

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 2:23:31 PM

Date: 2021-09-29
First Name: Laurel
Last Name: Hays
Title: Dr.
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Houston
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

Hi, my name is Dr. Laurel Hays, and I am writing to express my displeasure at the proposed Senate et al. redistricting maps. Texas grew substantially since the last census, and that growth was mostly due to the increased numbers of minority residents in and around urban centers. Also, the white population has dropped. The Hispanic populations are up 20% and is now equal to the white population at around 40% each, while Asians make up around 9% and Blacks population % has remained relatively unchanged. If districts were drawn fairly, then they would reflect the current diverse make up of our population, and would give representation to the many communities of interest here in Texas. Instead, whites are gaining a district, while Blacks lose their only district and Hispanics lose a district. In fact, Hispanics were already dramatically underrepresented in the current district maps, so it is disgraceful that they would lose a seat. In addition, cities are their own communities of interest and do not share the same interests with far suburbs or rural areas. The extreme gerrymandering around cities, demonstrated by the lack of compactness of the districts and the obvious attempts to dilute the city voter power by reaching district lines across multiple counties and into deep rural counties, is cynical and devious. In the name of equal justice under the law and one person one vote, neutral districts that empower communities of interest to select their representative is the bare minimum we should expect from redistricting, rather than partisan, selfish, and racist maps.

[REDACTED]