APPENDIX B

AAPI & AMEMSA STATE REDISTRICTING COLLABORATIVE
COMMUNITY TESTIMONY - ASSEMBLY

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EAST BAY AREA COMMUNITY TESTIMONY

- Rhummanee Hang, Co-Director at AYPAL: Building API Community Power
- Aliza Kazmi, Union City Resident and Former Advocacy Manager at the Council on American Islamic Relations - San Francisco Bay Area
- Daisy Maxion, Civic Engagement Organizer at Filipino Advocates for Justice
- Yeri Shon, Chief of Program Integration and Community Impact at Korean Community Center of the East Bay
- June Lim, Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles
Rhummanee Hang  
Co-Director at AYPAL: Building API Community Power

Dear Commission,

My name is Rhummanee Hang and I am a Co-Director with AYPAL: Building API Community Power. I would like to provide input on Oakland’s District 2 and Chinatown in Alameda County, where I live and work. I am also writing as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

Our organization works primarily with API youth in Oakland. We have been active within the community since 1998 providing youth leadership training and advocacy skills to affect change. When my mother first came from Cambodia as a refugee in 1981, Oakland was where she resettled. I was born, raised, and went to school in Oakland and am now raising my child here.

Our community primarily lives within the boundaries of Oakland’s district 2, which encompasses the San Antonio neighborhood, Eastlake/Little Saigon neighborhood, the neighborhoods surrounding Lake Merritt, and Chinatown. Our community is made up of many refugees and immigrant communities. Since the early 80s, there are refugees from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and more recently, Middle Eastern countries here. There are also many recent immigrants. This is a working class community and many families are low-income. There are language barriers as many families are monolingual or need interpreters. This is a community that needs culturally specific services and has been able to build those services and businesses to serve the people that live here. We have grocery stores, health clinics, social and mental health services with access to languages that reflect the neighborhoods here.

I am asking the commission to keep my community whole. It’s important that we are drawn together because we have similar needs and understand how to best help each other. Should you need to get in touch with me, I can be reached at rhummanee@aypal.org.

Thank you for your time,
Rhummanee Hang
Co-Director, AYPAL
Aliza Kazmi  
Union City Resident and Former Advocacy Manager at the Council on American Islamic Relations - San Francisco Bay Area

My name is Aliza Kazmi and I am the Advocacy Manager at the Council on American Islamic Relations’ San Francisco Bay Area chapter\(^1\). Personally, I live in Union City, previously lived in Oakland, and grew up in Hercules.

Our organization is a regional lead organization for the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative, which has held multiple community workshops to obtain communities of interest information. Namely, we have obtained information on communities throughout Alameda and Santa Clara Counties.

We share our perspective as a civil rights, legal aid and civic engagement organization that is based in Santa Clara and serves the Bay Area region’s 250,000-plus Muslims, including

\(^1\) Ms. Kazmi is no longer with CAIR-SFBA but was the Advocacy Manager at CAIR-SFBA at the time of drafting and presenting her testimony, and while participating in the AASRC workshops.
recently arrived and other immigrants from around the world. We are joined in our efforts by four sister offices of CAIR-CA in Sacramento, Fresno, San Diego and Los Angeles. We offer civil rights and immigration legal aid direct services as well as youth leadership building and civic engagement community education and outreach - which supports our broader local, state and federal policy advocacy to fight Islamophobia. In 2020, we

- Hosted over 30 civil rights and immigration clinics and workshops
- Surpassed 700 legal aid intakes - more than ever before - indicating growing demand for legal services on issues like asylum, hate crimes, FBI visits, school bullying, and naturalization
- Expanded our services to include removal defense - supporting individuals facing deportation - as well as supporting clients with housing, unemployment, and accessing their COVID stimulus payments.

While we are not a member-based organization, we have a volunteer base of nearly 200 community members and are supported annually by a donor base of over 1500 community members. We also partner with our region’s mosques, along with other organizations such as Muslim Student Associations at various college campuses, to conduct regular community outreach.

Muslims in our community identify as South Asian, Arab, Afghan, Black, AAPI, Iranian, Latinx, and White; among other ethnic groups. At least one in three Muslims here were born abroad and come from countries such as Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Egypt, Yemen, Iran, Jordan, and Palestine.

Working with different community leaders, we see that Muslims in our region are highly and increasingly civically engaged. Our community comes together on a range of issues, including fighting for basic economic opportunities for immigrants and refugees, and accountability and change in the various ways that AMEMSA and BIPOC people are over-policed and surveilled. Specifically, we work to disentangle local and federal law enforcement collaborations, and uphold privacy rights by pushing for transparency and accountability around local government surveillance. In addition, we work to maximize our participation in our democracy – from supporting people in their pathways to citizenship to organizing around voting and meeting and engaging with our local, state and federal elected officials.

