

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 8:59:26 PM

Date: 2021-09-29
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I attended some of the redistricting hearings in person, listened to others on line, and heard from many friends who attended, listened or even gave personal testimony. What was expressed and is clearly desired by me and many, many other concerned fellow Texans are these points:
Create an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission, keep cities, neighborhoods, and other communities of interest together, don't dilute the votes of people of color, and give us plenty of time to look at the maps and plenty of opportunities to prepare and provide

feedback. Given that we live in an enormous state, happen to be nearly two years into a global pandemic, and it's the 21st century, providing virtual options for feedback seems, not only reasonable, but imperative.

Despite this being the overwhelming desire of the majority of Texans of both parties, as well as independents, this is not what is happening. The proposed maps which have recently been released are the epitome of politicians picking their voters instead of the other way around. Minority representation will be reduced, despite minorities driving most of the growth in the Texas population in the last 10 years. Austin, my home, remains split into multiple Congressional districts, thereby diluting our voice. The blatant disregard of what Texas voters want their legislature to do would be shocking, if it weren't so predictable. A healthy democracy cannot survive these kinds of attacks on its citizens' ability

to exercise their franchise and participate in their own governance. If these issues cannot be addressed in a fair and honorable way, I fear that we are keeping watch at its deathbed.

