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Subject: IRC eComment
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2021 11:39:43 AM

You've received a new form based mail from
<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/redistricting/IRCEcomment.html>.

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The two IRC commissioners who are arguing to fold the backcountry border region inside of a giant urban/coastal population are either making a bad assumption about minority voters in the unincorporated border area, OR they are cynically advocating for an agenda that deliberately silences anyone who doesn't vote Democrat, including non-white voters. This has been done already in the Congressional and California Senate districts in the southeast rural part of the county, with terrible consequences for the people who live out here.

Consider the original District 2, which goes from the northern edge of Mountain Empire USD all the way down to the border and is also inclusive of the 7 East County cities, plus Ramona and Julian. This current district is almost half non-white and immigrant (per your own census analysis), yet the area as a whole consistently votes conservative values by a solid majority.

If POC in the backcountry were voting in droves for Democrats, then Democrat candidates would already be winning in District 2 – and this amply illustrates the folly of presuming that a single “unified” border region is somehow beneficial to non-white voters. The proof is in the official voting records of the county and state. Voter registration in the unincorporated region as a whole is only 34% Democrat. Voters registered as any other party, REGARDLESS OF SKIN COLOR, make up 66%.

The congressional maps of 2001 and 2011 demonstrate clearly what will happen if Map 14 is adopted. Despite our clear conservative majority in the rural border region, rural votes are buried under a brutal 70% Democrat majority, almost entirely from Chula Vista.

Not only does Map 14 bury rural votes as a whole, but it also buries conservative votes in El Cajon, where conservatives of all races tend to dominate local elections. I have yet to meet an El Cajon Chaldean who votes Democrat. You are also burying THEM in a coastal urban majority that will outvote their interests every time. Why? I saw the Chaldean and Arab comments to IRC and those populations didn't say they wanted that. They said they wanted to be kept together. Why can that not be accomplished by putting them into an East County district instead of a liberal coastal one?

The way people vote is based on their environment and life experience, which may or may not be influenced by skin color. Our experience in the rural region – especially the region near the international border, is VERY different from that of Chula Vista and that is why rural non-whites, and the rural minority as a whole, do not follow the

voting patterns of the coastal urban majority.

Please respect the diversity of experience in the East County. Please don't bury our voices under the weight of urban voters who do not understand our problems and don't even like us to begin with. Please don't insult Hispanic voters by assuming they are a single race-based monolith. Please discard Map 14 as an option and pursue refinements to the maps that respect diversity of thought, instead of smothering it to death.

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