In the senate, you have grouped
12 part of our county with Stockton and Sacramento Counties,
13 and part of our county with the mountain counties and
14 Mono and Inyo.

15 In the assembly, you put some of our county with the
16 small sliver of Merced and the rest of our county with
17 Manteca and Sacramento. In the congressional maps, the
18 city of Modesto, our county seat is split up with part of
19 the city going with Fresno and part of the city going
20 with the mountain counties. And the county as a whole is
21 split in three different districts.

22 Stanislaus County does not belong with Sacramento,
23 Fresno, Mono, Inyo, or the mountain counties. The way
24 the maps are currently drawn really makes many of us here
25 in the valley in Stanislaus County feel that this

1 commission just is looking at us and giving us the
2 leftovers in the process. Stanislaus County should be
3 split as little as possible.

4 Splitting us the way you have dramatically dilutes
5 the voices of those of us who live here. Stanislaus
6 County has a large and very vibrant Latino community.
7 60,000 people live in south Modesto alone and nearly 60
8 percent of them are Latino. Ceres, Newman, Patterson,
9 and Riverbank are also cities that are heavily Latino and
10 all of those cities are incorporated into maps in ways
11 that dilute our voices.

12 Your jobs as commissioners is to balance interests.
13 Right now, it seems like you're picking winners and
14 losers, and unfortunately Stanislaus County is losing.
15 Thank you for your time and I implore you, please take
16 another look at Stanislaus County and not dilute the
17 voices of all of those who live here. Thank you.

18 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now have 095
20 and up next after that will be 068.

21 095, I'll be promoting you now. 095, you can now
22 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
23 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
24 district plan and region you would like to discuss, the
25 floor is yours.

1 MS. BANK: Yes, Gatos Bank. I work at a local non-
2 profit here in Santa Cruz. I'm a marathoner, and I have
3 been following your process, which is most definitely a
4 marathon.

5 While my thoughts may not reflect the opinion of all
6 of my neighbors, I believe that you have created the
7 foundation for a solid assembly district. The portion of
8 Santa Cruz in Benito County -- or excuse me, the portion
9 of Santa Cruz in the Benito District really reflects the
10 demographic differences within Santa Cruz, and ensures
11 that no voices are diluted.

12 You've heard from plenty of community of Tustin
13 (indiscernible) connecting Watsonville to the Salinas
14 Valley. And I listened in October when the Charter
15 Schools Associations gave a clear presentation showing
16 those demographic differences.

17 So it's great that you really unite those
18 communities in your assembly and Senate drafts. And I
19 think that your lines reflect the increasingly powerful
20 pull of the Silicon Valley on Santa Cruz.

21 Our past has been tied to the south. However, the
22 reality is our present and our future are increasingly
23 tied north and over Highway 17.

24 One clear example of that is how UC Santa Cruz
25 opened a Silicon Valley extension campus in the City of

1 Santa Clara, and also that the traffic is getting so bad
2 that my friends are starting to call their commute home
3 the banana slog.

4 It's also clear that these maps create positive
5 outcomes all the way down the central coast, particularly
6 the Latino communities of western Ventura. There is,
7 however, one area of improvement. Too much of Santa Cruz
8 County is being up with the Mont Coast (ph.) district to
9 the south, despite our growing economic ties to the
10 northeast.

11 Currently, less than half of Santa Cruz county is in
12 the Gachul Cruz (ph.) district. It's clear that Santa
13 Cruz must be divided, but I'm sure that you can find a
14 way to situate more of Santa Cruz county in the Gachul
15 Cruz district, and let's unite more communities of
16 interest. Thank you.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
19 have 068 and up next after that will be 075.

20 068, I'll be promoting you now. 068, you can now
21 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
22 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
23 district plan, the floor is yours.

24 MS. MARIVEL: Yes, hi. I am looking at the district
25 plan that is for the senate -- the Napa/Byron area. And

1 so -- so let's look at that. All right. Great.

2 So I am Marivel. I am the president and co-founder
3 of an organization based here in the Oakley, Brentwood
4 area in Contra Costa County. So I don't know if you
5 found -- yes. You're -- you're circling just that.

6 And so what I really -- I was a little -- sorry my
7 two-year-old. I was a little concerned when I'm seeing
8 this redraw and this redistricting that they're actually
9 including Byron in with Napa because there's actually a
10 big divide there that happens after the delta.

11 And there's not really much of a connection that
12 happens -- I'm so sorry. And what we have here is we
13 have a big agricultural community that actually we have a
14 lot more of the farm workers, campesinos, that travel
15 from the San Joaquin County over here to the Contra Costa
16 County.

17 So what I would like seeing, and I know that you
18 guys worked really hard on this, but if we could please
19 try and keep in mind that a lot of the farmworkers
20 actually travel between Byron and, you know, Victoria
21 Island, Stockton, Tracy.

22 So we're looking at that area so that's that Byron,
23 that Knightsen area does not really go up but they go
24 over. And so I would really like to keep all of those
25 people and their interests connected. Yes, there's a lot

1 of agricultural that happens up north but we're not
2 really going up towards that direction as much as we are
3 going towards the other.

4 So yeah. And I definitely hear a lot of people
5 calling in and, you know, with separating certain cities
6 that have higher Latino populations --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. MARIVEL: -- and -- and I hope that we can keep
9 that in mind in keeping -- in keeping these districts
10 together. So again, Contra Costa, Byron areas, keeping
11 it with the San Joaquin areas --

12 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

13 MS. MARIVEL: -- I think would be best. Thank you
14 so much.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
17 have 075 and up next after that will be 060.

18 075, I'll be promoting you now. 075, it appears
19 that you do not have the connectivity at this time to do
20 the audio and video option. I'll be doing the audio
21 own -- audio only option at this time. If you'll please
22 follow the prompts to unmute.

23 MR. KANE: Okay. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

25 MR. KANE: Excellent. Thank you. This is regarding

1 senate district for east Ventura and San Fernando Valley.

2 Hello, my name is Brian Kane and I'm a resident of
3 Simi Valley here in Ventura County where my wife and I
4 have lived for 32 years. I recently retired after 38
5 years building space satellites, including your XM radio,
6 and DIRECTV, and some other things.

7 I have been appointed to the executive board for
8 Simi Valley neighborhood council member for and I'm very
9 grateful to the commissioners for your tireless work to
10 improve our state's representation.

11 The senate district combined Simi, Thousand Oaks,
12 and some San Fernando Valley communities, and that looks
13 good, although I would add Santa Clarita and Stevenson
14 Ranch and maybe reallocate the portions of the San
15 Fernando Valley to make this district more homogenous.
16 And that's regarding the senate district.

17 Come to the assembly district, you know, we prefer
18 to keep Simi, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks together. We also
19 have Malibu. And with regard to Malibu, that's maybe not
20 so homogenous. Certainly like all those folks down there
21 and their beautiful coastline, but Simi, Moorpark,
22 Thousand Oaks are a little more homogenous and -- and a
23 bit dissimilar to Malibu.

24 I do respectfully request that you revise the state
25 assembly and senate, as well as congressional districts

1 in our area. As you revise these, that you keep Simi
2 Valley, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, and Santa Clarita
3 together in one district. We have common interests and
4 demographics, including school districts, the aerospace
5 industry, and some of the topography of mountain, ridges,
6 and valleys. And that's important in terms of the
7 management of forestry and fire prevention.

8 I do believe that the San Fernando Valley
9 communities have common interests as well and would be
10 better served if they are kept together in respective
11 districts. Their common interests are schools under Los
12 Angeles Unified School District management. Their
13 traffic and safety and community commerce in cohesion --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MR. KANE: -- and -- thank you. And keeping those
16 communities together with the revised district boundaries
17 will enable their representatives to identify and promote
18 issues important to the San Fernando Valley communities.

19 I appreciate your consideration of my request and
20 thank you --

21 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

22 MR. KANE: -- again for the work that you're doing
23 in our communities.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will

1 have 060 and up next after that is 064.

2 I'd like to invite unique ID 047, 048, 050, 057, 072
3 to please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your
4 screen. It is session two and you do have a slot to make
5 comment during this session.

6 060, I'll be promoting you now. 060, you can now
7 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
8 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of the
9 district plan and region you would like to address, the
10 floor is yours.

11 MR. SUPAHAN: (Indiscernible) Terry Supahan. I am
12 the executive director of the True North Organizing
13 Network, a multi-race, multi-faith, social justice
14 organization. And I'm here to comment in the far
15 northwest corner of the state in Humboldt, Siskiyou
16 County state senate district map. I'm not speaking as
17 representing my organization but as an enrolled travel
18 member in the Karuk Tribe.

19 And in that specific corner of Humboldt County that
20 has been moved into Siskiyou county's district, I want to
21 believe that the commission was trying to respond in
22 support of the -- the Karuk Tribe and -- and the Yurok
23 Tribe also. It issued letters this past week. And that
24 particular line that you see there, in attempting to --
25 in attempting to create a support for the tribe's

1 ancestral territory actually makes a mistake. That that
2 line should remain in Humboldt County.

3 What the tribe was trying to do -- what the Karuk
4 Tribe was trying to do, as I understand it, was to move
5 that line west into Humboldt County so that the tribe
6 has properties, assets, ancestral territory that goes
7 east and west. But the mistake was that it moved
8 toward -- included that part there of western Siskiyou
9 County, when it really should have stayed in eastern
10 Humboldt County. Perfect.

11 Whoever is doing your maps is doing a great job.
12 You -- you folks are tireless. It was said from a
13 gentleman from Simi Valley you guys have been tireless.
14 We all want to thank you for -- for the effort. Thanks
15 for running the marathon with us. That's all.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
18 have unique ID 064, and up next after that will be 076.

19 064, I'll be promoting you now. 064, you can now
20 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
21 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
22 what district plan and region you would like to address,
23 the floor is yours.

24 MS. MERRITT-BENNETT: Yeah, I'd like to address the
25 map for Senate District 12. I'm Pamela Merritt-Bennett

1 and I'm a member of the Merced Black Parallel School
2 Board. We are a community organization established to
3 ensure equitable access and protection in public
4 educational institutions for our African American, or
5 Black, students.

6 Specifically, we work parallel with local school
7 boards to close the educational opportunity gap, to
8 advocate for educational equity, and social and emotional
9 affirmation, as well as to improve academic outcomes for
10 African American students. The past two years are the
11 first time in my entire adult life that I have been able
12 to see the interests of children of color, especially
13 those in rural areas such as Merced County, brought to
14 the dais of the California Senate.

15 Furthermore, it happened only because the Black
16 Parallel School Board was able to work together with
17 other like-minded constituent groups in Senate District
18 12. This will no longer happen if Senate District 12 is
19 dissected as proposed. If any of District 12 is placed
20 with the foothills, the voting efficacy of the
21 marginalized voting groups, such as African American,
22 Latinx, and Southeast Asians, will be not just negatively
23 impacted, but completely nullified.

