

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021 2:10:17 PM

Date: 2021-09-23
First Name: Judith
Last Name: Williams
Title: Mrs.
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Bedford
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I am Judith Williams. I have lived in Bedford for over 30 years. I appreciate the diversity of our community, and want diverse voices to be heard.

I do not want minority interests in Tarrant County smothered by being gerrymandered into districts with rural voters. Yet this is exactly what the proposed Senate maps do. They are a direct attack on our community, to make sure our interests will not be heard in the Texas Senate.

The proposed maps for current Senate Districts 9 and 10 are completely unacceptable. They do not reflect the true make up of our diverse population. White voters are drawn into current District 9 draws to dilute minority voices. Minority voters currently in District 10 are moved in with Parker and Johnson County voters. This is racist, partisan gerrymandering. This is wrong and illegal. The maps need to be redrawn so that minority voices are heard, so that voters in my area are represented, and not drowned out by rural voters who have different interests.

I implore you:

- Work to end gerrymandering and map manipulation at ALL levels, including the Texas House, Texas Senate, and US Congressional districts.
- Draw maps that are fair and represent all Texans – especially Texans of color, who represent 95% of our population growth since 2010.
- Do not artificially distort maps for racial or partisan purposes.
- Do not manipulate maps in support of one party or one politician.
- Do not discriminate against people of color.
- Do not diminish the ability of a minority group to elect the candidate of their choice.
- Do not crack and pack the voters to gerrymander districts that favor your reelection.
- Respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act.
- Make redistricting in Texas fair and make the process transparent.

I care about the freedom to vote, fixing the power grid, gun violence, and Medicaid expansion, as do most Texans. We haven't forgotten freezing in our own homes! But because of gerrymandering, the legislature passed laws that make our lives harder. The issues which are important to us were not addressed.

The Hurst Euless Bedford School District is one of the most diverse in the nation. Some 75 languages are represented. Over half the students are economically disadvantaged.

Yet the proposed maps for Tarrant County do not reflect the true make up of our diverse population.

The redrawn maps need to respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act. You are smart people and can draw fair maps if you want to.

I volunteer in my community, with Meals on Wheels, and the Community Emergency Response Team. I am a member of Congregation Beth Israel and a volunteer with the Religious Action Center of Texas. I love my community. I am concerned about how divided we are as a country. Gerrymandering and map manipulation only make the problem worse. People in my district want solutions not more division. We want our voices to be heard, not smothered.

Thank you.

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