

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-07-24
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I am writing to express my grave concerns regarding the revised congressional redistricting “plan.” It is clear based on the haphazard rollout of this “plan” that the motivations behind it are at best, partisan, and at worst, racial discrimination. Texas is setting itself up to be sued yet again for violations of the Voting Rights Act. And we’re still in the middle of litigation over the last maps. This effort is an absurdity – it reflects a prioritization of partisanship over people, and it is a waste of taxpayer money.

To call it a “plan” at this point is generous, considering there has been no adequate disclosure of the revised maps in advance of the public hearings. Texans have not had the opportunity or time to meaningfully review the proposed maps. Additionally, for those who can show up on such short notice, they are limited to 2 minutes of testimony/each for a total of 5 hours. The haphazard way this has been thrown together begs the question: Why call hearings on short notice with limited information on the substance of the plan, place severe limits on the length of the testimony, and provide limited opportunity to appear remotely? Because you do not truly care about what people have to say and have no intention of taking that input into account.

Instead of prioritizing disaster relief, you are prioritizing taking away political power from communities of color. The tragic flood is being used as a pretext for a special session to target minorities. This is especially troubling because Texas has gained new congressional seats in the last decade based on population growth in the very demographics that this plan seeks to disenfranchise with its racial gerrymandering.

Texas has a long history of racial gerrymandering, being sued over it, and using an extraordinary amount of taxpayer dollars on expensive private law firms to fight those battles. The legal fight over the 2011 redistricting plan cost Texas taxpayers roughly \$3.9 million in legal expenses as of 2014.

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/texas/article/Taxpayers-tab-for-redistricting-battle-nears-4M-5677830.php>

Texans want to know they won’t be swept away in floods without warning. We do not want our power to go out in the 100+ heat in the summer or in the winter, causing pipes to

burst and people to freeze to death. We want funding for our public schools and for public school teachers to be paid a livable wage. Fix those problems first.

Lastly, I find the “plan” disturbing because of the recent passage of the budget to benefit billionaires. I am one of the millions of Americans who have student loans and have been negatively impacted. I want to resume payments of my student loans on an IBR plan but have not been able to do so because of the upheaval of IDR plans and insane backlog of processing of applications. I am also worried my elderly grandfather will lose access to healthcare and the social security benefits which he relies on to live.

[REDACTED]