

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-07-28
First Name: Shawn
Last Name: Gallagher
Title: n/a
Organization: Self - I am a constituent
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

I am a 5th generation Texan and a 2nd generation Houstonian. I was born and raised "inside the loop" and currently live and work in the 18th District. I have lived in the current 18th district since 2007 and have been represented by Sheila Jackson Lee, Dan Crenshaw, and Sylvester Turner while living in the same house (district lines were redrawn in 2010 and 2020). Currently, I do not have a representative due to the death of Rep. Turner. I oppose the proposed redistricting as I believe that it is a waste of our government and taxpayer resources. Districts are currently reviewed and revised based on data from the U.S. Census collection every 10 years as done in 2000, 2010, and 2020. There is no immediate need to redraw these districts, which could easily be redrawn according to the U.S. Census schedule. Any "out of cycle" redistricting would also be likely subject to needless and expensive litigation, further increasing the cost of this unnecessary exercise in redistricting. I am not aware of any interest by residents of the 18th district for redistricting. Furthermore, any redistricting efforts will leave myself and the other constituents in the 18th District as unrepresented citizens in the U.S. House of Representatives. By having no representation in the Congress, my rights as a citizen are being infringed upon. Citizens living in U.S. Territories and the District of Columbia have more representation (through their non-voting "shadow representatives") than citizens living in the 18th District in Texas. I believe this is in violation of my rights as an American citizen. In light of the dramatic changes being made at the federal level, not having any means of representation for a prolonged period is alarming and unconstitutional.

Since the Texas Legislature only meets every other year, they prioritize discussion of more important and pressing topics such as emergency response, flood and weather warning systems, and funding issues. In light of the recent tragedy in the Hill Country, which can be traced back to legislative inaction, I believe that your legislative efforts are better spent there. Additionally, the lackluster and poor response to the derecho storm and Hurricane Beryl in Houston in the summer of 2024 demands additional attention by the legislation with regards to emergency response, crisis planning, and weather preparedness, as State officials were woefully unprepared and did nothing to inspire a community spirit usually present after such tragedies. Response to emergencies is a vital role of government and much more important than playing political games.

[REDACTED]