From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 6:37:51 AM

Date: 2023-05-04 First Name: Adrienne Last Name: Peña-Garza Title: Chairwoman

Organization: Hidalgo County GOP

City: Pharr State: Texas

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: House

Message:

Senators and distinguished guests,

On behalf of the Hidalgo GOP we humbly and boldly ask you to please strike down this bill and go back to the drawing board. This bill discriminates against conservative minorities in Hidalgo County and along the border. I have been saying this before I ran for Chair in 2018. Many agree and its not just those involved in politics. We are however one of the only urban centers in the state that has consistently trended Republican.

In 2012 the duly elected House of Representatives drew a 50/50 district out of House District 41. This went all the way to the Supreme Court which ruled that compacting conservative minorities was legal and just. Yet a decade later the same Texas House of Representatives regressed on these opportunity districts in Hidalgo County disenfranchising 70k plus thousand Republicans who desperately want a voice. We are 40+ % of the vote in Hidalgo county yet are represented by Zero Republican State House members. This is an injustice to conservative minorities in Hidalgo County. We would argue that our org is the hardest working County GOP in the State. This bill should be struck down and redrawn to give an equal opportunity Districts, so that the voters can elect someone that represent our values here. So that our county could potentially have 1 out of 3 reps to be the Republican voice bringing balance and fairness to our beloved County. We aren't asking for much. We are asking for

equatable and fair Districts in an area that has been trending Republican for over a decade. Conservative minorities should be given the same LEGAL protections and ability to elect Representatives that share their same values and beliefs. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please vote down this bill until House District 41 map is returned to its 2012 lines.

Thank you

In service,

Hidalgo County GOP Chair

Adrienne Peña-Garza

"We are oak trees not tumbleweeds."