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The San Diego City Council & Independent Redistricting Commission
c/o: San Diego City Clerk by Email: cityclerk@sandiego.gov ; lgloria@sandiego.gov ;
202 C Street, Second Floor
San Diego, California 92101

RE: Item S507: Retention of Outside Counsel Richards, Watson & Gershon to Provide Legal Services for the Redistricting Commission. (Added 10/22/21)

Dear Honorable City Council, Independent Redistricting Commission, and City Attorney Mara Elliot,

I am pleased that the Council is scheduled to approve **Item S507 Retention of Outside Counsel Richards & Gershon to provide Legal Services for the Redistricting Commission.** I urge the City Council and City of San Diego Independent Redistricting Commission to finally retain outside Counsel.

I have actively participated and submitted extensive comments suggesting outcome neutral methods to redistrict the City of San Diego. My comments have raised concerns regarding some of the methods and techniques used by officers of the Redistricting Commission that gave the impression that they were steering the process towards a predetermined outcome. That predetermined outcome would have the result of returning the City of San Diego to the Mayor Wilson era Council of having a single racial minority district for each of the three major racial "colors" and also a diluted LGBTQ district. The apparent steering, if it proceeded, would diminish the real numeric political power of the current three (3) predominantly Hispanic Districts (D4, D8, and D9); dilute the Communities of Interest of the current D4 Black population and the LGBTQ D3 voting interests.

A whole new approach has been used to attempt to carve out some form of relatively small "**Pan Asian**" population influence in a new D6 area of influence; which has ignored other significant Asian and Pacific Islander populations in current Districts 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9. This surgical carving out was applied to a new D6 boundary and interfered with racially neutral boundaries, based on natural water shed features in all of the current Districts; but in particular current D1, D5, D6, and D7. Current Districts 3 and 9 are now being initially considered to enter into new water sheds and gain more White voters which dilute the near majority minority populations currently in them. Hispanics lose voting power under the adopted initial map!

A consistent approach concerning San Diego's residential colleges, universities, and group housing has not been applied throughout the City. The racial population of the University of California at San Diego, both Asian and Pacific Islanders, were carefully studied; but the racial populations at the University of San Diego (USD), San Diego State University (SDSU), Nazarene University of Point Loma were not fully studied, in a similar manner. I suggested, to the Commission, that the school attendance populations, particularly in the Crawford, Hoover, and Morse public High schools and the several Charter and private High schools need to be studied; so as to better define a racial grouping or communities of interest. I believe that careful review of these school and college attendance populations will suggest significant populations of Asians; Black/African Americans; and Pacific Islanders in current D4 and D9 that will be gerrymandered out and/or their voting rights diluted, if the initial map is adopted, without application of consistent analysis and study methods, over the entire City as was used for both Asian and Pacific Islanders at UCSD.

I have raised concerns, to the Redistricting Commission, in both writing and testimony, that the statistical methods for compactness are inconsistent and do not reflect the state of the current art. I have raised the concern that **Gomillian v. Lightfoot** (364 U.S. 339, 1960) case of gerrymandering for racial purposes with the selective inclusion of an educational institution to change the profile of a specially created district may now have been creatively selectively applied and weaponized to the disadvantage of South of the San Diego River racial populations.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. My current age and health may not permit me to orally testify at your next Council and Commission meetings; but please consider these matters before proceeding with the initial map.

Respectfully, /s/

John Stump resident, property owner, and taxpayer in current Districts Four (D 4) and Nine (D 9)