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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Please vote against this redistricting plan. This plan goes against everything this country is founded on and spits in the face of democracy.

The Texas redistricting plan—particularly the ones adopted following the 2020 Census—has generated significant controversy and concern, both within the state and nationally. While redistricting is a normal part of the democratic process, the way Texas has handled it raises important questions about fairness, representation, and the health of American democracy. Here's a breakdown of why the plan has been widely criticized and how it may be detrimental to both Texas and the broader country:

1. Dilution of Minority Voting Power

Despite people of color accounting for 95% of Texas's population growth over the last decade, the redistricting plan largely protects and expands districts favoring white, Republican incumbents. In fact, new maps do not create any new majority-minority districts—despite clear demographic shifts.

Impact: This weakens the political power of Latino, Black, and Asian communities in Texas, many of whom are growing in number and deserve proportional representation.

National Consequence: If states can ignore demographic shifts and suppress minority representation without consequence, it sets a troubling precedent for other states.

2. Extreme Partisan Gerrymandering

Texas Republicans used redistricting to entrench their political power, drawing maps that all but eliminate competitive congressional districts.

For example, in 2020, the vote split was roughly 52% Republican to 47% Democrat statewide, yet the newly

drawn maps result in a 24–13 GOP advantage in the House delegation.

Districts are drawn to "pack and crack" Democratic voters—either grouping them into a few safe Democratic seats (packing) or splitting them across several Republican-leaning districts (cracking).

Impact: This erodes voters' ability to influence outcomes. Politicians essentially choose their voters rather than voters choosing their politicians.

National Consequence: It contributes to political polarization and undermines faith in elections, which weakens the foundation of democracy.

3. Suppression of Political Competition

Safe districts on both sides discourage accountability.

Lawmakers in gerrymandered districts have little incentive to respond to constituents' needs, since general election outcomes are essentially predetermined.

Impact: This breeds political extremism and ideological rigidity, since the only real challenge comes from primary opponents, often pushing candidates further to the fringes.

National Consequence: The lack of competitive districts nationwide contributes to a gridlocked Congress and the growing inability to pass bipartisan legislation.

4. Legal and Constitutional Challenges

The Texas redistricting plan has already prompted lawsuits, including from the U.S. Department of Justice, which alleges violations of the Voting Rights Act—specifically Section 2, which prohibits discriminatory voting practices.

Impact: If the courts uphold such unfair maps, it could weaken future challenges to racially and politically gerrymandered maps in other states.

National Consequence: The weakening of the Voting Rights Act threatens decades of progress in civil rights and fair representation.

5. Undermining Public Trust in Democracy

When voters see their communities split up, their power diminished, and their votes manipulated, it contributes to disillusionment and disengagement from the political process.

Impact: Lower turnout, especially among marginalized groups, weakens civic participation and representation.

National Consequence: The erosion of trust in democratic systems is a long-term threat to national unity and the legitimacy of government institutions.

Conclusion

The Texas redistricting plan reflects a broader trend of prioritizing partisan gain over democratic principles. While both parties have engaged in gerrymandering, the scale and impact in Texas are particularly stark given its size, diversity, and growing national influence. Allowing such practices to stand not only damages representation in Texas—it weakens democracy nationwide

PLEASE VOTE AGAINST REDISTRICTING!



