Nevada Congressional Redistricting Plan

All For OUR State

GOWEST INSTITUTE

2011

Authored by: Ed Gobel & Linda West Myers
Will Nevada Increase Its Influence By Increasing Its Congressional Representatives By 33%?

It is now 2011, a critical time in the history of Nevada with an opportunity that only occurs, at best, every ten years. Due to the rapid growth through at least 2007, we have increased our number of Congressional Representatives from three to four, a whopping 33%. Many states have lost representation due to the counts in the 2010 United States Census.

Many who study Congressional influence as well as lobbying Congress have often stated that Nevada does not see a fair share of its dollars sent to Washington, DC, returned to the state as Federal Programs. The reason – each of our Congressional Representatives represents a specific constituency, not the interests of the ENTIRE STATE of NEVADA! To be more specific, two of the three Congressional Representatives represent virtually exclusively Clark County.

Should Clark County Continue To Maintain Its Vast Influence?

The answer is a simple yes, but that does not correlate to having any Congressional Representatives to not have an intimate relationship with every type of area as well as every diverse interest. Our critical resources are spread throughout the entire state, not the least of which are water, mining, and gaming.

The Solution

We need to end the North vs South infighting. We need to have each Congressional District Representative be both familiar and have a personal understanding of all
resources in the Great State of Nevada. We have, on an almost daily basis, lost out on Federal Programs that rightfully return tax dollars sent to Washington.

Our plan ends the fragmentation. Each of our proposed districts contains a “sliver” of population rich Clark County, but for the first time each contains a wide swath of the State. Each of our proposed districts easily lends itself to be well served by two district offices which would not have any negative impact on Congressional staffing.

The above chart shows that no district varies by more than one thousandth of one percent from ideal target of 675,138.

This is accomplished even with dividing districts, each with a part of Clark County and each with a large part of rest of state.
Distribution of Population
Clark County & Non Clark County
By Congressional District

This chart clearly illustrates the fair distribution of population where Clark County represents over 1.9 million of a total state population of 2.7 million.

This breaks down “north/south” barriers as well as conforming to United States Supreme Court rulings maintaining overall representation requirements including one person one vote doctrine.

This plan was devised after carefully studying plans in many states especially those in progress in South Carolina, Louisiana, and Texas.

The South Carolina model is not unlike our plan in that it attempts to end historical regional boundaries, thereby unifying its Congressional Delegation for maximum influence benefitting all of its citizens.
The above chart illustrates the distribution of races & ethnicities in each proposed Congressional District. As in previous Court rulings our plan presents various race & ethnic concentrations in districts so as not to guarantee election of any particular minority, but to give each minority a cluster greater than in the overall population to present an opportunity of election that would not occur if diluted in each district. Congressional District 3 has a cluster of 13.3% Black population (almost twice that of entire state) as well as Congressional District 4 has a concentration of 32.4% of population.