

October 6, 2011



Washington State Redistricting Commission
Attn: Chair Lura Powell and Commissioners
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
P.O. Box 40948
Olympia, WA 98504-0948

Subject: Congressional Redistricting Proposals – Support for Gorton Map

Dear Chair Powell and Commission Members,

This letter is to express the City of Lake Stevens support for the proposed Congressional Redistricting Map submitted by Commissioner Slade Gorton.

Lake Stevens has grown over the past 7 years to a population of over 28,000 making it the 5th largest city in Snohomish County behind Everett, Lynnwood, Marysville and Edmonds. The City has more issue and interest in common with urban areas rather than small rural cities and rural or resources lands to the east. Given its adjacency to both Everett and Marysville it is more appropriate to associate the citizen's representation with other urban areas and like communities. Additionally, designating Lake Stevens into a "rural" district would not give practical representation of the differing community interests and issues. Both the maps of Commissioner Ceis and Commissioner Huff ineffectually put Lake Stevens in large expansive rural districts to the east and north.

It is imperative that the City of Lake Stevens and its Urban Growth Boundary be included in a district that is primarily urban to effectively represent the current and future community. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the City Council,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vern Little", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Vern Little
Mayor

cc: Lake Stevens City Council
Rick Larsen, Congressional Representative, Washington State District 2
Jan Berg, City Administrator
Rebecca Ableman, Planning and Community Development Director