

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 12:12:46 AM

Date: 2021-10-05
First Name: Sarika
Last Name: Maheshwari
Title: N/A
Organization: Self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Missouri City
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Hello, my name is Sarika Maheshwari, and I am a resident in Precinct 2061. I am part of the South Asian community that contributes to the economic, social, and civic success of this area. I work in the healthcare sector as a Risk Management professional.

We have created community meeting centers including the BAPS Temple in Fort Bend County and enjoy our traditional foods at restaurants such as Aga's, Saravanaa Bhavan and Indian Summer. Our community has had a substantial impact on Texas. We bring a rich, cultural heritage to our communities, one that we are proud to share with our fellow community members, as we learn about their backgrounds as well. We have a significant presence in Precinct 2061 and yet we are not able to elect candidates that represent our voices. Some of the issues we are particularly concerned about are COVID-19 management, particularly in elementary and middle schools, the power grid, public education, abortion rights, climate change, and voting rights.

For far too long, AAPI communities, which are the fastest-growing across Texas, have been unfairly divided into multiple legislative districts and thus, have been prevented from having the ability to elect a candidate of their choice. All I ask is that we are given equal representation through fair legislative districting. We ask that you honor the Voting Rights Act which prohibits you from drawing lines that dilute our voices. Your maps are deliberately breaking up our community. This country was founded with the idea that each person's vote should count, each voice should matter, but political gerrymandering is the largest threat to that ideology. We ask that you reconsider any districting plans that would stifle the voice of the South Asian community. We are your friends and your neighbors, and we deserve the same respect as any other majority or minority bloc when it comes to our voting rights.

[REDACTED]