

From: ada cox
To: Julie Fisher, Bradley Daw, Brad Dee, Becky Edwards, Brad Galvez, Bill Wright, Brad Last, Becky Lockhart, Brad Wilson, Brian King, Chris Herrod, Curtis Oda, Carol Moss, Curt Webb, Christine Watkins, Carl Wimmer, David Butterfield, David Clark, Derek Brown, Don IPSON, David Litvack, Doug Sagers, Dixon Pitcher, Dean Sanpei, Eric Hutchings, Evan Vickers, Francis Gibson, Fred Cox, Gage Froerer, Greg Hughes, Holly Richardson, Johnny Anderson, Janice Fisher, Jim Bird, Joel Briscoe, Jack Draxler, Jim Dunnigan, Jeremy Peterson, John Mathis, Jennifer Seelig, Kay McIff, Keith Grover, Ken Ivory, Kraig Powell, Kenneth Sumsion, LaVar Christensen, Lee Perry, Lynn Hemingway, Larry Wiley, Marie Poulson, Mark Wheatley, Melvin Brown, Merlynn Newbold, Mike Morley, Neal Hendrickson, Patrice Arent, Patrick Painter, Paul Ray, Rebecca Houck, Richard Greenwood, Ronda Menlove, Roger Barrus, Ryan Wilcox, Susan Duckworth, Steve Eliason, Stephen Sandstrom, Steve Handy, Tim Cosgrove, Todd Kiser, Val Peterson, Wayne Harper, . . .
Date: 10/16/2011 7:36:19 PM
Subject: Redistricting
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

We have studied the state redistricting issues, and SUPPORT SB 3002 that was passed by the Utah Senate. Please support this bill during the special session.

Thank you for your service to the State of Utah.

Bill and Ada Cox, St. George

From: Represent Me Utah
To: Becky Lockhart, Michael Waddoups
BC: John Mathis
Date: 10/16/2011 2:25:02 PM
Subject: Please act with caution and deliberation on Monday.
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representatives and Senators,

An article in the Deseret News (Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011) has us seriously concerned.

The general tone of the article is that the special session on Monday will be quick and that minds have already been made up. We would urge you to not act in haste. We know members are all aware that the Legislature is allowed up to thirty days to complete the redistricting task with a special session.

We recognize that the process of redistricting has been long and challenging, but to suggest that all discussion and examination of alternative maps is over seems premature. It's a disservice to the people of Utah, to not consider a map that will ensure the fairest representation.

The final map will serve the people of Utah for ten years. It deserves all the time and effort necessary to get the right map.

Represent Me Utah! Has been following the redistricting process since our first rally on a snowy day in April on the steps of the capitol. Our goal has been to raise public awareness of this important process, and we think we have achieved that goal. We have attended almost every Redistricting Committee meeting across the state and have kept the public updated. We have conducted many informal polls and surveys. In fact, we have a petition of over five thousand signatures from citizens concurring that they want to keep their communities together.

Again we implore you to act with caution and deliberation. Please be patience and tolerant in this last stretch of the process, especially when you hear the voices of a frustrated public. We have heard Speaker Lockhart eloquently state many times before, if the process is good, the product usually is also good. Please let the process continue without an unnecessary hurriedness.

Thank you for your public service,

From: Larry Meyers
To: Larry Meyers
BC: John Mathis
Date: 10/16/2011 9:02:11 AM
Subject: Support SB 3002 and oppose last-minute redistricting changes
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Utah House members,

I am writing to encourage you to pass SB 3002, which was vetted by the Redistricting Committee and passed by the Utah Senate. SB 3002 brings a fair urban-rural balance to the redistricting process and treats southern Utah fairly.

Now is not the time to start over and try to pass a whole new map that has not been through the committee process and public scrutiny. If you do, it will lead to diminished public support for those who pushed the last-minute changes. It also appears to me that any last minute changes will be subject to a lawsuit on the grounds that they are based on partisan calculations, which is prohibited by the redistricting rules.

Let's finish the process tomorrow by passing SB 3002!

Larry Meyers
Treasurer, Utah Republican Assembly

From: gail gerlach
To: John Mathis
Date: 10/15/2011 10:27:42 PM
Subject: redistricting
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

I urge you to vote for the Gerber Citizen Map because it appears to be the most equitable and closer to the redistricting committee's recommendation the legislature appointed and we all paid for.

