

## Koy Kunkel\_SC

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**From:** applications.administrator@capitol.local  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 11:19 AM  
**To:** Senate Redistricting  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-03-11  
First Name: Sandra  
Last Name: Olphie  
Title: NA  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Austin  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

I live in Wells Branch neighborhood in Travis County and the ETJ of Austin. My zip code is 78728.

You have the important task of redistricting and determining which neighborhoods, towns and rural areas belong together so that Texans' legislative representatives can truly represent the needs of their constituents. In order for our elected officials in the Texas Legislature and US House of Representatives to truly represent Texans' needs and desires, we need to be divided in homogeneous groups by geography, distance and demographics as much as possible. Without that, some locales and groups of people, such as minorities get drowned out and end up with little representation. Our government is supposed to be by the people (through representation) and for the people. Currently our US district 17 includes our neighborhood (suburb of Austin) in a tiny strip of Travis County that includes half of Pflugerville, a small section of Lee County, half of Leon County, multiple rural counties, Waco, College Station, Bryan and toward outskirts of Houston. Travis County is divided into 4 Texas Senate districts, going in multiple geographic directions. Parts of Travis County is grouped with south Texas (both Laredo and suburbs of Corpus Christi), the hill country and Abilene, and the hill country and part of San Antonio.

This makes it difficult for representatives to know, understand and represent their constituents.

When you redistrict, please make sure to improve fair representation of all citizens.

Minorities need to have a voice and be fairly represented, instead of being shoved under the rug by throwing their neighborhoods into districts having mostly other populations without similar needs.

Please have more public hearings after receiving the census data.

Please have public hearings again when proposed new districts are drawn.

Thank you,  
Sandra Olphie