

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2021 6:54 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: January 24 - City of Socorro Written Testimony.pdf

Date: 2021-01-25
First Name: Rick
Last Name: Armendariz
Title: N/A
Organization: City of Socorro, Texas
Address: [REDACTED]
City: El Paso
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Please see attached written testimony submitted on behalf of the City of Socorro, Texas.
Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2021 7:17 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: January 24 - City of Socorro Written Testimony FINAL.pdf

Date: 2021-01-25
First Name: Ricardo
Last Name: Armendariz
Title: N/A
Organization: The City of Socorro
Address: [REDACTED]
City: El Paso
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

PLEASE NOTE ---- Previous testimony submitted did not include the name of City Council.
Attached is final testimony for the record labeled "January 24 - City of Socorro FINAL"-
Please disregard previous document labeled "January 24 - City of Socorro".

Thank you --

[REDACTED]



January 24, 2020

Dear Members of the Senate Redistricting Committee:

The City of Socorro, located in El Paso County, is grateful for the opportunity to share our concerns regarding the upcoming redistricting of our Texas House, Senate and congressional seats.

The City of Socorro is located on the north bank of the Rio Grande southeast of El Paso, and on the border of Mexico. Largely a rural community, our city has seen many of the challenges that other cities have seen regarding the need for infrastructure and housing along with the challenge of preserving the agricultural communities within our boundaries. Socorro is El Paso County's second-largest municipality, after El Paso, and has a council-manager type of government with five city council members. Socorro is the 93rd largest community in the state of Texas. Largely a Hispanic community, the City of Socorro has benefited from having five state House members and one Senator from El Paso County. These six members of the Legislature have focused efforts that address the diversity of our community and allowed us to grow and contribute to our great State.

Most important to our municipality is to maintain the current level of representation in the Texas House. Our City is represented by Dr. Mary Gonzalez, who understands our unique small city needs and most of her district is populated by other similar small communities. We would like to maintain the existing boundaries to the degree possible and continue to be served by someone who is from our area, truly understands our unique needs and fights for us in the Texas House.

We urge the committee and the Legislature to maintain the five House members and one Senate seat wholly located within El Paso County and not dilute our representation outside of our county lines. We believe that we can continue to contribute to the diversity of our unique border county and our state of Texas.

We thank the Committee for listening today, and ask that you consider the representative needs of our unique community.

Ivy Avalos, Mayor
Ruben Reyes, At Large Representative
Cesar Nevarez, District 1 Representative / Mayor Pro Tem
Ralph Duran, District 2 Representative
Victor Perez, District 3 Representative
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos, District 4 Representative