Respected Members of the Redistricting Commission,

Greetings.

My name is Ajay Lele. I live in Sunnyvale and work at Palo Alto as a part of the IT industry.

As we are all aware, there is a considerable population of Asians in the San Francisco Bay Area. I am a first-generation South-Asian immigrant to the United States myself and have been living in the Bay Area with my family for the last 12 years. However the Asian population is not evenly distributed across the different congressional districts. Specifically, Congressman Ro Khanna’s district CA-17 has 50% asian population whereas Congresswoman Anna Eshoo’s district CA-18 has 20%.

Asians have contributed significantly to the success of the high-tech industry in Silicon Valley and through our hard-work, innovation and technical prowess we continue to help power it forward. However our community has not got its fair share of representation in governance and policy-making. If the commission draws lines to redistribute asians evenly, then chances of an Asian representative from CA-18, the heart of Silicon Valley, will increase greatly. This will help
Asians like me feel integrated in our communities and empower us to engage and participate in policy-making matters.

So my sincere request to the redistricting commission is that you include the city of Sunnyvale where I live, Cupertino and Santa Clara into district 18. Asian Americans are the largest minority community of district 18 but this district has never had a minority congressional representation. Such a change will give a fair chance to the asian community to elect a representative from their community for district 18.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards
Ajay Lele