

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-08-06
First Name: Cecilia
Last Name: Flores
Title: Chairwoman
Organization: Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Livingston
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

My name is Cecilia Flores, I am the Chairwoman of the Tribal Council for the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas. We are a federally recognized Tribe with over 1,400 enrolled members, and our Reservation is located primarily in Polk County. I am submitting testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 4, the proposed changes to the state Congressional districts. Since 2023, we have been part of Congressional District 8, represented by Congressman Morgan Luttrell. The current district is anchored in East Texas, comprised predominantly of rural and suburban counties, very similar to our home county of Polk. The current Congressional District 8 is a perfect fit for the Tribe, as most of the areas in the district have similar demographics, common interests and values. In addition, Congressman Luttrell has represented the Tribe in the US House of Representatives with respect, passion and conviction. He has taken the time to learn about our Tribe, our people, and the issues and concerns we have. His committed representation of the Tribe is necessary to us due to the many issues the Tribe faces on a continued basis. As a Tribal government, we have to address matters that affect our people such as safety, housing, health care, transportation, and education. We regularly engage with the federal government and Congress to ensure our Tribe's continued success and prosperity for our Tribal citizens, and Congressman Luttrell has been a true champion for us. Senate Bill 4 proposes to now place Polk County in Congressional District 10. This new district runs from Polk County in East Texas all the way to western Travis County. We feel the priorities and issues facing not only the Tribe, but also the entire East Texas region, will be significantly diminished if we are placed into the same district as Austin. The population center of Congressional District 10 will now be Austin, a city that does not share the values, common interests, and priorities as the Tribe and all East Texas communities. If the proposed districts are approved, the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe strongly encourages this committee to reconsider the placement of Polk County in Congressional District 10 and would respectfully ask that you place Polk

County in Congressional District 36, which is more reflective and representative of the Tribe's values and daily priorities. The request to be placed in CD 36 is because that district under the proposed map is centered in east Texas and is comprised of counties with similar characteristics as Polk County. In addition, Congressman Babin represents CD 36, and he represented the Tribe in the US House from 2015 to 2022, during which time we enjoyed a beneficial relationship much like we do now with Congressman Luttrell. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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