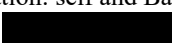

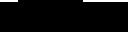


Date: 2025-07-28
First Name: Khanay
Last Name: Turner
Title: N/A
Organization: self and Barbara Jordan Leadership Institute
Address: 
City: Fort Worth
State: Texas
Zipcode: 
Phone: 

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

My name is Khanay Turner. I am a Proud Texan and Fort Worthian who work across the state of Texas to uplift members of the Black Community to know their power of their vote and continuing the legacy of the great, Hon. Barbara Jordan. I'm here today to voice my strong opposition to this mid-decade redistricting effort, which targets coalition districts across our state—CD 9 in Houston, CD 18 in Harris County, CD 29 in East Houston, CD 30 in Dallas and CD 33 in Dallas-Fort Worth.

These districts were built by Black, Latino, and Asian American communities working together for decades to elect candidates of our choice. Now, in the middle of the decade, the state is seeking to dismantle them—stripping away representation that we fought hard to secure.

In Tarrant County, voters in CD 33 are already being silenced—they've lost representation at the county level and now risk losing their federal voice as well. In Harris County, the historic CD 18, once held by the Honorable Barbara Jordan, has been vacant since March, leaving its residents without representation in Congress for nearly a year. And across Houston, voters in CD 9 and CD 29 face the prospect of being "packed and cracked," breaking apart the multiracial communities that have fueled Texas' growth.

Texas communities of color make up 60% of this state's population, yet only 34% of our congressional delegation represents us. This process is not about fairness—it's about power.

Across Texas, many people are already struggling to afford healthcare coverage. The recently passed Tax Bill, approved by the narrowest of margins, threatens to remove even more people from Medicaid rolls. Texas already has the highest rate of uninsured residents in the nation. If our communities in Houston and the DFW area had adequate representation, this harmful bill might not have passed. Instead, the state has shamefully chosen to "pack and crack" communities of color, diluting our collective voice in Congress.

I respectfully urge this committee to:

Reject any mid-decade redistricting efforts and wait until the 2030 Census numbers are released before drawing any new maps.

Stop dismantling coalition districts that reflect the multiracial, diverse communities of Texas.

Ensure transparency and meaningful public participation. If any new maps are proposed, the public must have the chance to review them and testify again before any vote is taken. Fair maps are essential to a fair democracy. Our communities deserve representation that serves the people, not political or partisan interests. Thank you for your time and for considering my testimony.

