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From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Sunday, February 7, 2021 3:43 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-07
First Name: Susana
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

The upcoming 2021 redistricting will shape how we are represented for the next 10 years, and how public policy and resources are allocated. Current Texas maps often split communities that should be together, while bundling with far flung areas with little in common in terms of needs and priorities. I live downtown Austin, TX 21, which is a prime example of unfair congressional district maps. TX 21 merges a small slice of Austin, including high density areas, with rural areas that have vastly different needs and priorities.

Texas has the opportunity correct past mistakes by making the process transparent, hold hearings with ample public notice, and refrain from drawing maps that are deemed racially discriminatory and hyper partisan.

The Texas Senate Special Committee on Redistricting can choose to hold hearings when there are actually maps and data for the public to review. The Special Committee can choose to share with the public the methodology they intend to use to draw maps. Most importantly, they can choose to ensure that their work product is available to the public. An open and transparent process with public input will result in fairer maps and will prevent court challenges.

I am urging The Texas Senate Special Committee on Redistricting to take the opportunity to not repeat past mistakes and to ensure that the people of Texas can engage in the process, and that our inputs will be taken into consideration. Chairman Joan Huffman of the Senate Special Committee on Redistricting and her colleagues on both sides of the aisle must alert their constituents to the importance of this process. That includes providing more notice for new, snap hearings and sufficiently urging and accepting public participation and comments.

[REDACTED]