

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 11:37 AM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-26
First Name: Nathalie
Last Name: Steinfeld Childre
Title: N/A
Organization: All On The Line Texas
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: Texas
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I live in south Austin (district TX-21) in one of the most gerrymandered district in our country.

I'm a volunteer for the non-partisan organization All On The Line Texas.

I ask the committee to draw fair districts.

Gerrymandering leads to a broken democracy. We want to choose our representatives. People in my district have been fused together seemingly without any reason other than proximity of our counties. Most of the 8 rural counties in this district have nothing in common with the sliver of urban Travis county that makes up my community. I live in an area of south Austin that is popular for people who seek affordable housing and rental units even some government housing, a business-friendly climate, a safe and culturally diverse primary and secondary education for their children.

We have a 66% Hispanic/Latino population. In comparison according to census data the majority of TX-21 is 60% white (

[https://censusreporter.org/profiles/50000US4821-](https://censusreporter.org/profiles/50000US4821-congressional-district-21-tx/)

[congressional-district-21-tx/](https://censusreporter.org/profiles/50000US4821-congressional-district-21-tx/)). We speak three languages in my household. My kids go to a public school with a dual language Spanish/English program. Many people in the community are bilingual.

My community deals with issues that are very different from the concerns of our more rural neighboring counties. We deal with large traffic impacts, underfunded public transportation, poverty, homelessness, crime. As a result we feel our voices (the will of the people) in my community has been drowned out by the rural majority.

The redistricting process is critical to having accurate representation of Texas residents. We want an independent, nonpartisan redistricting commission.

What this means to you: Please draw fair districts!

And please correct any injustices that may have occurred during the previous redistricting process.

This is not a process to be rushed even if the Census last year has caused some delays. All too often the process has been hijacked by political interests and shortcutting the process will only exasperate the injustices. I trust each of you will serve on the side of fairness to the overall community and set aside strict political party identification.