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

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Monday, October 18, 2021 5:02:32 PM

Attachments: We can have unbiased maps and have real representation and a congress that works for everyone.docx

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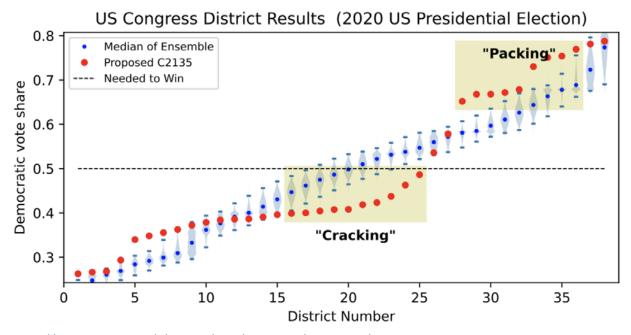
Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

We can have unbiased maps and have real representation and a congress that works for everyone. It is easy. But not as long as we allow politicians to draw the redistricting maps. Texas needs a nonpartisan redistricting commission right now and not 10 years from now.

The current congressional map C2135 is an overwhelmingly biased map-

- In C2135, if Republicans and Democrats split the vote 50-50, Republicans would win 24 seats and Democrats 14. In a typical unbiased map, Republicans would win 18 while Democrats would win 20.
- Not a single map in the 500,000-member ensemble maps drawn shows this level of bias towards Republican candidates
- C2135 also racially gerrymandered. It removes Black and Hispanic voters from districts where they form a narrow majority or a near majority, into districts where they will now have an overwhelming majority- so called Packing.



https://www.smu.edu/-/media/Site/Dedman/MUM-TX/Stmt-on-C2135-ForHouse.pdf?la=en

Worse these maps reach fingers into urban districts packing these people with counties of rural voters with whom they have no common interests. Keeping these districts compact and keeping communities of interest together should be first and foremost when drawing these maps.

It is kind of like the recent bills where at the last minute the Texas Lege is trying to give home owners tax breaks using federal money that is prohibited from being used for tax breaks specifically while leaving out all renters. People in million dollar homes did not suffer much during this pandemic but once again they get the benefits while the people that lost their jobs

get nothing. They can do this because they know they are in <u>safe</u> districts and are unlikely to even have an opponent.

How long will we let them undermine real democracy. They always say they believe in the the principles but when it comes to actually practicing it they fail.