

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Friday, September 17, 2021 4:19:41 PM

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Date: 2021-09-17

First Name: Leslie

Last Name: Bush

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Austin

State: TX

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Leslie Bush, and I represent myself. I live in the Shady Hollow area of southern Travis County. We're a neighborhood of about 5,000 people, a typical suburban community where concerns about schools and safety are paramount. Our neighborhood includes a long, two-lane road that is currently the dividing line between US House Districts 21 and 25. This means I'm represented by a different person than my neighbors across the way whose children go to the same schools mine did. My part of District 21 here in Travis County is a sort of elongated, Y-shaped appendage to a district that otherwise extends from Blanco and Comal counties west to Real County.

I know the people of Real County are every bit as concerned about important issues as we are in Shady Hollow. But our different situations require different solutions. Real County has a much lower population density, with about 1500 fewer people in the entire county than in my neighborhood alone. Communicable diseases are a much bigger risk here, so we're more concerned about school mask policies and outdoor lunch areas while people in other parts of District 21 may be more concerned about getting transportation to schools over larger distances. When it comes to securing clean water and avoiding the failures we experienced last February, Shady Hollow needs to work with a large municipal water utility. Our strategies for confronting the increased risks of wildfire need to include fuel load planning for suburban landscaping. I doubt these are issues that much arise in other parts of District 21. Because of how the districts are drawn, I can't easily work with my neighbors across the road, who do share these concerns, to ensure locally appropriate solutions from lawmakers.

The situation for my state Senate district is similar, where my portion of District 25 is a small extension into Travis County of a district that consists primarily of Comal, Hays, and Kendall Counties.

I urge you to draw districts that are compact, keep neighborhoods and communities of interest together, and ensure fair representation for all Texans.

Sincerely,  
Leslie Bush

[REDACTED]