24 That consequence will last for a minimum of ten
25 years and maybe even decades longer. The larger

1 coalition of communities of interests that we've been
2 able to rally around school district, LCAP funding, and
3 broadband issues will have to be resurrected and that is
4 no minor feat. Monterey, Merced Counties, and other
5 agricultural areas in Senate District 12 have similar
6 enough interests to allow for at least some of the
7 concerns of African Americans to be seriously forwarded
8 to the state level of government.

9 Moving the line to the least -- pardon me. Moving
10 the line to the east is also not helpful in that it will
11 disrupt the new alliances that African American voters in
12 Merced County have been able to make with some Monterey
13 County voters.

14 African Americans --

15 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

16 MS. MERRITT-BENNETT: -- make up only about six
17 percent of the population in the state, and even less in
18 rural areas, such as Central Valley. It has been
19 virtually impossible for us in the valley to elect
20 officials who would seriously consider our --

21 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

22 MS. MERRITT-BENNETT: -- concerns to the point that
23 they are actually fostered legislation around it. So we
24 would really appreciate your keeping as much of Senate
25 District 12 together as possible. And if you have to

1 draw a line to my untrained eye, it might be down toward
2 the south and --

3 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right. Now we will
5 have 076 and then up next after that will be 046.

6 076, I'll be promoting you now. 076, you can now
7 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
8 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
9 what district plan and region you would like to address,
10 the floor is yours.

11 MS. ERIKAT: San Diego County. Good evening,
12 everyone. My name is Jeanine Erikat. I'm a policy
13 associate with the Partnership for Advancement of New
14 Americans and have lived in San Diego for 25 years.
15 First, I want to thank you for your continued service and
16 thoughtful dedication to the process and the countless
17 hours you have spent listening to the public.

18 Today, I am calling on behalf of Black, African,
19 Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim immigrant and refugee
20 communities in San Diego in the neighborhoods of City
21 Heights, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, southeast San Diego,
22 Spring Valley, and El Cajon. And I'll be speaking on
23 senate, assembly, and congressional maps since I was not
24 able to get appointment time on the other days.

25 As residents of City Heights, La Mesa, Lemon Grove,

1 southeast San Diego, Spring Valley, we have shared needs
2 such as increased affordable housing, equitable
3 transportation access, language access, socioeconomic
4 status, wanting to see improved refugee resettlement, and
5 the decriminalization of our communities.

6 In the senate draft maps, please protect and pair
7 the Black hubs community of interest in a similar manner
8 to the state assembly plan. I ask that you do not pair
9 City Heights with Humboldt or with coastal or downtown
10 San Diego communities. In the new assembly draft maps, I
11 ask that you keep the city of El Cajon whole and do not
12 pair us with Santee. When you split El Cajon, you are
13 splitting a significant community of interest, the Arab
14 community, who is already disenfranchised of being
15 invisible in the census.

16 I speak on behalf of the 50 -- of over 50,000 Arab
17 and Middle Eastern El Cajon residents when I urge you not
18 to split El Cajon. But instead, pair us with other BIPOC
19 and immigrant communities in the Mesa areas.

20 In the congressional draft map, City Heights is
21 split and paired with Santee. As I've shared, and many
22 others from San Diego have shared, City Heights and
23 Santee have no shared interests.

24 In draft -- in the new draft maps, I ask that you
25 keep all of City Heights and southeast whole and in a

1 district together, and I urge you to keep our communities
2 of interest together and give us a chance to bring change
3 to our communities and to -- and to -- excuse me. And to
4 take and to consider the maps presented by the California
5 Black census and redistricting hub, which were informed
6 by countless months of community (indiscernible) --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. ERIKAT: -- testimony. Thank you for your time
9 and consideration of our community. Have a wonderful day
10 and I look forward to seeing the next draft maps.

11 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

12 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
13 have 046 and then up next after that will be 047.

14 046, I'll be promoting you now. 046, you can now
15 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
16 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
17 district plan you would like to address, and region, the
18 floor is yours.

19 MS. ARIANNA: Hi. Can you confirm you can hear me
20 okay? I'm on my mobile.

21 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

22 MS. ARIANNA: All right. Thank you. I am calling
23 for Fresno County and the state senate. Hi commission.
24 My name is Arianna, and I live in Merced in the Central
25 Valley. I want to discuss the draft senate maps for

1 Merced County. I'm a college student here in Merced and
2 I have attended UC Merced.

3 Here in Central Valley, we are very proud of UC
4 Merced. It is a major pride point that after many years
5 of fighting and advocating, we got a UC campus. UC
6 Merced is a major part of the culture here in the city of
7 Merced, Merced County, and Central Valley as a whole. So
8 it is really disappointing to see your draft ECA map,
9 where you put the college campus, the city, and the
10 entire county in a senate district with a bunch of
11 mountain counties that have nothing in common with the
12 Central Valley.

13 It is confusing because you have Merced with other
14 valley districts in your assembly and congress draft
15 maps. Merced belongs in a valley-based senate district
16 too. I ask that you do right by UC Merced students, the
17 residents of Merced, and the Central Valley Latino
18 community, and put us back in a senate district with our
19 fellow valley communities, not the Sierra's.

20 Many students in the Central Valley look to UC
21 Merced as their best chance to be the first in their
22 family to earn a college degree, especially Latino
23 families. You're biggest and most important obligation
24 in the Central Valley is to make strong and effective
25 Latino voting rights districts.

1 Part of the -- of that mission means you must bring
2 Merced back into a senate district with a valley floor.
3 I strongly urge the commission, in particular the two
4 valley commissioners, to work towards creating a stronger
5 Latino VRA district, and keeping our valley communities
6 out of districts with the Sierras. Look back at your
7 November 2nd maps as better options for the valley.

8 And I do apologize. I meant to say Merced County,
9 not Fresno County. Thank you so much for your time.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
12 have 047 and up next after that will be 057.

13 047, I'll be promoting you now. 047, you can now
14 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
15 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of
16 what district plan and region you would like to address,
17 the floor is yours.

18 MS. TURMAN: Hello. Can you guys hear me good?

19 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

20 MS. TURMAN: Okay. Thank you. I am going to talk
21 about Senate District 23, San Bernadino, Rialto, and
22 Fontana fluid accessibility. Hello, my name is Shakita
23 Turman (ph.) and I work in the city of San Bernadino and
24 I'm here to talk about the African American communities
25 in the cities of San Bernadino, Rialto, and Fontana.

1 I was looking over the Black Hub Senate map for the
2 Inland Empire and the commission's draft map and
3 personally, I support the Black Hubs map. Often, when
4 I'm driving to work in San Bernadino, I see people on the
5 street, holding up signs saying that they are hungry.
6 It's very sad to me. I, myself, am a mother of two young
7 kids and I'm often concerned if I will have enough money
8 to buy food for the month. It's important to me that my
9 family have good quality food to eat for the sake of
10 their health.

11 And San Bernadino, Rialto, and Fontana have common
12 concerns about food accessibility. For example, 88
13 percent of the people who live in San Bernadino have lack
14 of access to quality foods. And this becomes a burden to
15 our society because lack of proper diet can contribute to
16 malnutrition, heart disease, hypertension, and a lack of
17 other diseases.

18 Access to food is fundamental to human existence. I
19 believe in being a part of solutions and not just talking
20 about the problems. So my cousin and I, we did a pop up
21 shop where we gave backpacks filled with food to kids.
22 Our communities don't have grocery stores, like the more
23 affluent communities. This is why it is important that
24 you draw maps that keep our communities together so that
25 we can advocate for the importance of our community

1 needs.

2 The way the commissions have drafted the map for the
3 Senate District 23, it breaks up our communities of
4 interest and it dilutes our voices and limits our power
5 when it comes to addressing food accessibility.

6 I'm here to ask the commissions to keep our
7 communities together in your senate state maps for the
8 Inland Empire. I'm here to ask you to draw maps that
9 keep communities of interest together. Pair San
10 Bernadino with Rialto and the Black communities in
11 Fontana. This will protect the voting strength of the
12 African American communities who celebrate the same
13 culture events --

14 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

15 MS. TURMAN: -- Juneteenth and Black History Month.
16 This will ensure that we can improve our access to food
17 accessibilities. Thank you for listening to me and thank
18 you for your time.

19 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we have 057
21 and up next after that will be 048.

22 057, I'll be promoting you now. 057, you can now
23 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
24 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
25 district plan and region you would like to address, the

1 floor is yours.

2 MS. KAZNER: Thank you. The map I will be referring
3 to is Garden Grove, Westminster in Orange County.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. Go ahead please.

5 MS. KAZNER: Thank you. Good evening, members of
6 the commission. My name is Charlene Kazner, a resident
7 of Garden Grove. I am with Pacific Islander Health
8 Partnership, a non-profit organization which is based in
9 Garden Grove, and serves the native Hawaiian and Pacific
10 Islander communities, advocating for good health and
11 well-being.

12 Thank you, commissioners, for your dedication and
13 hard work on the redistricting process. It is important
14 that the cities of Garden Grove and Westminster be drawn
15 together as we are disproportionately low income. Many
16 households speak a language other than English, live in
17 multi-generational households, earn minimum wage, and
18 share the needs for social services and affordable
19 housing. There are numerous small businesses from faith-
20 based organizations and civic clubs that live in these
21 cities, and we urge you to keep them together on the map.

22 Pairing Garden Grove and Westminster with the beach
23 coast committees -- communities is not a good fit because
24 the majority of our community, our service workers, own
25 small businesses and earn low wages as compared to the

1 beach coast communities. Again, we would like to thank
2 the commission for your continued effort and hard work on
3 the redistricting process. Have a good evening.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: You as well. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now we will
6 have 048 and up next after that will be 050.

7 And I'd like to invite 072, you do have a -- an
8 appointment during this session, session number two. If
9 you would please use the raise your hand option at the
10 bottom of your screen.

11 048, I'll be promoting you now. 048, you can now
12 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
13 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
14 district plan and region you would like to address, the
15 floor is yours.

16 MS. LETICIA: Hello. Hi, my name's Leticia (ph.).
17 Thank you so much for the introduction. I'm going to be
18 referencing SD23, San Bernadino, Inland Empire.

19 My name's Leticia. Like I said, I'm a San Bernadino
20 native and I'm here to ask the commission to keep our
21 communities together and in your senate maps for the
22 Inland Empire, and most importantly to me, to draw maps
23 that keep communities of interest together.

24 I have a question. Can you guys see my video?

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Yes, we can. Please go ahead.

1 MS. LETICIA: Okay. Great. I am currently working
2 as an in-home care provider and for the San Bernadino
3 County Superintendent of schools for over six years.
4 Today, I'm here to talk about the African American
5 community in the cities of San Bernadino, Rialto, and
6 Fontana.

7 I'm aware of both the Black Hubs commission map and
8 the commission's map. I am in the belief that the Black
9 Hub map is more uniform and in alignment with the needs
10 of my community of interest. I cannot see -- okay, yes.
11 San Bernadino is right on the right upper corner and this
12 is the map that was proposed by the hub. And it keeps us
13 all together in whole.

