

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 25, 2021 11:18:28 AM

Date: 2021-09-25
First Name: Kathryn
Last Name: Karpf
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Irving
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I'm Kathryn Karpf, and I reside in Senate District 16, House District 105 and Congressional District 24. My testimony is on my behalf.

Texas has experienced rapid growth in the past decade, with growth in the Dallas Fort Worth area surpassing that of Texas overall. Therefore, we need at least one of our new additional Congressional seats to be in the DFW area. Based on the new census data, there is no way that the legislature could add two Republican seats without racially and/or politically gerrymandering.

My Senate District 16 used to include University Park and Highland Park, areas with a lot in common to my area of Las Colinas, in the north part of Irving, which has the Four Seasons resort and golf course. This proposed map severely cuts out and goes below University and Highland Park, dipping south into Oaklawn, which is a very different, more urban area, having a much higher crime rate, to cite only one of the many differences between communities. It also extends south into Deep Ellum, another urban community with which our suburban area has little in common.

I implore you to consider:

- that common backgrounds are essential for drawing “Fair Maps”
 - the maps presented in response to population growth in the 2020 census fly in the face of credulity in regard to standard and just practices.
 - the proposed maps obstruct our Constitutional right to vote for government representatives who, as our choice, will respond to our communities’ needs.
 - keeping the existing boundaries to SD 16 that made more sense.
 - adhering to the 1965 Voting Act and refrain from drawing racial boundaries for Texas maps.
- drawing maps that reflect the census data with regard to marginalized communities (e.g. Black, Hispanic, Asian and Pacific Islanders).

- continuing the process in an open and transparent manner.
- making proposed maps available to the public and giving ample time for public review.
- allowing public testimony on the proposed maps, including virtual testimony.
- actually incorporating a majority of the public’s sound comments into the maps.

I entreat you to redraw these maps on a statewide basis in order that all Texans can flourish under the fair principles, structure and promise of democracy. And to do so in kind for all forthcoming maps. Racial or political gerrymandering only serves to divide us more at a critical time when our country, in the span of my long lifetime, is more polarized than ever.

