

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-07-29
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Good morning, my name is Khia Thompson.

I live in El Paso, TX in Congressional District 16. I am testifying on the Legislature's attempt to redistrict our congressional districts mid-census. I am strongly opposed to these efforts.

Choosing to redistrict our congressional districts mid-census is a severe misplacement of priorities, especially after the immediate aftermath of devastating floods that have taken so many innocent lives.

Moreover, Texas just redrew maps in 2021, so I cannot help but feel that this decision to redistrict our congressional districts is anything but an attempt to increase Republican representation in the U.S. House.

In addition, I am concerned that redistricting our congressional districts is going to accomplish nothing but split up communities of color, weakening their voting power and representation; and, I feel that efforts are better spent on issues that are affecting our fellow Texans.

For example, here in El Paso County, many working class families are going to be struggling more given the passage of the recent Tax Bill, which will make it even more difficult for people in my community to afford food and healthcare because of the cuts to SNAP and Medicaid. The people in my community need to be able to have a voice in these types of decisions that are harming them and their families; and, redistricting will silence them.

Therefore, I am asking that this Committee to commit to holding a public hearing after the maps have been drawn but before they pass through committee. You must also give the public a minimum of 5 days notice and capability to review the maps before this hearing. I also want the legislators who draw the maps to explain why they chose to draw them the way they did, and to 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 millions of taxpayer dollars and years of lawsuits, so I hope that you will take this testimony to heart.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me today.

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