14 San Bernadino, Rialto, and Fontana, we all share
15 common concerns about education and the many schools in
16 our communities. I'm a widowed mother of six with four
17 children in -- attending schools in San Bernadino and
18 Rialto districts. My communities need increased access
19 to higher education and increased opportunities to afford
20 college.

21 The way the commission has drafted the map for
22 Senate District 23 breaks up my community and limits our
23 power when it comes to addressing quality education.
24 Please keep our communities of interest together. Pair
25 San Bernadino with Rialto and Fontana, and keep our

1 cities whole. This will ensure the protection of our
2 voting strength of the African American community, who
3 worship together, live together, and learn together.

4 And this will ensure that we can improve our access
5 to quality education. Thank you to the commission for
6 your time and your considerate --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. LETICIA: Thank you.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 And Katy, let's take that last caller before break.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Absolutely. Caller 050,
12 I'll be promoting you now. 050, you can now enable your
13 audio and video in the lower left corner of your screen,
14 and if you'll please remind the mapper of what region
15 you'd like to discuss, the floor is yours.

16 MS. BODIE: Yes, hi. I will be talking about San
17 Bernardino and the Inland Empire.

18 Hi. My name is Lakisha -- my name is Lakisha Bodie
19 (ph.), and I am a mother of seven, and education is very
20 important to me. If my children don't have a good
21 education, chances are they will not be able to earn a
22 good job, making livable wages.

23 I live in San Bernardino, and all of our communities
24 in the Inland Empire have common concerns about the need
25 for quality jobs. The lack of jobs they offer -- that

1 are offering livable wages in our communities. It is
2 very troubling to many people in our communities who work
3 full time, 40, 50, 60 hours a week and still can't make
4 ends meet.

5 I compare the Black Hubs map for the Inland Empire
6 with your maps, and I support the Black Hubs map. The
7 way the commission has drafted the Senate map for the IE
8 separates our communities of interest and (indiscernible)
9 power.

10 When it comes to addressing quality jobs, I am here
11 to ask the commission to keep our community together in
12 your senate maps for the IE of Inland Empire.

13 I am here to ask you to draw maps that keep
14 communities of interest together. Please pair San
15 Bernardino, Rialto, and our Black communities and Fontana
16 together. This will ensure the protection of the voting
17 strength of the African American communities, who share a
18 common culture and celebrate cultures such as Kwanzaa.

19 This will ensure that we can improve our access to
20 quality jobs. Thank you.

21 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. And at this time, we will
22 pause to go to a meal break or a lunch break. We will
23 return at 6:45. As a reminder, if you're calling without
24 an appointment, please do not hang up, as you will lose
25 your place in line. So hang on. We are eager to get to

1 your calls as well.

2 And with that, we'll return at 6:45. Thank you.

3 (Whereupon, a recess was held from 6:16 p.m. until
4 6:45 p.m.)

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Welcome back to public input. Hope
6 everyone is refreshed and ready for the evening push.
7 Could I have the Spanish interpreter provide our language
8 line number -- oh, I'm sorry. Yes. Could I have the
9 Spanish interpreter provide our language line number
10 where the public can listen to today's meeting in
11 Spanish?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Hi, Chair. This is Margarita, the
13 Spanish interpreter. Did you want the full call-in
14 instructions?

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: No, just the --

16 THE INTERPRETER: Not the --

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Correct, same as the beginning.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Okay. Sounds good. (Spanish
19 spoken). Thank you.

20 CHAIR TAYLOR: Gracias. Thank you.

21 We're going to pick up where we left off with our
22 registered callers. When we complete those, we'll move
23 into public comment.

24 Back in your capable hands, Katy.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

1 Welcome to the draft map feedback session. If you have
2 not done so already and if you have a unique ID that ends
3 anywhere from 001 through 099, please use the raise hand
4 button at the bottom of your screen. You will be
5 identified by your assigned unique ID number received in
6 your invite for this session. When it is your turn to
7 speak, I will promote you to have the ability to enable
8 your own video and/or audio in your lower left corner of
9 your screen. Public input time limit is two minutes and
10 thirty seconds. You will receive a verbal warning at
11 thirty seconds and fifteen seconds remaining in your
12 speaking time. There will also be an active timer on the
13 screen for your convenience.

14 When you start your input, please identify which
15 district plan and region you will be providing input on.
16 And one more time, please use the raise hand button at
17 the bottom of your screen to enter the comment queue
18 line, indicating you are present and ready to comment.
19 And that is for any unique ID number ending from 001
20 through 099.

21 We will be starting out with unique ID 087 and then
22 up next after that will be 084.

23 087, I will be promoting you now. 087, you can now
24 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
25 your screen. If you will please remind the mapper of

1 what district plan and region you would like to address.

2 The floor is yours.

3 MS. CHARCO: Perfect. Hello, my name is Ana Charco
4 and I am the program associate for the Community
5 Engagement and Advocacy Department at Latino Health
6 Access, which is located in Santa Ana, in Orange County.
7 Latino Health Access have been proudly working alongside
8 community residents for 27 years to improve the social
9 determinance of health in our city. We appreciate all
10 the long the hours you and the line drawers have put into
11 balancing so many diverse communities of interest
12 throughout the state. Santa Ana is primarily composed of
13 low-income and mixed immigration status Latinx families.
14 Many of the families include undocumented U.S. residents
15 and citizens family members.

16 They are extremely hardworking families, but with
17 many employed in essential jobs, that are often
18 overlooked and underpaid. This makes affordable housing
19 difficult, as more than 80 percent of our residents in
20 Santa Ana are tending to spending the majority of
21 their -- of their incomes in rent.

22 The city includes numerous communities of interest,
23 including immigrants, low-income families, families
24 without medical insurance, and mixed immigration status.
25 These communities of interest are shared with those in

1 west Anaheim and south Fullerton, who also share the need
2 for equitable and affordable housing, and need for social
3 resources and services.

4 I also want to acknowledge and thank you for drawing
5 a VRA district around Latinx communities in Orange
6 County. In central Orange County, we truly appreciate
7 the Commission's shift towards a configuration similar to
8 federal Voting Rights Act in districts at the assembly
9 and congressional levels, like those levels -- like those
10 levels in the senate, together align with (audio
11 interference) -- like those levels draws the Santa Ana
12 community of interest together with the line with South
13 Fullerton and West Anaheim communities of interest.
14 These communities have numerous shared interests,
15 including the need for affordable housing, and common
16 concerns with policing and immigration performance, as
17 well as need to be heard and be accounted for.

18 We do not -- we do want to flag that this district
19 divides two other communities of interest, the Korean
20 American communities of interest in north Buena Park and
21 northwest Fullerton, as well as the La Mesa community
22 spanning south of Buena Park, La Palma, and Cypress in --

23 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

24 MS. CHARCO: -- Orange County, and Cerritos and
25 (indiscernible) in L.A. County. We want to emphasize

1 that any changes to the map should be made without major
2 changes to the district in and around Santa Ana, west
3 Anaheim, and south Fullerton. If -- you're almost there
4 in Orange County --

5 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

6 MS. CHARCO: -- and we wouldn't want to take steps
7 back -- backwards. Once again, thank you for your time,
8 hard -- hard work and dedication in taking our
9 testimonies in consideration. Thank you.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
12 have 084 and up next after that will be 096.

13 084, I'll be promoting you now. 084, you can now
14 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
15 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
16 district and region you would like to address. The floor
17 is yours.

18 MS. VALENCIA: Hi, hello. I'm addressing Santa Ana,
19 in Orange County. Can you guys hear me?

20 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can.

21 MS. VALENCIA: Hello?

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We can hear you.

23 MS. VALENCIA: Okay. Thank you. Hi, my name is
24 Maria -- okay. Thank you. My name is Maria Sela (ph.)
25 Valencia. I am a Santa Ana resident and a community

1 organizer with Orange County Congregations Community
2 Organization. So the area that I'm addressing is Santa
3 Ana, in Orange County.

4 OCCCCO works with congregations and community leaders
5 across the county on issues of housing and immigration
6 and education.

7 First of all, I would like to thank and acknowledge
8 the hard work of the Commission. I would like to uplift
9 the importance of Santa Ana's Latinx community. This is
10 a community that is low-income, immigrant mixed status,
11 and monolingual households. Another concern for this
12 community is affordable housing. The majority of the
13 residents are rent burdened. The -- the same can be said
14 for both west Anaheim and south Fullerton.

15 Overall, the state senate draft map looks pretty
16 good for Orange County. In central Orange County, we
17 truly appreciate the Commission's recent shift towards a
18 configuration similar to federal Voting Rights Act
19 districts at the assembly and congressional levels. Like
20 those levels, the senate district draws Santa Ana
21 community of interest together. These communities have
22 numerous shared interests, including the need for
23 affordable housing, and common concerns with policing and
24 immigration enforcement.

25 We do want to flag this district divides two other

1 communities of interest. The Korean American in north
2 Buena Park and northwest Fullerton, as well as the AMEMSA
3 communities spanning the south Buena Park, La Palma, and
4 Cypress, in Orange County, and Cerritos and Artesia, in
5 Los Angeles County. We want to emphasize that any
6 changes to the map should be made without major changes
7 to the district in and around Santa Ana, west Anaheim,
8 and Fullerton. We would also, in -- in Orange County, we
9 wouldn't want to take -- we're almost there in Orange
10 County and we wouldn't want to take steps backwards.

11 Again, thank you for your time. And we appreciate
12 all this effort that you guys are doing. Thank you so
13 much.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
16 have 096 and up next after that will be 090.

17 096, I'll be promoting now. 096, you can now enable
18 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
19 screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
20 district plan and region you would like to address. The
21 floor is yours.

22 MS. MARGARET: Thank you so much. I'm Margaret. I
23 live in Marin County and I'm addressing the SD and CD
24 north coast map -- draft map. I've lived in Marin for
25 over 45 years. I'm an avid mountain biker and hike --

1 hiker, but what has kept me here for all these years is
2 the coast.

3 I share with the residents up the north coast to the
4 Oregon border one common value, and that is that the
5 coast be protected. We support the regulation of
6 industries to ensure its preservation, and we endorse new
7 legislation to address the challenges, like climate
8 change, and we expect our legislators to prioritize the
9 coastline. It's vital that we have cohesive
10 representation and leadership.

11 For several years, I commuted to Healdsburg in
12 Sonoma County for work. And I have seen the many
13 expansions and improvements in Highway 101 that have
14 served that region's growth and gee whiz, I wish I could
15 have used the SMART train then to commute.

16 The SMART train, over the past few years, has
17 deepened the connection between Marin and Sonoma County,
18 and will do so more as it expands over the next ten
19 years. I've spent some time watching your meetings and
20 I'm so impressed to see the evolution and the creative
21 solutions. One change which particularly stands out is
22 how you reduced the splits in Sonoma County from three to
23 two.

