From: Arianne Garden Vazquez
To: zzRedistricting Commission Voicemail
Subject: Majority Minority Districts Will Strengthen Representation
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 9:51:25 AM

Dear Redistricting Commissioners,

Thank you for your work thus far on the redistricting maps! The majority of people of color Congressional District proposed will dramatically improve the political voice of communities that have historically been disenfranchised and overlooked as participants in the electoral process.

You have the power to create a more equitable process by also including 3 majority people of color legislative districts one each in King and Pierce Counties and at least one majority Latino state legislative district in Central Washington. Uphold democracy by providing real opportunities for diverse voices. This commission has the opportunity to guarantee a more democratic process for all.

This decision is a history making one; where you have the choice of moving forward or moving back. As a Washington voter and as a Latina I demand we move forward together.

For this reason, I urge you to draw final maps that will encourage full participation of immigrant communities and communities of color, including the following:

- “Majority Minority” state legislative districts. I urge you to create three majority people of color state legislative districts in King County, one in Tacoma and at least one majority Latino state legislative district in Yakima

- “Majority Minority” congressional district in South King County, as drawn by Commissioner Huff. I believe this district—with no incumbent—presents the best opportunity for strong representation of immigrant communities and communities of color in Congress. I appreciate Commissioner Huff’s listening to our communities.

As Commissioner Huff mentioned in his release of the maps, it is important for commissioners to listen to the “will of the people.” Thank you, again, for your work and I urge you to continue to provide us with the hope of fair representation.

Sincerely,

Arianne

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