

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-08-02
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

1. There is no valid reason to re-draw maps in the absence of new census data. Maps drawn in 2021 after the 2020 census are still being challenged in court. We should not be re-drawing maps just weeks after the conclusion of a trial over Texas' current maps, when concerns over those maps are still pending. We shouldn't create new maps, we should ensure that the 2021 maps comply with the VRA.
2. The poorly reasoned DOJ letter directly contradicts legislators' testimony in a recent trial of the contested 2021 maps. In that trial, representatives for the state argued repeatedly that a race-blind process was used to draw the boundaries of the existing districts. The state's quick acquiescence to the DOJ letter contradicts legislators' testimony and makes it appear that they were lying in court.
3. Districts mentioned in the DOJ letter appear to target non-white legislators – which leads me to believe that this is an attempt at racial vote dilution prohibited by the Voting Rights Act; minority voters must have “an equal opportunity to participate in the political processes and to elect candidates of their choice.” Republicans make up 65% of the Texas delegation currently and the delegation is 60% white, even though the state is 60% people of color. If this new map were in effect in 2026, the GOP would hold 79% of the delegation, which would very likely result in even lower representation by the majority non-white population of Texas.
4. Fair maps maintain community, so that voters with common concerns/interests have a representative who can respond to those concerns/interests. This should be the primary concern in drawing of voting maps, fairness. I don't have any confidence that the current rushed and non-transparent re-districting process is being carried out on that basis, to be fair to all voters in the state.

[REDACTED]