

## Koy Kunkel\_SC

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**From:** applications.administrator@capitol.local  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2021 6:05 AM  
**To:** Senate Redistricting  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-22  
First Name: Nina  
Last Name: Brodsky  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Austin  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Thank you, Senator Huffman and the committee, for reading my testimony. My name is Nina Brodsky and I am representing myself. I live in Austin, a big city with big city problems. We have serious issues with affordability, healthcare, transportation, housing, homelessness, and policing. Except for perhaps healthcare, our rural neighbors have very different but just as important concerns. We are a predominately Democratic city with progressive ideals. Our rural neighbors are predominately conservative. Yet the maps have been drawn to dilute the concerns of Austinites by dividing the city into 6 U.S. congressional districts with boundaries that include large swaths of rural areas, resulting in 5 of the 6 representatives Austin is allotted, being Republican.

I have one of those Republican Congressman. My neighbors and I have been to his office dozens of times, written dozens of emails and made dozens of calls in an attempt to discuss issues that are of concern to us. Not once has he met with us or responded in a substantive manner. He knows he does not need our votes to win an election. He feels free to ignore our concerns. He refuses to hold a town hall and our important issues go unaddressed. This is not the way Democracy is supposed to work. Fair redistricting can correct this.

I hope you take advantage of this opportunity to create fair districts and bring solutions not division to our state.

I ask that you not manipulate the maps in support of one party, and that you follow the Voting Rights Act.

I ask that this committee hold public hearings with public testimony after the census data is delivered to the state.

I ask for virtual committee hearings throughout the entire legislative process to ensure the public's right to be a part of the process without endangering their health and safety.

I ask for at least 14 days to review the maps in advance of public hearings or votes in order to allow sufficient time for review and testimony preparation.

I ask that any changes to a proposed map be presented at least 5 days in advance of any vote to allow for public analysis and input.

I ask that you provide analysis of how the new maps impact historically disenfranchised communities of color.

I ask that all documents, written communications, emails, text messages and draft maps be available to the public.

Thank you for your time.

