

Title: NA

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

## Message:

I first want to state that both parties in this country use gerrymandering and both parties should agree it is unlawful and unethical. Many of the maps pointed out as gerrymandered are drawn appear nonsensical unless one assumes representatives are drawing maps to align with their political party and not the needs of constituents. Looking at the previous map makes it clear who does not have sensible districts. The cities in Texas where testimony is being held are obviously the districts about to be the most gerrymandered. Knowing who lives there explains why. This is not an example of a democratic tactic in government.

What you are doing to my district and similar districts is in clear violation of the Voting Rights Act. Districts are drawn in an effort to further disenfranchise minority voters. My own district, CD-29, is a majority minority district. My neighbors and I deserve to have our representative reflect the needs and wants of who lives in our neighborhood; Not multiple neighborhoods with wildly different perspectives.

The timing of this redistricting is a blatant power grab by lawmakers who are not representing my own and other's interests. TX residents already voted on their representative. Potentially changing our representatives in the middle of their tenure in office is disrespectful to constituents' decisions.

Texans have many important issues at the moment, such as Kerrville flood relief and repair and potential hurricanes that could devastate some of the districts lawmakers are trying to modify. The residents of TX-09, TX-18, TX-29, and TX-33 need lawmakers to prioritize our safety and not waste time violating constituent rights.

I appreciate these hearings as you listen to us before the maps are drawn. Representatives need to listen to our opinions and take them into consideration as you and your teams draw the proposed new maps. Affected districts will also appreciate the ability to attend future public hearings after the potential maps are drawn and before any map leaves committee. As residents of these districts we need to be included at all steps of this process. With the swiftness these hearings were arranged I have full confidence your offices will have the ability to schedule a tour of public hearings across Texas again. It is not clear at this time that this body is going to do so. This should be rectified as soon as possible so Texans can participate in the steps of this process.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and your thoughtful consideration of my testimony.