

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-07-26  
First Name: Gerry  
Last Name: Vander-Lyn  
Title: Ms  
Organization: Self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Houston  
State: Texas  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Redistricting should never be political. The color of a person's skin does not determine the way that person votes. Money and power are much bigger determining factors. You can see that on full display in the Houston City Council.

Council is made up of 11 district representatives and 5 at-large representatives for a total of 16; seven are black, three are Hispanic, and six are white. All seven of the blacks, all six of the whites, and two of the Hispanics voted to take money away from poor communities and give it to one of the wealthiest white communities in Houston for a park that had already won international awards as an outstanding park and did not need any more money. Meanwhile, across town in a much less advantaged community, the City's park department stole (yes you read that word correctly) the swings from the neighborhood park. The "reason" the community cannot get them replaced keeps changing. The first reason was "no money in the budget". A few weeks later, a rich park got 8.5 million dollars. The other reasons don't matter because I am sure that by this time you get my point.

My recommendation is that you scrap all 46 potential plans and just draw boxes. They will not be perfect boxes because you should never split a voting precinct or split a neighborhood across Congressional District lines. So the box will have a few bumps or dips. Do not worry about how many races or how many women or how many men or how many Republicans or how many Democrats you can squeeze into a district. All you are doing is making our electorate overcome all prior biases to unite to throw all elected bums out of office!

[REDACTED]