

## Koy Kunkel\_SC

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**From:** applications.administrator@capitol.local  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** Senate Redistricting  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-03-11  
First Name: Monica  
Last Name: Koenig  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: AUSTIN  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I live in the Wells Branch neighborhood between Austin and Round Rock. Our current Congressional District, 17, is made up of a square area of counties stretching from Waco to Bryan, with a long skinny "finger" stretching 100 miles into the Austin Metro area. Living in that "finger" has left me and my neighbors feeling unrepresented and without a fair chance of being heard.

Texas Legislative Districts must fairly represent the population of Texas, offering equal weight to every vote. They must not be distorted to advantage one political party over another.

According to TEA data, Round Rock ISD and Pflugerville ISD, located in the Wells Branch "finger", are the only 2 ISD's classified as "Major Suburban" in US 17, making up just 4.3% of the ISD's there. The main body of the District, in contrast, is primarily Rural and Non-Metro ISD's - 68.1% in fact. Tying representation of these dissimilar communities together has resulted in lack of representation of tens of thousands of citizens in Wells Branch and Pflugerville over the past 10 years. This is gerrymandering at its worst, and I urge you to correct this and restore meaningful federal representation to the people of Wells Branch and Pflugerville.

Additionally, I ask this Committee to continue hearing public testimony throughout the redistricting process. 2020 census data is not yet available, and when new Districts are proposed, we must be given the opportunity to review them and be heard. Senators, I would like to remind you that your responsibility in this task is not to decide the direction of our politics, but to put that power, as fully as possible, into the hands of the citizens of Texas.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]