From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject:INETMAIL: Redistricting Public InputDate:Monday, October 4, 2021 10:30:45 AMAttachments:Letter to senate about gerrymandering.docx

Date: 2021-10-04 First Name: Rajashree Last Name: Srinivasan

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Plano
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Hello, my name is Raji Srinivasan and I am a resident of Precinct # 034-002 in Plano, Collin County. I am part of the growing South Asian community that contributes to the economic, social, and civic activities of this growing area, where more people want to move to.

I am a Physician working in health care for children with special needs.

I belong to a thriving South-Asian Community that contributes to the Collin County area extensively. We have a significant presence in the health-care sector, Information Technology, higher education and small businesses-to name a few. We are Americans that enjoy everything American and also enrich the communities we live in by sharing our traditions and culture. We have several temples in Allen, Plano and Frisco, where we worship as a community. My family also likes to go to Indian restaurants in Allen, Plano and Frisco to enjoy traditional foods occasionally.

Our community has had a substantial impact on Texas and Collin County. We contribute significantly in taxes and to the local economy. Our numbers are growing exponentially and yet we are not able to elect candidates that represent our voices. Some of the issues we are really concerned about are women's reproductive rights, current gun laws, public education and of the more recent COVID response in Collin County and the mismanagement of the power grid- to name a few. Both my state house representative, Van Taylor and Senate representative, Angela Paxton do not represent my views on most of the issues that are important to me, my family and my community.

For far too long, AAPI communities, which are the fastest-growing across Texas, have been unfairly divided into multiple legislative districts and thus, have been prevented from having the ability to elect a candidate of their choice. I am looking at the proposed maps and am appalled that instead of rectifying this issue, you are worsening it. I see a common theme in my HD 67, Sen 8 and CD-3 maps, where the existing Anglo minority is being changed to make our districts Anglo- majority. In every single map, the Asian vote is being further diluted by re-drawing some parts of our districts with rural areas of Collin, Grayson and Hunt counties, with whom we have very little in common- as far as issues and activities are concerned. If this is not gerrymandering along racial lines, then what is it ??? Your maps are deliberately breaking up our community.

All I ask is that we are given equal representation through fair legislative districting. We ask that you honor the Voting Rights Act which prohibits you from drawing lines that dilute our voices.