

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 11, 2021 10:31:53 AM

Date: 2021-09-11
First Name: Tim
Last Name: Dowling
Title: N?A
Organization: self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Corpus Christi
State: TX
Zipcode: 78414
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

This committee has been meeting for about 8 months but it has not told Texans what your goals are for redistricting. What are you trying to achieve? You have not told us. The public believes this is your goal: for those in the majority party, draw all the lines to advantage my party as much as possible but not so egregiously that a credible case could be made that the Voting Rights Act or the Constitution has been violated.

This should be your goal: Draw the lines so that all Texans are fairly represented regardless of their party or ethnicity. That is not happening now.

Anglos make up less than 40% of our population but they have 67% of the Congressional seats, 71% of the Texas Senate, and 68% of the House. Republicans got 53% of the 2020 Congressional votes but 64% of the seats. All these numbers need to change in a big way as a result of your work if Texans are to be fairly represented.

Please tell Texans now what your specific redistricting goals are and the process you will use to achieve them.

Then clearly state the specific procedures you will use to achieve your goals.

Will you commit that there will be at least ten days for the public to study each map and then be given a full opportunity to comment on each map (including virtually) before your committee votes on it?

Will you reject any "wish lists" from groups or politicians about what maps should look like that are not disclosed in a public session before you or otherwise publicly disclosed?

If you are getting non-public communications about maps, tell us from whom and show us the communications by publishing them on your web site now.

You have told us nothing about any of these things. Please be transparent and don't keep Texans in the dark any longer

about how you plan to achieve your hopefully soon to be disclosed goals.

My Congressional District is the 27th, which includes Corpus Christi. Before the Legislature totally messed up this District in 2011, it made sense, as it comprised traditional South Texas counties. Now it includes a wide arm that jumps into Central Texas. It leaps north of San Antonio almost to Austin. Corpus Christi should be the unquestioned anchor of this District, a city that is focused on coastal issues such as our exceptional port, tourism, fishing, and two military facilities.

The current grossly gerrymandered map has produced our right wing nut case Congressman Michael Cloud who in Congress is ideologically aligned with the "G Men": Representatives Gohmert, Goser, and Gaetz, plus other right wing culture warriors like Mo Brooks and Lauren Boebert focused on grandstanding instead of the good fights that make genuine meaningful positive impacts on the lives of south Texans. It tells you a lot about Congressman Cloud that he was only one of 21 members of Congress who refused to vote to honor the Capitol policemen who may have saved his life on January 6.

Our prior Republican Congressman quit after credible allegations of sexual harassment and using public funds to pay off the woman making them were brought forth. Since the Legislature changed the map, not only have we been horribly represented in Congress, but the present map includes parts of four small counties. Small counties should not be divided unless truly necessary.

But it is easily fixed. Draw a map that has traditional south Texas counties, none of which are divided, and that share common interests and culture. The population of the District boundaries I propose is 743,358, so a deviation of only 3.1% from the ideal number of 766,985, and therefore well within the legal requirements of the one person one vote principle.

These are the counties that I ask you to make the boundaries of the next 27th Congressional district: Nueces, San Patricio, Bee, Live Oak, McMullen, Aransas, Refugio, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Kennedy, Willacy, Jim Hogg, Duval, Brooks, Goliad, Calhoun, Atascosa, LaSalle, Frio, Karnes, and DeWitt.

Sincerely,

Tim Dowling

