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Regarding: Congressional

Message:

To all members of the Senate Special Committee on Congressional Redistricting

How is it that our ELECTED state leaders are jumping through hoops due to a directive from the President to find five new seats to increase Republican representation in the U.S. House? Texas Republicans have decided to find these five seats through a revised congressional redistricting plan "in light of constitutional concerns raised by the U.S. Department of Justice." Communities of color will likely feel the biggest negative impact. In my view, this is nothing more than racial discrimination and gerrymandering.

Typically maps must be made public at least 5 days in advance of any public hearings during a special session or votes in order to allow sufficient time for the public to review the maps, prepare testimony, and propose alternative maps. Currently, the Legislature is proposing 24 hours to review proposed amendments. WHERE ARE THE MAPS?

ELECTED public servants should EARN the votes of the people they hope to represent – not blatantly gerrymander their way to a win. What Republicans are trying to do in Texas is have politicians choose their voters rather than voters choosing their representatives. This completely undermines free and fair elections.

Penny Bradshaw