From:

To: Shape California"s Future

Subject: Concern about Lack of LatinX Commissioners

Date: Thursday, August 6, 2020 9:26:30 PM

Comment from Lucia Martinez for the California Commission on Redistricting

My name is Lucy Martinez and I live in Los Angeles. As a second generation Mexican-American, I wanted to share my dismay I felt when I read about the absence of Latinos on the Redistricting Commission in the newspaper a couple weeks ago. I hoped that the next time I read about the Redistricting Commission in the paper, I would see that you had done all you could to fix the problem by selecting as many Latinos as possible. I prayed that you would not ignore the deficiencies of the lottery system.

Unfortunately, when I pay attention to the commission, I fear I will be reading the opposite in the newspaper. I worry that I will once again be reading that Latinos did not gain fair representation.

I am shocked and disappointed to see that instead of adding more Latinos onto the proposed slates, some are choosing to propose fewer.

Latinos and other people of color in California have historically been excluded from full civic participation in California, and with the current political climate in the United States, it is important to raise Latino voices.

As you have been reminded hundreds, if not thousands of times over the last few weeks, Latinos comprise 40% of California's population, and it is growing.

If you select 4 Latinos that is only 26% representation, which is not nearly enough, but it would show your commitment to addressing the failures of the lottery system to fairly represent our community.

Consequently, I write to urge you to support Slates that include 2 Latinx Democrats, at least one Latinx Republican, and one Latinx Non-Partisan.

Please listen to the hundreds of Latinos and organizations advocating for fair representation for the Latino community.

Respectfully, Lucy Matrinez