

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 12, 2021 9:20:17 AM

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Date: 2021-10-12  
First Name: Elizabeth  
Last Name: Geretz  
Title: N/A  
Organization: Senate District 17  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Houston  
State: Texas  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

Hi, I submitted testimony before the census data were in and before the draft maps were presented.

This process has been outrageous. The resulting maps are equally outrageous. You are Partisan Hacks.

It is abundantly clear that your committee heard public testimony for the sole reason that you would say "we took public comments into account." I do not believe you took public input into account whatsoever in creating these maps.

Instead, you blatantly created set of districts for Republicans. Not for all Texans, not for your constituents, not for the new population growth shown in the Census. No. You set up State Senate seats for yourselves. You set up Congressional seats for Republicans. I haven't studied the State Rep or SBOE of maps but here is what I see in my part of the state:

- SD17 used to be split between Harris (not quite half), Fort Bend (also not quite half), and Brazoria (about 10%) counties. In 2018 the race was too close for comfort in your view (Democrat Rita Lucido almost beat Huffman). So Huffman shed most of the Democratic Precincts in Harris County, keeping only those necessary to create a contiguous district and of course keeping herself within, and picked 5 some Red counties to the South/West to make up the difference. The Democratic parts of Harris County go to 15/Whitmire, already a Democrat. Do you deny that these State Senate Districts were drawn to preserve Republican power?

- Harris County gained one seat (CD38), which you drew hoping a Republican would win. You drastically redrew CD7, keeping Fletcher barely inside her own district, "packing" Democrats into her area. And you're trying to combine CD9 and CD18 into one district (also packing Democrats).

Some of this does violate the Voting Rights Act, which made gerrymandering on the basis of race illegal. You split up Alief, which was already gerrymandered into two different SDs (13 and 17), and further divided it into 3. And you're stealing one Democratic

Congressional seat by combining two Congressional Reps who represent Black and Brown communities into one.

Do you think you will get away with it? Maybe. But not for long. The people will get their way, and you will be voted out of power. You have no shame.

Sincerely,

Aliza Geretz  
Chair of SD17 in Harris County

