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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Racial gerrymandering in Texas is so institutionalized that, frankly, it has the aura of the apartheid era's 'white minority rule.' Whites are 45% of the state's population, but control 70% of the congressional districts. The disparity is even more obvious in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, where whites are only 20 percent of the population but have 80 percent of the congressional seats.

The State of Texas has opposed redistricting litigation for over four years by claiming its maps were drawn entirely without consideration of race. The new Department of Justice letter contradicts the sworn testimony of Texas's lead map drawers and its elected officials, and is wrong. The Constitution and Voting Rights Act do not require destroying existing coalition districts. Claiming that districts are racial gerrymanders simply because they contain two or more distinct racial groups turns the Constitution and Voting Rights Act upside down and is not worthy of any response by the Texas Legislature

The State cannot have it both ways and claim to have both disclaimed and relied upon race in the same redistricting. The only consistency is that the State's position will suppress the votes of people of color.

