

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Saturday, March 13, 2021 12:15 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: Laisa_Hinojosa_Redistricting Testimony_docx.pdf

Date: 2021-03-13
First Name: Laisa
Last Name: Hinojosa
Title: Campus Organizer at Texas A&M
Organization: Deeds Not Words
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I appreciate you opening a virtual testimony option for this process, and encourage members of this committee to honor the oath they took to serve all constituents, by offering public virtual testimony opportunities for every bill throughout session. Your constituents deserve the right to make their voices heard in policy decisions that impact their lives. I would like to thank you for allowing me to submit public comment stating why a fair and transparent redistricting process is important to me.

[REDACTED]



Senate Special Committee on Redistricting
Attn: The Honorable Senator Huffman, Chair
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas [REDACTED]
Re: Written testimony; Redistricting Process, 87(R)

Dear Senator Huffman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Laisa Hinojosa and I am a student at Texas A&M University. I am a Changemaker with Deeds Not Words and I am the current Campus Organizer of TAMUs chapter of Deeds. I am a latina from the South Texas Border advocating for healthcare justice, access to reproductive rights, and freedom from sexual assault and harassment.

I am here in favor of a fair and transparent redistricting process. Coming from a low socioeconomic area, I have seen what happens to a community when funds are distributed unevenly. Smaller cities surrounding big cities end up paying the consequences for the larger cities to uphold their image in the state.

This is why this legislative redistricting process is important to me. The Rio Grande Valley is already considered an underserved community and it will suffer even more with further unfair divisions of resources. The valley is considered the fastest-growing region that is predominantly economically challenged, and the ethnic composition being predominantly of hispanic or latino descent. The RGV is also amongst the poorest regions in Texas.

The RGV cannot be worked with the same way inland and northern counties are being focused on because they all face different poverty levels. What

works for a big city might not work for a smaller city with a border on one side and the sea on the other. The valley needs accurate representation that is going to respond to what the community needs. Not holistic solutions from people facing different challenges. Because of how I grew up in the RGV, witnessing how this has affected the different generations of Latinos.

I urge you to hear each Texan and advocate for a fair, and transparent redistricting process that will ensure accurate representation and redistribution of resources for each community, no matter how big or small, that will affect the lives and livelihood of Texans everywhere.

I appreciate you opening a virtual testimony option for this process, and encourage members of this committee to honor the oath they took to serve all constituents, by offering public virtual testimony opportunities for every bill throughout session. Your constituents deserve the right to make their voices heard in policy decisions that impact their lives. I would like to conclude by thanking you for your time and giving me the opportunity to stand before you today to share why **a fair and transparent redistricting process** is important to me.