Date: 2021-10-11
First Name: Tulika
Last Name: Bhatia
Title: na
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: PLANO
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
Hello, my name is Tulika Bhatia and I am a resident in Plano. I am part of the South Asian community that contributes to the economic, social, and civic success of this area.

I am an artist and teach students art.

Our community has had a substantial impact on Texas. We bring diversity. We have a significant presence in Plano and yet we are not able to elect candidates that represent our voices. Some of the issues we are particularly concerned about are education, power grid, abortion rights for women, Covid management, and gun control, too many guns, and no proper regulation, hate crime toward the Asian community.

My husband and I are both in the teaching field, Education is the foundation on which our country is built. International migration has changed the landscape and cultural makeup of Texas. Our rich diversity has allowed our communities to thrive, bringing in global talent from all over the world. The DFW area has seen some of the largest increases in growth from the South Asian population. We have had a direct impact on the thriving economy of North Texas. We choose to live in Plano for their outstanding schools. These schools help our children become productive successful members of our community. Our schools deserve a representative who understands how to guide our curriculum to compete in the changing global world.

I am opposed to the current map that
- Dilutes the voice of the South Asian community
- The map increases the anglo population by 10% while decreasing the Asian population by 2%
- Our global community is being diluted, when we are being grouped with 9 rural counties
- We grew in triple digits over the last decade
- We want a representative who understands the global society
- We want a representative who understands the diversity of Texas
- We want to be able to choose a representative who knows how to lead our children to a competitive global economy.
- The current maps divide our community into 3 SBOE districts. (SBOE 12)- Plano, Frisco, Allen, Mckinney (SBOE 14) - Coppell, Carrolton, Farmers Branch (SBOE 11) -
Irving, HEB,

For far too long, AAPI communities, which are the fastest-growing across Texas, have been unfairly divided into multiple legislative districts and thus, have been prevented from having the ability to elect a candidate of their choice. All I ask is that we are given equal representation through fair legislative districting. We ask that you honor the Voting Rights Act which prohibits you from drawing lines that dilute our voices. Your maps are deliberately breaking up our community.

The process deliberately disenfranchises communities from participating.

The process needs to be transparent

We need more time

Information should be available and accessible

Hold virtual hearing for both Senate and House - makes this process easier for everyone

Thanks,
Tulika Bhatia