

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Monday, October 4, 2021 9:48:17 AM

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Date: 2021-10-04  
First Name: Lakshmi  
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Title: N/A  
Organization: Texas AAPI Redistricting Coalition  
Address: [REDACTED]  
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I am a resident of Fort Bend County. I currently reside in House District 26, and I am represented by Rep. Jacey Jetton. Like my current representative, I am Asian American. I live in a precinct (Fort Bend Precinct 4135) and a neighborhood (Telfair) that is predominantly Asian American.

The census showed that 95% of all growth in Texas occurred in the African American, Latino, and Asian American Pacific Islander communities in suburban and urban communities. Any fair map must reflect the diversity of our state. The newly released House map proposal would reduce the number of districts in which communities of color could elect candidates of choice by six (6), possibly more. It splits apart AAPI communities to reduce our influence in districts. This map bears all the hallmarks of intentional racial discrimination.

Recent data shows that while the Asian American voting-age population in Fort Bend County has grown to 23.5%, the proposed maps divide AAPI communities into multiple House Districts, diluting AAPI voting strength. It is evident that predominantly Asian American neighborhoods and precincts that are near or adjacent to one another have been split between the proposed HD27, HD28, HD76 and HD85 including precincts that had been previously together in HD26. For example, predominantly Asian American precincts 4102, 4129 and 4044 will be in the proposed HD 85. Predominantly AAPI precincts 4135 and 4158 will be in HD 28 4065 will be in HD 27. All of these precincts are near or adjacent to each other and could have been grouped together into one or two districts.

The proposed map further cuts the City of Sugar Land into a bizarre puzzle of districts and even homeowner association neighborhoods like Riverstone and New Territory will be divided into multiple House Districts. Senator Huffman has repeatedly stated that the maps were drawn "race-blind," but there is a difference between racially neutral and willfully turning a blind eye to the harms these maps impose on communities of color. Fort Bend County is 70% non-white, and grew by 40% in the last decade, with 85% of that growth coming from non-white communities. HD-76 and HD-27 are packed so densely with communities of color that the other two districts in the county, HD-26 and HD-28, are over 40% plurality white districts, with majority white HD-85 cracking the remainder of the county.

Texas lawmakers have failed to provide Texans with an open, fair, and transparent process

that affords time for proper deliberation and community input. The House map proposal was released a mere four days before the hearing, making it extremely difficult for the public to notify their communities about the maps, let alone determine their potential impact.

I am asking for a written explanation of how communities of color will be able to elect representatives of their choice and request that such an explanation be provided in advance of any future public hearings, so the public can comment.

