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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I am writing in a spirit of collegiality to address House Bill 1 (HB1), the proposed congressional redistricting plan unveiled on July 30, 2025, which advanced through the House Redistricting Committee on August 1 with a 12-6 party-line vote and has since sparked significant tension, including your actions on August 4 to reconvene the House and threaten removal proceedings against absent Democratic lawmakers. This specific plan unfairly splits suburban and urban areas by reshaping boundaries in key metro regions—such as slicing Austin’s progressive urban core out of District 35 entirely, pitting it against District 37 and relocating it to a more rural, Republican-leaning configuration outside San Antonio; fragmenting Dallas’s diverse suburban neighborhoods in Districts 32 and 33 to create a new unfairly drawn seat; and redrawing Houston’s Districts 9 and 18 to dilute minority voting power by packing Democratic voters into fewer, more concentrated areas while carving slivers from suburban strongholds into these urban districts—all aimed at flipping five Democratic seats and boosting GOP control from 25 to 30 of Texas’s 38 House seats, often at the expense of compact, contiguous districts that respect communities of interest. In light of these concerns, I respectfully urge you to grant relief to the Democratic lawmakers who fled the state—perhaps by waiving fines or facilitating their return for open dialogue—to de-escalate the standoff and foster a more collaborative process, while prioritizing fair and equitable districting that avoids such gerrymandering and truly reflects our diverse population without partisan bias. As a balanced alternative backed by Republican leaders

elsewhere, I recommend adopting a model like Arizona's Independent Redistricting Commission, established in 2000 under GOP governance, which emphasizes nonpartisan criteria for compact, contiguous districts that preserve urban-suburban cohesion and promote competitive elections aligned with conservative principles of limited government and citizen-led reform.

