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Regarding: Congressional

Message:
STATEMENT OPPOSING TEXAS'S MID-DECADE
REDISTRICTING EFFORTS

Texas's current attempt to redraw congressional maps just four years after the 2021 cycle is not only legally unsound—it is unconstitutional, unnecessary, and corrosive to the principles of democratic representation.

1. It Violates the Constitution's Principles of Fair Representation

Redistricting is designed to follow the decennial census. Texas completed that process in 2021, as required. Attempting to redraw maps in 2025, absent major demographic shifts or legal mandates, breaks with both precedent and purpose. It circumvents the democratic norms our system depends on.

2. The Legal Justification Is Contradictory and Untrustworthy

Governor Abbott and Republican lawmakers are using an alleged racial gerrymandering concern in four districts as the pretext for this redraw. Yet public testimony and court records show the map's architects previously claimed race was not a factor in their 2021 design. The about-face is alarming. If race wasn't considered then, it cannot now be used as the reason to overhaul districts, especially in ways that will diminish minority representation.

3. This Plan Threatens Voting Rights

Under the Voting Rights Act, especially Section 2, states are forbidden from adopting maps that dilute minority voting power. Texas has a long history of federal courts finding its maps discriminatory. In fact, the Department of

Justice filed suit in 2021 challenging these very issues. The state's latest attempt risks repeating these same violations—further entrenching inequality under the guise of “compliance.”

4. It Undermines Public Trust and Opens the Door to Retaliation

This move is not about fairness. It's about gaining partisan advantage. Analysts predict Republicans could flip as many as five congressional seats with this gerrymander, tipping the balance in Congress. But what happens when other states retaliate? We are already seeing conversations in states like California and Illinois about redrawing their own maps in response. If allowed to continue, this sets off a nationwide chain reaction where mapmaking becomes a permanent political weapon.

5. The Process Itself Lacks Transparency

Public hearings are being conducted without showing the actual proposed maps. How can citizens respond meaningfully without seeing what's on the table? That's not open governance—it's manipulation. Moreover, the recent arrest of a congressional candidate while testifying against this plan raises serious concerns about free speech in these proceedings.

6. It Is an Unnecessary Distraction from Real Issues

Texas faces major challenges—flooding, school funding, healthcare access. Yet lawmakers are focused on political lines instead of people's lives. This is not governing. It is political engineering at its worst.

Conclusion

This is not just a legal issue—it is a moral one. The attempt to redraw Texas's districts mid-decade is a calculated political strategy masquerading as compliance. It violates constitutional norms, threatens minority voting rights, weakens public trust, and invites national instability.

For the sake of our democracy, this redistricting plan must be rejected. We cannot afford to let partisan interests dismantle the very structure that holds our republic together.