Every year since 2016, our state legislature passes a resolution to recognize August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month to uplift California Muslims and acknowledge the impact we make as part of our broader community. Many cities and counties have also issued corresponding proclamations over the years. We continue to work on this initiative with various representatives and community leaders.

Because of our diversity – socioeconomically, in terms of citizenship status, and across ethnic identities: our 100+ mosques are one key space that characterize our community. Muslims gather at mosques on up to a weekly or daily basis to pray, study our faith, and be in community together. Over the past 15 years alone, at least 10 new mosques have been
formed in the Bay Area - two out of five of which are in Alameda County: in Berkeley, Brentwood, Burlingame, Hayward, Novato, Oakland, Palo Alto, San Jose, Sunnyvale, and Union City. The location of mosques also impacts where Muslims who move to the Bay Area rent and own homes.

We would like to highlight several mosques and other areas of significance to Muslims - around which there are clusters of Muslim households. These communities of interest were indicated by our constituents, who have shared their input with us online and in person over the past several months:

In Fremont, there are many Muslims living around the Islamic Center of Fremont on Irvington Ave in the Irvington neighborhood (see map below in the appendix). Over 200 families, including many Indians and Pakistanis, live in the Irvington neighborhood, which is also home to a number of highly-frequented Muslim-owned businesses such as Mirchi’s Café, Zam Zam Halal Market, and others.

- There are also many Muslims - especially Afghans - residing near Washington St., up the street from the Khalilullah Ibrahim Islamic Center on Osgood Rd.
- Another area of Fremont with a strong Muslim - especially, Afghan - residential and small business presence is the Centerville neighborhood (see map below), also known as Little Kabul. This area is also where the Afghan Coalition, one of our partners and a direct service social agency, is located.
- Further, two areas which Muslims value as political and community gathering places are ○ Central Park as well as the rest of Lake Elizabeth and Newpark Mall, including for food festivals such as the Halal Fest and Ramadan food fests.

There is also a significant density of Muslims in the city of Santa Clara, especially around the original location of the Muslim Community Association: Masjid al Noor on Catherine St off of El Camino Real. The community of interest generally fits within the boundaries of El Camino Real to the north, San Tomas Expwy to the west, Saratoga Ave to the south and Jackson St to the east (see map below). Others come to the mosque from nearby areas west of San Tomas Expwy such as Via Dondera and Cabrillo Ave.

- While many of its congregants exclusively attend Masjid al Noor, many - especially younger families, young people and tech workers - also attend the sister location, the Muslim Community Association on Scott Blvd just south of Highway 101 and east of the San Tomas Expwy, which is frequented by Muslims who are from the area north of El Camino Real and south of Monroe Street, other parts of Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale.
- The Muslim Community Association and Masjid al Noor share deep roots as one community, with some community members thinking of the former as the ‘big house’ and the latter as the accompanying ‘little house.’ Community members feel strongly about continuing the exponential growth of Muslims in this area, to build more cohesion as a voter bloc.
Also, Santa Clarans represent 8% of all of our 2021 action alert action-takers. Residents of Fremont and San Jose make up 4% and 12%, respectively, of all action-takers: making the combined political action of people from these cities equal to 24% of all who engage in this advocacy tactic.

**Hence, we ask that the Commission please keep the two concentrations of Muslims, in central and south Fremont and in the whole of Santa Clara (described in bold font above), together.** We ask this based on these communities’ shared characteristics of ethnic and linguistic backgrounds as Arab, Middle Eastern, African and Central and South Asian who also share various social and political interests.

In addition, there are four different areas that we want to highlight, each sharing similar characteristics but within smaller geographic boundaries than those mentioned above. We ask that the Commission keep each of these whole - in 1) north Fremont/Union City, 2) Oakland, 3) Hayward, and 4) Newark, respectively:

1. In the northern part of Fremont, there is another density of Muslims residing in the Lakes and Birds neighborhood and Contempo Park area next to the Islamic Society of the East Bay on Lowry Rd. Notably, many who attend this mosque also attend Masjid al Huda to the north on Smith St. There are several Muslim-owned food and retail businesses on the same block or very close to Masjid al Huda, and one community member shared that housing in this area is also ‘more affordable’ relative to surrounding areas and that that has been a draw for Muslims and others

   ○ Nearby businesses that Muslims frequent include Falafel Corner, Maqbool Islamic Clothing, L’Aziz Pizza, Greens n Grills, New York Pizza & Kabob, Raja Sweets & Indian Cuisine, and The Mark Green Sports Center

   ○ Further east of Islamic Society of the East Bay along Highway 84, just past Highway 238, there are a cluster of families living on the same block of the Dawoodi Bohra Masjid on Old Canyon Road. Other congregants reside in Niles as well as other parts of Fremont and Newark.

