

Date: 2025-07-24 First Name: Danielle Last Name: McClelland

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Dallas
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

My name is Danielle McClelland, and I live in the Claremont neighborhood of Dallas, in Congressional District 32. I write to express my strong opposition to the Legislature's effort to redraw congressional districts mid-decade.

This redistricting process is not based on population shifts or public need. It is a strategic move to consolidate political power and diminish representation for communities of color. It is discriminatory and undemocratic.

Redistricting directly impacts Texans—who gets represented, who gets resources, and who gets ignored. When district lines are drawn to serve political interests rather than reflect actual communities, policies no longer align with public needs.

We are already seeing the consequences. The closure of numerous Social Security offices across Texas has made it harder for seniors, people with disabilities, and working families to access essential benefits. In underserved urban and rural areas, people are forced to travel far or wait endlessly for assistance. And yet many elected officials remain silent—because under gerrymandered maps, they don't have to answer to those most affected.

In Dallas County, we also face one of the nation's highest uninsured rates. The narrow passage of a federal tax bill that threatens to strip even more Texans of Medicaid is another example of the harm caused by underrepresentation. Communities were "packed" and "cracked" to dilute their power—and our voices were ignored.

Equally disturbing is the lack of transparency in this redistricting process. Hearings are being held without making proposed maps available in advance, denying Texans the ability to give informed input. This exclusionary approach undermines public trust and democratic legitimacy.

Texans deserve a redistricting process that is fair, accountable, and representative of our diverse population. I urge this Committee to adopt the following reforms:

Hold a public hearing after maps are released but before they are passed out of committee.

Provide at least five days' public notice for communities to review and respond to the

proposed maps.

Require public explanation of how and why each map was drawn.

Preserve and disclose all communications related to redistricting—no secrecy, no deletions, no evasion.

Texas has a long and painful history of drawing districts that silence communities of color. This is your opportunity to break that cycle—by leading with transparency, restoring trust, and prioritizing the people over politics.

You were elected to serve Texans—not parties, not lobbyists, not Washington. This process must reflect that responsibility.

Thank you for your attention. Texans are watching. We demand and deserve better.

Sincerely,
Danielle McClelland
Dallas, TX