

Date: 2025-07-28 First Name: Téa Last Name: Johnson

Title: Policy & Advocacy Manager, Austin Areal Urban Leag

Organization: United Leagues of Texas

Address:
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

The United Leagues of Texas strongly urges the Legislature to vote against redistricting and any similar undemocratic measures that

would silence the voice of everyday Texans.

Texas already redrew its congressional and legislative maps in 2021 as required by the U.S. Census. Attempting to redraw maps in

2025, mid-decade and outside of any new population data, is not a reflection of public need. This is a blatant power grab fueled by

partisan pressure and national influence. This action undermines voter trust, destabilizes electoral consistency, and weakens

democracy. Gerrymandering has long diluted the political power of Black, Brown, and working-class communities. Redistricting now

would continue this harm by cracking and packing diverse neighborhoods, denying them meaningful representation in favor of

districts drawn to protect incumbents and preserve minority rule. If redistricting proceeds, it must include an independent community

review board and a transparent process that centers intentional public input— particularly from those most impacted by these

changes. The public must have a say in how their communities are represented.

I also urge you to oppose any legislation that expands secret police files or opaque surveillance infrastructure— such as the G-file

system. These proposals reduce transparency and accountability while endangering civil liberties, especially for communities already

over-policed and under-protected. Additionally, Texans have spoken clearly on their priorities this special session: we want answers

and action on disaster recovery. That starts with flood relief, enhanced emergency response systems, and stable emergency shelter

funding. As homelessness and extreme weather intensify across Texas, our state must invest in life-saving shelter operations. Current

inclement shelter programs are inconsistent and under-resourced. A permanent solution would support dignity, safety, and resilience

for all Texans.

Breaking quorum to stop redistricting is an act of courage—not obstruction. Texans deserve maps that reflect their communities, not

political engineering done behind closed doors. Mid-decade redistricting sets a dangerous precedent and signals to voters their

representation can be manipulated for political convenience.

Texans are watching. We demand transparency, accountability, and fair governance. I strongly urge you to:

- Vote NO on redistricting proposals unless they include independent oversight and public participation,
- Vote NO on secret policing legislation like HB 2486 or any bill that expands unaccountable law enforcement files,
- Vote YES on funding for emergency homeless shelters and disaster relief to protect our most vulnerable neighbors.

We need leaders who defend democracy— not dismantle it. Now is the time to lead with integrity and act in the public's interest.