From: applications.administrator@capitol.local

To: <u>Senate Redistricting</u>

Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 1:48:03 PM

Date: 2021-09-29 First Name: Sarah

Last Name: Berel-Harrop

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address:

City: Farmers Branch

State: Texas
Zipcode:
Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

## Message:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

I oppose SB7, plan 2130 for the same reasons I opposed plan 2101 in my comment sent in on 09/25. This map retains the aggressive cracking of Asian communities in North Texas (involving SB30, 12, 8, and 2). The cracking also dilutes the votes of suburban voters in the Dallas Area and Dallasites, cracking my community of Farmers Branch, as well as Plano, Richardson, Coppell, Addison, Dallas Park Cities, and many more into sprawling districts into predominantly Anglo, rural communities that do not have common interests with our communities.

This, in addition to the splitting up of other population centers such as Fort Bend, Harris, and Travis county, demonstrate the committee is serious about and will not give up on diluting and devaluing the votes of people who live in major population centers as well as the votes of communities of color.

The cracking of Tarrant county remains particularly egregious given the population increase in that county per the 2020 census.

These maps are not fair, they penalize the very areas which realized population growth and reward the areas which lost population, and they have racially discriminatory impacts. They should not be adopted.

This process and these maps only serve to prove the point that Texas sorely needs an independent, non-partisan redistricting commission which solicits meaningful public comment both BEFORE and AFTER furnishing drafts of the maps to the public. There should be sufficient time for communities to review the maps, such as two weeks, and there should be regional in-person meetings with the opportunity for members of the public to provide virtual testimony.