

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Saturday, September 25, 2021 11:37:21 AM

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Date: 2021-09-25  
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Dear Members of the Senate Special Committee on Redistricting,

I am a resident of Texas Senate District 25 and will speak of only the proposed Texas Senate district maps for Central Texas.

Unfortunately, I see in the proposed maps the same intentional manipulation of districts as marked redistricting maps in 2011. Whereas population growth has been in the metro areas and predominantly attributed to people of color, the maps have been drawn to dilute the will of these voters with rural residents, therefore negating communities of interest. This is most blatant in having an arm of proposed District 19 reach into Bexar and Guadalupe Counties and an arm of proposed District 24 reaching into Travis and Williamson Counties. Guadalupe County is split into three districts, cutting off Seguin off from the rest of the county. Both Austin and San Antonio metro areas are divided among three different State Senate districts! Can you really not do better than this?

The Central Texas counties experiencing rapid growth along the I-35 corridor have more in common with one another than they do with many of the more western and southern counties with which they are being grouped. The result is that geographically and demographically defined communities have no voice representing their particular concerns and values because their representatives represent disjointed communities.

I truly believe that fair representation would go a long way toward advancing the well-being of our state and healing our nation. Too many voters are disenfranchised. People need to feel that the process has been fair. A fair process of drawing maps would go toward restoring faith in the electoral process.

Near the capitol building I've read a quote from the first constitution of the State of Texas: "All political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their benefit." It is time for the Texas legislature to embrace that directive.

Sincerely,  
Eva M. Silverfine Ott

[REDACTED]  
San Marcos, Texas

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]