Date: 2021-09-10
First Name: Hasani
Last Name: Burton
Title: Chair
Organization: Hasani4Progress
Address: 75204
City: Dallas
State: Texas
Zipcode: 75204
Phone:  

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:
Dear Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting and House Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for taking my testimony. My name is Hasani Burton. I’m addressing you as a member of organizations like LULAC, NAACP, DFW Urban League Young Professionals, The 23rd Senatorial District Tejano Democrats, the Dallas Mexican American Historical League and the North Texas Asian Democrats. More than that, I’m addressing you as a father to a son born during the 2020 census.

I reside in north Texas in Dallas County where the increase in population of Latino, Afro-American and Asian American residents as confirmed by the 2020 census has contributed to Texas gaining additional congressional districts.

While our populations continue to grow as we push for progress in creating our own businesses, increasing options for quality education, accessing affordable healthcare and assuring justice under the law, this progress is threatened by voter suppression and map manipulation.

We are exceedingly concerned that our opportunity to compete for our rightful seats at the table during the 2022 congressional midterms will be diminished. If our communities are cracked apart and packed into districts designed to have an unfair outcome, it will set progress back by at least 30 years.

It is within the power, and is the duty, of these committees to prevent erosion of the democratic process. Therefore, I have one simple ask of you: Draw the new congressional districts fairly by population growth and let 2021 be the year we end gerrymandering in Texas.

When our children’s, children’s, children look back on the actions taken by these committees, it is my hope and my prayer that history will show the highest standards of democracy has prevailed.
Respectfully,

Hasani Burton