

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-07-29

First Name: Ayaan

Last Name: Moledina

Title: N/A

Organization: Students Engaged in Advancing Texas

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Austin

State: Texas

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Hello. My name is Ayaan Moledina and I am a 16-year-old high school sophomore from Austin. I am extremely concerned that the legislature is choosing to redraw our Congressional maps after just a few years – using the same census as before. Asian Americans like myself are the fastest growing population in Texas but we don't have updated census data to use at this time to ensure we are accurately represented.

Texas students who aren't of voting age also deserve accurate representatives who are truly representative of the community in which they come from. That means similar identities, similar values, and people who will listen to their constituents no matter if they agree with you 100% or not. My concern is that when we start to unnecessarily redraw maps that are already drawn in favor of one side, we are going to end up with candidates who are picked by those who draw the maps and feel that they don't have to serve their constituents at all.

These Congressional representatives are in charge of casework to ensure that the needs of their citizens are met, not just on policy issues but on non-partisan cases involving federal agencies. When I worked in the district office for my Representative, I received calls from people desperate to get their passports expedited to visit dying relatives or to be present for the birth of a grandchild. That's the kind of work Congressional offices do every day—casework that doesn't depend on politics, only on compassion. But if we elect officials who feel invincible because of unfair maps, what happens to those families when their representative just doesn't care to help? As Texans, we believe in fair play and doing what's right—not just what's politically convenient. I urge you to uphold your duty to all Texans, especially the next generation of voters like myself. Redrawing maps without updated census data undermines the principles of equal representation guaranteed by the Constitution and threatens compliance with the Voting Rights Act.

I go to school with kids whose families rely on our representatives to fight for health care, immigration help, or veterans' benefits. These aren't just policy issues—they're life issues. In a time when healthcare is being gutted, the public education system is being smeared, our families and neighbors are being kidnapped, and our rights are being attacked, we need representatives who have a spine to fight back in the face of dictatorship. But the people can't let that happen when those in power are drawing

their own unfair districts.

So to our legislators, I say this:

Do your job.

Honor the Constitution.

Wait for the census.

Respect the process.

And stop trying to silence the voices you're afraid to hear.

Any good political party would want more seats in Congress, especially with the slim majority now. But America is a democracy. Back room dealings and dirty politics are not how we achieve these goals. Hard work and winning over voters in non-politically drawn districts is the way to ensure that. I respectfully urge you to vote against any attempts to redraw the Congressional districts outside of the regular decennial process guided by the U.S. Census. Let's keep the fire of democracy alive, not let it blow out. Thank you.

