I write regarding the upcoming redistricting process for Texas Legislative districts as well as U.S. Congressional districts.

I live in NW Austin and for the past decade have been lumped into Texas U.S. District 25, which spans San Marcos, West Austin, and even Southern parts of Fort Worth. These three areas (and the rural parts in between) could not be more different when it comes to school, broadband, economic, and healthcare needs. My representative has not adequately represented my voice in Congress. Most of my colleagues and friends who I live and work near, do not have the same representative as me because Austin is so divided.

I ask that citizens are able to participate in virtual hearings regarding redistricting after the census data is released. The virtual aspect is critical due to the size of our state and the on-going pandemic that poses a threat to travel. Additionally, we ask that you give the public at least 14 days to review redistricting maps after initial publication to allow for adequate feedback. Also, I hope that the feedback would be incorporated and the public be given at least 5 days to review said changes.

I also ask that the Texas Legislature will keep and publish records of the detailed analysis, debate, and discussion surrounding the redistricting process. This seems like a no-brainer for any representative democracy that claims to have free and fair elections.