From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Thursday, September 30, 2021 8:32:24 AM

Date: 2021-09-30 First Name: Michael Last Name: Strong

Title: Dr.

Organization: self

Address:

City: Nacogdoches

State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

## Message:

I am retired, I am a veteran, I live in Nacogdoches, and I am deeply concerned about the congressional map that has been proposed. At the state level this map does not give voters in Texas the fair representation and fair maps they deserve. The same is true for my county.

The congressional map proposed in Plan C-2101 places Nacogdoches County in Congressional District 17. This district would run from Garrison in deep East Texas to La Frontera, a development in Round Rock west of I-35, 230 miles away, a four-hour drive. This is not a community of interest with a common set of concerns. Under this plan our congressman will be Pete Sessions. Mr. Sessions lives in Waco. When he thinks of higher education he will think of Baylor and A&M, not our Stephen F. Austin State University. When he thinks of rural areas he will think of nearby Milam County, not Nacogdoches. When he thinks of east Texas he will think of Bryan, not our Piney Woods. While he may remain as a U.S. Representative Mr. Sessions will not represent us. This is wrong.

I am also concerned by the manner that this map was drawn. Our state representative admitted that congressmen had submitted the map with really no input from the Texas Legislature. In addition, we now see that you are being advised by the controversial Adam Foltz, a recognized expert in gerrymandering. You Senators represent the people of Texas. You are responsible for drawing fair election maps. Please do your duty.