

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Friday, April 2, 2021 10:08 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-04-03
First Name: Randy
Last Name: Wright
Title: City Manager
Organization: City of Portland
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Portland
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I urge you to vote against Senate Bill 10. This bill threatens the very foundations of public discourse by removing a vital form of representation and communication with our state officials.

Bill like this that seek to silence local elected officials and weaken local control is an unhealthy for our republic.

Portland is a small community and does not have the resources to track legislation or represent our voice at the Capitol. Banning community advocates will limit locally elected officials from advocating for issues that are important to our communities. It is undemocratic and counter to the public good.

As written, this bill will limit local communities from engaging with many of the organizations that represent our public safety and business communities. By prohibiting local governments from spending public money in any manner which would directly or indirectly influence the outcome of any legislation, cities would be restricted from providing funding to organizations which may use that funding in lobbying efforts including Chambers of Commerce and statewide public safety organizations which regularly engage on legislative matters.

Portland residents, and all Texans, have the right to have their voices heard on issues that affect their local communities. Please vote against censoring local communities so that small towns like Portland can continue to have a seat at the table in Austin.

[REDACTED]