

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Friday, October 1, 2021 11:02:34 AM

Date: 2021-10-01
First Name: Benjamin
Last Name: Sunshine
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:
Senators of the Redistricting Committee,

I do not regret to directly tell you that your proposed districts are evidently racially and politically biased. It is sickening to see senators who advocate for election audits and election integrity actively attempt to decimate the voting power of minorities and establish small empires on certain electoral districts.

If you were somehow unaware, 95% of Texas' population growth since the last census and redistricting is credited to people of color, however in the districts proposed for Texas (specifically the districts for the Texas house for the following example), the number of districts with a majority of non-white voters has decreased. According to The Texas Tribune, we currently have 83 districts with a white majority - under the new one, the number of white majorities would increase to 89, taking away 6 majority districts from minority voters. The current district map isn't even near non-partisan, as it reflects a major majority of white voters being the majority in districts of 55%, whereas the actual population of Texas only has a population that is ~40% white.

Not only is there racial bias present in our districts, but there is also a strong presence of political bias. 76 of our current districts voted majority for Donald Trump, whereas 74 voted for Joe Biden. The number of Trump supporting-districts would rise to 86 with the proposed districts, and lower the number of Biden-voting districts to 64. This is most evidently partisan redrawing and it's destroying the state of Texas' ability to actually perform democracy.

How can you do this to the minorities of your population? How do you go to bed, knowing you are actively removing the ability for Texas citizens to choose their leaders? Do you understand what you are establishing? It is called a dictatorship. Forget the audits of the 2020 election. Forget requiring voter IDs. None of that will ever matter if you shape districts so specifically to remove the votes you don't agree with. Please look beyond your greed and respect the people you claim to represent. Do not allow redistricting to follow such unhinged racism and funhouse politics. We need leaders who care about our voices, not ones who are actively attempting to silence them. It's time for you to step up as legislators and do the right thing for once. Put aside party politics and give your people the appropriate redistricting that they deserve. You have a choice to protect democracy or

destroy it right now. Do it for the people of Texas. Or they might not elect who you think they will.

With great concern,

Benjamin Sunshine

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]