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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:
Chair and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments regarding redistricting during the first special session of the 98th legislature.

First, I begin with this statement on the record. I am adamantly opposed to any mid-decade redistricting, regardless if it is HB4, SB4, or some other similar redistricting bills.

Second, I ask this question. Is the Republican Party of Texas becoming the West's version of the CCP?

As a lifelong conservative Texan, I am alarmed! Texas has long been a laboratory for one-party rule, with Republican lawmakers wielding gerrymandering like a scalpel to carve away competitive democracy. But the latest redistricting efforts go even further. Accountability is no longer an inconvenience. Elected Republicans have declared it an obstacle. So, when is enough, enough?

By shielding themselves from electoral consequences, elected Republicans aren't just redrawing maps; they're redrawing the very rules of democratic engagement. The result? A political landscape where dissent is punished, opposition is sidelined, and party loyalty is paramount. If that sounds familiar, it's because it echoes the centralized control strategies of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Texas Republicans probably aren't adopting the CCP's ideology, but they seem to admire its efficiency in consolidating power and silencing critics. This isn't traditional conservatism. It's an authoritarian impulse to dominate indefinitely.

Texans deserve better than leaders who govern for themselves. This isn't just about redistricting, it's about resisting the slow transformation of Texas into a place where democracy becomes a lip service instead of a practiced principle.

I oppose this out of cycle redistricting effort and any bills redrawing congressional districts which are being dictated from outside of Texas and blindly implemented by elected Republicans here. Instead, I urge this redistricting committee to take this opportunity to implement a more fair and rational redistricting policy, by putting forward a joint resolution for a ballot referendum, to establish an independent, non-partisan commission to be responsible for future redistricting.

We need more competitive districts, NOT more NON-competitive districts. This out of cycle redistricting push will take us further in the WRONG direction.

District boundaries should be drawn compact and contiguous. Many of our districts are not. The configuration of those that are not, undermine the principles of fair representation. They defy logical and geographic coherence. And they compromise the integrity of democratic processes.

Frankly, this entire out-of-cycle redistricting effort is embarrassing.

