From:applications.administrator@capitol.localTo:Senate RedistrictingSubject:INETMAIL: Redistricting Public InputDate:Monday, October 4, 2021 7:49:38 PMAttachments:Commissioner Letterhead 2 Gerrymandering.docx

Date: 2021-10-05 First Name: Keith Last Name: Henry Title: Commissioner Organization: Office of Commissioner Keith Henry, City of Texas City, District 1 Address: City: Texas City State: Texas Zipcode: Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate



## Office of Commissioner Keith Henry, District 1

Hon. Joan Huffman State of Texas Senate Redistricting Committee State of Texas Capitol Sam Houston Building, 455 Austin, TX 78701

Cc: Hon. Juan Hinojosa, Vice Chair

October 4, 2021

Dear Chairwoman,

It is a pleasure to discuss the impact of recently proposed redistricting maps throughout our state. Correspondingly, one of the districts that could experience an adverse effect of redistricting is one I have the immense privilege to serve. Moreover, several of my neighboring colleagues' districts at the county and state levels serve majority-minority constituents who also face the periling prospect of losing representation.

Notably, Texas's proposed redistricting maps elicit an ominous sentiment regarding the protection of voting rights for minorities and the indigent. Given these concerns, I respectfully ask that we not lose sight of our constitutional virtue that all citizens deserve equitable representation in our legislative branches. Therefore, I hope that the state legislature earnestly considers drawing maps reflective of a fair and balanced democracy. And that voting protections are not infringed due to invidious gerrymandering policies. On balance, in a representative democracy, representation matters, and it is simply unacceptable to draw literal lines in the sand, which only seek to benefit a selected few.

Sincerely,

Keith G. Henry Commissioner, District 1