

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021 5:07:43 AM
Attachments: [Senate Written Testimony.pdf](#)

Date: 2021-09-11
First Name: Linda
Last Name: Maldonado
Title: N/A
Organization: Self/Retired
Address: [REDACTED]
City: San Antonio
State: TX
Zipcode: 78254
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit written testimony. I live in San Antonio in a suburban area in a home that is 42 years old.

I have lived in this home since 1994.

I reside between Loop 1604 and State Highway-16. Growth in this immediate area has not been too rapid in the past 10 years. We have had some really good things happen in this area. We have linear creek trails that go all over the city. The park with the trails is only a mile from my home. We are also getting a side walk on a busy street. This is exciting for us. Unfortunately, we really do not have public transportation in this area. The city of San Antonio ends at 1604. West of 1604 is rapid development.

My area is primarily single family homes. It is gradually becoming more ethnically diverse.

I like my current districts. However, prior to the 2010 Census, my home was in Congressional District-23. Our district went all the way to El Paso. I felt that they did not care about our area. I had never been to West Texas and it seemed strange to be in a district that goes all the way to New Mexico. There is a sign on I-10: El Paso 550 miles. It's such a strange feeling when you can't even picture what the landscape looks like in half of your district. I really do not know what San Antonio has in common with the Permian Basin, but I've always felt that the people who make these redistricting decisions must think San Antonio is in the middle of the desert or something. I did volunteer for someone in this vast region. We were making calls to Pecos County and every single phone was disconnected. I was told "Someone must have broken the phone lines with a backhoe. It happens a lot". Not only did I wonder, how could this be the same district, I wondered how it could be the same century. How do you fix a phone line or cable or whatever it was that accidentally dug up with a backhoe? How long does it take? Additionally, everyone in the area had landlines and no one had cell phones. How do people in that part of Texas relate to people in San Antonio and vice versa? What about their needs versus our needs? How are needs allocated for one region versus another in such a vast district? How do residents of Brewster County relate to perpetual traffic congestion on Loop 1604?

After the new maps were drawn in 2011, we were put in a local congressional district.

Currently the vast CD-23 begins about seven miles from my home. However, just in my back yard is Senate District 19. My house backs up to Braun Rd where the district boundary is drawn. Like CD 23, this one also goes to New Mexico. It also represents the historical African-American community on the Eastside of San Antonio. Martin Luther King Blvd, the Carver Center and many historic institutions are in Senate District 19. Once again, I fail to see how the interests of an urban African-American community align with the interests of oil riggers of the remote Permian Basin.

In a nutshell, I currently like my districts. I feel I have good representation and have things in common with people who also reside in these districts. I have no idea why there are districts in the San Antonio area that spread all the way to New Mexico. I hope that after redistricting, that I will continue to reside in districts that resemble the current districts. I hope that I will be in local districts and not in districts that spread out over 550 miles.

