



COFEM
Council of Mexican Federations

Educating today's Latino Families to be Tomorrow's Leaders

Affiliated Federations

ANÁHUAK Youth
Soccer Association

Federación de Clubes y
Asociaciones de
Michoacán
(FEDECAMIN)

Federaciones Colima USA
(FEDECOL)

Federación
Duranguense USA

Federación de
Guanajuatenses

Federación de
Hidalguenses en California

Federación de Nayaritas
en Estados Unidos
(FENAY-USA)

Federación Sonora USA

Fraternidad Sinaloense de
California, INC (FSC)

Mujeres Unidas Sirviendo
Activamente (MUSA)

Organización Regional de
Oaxaca (ORO)

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Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

COFEM is a non-profit organization aimed at creating opportunities for Latino Immigrants in North America. The Council of Mexican Federations (COFEM) is proud to be part of the Nature for All Coalition. Nature for All (N4A) creates a diverse support base to ensure that everyone in the Los Angeles area, no matter where they live, has equal access to nature and all its benefits.

Millions of residents in the second largest urban area in the country live near the Angeles National Forest. It comprises over 70% of the public open space in LA County and it is a natural recreational oasis for over three million people each year, including those from park poor communities south of the federal public land.

Placing the highly populated communities closest to the Angeles National Forest in the same congressional districts as their federal public land is important. It means that they will have a member of congress who can address issues of forest management on their behalf with agencies like the US Forest Service. Their member of Congress can also seek more federal resources for wildfire risk mitigation, bilingual signage, or transit to trails.

Existing congressional districts 27, 28 and 29 do an excellent job of giving voice to communities adjacent to the San Gabriel Mountains. We recommend that these districts remain intact for 2022 with the following adjustments: add the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument gateway city of Azusa to the 27th and include the Western San Bernardino National Forest in the same district as Rancho Cucamonga.

We believe the foothill cities from Pacoima to Rancho Cucamonga form a powerful community of interest based on their shared traits and their close relationship with the San Gabriel Mountains. This community of interest anchors districts 27, 28 and 29. This community of interest needs to be in the same congressional districts as the object of this interest: the national forest land to their north. Common issues include Fire and fuels management and wildfire suppression; sections of high severity fire zones; tourism; watershed management and flood control; recreational quality and availability. The foothill communities share historic ties with the national forest, homes adjacent or near the forest, chaparral ecosystems, steepening slope, wildlife management, and a major visual feature and scenic backdrop.

The 27th is designed well and logically connected to a large Asian population in the districts southwest. Some of these communities are park poor and benefit especially from having the national forest nearby. They would surely want a member of Congress who could argue on their behalf for transit to trails.

Sincerely,

Francisco Moreno

Executive Director