Message:
My husband and I have lived in the DFW metroplex for our entire lives. We were excited to move to Carrollton because it is so beautifully diverse, without a single overwhelming majority. After we bought our house here, I was dismayed to discover Carrollton is the most confusing place I’ve ever voted in. The city is split between 3 different counties and the largest county divide runs along an imaginary line, one that is not marked by a landmark such as a road.

I was relieved when I saw the existing house district map as it is currently drawn down county lines. One city, 3 counties, 3 districts. It doesn’t add further confusion.

The new map divides Carrollton extensively. Instead of having 3 house districts, like our 3 counties, it is proposed that our city is split into 5 districts. 2 for Dallas County, 1 for Collin County, and 2 for my county - Denton County.

This excessive division means proposed district 63 doesn’t include the entirety of my community, the portion of Carrollton in Denton County. It doesn’t even include all the families in Rosemeade, our little neighborhood elementary school. Instead, it proposes that my community should be split, that I should instead be in the same district as people west of Grapevine Lake.

Before looking at the proposed districting map, I honestly couldn’t have guessed the names of the
cities over there.

When I Googled those cities it said it would take me an hour to get there. There are no bridges across Grapevine Lake, so it would be a very lengthy drive around the WHOLE LAKE to meet them. South of the lake there is only a small stretch of land between lake and DFW airport, with lots of airport traffic. North of the lake there are only backroads.

It would be impossible for a single representative to adequately represent the split communities drawn into the proposed district 63. I just can’t understand the shape of this proposed district, it doesn’t follow the geography of the major roadways and lakes in our area that naturally create communities.

The proposed House district divides through my community make it difficult for a citizen of Carrollton, of Texas, to know the answer to a very basic, essential question, “Who represents me?”

I urge you not to impose this 5-district split on my city.