

[REDACTED]

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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Currently living in an underserved, underrepresented, and marginalized community, I am opposed to redistricting in Texas due to the historical and ongoing negative impact this process has on racial and ethnic representation. Dividing neighborhoods across multiple districts dilutes the collective voting power or concentrates a community into a single district to minimize its influence elsewhere.

For districts of color, this means that votes do not translate into actual representation, or marginalized communities are lumped in with wealthier or politically opposite areas, where our concerns are ignored.

When disadvantaged communities are underrepresented, priorities such as affordable housing, public transportation, healthcare, and job programs receive less legislative attention.

One party benefits from gerrymandered districts thereby reducing incentives for politicians to engage with or serve all constituents.

Candidates do not need to appeal to the concerns of voters of color if they know they can win without them, which leads to lower voter turnout and civic engagement in disadvantaged communities.

Texas has a long history of redistricting plans being challenged and overturned by courts for violating the Voting Rights Act by discriminating against Black, Latino, and Asian American voters. As a person of color, I am aware of these patterns and distrust of the current processes.

Redistricting is controlled by the state legislature, often dominated by one party, in Texas. While gerrymandering is technically partisan, it often has racial impacts, especially when communities of color predominantly support one political party.

Even when people of color are the majority of the population growth, redistricting maps have often failed to create new minority-majority districts. This leads to underrepresentation in Congress and the state legislature and policy outcomes that do not reflect the priorities of diverse communities.

I DO NOT SUPPORT redistricting in Texas because it often perpetuates racial injustice, suppresses minority voices, and undermines democratic representation. This opposition is based not just on theory, but on documented legal battles and lived experiences.