24 I'll conclude by saying how deeply grateful I am for
25 your proposed maps for the North Bay. You truly listened

1 to the intersecting needs of the North Bay region. And
2 while you might need to make some small changes, you have
3 followed our natural north-south configuration, and
4 you've respected our communities of interest. Thank you,
5 thank you, and thank you for all your efforts.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
8 have 090 and up next after that will be 082.

9 090, I'll be promoting you now. 090, you can now
10 enable your audio and video in the lower left corner of
11 your screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
12 district plan and region you would like to address. The
13 floor is yours.

14 MR. AL-DABBAGH: Hi. I'm going to address Orange
15 County. My name is Rashad Al-Dabbagh. I live in Tustin,
16 and I'm here on behalf of the Arab American Civic
17 Council, based in Anaheim's Little Arabia District. The
18 Arab American Civic Council is also a member of the
19 People's Redistricting Alliance. Thank you for your hard
20 work over the past few months.

21 Our community is the Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim,
22 South Asian communities. The AMEMSA communities are an
23 integral part of the state. For our communities, it's
24 important to keep Buena Park south of the 5 freeway, La
25 Palma and Cypress in Orange County, and Cerritos and

1 Artesia in Los Angeles County together. Overall, the
2 state senate draft map looks pretty good for Orange
3 County. We truly appreciate the Commission's recent
4 shift in and around the Santa Ana area toward a
5 configuration similar to the federal Voting Rights Act
6 district at the assembly and congressional levels, and
7 are pleased that Little Arabia in Anaheim is whole in
8 that district.

9 We do want to flag that this district divides the
10 AMEMSA, the Arab, Muslim, Middle Eastern, and South Asian
11 communities, spanning south Buena Park, La Palma, and
12 Cypress, in Orange County; and Cerritos and Artesia, in
13 Los Angeles County. While the AMEMSA community would
14 prefer to remain whole in an Orange County-based
15 district, community leaders recognize that Cerritos and
16 Artesia have been drawn into a required, adjacent Los
17 Angeles-based VRA district. We want to emphasize that
18 any changes to the map should be made without major
19 changes to the district in and around Santa Ana, west
20 Anaheim, and south Fullerton. You're almost there in
21 Orange County and we wouldn't want to take steps
22 backwards. Thank you.

23 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

24 MALE SPEAKER: Seriously.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we have

1 082 and up next after that will be 081.

2 082, I'll be promoting now. 082, you can now enable
3 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
4 screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
5 district plan and region you would like to address today.
6 The floor is yours.

7 MS. NIMMERS: I'm talking about assembly for San
8 Joaquin County, particularly around the Stockton area.
9 Should I begin?

10 MR. MANOFF: Yes. Go ahead, please.

11 MS. NIMMERS: Okay. Good evening, Commissioners.
12 My name is Kristin Nimmers. I'm the organizing
13 coordinator with the Black Census and Redistricting Hub,
14 working with our coalition partners in Central Valley.
15 I'm calling to provide feedback on maps in the assembly
16 level for San Joaquin County, particularly Stockton and
17 the surrounding communities of August, Garden Acres, and
18 Morada.

19 It's appreciated that the Commission has kept
20 Stockton whole, which is significant and protects low-
21 income black and brown communities that are significantly
22 impacted by poverty, historic disinvestment in their
23 communities and schools, low life expectancy rates,
24 environmental issues, and over-policing. However, the
25 Commission's current line cuts through black communities

1 in August, Garden Acres, and Morada, which face similar
2 issues and are connected to Stockton, and should be kept
3 whole and within the same district as Stockton.

4 The Commission should shift the western boundary of
5 the assembly district to fully capture those communities,
6 keeping them whole and united. It's important that these
7 communities are kept together, so that they can address
8 these collective issues facing all of them. Thank you
9 for your time and consideration of this input.

10 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

11 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we have
12 081 and then up next after that will be 093.

13 081, I'll be promoting now. 081, you can now enable
14 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
15 screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
16 district plan and region you would like to address. The
17 floor is yours.

18 MS. WONG: Hi and good evening. I'd like to go to
19 El Monte in the San Gabriel Valley region, in Los Angeles
20 County.

21 MR. MANOFF: Thank you. Go ahead, please.

22 MS. WONG: Great. Good evening. My name is Amy
23 Wong. I live in El Monte and work at Active San Gabriel
24 Valley, a community-based nonprofit at advancing
25 environmental justice in the SGV.

1 I'd like to, first, thank the Commission for keeping
2 El Monte and south El Monte grouped together at the
3 senate and congressional levels. El Monte and south El
4 Monte are working class environmental justice communities
5 ranked in the top ten percent most pollution burdened in
6 the state, so it's important for us to stay united.

7 At the assembly level, I do appreciate that El Monte
8 is included in the west San Gabriel Valley API-majority
9 district, as we do have a sizable API population. I
10 recommend switching Pico Rivera with La Puente Valley
11 region. This includes La Puente, Avocado Heights,
12 Bassett, south San Jose Hills, and unincorporated
13 Whittier, and unincorporated La Puente Valley. Pico
14 Rivera is not recognized as part of the San Gabriel
15 Valley, whereas La Puente Valley region is.

16 I'd also like to provide comment on the draft
17 congressional districts. The draft map divides the Asian
18 American Pacific Islander community in the west San
19 Gabriel Valley and dilutes our voting power. This is
20 unacceptable.

21 The Commission needs to unite Monterey Park,
22 Alhambra, and Rosemead with other neighboring API-
23 majority cities, like San Gabriel, Temple City, and
24 Arcadia. I urge you to support the November 2nd
25 congressional visualizations as a solution. In this way,

1 our park board communities can continue organizing on
2 environmental justice issues, like more resources for our
3 San Gabriel mountains.

4 Community organizing is what led to the mountains
5 gaining national monument status in 2014. Excluding our
6 community from the mountains makes it difficult for us to
7 have a say in how the mountains are managed and
8 protected. The only way our community can have
9 meaningful influence over their federal public lands is
10 to have a member of congress who represents them, and who
11 has a public land in their congressional district. The
12 November 2nd visualization should be adjusted so several
13 congressional districts extend north into the Angeles
14 National Forest. SFV1102 --

15 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

16 MS. WONG: -- and GLEN2 (ph.) -- BA1102 should be
17 extended as far north as possible into the forest, and a
18 kilometer of national forest should be added north of
19 Azusa to COV1102. Azusa is a gateway city to the forest,
20 with Highway 39 as a --

21 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

22 MS. WONG: -- main corridor. Thank you so much and
23 have a good evening.

24 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

25 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will

1 have 093 and then up next after that will be 094.

2 I'd like to invite unique ID 080, 072, 081, and
3 083 -- I apologize, 091 to please use the raise hand
4 button at the bottom of your screen, as it is your
5 session to give comment.

6 Right now, we have 093; I'll be promoting you. 093,
7 you can now enable your audio and video in the lower left
8 corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the
9 mapper of what district plan and region you would like to
10 address. The floor is yours. Unique ID 093, you should
11 be seeing an unmute prompt in the center of your screen.

12 MS. RAMOS-ANDERSON: Thank you. My name is --

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: The floor is yours.

14 MS. RAMOS-ANDERSON: My name is Patricia Ramos-
15 Anderson, I'm with LULAC. I'm president of the Merced
16 County Council 3072. Historically, communities of
17 interest in Merced County include San Benito County,
18 Madera, Fresno County, and Monterey County. They've
19 created an environment of all for one and one for all,
20 and (indiscernible) engagement. This has brought about
21 change within this region.

22 Key points: communities of interest is vital in
23 addressing the minority vote, according to the Voting
24 Rights Act, especially, rural, multi-cultural,
25 agriculture communities from Pacheco Pass, both sides of

1 Merced County and again, our other communities of
2 interest.

3 Two, the issues have been health, education, water,
4 labor, addressing inequities of infrastructure
5 improvements, especially in our unincorporated
6 communities.

7 A third one, the proposed map does not reflect
8 inclusion, but division within both sides of the Pacheco
9 Pass. Merced County, including San Benito County and the
10 other Fresno County and Madera. Merced has nothing in
11 common with Ione, Mono, Amador Counties and the counties,
12 and also with Monterrey. We have San Bernardino, Madera,
13 and Fresno as counties, which make up our communities of
14 interest.

15 More importantly, we have to also include the City
16 of Salinas; it's very key. The proposed map work in SD12
17 absolutely works against the spirit of the Voting Rights
18 Act and real intent of communities of interest to
19 indemnify -- identify and address their issues, and also
20 elect a representative of their choice.

21 The 2020 census data confirms a significant
22 demographic changes that continue to transform Merced
23 County. Latinos comprise 33 percent of the total
24 population 1990 comprise to 62 percent. Latinos are now
25 approaching two-thirds of the county population.

1 In closing, while the Latino population has
2 increased dramatically in the past 30 years,
3 opportunities for disadvantaged populations to elect
4 candidates of their choice has not kept up to pace. The
5 Fair Maps Act of 2019 and the Federal Voting Act --
6 VRA -- we need to do more to -- than to maintain the
7 status quo. And simply remove -- move a few census
8 tracts between districts, but in this case --

9 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

10 MS. RAMOS-ANDERSON: -- remove half the county of
11 Merced. This proposed map absolutely does not meet the
12 community of interest and will do more to maintain the
13 status quo. While we must keep the Merced County intact
14 with other communities of interest in San Ber --
15 including San Benito County, Madera, Fresno County, and
16 Madera in SE12 --

17 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

18 MS. RAMOS-ANDERSON: -- and includes Sacramento.
19 Thank you very much for your time. We must work together
20 and support and be inclusive and not divisive, and the
21 plan is divisive at this --

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
24 have 094 and up next after that will be 083.

25 094, I'll be promoting now. 094, you can now enable

1 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
2 screen. If you'll please remind the mapper of what
3 district plan and region you would like to discuss. The
4 floor is yours.

5 FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you very much. Good evening
6 to the committee and thank you for the opportunity to
7 speak to you regarding the proposed map. I'm a 35-year
8 resident of Tustin and a former resident of Irvine. I am
9 also a Tustin council member. I would like to address
10 the maps involving Tustin, Irvine, and Costa Mesa.

11 Tustin is currently slotted to be in the IOC
12 district with only the northern part of Irvine, north of
13 the 405 freeway included. Tustin shares many interests
14 with all of Irvine, as well as Costa Mesa. Students in
15 the Tustin -- in the Tustin area attend some schools in
16 Irvine and some Irvine residents attend Tustin schools.
17 We share a border along Jamboree. Both cities' residents
18 utilize the same shopping centers, grocery stores,
19 schools, worship centers, and recreational opportunities.
20 We have the same challenges with the open space
21 development of the Great Park and the Tustin Legacy. We
22 have similar demographics with diverse populations and
23 income levels.

