

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Dear members of the Board and redistricting staff,

My name is Vincent Tran. I am the Community Engagement Coordinator for VietRISE, a non-profit organization based in Garden Grove, advancing social justice and building power for working class Vietnamese and immigrant communities. We build leadership and create systemic change through organizing, narrative change, cultural empowerment, and civic engagement. As part of the People's Redistricting Alliance, VietRISE continues to actively mobilize and organize our Vietnamese community members to participate in statewide and local redistricting efforts.

Our communities of interest include the Vietnamese and broader Southeast Asian communities. Orange County is home to the largest Vietnamese population in the world outside of Viet Nam. Our communities have shared experiences associated with being both low-income and immigrants and refugees and face related challenges like access to affordable housing, with many living in non-traditional housing and mobile homes. According to the US Census, over 60% of the Vietnamese community countywide and over 70% of the Vietnamese in the city of Westminster are foreign born; thus, they face many challenges including language accessibility, access to mental health care, and immigration services.

Our communities of interest are primarily located in the cities of Garden Grove, Westminster, and Fountain Valley. They are similar to both the Korean community in West Garden Grove.

In conclusion, our community of interest is the Vietnamese community, whose boundaries cross city lines, especially between the cities of Garden Grove, Westminster, and Fountain Valley. It is aligned with other low-income, immigrant, and refugee communities, as well as those who face challenges associated with access to affordable housing. We ask that you keep these areas together as you draw new supervisor supervisorial districts in Orange County. We also believe a federal Voting Rights Act district centered in Santa Ana will be required for the Latinx community and that creating that district might require separating Santa Ana from Westminster and splitting Garden Grove. Doing so will create opportunities for both communities to have a greater voice in county government. Thank you.