From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021 11:54:55 PM

Date: 2021-10-04 First Name: Yeshwant Last Name: Muthusamy

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Allen
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Greetings, my name is Yeshwant Muthusamy and I am a resident of Precinct # 130 in Allen, Collin County. I am part of the growing South Asian community that contributes to the economic, social, and civic activities of this growing area, which has become a magnet for people from other states.

I have a doctorate in computer science and engineering and I have been in the Dallas area since 1993, and have held technical leadership positions in companies like Texas Instruments, Nokia, Samsung, and Toyota Motors North America – all of which pride themselves for the diversity in their employee ranks. As they say, I was not born in Texas but I got here as fast as I could. Collin County is home to me and my family.

I belong to a thriving South-Asian Community that contributes to the Collin County area extensively. We have a significant presence in the health-care sector, Information Technology, higher education and small businesses - to name a few. We are Americans that enjoy everything American and also enrich the communities we live in by sharing our traditions and culture. We have several temples in Allen, Plano and Frisco, where we worship as a community. My family also likes to go to Indian restaurants in Allen, Plano and Frisco to enjoy traditional foods occasionally. The diversity of Collin County mirrors the diversity of this country and that is exactly what makes it so attractive to Americans like me. Our community has had a substantial impact on Texas and Collin County. We are law-abiding citizens and we contribute significantly in taxes and to the local economy. Our numbers are growing exponentially and yet we are not able to elect candidates that represent our voices. Some of the issues we are really concerned about are women's reproductive rights, current gun laws, public education and of the more recent COVID response in Collin County and the utter mismanagement of the power grid – just to name a few. Both my state house representative, Jeff Leech and Senate representative, Angela Paxton do not represent my views on most of the issues that are important to me, my family and my community. Many of their comments on the issues above can best be described as an insult to the intelligence of most Americans.

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. I am looking at the proposed maps and am appalled that instead of rectifying this issue, you are worsening it. I see a common theme in my HD 67, Sen 8 and CD-3 maps, where the existing Anglo minority is being changed to

make our districts Anglo-majority. In every single map, the Asian vote is being further diluted by re-drawing some parts of our districts with rural areas of Collin, Grayson and Hunt counties, with whom we have very little in common - as far as issues and activities are concerned. This is blatant racial gerrymandering and you know it. Your maps are deliberately breaking up our community. It is illegal, un-American, and just plain wrong.

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. We all want our voices to be heard in determining the future of our families and communities.

Thank you for reading this far.

Sincerely, Yeshwant Muthusamy