24 Tustin and Irvine often work together on public work
25 projects and traffic patterns that affect both of our

1 populations. As a council member, we often have
2 conversations with Irvine council members about similar
3 issues that affect both communities. Tustin and Irvine
4 share the same communities of interest, as long -- as
5 well as Costa Mesa, who also has similar demographics.
6 Tustin and Irvine are very different than Brea,
7 Fullerton, or Yorba Linda, and Tustin and Irvine should
8 not be lumped in with that group. Thank you very much.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
11 have 083 and up next after that will be 091.

12 083, I'll be promoting now. 083, you can now enable
13 your audio and video in the lower left corner of your
14 screen. If you will please remind the mapper of what
15 district plan and region you would like to address. The
16 floor is yours.

17 MS. TORRES: Thank you. Thank you for your time,
18 Commissioners, and for all of your -- your efforts with
19 the redistricting efforts. My name is Juana Torres. I'm
20 here representing Nature for All. I'm also an avid user
21 of the San Gabriel mountains and long-time activist
22 working on the protection of our local public lands.

23 My brief comments focus on the cities from Sylmar on
24 the east all the way west to the City of Rancho
25 Cucamonga. These are the foothill cities that lie just

1 to the south of the Angeles and western San Bernardino
2 National Forest. These cities are found along the 210
3 freeway.

4 We believe these cities form a community of
5 interest, based on their proximity and relationship to
6 the mountains. We've given numerous comments in the past
7 on the importance of keeping these foothill cities
8 connected and unified to the forest by ensuring that they
9 are located in the same congressional districts. So in
10 other words, you know, we -- we've recommended in the
11 past that these cities along the 210 -- that these cities
12 and the mountains both be in the same congressional
13 districts. And that will allow, of course, the -- the
14 people of -- of these cities, who -- who are the users of
15 these mountains, to have a say in the management of -- of
16 the forest.

17 You heard our comments and on November 2nd you
18 released visualizations that followed a good part of
19 these recommendations. We were really excited. And
20 then, however, in the latest of the maps that were
21 released last week, we saw, once again, that the
22 mountains and these foothill cities have, once again,
23 been cut -- broken apart and -- and not unified. And so
24 I'm here to ask that you please adopt the November 2nd
25 visualizations for the geographic area that we're talking

1 about. Another positive thing about these November 2nd
2 maps was that it also kept intact the API community in
3 the West San Gabriel Valley. The current ones seem to
4 have split up the API community.

5 So please, adopt the November 2nd maps for this
6 geographic area. And the only --

7 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

8 MS. TORRES: -- improvement that I would offer to
9 the November 2nd maps is that the -- the boundaries of
10 the districts be included -- that be -- that they go to
11 the north, so that the congressional district boundary --

12 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

13 MS. TORRES: -- lines up with the forest boundary.
14 It's all public land, so just having that boundary be
15 extended would make a great difference for the people,
16 for them to have a say in how the mountains are managed.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
19 have 091 and then up next after that will be unique ID
20 072.

21 091, I'll be promoting now. 091, there appears to
22 be a connectivity issue with promoting for the audio and
23 video option. We'll be doing the audio only option at
24 this time. If you will please follow the prompts to
25 unmute.

1 Unique ID 091, you should be seeing an unmute button
2 in the center of your screen, asking you to unmute. One
3 more time. Unique ID 091, it is your turn if you are
4 there. Your hand is raised. There may be some type of
5 connectivity issue. I'll go ahead and try to give 072 a
6 chance and I will come back to you, 091. One moment,
7 please.

8 072, I'll be promoting now. All right. 072 -- ah,
9 there it goes. All right. I'll try again. 072, we're
10 going to go ahead and go with the only -- audio only
11 option at this time. 072, if you will please follow the
12 prompts to unmute. There you are; the floor is yours.

13 MS. LANE: Yes. My name is Faye Lane. I was
14 elected to serve as a trustee on the Ceres Unified School
15 District school board in 2007 and continue to serve as a
16 trustee. Throughout my time on the school board, I have
17 seen Ceres and Stanislaus County struggle for state and
18 federal resources, and have seen us get passed over for
19 wealthier urban areas and places on the coast. I fear
20 that the maps you have currently drawn will only make
21 this problem worse.

22 Ceres does not belong with the counties in the
23 foothills, as you have them drawn in the current
24 senate -- senate map. We also should not be split in
25 congressional districts with half of our population being

1 placed with a district by adding (audio interference)
2 Fresno, and half of our population being placed with the
3 counties in the foothills. It makes little sense to me
4 how this Commission could consider half of a city of just
5 shy of 50,000 residents to have common interests with two
6 dramatically different parts of the state.

7 Visualization from November 2nd did a much better of
8 preserving the interests of the valley than the current
9 maps.

10 The City of Ceres and our -- and our county, as a
11 whole, has much more in common with Merced County than
12 counties to the far south or to the counties in the
13 foothills. Our economics are much aligned; our water
14 interests are aligned. As someone who works in
15 education, I have also seen how our educational framework
16 and educational challenges are aligned.

17 I ask you to please consider these things as you
18 draft --

19 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

20 MS. LANE: -- final maps, and to consider revisiting
21 the visualization from November 2nd. The residents of
22 Ceres and Stanislaus County cannot be afforded as an
23 afterthought in this process.

24 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

25 MS. LANE: I thank you for your time and thank you

1 for listening to me.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: At this time, I am going
4 to go ahead and read the instructions for general public
5 comment, which will then be followed by the instructions
6 translated by our wonderful interpreters.

7 In order to maximize transparency and public
8 participation in our process, the Commissioners will be
9 taking public comment by phone. To call in, dial the
10 telephone number provided on the livestream feed. It is
11 877-853-5247. When prompted to enter the meeting ID
12 number provided on the livestream feed, it is 819-356 --
13 one moment -- 356-21319 (sic). When prompted to enter a
14 participant ID, simply press the pound key.

15 Once you have dialed in, you will be placed in a
16 queue. To indicate you wish to comment, please press
17 star 9. This will raise your hand for the moderator.
18 When it is your turn to speak, you will hear a message
19 that says, "The host would like you to talk and to press
20 star 6 to speak." If you would like to give your name,
21 please state and spell it for the record. You are not
22 required to provide your name to give public comment.

23 Please make sure to mute your computer or livestream
24 audio to prevent any feedback or distortion during your
25 call. Once you are waiting in the queue, be alert for

1 when it is your turn to speak and again, please turn down
2 the livestream volume.

3 Now, if I could have Margarita or Jose, please do
4 the phone call-in instructions, as well.

5 INTERPRETER: Most certainly.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much.

7 INTERPRETER: My pleasure. (Spanish spoken). Thank
8 you.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Gracias, thank you. And as a
10 reminder to our listening public, if your intention is to
11 provide input today, you must call in before 8 p.m. or
12 until the queue is exhausted. So thank you.

13 And Katy, let's go ahead and begin with our callers.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you so much, Chair.
15 And would like to remind those that have called in to
16 please press star 9, indicating you have called in to
17 give comment this evening. It will make us move along.

18 Caller 7547, you will be first. And then up next
19 after that will be caller 2717.

20 Caller 7547, if you will please follow the prompts
21 to unmute by pressing star 6. And one more time. Caller
22 with the last four 7547, if you will please follow the
23 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
24 yours.

25 MS. PAULSON: Oh, great. Hi. Hi. Susan Paulson

1 (ph.). I am -- I'm calling about the assembly district
2 LAOSB draft. And I must say, just on a personal note, I
3 was rather saddened when the Tustin council member spoke
4 about how Brea and La Habra just don't fit in the lower
5 area without much explanation. But anyway, that's on an
6 aside.

7 But I live in northern Orange County in Brea area,
8 and I was speaking about how I really feel Brea and La
9 Habra have more in common with Fullerton and nothing at
10 all in common with the district that is represented with
11 Yorba Linda, Anaheim Hills, Orange Hills, which are all
12 wealthy, high-end communities, and they take pride in
13 that. Very well planned out. And I just feel we would
14 lose our representation for a very long time, in terms of
15 the breakdown -- breakdown of demographics. And we
16 support affordable housing for people to live in. We
17 support diversity and ethnicity. And I just don't feel
18 that that is represented in some of the wealthier
19 enclaves. And I look at Brea as being more middle class.

20 So I'm just looking for representation that I feel
21 we would lose for a long time. And my community of
22 interest are Fullerton, La Habra, Diamond Bar, the
23 regions that already exist in our current assembly
24 district.

25 Anyway, so that's what I wanted to say. Thank you

1 so much for all that you're doing. Bye-bye.

2 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
4 have caller 2717. And as we will be giving everyone a
5 chance to speak, but I would like to remind those, if you
6 would please press star 9 to raise your hand. It makes
7 it a little easier.

8 Right now, we have caller 2717. That is our only
9 raised hand. Maybe that will help. Caller 2717, if you
10 will please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star
11 6. The floor is yours.

12 MS. HIGGINS-RARUP: Okay. Thank you. My name is
13 Elizabeth Higgins-Rarup (ph.), and I live in the
14 community of Lakeside, in San Diego County. And I'm
15 speaking on your proposed FEC's senate map. I have lived
16 in Lakeside or East County nearly all my life and I am a
17 real estate broker. I've been in real estate business
18 for 50 years. I have been -- have participated in many
19 committees for the county of San Diego, school districts,
20 and planning groups out in this area.

21 I, to keep -- I just have a couple questions and
22 would like to comment on those. I'd like to wonder why
23 is Lakeside, the community I live in, being split in
24 half? One side of the 67 is in Mission Beach and Pacific
25 Beach, while the other side of 67 is with Needles,

1 California, and Chula Vista. And these are very
2 different communities and different areas of San Diego
3 County.

4 I appreciate the work -- the hard work the
5 Commission has done, because I know it's a very time-
6 consuming venture for all of you. I'd like to share that
7 I believe the current draft maps for the state senate do
8 not represent my community. The draft maps separate many
9 of the east County of San Diego's sister communities,
10 such as Lakeside, Alpine, Descanso, Humboldt, Santee,
11 Poway, Rancho San Diego, El Cajon, and Ramona. We have
12 shared economic --

13 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

14 MS. HIGGINS-RARUP: -- social and -- and cultural
15 interests for many years, such as water districts, school
16 districts, and (indiscernible). We need to be kept
17 together. We are unincorporated communities and have
18 more in common with --

19 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen.

20 MS. HIGGINS-RARUP: -- small cities like El Cajon,
21 Santee, and Poway than we do with the City of San Diego
22 or with desert communities, such as Brawley or Needles.
23 We should not be placed in districts with North Park,
24 Chula Vista, Pacific Beach, or --

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
2 have caller 7350. And then up next after that, we will
3 go ahead and give unique ID 091 another shot.

4 Caller 7350, if you will please follow the prompts
5 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

6 MR. WERNER: Good evening. Thank you. My name is
7 Kevin Werner. I am the city administrator in the City of
8 Ripon, which is located in San Joaquin County. The City
9 of Ripon has been included in both senate district ECA
10 and congressional district ECA maps, which the Ripon City
11 Council is requesting be reconsidered.

