

[REDACTED]

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Date: 2025-07-31

First Name: Tommy

Last Name: Wan

Title: Program Director

Organization: AliefVotes & Self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Houston

State: TX

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Mid-decade redistricting is wrong, and it's fundamentally unfair. I would like to highlight my hometown neighborhood in the heart of Southwest Houston: Alief.

Alief is more than our home in Houston—it's a powerful mosaic of sari stores, taquerías, African groceries, Iglesias, dim sum spots, and Islamic Masjids lining Bellaire Boulevard. It's a community defined by cultural prowess, working-class grit, and a sense of solidarity.

However, Alief is burdened with the weight of deep-rooted challenges, including environmental injustices, low-propensity voting, infrastructure needs, youth civic neglect, and the once title of the "Forgotten District" in local representation. Congressional action helps us, whether it's funding, event attendance, or advocacy for policies that constituents need to thrive in our community.

The proposed map will bifurcate Alief into two (if not more) foundationally distinct districts. We are all familiar with the history of division and its impact on our neighborhoods. In addition to redistricting, federal cuts are actively threatening the resources that help communities like Alief thrive. This year alone, the Alief Super Neighborhood Council lost \$250,000 of green infrastructure funding for tree planting. We lost our local YMCA, and cuts are affecting community health outreach. All of these things profoundly impact our neighbors.

Consistent and fair congressional representation matters. It allows us to continue building a robust relationship with district staff, work on community-funded projects to ensure that all communities are represented, maintain consistency in constituent services with federal agencies (and in an immigrant-rich community, that certainty rings true), and advocate for issues that affect us all, especially those most vulnerable.

One doctrine prevails: This is unfair, unjust, unconstitutional, and inconsistent with the trust we've endowed to you from our collective communities. Please, do the right thing for our communities—especially Alief.

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