

# State of Jefferson Says No Go To Draper's 3-Way State Split

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*For Immediate Release*

By a unanimous vote, the 23 State of Jefferson County Committees have announced their strong opposition to Tim Draper's 3-Way State split initiative, as proposed. Last week, Draper received news that his proposal to split California into three States, had qualified for the November ballot.

State of Jefferson (SOJ) encompasses twenty-three Counties, from Mariposa in the south to Siskiyou in the north. State of Jefferson dba Citizens for Fair Representation (CFR) is the largest and only movement in the State seeking equal/fair representation for all citizens living in California's 58 Counties.

California has the worst imbalance of representation in their State legislature of all 50 States. In May of 2017, CFR filed a lawsuit against California's Secretary of State Alex Padilla, for lack of representation and dilution of vote. In a recent hearing on June 14, in the United States Federal District Court in Sacramento, Judge Kimberly Mueller denied the State attorney's motion to "dismiss with prejudice" CFR's case against Secretary of State Alex Padilla.

Judge Mueller has yet to rule on CFR attorney's request for their case to be heard before a 3-judge court, as ruled in the case *Shapiro v. McManus*, which was an action filed challenging the Constitutionality of reapportionment of Congressional and State legislature districts. Under Title 3, Section 2284, cases involving representation or dilution of vote cannot be heard by a single judge and must be heard before a 3-judge court.

Jefferson has always been about forming the 51<sup>st</sup> State and representation for all of California's 58 Counties. In January 2016, twenty-one County's filed declarations with the California Secretary of State, seeking equal/fair representation and/or to separate (not secede) from the State of California. These declarations went ignored by their elected representatives, leading CFR to take legal action. Mariposa & Stanislaus have joined SOJ this year, bringing the total to 23 Counties.

**State of Jefferson** is in favor of splitting California into smaller, separate State(s), however, Draper's initiative does nothing to resolve the imbalance of representation for the rural Counties. The way his split is proposed gives all the power to the populated areas and does nothing to help the rural counties, in all 3 proposed States.

**Draper does not resolve** the issue of the high costs incurred for candidates running for a State office. There are 11 counties in northern California, represented by (1) State Senator. Any incumbents and/or their opponents, must pay filing fees in each of those 11 Counties in order to have their candidate's statement appear on the voters sample ballot pamphlet. Compare this to Los Angeles County, with 15 State Senators representing (1) one single County and candidates only having to pay one fee. This deters many good people from running for office.

**Draper is fully aware of SOJ's** well established policies for their new State - smaller government, part time legislature, fewer regulations, no corporate business tax, to mention just a few. SOJ proposes a business friendly State, where the voices of the people will be equally represented, respected and heard. In no way will this be the case in Draper's plan, that includes Jefferson's 23 Counties in the same State with the greater San Francisco Oakland Bay Area, Santa Clara County, Silicon Valley and Sacramento.

## *Response by Mark Baird, Jefferson Spokesperson*

“California is irreparably broken. We need to start over. It is the only way to escape the utter lack of representation suffered by the citizens of Jefferson and citizens of California.”

“Tim Draper's 3-state initiative will not accomplish this! Draper failed to consult the people in the affected counties as to their wish to be included in one of his states constructs, where Jefferson has rallied popular support in every one of its 23 counties. We know the will of our citizens. Tim Draper and his paid minions, never asked.”

“Draper's initiative fails to consider that Congress must approve by majority vote, all Article 3, Section 3 splits. The prospect of three blue states is not very appealing to us, nor will it be to Congress. Jefferson, on the other hand, proposes breaking California into two parts. We propose the addition of only one new state with true Constitutional Republic and adequate representation, which will grow with population. We propose a State Senate with equal representation for our counties, as a check on power to our State Assembly.”

“Finally, Tim Draper proposes 3 states which would be dominated by the same urban counties that currently dominate California politics. WE WILL NOT SUBMIT TO CONTINUED TYRANNY by simply adding more deck chairs to the Titanic.”

“The people of Jefferson demand Liberty with adequate representation within a state of our own making and we will settle for nothing less. We the People of the State of Jefferson created government to secure out Liberty and our Rights. We will fight to secure that Liberty. The Time Has Come for 51 States.”

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