

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021 10:12:52 AM

Date: 2021-09-11
First Name: Nina
Last Name: Brodsky
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: 78731
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I live in Austin, a big city with big city problems. We have serious issues with affordability, healthcare, transportation, housing, homelessness, and policing. Except for perhaps healthcare, our rural neighbors have very different but just as important concerns. We are a predominately Democratic city with progressive ideals. Our rural neighbors are predominately conservative. Yet the maps have been drawn to dilute the concerns of Austinites by dividing the city into 6 U.S. congressional districts with boundaries that include large swaths of rural areas, resulting in 5 of the 6 representatives Austin is allotted, being Republican.

I have one of those Republican Congressman. My neighbors and I have been to his office dozens of times, written dozens of emails and made dozens of calls in an attempt to discuss issues that are of concern to us. Not once has he met with us or responded in a substantive manner. He knows he does not need our votes to win an election. He feels free to ignore our concerns. He refuses to hold a town hall and our important issues go unaddressed. This is not the way Democracy is supposed to work. Fair redistricting can correct this. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to create fair districts and bring solutions not division to our state.

I ask that you not manipulate the maps in support of one party, and that you follow the Voting Rights Act.

I ask for virtual committee hearings throughout the entire process.

I ask for at least 14 days to review the maps in advance of public hearings.

I ask that any changes to a proposed map be presented at least 5 days in advance of any vote.

I ask that you provide analysis of how the new maps impact historically disenfranchised communities of color.

I ask that all documents, written communications, emails, text messages and draft maps be available to the public.

And I would like to add that I am ashamed of Texas for the bills passed this legislative session. Instead of addressing the real needs and concerns of Texans we pandered to an ignorant minority of Texans. A group that is so afraid of losing their position of Christian white male supremacy that they are willing to destroy the very foundations of the democracy this country is built on. The Texas legislature has become the Texas Taliban and now (excuse the mixed metaphor) we even have our own brown shirts.

