

May 30, 2021 Yolo County Board of Supervisors 625 Court St, #204 Woodland, CA 95695 RECEIVED

JUN 0 3 2021

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Yolo County Advisory Redistricting Commission 625 Court St, #204 Woodland, CA 95695 Attn alexander Volume 4.01

Re: Time to Correct 2011 Redistricting Mistakes in West Sacramento

Dear Sirs,

Broderick and Bryte need to be part of Supervisorial District One in West Sacramento, placing West Sacramento in a single supervisorial district. Currently the Broderick and Bryte neighborhoods of West Sacramento are gerrymandered with Woodland in Supervisorial District two fourteen mile away. This gerrymandering turns principles of fair representation, based on communities of interest, on their head. Meaningful representation was compromised and community interests were sacrificed in 2011.

I am the Dolores Huerta Latino Democratic Club whose membership is largely located in West Sacramento, California. I am also the fithe Chicano Latino Caucus of the California Democratic Party. I reside in West Sacramento Supervisorial District One in the Broderick neighborhood. My neighbors living in Broderick and Bryte neighborhoods are located in West Sacramento Supervisorial District Three. This gerrymandering has created enormous problems in our city.

Supervisorial District boundaries are redrawn every ten years to ensure each district has about the same number of people and that districts are reflective and representative of the electorate. Redistricting affects political power and fair representation. Redistricting, for example, can ensure that communities of color have a fair shot at electing candidates who represent their world view and will fight for their concerns. Or it can exclude them from having a seat at the table.

Lack of fair representation can have horrible consequences for a community. For example, until Norma Alcala overcame at large election barriers to be elected to the West Sacramento city school board, immigrant children in the Broderick and Bryte neighborhoods (collectively the North Side) were placed in classes for developmentally disabled students on the basis of language without appropriate testing. These same children received the old text books and had a different curriculum before her election. At large elections had denied fair representation for a generation. Elected officials did not live in these

neighborhoods and were unaware of these policies. I would like to think this was unintentional and not the result of unfair representation.

In 2010, redistricting made a huge mistake. The North Side of West Sacramento where diverse neighborhoods of Latino and Russian immigrants and where our churches are located were districted into Woodland District Three. Woodland is over fourteen miles away and has nothing in common with West Sacramento. These two communities have different school districts, churches, clubs, city governments, and social lives. There is no community of interest present in this redistricting arrangement.

On the other hand, Broderick and Bryte share the same city government and school district as the rest of West Sacramento. There is a single high school in the city for children from all the city including Broderick and Bryte. There is a single public pool and Fitness Center for the entire City and supported by taxes from the entire city including Broderick and Bryte. Churches in Broderick and Bryte boast congregations from the entire city. There is a single Russian Church for the whole city. City elections include Broderick and Bryte. In summary, West Sacramento is a single community of interest and not part of Woodland, a distant but very different community. West Sacramentans share common social, cultural, economic, racial, geographic, or civic concerns.

There are many accounts for how this redistricting mistake occurred. Some attribute the error to the former Mayor who is said to have placed his finger on the scale in favor of including another an agricultural area, Clarksburg, from where political contributions would be more plentiful for his "team." Clarksburg is an agricultural community with little in common with West Sacramento city dwellers. They have different city government, a different school district, different churches, and a different social life. Clarksburg does not share common social, cultural, economic, geographic, or civic concerns. I do not know the source of the mistake.

I do know that it is time to correct this error through redistricting reform based on objective communities of interest. Broderick and Bryte need to be part of West Sacramento. This community of interest should be in a single Supervisorial District One.

