

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-08-07
First Name: Patricia
Last Name: Berthold
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Georgetown
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I ask that you drop this attempt at mid-decade redistricting and attend to the important work of taking care of Texans.

As I understand it, this special session was called because Governor Abbott wanted a different outcome regarding the regulation of Hemp Products and THC. Then came the July 4th and 5th storms and floods and the massive loss of life and property and there was a call to make sure funding, and procedures, are in place so that people are out of harm's way when the next flood producing weather event occurs.

Instead of addressing the issues surrounding the flooding, redistricting became the priority, not because Texas needs to do a mid-decade redistricting, but because President Trump wants 5 more Republicans from Texas in the US House of Representatives. He said the GOP is entitled to them and we should just do a simple redrawing of the maps. I wonder, on what basis is the GOP entitled to 5 more representatives? Your time and our money should be spent on the priorities of Texans, especially in light of the devastating loss of life and property from the recent flooding.

As citizens we are afforded the opportunity to Vote for those who represent us in our State Legislatures and the United States Congress. Legislators do not choose their voters; we the voters choose who represents us.

It took 200 years of amendments to the constitution and the passage of laws for all citizens 18 and older to have the right to vote and have their concerns represented by our lawmakers. In Texas we have 38 representatives in the US House. In 2024 56% of Texas voters voted for President Trump and 42% voted for Vice-President Harris. Math tells me that, on a proportional basis, Texas should have 21 or 22 Republican representatives in the house and 16 or 17 Democrat representatives. Currently there are 25 Republicans and 11 Democrats with one vacancy in a district that voted for a Democrat. My conclusion is that the district maps already disproportionately favor Republicans and there is no need to spend time and money on changing the maps until the next census. If you want to spend time on redistricting, I suggest that you introduce legislation, or support legislation already introduced, to ensure that redistricting is an independent non-partisan process instead of the partisan process in place today.

Thank you for considering my comments.

[REDACTED]