From: <u>applications.administrator@capitol.local</u>

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021 2:14:56 PM

Date: 2021-09-11 First Name: Bonnie Last Name: Seelig

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address: City: Spicewood State: Texas Zipcode: 78669 Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

## Message:

I Bonnie Seelig am over 18 years of age and am a registered voter. I reside in Texas Senate District 24, Texas House District 47 and Congressional District 25. My community is northeast Lake Travis, with Austin to the southeast and Highway 71 to the west. My community is located at the meeting of the Pedernales and Colorado Rivers.

The testimony I give today is based upon my personal knowledge from my experience in my community and as a citizen of the State of Texas.

I want any new district map to fairly represent the voting patterns of Texas. In Texas all of our statewide officials are Republican. Therefore, any new Congressional seats awarded to Texas as a result of the increase of the Texas population should represent the voting pattern of the state of Texas which is Republican.

I want the new map to reflect ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE as provided in the US Constitution. It is important to me that districts are created so that there is approximately equal voting power in each district, and by EQUAL VOTING POWER, I mean equal voting power of people LEGALLY ELIGIBLE TO VOTE!

I want to emphasize that I believe it is important that redistricting is accomplished by our elected officials, like you, who are accountable to the people of Texas. I strongly oppose any SO-CALLED INDEPENDENT PANEL that is not elected by the people of the State of Texas. Allowing redistricting to be done by AN APPOINTED PANEL TAKES AWAY MY VOICE and the voice of people like me in this very important process.

My community is physically in Travis County, but thankfully outside the city limits of Austin. The entire area is mostly comprised of residentially zoned communities and the commercial/retail activity that supports the residents. The Baylor Scott & White Marble Falls Hospital serves the area.

Most of the residents of the area are English speakers; however, there are Spanish speaking residents and the Marble Falls ISD provides ESL classes for the students where English is not the primary language spoken in the home. Economically, this area is middle and upper middle class. The people closer to Austin in the Briarcliff and Lakeway area are part of our TX House District, TX Senate District and Congressional

District. They too share our appreciation of not being in the "defund the police" and "campers on the streets" Austin Movement. Just as we are seeing huge increases in house and property sales brought on by the Austinites fleeing their cities lawlessness, they share our respect for law enforcement and zoning.

The residents in this community travel the same corridors to work and school using Hwy 71 and they have similar economic and educational backgrounds. It makes sense for these communities be included in the same legislative and Congressional districts. Highway 71 is becoming more congested as more people are fleeing the concerns of a lawless big city. Water is a big concern as the population continues to grow outside the city. It becomes apparent that the population is looking for law and order and safety and will move to get away from governments that refuse to protect their citizens.

Urban populations should be under represented in proportion to the median population since people have found they can work from home and the city dwellers are racing to the suburbs. Thus, the DECISIONS MADE TODAY SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT GROWTH IS EXPECTED IN THE SUBURBS DURING THIS DECADE. After all, we want to avoid disproportionate representation (over population) often experience at the end of the ten-year cycle.

I HOPE THAT MY TESTIMONY, BASED UPON MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH I

LIVE, IS HELPFUL TO YOU IN THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS.

THANK YOU.