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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:
Testimony to the Texas
State Senate

Opposition to Current
Redistricting Proposal

Honorable Senators,

My name is Jeanne Dupre'
Weido, and I am appealing
to you today as a
concerned Texas citizen to
voice my strong opposition
to the current
redistricting proposal
that will undermine the
fundamental democratic
principle of fair
representation.

Redistricting should serve
the people of Texas, not
political parties. Yet
what we've witnessed is
the deliberate
manipulation of district
boundaries to predetermine
electoral outcomes—a
practice that betrays the
trust Texans place in
their elected officials
and violates the basic
tenets of democratic
governance.

The current redistricting proposal fails Texas in three critical ways:

First, it silences voters. When district lines are drawn to guarantee specific outcomes, millions of Texans find their votes effectively meaningless. Communities are carved up and scattered across multiple districts, ensuring their voices are diluted beyond recognition. This is not democracy—this is disenfranchisement by design.

Second, it destroys community representation. I've witnessed neighborhoods, cities, and counties split in ways that make no logical sense except to serve partisan advantage. Rural communities find themselves grouped with distant urban centers they share nothing with. Historic neighborhoods are fractured. These artificial divisions prevent elected officials from truly understanding and serving the diverse needs of their constituents.

Third, it perpetuates extremism and gridlock. When districts are drawn to be "safe" for one party, the real election happens in the primary, not the general election. This incentivizes candidates to appeal to their party's most extreme voices rather than building the broad coalitions necessary for effective governance. The result is increased

polarization and decreased
ability to address Texas's
real challenges.

The evidence is
overwhelming.

Federal courts have
repeatedly found Texas
redistricting plans to be
discriminatory. We've
spent millions of taxpayer
dollars defending
indefensible maps in
federal court—money that
should have been invested
in our schools,
infrastructure, and
communities.

Texans deserve better.

We deserve districts drawn
by nonpartisan commissions
focused on keeping
communities together,
respecting natural and
political boundaries, and
ensuring equal
representation. We deserve
a process that's
transparent, with
meaningful public input,
not backroom deals that
predetermine our political
future.

Other states have shown
this is possible.
Independent redistricting
commissions in states like
Arizona and California
have created fairer, more
competitive districts
while reducing costly
litigation and restoring
public trust in the
electoral process.

I urge you to reject
redistricting before the
next census is
conducted. Establish an
independent redistricting
commission with clear
criteria: equal
population, compliance

with the Voting Rights Act, preservation of communities of interest, geographic compactness, and respect for existing political boundaries.

Texas has always prided itself on independence and fairness. Our redistricting process should reflect these values, not contradict them. The integrity of our democracy depends on ensuring every Texan's vote counts equally, regardless of party affiliation, race, or geographic location.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust you will act in the best interests of all Texans by supporting fair, transparent, and nonpartisan redistricting reform.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Dupré Weido
Community Volunteer
Houston, Texas

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