To the Honorable Members of the State Senate Of Texas

Ladies/Gentlemen

My testimony is hereby presented to the Redistricting Committee. This input is for your review on the placement of Rockwall County in a proper United States Congressional District. Rockwall County is more contiguous and intimate to East Texas than the major populous counties of Dallas and Collin. The rightful and truly representative position of Rockwall County in the most efficacious Congressional District is with the Counties towards the rising sun. The cogency of my position follows:

1. History

The people who settled Rockwall County came from the East. They came down the Military Road and settled on farms and areas to establish small communities and shops. Our roots are from those who moved east to west and not the "other way around."

2. Culture

Like minded people with similar "roots" collaborate more effectively. Progress in jobs, education, physical and mental health are accomplished and multiplied. From information in Data USA, the average age of a resident in Dallas County is
33.3 and Rockwall is 37.6. The poverty rate in Dallas is 15 percentage points higher and median income is consequently higher in Rockwall County.

People are moving into Rockwall County from the Dallas and Collin County area. They are migrating into Rockwall County to became part of a well balanced, diverse and successful combination of cities, towns, and communities. To place Rockwall County in anything but a District of East Texas Counties, would be wrong and would not represent the collective body of citizens.

3. Purpose of redistricting.

The purpose of redistricting is to draw the Congressional Districts according to population. Aligning the districts for the purpose of political power is not only wrong but not illegal. Rockwall County has traditionally been a segment of Congressional District 4 composed of East Texas counties and should remain in the same specific District. The establishment of a new Congressional District allowing for Rockwall County to be delegated into a District comprising of Dallas County would be disastrous to the well being of a County that is successfully representing its citizens in all levels of Government.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Donegan