Date: 2025-07-28 First Name: Mitchell Last Name: Matthews

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Hello Representatives of the State of Texas,

I have some significant concerns regarding the proposal for redistricting so recently after our state's usual 10 year interval after the official U.S. census is conducted and released. While the stated need to address population growth/redistribution within the state is of a concern, this is not a phenomenon that is unusual to those of us who have been raised here and have lived here for as long as my near four decades within this state. My hometown metro area of Houston has never experienced a period of contraction in population within its historical growth spurt over 70+ years. I cannot fathom that this redistribution is significant enough within recent historical context to justify such a brash and hurried suggestion to redistrict so soon.

Recent public rumblings concerning diluting the voting blocs of geographically, economically, and culturally connected urban and suburban populations within the 5 biggest Texas metro regions, which compose nearly 21 million people, or 70% of the state population, are deeply concerning. A district's constituents are best served by representatives at the national level with experience within those distinct areas so that their residents can benefit from solutions that address real needs that the private sector is unable to address. I, for one, do not expect, within reason, that a representative well versed in the needs and operation of a rural, sparsely connected communities may have the same level of expertise in serving a deeply interconnected urban setting where lock-tight communication and cooperation between federal, state, and local districts and their representatives is crucial when guidance is needed through significant

challenges such as hurricanes, floods, droughts, and storms. This includes preventative measures in anticipation of such phenomena, of which we have seen opportunities to improve based on recent history. The same applies for a metro region representative in regard to addressing the specific needs of a rural population/region/district.

I would implore you, as elected representatives of the state of Texas, to decline redistricting before the 2030 census is released as we still have work to do to refine how our current districts can remain prepared for the challenges we all will collectively face over the next few years without unnecessary adjustments that will only complicate existing initiatives and create more opportunity for solutions to slips through the cracks of the inevitable transitional adjustments and change management.

Sincerely, Mitchell Matthews Lifelong Resident of Harris County