

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Thursday, September 30, 2021 4:48:27 PM

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Date: 2021-09-30  
First Name: Cathy  
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Title: N/A  
Organization: Self  
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State: TX  
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

But the wisdom from above is first pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. James 3:17

Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? James 2:2-4

I am Cathy Elmore and I live in West Houston, Rustling Oaks, to be precise. I have the honor of working with faith leaders from across Houston with The Metropolitan Organization (TMO). We represent all different racial and ethnic communities, each with some differing priorities. But we are more alike than we are different. And it is our diversity that makes our team effective. During discussion, I may fail to consider something and another leader will bring it up, thus helping me look at the matter in a different light. And this makes for well-reasoned decisions.

It is that same team effort that allowed our country to help win World War II: we worked together with respect, each doing our part. The current climate in our country is not one of respect, but of "what can I get out of this": How can I make more money, keep power, get large donations from corporations.... It is NOT the corporations that have made us great, but individuals with respect for another's right to an opinion, even if it differs from our own. Respect for each person's vote and their community's preferences. Yes, equity used to be important to us. What has happened to us that this doesn't matter, as reflected in the maps? Texas' population has increased by nearly 4 million people since the last census. Over 95% of that increase is due to increases in the non-white population. We know where the bulk to the increases have taken place:

1. Denton, Collin, Tarrant & Dallas counties around the city of Dallas.
2. Fort Bend, Harris and Montgomery counties around Houston.

That is what the maps should represent. The House maps should NOT shrink the number of seats where the majority voters are Hispanic. They made up nearly 2 million of our new Texans and their voices must be heard. Why is there a reduction in Hispanic districts from eight to seven? There should be an increase in the number of Hispanic districts. Non-Hispanic Blacks made up over half a million of the new Texans. Why are there no districts with a majority of

Black residents? To me, both of these maps are racial gerrymandering.

Please correct the district maps to comply with the Voting Rights Acts of 1965. The God I worship would be pleased.

