Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Friday, February 12, 2021 9:56 AM

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Attachments: Sarah Sowell_Testimony on Redistricting.pdf

Date: 2021-02-12 First Name: Sarah Last Name: Sowell Title: student

Organization: Deeds Not Words at Rice

Address:
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I would like to see fair and transparent redistricting processes that allow us all to have an equal say in who represents us, not for it to be predetermined by party.



Senate Special Committee on Redistricting
Attn: The Honorable Senator Huffman, Chair
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas

Re: Written testimony; Redistricting Process, 87(R)

Dear Senator Huffman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Sowell. I'm currently a college student and a member of the Deeds Not Words chapter at Rice. As a local Austinite who now goes to college at Rice University in Houston, it saddens me how unfair and undemocratic redistricting and gerrymandering has hurt the civic process in both of my cities.

As a Texan, I would like to see fair processes that allow us all to have an equal say in who represents us, not for it to be predetermined which party will rule in a hearing room at the capital. I demand that my government make these decisions in a transparent and equitable way that is not determined by politicians but the wants of the people. And as redistricting is considered I truly hope that the Texan democratic process is protected, so that people can go

to the ballot box and pick a representative who is from their area, represents their interest, and in an election that is fair to every Texan.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony. Please continue to provide virtual testimony options throughout the legislative session , especially during the pandemic.

Andrea Reyes, Political Director at Deeds Not Words

Austin, IX

Deeds Not words 501(c)3 is creating today's Changemakers and tomorrow's leaders by galvanizing the power and building the leadership of young people through organizing, policy-making, art, and voting.