From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Monday, October 4, 2021 6:28:29 PM

Date: 2021-10-04 First Name: Pankaj Last Name: Lad Title: N/A Organization: self

Address: City: Coppell

State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

## Message:

To honorable Senate members,

As a member of the South Asian Community which is a part of the collective AAPI community in Texas

and as a previous constituent of CD32 (now CD24) I, Pankaj Lad am writing to you with much distress

on learning the new redistricting lines being redrawn for our Texas districts based on 2020 census by this

legislature.

Being an Asian Texan who has devoted my lifetime to providing valuable services in the pharmacy and in

my small business, I, see myself as member of large and valuable Asian community comprising of

physicians, nurses, medical personnel, teachers, professors, lawyers and business owners to name a few

here in Dallas that is vital to the success of Dallas economy and community but is on the verge of NOT

having fair representation in these newly drawn districts.

My dismay is magnified further because these new redistricting lines are clearly done to dilute the Asian

voting group in Texas that has seen significant growth over the last 10 years. As part of a minority, I urge

you to follow the guidelines under the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Your jobs are to uphold the constitutional framework for a fair and representative government. Your voters should have the voice

to elect their representatives. The elected representatives of either party must NOT be able to "choose"

their voters.

Just as reference, in the recent past CD16 district, Asian representation was 14.6% of voters but in the

newly drawn CD16 district, the Asians representation is now only at 6.7%. Please help minority voices

have just representation as our founders of our country envisioned. Our elected officials should reflect

the values and concerns of the community that they represent.

I, humbly ask you to create a proper district map that doesn't purposely dilute the Asian or any minority

group but allows citizens with similar needs and concerns to be grouped together so that they may

together choose and elect their representative to amplify their own voices in legislature. All eyes of our nation and world are upon Texas during these critical days. You are at a unique juncture

in history where you have the power "to do the right thing" for democracy. Please work to realign the

districts in a manner that works within the guidelines of The Voting Rights Act of 1965. Thank you for the opportunity to submit virtual testimony.