



Date: 2025-07-24
First Name: Alexandra
Last Name: Pfeiffer Hotez
Title: Mrs.
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Alex Hotez and I am a 27-year-old teacher and resident of Houston, TX. I am writing to express my strong opposition to any proposed mid-decade redrawing of congressional maps in Texas, particularly efforts that would favor one political party over another for political gain. I live in Congressional District 7, a diverse and dynamic area that borders both District 18 and District 38. These communities together reflect the real heart of Houston, which is multicultural, multigenerational, and deeply interconnected.

As a teacher, I witness every day how much Houston families depend on strong public schools. Redistricting that fractures communities or shifts representation away from urban, working-class, and racially diverse neighborhoods directly threatens our ability to advocate for the funding and policies our schools need. Public education in Houston already faces immense challenges, from underfunded programs to aging infrastructure, and our representation in Congress plays a crucial role in securing federal support and advancing equitable education policy. Splitting up or diluting the voting power of families who rely on these schools would reduce their voice in the decisions that affect their children's futures.

Attempting to redraw congressional lines mid-decade, especially in response to a request from Donald Trump to create more Republican-leaning

districts, is not just unethical; it is a profound abuse of power. While partisan gerrymandering is not currently prohibited by federal courts, it violates the spirit of democracy and undermines the trust that Texans place in their elected officials. This kind of manipulation erodes the principle that voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around.

Additionally, if the new maps diminish the voting power of minority communities, particularly those in historically Black and Latino areas like TX-18, such actions may violate the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These communities have experienced tremendous population growth and continue to face systemic inequities in education, housing, and healthcare. Their representation must be protected, not parceled out for political advantage.

As a young educator and Houstonian, I am deeply concerned about what this proposed redistricting would mean not just for me, but for my students, their families, and the future of this city. Houston's strength lies in its diversity and its unity. Gerrymandering disrupts that unity, weakens our democracy, and silences the very voices that need to be heard most: those of our youth, our working families, and our public servants.

I urge you to reject any attempt to redraw the congressional maps for partisan gain. Redistricting should occur only after the U.S. Census, with public transparency and a commitment to fair, community-based representation. Anything less is a disservice to the people of Texas, and a threat to the future of our public schools.

Thank you for your time and attention.

[REDACTED]