

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 2:09 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-03-12
First Name: Denise
Last Name: Pierce
Title: Ms
Organization: Gerrymandering
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Senators - I live in Wells Branch, just 15 minutes up I35 at the very end of the 80's-style "rat tail" of US Congressional District 17. According to TEA data, Round Rock ISD and Pflugerville ISD, located in that "tail", are the only 2 ISD's classified as "Major Suburban" in US 17, making up just 4.3% of the ISD's there. The main body of the District, in contrast, is primarily Rural and Non-Metro ISD's - 68.1% in fact.

Tying representation of these dissimilar communities together, with such disproportionality has resulted in lack of representation of tens of thousands of citizens in Wells Branch and Pflugerville over the past 10 years.

Senators: this is gerrymandering at its worst, and I urge you to correct it this year. It is high time to 'trim the tail' and restore meaningful federal representation to the people of Wells Branch and Pflugerville.

Additionally, I ask this Committee to continue hearing public testimony throughout the redistricting process. 2020 census data is not yet available, and when new Districts are proposed - we must be given the opportunity to review them and to be heard. Senators - drawing the lines of representation for our state is perhaps the most important undertaking of your office; I am here today to remind you that your responsibility in this task is not to decide the direction of our politics - but to put that power, as fully as possible, into the hands of the citizens of Texas.

Thank you.
Denise Pierce

[REDACTED]