Date: 2025-07-28 First Name: Paula Last Name: Gochnour

Title: Citizen
Organization: Self
Address:
City: Houston
State: Tx
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I write as a white mother, grandmother, homeowner, retired business owner and public relations consultant to numerous member-driven nonprofit organizations. Most of these groups saw the benefits and grew by welcoming different opinions even when they did not agree on everything. Texas itself grew and prospered. Often, pressure coming from outside the state made we Texans defiant as we chose not to be controlled by outside money or interests that were not good for Texas. This changed when the Republican Party for which I was once an alternate delegate changed. Good legislators who served constituents retired from what would be called "bullying" in some circles as campaign funds were threatened should votes not go a certain way. As a result, majority party rule has given us a government in which people seek only tax breaks with less money spent on services such as education, healthcare, or flood warning systems. It usually is the role of the minority party to speak up about these deficiencies and to note when the emperor has no clothes. That will not happen with further lines drawn to minimize voices of the less affluent. Please draw the lines to encourage participation in the democratic process so that legislators will care about their constituents and not outside concerns. This follows the command to treat others as you wish to be treated.