

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-08-07  
First Name: Dwain  
Last Name: Aidala  
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State: Texas  
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Mr. Chairman and committee members, Thank-you for giving me a chance to submit my comments to HB 4, which I am firmly against.

My name is Dwain Aidala. I am a resident of San Marcos Texas, District 21 and speaking for myself. I'm also a United States Marine.  
I am commenting today because I believe that the action under consideration by this committee violates the oaths that both you and I took as elected representatives and as a member of the armed services. A main part of that Oath is to Protect the Constitution of the United States from enemies, both foreign and domestic. HB 4 is a direct threat to our democracy. I expect, under our constitution, that I, as the citizen, have the right to choose my elected representatives, and not that those who have been or want to be elected, get to choose who can vote to elect him or her.

I am being directly affected by the redistricting contained in HB 4. By being moved from CD 21 to CD 27, my representative will be located in Victoria instead of New Braunfels. Over 100 miles away. But that's not the major problem with HB 4. The BIG BAD PROBLEM with HB 4 is that it exists solely to disenfranchise large groups of TEXAS voters because POTUS 47 is running scared and wants to protect his SLIM hold on the US Congress. The history of CD 27 is a clear example of how the Texas Legislature has been robbing the voting voice of Texans over the last 15 years. It has gone from covering , as Wikipedia describes it, "the coastal bend of Texas' Gulf Coast " to now include a large portion of Hays County in HB 4. It only was able to grow in 2018 to encompass Bastrop county because, in Abbot vs. Perez, the US Supreme Court majority stated that "state legislatures are entitled to a presumption of legislative good faith, especially in districting cases."

There is no need for presumption here. Rep. Hunter, one of the Authors of HB 4, in his August 1st, 2025 presentation to the House

Redistricting Committee stated that the task was to present and PASS any proposal that redraws lines within the special session.

The committee was there to hear the public's input, not LISTEN to it. He went on to say that "these districts were drawn primarily using political performance". He continued with more details all of which I heard as "We can do it, so tough!".

There is no legislative good faith here. It is a continuing fragmentation which not only impacts the Federal voting rights of Texans, but also totally disregards their inability to access their Congressional Representative for the support and work for which they were elected. HB 4 throws THOUSANDS of TEXANS out of Districts with a populace with similar needs into districts of greatly disparate needs. It does this solely because POTUS 47 is afraid that voters of these UNITED STATES might move the country back to the balance of a democracy instead of into an Autocracy that the framers of our Constitution worked hard to prevent.

I wear a ball cap on national holidays celebrating the history of this country. It identifies me as a Marine Corps veteran. That cap says, "Earned never given". I believe this body should consider that statement. It appears to me that the action being considered is really close to "stolen not really elected".

I strongly request that you, as elected Texas Senators, look to your sworn oaths and not further expand the disenfranchisement of a large portion of Texas citizens. Do not pass this bill when presented to you. If anything, you should be working to get us back to the intended meaning of "one person one vote".

Finally, in the Marines there is a hand-to-hand combat term of "weapon of opportunity". The Texas Republican party may think that this abnormal redistricting being considered is such a weapon. I would ask and warn you to consider that this action may be turned back against them. The current Federal administration's actions over the past 7 months, combined with this insulting gerrymandering of an already unfair districting map has a high probability of turning your recent supporters into enlightened citizens who realize that they are being played instead of being supported. Thank-you.

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