



Date: 2025-07-29
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Title: The 2025 Special Session Redistricting Process
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Texans deserve both a fair process for drawing congressional districts and fair congressional district maps. Why? Because Texans deserve to have their voices heard through their votes. I have several concerns about the current special session congressional district map redistricting process. First, the current maps, drawn after the 2020 Census, are still under court review. So, we do not know if the current maps are legal or not or how that may affect redrawing those district maps. District maps should not be redrawn while there is a pending court case. Second, scheduled hearings do not include review and comment on redrawn maps because no maps are available for Texans to review. Once the proposed district maps are released, the process should include at least 5 days for the public to review, analyze, and comment on the proposed maps. Third, the Texas Legislature is attempting to redraw congressional district maps in a special legislative session in which multiple topics are under consideration. How can the state legislature spend sufficient time in a 30-day session to develop fair maps, while juggling key issues like emergency disaster preparedness and regulating hemp products? And why isn't the primary focus of the special session on emergency disaster preparedness legislation to save Texans' lives? Fourth, both the Texas House and the Texas Senate have scheduled public hearings with just a few days' notice, which is insufficient to allow many Texans to plan to attend the hearings (whether in person or online) to voice their concerns. The process should include at least one week's notice for hearings. Fifth, the House has only scheduled three hearings, and the Senate has only scheduled four hearings across our great state. Since we have 254 counties, many Texans will not have an opportunity to attend a hearing in person. Sixth, the hearings should be longer to allow more Texans to voice their concerns. Seventh, calling a mid-decade redistricting process with a focus on some minority districts raises the concern of minority voter dilution. Is the intent of this process to dilute minority votes to flip congressional seats and to keep minority voices from being heard? Texans deserve to have their

voices heard through their votes. Voting impacts legislation on issues that affect our daily lives: issues like taxation, funding federal agencies to ensure the safety of our food/water/air/medications, providing for our national defense, implementing reasonable tariffs to protect American workers and businesses, etc.

