From:applications.administrator@capitol.localTo:Senate RedistrictingSubject:INETMAIL: Redistricting Public InputDate:Sunday, September 12, 2021 5:42:38 PM

Date: 2021-09-12 First Name: Ann Last Name: Mecklenburger Title: N/A Organization: self Address: City: Fort Worth State: Texas Zipcode: 76109 Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Thank you Chair Huffman and committee for allowing me to advocate for fair maps. My name is Ann Mecklenburger and I have lived in Fort Worth Texas for 37 years.

I am a member of Beth-El Congregation and RAC Texas, the social justice arm of Reform Judaism. Jews have been persecuted over the centuries and feel it is our duty to speak up for the marginalized, oppose systemic prejudice and racism, and protect democracy and freedom. I served for many years on the Human Relations Committee for the FWISD and saw first hand how difficult it can be for Hispanics, African Americans and all minorities to have their voices heard.

According the 2020 Census people of color make up 95% of the population growth in Texas. The state's Hispanic population is now nearly as large as the non-Hispanic white population. The bedrock of our Democracy is that everyone's voice be heard. This can only be accomplished by maintaining the majority minority districts in Tarrant County. It is imperative we don't crack communities of interest. We must end practices that obstruct fair representation, and draw fair maps. When drawing new Districts the maps must be representative of the 2020 Census.