12 Ripon is the second smallest city in San Joaquin
13 County, with a population of 16,000 residents, that is
14 located along the Stanislaus River, which is the most
15 southern boundary that separates San Joaquin County from
16 Stanislaus County.

17 For some reason that we believe may have been a
18 mistake, the City of Ripon is the only San Joaquin County
19 city that has been included in both of these senate
20 district ECA and the congressional district DCA maps.

21 The issues facing the jurisdictions located in these
22 ECA districts are very different than the issues facing
23 San Joaquin County and the cities within San Joaquin
24 County, specifically as it relates to transportation,
25 water, and emergency response.

1 It is important for the City of Ripon to be in the
2 same district with other San Joaquin County cities, as
3 this gives us the strongest voice advocating for local
4 and regional priorities to our representatives. The
5 Ripon City Council is strongly requesting that the
6 Commission make two changes that will respect county
7 lines and continue to provide the Ripon community's
8 strongest voice advocating for our issues. We're
9 requesting that the southern boundary of congressional
10 district map, the south San Joaquin be adjusted to
11 include the City of Ripon. Also requesting that the
12 senate --

13 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

14 MR. WERNER: -- district south Stanis -- Stanislaus,
15 I believe it was meant to be -- to also include the City
16 of Ripon, and we are no longer included in the ECA as the
17 only San Joaquin County city.

18 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

19 MR. WERNER: We appreciate the Commissioners'
20 consideration in making this change. Thank you very
21 much.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
24 have unique ID 091 and then up next after that will be
25 caller 3535.

1 Unique ID 091, I'll be promoting you now. 091, you
2 can now enable your audio and video in the lower left
3 corner of your screen. If you'll please remind the
4 mapper of what district plan and region you'd like to
5 address. The floor is yours.

6 MS. AHMAD: Thank you. My name is Hina Ahmad and
7 I'm speaking on behalf of the state senate Orange County
8 draft maps. I live in Orange County and I work at the
9 South Asian Network in Artesia. We're a nonprofit
10 organization that provides public benefits application
11 assistance, as well as citizenship, mental health
12 therapy, and domestic violence case management. I just
13 wanted to start off by thanking the Commission for all of
14 your hard work.

15 As a South Asian American living in Orange County, I
16 would like to state my reasoning for keeping La Palma,
17 Cypress, Buena Park, and Artesia, and Cerritos in an
18 Orange County-based community. There's a large South
19 Asian community in Orange County, including myself, that
20 crossed over to Los Angeles County to receive culturally-
21 specific services, South Asian groceries, and to visit
22 culture (audio interference).

23 I appreciate the Commission's shift in and around
24 the Santa Ana area toward a configuration similar to the
25 federal Voting Rights Act districts at the assembly and

1 congressional levels. And we're really pleased that
2 Little Arabia is whole in that district.

3 We do (audio interference) Commission want to flag
4 that this district divides AMEMSA communities, spanning
5 south of Buena Park (audio interference) Cerritos and
6 Artesia in -- in Los Angeles County. While the AMEMSA
7 community would prefer to remain whole (audio
8 interference) district, Committee leaders --

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

10 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh, hold on one -- one
11 moment, Chair, please.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Are we --

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: It looks like the --

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Oh, we got dropped?

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Yeah. It was a
16 connectivity issue. She's popped out and in right now.

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Got it.

18 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 091, you did lose
19 connection. I don't know if you are still there. You
20 popped back in.

21 MS. AHMAD: Can you hear me?

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Oh.

23 MS. AHMAD: Hello?

24 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: 091? There you are.

25 MS. AHMAD: Can you hear me?

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: We sure can. Go ahead
2 and finish.

3 MS. AHMAD: Okay. I just want to -- I think I'm --
4 I'm hoping you heard me all. So I'll just stop there and
5 say thank you.

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you. If you -- if you feel
7 that there's a -- you know, the last section, we're --
8 we're able to take that. You -- you still had some
9 allotted time. We didn't realize you dropped off.

10 MS. AHMAD: Oh, okay. So I just want to emphasize
11 that any changes to the map should be made without any
12 changes to the district in and around Santa Ana, west
13 Anaheim, and south Fullerton. You're almost there in
14 Orange County and we just wouldn't want to take steps
15 backwards. Thank you.

16 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you very much.

17 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will be
18 going to caller 3535. And then up next after that will
19 be caller 8852.

20 Caller 3535, if you'll please follow the prompts to
21 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

22 MR. LOPEZ: Hi. Thank you so much. This is
23 Supervisor Chris Lopez, representing Monterey County's
24 3rd District. And I want to start by saying that I'm
25 speaking in a unified voice for my communities.

1 Yesterday we had a press conference, which included
2 supervisors from the County of San Benito, the County of
3 Monterey, as well as the mayors of Salinas, Greenfield,
4 King City, Soledad; the vice mayor of the City of San
5 Juan Batista; as well as the mayor of King City.

6 We spoke together to say that what we would like to
7 see in these maps is a unified connection of the Salinas
8 Valley. Currently, the maps on the congressional map
9 punch out the community of Soledad down the 101.

10 Our communities are farm worker communities and for
11 one to be selected out and sent to the coastal
12 congressional seat and the rest of us to be put into a
13 district that now is primarily made up of downtown San
14 Jose is painful for us. We fought for our community to
15 be represented by Latinos. We've had historic cases come
16 out of Monterey County. We were, historically,
17 (indiscernible) county for the Voting Right Act -- Voters
18 Right Act -- and at this point, the maps that have been
19 put out for the senate, assembly, and congressional
20 districts divide us down the Salinas Valley.

21 Our community is feeling the pain of this proposal
22 and is asking you to reconsider. Yesterday, 25 elected
23 leaders came together to hold a press conference to make
24 us ask of your Commission. And so as we look at this,
25 the -- the clear request is this: please keep Salinas,

1 Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield --

2 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

3 MR. LOPEZ: -- King City, the communities of San
4 Lucas, San Ardo, Bradley, Lockwood, and San Benito's
5 rural communities, which are also agriculturally-based,
6 in a single district for all of the above seats.

7 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

8 MR. LOPEZ: Our congressional, our assembly, and our
9 senate seats. We appreciate your careful consideration
10 and want you to know that the proposal, we feel, is
11 deeply flawed and hope you will do some work to help us
12 out. Thank you.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we're
15 going to caller 8852. And up next after that will be
16 caller 6032.

17 And I'd like to invite those that have just called
18 in to please press star 9, indicating you have called in
19 to give comment this evening. Please press star 9; this
20 will raise your hand.

21 Caller 8852, if you will please follow the prompts
22 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

23 MS. ORTIZ: Good afternoon, Redistricting
24 Commission. And I'm Graciela Ortiz, the mayor of City of
25 Huntington Park in southeast Los Angeles. I'm here to

1 speak on draft assembly district's map -- maps,
2 specifically the current assembly district 59 map, which
3 includes south Los Angeles, Huntington Park, Walnut Park,
4 and is currently over a 75 percent Latino population.

5 The current draft maps gerrymander our community and
6 manipulates the numbers by decreasing the Latino feedback
7 by almost half and silencing our Latino voices.

8 For decades, the Latino communities have fought to
9 have representation that is reflective of our communities
10 in Sacramento. Our communities of Walnut Park, Florence-
11 Firestone, and Huntington Park have a lot in common, and
12 we have worked together to organize and advocate for our
13 communities.

14 With your proposed maps, you're dividing us. For
15 example, during the pandemic, the City of Huntington Park
16 provided Walnut Park, Florence-Firestone, and parts of
17 south L.A. with food and much needed supplies. We also
18 delivered hot meals and groceries to local senior
19 citizens and to the most vulnerable members of our
20 communities.

21 Our assembly district needs to include south Los
22 Angeles. It should be bordered by the 110 freeway to the
23 west, the 10 freeway to the north, all the way to the
24 City of Huntington Park or Maywood to the east.

25 I ask you not to silence our Latino voices, as our

1 population numbers speak for themselves. Representation
2 matters. Thank you for all that you're doing with the
3 redistricting process. Have a good evening.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: You too. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
6 have caller 6032. And up next after that will be caller
7 3700.

8 Caller 6032, if you'll please follow the prompts to
9 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

10 MR. ALEJO: Good evening, Commissioners. This is
11 Monterey County Supervisor Luis Alejo. As Supervisor
12 Lopez just stated, dozens of elected officials and
13 community leaders from both Monterey and San Benito
14 Counties came together at a press conference yesterday to
15 urge you to completely rework your draft maps for the
16 Monterey Bay region for congress, state senate, and state
17 assembly.

18 It's egregious that our local communities have been
19 divided and diluted and the political power shifted
20 elsewhere, despite the fact that our communities in both
21 counties share a common interest as a Monterey Bay region
22 and in being in the same congressional district.

23 The proposed senate district map also shifts power
24 away from Salinas and excludes Merced, and there's been
25 egregious division of Salinas Valley rural communities in

1 the proposed assembly district, despite that all the
2 cities and all the rural unincorporated communities are
3 currently in the same district, the district I used to
4 represent. These are communities that share a rich,
5 common agricultural economy and are home to tens of
6 thousands of essential farm workers that often don't have
7 a voice in these reapportionment matters.

8 Monterey County was one of only three counties
9 subject to the Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act
10 of 1965 that required the Department of Justice to pre-
11 clear any changes to (indiscernible) boundaries in our
12 county to ensure that disenfranchisement of Latino voters
13 did not occur. But unfortunately, that law was struck
14 down by the Supreme Court as unconstitutional, and a new
15 formula for the Voting Rights Act has yet to be approved
16 by Congress.

17 But it is now incumbent that the Commission pay
18 closer attention to these concerns from Monterey County's
19 rural and Latino communities, and correct these draft
20 maps that are completely unacceptable and unjust to our
21 local communities. Thank you very much.

22 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
24 have caller 3700. And then up next after that will be
25 caller 8359.

1 Caller 3700, if you will please follow the prompts
2 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

3 MS. WILSON: Hi. My name is Betty Wilson. I am the
4 executive director for the Business Council. We are
5 calling in regarding BONAP (ph.) draft senate map dated
6 11/21 -- 11/10/21. We would like to thank the
7 Commissioners for your -- for listening to our broad
8 community coalition that reached out, and our community
9 is very pleased with our draft senate map. This map will
10 allow us equal representation and allow our community to
11 stay together, as requested. Thank you very much for
12 your consideration.

13 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

14 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
15 have caller 8359. And up next after that will be caller
16 6524. I'd like to invite unique ID 051, as you have just
17 joined. If you are ready and present to give comment,
18 please use the raise hand button at the bottom of your
19 screen.

20 Right now, we will go to caller 8359. If you will
21 please follow the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6.
22 The floor is yours.

23 MS. CORRIDA: Thank you. Good evening.
24 (Indiscernible). I want to thank you for taking the time
25 to do the right thing for our community. My name is

1 Marta Corrida (ph.), I'm the (indiscernible) community
2 leader and I am also part of the Florence-Firestone
3 community organization.

