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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Dear Texas Legislature,

I am a second-generation Italian American, born in Philadelphia, PA, the birthplace of The Declaration of Independence and The Constitution of the United States. In school, we learned the history of the founding of our country, the early arrivals of settlers, the establishment of the thirteen original colonies, the formation of government, the crafting of a declaration of independence, the hard fought battles of the revolution, and the generation and emergence of the Constitution. If you knew our history, you would not be trying to create unfair and unethical congressional maps. Because if you did, you would know that the Founding Fathers looked at public service as an honor, a privilege and a duty. That duty propelled them to serve in the government of an emerging nation, for a specific amount of time, and then return to their farms, their businesses, their law practices, and allow others to do the same. Different voices, different ideas, compromise and discussion. If you do not know this, then watch the miniseries "John Adams," you might learn something about American history. Knowledge is power. Yes, it is cliché, but that does not mean it is not accurate. The more you know, the more intelligently you can converse and support your opinions. This is known as discourse.

Your job is to provide for the citizens of Texas a fair and impartial map, so all are represented in government, not just a chosen few who have the same vantage. Varying views and ideas, different modes of thought are how this country came to be. If Adams and Jefferson had not made the decision to commit treason, because that is what they were doing by creating a document explicitly stating the colonies' intent to separate from the Crown. By pledging allegiance to a new nation, under British law this was considered an act of betrayal and rebellion, and punishable by death. If they did not do this, we might still be under the auspices of a monarchy. The men and women who died for freedom: those original immigrants, those who fled from oppressive governments, even those who arrived shackled to a boat, came to know what the Declaration meant, and how the Constitution supported all our rights. The United States of America means something. You might not like the ideas others bring to the table and you might not always agree, but without differing viewpoints and true ethical standards for all, we are no better than the Putins of the world. I for one do not want an authoritarian government. I'd rather argue vehemently and disagree with someone, and be able to rightfully condemn my government for it's injustices, than have to worry that if I am not in line with the one

in charge, I could lose my life. Is that really what you want? Draw the lines fairly. Stop listening to the words of a tyrant. Stop to think, are you doing what is right? or are you doing what is easy? What's more important, keeping your job? or doing your job? Yes, I am paraphrasing another "President." Just think, if you do the right thing and do right by us, you might actually start something nationally. And to remind you of the words of President Lincoln at Gettysburg, "It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us -- that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." Please remember these words.

Stop stomping on the Constitution.

Thank you for your time.

