



January 30, 2009

Eddy Hartenstein, Publisher
202 W. 1st St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Hartenstein,

We like many Los Angelenos were shocked and saddened to learn of the *Los Angeles Times*' decision to discontinue the *California* section of the paper and consolidate local and national news items into one section of the paper.

Since 1881, the *Los Angeles Times* has been delivering cutting-edge, award-winning journalism to the people of Los Angeles and the region. It has told the story of scandals, triumphs, and important everyday issues that shape our lives. It shines a light on communities and people who are making a difference in our region.

The *California* section is vital in reporting on the issues that affect local residents the most. Its coverage of how our decisions are made and who makes them, and the community projects and personalities that shape our neighborhoods gives residents a clear picture of what is happening in the Southern California region.

At a time when we are facing financial challenges, we understand the need for business and government alike to make dramatic and painful changes. This, however, is a decision that we must whole-heartily protest; we ask that you reconsider consolidating your news sections. During these challenging times, it is important that our local paper, the paper of record in *Los Angeles*, remain vigilant in reporting to the people of our city about our state, county, and city government. Everything from homelessness, to the budget crisis, to our environment—these are the issues that Los Angelenos care about and are looking to the *Los Angeles Times* to cover not just on a national level, but a local one.

We hope that in the coming month you will listen to the readers of the *Los Angeles Times* and keep the *California* section intact. It is for the good of Los Angeles that the paper continue to operate as a leader in delivering consistent and thought-provoking analysis that reflects our local community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Garcetti".

Eric Garcetti
President
Los Angeles City Council
Councilmember, 13th District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Perry".

Jan Perry
Assistant President Pro Tem
Los Angeles City Council
Councilwoman, 9th District