



SAN JOAQUIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

MEETING TODAY'S CHALLENGES / PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

September 25, 2021

California Citizens Redistricting Commission
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260
Sacramento, CA 95814
votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

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

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Thank you for the time and sacrifice you have made to ensure California's communities have quality representation at both the State and Federal levels. We look forward to working with this year's commission to improve on the work of the 2010 Redistricting Commission.

The San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation is a private, not for profit, volunteer organization and San Joaquin County's oldest agriculture organization, dedicated to the advancement of agriculture for over 100 years. The gross value of agricultural production of the 3,430 farms in San Joaquin County for 2020 was over \$3 billion and encompassed over 250 different commodities. We are committed to the protection of the natural resources that our industry depends on, including land and water. San Joaquin County encompasses 35 square miles of water including the Mokelumne, Calaveras, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin Rivers which are vital to the 772,762 acres of farmland in our county alone.

San Joaquin County is self-contained, with natural physical barriers. These include 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.

Our uniformed geography and common land-use issues lend it to a single representative unit. And because population centers outside the county are somewhat 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 numerous unique characteristics that unify us. The Agricultural industry provides \$5.732 billion in total economic contribution to the County and directly supports approximately one out of every 11 jobs. Transportation, logistics, and warehousing industries are the bulk of the County's employment growth due to our strategic location and multi-modal transportation network. This network includes the Port of Stockton, Stockton Terminal Railroad connecting to the BNSF and Union Pacific Railroad, Stockton Metropolitan Airport, I-5, I-205, I-580, and State Route 99. In addition, we have unique challenges with health equity, education, air pollution, and workforce development.



SAN JOAQUIN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

MEETING TODAY'S CHALLENGES / PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

It is essential to continue with the production of Agriculture and work 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 challenging water threats, which also threaten other regions. Therefore, the importance of representation at the State and Federal level is vital to the future of our communities and job creation.

Our County socio-economic issues are different from other Counties, with data showing almost 41% of our citizens speak another language than English at home. We have learned to work together to build a better future for all residents while understanding the needs of our diverse population.

Currently, we have two members of Congress and three members of the State Assembly. Of these five representatives, only one lives in San Joaquin County. It's hard to have a voice, when you don't have representation who lives in the county.

Our primary request is to maintain our communities of interest, ensuring cohesive representation at all levels of government. Preliminary population data supports one Congressional District, one Senate District, and two State Assembly Districts nested within the State Senate District. If the San Joaquin County population is not large enough to fulfill district requirements, we request the remainder is met with Stanislaus County residents.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. We look forward to working with you to ensure San Joaquin County residents get the best quality representation for the decade to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Strecker'.

David Strecker
President