2025.07.20

Date: 2025-07-29 First Name: Mirian

Last Name: Spencer Morrison

Title: State Democratic Executive Committeewoman CD25

Organization: Sr. Planner

Address:
City: Tolar
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Mirian Spencer Morrison

State Democratic Executive Committeewoman for CD25

I am speaking on behalf of myself as a lifetime Texan, voter, and rural constituent of CD25

Good Evening Mr. Chair & Members of the Committee,

I oppose redistricting due to limited opportunities for voters of the 254 counties in Texas to have reasonable input on maps that will affect them for the next six years. My Congressional District begins in West Texas in Callahan, and goes east to Eastland, Stephens, Young, Jack, Commanche, Palo Pinto, Parker, Erath, Somervell, Hood, Johnson, and ends in Tarrant, including UT Arlington where we are today. My Congressional District is already cracked and packed specifically to dilute the Democratic Voters in east Tarrant County by including them in the mostly rural communities of west Texas. The maps online for 2025 are unofficial, I won't waste time on proposals for CD25, including some increasing the county total from 13 to 28 and span from Amarillo to Austin.

The boundaries were approved during the 2021 Session. There were maps and opportunities for Texans to review, comment, and bring meaningful input to the legislature. While the current Districts don't appease most people, there was dialog, and as usually occurs, lawsuits. Texas is fighting now to keep the maps in court while entertaining new maps.

I believe that in my occupation as a City Planner, we have worked on redistricting within the agencies I have worked. One agency, in one city, took six months to draw service boundaries that will serve our six Divisions and be balanced within the city for calls for service, response times, and projected population growth through 2030. Another entity took over a year. I am certain that none of the background done in my professional capacity has been done, and there is zero chance the level of diligence will be done before public hearings on ACTUAL maps to meet the Special Session Deadlines.

It is ridiculous to entertain this process NOW as candidates have announced and started working for the 2026 Primary since June. This work done would be for naught and increase potential for challenges. The earliest new maps would be effective, if signed by the Governor would be September 1, 2025. If the plan is for maps effective for the 2028 election, this process can wait for the 2027 Session. If this were something that the State of Texas was truly wanting to do, there would have been hearings during the 89th Legislative Session that just ended June 1. We deserve better.

Thank You,

Mirian Spencer Morrison