

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021 11:59:53 AM

Date: 2021-09-09
First Name: Susan
Last Name: Walsh
Title: Engineer
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: 78756
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

To: The Texas Senate Committee on Redistricting
From: Susan Walsh, Austin

Thank you for taking public input on the important task of restricting our state's representative boundaries. Every person in Texas has a unique viewpoint and it is the combination of those voices that make our state great and will help guide our state into the future as a world leader in business, education, and innovation.

I have lived in several locations in Travis County since 1986 and witnessed the effects of slicing our county into various districts. Until a few years ago I lived in that tiny section of northwest Austin whose district went all the way to College Station. I currently live in District 10 where those of us in Austin have been lumped with voters in a far reaching district with little in common. The best districts at the state and federal level are those where the inhabitants share common concerns and can work with their elected officials to find solutions. Here in Austin and Travis County we are concerned with water resources, providing infrastructure for our growing area, providing excellent public education, building a strong network of police and social services, building affordable housing, and creating an urban environment that will attract a strong and competitive business community. When the constituents in a district do not share common problems, the representatives have a difficult time serving everyone or anyone. It is important that all of our state's needs be voiced in both Austin and Washington. The urban, suburban, small town, and rural voices are all important and need to be represented. This is best done by having representation of common needs so the elected official will understand those needs. Travis County district lines have made no sense however population data is considered. Our city and county bring in large revenues to the state and we deserve federal representation. As one of the fastest growing sectors in Texas, our citizens have ideas and need representatives who will listen and serve this unique county.

I understand redistricting Texas is a huge task to stay within federal guidelines and try to plan for the next ten years. I urge you to group areas together that are facing similar challenges where government solutions can help serve those constituents. I urge you to consider the growth of urban areas because I have lived in two districts by any definition urban that were swallowed in numbers by rural/small town districts with completely different needs of commerce, health, transportation and social services. The needs of our urban parts of these districts often goes unnoticed or is deemed unimportant by our representatives.

Fair representation will make Texas stronger.
Thank you.

