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Date: 2025-07-28  
First Name: Lesley  
Last Name: Briones  
Title: Commissioner  
Organization: Harris County Precinct 4  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Houston  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF HARRIS COUNTY COMMISSIONER LESLEY BRIONES  
IN OPPOSITION TO MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING

Members of the Texas Senate Special Committee on Congressional Redistricting:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I do so not only as a Harris County Commissioner, but also as a proud, native Texan, and a mother raising three daughters to believe that democracy is sacred and worth defending.

I write to express my unequivocal opposition to the Legislature's unjustified attempt to redraw Texas's congressional maps mid-decade—an effort not rooted in constitutional duty, but in political expedience and submission to the whims of a president seeking to retain power. This redistricting process is not about fairness or representation. It is a brazen power grab ordered by President Trump, rubber-stamped by Governor Abbott, and orchestrated by legislators who seem more interested in appeasing one individual than upholding the will of millions of Texans.

Gerrymandering in Texas has long silenced Black and Latino communities, weakening their political power and representation. The proposed mid-decade redistricting continues this discriminatory practice, manipulating district lines at the expense of voters of color. Instead of fair representation, state leaders are pushing a plan that undermines the voices of millions of Texans. This isn't about democracy; it's about control, and a continued effort to rig the system against the communities that have driven Texas's growth.

Our congressional delegation delivers for our residents because they are close to the ground, rooted in our neighborhoods, and responsive to the unique geographical and cultural realities of their communities. Dismantling these districts in pursuit of illegitimate power weakens our representation and silences Hispanic, Black and other minority voices that have historically been left out of the democratic process.

The right to vote is the most fundamental right we have as Americans. It is the foundation upon which all other rights depend. When leaders manipulate district lines to predetermine outcomes, they do not just rob people of representation—they rob them of liberty and dignity. Our democracy must be protected. Our districts are not President Trump's to redraw. And Texas

is not his to take.

Thank you,

Lesley Briones  
Commissioner  
Harris County Precinct 4

