

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021 9:40:14 PM

Date: 2021-10-04
First Name: VANDELLA
Last Name: MENIFEE
Title: Mrs.
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Grand Prairie
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

I have lived in Texas for more than 15 years; I have been very active in my community. I believe in people over party. I have a voice and I want to be heard.

As legislators you are tasked with ensuring districts are drawn fairly and with transparency, so that the new districts have nearly equal populations and do not discriminate based on race or ethnicity. Redistricting impacts every aspect of my life and people in my community. It determines which politicians get to vote on the issues I care about, from healthcare, to education, to immigration, and so much more. I like to personally know my representative and let them know I am willing to serve.

I discovered, in every redistricting cycle in the last half-century, Texas has been found to have intentionally discriminated against people of color or violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965. A federal court found intentional discrimination in the last round of redistricting in 2011 and highlighted both the secret process and the exclusion of minority and public input during that process.

The current map appears to undermine democracy, yet again, which eliminated all competitive seats, ignored the growth and influence of communities of color, and gerrymander the map for partisan power. When the process is not fair, it appears, instead of voters picking politicians, you end up with politicians picking their voters. During my research, I found that it has been stated "The result: Texas is one of the most gerrymandered states in the country." When politicians pick their voters, they have no incentive to be responsive to the actual wishes of the people, and we end up with policies that majority of the people oppose.

I am African American. I live in North Texas. Asian, African American voters along with Latino voters in Tarrant and Dallas County are fragmented between TX-6 and TX-33. My view of the map, TX-06 pairs heavily Latino communities in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metro with rural, predominantly white counties over 140 miles away, while winding TX-33 as a loop around TX-06 crossing the Dallas and Fort Worth County border twice. My question... Does this appear fair? Or is purposefully drawn at the benefit of a particular party.

Don't gerrymander my Texas.

[REDACTED]