2. In Oakland, there are many Yemeni Muslims living in the five to ten block radius around Masjid as Salam on 7th Street (which has a neighboring halal market and restaurant and community center) between Adeline St and Market St. There are also many Yemenis in the five to ten block radius around Oakland Islamic Center on 31st Street and Telegraph, another area home to a number of halal markets.

   ○ Also, 20% of Oaklanders who have taken action on one or more of our organization’s 2021 political action alerts reside in the 94609 zip code of Oakland (see map below), which includes the above-mentioned Oakland Islamic Center as well as Lighthouse Mosque on 42nd St and Masjid al Iman on Shattuck Ave; with Masjid Abu Bakr (zip 94608) on 62nd St not far.
Oakland residents make up 9% of all our action-takers.

3. Generally, there are strong Afghan and/or Farsi-speaking communities in Hayward: particularly the many Afghans who attend and live in the area around Masjid Muhajireen on Folsom Ave, and, more north, the Farsi-speakers at Fatimiyya Islamic Center on Bartlett Ave.

4. In Newark, there are more Afghans and others who are Muslim who live in close proximity to the Al Medina Education Center in Central Ct. Community members also alluded to Latinos, retirees, and Silicon Valley tech workers as being a significant part of this area.

Thank you for considering our communities of interest, and please do not hesitate to email back with questions.

Centerville COI
Oakland Muslim COI (Zip codes 94609 & 94608, Mosques Identified in Blue)

Irvington COI
Daisy Maxion
Civic Engagement Organizer at Filipino Advocates for Justice

Dear Commission Members,

Hello, my name is Daisy Maxion and I’m currently the Civic Engagement Organizer for Filipino Advocates for Justice. I was born and raised in Alameda County and have lived here for 24 years. Filipino Advocates for Justice has been an advocate for immigrant, worker and civil rights. I am also with the AAPI & AMESMA Redistricting Collaborative.

FAJ serves more than 130,000 Filipinos who call the East Bay Area home through our offices in Oakland’s Chinatown and Union City. For the past 45 years, we have helped the most marginalized in the Filipino community navigate challenges in the U.S. through middle and high school-age youth, low-wage workers vulnerable to exploitation, immigrants, and tenants and families in working class neighborhoods. FAJ holds space for a lot of youth leadership development through after school activities and civic engagement opportunities in Union City.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the AAPI community makes up 53.4% of the population.
Union City geographically covers 19.4 square miles, but has increased in growth since 2010 by 5.30%. The total population is currently at approximately 73,201, with a population density of 3,773 people per square mile. There is a considerable amount of Asian immigrants who reside in Union City. The Asian community in Union City continues to grow, with the Filipino community being more than 20% of the population.

I ask the Commission to keep Union City altogether going into the new Assembly, State Senate and Congressional districts. I recommend that the Commission keep Union City with its neighboring areas: Hayward, San Leandro, San Lorenzo as a whole to respect our community of interest. From sharing the same businesses, community organizations, churches, and educational institutions, Filipino Americans of Alameda County have created a sense of belonging with one another. Therefore, it is imperative to keep these communities intact.

Warm regards,

Daisy Maxion
Civic Engagement Organizer

Yeri Shon
Chief of Program Integration and Community Impact at
Korean Community Center of the East Bay

Dear California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

My name is Yeri Shon and I have been an Alameda County resident for over 25 years. I am Chief of Program Integration and Community Impact at Korean Community Center of the East Bay (KCCEB). KCCEB is a nonprofit organization that has been serving the Bay Area community for 44 years. I am also calling in as a member of the Asian American Pacific Islander & Arab Middle Eastern Muslim and South Asian State Redistricting Collaborative.

Our organization provides the following services: social services and health access navigation support, case management for low-income seniors, immigration legal services, health promotion programs, and mental health services. Over 80% of our clients are Asian Americans residing in Alameda County that are low-income and limited English Proficient. Also, due to our long-time physical presence in the City of Oakland, a significant number of our clients have been Oakland residents.

I am calling to ask the Commission to keep Oakland’s Koreatown Northgate (known as KONO), which extends from 20th to 35th Street along Telegraph Ave, together with Temescal, which is a
neighborhood also centered around Telegraph Ave and located immediately north of KONO. This combined area is very diverse with various Asian American communities working and operating businesses - who would have similar immigrant experiences and common interests when it comes to small business support, language access, labor protection, and neighborhood safety. Furthermore, this area is also a hub for many Korean small businesses that have been rooted in the community for many decades.

I also want to ask that the Commission maintains Oakland’s Chinatown, Uptown, and the close perimeter surrounding Lake Merritt in one district. The boundaries for this COI are 980, Grand Ave, 880, and Lakeshore Ave. These areas combined have over 10 large senior housing complexes with significant Asian senior residents, including Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese immigrant seniors, and more. Many of the senior community members we serve can be found here in close proximity to Lake Merritt & Chinatown. With a large Asian elderly population in this area, there are shared needs and challenges, such as language access and culturally fitting community resources and programming. As these issues can be improved by policymaking, it would be best that this COI is kept together.

