I am writing today to urge the commission to retain the coastal counties in the same districts - Senate, Assembly and Congressional. The north coastal counties are aligned along US Highway 101 which serves as the primary transportation and commerce artery for all the counties north of the Golden Gate. Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt all share a common regional interests that includes commerce, natural resource management, political issues and transportation. This alignment has proven effective and beneficial for many years and should be continued in the future. In the past portions of Napa, Solano and Lake counties have been included in the District configurations. Retaining the coastal alignment will enable residents to more effectively address the myriad issues confronting the region that overlap political boundaries such as fires, water use, coastal land use, commercial fishing and commercial transport. Our elected officials will be able to address matters within a framework that incorporates the entire coastal region and significantly differs from the issues facing the inland counties. In particular, Del Norte County is facing acute transportation issue with the continued struggle to keep the Last Chance Grade section of Hwy 101 open. This road presently is accessible for limited periods on a daily basis. Caltrans has done a yeoman job to maintain accessibility but ultimately a major rerouting of the corridor will have to be constructed. Our elected officials understand the significance of this problem because most of the counties in their districts share and prioritize Hwy 101 as the primary artery for the entire region. These officials have a regional sense of the need and the priority it has for our future. They have been working for the last decade to prioritize this project in the State and Federal budgets and need to be able to continue on this course. A District configuration that runs from west to east would potentially create a conflict for the elected official playing off the needs of the drought stricken and population expanding needs of the inland counties at the cost of the needs of lightly populated Del Norte County.