Date: 2021-09-10
First Name: Susan
Last Name: Barzelay
Title: Mrs.
Organization: Self
Address: [redacted]
City: Colleyville
State: Texas
Zipcode: 76034
Phone: [redacted]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
Thank you Chair Huffman and Committee for allowing me to advocate for fair maps. My name is Susan Barzelay. I live in Colleyville a suburb just a few miles from DFW Airport, American Airlines headquarters and equidistant to Fort Worth and Dallas.

The airport has been a generator for the economy, jobs and diversity. GCISD’s student body is leaning towards half minority including over 25% Hispanic, African American and a growing Asian community. Recent census data demonstrates that elected officials do not reflect this diversity largely due to gerrymandered districts.

A member of Congregation Beth Israel and RAC Texas - the social justice arm of Reform Judaism, our teachings and core values instruct us to speak up for the marginalized, oppose systemic prejudice and racism and protect democracy and freedom. Texas has had decades of court rulings indicating practices of voter suppression, packing and cracking communities of interest - most visibly Hispanic and African American. Tikkun Olam the Jewish calling to heal the world. End these practices and draw fair maps.

Maintain the majority minority districts in Tarrant County. Add an additional minority majority district to reflect the census data. Consider not cracking school districts, counties, and places of job opportunity. Allow for fair representation with best practices. Not partisan place holders for incumbent political machines.

Protect the promise of democracy and justice - why Jews and so many others seek safe haven in our great country.