For a while it seemed that the Legislature was serious about open meetings and listening to constituents but in the end that appears to have been a delusion, since the Senate then drew up the plan first described by Sen. Waddoups and the House in secret drafted their own "60-62% republican in every district," completely ignoring the citizens of Utah yet again. I strongly oppose both of those plans. You spent over a million dollars for advice; you should listen to it.

I agree with the Deseret News editorial a few days ago, gerrymandering may be legal by your own rules, but it is not ethical or moral or even necessary for you to retain a majority. It not only disadvantages the minority party, it also disadvantages the majority by protecting incumbents and protecting favorites. A healthy majority of people in Utah, republicans, democrats, libertarians, and independents wanted an *independent commission* because they did not trust the Legislature to do the right thing. Show us you can rise above partisanship.

Gail Gerlach

From: Jen
BC: John Mathis, John Mathis
Date: 10/15/2011 5:51:25 PM
Subject: US Congressional Map - Rep King/Garber Map
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representative,

As a citizen of Utah, I urge you to VOTE NO on the current map being discussed in the House.

I have attended many of the public hearings on redistricting and have studied the maps. I would suggest to you that the best map, based on contiguousness and compactness, is the Garber Citizen Map (modified by Representative Brian King).

<http://www.redistrictutah.com/maps/congress-rep-king-garber-modified-king>

Please vote for this compromise map

I know and greatly appreciate that you care about and work hard for the people of Utah.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Pathak
Member of Represent Me Utah!

From: Mary Suarez
To: John Mathis
Date: 10/14/2011 5:35:20 PM
Subject: Garber Citizen Map
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Rep Mathis,

I hope you will support the Garber Citizen Map for redistricting. This seems to be the most reasonable that has come out of the process.

Please let me know how you will vote.

Yours truly,

Mary and Mike Suarez
PO Box 1186
Moab, UT 84532

From: Kelli Lundgren
To: John Mathis
Date: 10/14/2011 10:45:29 AM
Subject: Please vote for the King/Garber map on Monday
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representative Mathis,

As a citizen of Utah, I urge you to VOTE NO on the current map being discussed in the House.

I have studied the maps and would suggest to you that the best map, based on contiguousness and compactness, is the Garber Citizen Map (modified, sponsored by Representative Brian King).

<http://www.redistrictutah.com/maps/congress-rep-king-garber-modified-king>

Please vote for this compromise map. I appreciate all your work as a representative for the people.

Sincerely,
Kelli Lundgren

From: Karen Robinson
To: Christine Watkins, John Mathis, David Hinkins
Date: 10/13/2011 8:39:20 PM
Subject: Redistricting Maps - Garber Citizens Map
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

The Garber Citizens Map is not the best of all that were submitted, but it is the best of those left standing. Please support it.

Karen Robinson
2871 E Bench Road
Moab, Utah 84532
sombra@frontiernet.net

From: Q Dang
To: Q Dang
BC: John Mathis
Date: 10/13/2011 7:31:15 PM
Subject: Please support the Garber Citizen Map (modified)
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representative,

As a citizen of Utah, I urge you to VOTE NO on the current map being discussed in the House.

I have studied the maps and I would suggest to you that the best map, based on contiguousness and compactness, is the Garber Citizen Map (modified, sponsored by Representative Brian King).

<http://www.redistrictutah.com/maps/congress-rep-king-garber-modified-king>

Please vote for this compromise map. I know you have worked very diligently for the people of Utah, and I thank you for it.

Sincerely,
Quang Dang

From: Rob Bishop
BC: John Mathis, John Mathis
Date: 10/12/2011 10:40:17 PM
Subject: Some thoughts on redistricting from Congressman Bishop
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representative:

The redistricting process in the Utah Legislature is messy and cumbersome. No one ever likes the lines drawn. A redistricting process done by a so-called independent redistricting commission would be messy and cumbersome. No one would ever like the lines drawn.

The difference between the two options is that the Legislature – no matter how many caucus meetings they may hold – must ultimately make an open presentation and hold an open vote. They must explain their decisions and be accountable at the next election. Redistricting commissions don't. They may make a public presentation, but have no requirement for explanation nor in any way are they accountable to voters.

