

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-08-08
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Title: Stephanie Williams – Texas Senate Special Committee
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Greetings, Chair and members of the committee. My name is Stephanie Williams. I am a Black woman, a mother and grandmother, and I serve my community as an activist and organizer. I'm here today to speak in opposition to the mid-decade redistricting process and to the maps proposed in SB 4.

These maps do not reflect the reality or the needs of Texas communities. They break apart neighborhoods where Black and Brown residents live, work, and worship together. By splitting our communities, these maps weaken our collective voice and our ability to choose leaders who understand our priorities.

When lines are drawn in ways that dilute the voting power of Black communities, the results are real and lasting:

Our schools lose the funding they need to give every child a fair chance.

Our access to affordable healthcare and Medicaid expansion is pushed further out of reach.

Our neighborhoods lose the investments needed to protect us from flooding, improve air quality, and ensure our power grid works when we need it most.

This is not about partisan politics—it is about fairness, representation, and equal opportunity. Mid-decade redistricting without a transparent, community-centered process erodes public trust and undermines the basic promise of democracy: that every person's voice counts equally.

I urge this committee to reject SB 4. Instead, we need maps that keep communities of interest together, that give all Texans a fair chance to elect leaders who will fight for their education, health, and safety, and that uphold the principles of equal representation under the law.

As a grandmother, I want my grandchildren to grow up in a Texas where their voices matter, their votes count, and their future is not determined by manipulated maps. I respectfully ask you to put the needs of the people above political advantage and to deliver maps that truly reflect the diversity and strength of our great state.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to submit my public comment.

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