

ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
University of California at Santa Barbara
University Center, Room 1523
Santa Barbara, California 93106-6081

#5



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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

August 2, 2011

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

I apologize that this message is not being delivered in person and in public forum at today's meeting, but I, along with the over 17,000 undergraduate students of the University of California, Santa Barbara on whose behalf I write, cannot be present for this crucial decision. Whether it is because of work, travel, being away for the summer, or (as is the case with me) a scholastic conflict, I urge you to not let our physical presence dilute the fact that we are citizens and voters of this county. Our lives are affected each and every day by the decisions made by our elected local leadership.

Representation in our community, as you know, has been a consistent challenge due to our standing as an unincorporated zone within Santa Barbara County. The County Board of Supervisors remains one of the only political voices our community has in local decisions. Though we face the challenges of a fresh populace roughly every four years, decades of students have worked tirelessly to build positive relationships with our local leadership in the Third District. Because of the moral obligation to listen to the concerns of their constituents and the solidarity that has resulted in our recording breaking voter turnout (both in Isla Vista and on campus), we have managed to have our voice represented in one of the five seats. To remove Isla Vista and UCSB from the Third District will significantly marginalize the already seldom-heard voice of our community.

I encourage you to see that this redistricting process is, at its core, an issue of representation. Please take the initiative to ensure the representation of Isla Vista and maintain the voice of the student population of the University of California, Santa Barbara by keeping our community in the Third District.

Please feel free to contact me at (207) 749-9047 or president@as.ucsb.edu for any reason.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Harrison E. Weber
Associated Students President
University of California, Santa Barbara