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July 23, 2020

2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission
Sacramento, CA 95814

via E-Mail

Re: California State Auditor's RFP No. 21-01

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to take full responsibility for a request for proposal for the selection of a line-drawing (mapping) consultant. This consultant will be among your most controversial decisions because of its inherent political implications. The 2010 commission was challenged from the start for making a partisan selection on the selection of its mapping consultant. It was not, of course. We had chosen a public hearing process where the full commission vetted the process for designing the RFP and its scope of work and by so doing informed the public and fellow commissioners about demographic issues, census data, mapping complexity, software technology, timing requirements, and public access issues – all issues that helped identify criteria used in the selection of a mapping consultant and from whom the commission expected competent performance. It is crucial that the 2020 commission take complete ownership of the RFP process in order to strengthen your position against special interest challenges.

I urge you to consider the State Auditor's opening remarks to exercise your option to void the State Auditor's RFP No. 21-01, and to pursue your own course of action. The State Supreme Court has extended the legal time frame required for you to draw district maps. You have time to create your own RFP and to share important issues with the public from the beginning. Please safeguard your transparency and the citizen's faith in your decision-making.

Your admirer and great supporter,



Gil Ontai, 2010 Commissioner

Note: Please see attached letter to State Auditor, dated June 22, 2020, from 2010 Chair Angelo Ancheta and Vice-Chair Gil Ontai.