Where non-elected redistricting commissions work, it is often due to a quirk of personalities, such as in Washington State where the leading Republican and Democratic members have served for multiple cycles and try hard not to upset the status quo. In Arizona, their commission produced a very partisan and highly criticized map. Even the inappropriately self-named "Fair Boundaries" organization in Utah used the former director of the Democratic Party who produced – surprise – boundaries favorable to Democrats. A commission is far from a panacea, independent, or non-partisan.

The basic problem with a non-elected redistricting commission is the base philosophy. The Progressive Era in American history provided a philosophical change of attitude toward government. The Founders had faith in lay government – man's ability to govern himself. The Progressive Era argued for governing of the people by experts whose work would seemingly be based on science. (Of course, this was the Era when Communism was also the daring, new government philosophy, but I digress.) Resorting to so-called experts has produced massive national bureaucracies such as the EPA (always right even when state DEQ scientists prove their data flawed), the SEC (experts about Wall Street), the Federal Reserve Board (experts about money), and the NLRB (experts about keeping jobs from going to South Carolina), and so on and so forth.

For some it is easy to demagogue the Legislature, but given the option I much prefer to have districts altered by someone in a public position on the House and Senate Floors - even if I don't fully agree with the alteration - rather than by the all-powerful wizard behind the curtain.

Allow me to comment on three related but tangential subjects:

A) "Community of interest" is basically a sham phrase used to hide real desires. It has been charged by some, for example, that St. George has nothing in common with Salt Lake City therefore they should not be in the same district. Actually, St. George doesn't really have that much in common with Provo or Ogden or Logan or even Cedar City; but St. George has to be with someone. One public witness at a Redistricting Committee Meeting seemed to claim that maybe places like St. George and

From: "Ellen Brady"
BC: John Mathis, John Mathis
Date: 10/7/2011 1:43:36 PM
Subject: Redistricting
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Representative or Senator:

I am pleased that the legislature has 'stepped back to take another look' relative to redistricting, as it was clear from the map under consideration at that time did not represent the concerns of many Utah citizens. That is, the map did not keep communities of interest intact in any meaningful sense of the word. Specifically, the 'pizza slice' approach to Salt Lake County completely disenfranchised that population by carving it into four pieces and linking three to rural areas with enough population to overpower the urban voice.

Unfortunately, it appears that the 'revised' plan, developed behind closed doors and without public input only worsens the situation by linking the new District 4 to rural areas as well. This approach serves no one well -- urban or rural -- and represents a total travesty that can only be described as blatant gerrymandering for partisan gain. The comments of Becky Lockhart and others chastising questioners who dared suggest that this approach disenfranchised voters and weakened democracy by replying that 'this is a Republic' (don't you know stupid) and 'no Republican or Democrat' will be deprived of a vote under this plan' only underscores the blatant disregard of this legislature for those you are supposed to represent and a lack of understanding of many prior court rulings that underscore the importance of preserving communities of interest in order to protect the ability of those groups to be effectively heard. Additionally, claims that you 'listened to the public' have been nullified by your subsequent redrawing of the lines behind closed doors and the destruction by some members of email communications relevant to the process. Prior to this, efforts to silence the voice of Utahns by creating impossibly high barriers to citizen petitions only further underscores this disregard. The voices of the many thousands who signed a petition asking for an independent redistricting commission have been ignored. I am confident that, had the bar not been set quite so high and had online signatures been acceptable, the initiative would have been on the ballot and would have passed.

Please astonish me and truly step back far enough to consider and implement a plan that does not disenfranchise the urban majority population of this state. We will be heard -- if not now, at the ballot box come November.

Ellen

Ellen Brady
801-272-1590

From: Crystal Young-Otterstrom
To:
BC: John Mathis
Date: 10/7/2011 12:25:35 PM
Subject: Utah Democrats Challenge Republican Leadership to Compromise on Redistricting
Attachments: [rectangle-logo-400.jpg](#), [Mime.822](#)

Contact:

Matt Lyon
801.597.8888 | mlyon@utdem.org
Crystal Young-Otterstrom
801.652.0737 | crystal@utdem.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, October 7, 2011

Utah Democrats Challenge Republican Leadership to Compromise on Redistricting

SALT LAKE CITY – Utah Democrats issued a challenge and invitation to Republican legislative leadership today. Speaking on behalf of all Utahans, party chair Jim Dabakis challenged the majority party to pledge to "OPEN ALL" of their discussions about redistricting and to seek a bipartisan solution for the Congressional maps.

