



September 1, 2021



California Citizens Redistricting Commission
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 323-0323
votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov



Re: San Joaquin County's State Senate, Assembly and Congressional Districts

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:



On behalf of the 120 years old Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I write this letter to encourage your consideration for keeping our communities of interest together! It is very important in our representative government there be fairness and proportional balance of power. We want to thank the last Redistricting Commission for their attention to this matter and we are looking forward to a robust discussion once again.



Looking objectively at San Joaquin County will lead a person to see that we have natural physical barriers that make the county rather self-contained. We have the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta and the Altamont to the west, open agricultural lands to the north, the foothills to the east, and the Stanislaus River and open agricultural land to the south. San Joaquin County's uniformed geography and common land-use issues lend it to a single representative unit. And because population centers outside the county are rather distant and accessible only by congested highways, county residents tend to look within San Joaquin County's borders for jobs, transportation, services, entertainment, and culture.



San Joaquin County has many unique characteristics that bring us together. The Agricultural industry provides \$5.732 billion in total economic contribution to the County and directly supports about one out of every 11 jobs in the County. Transportation, logistics and warehousing industries dominate the County's employment growth due to our strategic location and multi-modal transportation network which includes the Port of Stockton, Stockton Terminal Railroad connecting to the BNSF and Union Pacific Railroad, Stockton Metropolitan Airport and Interstate 5, 205, 580 and State Route Highway 99. We have unique challenges with health equity, education, air pollution and workforce development.



It is important to our community to continue with the production of Agriculture and working toward jobs that will provide a sustainable income for families now and in the future.



We are at ground zero for many of California's most difficult water threats-which also threaten other regions and the importance of representation both at the State and Federal level are vital to our future and the future of our communities and job creation.

Our County is very different than most other communities as it relates to economic and socio-economic issues with data showing almost 41% of our citizens speak another language than English at home.

Our County has developed the ability to work together to build a better future for all residents while understanding the needs of a very diverse community. We are requesting our communities of interest are not split and preliminary population data seems to support representation of one Senatorial seat, one Congressional seat and two Assembly seats will be well deserved and much needed for the people of San Joaquin County to prosper and have a better tomorrow.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Kay
President
Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce

