

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Monday, February 15, 2021 3:36 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-15
First Name: Andrew
Last Name: Wagner-Wilkins
Title: NA
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Highland Village
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today to urge those in charge of redistricting to do it in a fair and open manner. Please put the interests of all Texans about the interests of a political party. A federal district court reviewed the current Texas districting maps and noted the " exclusion of minority member and public input despite the minority population growth, the misleading information, the secrecy and closed process, and the rushed process."

Gerrymandering is a threat to our democracy as it leads to more extreme candidates in both parties. Gerrymandering was a significant contributor to the recent threat to our democratic process when a majority of GOP congress members voted to throw out certified electors from 2 states even AFTER the mob stormed the Capitol. When elected officials only need to worry about winning their primary, it leads to more extreme candidates. This is not healthy for our nation and we need more elected officials that are more moderate in their views so that ordinary citizens of all types have more representation.

I implore you to include these steps in the process:

- 1) Hold public input hearings after the census data is delivered to Texas
- 2) Hold virtual committee hearings throughout the entire legislative session
- 3) Give the public at least 14 days to review any proposed maps
- 4) Give the public at least 5 days to review and changes to proposed maps
- 5) Provide an analysis of how the new maps impact historically disenfranchised communities of color
- 6) Be fully transparent and keep all documents, written communications, emails, texts, and draft maps
- 7) Don't look at partisan data (data showing which political party people vote for) while drawing maps, and
- 8) Do the right things and put the interests of the all of the people of Texas above the interests of your political party.