From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:27:52 PM

Date: 2021-09-23 First Name: Cheryl Last Name: Foster

Title: n/a

Organization: self

Address:
City: Waco
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

My Name is Cheryl Foster, I represent myself. I am a sixth generation Texan. My family settled in McLennan County in the early 1800s. I am live in TX House District 56, Senate District 22 and US Congressional District 17.

Currently McLennan County, and Waco specifically is divided into two Texas House districts, 56 represented by Doc Anderson and District 12 represented by Kyle Kacal.

The break between the districts runs down the Brazos river through Waco essentially cutting off and disenfranchising the African American community in East Waco. They can walk across the river to Doc Anderson's office, but to visit Kyle Kacal's office they have to drive for over an hour. It's just simply not fair, and we can do better.

It appears that you are doing the same slice and dice on in proposed State Senate maps to dilute the African American vote in Tarrant county. The racial gerrymandering is shocking and very disappointing.

In Waco, we do a lot of work with folks in Marlin and Mart to the East, Whitney to the north, Gatesville to the West and down south I35 to Bell County. Drawing a new TX House district that includes McLennan, Bell, Coryell, Limestone and Falls County would create a district that would be fair and incorporate the neighbors that we already work with - it is our economic 'Community of Interest'.

Regarding the US Congressional District, District 17. We don't need to incorporate Austin & Travis County in our district. The way Austin was sliced up in the last redistricting is pretty disgraceful. Austin is the example that we use when we talk about partisan gerrymandering. Again, we can and should do better.