Thank you for your consideration.
Linda Karamanian Maldonado



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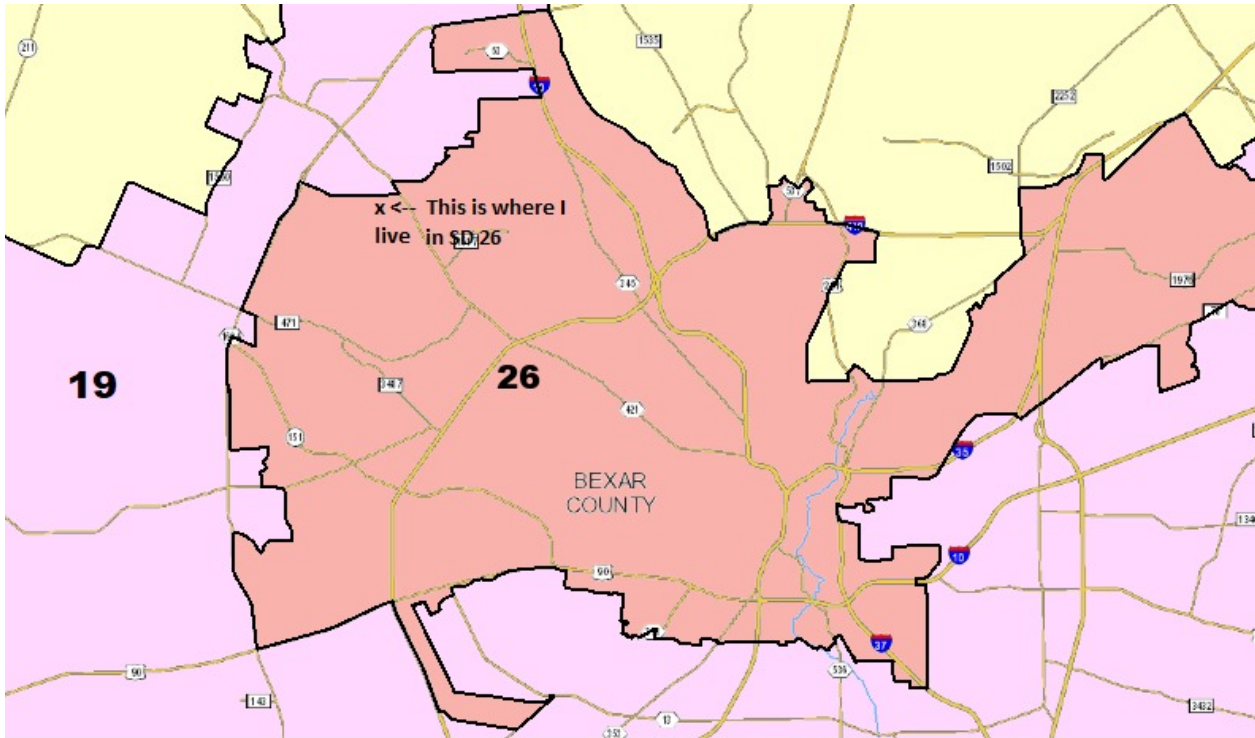
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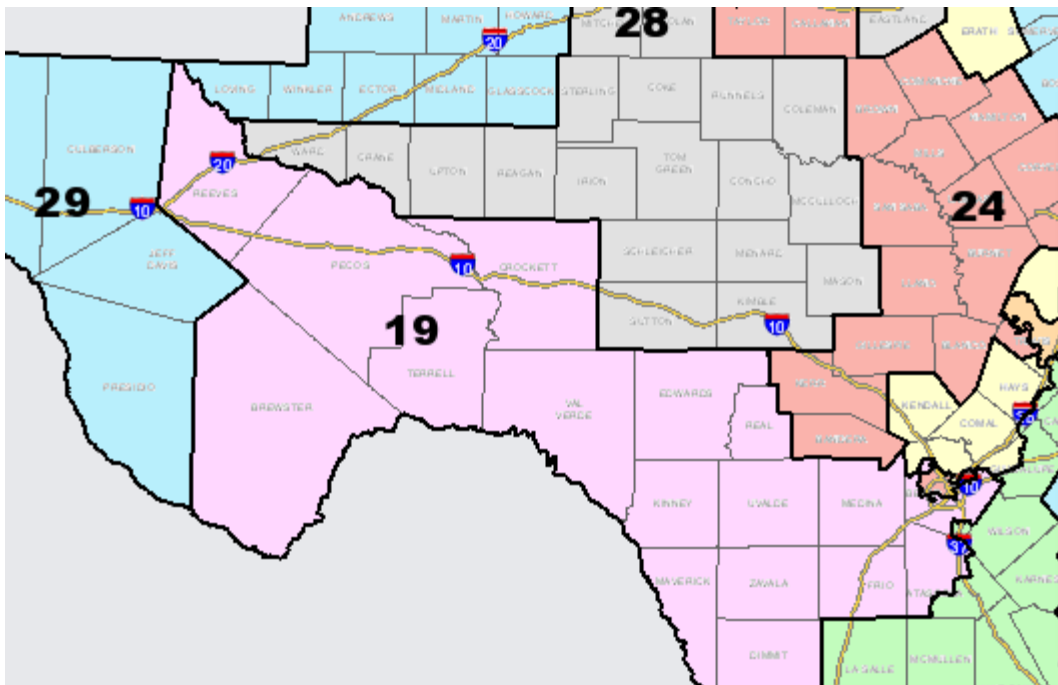
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Linda Karamanian Maldonado


San Antonio, TX 78254



Senate District 19 Wraps around the South and East Side of San Antonio, carving out the African-American community, then it goes all the way to New Mexico



Congressional District 23 as it is today.

