Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 7:14 PM

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-08 First Name: Vicky Last Name: Linsalata

Title: N/A

Organization: self

Address:
City: Austin
State: Texas
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Hello, my name is Vicky Linsalata and I am testifying on why the 2021 redistricting process needs to be fair and transparent.

How districts are drawn has a huge impact on the lives of every citizen on a very personal level such as healthcare, economic issues, education, and much more and when districts are drawn unfairly and behind closed doors, people are not only harmed but begin to lose faith in the political process. When maps are unfairly rigged, you end up seeing a legislature that represents special interests and politicians, instead of representing the people.

I am asking that this Committee commit to holding a public hearing with public testimony on any maps before they are passed. They must give the public sufficient notice and capability to review the maps before this hearing. I also want the legislators who draw the maps to explain why they chose to draw them the way they did, and to not hide any communications they have had regarding drawing the maps.

I was living in Travis County in 2010 when it was sliced up into 6 different districts and have felt disenfranchised ever since. In order to build trust that the maps have not been unfairly manipulated, I ask that the legislature doesn't look at partisanship when coming up with maps. This is an opportunity for the Texas Legislature to finally get this process right and avoid wasting millions of taxpayer dollars and years on lawsuits, so I hope that you will take this testimony to heart. Thank you for taking the time to listen to me today.