

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Thursday, September 30, 2021 11:54:21 AM

Date: 2021-09-30
First Name: Eric
Last Name: Hartman
Title: N/A
Organization: self
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City: AUSTIN
State: TX
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Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I submit these comments in opposition to the congressional redistricting proposed in SB 6.

The Senate Redistricting Committee has not provided the public very much time to prepare for the September 30 hearing on this map proposal. The hearing is under way less than three days after the map was made public. Community organizations have not been given enough time to alert their members and communities about this hearing, let alone enough time to analyze the map thoroughly to determine its full potential impact. I share the concerns over this compressed timeline voiced by the Fair Maps Texas Coalition along with 40 community organizations in a letter sent to the Senate Redistricting Committee.

Voting rights advocates have genuine concerns about the constitutionality of these maps. Given the enormous increase in population among voters of color in Texas over the last decade, even maintaining representation for voters of color, which isn't guaranteed under this proposed map, would be grossly inadequate. There are patterns of packing and cracking of Black, Latino, and AAPI communities across the state. Both Harris and Dallas Counties and neighboring counties are of particular concern, with the proposed maps fracturing communities so badly that it is difficult to decipher exactly which district you are in. In Travis County, where I live, the proposed redistricting would needlessly continue to carve up the community into five districts, with only one predominantly based in Travis County, thus continuing to dilute the potential voting influence of this politically cohesive community.

I urge the committee to revise this redistricting plan to eliminate the cracking and packing of minority populations, to reflect massive minority population growth, and to respect standard redistricting criteria calling for compactness and the preservation of cohesive communities of interest.

[REDACTED]