Overall, I am asking the commission to keep these two COIs (1st KONO & Temescal, 2nd as well as Chinatown, Uptown, Adam’s Point, and the Merritt neighborhood) unified, seeing them as important neighborhoods for the Korean and greater AAPI community. Thank you for your time, and effort in this work to support our communities to thrive.
June Lim  
**Demographic Research Project Director at**  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles

My name is June Lim and I am the Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles which is a Census Information Center, an official program of the US Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am joining you today to present data supporting the COI testimony you’ve heard from our partners representing the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative. These include COIs in Union City, Oakland Chinatown, KONO, and Oakland East Lake.

The AAPI and AMEMSA community is a large and fast-growing part of the Bay Area. The latest census data show that the Asian American population in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties grew considerably more in the last decade than the counties’ overall populations. Given such substantial growth, the AAPI & AMEMSA communities now comprise more than ⅔ of Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties. Our communities make up over half of the communities in Daly City, Union
City, Fremont, Sunnyvale, and Milpitas.

More than half of AAPI and AMEMSA communities in these counties are immigrants with percent foreign-born AAPI and AMEMSA communities ranging from from 52 to 62%. In some of the cities where our COIs are located, such as in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, and San Leandro, over 50% of AAPI community members are Limited English Proficient meaning they speak English less than very well. Over 70% of Chinese Americans in Oakland and Korean Americans in Union City are LEP, and over 60% of Vietnamese Americans in Oakland, San Jose, San Leandro, and Union City do not speak English very well.

There are socioeconomic differences in the AAPI & AMEMSA communities that vary across counties and across cities and ethnic groups within these counties. When we look at the cities in which the COIs identified by our Collaborative are located, our communities experience significant economic disparities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Oakland have disproportionally high proportions of low income households, especially Vietnamese and Chinese Americans communities. Although Asian Americans in San Francisco have higher than average proportions of low-income households, PI communities have even higher proportions. Vietnamese Americans in Fremont, San Leandro, Union City, San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara have significantly higher than average proportions of households that are low-income.

In closing, the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative asks the Commission to respect the integrity of the communities of interest presented today. Thank you for your time.

**EAST BAY DEMOGRAPHIC DATA TABLES**

### 2020 Asian American & NHPI Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th># of Asian Americans</th>
<th>% of Total Asian Americans</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
<th>#NHPI</th>
<th>% of Total Population</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>78265</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3097</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>41715</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>-9%</td>
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</table>

Data: 2020 Decennial Census PL 94-171; 2010 Decennial Census PL 94-171

### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Foreign-Born

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<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B05003

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size
Asian American & NHPI: Percent Limited English Proficient (Speak English less than very well)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B16004
*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

Asian American & NHPI: Percent Low Income & Poverty

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<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>% Low-Income</th>
<th>% Poverty</th>
<th>% Low-Income</th>
<th>% Poverty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table C17002
*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

EAST BAY HEAT MAPS

KONO TEMESCAL COI – Yeri Shon, Korean Community Center of the East Bay
Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062
LAKE MERRITT COI – Yeri Shon, Korean Community Center of the East Bay
Estimated population low-income, defined as 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Table S1701 5-Year Estimates

EASTLAKE OAKLAND COI – Rhummanee Hang, AYPAL
Estimated population low-income, defined as 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2015-2019 Table S1701 5-Year Estimates
SOUTH BAY AREA COMMUNITY TESTIMONY

● Angelica Cortez, Community Organizer and Founder of LEAD Filipino - Leadership, Education, Activism, and Dialogue

● Gabriela Garzón, Civic Engagement Organizer at Asian Law Alliance

● See also Testimony of Aliza Kazmi, Union City Resident and Former Advocacy Manager at the Council on American Islamic Relations - San Francisco Bay Area, on page 47

● Richard Konda, Executive Director at Asian Law Alliance

● Jugraj Singh, Volunteer with Jakara Movement

● June Lim, Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles
Hello, my name is Angelica Cortez and I’m calling in as a representative of LEAD Filipino, a local nonprofit organization based in the San José/South Bay Area. We are focused on advancing civic participation and civil rights within Filipina/x/o American and broader communities. In the 6 years that we have been active, we have spearheaded a coalition of 150 organizations and have helped thousands of FilAms in leadership, education, and advocacy around Racial Equity and Ethnic Studies. We are also calling in as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.

Our community members are concentrated in 3 main areas of San José. The first area includes Downtown, Berryessa, & North San Jose (Milpitas). The boundaries for this concentration are captured within the 680 & 880 corridors, starting with Story Rd. in the south and extending to West Calaveras Blvd in the north and East Side San Jose (South White Rd., Tully Rd., Quimby Rd., Evergreen). The boundaries that capture this Community of Interest begin South of Story Rd and follow the 101 to the foothills. We are calling in today to ask the Commission to keep our North San Jose COI with Fremont & Santa Clara. The FilAm community in North San Jose would be best served by being placed together with Fremont & Santa Clara as they share similar socioeconomic and house ownership statuses.

