

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021 5:43:53 PM

Date: 2021-10-03
First Name: Susana
Last Name: Carranza
Title: Dr.
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I am Dr. Susana Carranza, testifying on my own behalf. I live in Austin, Texas, and I oppose this bill along with the associated Senate map, and amended version (plans 2101 and 2130). Texas has seen tremendous growth in the current census cycle, and the overwhelming majority of the growth (approximately 95%) came from communities of color.

The proposed Senate map does not reflect the growth patterns, and in fact goes to extreme levels of gerrymandering to disenfranchise racial minorities, depriving communities of fair representation.

Failure to perform and/or publish a racial analysis of the proposed map does not make the map unbiased. Note that proof of intent is not required, just proof that a protected group and its members have fewer opportunities and representation than others. Furthermore, failure to perform a racial impact analysis when countless civil rights organizations and citizens publicly requested countless times is a clear sign of ill intent.

I live in Travis county, and we currently experience some of the worst disenfranchising at the US House, with our urban and racially diverse population cracked into multiple districts, robbing us of representation. The proposed senate map (as introduced as well as the committee substitute) takes these extreme tactics to the Texas Senate, packing Austin Democrats in SD14 & 21, and cracking racially diverse communities in Williamson county into SD 5 and 24, bundling with far off, non diverse, rural areas.

The Dallas Fort Worth Metro Area current shows the most egregious attempt at racial disenfranchising,
It dismantles SD-10, a traditionally diverse district that did not need to be redrawn,
It packs Black communities from Dallas and southeastern Tarrant County into SD-23,
It cracks remaining blacks communities pairing them with far away, non

diverse counties in SD-22.

The map also disenfranchises racial minorities in the Harris and Fort Bend counties.

This entire process is undemocratic, as independent committees should be in charge of drawing maps. You are clearly drawing maps to protect your own power, when you should be drawing maps to best serve Texas communities and reflect the changing demographics all around the state.

Virtual hearings must be the norm to allow all Texans to participate. Maps and analysis of racial impact must be available well before hearings and votes, and without overnight changes, as were proposed just before the initial hearing of SB4.

I am appalled by these tactics and I oppose this bill and map.

