

## Koy Kunkel\_SC

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**From:** applications.administrator@capitol.local  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 8:58 AM  
**To:** Senate Redistricting  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Attachments:** Letter for Redistricting-Jennifer Bezner.docx

Date: 2021-02-24  
First Name: Jennifer  
Last Name: Bezner  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Smithville  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Thank you for your time, please see attached letter.

[REDACTED]

2-23-2021

RE: Redistricting

Hello, from rural BASTROP County! I currently reside at 157 Corral Rd, Smithville on a 10-acer lot within a large subdivision of large building tracks, Texas House, District 17, Texas Senate, District 14 and US House, District 27. I have lived at this location for almost 20 years, but prior to living here I have lived all over Texas including many URBAN locations (Fort Worth, Denton, Austin). My husband and I moved here from Austin to raise our children in a small-town environment, and we consider this one of the best decisions we could have ever made.

I am writing you in favor of keeping my Texas House and US House representative as RURAL-interest representatives. For example, where I live rural broadband services are expensive and very few options exist for service. Our Senate Rep (14)-lives in an area that have fast-Google Fiber and so do most of her constituents. In the last election for our Senate Representative (Sarah Eckhardt-D) our county voted majority Republican (13,969) but it did not matter, we are always OUTVOTED by Austin metro. Our needs for police, medical, and federal services are different, and our district should be with rural counties/communities, Fayette County for example.

In listening to testimony from other Texans, the idea of a "Independent Panel" should be appointed to handle redistricting has been mentioned. **I DISAGREE!** We need more accountability in government not less. Without the ability to "answer" to the voters that are DIRECTLY affected by this panel, the panel would be operating on their own and without recourse. Our rights for fair and equal representation would be violated and no longer viable.

My neighbors come from diverse backgrounds, some were born and raised here in Bastrop county, others moved here for our small town feel and beautiful scenery. We have mothers, fathers, young and old families, retirees, all ethnicities and it makes a beautiful picture of what the United State is known for, diversity (a melting pot) and everyone has a VOTE and all legal votes count.

The residents of my county might travel to Austin for work, although that has reduced significantly with remote work due to COVID-19, but we live in Bastrop county. This means we shop here, in fact I cannot go to HEB without seeing a few folks I know each time I go; we recreate here with some of the prettiest State parks and lakes, we take our kids to school here, and we worship here. We love Bastrop county and want to preserve our Rural lifestyles, please keep this in mind while addressing the need to draw voting precincts.

Thank you for your time and wiliness to work on such a difficult topic.

Jennifer Bezner

Commented [JB1]:

Commented [JB2]: