

Last Name: Bell Title: N/A

Organization: Northwest Clean Community Alliance

Address:
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode:
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

## Message:

I stand to question the need to review certain and targeted Texas Congressional Districts at this time. This item has been placed on the first Texas Post-Legislative Special Session apparently at the request of the sitting U.S. President. I am a resident of CD18 and have been for over 30 years. Our organization, Northwest Clean Community Alliance, has responded to natural disasters and other calls for action involving environmental issues both in the district an elsewhere. The district is currently without representation with an election (presumably) scheduled for November 2025. We had a previous long serving representative who was very responsive and resourceful when it came to a multitude of natural disasters in the district. I just returned from the Kerrville-Hill Country area to assess the damage and recovery from recent tragic flooding. The Special Session should focus on such issues and others that bring relief to impacted communities and not on the directives of a President looking for more votes to forward his agenda. Texas has its roots in having a spirit of independence and projecting one of the top economies in the world. We don't take orders from anyone! If legislators are worried about being "primaried" or facing opposition in their elections, then they should not run for office! The original office holder of CD18, Rep. Barbara Jordan, was also a former Texas State Senator. I want to leave you with some of her testimony from a U.S. House Judiciary hearing on the Watergate issue in 1974. I hope this puts in perspective the task before your body when it comes to agenda items:

"Common sense would be revolted if we engaged upon this process for petty reasons. Congress has a lot to do: appropriations, tax reform, health insurance, campaign finance reform, housing, environmental protection, energy sufficiency, mass transportation. Pettiness cannot be allowed to stand in the face of such overwhelming problems. So today we are not being petty. We are trying to be big because the task we have before us is a big one."

This being so eloquently articulated by the late Stateswoman, causes one to ask if this Congressional Redistricting agenda item is being done at this time for "petty reasons?" Scripture, which some of you on this body quote, says (paraphrased) "There is a time and season for everything under the sun." Another also says "Do things decently and in order." Is this the proper time for discussions and possible actions on Congressional redistricting? Is this process being done decently and in order? Your legacy is riding on this.

ComputerIP: