



**Strengthening
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The El Dorado Hills Chamber Business and Community Political Action Committee (BACPAC) announces its *OPPOSITION to Proposition 50, the Political Redistricting Act*

El Dorado Hills, CA — EDH BACPAC opposes Prop 50 because its explicit design is to dilute the votes of many areas in California, including our communities in El Dorado County, to the benefit of voters in larger California cities in the western part of the state. The proposed districts created by Proposition 50 would carve up our current CD 5, Congressman Tom McClintock, and put us in CD 7, Congresswoman Doris Matsui, where El Dorado County would be lumped in with large swaths of Sacramento area voters including East Sacramento, Midtown Sacramento, South Sacramento and down into Elk Grove and Lodi. “Our cultural voice as well as rural and agricultural concerns would be muted by urban concerns. El Dorado County voters would essentially lose their voice in Congress,” according to EDH BACPAC Chairwoman Jennifer Yoder. The proposition will ultimately mute the voices of rural, eastern, and business friendly California communities in Congress. Moreover, the overt political objective of Proposition 50 is precisely the type of unprincipled boundary drawing that the Voters First Act for Congress was approved to avoid.

In 2010, California voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 20, the Voters First Act for Congress, which designated an independent commission of citizens to draw district boundary lines for California's representatives in the U.S. Congress. Supporters of the law designed it to "create fair congressional districts that make our congressional representatives more accountable to voters." Proposition 50 would ignore the district boundaries that this independent citizen commission created and instead re-drew these boundaries for overtly political purposes. “More troubling is that the proposition itself explicitly ties its proposal to events happening more than a thousand miles away in Texas and seems to disregard the voters’ interests in California”, said Yoder, and “BACPAC also took issue with the proponents of Prop 50’s claims that the redistricting was temporary and would sunset in 2030. We do not want to go down this slippery slope of political gerrymandering.”

While the proponents of the proposition claim that the proposed law preserves the independent commission, the actual effect is to neuter the commission's main objectives of providing district boundaries representative for all Californians. Gerrymandering hurts small businesses and all voters by diluting their representation in Congress. That’s why small businesses and chambers of commerce from across California oppose Prop 50, Proposition 50 is bad government that voters should reject.

About BACPAC:

El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce BACPAC (Business and Community Political Action Committee) is a bipartisan political action committee that works to protect business-friendly interests by identifying and campaigning for pro-jobs candidates running for local and state legislative seats. BACPAC includes support for candidates and initiatives both the state and local levels, ensuring that pro-jobs voice is heard through our region.