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Date: 2025-08-05  
First Name: Joseph  
Last Name: Reynolds  
Title: N/A  
Organization: Self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Austin  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Senators,

Your map for new congressional districts has quite a few that are so contorted or extensive that they will provide terrible representation. I have experience with such from my time with Rep. Michael McCaul. I was in a district that was very narrow, and ran from Austin almost 200 miles to the west side of Houston. I have friends living in Katy, and we had the same Congressman. Yet, we have very different issues and concerns. In Austin we worry about drought, about the interface of local and State government. Katy worries about hurricanes and storm flooding, and about subsidence of land due to groundwater pumping. Austin has a much different population age profile, with 50,000 students affecting housing, and employment. Katy has an ordinary age profile, with worries about hourly wages as employment is available, but maybe not 'livable'. Austin's schools, AISD, are a major 'player' in education and in funding of schools through the 'Robin Hood' process. Katy is an ordinary suburban school system. Austin has in-city medical resources. Katy has remote care at the Houston medical complex. Austin and Katy have different historical heritage; Austin firmly in Mex-America, and Houston with an Old-South heritage, but with very complex recent immigration.

And, of course, between Austin and Houston is 200 miles of small town/rural Texas. Those folks have a third set of concerns and needs, almost nothing in common with the urban 'ends' of the district.

The differences between Austin and Katy and 'rural' resulted in very few common Issues for our congressman to support/advocate. What we all got was the absence of support and advocacy. When basic things like water plans conflict in a district, the expected outcome is 'do nothing'.

So, your current map will result in a much degraded quality of Congressional representation.

You should withdraw this map, and compose one that delivers actual representation in Congress. Failure to do that would be failure or abandonment in your elected job of representing your constituents.

Thank You –  
Joseph Reynolds  
Austin, Texas [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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