4 I'm calling just to let you know that we really
5 appreciate the fact (indiscernible) Voting Rights Act for
6 our map for our community. Since we have been -- always
7 been neglected, and it is really sad to know that you
8 (indiscernible) just to make a change. But hopefully,
9 this time it will be the right change for us.

10 We are a community that is all the time trying to
11 make things better for our own residents. But
12 unfortunately, and it sometimes kind of -- kind of -- I
13 don't know how you -- shocked to see that not that many
14 people know about what's going on with this map and all
15 the things are going with our congress representatives or
16 our governor -- government representatives.

17 So I think it will be an issue for the next time,
18 when in ten years, and God knows if we're still going to
19 be alive, but at least for the people to know that is
20 always good to (indiscernible) that it follows through.
21 It is really important for the new people that are
22 becoming adults and then they are going to
23 (indiscernible) and making a nice society for our own
24 lifestyles here in -- in this state -- in this wonderful
25 State of California.

1 So thank you very much for all your efforts and I
2 hope you really follows through. Thank you. Have a good
3 night.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we --
5 thank you so much. And right now, we have caller 6524.
6 And then up next after that will be caller 8993.

7 I'd like to invite those that have just called in to
8 please use the raise hand option -- or to please press
9 star 9 to raise your hand. And -- and 051, I do see your
10 raised hand from the raise hand option.

11 So 6 -- caller 6524, if you will please follow the
12 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
13 yours.

14 MR. SIAS: Thank you for the opportunity to speak
15 with you. I am Spencer Sias. That's spelled
16 S-P-E-N-C-E-R, last name is S-I-A-S. I'm a 65-year
17 resident of Marin County in San Anselmo, and we -- this
18 is the place where we've raised two children. I'm
19 calling with regard to congressional District Number 2
20 and the senate district in the north coast.

21 My family has five generations in this community.
22 We share this with Marin, up north through Petaluma, and
23 to ranch in Mendocino where we've celebrated Thanksgiving
24 for years. And as a boy, I worked on a family Christmas
25 tree farm and of course, Tony Brazil's dairy farm next to

1 Muir Woods. What I'm asking for here is fair
2 representation for my community of interest.

3 I was concerned by early maps severing Marin from
4 Sonoma County. Marin's ties to Sonoma and the coast are
5 much stronger than to Lake, Napa, or Solano Counties.
6 Now, I'm truly grateful and thankful to see new maps
7 showing Marin and Sonoma, as well as the north coast
8 counties, retied into a continuous district, where we
9 share common interests related to water, transportation,
10 agriculture, fishing, tourism, and more.

11 Let me focus on water. Marin and Sonoma share a
12 watershed that stretches north from Mount Tamalpais up to
13 the Russian and Eel Rivers. We need one another to get
14 through this drought and to establish diversified
15 resilience versus the water for the long term. Marin
16 Municipal Water District in the north and Marin Water
17 District rely on supplies from the Sonoma County Water
18 Agency for 25 percent and 75 percent of their water,
19 respectively. Marin is looking at helping Sonoma --

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MR. SIAS: -- to dispel its aquafer for increased
22 storage capacity. It will serve all of our communities.
23 Maintaining the integrity of this community is critical
24 to our chances of improving the long-term reliability of
25 our mutual water supplies. Potentially, we could work

1 together on our regional --

2 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

3 MR. SIAS: -- desalination plant that leads to all
4 of our counties with a drought-proof water supply. We
5 stand a better chance with dealing with water and all of
6 our issues if we remain united. Thanks again for letting
7 me speak with you.

8 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

9 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
10 have caller 8993. And then up next after that will be
11 unique ID 051.

12 Caller 8993, if you'll please follow the prompts to
13 unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

14 MS. WALSH: Hi. Thank you. Hi, this is -- my name
15 is Ann Walsh, of Nevada City, California. And my
16 comments concern the senate district PLACEREV draft map
17 boundaries. As a western Nevada County resident, I want
18 to emphasize the interdependence of western Nevada County
19 with western Placer County. If you have ever driven up
20 Interstate 80 towards the Tahoe area, you know the
21 journey crisscrosses between these two counties multiple
22 times. Nevada and Placer County share a great number of
23 area resources, share the same concerns, such as wild
24 fires, such as, you know, CAL FIRE and economic
25 development, and the challenges that bring -- have

1 experienced strong population growth and rely heavily on
2 tourism.

3 To put it plainly, our two counties are strongly
4 aligned and belong together, if we want the area to be
5 governed efficiently. And like that previous caller
6 said, water supply is a major issue. I need to re-
7 emphasize, Nevada County and Placer County share an
8 inordinate amount of community, local, state, and federal
9 resources. Nevada County, much like Placer County, have
10 strong ties to the eastern Sacramento area and are
11 actively a bedroom community and retirement destination
12 and are demographically aligned.

13 While I harbor no ill will to the counties of the
14 north, we have little in common with the rural and
15 agricultural regions of the north. The -- their regional
16 priorities --

17 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

18 MS. WALSH: --are goals and different than those of
19 Nevada County. Please do not dilute our proud and strong
20 community of western Nevada County. Our community's
21 interests are tied to the Sacramento region. And so
22 thank you for your time and consideration in potentially
23 repositioning the western Nevada County region into the
24 senate district PLACEREV --

25 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

1 MS. WALSH: -- draft area and removing it from
2 senate district NORCAL -- NORCAL draft area. Thank you.
3 I'm sorry.

4 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
6 have unique ID 051. And up next after that will be
7 caller 5672. I'd like to invite those that have called
8 in to please press star 9. Those -- as those are my only
9 two hands at this time. So those that have called in,
10 please press star 9, if you've called in to give comment.

11 Unique ID 051, I will be promoting you now. One
12 moment. Unique ID 051, you can now enable your --
13 standby one moment, we need to get our map back up.

14 MR. MONSEN: Sorry.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: One moment.

16 MR. MANOFF: Just a moment. I think Sivan, our
17 mapper, got disconnected.

18 Andrew, are you available?

19 MR. DRECHSLER: Yes, I am. Give me one second.

20 MR. MANOFF: Sounds good.

21 MR. DRECHSLER: Okay.

22 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Unique ID 051, it will be
23 just one moment. We are dealing with a technical --

24 MR. MONSEN: No problem at all.

25 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you for your patience.

1 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: All right.

2 MR. MANOFF: We see your map. And if you could use
3 the full screen option? That looks good. Thank you.

4 MS. TRATT: Kristian, I'm sorry. I'm back, if you
5 want -- or Andrew, are you going to share for this one?

6 MR. MANOFF: If you are ready, Andrew, you can stop
7 your sharing, and Sivan, you can start.

8 MS. TRATT: Okay. I think you need to update me to
9 host again. I'm so sorry, the Zoom app totally crashed,
10 so I think it booted me off.

11 MR. MANOFF: You should be good to go.

12 MS. TRATT: Okay. I think as soon as Andrew stops.
13 Yeah, perfect.

14 Thanks, everyone. Sorry about that. Does that look
15 okay to everyone?

16 MR. MANOFF: That looks great. Thanks, Sivan.

17 MS. TRATT: Okay. Thanks.

18 MR. MANOFF: Unique ID 051.

19 MR. MONSEN: Yes, thank you.

20 MR. MANOFF: How are you?

21 MR. MONSEN: This is John Monsen and I have a quick
22 congressional district comment. Our congressional
23 districts are drawn that include the federal public land,
24 like the Angeles National Forest, determines who has a
25 voice in their management or in seeking new resources.

1 We've mentioned this to you before and I believe you
2 agree with us.

3 The new draft maps SFV and GLEN2BA inexplicably do
4 not include the Angeles National Forest to their north,
5 as do the current day districts 28 and 29. This cuts off
6 a million and a half people from being in a district with
7 national forests in them, as they currently are now.
8 Again, we presume this is accidental.

9 The forest needs all of the stewards it can, as
10 it -- they face climate change, drought, lack of
11 resources, and protected wildlife quarters from both
12 climate adaptations. So that means you need to extend
13 the districts above the cities of Sylmar, Lake View
14 Terrace, and Tujunga north into the national forest, so
15 that those new districts are represented.

16 Currently, they're devoted to District 20 -- current
17 District 25 or AV Santa Clarita Valley -- new Santa
18 Clarita Valley district. Remember that that district
19 already contains to its west 100,000 acres of national
20 forest and it will already have a representative that
21 will represent those interests.

22 Most of the visitors come, not from Santa Clarita to
23 the main section of the Angeles National Forest don't
24 come from the -- from Santa Clarita. They come from the
25 south -- from major population centers to the south.

1 There's very few visitors to the Antelope -- from the
2 Antelope Valley in the north to the south. The reason
3 for that, there are very few entrances from the north or
4 the west from Antelope Valley or Santa Clarita, to that
5 main section in the Angeles National Forest. They're all
6 located where the people are, which is all of the cities
7 from Sylmar east to Rancho Cucamonga.

8 So again, we -- this is an important correction
9 that's actually pretty easy to make, because there's no
10 people living there where we're asking the correction to
11 be made. Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
14 have --

15 Chair, would you like to make an announcement real
16 fast?

17 CHAIR TAYLOR: Okay. Absolutely. Thank you, Katy.

18 Just as a reminder to our listening public, if your
19 intention is to call in and provide public input today,
20 you must do so prior to 8 p.m. when the lines will close.
21 After 8 p.m., you will not be able to connect with us.
22 So we want your input; call in. Thank you.

23 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: Thank you, Chair.

24 Right now, we will have caller 3225. And then up
25 next after that will be caller 6898. And I'd like to

1 invite those that have called in to please press star 9
2 to raise your hand.

3 Caller 3225, if you will please follow the prompts
4 to unmute by pressing star 6. And one more time. Caller
5 with the last four 3225, if you'll please follow the
6 prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
7 yours.

8 MALE SPEAKER: Yes. I want to thank the Commission
9 for all of your tireless efforts and hard work done so
10 far in regard to this redistricting. Being a 50-year
11 resident of Kern County myself, I want to encourage the
12 Commission to seek ways to find -- keep Kern County
13 separated from Fresno County. The two regions, although
14 they're a hundred and plus miles apart, they're decades
15 apart in their commonalities. There's really no cultural
16 connection or historical connections. And unfortunately,
17 if they were combined, it would be a forced competition,
18 really, for very scarce funds.

19 We have a unique oil-basis and industrial-basis here
20 in Kern County, and our agriculture, actually, is quite
21 different than the Fresno County area. And so I want to
22 make sure that everything that I've worked for and
23 strived for here in Kern County doesn't get taken away
24 through extending representation and combining it with
25 that Fresno County. So I'm asking that you guys would

1 keep us separate, that we would have, really, a much more
2 common interest with Tulare County to our immediate
3 north.

4 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

5 MALE SPEAKER: And I just want to thank you so much
6 for your time.

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
9 have caller 6898. And then up next after that will be
10 caller 4233.

