

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Thursday, September 30, 2021 12:29:54 PM  
**Attachments:** [Sydney Greenblatt - Congressional Maps.docx](#)

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Date: 2021-09-30  
First Name: Sydney  
Last Name: Greenblatt  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Houston  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

My name is Sydney Greenblatt, I have been a resident of Representative Al Green's District 09 for many years, and a resident of Houston for over 60 years.

The Congressional maps that been proposed in Harris County are grossly inadequate given the huge increase in voters of color over the last decade. The patterns of packing and cracking of Black, Latinx and AAPI communities in Harris and surrounding counties is undemocratic and certainly racial gerrymandering. The fracturing of these communities of color squelch the impact of their voices and their votes.

I am appalled that the proposed maps put Congress members Sheila Jackson Lee and Al Green, both the preferred elected representatives of their respective districts, into the same district and pit them against one another. Likewise, Congress member Sylvia Garcia, who is the preferred elected representative of her current Congressional District, has been placed in the same district as Congress member Dan Crenshaw. Al Green, Sylvia Garcia and Sheila Jackson Lee currently represent historical districts that have worked hard over the past half century to gain representation, and it is shameful that the State is now trying to take away their preferred candidates of choice.

The infrastructure of our democracy is being threatened now. I plead with you:

- Work to end gerrymandering and map manipulation of US Congressional districts.
- Draw maps that are fair and represent all Texans – especially Texans of color, who represent 95% of our population growth since 2010.
- Do not artificially distort maps for racial or partisan purposes.
- Do not manipulate maps in support of one party or one politician.
- Do not discriminate against people of color.
- Do not diminish the ability of a minority group to elect the candidate of their choice.
- Do not crack and pack the voters to gerrymander districts that favor your re-election.
- Respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act
- Make redistricting in Texas fair and make the process transparent.

I am a member of Congregation Emanu El in Houston and a volunteer with the Religious Action Center of Texas (RAC-TX). The Religious Action Center is the political and legislative outreach arm of Reform Judaism in the United States. My personal beliefs and the core values of my faith are aligned in advocating for the alleviation of systemic injustices that impact marginalized communities.

Our democratic system calls for citizens to pick their elected officials, not for our elected officials to pick their constituents.

[REDACTED]

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