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**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 29, 2021 5:24:44 PM

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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

REGRETTABLY, I THINK OF EAST TEXAS-WHICH INCLUDES SENATORIAL DISTRICT 3-AS THE STATE'S STEPCHILD-CONSIDERED BACKWARD, EXPENDABLE, AND MOSTLY UNWORTHY OF ATTENTION EXCEPT WHEN THE STATE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR WANT SOMETHING FROM IT TO FURTHER THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

LISTED BELOW ARE A FEW OF THE DIRE CONSEQUENCES THAT EAST TEXAS ENCOUNTERS AS THE STATE'S STEPCHILD:

1. RARELY CONSIDERED WHEN TEXAS PROMOTES ITS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS,
2. WITH IMPUNITY THE STATE AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR POLLUTE THE ENVIRONMENT BY STRIP MINING;  
CLAIMING MORE WATER FROM AQUIFERS, STREAMS, AND RIVERS THAN IS LIKELY NECESSARY; CONDEMN-  
ING PRIVATE PROPERTY-OFTEN THE LANDOWNER'S PRINCIPAL EQUITY-TO BUILD MASSIVE RESERVOIRS FOR  
URBAN AREAS, LAYING THE CONTROVERSIAL KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE THROUGH 18 EAST TEXAS COUNTIES;  
BUILDING ELECTRIC GENERATING PLANTS BENEFITING URBAN AREAS THAT COMPROMISE AIR QUALITY,
3. FAILURE TO ADDRESS VITAL NEED FOR: EXPANDED TRANSPORTATION, EXPANDED AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE  
EXPANDED AFFORDABLE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES; EXPANDED CULTURAL ADVANTAGES;  
EXPANDED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO ASSIST THE STRUGGLING SMALL TOWNS AND REDUCE POVERTY AND  
RACIAL INEQUALITY; EXPANDED INVESTMENT IN HUMAN CAPITAL TO CURTAIL THE BRAIN DRAIN AND  
LOSS OF POPULATION MIGRATING TO THE STATE'S URBAN AREAS AND BEYOND; EXPANDED BROADBAND,

I BELIEVE THAT POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING PLAYS A LARGE ROLE IN THIS STAGNATION, UNDERDEVELOPMENT, AND DEPRIVATION. POLITICAL DISTRICTS ARE DRAWN TO SECURE "SAFE" SEATS FOR PARTY STALWARTS WHO SEE LITTLE NEED TO CAMPAIGN AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE CHANGING TIMES AND CONSTITUTENTS' NEEDS. FOR EXAMPLE, INFRASTRUCTURE IS NO LONGER JUST ROADS AND BRIDGES. IT INCLUDES SAFE AND AFFORDABLE CHILD-CARE FACILITIES, FREE PRE-SCHOOL, AND CLIMATE-CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS. PRESIDENT BIDEN'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND RECONCILIATION LEGISLATION CONTAINS PROVISIONS THAT ADDRESSES EAST TEXAS' NEEDS HEAD-ON, BUT POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE LEGISLATION BEING STALLED IN CONGRESS.

AND, POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING SEEMS TO PLAY A PART IN WHAT SEEMS TO BE OUR REPRESENTATIVES' FAILURE TO REASSURE US 30 MILLION TEXANS THAT THE ELECTRIC GRID IS RELIABLE ENOUGH TO KEEP US FROM FREEZING TO DEATH IN ANOTHER WINTER STORM, THAT VOTING RIGHTS WILL BE EXPANDED RATHER THAN SEVERELY RESTRICTED, AND THAT GOOD JOBS ARE ON THEIR WAY. WHY AREN'T THE AUTOMOTIVE DREAM JOBS SLATED FOR TENNESSEE AND KENTUCKY AND MORE OF THE SAME COMING TO EAST TEXAS INSTEAD?

FINALLY, POLITICAL GERRYMANDERING MAY BE A REASON FOR THE FAILURE TO PROMOTE EAST TEXAS-WITH ITS PASTORAL SETTING, DEEP FORESTS, AND RIVERS AND STREAMS, AND PROXIMITY TO URBAN AREAS- AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL TOURIST DESTINATION? EAST TEXAS COULD BECOME A NEW ENGLAND EQUIVARIANT THAT ATTRACTS NOT ONLY TOURISTS BUT FILM-MAKERS, WRITERS, ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, INSTITUTES AND CORPORATIONS THAT BRING IN GOOD JOBS AND PEOPLE WITH KNOWHOW READY, WILLING, AND ABLE TO ASSIST IN EXPANDING THE AREA'S QUALITY OF LIFE,

GERRYMANDERING OF POLITICAL DISTRICTS BE DAMNED! THEY SHOULD BE CONFIGURED TO UPGRADE RATHER THAN TO DEGRADE OUR BELOVED EAST TEXAS.