Whereas, our community in East Side San Jose would be better served in AD 27 because of the shared interest in employment, community spaces, and housing resources with neighboring communities of interest.

The FilAm community is connected together by small businesses, parks, community organizations, churches, and schools. We consist of teachers, business owners, food service workers, health industry workers (nurses and caregivers), Catholics and Christians, and students. The following areas are very important community gathering spots: Cataldi Park, Welch Park, St. Victor, St. Francis, and Iglesia Ni Cristo. We also have a demographic of FilAm students attending schools within the East Side Union High School District, as well as a large number of our community members living along the housing near Independence High School. There are also a small number of Filipino/a/x Americans who attend San José State University and/or live around East William and South 4th Street.

In addition, we have a huge area of business corridors located in Berryessa & Milpitas (connected by Landess), including: Valerio’s City Bakery (Berryessa), Tindahan Pinoy, Gabrielle’s Food Market, Seafood City Supermarket, Max’s Restaurant, Jollibee, and Goldilocks Bakeshop. Members of our community would often travel to Landess Avenue and the Great Mall to eat, shop, and socialize.

The Filipino American community has been living in these 3 main areas for over 80 years and have shared needs and interests around transportation, public health & safety, housing, jobs,
community spaces and landmarks, and education. For instance, the 200% increase in anti-Asian hate crime and incidents in the County - and United States - concerns our community’s safety to run simple errands like grocery shopping, going to the bank, mall, church - or even walking around their neighborhood. In addition, our community needs workplace protections for frontline workers, noting that an estimated \( \frac{1}{3} \) of employed FilAms are healthcare workers and/or domestic caregivers, with a disproportionate majority being Filipina women. Our community has shared public policy concerns with other AAPI communities around these needs and interests. We believe that these communities would be best served if the areas in which they live are kept together and held intact within the districts.

Thank you.
Evergreen COI

Gabriela Garzón
Civic Engagement Organizer at Asian Law Alliance

Good evening, my name is Gabriela Garzón Gupta and I am with the Asian Law Alliance. I will be addressing the area that contains Assembly District 25, particularly the Berryessa area of San José in the southern part of Santa Clara County. The Asian Law Alliance is a nonprofit based in San Jose that provides legal services in Santa Clara County, with a particular focus on our AAPI and low-income populations. I am speaking today in conjunction with the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.

I am here today to talk about the Chinese community in the Berryessa area of North San Jose. Berryessa can be defined through the zip codes 95131, 95132, and part of 95133. Berryessa is especially notable for its high concentration of the AAPI population- over 60% of the population identifies as AAPI. Over half of Berryessa residents work in white collar jobs, and commute using the highways of 680 and 101 to get to tech-related jobs. Berryessa also has its own school district that serves 13 elementary and middle schools.
There is a strong community of Chinese immigrants and US born residents with Chinese heritage. Approximately 14% of the population of 95132 and 20% of 95131 are Chinese immigrants, while surrounding zip codes have percentages that hover at around 2-8%. With a high concentration of Chinese immigrants, the neighborhood resources and schools reflect this demographic. There are 3 Chinese language schools in the Milpitas and Berryessa area, and Berryessa Union School district also serves a much higher percentage of ESL students who speak either Mandarin or Cantonese than the neighboring Alum Rock School District. There is also a strong religious Chinese community- Berryessa and Milpitas have 7 temples/churches for the Chinese community specifically. For your reference, I have attached an excel sheet of notable places of worship for the Chinese community across the South Bay.

Please keep the Berryessa community intact, and keep the community with cities like Fremont and Milpitas. The Chinese community in Berryessa has much more in common with its neighbors up north in cities like Fremont and Milpitas than it does with its neighbors to the southeast, like the Alum Rock and other East San Jose neighborhoods. The Chinese communities in Milpitas and Fremont have similarities when it comes to home ownership rates, poverty rates, languages spoken, and types of jobs. Thank you.

In addition to submitting the testimony I shared at the CCRC’s public meeting on 8/24, I would also like to share the following input from other community members within the Asian Law Alliance network, providing comments on other areas of North San Jose & Fremont. Please see the following testimony on the Centerville, Mission San Jose, & Warm Springs neighborhoods:

Community Member: Aniket Panda

My community is the Centerville community located in Fremont, California. This community is encapsulated within the boundaries of Mowry Ave, Niles Blvd, Isherwood Way, Paseo Padre Pky, Decoto Rd, and the 880 Freeway. The Centerville community gets its name from Centerville Jr. High School and the Centerville train station. This is a mainly residential area that is great for families. The elementary school (Parkmont) and the high school (Washington) are both great schools. People here are very interested in having good quality schools. They care about having the things that make great suburbs, like clean communities, outdoor spaces, areas for kids to play, etc. I'd say that outdoor spaces are great meeting points for community members. Lake Elizabeth, Quarry Lakes, Alameda Creek are all big points of interest.

