Date: 2021-09-09
First Name: Tim
Last Name: Dowling
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [redacted]
City: Corpus Christi
State: TX
Zipcode: [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
September 9, 2021

The House and Senate redistricting committees have been meeting for about 8 months but neither committee has told Texans what your goals are for redistricting. What are you trying to achieve? You have not told us. The public believes these are your goals: For all legislators, first, make sure I get a safe seat. Second, for those in the majority party, draw all the lines to advantage your political party as much as possible but not so egregiously that a credible case could be made that the Voting Rights Act or the Constitution has been violated. I request that this be your goal: Draw the lines so that all Texans are fairly represented regardless of their party or ethnicity.

Anglos make up less than 40% of our population but they have 67% of the Congressional seats, 71% of the Texas Senate, and 68% of the House. Republicans got 53% of the 2020 Congressional votes but 64% of the seats. All these numbers need to change in a big way as a result of your work if Texans are to be fairly represented.

Please don’t keep Texans in the dark a moment longer about what your specific goals are when redistricting.

Then clearly state the specific procedures you will use to achieve your goals. Tell Texans very specifically what in addition to these present hearings you are going to do, and when, to produce maps.

Will you commit that there will be at least ten days for the public to study each map and then the public be given a full opportunity to comment on each map?

What specific people are involved in drawing each map? Will you commit to rejecting any “wish lists” from groups or politicians about what maps should look like that are not disclosed in a public session before you or otherwise publicly disclosed? If you are getting non-public communications about maps, tell us from who and show us the communications.
by publishing them on your web site.

You have told us nothing about any of these things. Please be transparent and don’t keep Texans in the dark a moment longer about how you plan to achieve your goals. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Dowling