Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission, My testimony:

1) Location of my community: I am in Crescent City, Del Norte County, California. I view my community of interest as in Zone A, Del Norte County. We are included in what is called The North Coast of California.

2) Economic, social, and cultural interests that bind our community together: The North Coast of California shares a similar climate that defines our ecosystems. The Coast is marked by redwood forests which give way to Douglas fir/mix confer forests further inland before making way to prairies and oak woodlands. These lands are bisected by coastal streams and rivers that form their headwaters in the coastal mountains and drain to the Pacific Ocean. Our climate and environment have helped shape the economies of the area, whether it is wood, wine, lilies, or weed, and we have developed a similar culture that prioritizes a clean, healthy environment.

3) Our community should be kept together for fair and effective representation. Because our economies and cultures are shaped by our shared natural environment, our interests are best served when we are represented together. Whether it is addressing sea level rise or the threat of a warming climate on our economies, the environmental challenges of the present and future will affect coastal communities in a similar way.

4) Northern California's coast and immediately adjacent areas share a common economy and culture; by contrast we are less similarly aligned with our fellow residents to the East (Zones B and D). These areas are more culturally conservative and their economies are still more tied to extractive economies, making them a poor "fit" with our area.

Thank you, Barbara Burke