

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 12:13 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: Redistricting Submission 01_27_21.pdf

Date: 2021-01-27
First Name: Francine
Last Name: Ly
Title: Chair/President
Organization: North Texas Chapter of APAPA
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Irving
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

TO ALL SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON REDISTRICTING:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony and request for a fair and transparent redistricting process and practices on behalf of our Asian American community to obtain meaningful representation. My testimony is attached herein.

In closing, I respectfully request this Senate Special Committee Members to consider our Asian Americans community representative needs without further diluting our voting power or otherwise violating the law or fair re-districting principles.

Sincerely,

/s/ Francine Ly
Francine Ly
APAPA NTC Chair & President
Google#: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]
www.apapa.org

[REDACTED]

TO ALL SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON REDISTRICTING:

Hello, my name is Francine Ly and I appreciate your time and effort to solicit public comments. My address is [REDACTED], Irving, TX [REDACTED]. I am the President of the North Texas Chapter, of the Asian Pacific Islander Americans, Public Affairs Association, a non-partisan, non-profit organization. I am here to testify for fair and transparent re-districting maps.

I would like to start by saying that the most important thing for this Committee to consider is to respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act. None of my testimony today should be used by the legislature to justify diminishing the ability of a minority group to elect the candidate of their choice or artificially distorting maps for racial and partisan purposes.

I would like to see Texas re-districting process, and any subsequent map disputes, be resolved out of court. Texas came very close to being placed under federal oversight for a lack of transparency, over its' re-districting practices.

I do understand, that sometimes it is necessary, or beneficial, to create diverse districts; however, the Asian Americans community is so gerrymander and broken up that it is next to impossible to obtain meaningful representation.

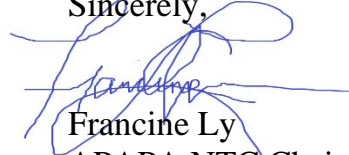
Just look at 4 of the North Texas counties:

- There are six (6) Congressional Districts (6, 12, 24, 25, 26 and 33) in Tarrant County, comprising of 41 cities, with a total of 6% AAPI population, and only two (2) locally elected officials – Euless City Councilman Salman Bhojani and Haltom City Mayor An Truong.
- There are three (3) Congressional Districts (3, 4 and 32) in Collin County, comprising of 31 cities, with a total of 16% AAPI population, and only three (3) locally elected officials – Plano City Councilwomen Lily Bao and Maria Tu and Texas State Representative Angie Button.
- There are two (2) Congressional Districts (24 and 26) in Denton County, comprising of 49 cities, with a total of 9.6% AAPI population, and no known AAPI elected officials – locally or otherwise.
- There are five (5) Congressional Districts (5, 24, 30, 32 and 33) in Dallas County, comprising of 31 cities, with a 6.8% AAPI population, and only three (4) locally elected officials – Criminal District Court No. 1 Judge Tina Clinton, Addison City Mayor Joe Chow, Carrollton City Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem Young Sung, and John Jun to Coppell City Council.

Asian Americans now make up about 5.5% of our electorates, and I'm sure those numbers will continue to grow once the newest census data is published. Asian Americans is the fastest growing minority group in Texas, and should have the opportunity to elect people of our choice, which reflect our community's value.

I thank the Committee for listening to me today, and ask that you consider the representative needs of our Asian Americans community to the extent it is possible to do so without in any way diluting minority voting power or otherwise violating the law or fair re-districting principles.

Sincerely,



Francine Ly
APAPA NTC Chair & President

Google#: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

www.apapa.org



Data source:

County	AANHPI population %
Dallas County	6.80%
Denton County	9.60%
Tarrant County	6.00%
Collin County	16.00%

Bold percentages indicate AAPI populations that are significantly higher than the national average (5-6% ish)

Source for county statistics:

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/tarrantcountytexas,collincountytexas,dentoncountytexas,dallascountytexas,US/PST045218>

AAPI Data by Congressional District and County

Congressional District	AANHPI population %	
5th	1.85%	Dallas County
24th	14.60%	
30th	1.91%	
32nd	9.48%	
33rd	2.39%	
24th	14.60%	Denton County
26th	7.69%	
6th	5.13%	Tarrant County
12th	4.16%	
24th	14.60%	
25th	3.68%	
26th	7.69%	
33rd	2.39%	
3rd	16.84%	Collin County
4th	1.25%	
32nd	9.48%	

Dallas County includes 5th, 24th, 30th, 32nd, 33rd Congressional Districts

Denton County includes 24th, 26th Congressional Districts

Tarrant County includes 6th, 12th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 33rd Congressional Districts

Collin County includes 3rd, 4th, 32nd Congressional Districts

Bold percentages indicate AAPI populations that are significantly higher than the national average (around 6.1%)

Source for congressional district statistics:
<https://www.census.gov/mycd/?st=48&cd=24>