

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-07-24

First Name: Mark

Last Name: Smith

Title: N/A

Organization: self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Austin

State: Texas

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Sam Houston once listed, among various things to which he was opposed, "taking the power from the hands of the people." What you are considering with this misguided, unnecessary, and blatantly politically motivated redistricting scheme is specifically take power from the hands of the people. Sam Houston would be as appalled as I am.

Trump demanded that Texas redraw district lines to deliver five more seats to the Republicans in the 2026 midterms. And of course Gov. Abbott jumped. Now you must figure out how to mess with your carefully gerrymandered districts--meticulously parsed in 2021 to give the maximum possible number of seats to Republicans. As you all know, this was accomplished by packing the most number of democrats possible into the two newly created districts. Good luck in unpacking those and other districts in ways that will not make your safe Republican seats less safe. It's a fools errand, but of course, there are plenty of fools ready to take it on.

Why don't you stop while you still have time and reconsider this misguided plan. Do what Texans sent you to the Legislature to do, namely, make life in Texas better for everyone. I suggest starting by focusing on your stated priority of addressing the horrendous floods. Stop blaming local officials (because of course you can't blame state or federal officials) and break into that Rainy Day fund and put up some sirens so that children and adults might have a chance in the next flood.

Your redistricting ploy is shameless. Tell Trump to look somewhere else to rig the next election. Be like Sam Houston and stand up to tyranny while you still have the chance.

[REDACTED]