From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Friday, September 10, 2021 2:28:27 PM

Date: 2021-09-10 First Name: Hasani Last Name: Burton Title: Chair

Organization: Hasani4Progress

Address: City: Dallas State: Texas Zipcode: 75204

Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

## Message:

Dear Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Members of the Senate Select Committee on Redistricting and House Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for taking my testimony. My name is Hasani Burton. I'm addressing you as a member of organizations like LULAC, NAACP,

DFW Urban League Young Professionals, The 23rd Senatorial District Tejano Democrats, the Dallas Mexican American Historical

League and the North Texas Asian Democrats. More than that, I'm addressing you as a father to a son born during the 2020 census.

I reside in north Texas in Dallas County where the increase in population of Latino, Afro-American and Asian American residents as

confirmed by the 2020 census has contributed to Texas gaining additional congressional districts.

While our populations continue to grow as we push for progress in creating our own businesses, increasing options for quality

education, accessing affordable healthcare and assuring justice under the law, this progress is threatened by voter suppression and

map manipulation.

We are exceedingly concerned that our opportunity to compete for our rightful seats at the table during the 2022 congressional

midterms will be diminished. If our communities are cracked apart and packed into districts designed to have an unfair outcome, it will

set progress back by at least 30 years.

It is within the power, and is the duty, of these committees to prevent erosion of the democratic process. Therefore, I have one simple

ask of you: Draw the new congressional districts fairly by population growth and let 2021 be the year we end gerrymandering in Texas.

When our children's, children look back on the actions taken by these committees, it is my hope and my prayer that history

will show the highest standards of democracy has prevailed.

Respectfully,

Hasani Burton