The Centerville community is really similar to other neighborhoods in Fremont, such as Niles or Mission. The city of Fremont has a pretty solid identity as a great suburb for families. Racially, Fremont has a large Asian population but is pretty diverse throughout. Even though neighborhoods like Mission have become predominantly Asian, the Centerville community still has that diversity which is pretty notable. There are many different parts of Fremont which have concentrations of Indian food and grocery shops.
The Mission San Jose & Warm Springs neighborhoods (see maps) share multiple similarities with that of Fremont, both noting sizable Chinese & South Asian populations. The majority of residents in these areas are homeowner and immigrant communities who commute to work in the Silicon Valley (Santa Clara, Sunnyvale). These communities are drawn together by key landmarks such as the Warm Springs BART station and the Mission San Jose.

The boundaries for Warm Springs can be described as following North along the 680 hwy to Mission Blvd. The eastern boundary is Warm Springs Blvd and the southern boundary is Scott Creek Rd. The boundaries for Mission SJ start with the Southern boundary of Paseo Padre Parkway, & Mission Blvd. It travels up Paseo Padre Parkway to the 680 Hwy and extends back to Mission Blvd. This neighborhood includes the foothills and Ohlone college. We are asking the commission to keep both the Mission SJ & Warm Springs neighborhoods with Fremont, Milpitas & Santa Clara.

Due to its large size, if the commission does have to draw boundaries through the city of Fremont, we are asking the CCRC to consider drawing the line through Mowry Avenue, keeping the Centerville neighborhood whole with Union City & Newark. While Fremont has many shared characteristics across the entire city, we believe drawing the lines this way will be best for AAPI communities on either side of the line. Neighborhoods like Mission SJ & Warm Springs have strong connections with Berryessa and Milpitas, while the Centerville neighborhood has more in common with Union City & Newark. Thank you so much for your consideration.
See also Testimony of Aliza Kazmi, Union City Resident and Former Advocacy Manager at the Council on American Islamic Relations - San Francisco Bay Area², on page 47

The following excerpts from Ms. Kazmi’s testimony are focused on the South Bay Area:

Working with different community leaders, we see that Muslims in our region are highly and increasingly civically engaged. Our community comes together on a range of issues, including fighting for basic economic opportunities for immigrants and refugees, and accountability and change in the various ways that AMEMSA and BIPOC people are over-policed and surveilled. Specifically, we work to disentangle local and federal law enforcement collaborations, and uphold privacy rights by pushing for transparency and accountability around local government surveillance. In addition, we work to maximize our participation in our democracy – from supporting people in their pathways to citizenship to organizing around voting and meeting and engaging with our local, state and federal elected officials.

We would like to highlight several mosques and other areas of significance to Muslims - around which there are clusters of Muslim households. These communities of interest were indicated by our constituents, who have shared their input with us online and in person over the past several months:

² Ms. Kazmi is no longer with CAIR-SFBA but was the Advocacy Manager at CAIR-SFBA at the time of drafting and presenting her testimony, and while participating in the AASRC workshops.
In **Fremont**, there are many Muslims living around the Islamic Center of Fremont on Irvington Ave in the Irvington neighborhood (see map below in the appendix). Over 200 families, including many Indians and Pakistanis, live in the Irvington neighborhood, which is also home to a number of highly-frequented Muslim-owned businesses such as Mirchi’s Café, Zam Zam Halal Market, and others.

- There are also many Muslims - especially Afghans - residing near Washington St., up the street from the Khalilullah Ibrahim Islamic Center on Osgood Rd.
- Another area of Fremont with a strong Muslim - especially, Afghan - residential and small business presence is the Centerville neighborhood (see map below), also known as Little Kabul. This area is also where the Afghan Coalition, one of our partners and a direct service social agency, is located.
- Further, two areas which Muslims value as political and community gathering places are **Central Park** as well as the rest of Lake Elizabeth and **Newpark Mall**, including for food festivals such as the Halal Fest and Ramadan food fests.

There is also a significant density of Muslims in the city of **Santa Clara**, especially around the original location of the Muslim Community Association: Masjid al Noor on Catherine St off of El Camino Real. The community of interest generally fits within the boundaries of El Camino Real to the north, San Tomas Expy to the west, Saratoga Ave to the south and Jackson St to the east (see map below). Others come to the mosque from nearby areas west of San Tomas Expy such as Via Dondera and Cabrillo Ave.

