

[REDACTED]

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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I wanted to understand how the state conducts redistricting. So I read about the process at:
<https://redistricting.capitol.texas.gov/process#:~:text=If%20Texas%20senate%20or%20house,speak er%20of%20the%20house%2C%20meet>

It explains that:

"Federal census population data is delivered to the legislature no later than April 1 of the year following the decennial census, and the data is usually provided several weeks earlier. As soon as the census data is verified and loaded in the computer systems, the members of the legislature and other interested parties begin drawing plans. Bills to enact new state redistricting plans follow the same path through the legislature as other legislation.

If Texas senate or house districts are not enacted during the first regular session following the publication of the decennial census, the Texas Constitution requires that the Legislative Redistricting Board (LRB), a five-member body of state officials including the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house, meet and adopt its own plan. The LRB has jurisdiction only in the months immediately following that regular session."

- How did the state of Texas decide to redesign voting maps before instead of after the decennial census?
- Who designed the proposed redistricting maps? If "other interested parties" participated, who were they and what role did they play?

"In order to gather information that will aid the Texas Legislature in making redistricting decisions, legislative committees generally hold public hearings in the months leading up to the redistricting session. While the official census population data is not available until after the session begins, the hearings provide an opportunity for citizens to present relevant testimony concerning local preferences, communities of interest, local voting patterns, and other issues that the legislature may consider when redrawing district lines. The hearings also promote public awareness of the legislative redistricting process.

Public committee hearings are also held during the legislative session on redistricting bills under consideration."

- A public hearing is scheduled at the Capitol for Aug 7. What other hearings have been conducted "in the months leading up to the redistricting session"?

[REDACTED]