

Date: 2025-08-01 First Name: Jennifer Last Name: Smith-Castro

Title: N/A

Organization: self

Address:

City: League City State: Texas Zipcode: Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Oppose Unfair Redistricting in Texas

I strongly oppose the proposed redistricting maps in Texas. Redistricting should reflect population growth and ensure fair representation, not manipulate district lines for partisan advantage. These proposed maps silence communities of color, dilute their voting power, and undermine democracy. Texans deserve maps that reflect our diversity—not ones drawn behind closed doors to protect incumbents or serve a political agenda. I urge you to reject these unfair maps and adopt a transparent, community-driven redistricting process.

Redistricting Must Not Be Used to Suppress Voters

Redistricting should not be a tool for voter suppression, but that is exactly what these maps represent. Despite people of color making up 95% of Texas's population growth in the last decade, the new maps reduce their ability to elect candidates of their choice. That's not just unfair—it's undemocratic. The state must comply with the Voting Rights Act and ensure that communities of interest are empowered, not divided. These maps are unacceptable.

Protect Texas Communities, Not Political Power

Communities of interest—those with shared economic, cultural, or geographic interests—must be kept whole to ensure effective representation. By dividing our neighborhoods, this plan weakens our voice and ignores our shared concerns. I ask that you revise the maps to keep communities intact and reject partisan gerrymandering.

Demand a Transparent and Fair Redistricting Process

Redistricting should be done with the public, not in spite of the public. Yet Texans were given minimal time, few hearings, and little access to data or draft maps. This lack of transparency erodes public trust and invites corruption. We deserve an open process where citizens can meaningfully participate in shaping their representation. I call on you to delay the redistricting vote and allow for more public input.

These Maps Violate Federal Law

The redistricting maps proposed by the Texas Legislature likely violate Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The dilution of Black and Latino voting power is not only unethical—it's illegal. Courts have struck down similar maps in the past, and if these go forward, they will likely face the same fate. Stop wasting taxpayer money defending discriminatory maps and start drawing ones that uphold the Constitution and the law.

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