- While many of its congregants exclusively attend Masjid al Noor, many - especially younger families, young people and tech workers - also attend the sister location, the Muslim Community Association on Scott Blvd just south of Highway 101 and east of the San Tomas Expy, which is frequented by Muslims who are from the area north of El Camino Real and south of Monroe Street, other parts of Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale.
- The Muslim Community Association and Masjid al Noor share deep roots as one community, with some community members thinking of the former as the ‘big house’ and the latter as the accompanying ‘little house.’ Community members feel strongly about continuing the exponential growth of Muslims in this area, to build more cohesion as a voter bloc.

Also, Santa Clarans represent 8% of all of our 2021 action alert action-takers. Residents of Fremont and San Jose make up 4% and 12%, respectively, of all action-takers: making the combined political action of people from these cities equal to 24% of all who engage in this advocacy tactic.
Hence, we ask that the Commission please keep the two concentrations of Muslims, in central and south Fremont and in the whole of Santa Clara (described in bold font above), together. We ask this based on these communities’ shared characteristics of ethnic and linguistic backgrounds as Arab, Middle Eastern, African and Central and South Asian who also share various social and political interests.
Hello, my name is Richard Konda, and I am the Executive Director of the Asian Law Alliance located in San Jose, CA. I am calling in today to provide input on the Berryessa Neighborhood in North San Jose and to provide an introduction for the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.

Over the past few months, the Asian Law Alliance has worked as a regional anchor partner with the AAPI and AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative in the South Bay. The testimony that my colleagues and I have prepared for you today is a reflection of our coalition's engagement with our communities, collecting feedback from multiple stakeholders to map South Bay COIs. This past summer, our State Collaborative held 5 community workshops, reaching 17 different community based organizations and over 40 community members and staff. Across these workshops, we've mapped multiple COIs that capture the diversity of the AAPI & AMEMSA community in the South Bay while providing education on the ways to engage with the state redistricting process. Outside these meetings, members have also engaged in direct outreach to their respective communities, gathering insight from religious leaders, business owners, students, and families. We hope our Collaborative's work helps the Commission better understand the diverse AAPI & AMEMSA communities in the South Bay.

With the most recent data release from the 2020 Census, we now know Asian Americans makeup 38.9% of Santa Clara County, making us the largest and fastest growing racial group in the region. Both the Berryessa area in North San Jose and Milpitas have large Chinese & South Asian populations, which share many similarities with Asian American communities in Santa Clara & Fremont, including languages spoken and poverty rates. The core of Berryessa runs from the 880 freeway and up past 680 to the hills, from Berryessa Road in the south, extending north to Calaveras. My colleague Gabriela Garzón Gupta will be able to speak about these COIs in more detail.

As you may know, in 2001, prior to the creation of an independent redistricting commission, the Berryessa neighborhood was split into 4 Assembly districts. This prevented Berryessa residents from having a strong voice at the state level for the next ten years. Last redistricting cycle, the Asian Law Alliance worked to uplift the needs of Berryessa, successfully advocating for its reunification in 2011.
Today, I am urging the commission to keep the Berryessa neighborhood whole, and with the areas of Santa Clara & Fremont. It is important that we are drawn together to continue to amplify the voice of Asian Americans across North Santa Clara County.

Thank you so much for hearing from me today and the rest of the AAPI & AMEMSA State Redistricting Collaborative.

Jugraj Singh  
Volunteer with Jakara Movement

Hello, my name is Jugraj Singh, and I am the President of Santa Clara University’s Sikh Student Association with the Jakara Movement. I would like to provide input on the Punjabi-Sikh community of interest in Santa Clara County. I am also calling in as a member of the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative.
Our organization works primarily with Punjabi in the Bay Area, and throughout California. We have been active within the community for 20 years, organizing and empowering the Punjabi-Sikh and other marginalized communities, to advance their health, education, and economic, social, and political power.

I was born and raised in Sunnyvale, California. I attended Homestead High school and am now a sophomore at Santa Clara University. I grew up extremely involved with my local community.

My Community primarily lives in San Jose in Berryessa, Evergreen and Silver Creek neighborhoods. An important Landmark is the San Jose Gurdwara. Most of the community in Santa Clara live within District 1, 2 & 3, the neighborhoods surrounding Silicon Valley gurdwara. We are spread out in Sunnyvale & Cupertino.

Punjabi is our ethnic background whereas Sikh is a religious background. Our community has many educated folks working in the corporate field, but we are primarily made up of families who come from blue collared backgrounds.

Punjabis have been living in California for over 120 years.

Punjabi-Sikhs are the largest South Asian community with the lowest English proficiency rate in the South Bay, and we need language accessibility in our neighborhoods. We also need senior services, transportation, and housing affordability resources. Many of our elderly feel alienated and are codependent on their children because of a lack of resources & language barriers.