11 Caller 6898, if you will please follow the prompts
12 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

13 MS. MACIAS: Thank you so much. Good evening,
14 Commissioners. My name is Karina Macias. I'm a council
15 member for the City of Huntington Park. And I want to
16 address the -- the assembly gateway cities region draft
17 map.

18 The current draft map, unfortunately, not only does
19 it connect Huntington Park to cities like Lakewood -- the
20 Lakewood and Hawaiian Gardens that have very distinct
21 community needs and priorities, compared to the southeast
22 cities. But most importantly, it does disconnect us from
23 our surrounding community.

24 It is imperative that the southeast is not only
25 together, but the district needs to include south Los

1 Angeles border by the 110 freeway to the west, the 10
2 freeway to the north, City of Lakewood to the south, and
3 City of Maywood to the east. These are communities that
4 have common priorities and common needs to the City of
5 Huntington Park. The current draft silences the Latino
6 communities' voices.

7 I urge you to not make the same mistake that the
8 LAUSD redistricting has done in this area and closed the
9 door on true representation. I urge you to take the time
10 in this region, because any movement in the assembly
11 district in this area, not to mention also congressional,
12 can heavily impact the lives of thousands of families in
13 our communities. Thank you.

14 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

15 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
16 have caller 4233. And then up next after that will be
17 caller 4599.

18 Caller 4233, if you will please follow the prompts
19 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

20 FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you, Commissioners. I would
21 also like to thank you for all of your time and
22 dedication to this important effort. I am speaking to
23 the maps of ADMBCV, the Coachella Valley, please, mapper.
24 Okay. Thank you very much.

25 I am also commenting, as others, that I have been a

1 part of this process since April. I have testified many
2 times. I live in La Quinta, California, and it is
3 imperative that our community be held together. And if
4 you can see from this map, it's almost like a giant
5 finger right up through the middle of our community. In
6 fact, I can't even really tell if my town is in the green
7 district or the blue district. But right across the
8 street from me is the Town of Indio, which would be in
9 another assembly district.

10 The Coachella Valley is a resort and agricultural
11 community that starts in the Santa Rosa mountains and
12 Palm Springs, and really goes all the way to the Palo
13 Verde valley to the east. Right now, you have La Quinta
14 connected with Yucaipa, and those communities have
15 nothing to do with one another. You -- that area to the
16 west has nothing to do with tourism, has nothing to do
17 with agriculture. And in fact, I think one of your
18 efforts is to try and keep the Imperial, Coachella, and
19 Palo Verde agricultural regions together, which really
20 doesn't explain why that finger goes up into desert Hot
21 Springs, because there is no agriculture north of Indio
22 and the valley.

23 I also don't under -- don't understand why there is
24 the extreme disparity in the ethnic separation. In one
25 of the districts there's 63 percent white, and in the

1 other one there is 58 percent Latino. Both of those more
2 than twice --

3 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

4 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- dominating any other racial
5 groups in the community. I just implore you. I am
6 frustrated. I have testified so many times, as has many
7 others, that our community needs to stay together. We
8 have the association of governments that works --

9 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

10 FEMALE SPEAKER: -- on community projects all over
11 the Coachella Valley. Thank you very much.

12 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

13 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
14 have caller 4599. And then up next after that will be
15 caller 5672.

16 Caller 4599, if you will please follow the prompts
17 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

18 MR. QUINONEZ: Good evening, Commissioners. I am
19 Steve Quinonez, the leader and resident of the Florence-
20 Firestone community in South Lake. I'm here to speak on
21 the draft assembly district map, currently assembly
22 district 59 that has already 75 percent Latino
23 population.

24 With your proposed maps, we will lose our Latino
25 voice in our communities of Buena Park, Florence-

1 Firestone, and Huntington Park. I have a lot of comments
2 and we have worked together to organize and advocate for
3 our communities. With your proposed maps, you are
4 dividing us. Please keep us together. Thank you.

5 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

6 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we have
7 caller 5672. And up next after that will be caller 2554.

8 Caller 5672, if you will please follow the prompts
9 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

10 MS. MULDER: Hi. My name is Janet Mulder, and I've
11 been an elected member of the Jamul/Dulzura community
12 planning group since its inception in the 1970s, charged
13 with giving land use opinions to our San Diego planning
14 commission and board of supervisors on land use.

15 We have been -- we have lived in Jamul for almost 50
16 years and I grew up in San Diego County for another 30
17 years, and I'm terribly concerned that you would think
18 that our rural community should be separated from other
19 rural communities as they now exist, and would have more
20 in common with a city like Chula Vista, where we've been
21 put in one of the maps, or you combine us with North Park
22 and allow the district to go from coast to Imperial
23 County.

24 You know, the problem is that rural areas, such as
25 Jamul and Dulzura, have much in common with other rural

1 areas, such as Alpine, Ramona, Lakeside, Julian. And
2 those even up further north, as they have so much more in
3 common in their mutual concerns and solutions to
4 problems. One of the most difficult problems is that of
5 the dangers of fire and the difficulties evacuating on
6 our two-lane roads in the event of wild fires. This is
7 totally different problems than those of urban areas. In
8 fact, the problems are all quite different and
9 challenging for us to handle, even today when most of the
10 back country -- country folks are gathered together
11 under, like, one state congressman, or when most
12 (indiscernible) one senator.

13 To combine the rural, heavily wooded areas with the
14 density of the City of Chula Vista or North Park makes
15 little or no sense, as their problems are totally
16 different.

17 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

18 MS. MULDER: How much -- how much -- oh, I'm sorry.
19 How much wiser it is to have the unincorporated, back
20 country areas clustered together under one or two
21 districts, other than split all apart and try to blend
22 them in with all of the cities. They have
23 extraordinarily different needs and problems, and would
24 have a great difficulty even being heard with the
25 clamor --

1 MR. MANOFF: Ten seconds.

2 MS. MULDER: -- of voices coming from the cities.

3 Thank you so much for all of your help. Please recognize
4 that rural communities have very different needs and
5 problems. And please, and in your -- in all of your
6 state --

7 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And right now, we will
9 have caller 2554. And then our last hand in caller for
10 the evening will be caller 0378.

11 Caller 2554, if you will please follow the prompts
12 to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is yours.

13 FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you. Hi. Good evening,
14 Commissioners. I'm a resident of Manteca and I want to
15 speak to the state assembly map for the current district
16 of District 5. And I was very saddened to see the
17 proposed district map -- state senate district map and
18 it's stretching all the way up to Sacramento and Elk
19 Grove. Our needs are -- we're pretty much at the bottom
20 of the map, Manteca is. And I fear that we will have
21 very little say in -- in putting forth our needs, which
22 are quite different from a highly populated city like
23 Sacramento and Elk Grove.

24 We have public transportation needs, job needs,
25 agricultural needs, and water needs that are different

1 from them. And I would -- and we're also being cut off
2 from Tracy in this new map, which we have a lot in common
3 with and have connections with it and a working
4 cooperation with them regarding these issues of
5 transportation and water.

6 I would like the district to -- 5 to remain the same
7 as it is. It has worked and is -- you know, we're
8 getting results. And Manteca is designated a
9 disadvantaged community. We need strong representation
10 in our state senate and this will only happen if our
11 district is composed of communities and counties that
12 have common interests and needs, and a history of
13 cooperation and working together to solve problems.
14 Thank you for listening to me.

15 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

16 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And our last but not
17 least wonderful caller. 0378, if you will please follow
18 the prompts to unmute by pressing star 6. The floor is
19 yours.

20 MALE SPEAKER: Thank you so very much for all of the
21 Commissioners who have been serving our state and doing
22 this very difficult job.

23 Today, I am concerned about our need to really be
24 sensitive about the various different cultures that are
25 California. Certainly, we have different cultures that

1 have great numbers. Nobody has a number over 50 percent,
2 which means that as we look, we have to look very
3 sensitively and culturally, developing districts that
4 create an opportunity for as many people as possible to
5 participate. In some of these districts, we must keep
6 communities together. But some of these districts, in
7 keeping them together, should be a multi-cultural kind of
8 mix as it currently exists in many of the existing
9 districts.

10 There seems to be an insensitivity to certain
11 cultures, and probably not purposefully so. We have a
12 void in leadership on the Commission and it's nobody's
13 fault, but it exists and it's real.

14 For example, in the south L.A. area, we have no
15 African American male that's democrat on the committee in
16 the south area. And yet, over 90 percent of the African
17 American males are democrat in the south L.A. area. Why
18 does we say that; why is that important? Because some of
19 the thinking is very similar.

20 MR. MANOFF: Thirty seconds.

21 MALE SPEAKER: Some of the value is similar. We
22 have packed Latinos into the 59th and we have cracked
23 Blacks out of it. We have disproportionately proposed to
24 not have an African American represent the Marina area --

25 MR. MANOFF: Fifteen seconds.

1 MALE SPEAKER: -- which is definitely a multi-
2 cultural area, along with various cultures in the 63rd
3 assembly district. And keep the 30th senate district and
4 the senate 35 District the same. We only have two
5 African Americans in the --

6 CHAIR TAYLOR: Thank you.

7 PUBLIC COMMENT MODERATOR: And that was all of our
8 callers, Chair.

9 CHAIR TAYLOR: Well, being that we have exhausted
10 our call-ins for the evening, I would like to thank
11 California for all of their input. It is in --
12 invaluable and tantamount to our deliberations. So I
13 thank California for all that you have provided.

14 And guess what, Commissioners, we are going to do
15 this all again tomorrow. So tomorrow, bright and early,
16 10 a.m., we will have another feedback input meeting
17 regarding our Board of Equalization draft maps starting
18 with session one. Then session two and three and into
19 public comment. We are accepting or -- or we are taking
20 input feedback regarding any district -- any draft map
21 that you want to speak on.

22 So without hearing any other objections, I know we
23 all want to contemplate the information received and get
24 on with our evening, so that we can be bright eyed and
25 bushy tailed for tomorrow. I will bring this meeting to

1 a close and recess until tomorrow at 10 a.m. Good job,
2 Commissioners.

3 (Meeting ended at 8:10 p.m.)

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I do hereby certify that the testimony in the
3 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place
4 therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses
5 were reported by me, a disinterested person, and was
6 under my supervision thereafter transcribed into
7 typewriting.

8 And I further certify that I am not of counsel
9 or attorney for either or any of the parties to said
10 hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of
11 the cause named in said caption.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF,

13 I have hereunto set my hand this 12 day of December,
14 2021.

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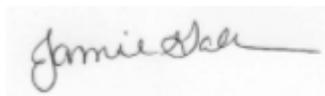
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19 PETER PETTY, CER-493
20 Court Reporter

1 TRANSCRIBER'S CERTIFICATE

2 I do hereby certify that the testimony in the
3 foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place
4 therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses
5 were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and
6 a disinterested person, and was under my supervision
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11 the cause named in said caption.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
13 this 12 day of December, 2021.

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17 _____
18 JAMIE GALLAGHER, CET-1243