

[REDACTED]

Date: 2025-07-30
First Name: Keith
Last Name: Parsons
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Friendswood
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

At age 72, I am old enough to remember the struggles of the civil rights movement and the violence that accompanied the efforts to register African-American voters. I remember when the three civil rights workers, Goodman, Cheney, and Schwerner were murdered by the Ku Klux Klan for trying to register black voters. Before the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, through much of the South, African-Americans were effectively disenfranchised. I fear that the proposed redistricting plan will turn back the clock to those unjust times, diluting the vote of black people and other minorities, and effectively denying them equal input into the democratic process. Gerrymandering by either party is wrong, and is antithetical to the basic principle, "one person, one vote." In effect, unfair redistricting silences and effectively disenfranchises entire segments of the population, segments that have struggled long and hard to have a voice.

Permit me to offer the reminder that a seat in Congress does not by right belong to any person or any party. It belongs to the people of the United States. All the people, not just those of a particular color or persuasion. The government of a republic should be about more than raw power. Its first purpose must be to secure the freedoms and the rights of its citizens, the freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution and our Bill of Rights. The right to vote--and not have that vote nullified by partisan manipulation--is one of those essential rights that should be guaranteed to all.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]