Per the Sikh Coalition, 67% of the Punjabi-Sikh youth meet racism and prejudice in their schools and seniors often face hate crimes due to Islamophobia & anti Asian-American hate.

I am calling today to ask the commission to respect the integrity of the Punjabi community. Of the areas I just identified, I am asking the commission to recognize 4 main concentrations of Punjabi COIs in the South Bay (Berryessa, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale & Cupertino, & Evergreen & Silver Creek). Doing so would allow us to receive the necessary services through our vote. Otherwise splitting us dilutes our voices and representation.

Thank you for hearing from me today.
Evergreen COI

Berryessa COI
June Lim  
Demographic Research Project Director at  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles  

My name is June Lim and I am the Demographic Research Project Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Los Angeles which is a Census Information Center, an official program of the US Census Bureau designed to promote the dissemination of census data to underserved populations. I am joining you today to present data supporting the COI testimony you’ve heard from our partners representing the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative. These include COIs in the Berryessa/Milpitas, Evergreen & Silver Creek, Santa Clara, and Fremont.  
The AAPI and AMEMSA community is a large and fast-growing part of the Bay Area. The latest census data show that the Asian American population in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties grew considerably more in the last decade than the counties’ overall populations. The Asian American community grew by over 30 percent in each of the aforementioned counties with the highest growth in Contra Costa county at 44%. Similarly, the Pacific Islander community grew by 32% in Contra Costa. Given such substantial growth, the AAPI & AMEMSA communities now comprise more than ⅓ of Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties. Our communities make up over half of the communities in Daly City, Union City, Fremont, Sunnyvale, and Milpitas; and over 40% of San Jose, South San Francisco, and Santa Clara.  

More than half of AAPI and AMEMSA communities in these counties are immigrants with percent foreign-born AAPI and AMEMSA communities ranging from from 52 to 62%. In some of the cities where our COIs are located, such as in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, and San Leandro, over 50% of AAPI community members are Limited English Proficient meaning they speak English less than very well. Over 60% of Vietnamese Americans in Oakland, San Jose, San Leandro, and Union City do not speak English very well.  

There are socioeconomic differences in the AAPI & AMEMSA communities that vary across counties and across cities and ethnic groups within these counties. When we look at the cities in which the COIs identified by our Collaborative are located, our communities experience significant economic disparities. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Oakland have disproportionately high proportions of low income households, especially Vietnamese and Chinese Americans communities. Although Asian Americans in San Francisco have higher than average proportions of low-income households, PI communities have even higher proportions. Vietnamese Americans in Fremont, San Leandro, Union City, San Jose, and the City of Santa Clara have significantly higher than average proportions of households that are low-income.  

I will submit to the Commission data maps and shapefiles of these Communities of Interest with my written testimony. In closing, the AAPI & AMEMSA Redistricting Collaborative asks the Commission to respect the integrity of the communities of interest presented today. Thank you for your time.
### SOUTH BAY AREA DEMOGRAPHIC DATA TABLES

#### 2020 Asian American & NHPI Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th># Asian Americans</th>
<th>% of Total Population</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
<th># NHPI</th>
<th>% of Total Population</th>
<th>% Change 2010 to 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alum Rock</td>
<td>2310</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
<td>-45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>151359</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>1163</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>-13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>20578</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>734</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td>404673</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>4312</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>62493</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>-30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>41715</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>-9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data: 2020 Decennial Census PL 94-171; 2010 Decennial Census PL 94-171

#### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Foreign-Born

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alum Rock</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B05003

*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size.
### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Limited English Proficient
(Speak English less than very well)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian American</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alum Rock</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table B16004
*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size

### Asian American & NHPI: Percent Low Income & Poverty

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<tr>
<th>Place/City</th>
<th>Asian Americans</th>
<th>NHPI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>% Low-Income</td>
<td>% Poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alum Rock</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union City</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2011-2015, Table C17002
*American Community Survey suppresses groups due to sample size
SOUTH BAY AREA HEAT MAPS

CENTERVILLE COI – Aliza Kazmi, Council on American-Islamic Relations
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP2092

IRVINGTON COI – Aliza Kazmi, Council on American-Islamic Relations
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP2092
WARM SPRINGS COI – Gabriela Garzon Gupta, Asian Law Alliance
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP2092

MISSION SAN JOSE COI – Gabriela Garzon Gupta, Asian Law Alliance
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP2092
BERRYESSA COI – Gabriela Garzon Gupta, Asian Law Alliance; Jugraj Shoker, Jakara Movement; Angelica Cortez, LEAD Filipino
Estimated Population % Foreign-Born

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP2092

ALUM ROCK COI – Angelica Cortez, LEAD Filipino
Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062
EVERGREEN COI – Angelica Cortez, LEAD Filipino ; Jugraj Shoker, Jakara Movement
Median Income (2018 Inflation adjusted dollars)

Data: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2014-2018 Table DP3062