Hello,

As Texas considers redistricting proposals, it is critical that we move beyond the hyperpartisan gerrymandering of the past. We now have the opportunity to create a more representative, fairer electoral map. We can achieve this by using open source algorithms using consistent metrics.

An algorithmic approach to redistricting is the only way to eliminate political bias and political gamesmanship. Many subject-matter experts are available to guide Texas lawmakers on this topic:

http://redistricting.cs.illinois.edu/
http://autoredistrict.org/
https://www.heinz.cmu.edu/media/2018/October/wes-pegden-gerrymandering
http://district.cs.brown.edu/

As a member of the Executive Committee of the Texas Blockchain Council, which is a member of the Innovation & Technology Caucus of the Texas Legislature, I would be happy to support legislators in thinking through how to implement an algorithmic approach to redistricting.

Natalie Smolenski