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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Honorable Texas Senators,

I am a retired physician living in the Museum District of Houston, Lizzie Fletcher, number 7.

The proposed mid-census redistricting demanded by the Trump administration is bad for democracy and bad for Texans

As a physician I am appalled by health care in Texas. We are a rich and growing state but have the worst health care access and affordability in the nation. Twenty-two percent of adult Texans are uninsured, double the national average whereas twelve percent of Texan Children are uninsured, more than twice the national average.

Lack of insurance leads to worse health care, increased infant and maternal mortality and strains our public health system. Unfortunately, health care coverage is worse for nonwhite compared to white Texans. Texas Hispanics have more than double the uninsured rate compared to whites and blacks are fifty percent more uninsured compared to white Texans

Racial and ethnic bias already exist in Texas Congressional districts.

- Forty percent of Texans are white, yet they have sixty five percent of the representatives
- About two million people moved to Texas based on the 2020 Census, less than 10% were white, yet two more white districts were created in 2021
- Congressional District 18 which is predominantly nonwhite will not have representation almost a year after Sylvester Turner died. In the past when a white Texas congressional district lost its representative an election was held in June in preparation for the hurricane season.
- The districts that the Trump administration has targeted for redistricting are all predominantly nonwhite.

The "Big Beautiful Bill" passed by a small margin in the House of Representatives and without a vote by representation from the 18th Congressional District. Healthcare in Texas is expected to only get worse with its passage and further gerrymandering will only make racial and ethnic disparities worse.

Gerrymandering is wrong whether it is done by Democrats or Republicans. It prevents fair representation which is a cornerstone of democracy. I urge you do not do this proposed redistricting for the sake of all Texans.

Thank you for your consideration
Joel W Abramowitz Md PhD

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