



**CALIFORNIA STATE
CONFERENCE OF THE
N A A C P**

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**CALIFORNIA STATE NAACP:
PHASE TWO SELECTIONS FOR REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONERS
REFLECT STATE'S DIVERSITY**

SACRAMENTO - With the Passage of Proposition 11 in 2008, the California Bureau of State Audits was given the responsibility for creating a 14 member redistricting commission to draw the district boundaries for the State Assembly, Senate and Board of Equalization. The first phase of a five-phase application process started in December of 2009 and by the February 2010 application deadline, over 30,000 people had applied. The second phase was concluded on Wednesday, July 21, 2010, and the number of applicants has been reduced to 120 people who will be interviewed between August 6, 2010 and September 13, 2010.

The California State NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) made a difficult decision to become an early supporter of Proposition 11 during its 2008 California State Convention. "This was a difficult decision for the organization because while we believed that a citizen's commission could be a good thing, we were fearful that African Americans could be excluded from participation. However, with the conclusion of phase two of the application process, much of the anxiety is starting to subside because the Applicant Review Panel (ARP) of the Bureau of State Audits has narrowed the pool of applicants to 120, and the makeup of the pool truly reflects California's diverse population," said Alice Huffman, California State NAACP President.

The meetings of the ARP have all been streamed live over the internet. Every applicant was given consideration in open public meetings. With the conclusion of phase two, 120 people will now be interviewed. Of the pool of applicants, approximately 47% are women, 12% are African American, 30% are of Latino heritage, 14% are Asian and/or Pacific Islander, 5% are American Indian and 37% are white. "The NAACP has monitored the formation of the redistricting commission since the passage of Proposition 11, and I must say that I have rarely witnessed a selection process as open and transparent as this one," said Huffman.

Huffman continued, "In the final analysis, with the level of interest in this process and the attention given to the formation of the Commission, we can be well on our way to demonstrating that lay citizens will guide California toward a fair and respected redistricting process."

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The following is the breakdown of the final 120 applicants for the Redistricting Commission:

Population Group	Number	Percent
Whites	44	36.7%
Latinos	32	26.7%
Asians	16	13.3%
African Americans	14	11.7%
Other	7	5.8%
Native American or Alaskan	6	5%
Pacific Islander	1	0.8%
Women	57	47.5%

African American by Party

Democrats	9
Republicans	1
Other	4

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Founded in 1909, the NAACP - the nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization - is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Its more than half-million members and supporters throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors