

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, October 2, 2021 5:17:02 PM

Date: 2021-10-02
First Name: JENNY
Last Name: LU
Title: N/A
Organization: SELF
Address: [REDACTED]
City: HOUSTON
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Hello, my name is Jenny Lu, representing myself. I hope that this committee will continue to hold in-person and virtual hearings to allow public input from the entire state.

A true democratic society shall allow each voter the opportunity to choose the candidates of their choice. The census showed that 95% of all growth in Texas occurred in the African American, Latino, and AAPI (Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders) communities. Any fair map shall reflect the diversity of our state and allow true representation of the diversified population. The current draft map does not allow any new opportunity district based on the census numbers in metroplexes, like Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin. Instead, they dilute our votes by packing and cracking our communities, reducing the number of districts dominated by people of color.

As an Asian American, the fastest growing demographic in Texas, I want fair districts because that is our path to positively contribute to the society. We need better, more responsive representation and representatives who share similar values and understand our needs. Within my Asian American community of interest, we have shared cultural characteristics, countries of origin, languages spoken, and socioeconomic status. We deserve to vote together because it's essential that we advocate together, and our voice are being heard. This brings a more stable and prosperous society.

For decades, Asian Americans have been model minorities. Yet in the past few years, we had seen increasing level of racist remarks and racial conflicts against Asian Americans. Such as remarks like "China Virus" and violence against Asian Americans. Some of my friends living in Katy said their kids were afraid of going to school because other kids yelled at them "go back to China" while they were born and raised here. In early 2020, the Asian community became aware of the danger of COVID-19 and started wearing masks. Many Asians got attacked verbally or physically. These issues stay unaddressed for a significant period of time.

Based on the new draft map, many communities and neighborhoods are divided and represented by different districts. The minorities are split, spread and buried, our voices will not be heard, our rights will not be truly represented. Our votes will always be inundated by the dominating ethnic groups. Our interests and needs will not be represented. This will only further divide different races, build more silos, reinforce racial conflicts and jeopardize the stability and prosperity of our society.

I urge this committee to hold additional in-person and virtual hearings that allow public input from the entire state and to create a new Senate map that reflects our community input and the census data, as well as create fair districts for US Congress and TX House. In addition, please continue to allow a fair and open process by providing at least 14 days for the public to review additional maps, 5 days to review any changes to proposed maps, keeping a record of all documents, written communications, emails, text messages and draft maps, and providing analysis of how the new maps impact historically disenfranchised communities of color.

Thank your time and considerations!

Jenny Lu

