

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-07-26  
First Name: Danielle  
Last Name: Pfister  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Houston  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Dear committee members,

My name is Danielle. I'm an ESL teacher living in the Houston Heights and I'm a constituent of CD 18. As a Texan and an educator, I

wish this legislature was focused on disaster preparedness and adequately funding food assistance for hungry kids.

Instead, I see

valuable time and resources dedicated to an unconscionable attempt to redraw our congressional districts in the middle of the decade.

People of color make up 60% of Texas' population, but only 34% of our congressional delegation. My congressional district reliably

elects candidates of choice for people of color, who make up 83% of its population. These candidates include the iconic Barbara

Jordan, George 'Mickey' Leland, Craig Washington and Sheila Jackson Lee. These leaders not only championed the civil rights and

social justice values I prioritize as a Catholic; they also delivered real results for their constituents.

That's what's in jeopardy with this redistricting push. The communities that make up CD 18 should share a representative that is

responsive to their concerns, not the concerns of voters out in Spring or West University Place, or wherever (I mean, I cannot even

imagine what you're going to make the districts look like—and that's another problem: we should at least be able to see a proposed

map before we hold hearings on redistricting). The large constituency within CD 18 that relies on Medicaid and/or SNAP benefits

already suffered the indignity of having those life-saving benefits cut without having a voice in the process. Now, this legislature is

poised to silence their voices permanently. That's why I called the current redistricting attempt "unconscionable."

Texas' 2021 map is still being challenged in federal court for racial discrimination. The population growth in Texas over the previous

decade was fueled by communities of color, but the state created a map that reduced the number of majority-minority districts, rather

than increased them to reflect that growth. Redrawing congressional districts now, in order to break up minority communities, while

litigation is still underway will cement injustice before justice can even weigh in. More than unconscionable, this power grab is

shocking to the conscience.

I ask that you allow the federal court to make a ruling in the current litigation, and that a new map be adopted if and when the court deems necessary.

[REDACTED]