From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Wednesday, March 22, 2023 10:23:12 PM

Date: 2023-03-23 First Name: Cathy Last Name: Elmore

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

City: Houston State: TX

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I'm Cathy Elmore from House district 133, and Senate District 7.

I am a Texan of faith and I oppose SB 375. I believe redistricting should uphold democracy by using unbiased maps so that Texas voters choose their legislators, rather than the reverse. This Bill attempts to codify the extremely gerrymandered maps that were illegally passed in the 2021 special session.

Using ensemble analysis, Math for unbiased Maps-Texas generated over 600,000 random, legally valid maps for Texas Senate districts based on the 2020 census data. These maps were then compared to S2168 (SB4), at issue in this bill. MUM-TX found that S2168 (SB4) was gerrymandered along racial and political lines. I hereby include their findings as part of my testimony by including this link:

file:///C:/Users/ca/OneDrive/Documents/TX%20Impact%20(&%20Redistricting)/Redistricting/MUM_TX_Statement%20on_TXSN_Maps_2023.pdf

Texas' population increased by nearly 4 million people in the last census. Almost 95% of that was in the non-white population, including in the greater Houston area. Why did the number of majority non-white districts decrease?

Specifically, I urge the Texas Senate Special Committee on Redistricting to:

- Oppose SB 375 in this current session.
- Use unbiased maps that are generated using ensemble analysis and are produced by a broad group of widely respected Texas academics in the field of mathematics or statistics. These maps should not be politically or racially gerrymandered: that is, they should not be an outlier based on the analysis.
- Comply with the TX codification of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Y'all means ALL. Discrimination is not a Texas value.

Thank you.