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

To: Senate Redistricting

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Monday, October 11, 2021 11:46:33 AM

Date: 2021-10-11 First Name: Rebecca Last Name: Siegel Singer

Title: N/A

Organization: self

Address:
City: Dallas
State: Texas
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

My name is Rebecca Siegel Singer. I represent myself & oppose SB4&7 I'm a wife, mom, attorney, election volunteer & native Dallasite. I live in far North Dallas, where my current State districts consist of communities of interest entered on the common school districts, transportation corridors & city/county elections in which we participate. The proposed maps split those communities in, I contend, an unlawful and, certainly, a nonsensical way. It is clear that the GOP majority cares more about preserving its own power at the expense of public concerns and census data.

First, I agree with the challenge to this redistricting process as unconstitutional as it's occurring in a special session. TX voters would be better served by keeping the current maps in place. Second, it is pathetic that the Republican majority on this Committee gave no business days notice for this hearing. It's clear that the Republicans are too spineless to hear from and answer to the voters of TX, and have decided to shortcut any due process re public or expert comment on these maps.

Third, the Republican majority has decided to dilute the votes of people of color in an unlawful manner by packing & cracking the Senate & SBOE maps (as well as state and US House maps). Ignoring the vast growth in populations in AAPI, Black & Hispanic communities, the Republicans have drawn these maps to include areas with high numbers of people of color into rural, predominately White areas. You also have created a scenario where rural and urban/suburban voters will be less likely to have their interests heard and represented. For example, SBOE D12 includes Dallas and Collin Counties now, coinciding with common sense boundaries and communities of interest in school districts we live with every day with our kids, families, & co-workers, in the cities we live in. The new map now includes Park Cities, Cooke, Grayson, Collin, Fannin, Hunt, Hopkins, Delta, Hopkins, Red River and Bowie. SD16 similarly is absurdly gerrymandered, going from a compact, competitive, diverse district to a district that is sliced & diced to dilute the demographic growth and split voters into a district that winds around the city. My neighborhood is cut off from my neighbors, and spliced into a new predominantly white D2.

The Republican members shamefully have ignored the real needs of voters this session, focused squarely on securing their majority by any means necessary, even if it means wasting taxpayer money on lawsuits and attorneys fees, rather than addressing the things voters actually care about, like affordable and accessible healthcare, the risks to our kids and teachers and school staff from COVID, and the poorly run power grid. You have a chance to do better and reject these and other maps on the table. I ask that you do so.