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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

## Message:

When the legislature decides to redistrict halfway through the decennial census, it begs the question. Why?

Gerrymandering is the answer. When politicians attempt to assert their power by having electoral districts favor their own specific

political interests, they are acting out of fear for upcoming election results and scrambling to draw convoluted and discriminatory

maps. These proposed maps, which aren't even accessible for public viewing, will undoubtedly showcase their intention to

disenfranchise voters. When maps are redrawn in this way, the foundation of democracy is at risk.

Elected officials should be able to represent the people in their district and community. These elected officials should know the people

in their community so that they can address issues such as disaster relief, inflated prices, affordable housing, a living wage, and

accessible, quality healthcare with humane and empathetic approaches for their constituents.

All of this hurried map-making is being done in response to a baseless legal allegation and undermines and underrepresents the

voices and needs of the communities it is supposed to represent. Congressional redistricting in this case is being intentionally

directed at communities of color.

Instead of focusing on relief from the recent tragic floods, this special session is focused on hurting those who are already reeling

from the disaster. If you are going to spend time in a special session, put your constituents first, and focus on the damage, both

physical and mental, that the floods caused. Flood damage and loss of life could have been prevented with ample warning and alarm

systems that were not approved in the last legislative session. Put your attention on the people, your constituents, who are tired of

being pawns in your chess game.