

Date: 2025-08-01 First Name: Debi Last Name: Evans

Title: Fair District Maps, Please

Organization: Self

Address:
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

## Message:

Good morning,

My name is Debi Evans, and I have lived in the state of Texas since 1994. I stand before you today to say clearly and firmly: Texas must not gerrymander our districts—now or ever. Gerrymandering undermines the very foundation of our democracy: fair representation. When politicians draw district lines to serve themselves, not the people, it's not democracy—it's manipulation.

Let's talk facts. According to the 2020 Census, 95% of Texas' population growth came from communities of color. Yet, in the latest round of redistricting, the number of majority-Black and majority-Hispanic districts did not increase. In fact, some districts were redrawn to dilute minority voting power, despite clear evidence that these communities are growing and contributing more than ever.

Texas is one of the most diverse states in the nation. Nearly 40% of Texans are Hispanic, about 12% are Black, and 5% are Asian-American. Yet our current political maps do not reflect that diversity. Instead, gerrymandering has led to maps where one party holds over 60% of congressional seats, despite earning less than 55% of the vote. That's not fair. That's not representative.

Gerrymandering also kills competition. More than 90% of Texas state legislative races are essentially decided in the primaries. That means most Texans never see a real choice on their ballot in November. It's a rigged system—and Texans deserve better.

We are asking for fair, independent redistricting. No more maps drawn behind closed doors. No more silencing voters by cracking, packing, and stacking districts.

Let Texans choose their leaders—not the other way around.

Thank you

Debi