

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021 11:22:49 AM

Date: 2021-10-03
First Name: Patrick
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State: TX
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

The proposed redistricting maps for Texas fail the fairness test. At the end of an election, the overall results should at least approximately reflect the number of voters in each party. This is the principle of one-person/one-vote that has been used to justify the fairness of American elections. Also, the 14th Amendment of the U. S. Constitution requires equal protection of the laws, obviously including redistricting plans.

Both of these standards do not support the proposition that because I live geographically in one district, my vote should count less, or more, than another citizen in another district.

But the proposed and sometimes tortuous map for Texas has been drawn to maximize the number of Republican party representatives and to keep the number of elected Democrats as low as possible--despite the overall voting strength of the parties. This is inappropriate. The result is almost certain to be that there are significantly more Republican officeholders than the number of Republican voters would justify.

There are computer programs that create districts that are spatially sensible, contain approximately equal numbers of voters, and that reflect the true voting strength of the parties. See, for example, <http://auto-redistrict.org/>. In all cases, the overall goal of the plan, the starting and ending point for the plan, must respect the overall political make-up of the electorate as best it can be determined. If it does not, districts should be re-drawn to achieve that end. And of course, it should not discriminate by race or other protected categories.

Fairness, as defined by the number of elected representatives as compared to the relative strength of the voters from each party, should be the goal--whether Republicans or Democrats write the plan. Please re-write the Texas redistricting plan using modern technology that maximizes fairness.

[REDACTED]