

From: contact@redistricting.wa.gov
To: [zzRedistricting Commission Voicemail](#)
Subject: Redistricting Contact Form
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Question:

Recommendation: I have three goals I would like to see accomplished in the congressional redistricting process.

First, I believe that the third district should cross the Cascades in the gorge, and that it should retain most of Lewis County. The most logical configuration would extend to the outskirts of the Tri-cities, take in all of Yakima county south of Union Gap and Lewis and Cowlitz Counties east of I-5. This would leave Thurston, southwestern Pierce, western Cowlitz and Lewis, and the Olympic Peninsula and coast to a new 10th district. It would combine most of deep red Lewis county with the politically similar eastern Washington and red-leaning suburban Clark county.

The Second goal is to realign the 9th district into a more sensible configuration for both principles of compactness and communities of interest (Pierce County). Fortunately, this would be accomplished almost by default with the creation of the 10th in south Puget Sound. By realigning the 9th into a south/east King county district, it could retain its blue-leaning character, and leave a competitive swing 8th district. It could also be incorporated as a majority minority district as proposed by the Win/Win Network (http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2014602522_redistricting26m.html), moving the 7th northward, and the 1st into the eastside.

The last goal I would like to see accomplished is the expulsion of the 1st district from Kitsap county, which will be possible with Jay Inslee almost certain to run for governor. I believe that the double lobed district (much like the 9th) violates the principle of compactness and splits a community of interest (Kitsap County). This would leave political outlier Bainbridge Island as overflow population for the 7th since Vashon access will probably give way to the 9th in south King county.

These three outcomes would preserve districts for all incumbents, assuming that Jay Inslee will not seek another term in the 1st, and retain the partisan balance of the congressional delegation, shoring up Jamie Herrera-Beutler, leaving Dave Reichert in a swing district with significant suburban and rural constituencies, and balancing the Beutler gain with a new democratic leaning 10th district. In a strong Republican year like 2010, the delegation will be 6-4, mirroring the percentages of votes statewide (approx 59-40), while a strong Democratic year (2006) would possibly yield a 7-3 split on a 64-35 vote.

Using Dave's redistricting app to calculate election returns by District, I get 2010 Senate election results of Statewide: Murray 52.4/Rossi 47.6 1st+2nd: 53.1/46.9 3rd: 43.5/56.5, 4th+5th:38.5/61.5 6th: 54.1/45.9, 7th: 80.3/19.7 8th+9th: 51.0/49.0, 10th: 52.0/48.0.

I hope that you will give this set of proposals consideration respective of the time and effort I have put into them. I thank you for your time and dedication to the people of the state of Washington, and wish you the best of luck in fulfilling your duty to creating a fair, just, and equitable redistricting plan for the coming decade.

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