

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:40 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-02-03
First Name: Phillip
Last Name: Cunningham
Title: N/A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Dallas
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

Distinguished members of the Senate Redistricting Committee:

I am writing this letter to express my support in unifying the White Rock Lake area of East Dallas into one state Senate and congressional district.

I am a ten year resident of the Highland Meadows community in Northeast Dallas, a few miles NE of White Rock Lake. My neighborhood is unified and well represented in State House District 114, however we are split between state Senate Districts 2 and 16, and congressional Districts 5 and 32. In the 2001 redistricting, the neighborhood was wholly within Senate District 16 and Congressional District 5.

We share the same interests in low property taxes, less traffic congestion, good schools, low crime, protecting White Rock Lake, and good government. This area is probably one of the most economically and racially diverse areas compared to other big cities in Texas if not the country. No matter what school district there are communities of interest that bind us together in this area such as White Rock Lake, Dallas Arboretum, Casa Linda Plaza, Lakewood Tower and Plaza, Hillside Village, Lake Highlands Town Center, Flagpole Hill Park.

It is my opinion that we were split in the 2011 redistricting to dilute our voices politically in Austin and Washington DC. While we may have historically been part of state Senate and Congressional districts that went from East Dallas to parts of East Texas, no longer have the shared communities of interest with East Texas counties. While we have some communities of interest with Dallas area suburbs like Irving, Richardson, Garland, Rowlett, and Mesquite, we do not have a whole lot of similar interests with towns such as Greenville, Palestine, Jacksonville, Bonham, and Canton.

It is my opinion that our state Senator in District 2, and our Congressman in District 5 both look out for their political interests in rural and exurban areas of the district before the needs of us in East Dallas.

I ask that you draw fair maps and look first to communities of interests and not political greed or petty partisan preferences when drawing maps.

Thank you,

Phillip Cunningham
Dallas, TX