"Tuesday was a fiasco. It was a waste of taxpayer dollars, and it showed the dirty underbelly of politics and an intensely partisan process," stated Dabakis this morning. "No more secrets, no deals, no trade-offs in the closed Republican caucus rooms. No more last minute maps whipped up behind closed doors without involving the public."

"We have two weeks. Let's open the closed doors! Unafraid of the light, Democratic meetings, caucuses, and conversations are open to the public---on behalf of all Utahans we implore that Republicans join us in letting the public watch Utah's business be conducted," Dabakis said. "Let's rise above the partisan bickering and develop a truly bipartisan map. One that represents communities. One that represents Utah. Utah deserves better. As leaders, we must do better."

On air, Dabakis reiterated that the Democrats are willing and want to work with Republicans and the public to develop a congressional map. He also reaffirmed the Senate and House Democrats' call from Tuesday that insisted any map brought before the legislative bodies must first be brought to the public.

"Utah expects Democrats and Republicans to work together in an open and transparent process. Lets sit down and develop a bipartisan map. We can do better, we must do better. How amazing would it be for Utah to lead the nation in an open and fair redistricting process? If Utah Republicans and Democrats work together, we could inspire bipartisanship across the country and end the national stalemate. We will renew voters' faith in their elected leaders."

From: Aaron Rennaker
To: LH_Republicans
Date: 10/4/2011 8:24:06 AM
Subject: Speakers at the Press Conference yesterday in the Capitol protesting redistricting:
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Speakers at the Press Conference yesterday in the Capitol protesting redistricting:

Joshua Kanter: Founder of An Alliance for a Better Utah.

Registered Democrat, Donated \$20,000+ in 2008 & 2010 election cycle. Obama, Clinton, DSCC, DNC, John Kerry, DCCC

John Hansen: Registered Democrat, SLC

Mayor Peter Corroon: (D) Salt Lake County Mayor. Called redistricting process un-American. Ran for Governor in 2010, major recipient of donations from Bruce Bastian, Howard Dean, AFL-CIO, Labor Unions, supporter of non-partisan "Fair Boundaries" initiative whose maps were drawn by Democrat operative, adviser and former UT Dem Party Exec-Director Todd Taylor.

David Irvine: Donor to Democratic Presidential candidate Wesley Clark, President Barack Obama, DNC. Attorney who has sued Utah and has received millions of dollars from Utah taxpayers in law suits.

Sen. Ross Romero: Senate Minority Leader, Candidate for SLCO Mayor, Democrat

Glenn Wright: "non-partisan Fair Boundaries" Director. Former Summit County Democrat Party Chair, caught using partisan map drawn by UT Democrat Adviser and former Executive Director

Speaker Up & Peace Up Activists; Tim DeChristopher's friends, sat on UTA TRAX to protest coal power.

MaryAnne Martindale: Exec Director of Alliance for a Better Utah, Democrat AG campaign manager,

From: Judith Nielsen
To: John Mathis
Date: 10/3/2011 10:43:17 AM
Subject: Mike Coronella 435-260-1696

Vote No on current redistricting maps

From: "Ellen Brady"
BC: John Mathis, John Mathis
Date: 10/3/2011 10:40:14 AM
Subject: Redistricting
Attachments: [Mime.822](#)

Dear Utah Legislator:

I'm writing to protest the current redistricting plan. The notion that rural and urban districts should be 'blended' is absurd, as it results in districts that represent neither set of interests well. And in this case, it seems specially designed to silence the voice of the most populous area in the state -- Salt Lake County. As a resident of Salt Lake County, which is now split into four districts, I can assure you that I personally feel totally disenfranchised by the current plan. Specifically, I now reside in the newly formed District 4, drawn by all accounts to ensure the election of Rep Carl Wimmer to Congress. He does not and never will reflect my positions on issues that affect me personally or, more broadly, this country, Utah, or Salt Lake County. Representation is more than one-person-one vote. It also involves ensuring that areas of mutual interest are left intact such that they have a collective voice that can be heard. Salt Lake County will be deprived of that representation in Congress, should you adopt the plan before you.

Ellen

Ellen Brady
801-272-1590