

Date: 2025-07-24 First Name: David Last Name: Nielsen

Title: n/a

Organization: self

Address:

City: Round Rock

State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

## Message:

I am a Texas voter, and I oppose any mid-decade redistricting, especially while the current maps are still being challenged in court. I oppose any redistricting that does not result in fair representation for all Texans. Texas has a long history of racial gerrymandering and discriminatory voting practices, so I urge you to prevent communities of color from being deliberately divided, thereby weakening their political voice.

When maps are manipulated, it distorts the very foundation of democracy. It silences the voices of those already struggling to be heard.

District lines should preserve and protect the needs of the communities within them, especially the needs of historically disenfranchised communities. Districts should elect candidates that reflect the diversity of our state.

Texans have the right to fair and equal representation that is achieved through a thoughtful, transparent process that allows meaningful public input. Lawmakers should have the necessary information to create legally compliant district maps, protect minority voting rights, and respect county lines, city boundaries, and communities of interest. A rushed 30-day special session packed with unrelated agenda items is not the way to achieve this.

The citizens of Texas deserve a voice in the redistricting process. It is unacceptable for both the House and Senate Redistricting Committees to hold hearings without having maps available for review by the public. Without having maps and an explanation of how they were drawn, the people you represent cannot fully participate in this process. The Legislature clearly plans to ignore public input and pass maps that discriminate against communities of color.

I ask you to commit to holding a public hearing after the maps have been drawn but before they pass through committee. You must give the public a minimum of 5 days notice and the ability to review the maps before this hearing. The legislators who draw the maps must explain why they chose to draw them the way they did and not hide any communications they have had regarding drawing the maps. This is an opportunity for the Texas Legislature to finally get this process right and avoid wasting millions of taxpayer dollars and years spent in litigation.

Looking to the future, an Independent Redistricting Commission should be established in Texas, as has been done in other states, to make redistricting more transparent and impartial by establishing standards and criteria for drawing district maps, and allowing the public the opportunity to review and comment.

As for this special session, flood recovery efforts and the safety of Texans should be the top priority, not redrawing political maps.