From: <u>applications.administrator@capitol.local</u>

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 4:38:15 PM

Date: 2021-09-29 First Name: Robert Last Name: Barnes

Title: Mr.

Organization: Self

Address:

City: The Woodlands

State: Texas
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

This rank and biased gerrymandering of state congressional districts is appalling to me as a well-informed citizen of Texas. To hear our conservative and Republican representatives talk and demagogue, one could rightfully assume they believe the ethnographic diversity of Texas is a weakness and the slippery slope to the conspiracy theories that people of color are out to breed White Americans in our state out of existence which is just not true!

Gerrymandering in the process of drawing Texas' congressional district boundaries is the biggest slap in the face to free and fair elections yet. White Republicans and many other conservatives seek only power and money from corporate lobbyists to enact agendas that are in service of exercising their own fears and insecurities on the people they are elected to represent. Voters should choose their politicians, not politicians choosing the voters.

We high-minded and level-headed Texans are sick and tired of gerrymandered districts used to boost the power of one party and one ethnicity at the expense of all others. For those like me, I personally welcome White Americans not being the majority of the population of Texas in the coming years. The more people of color living in Texas, the more who are not straight and are instead LGBTQ+, the merrier and more innovative our state will be.

We see gerrymandering as the cruel and unethical practice it truly is - a rigged system where crooked and corrupt politicians particularly of the conservative Republican stripes can choose the voters who look and believe as they do. In doing so, they can have all the power to enact their corporate agendas. You, our Texas representatives, are on notice and we are willing to do what we must to end this practice that brings shame upon our state.

I humbly call upon members of the Texas House and Senate to rebuke Governor Greg Abbott and outlaw all forms of racial or partisan gerrymandering and give citizens back power.