

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2023 2:42:09 PM

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Date: 2023-03-27

First Name: Francine

Last Name: Ly

Title: Chair

Organization: Chair of the North Texas Chapter of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association

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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Hello, my name is Francine Ly. I am the Chair of the North Texas Chapter of the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA). APAPA is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization, focused on empowering our diverse communities, increasing voter engagement, and developing a new generation of AAPI leaders in America. We collaborate with other diverse organizations, public officials, and community leaders to create awareness and support to fight hate crimes, address systemic racism, and provide opportunities for our collective voices to be heard. I am here to submit my written statement about the Asian American community in Texas, specifically in North Texas. I do not believe that this is a good use of tax-payers money by holding sham hearings when you have announced that you will pass the exact same maps regardless of any stories of systemic racial discrimination or issues that uniquely impact people of color in my community. I would like to start by saying that the most important thing for this Committee to do is to respect federal and state law, including the Voting Rights Act. None of my testimony today should be used by the legislature to justify diminishing the ability of a minority group to elect a candidate of their choice or artificially distorting maps for undemocratic partisan purposes. Some of the issues that are most important to the AAPI Community includes, but is not limited to, inclusion (i.e. immigrant rights, language access, representation at all level of government, in corporate leadership); protection (sensible gun regulation is a major issue, the environment/climate – safe drinking water, breathable air, curbing carbon emission, affordable healthcare); and opportunities (in elections, both as voters and running for office, education - not just higher education, i.e.: Harvard but at the county level – community college systems, access to good quality public schools, affordable college and we are very worried about student debt). Looking at 4 of the North Texas counties: \* in Tarrant County, there are six (6) Congressional Districts (6, 12, 24, 25, 26 and 33), comprising of 41 cities, with a total of 6% AAPI population, and only two (2) locally elected officials – Euless City Councilman Salman Bhojani and Haltom City Mayor An Truong. \* in Dallas County, there are five (5) Congressional Districts (5, 24, 30, 32 and 33), comprising of 31 cities, with a total 6.8% AAPI population, and only three (3) locally elected officials – Criminal District Court No. 1 Judge Tina Clinton, Addison City Mayor Joe Chow, Carrollton City Councilman/Mayor Pro Tem Young Sung. \* in Denton County, there are two (2) Congressional Districts (24 and 26), comprising of 49 cities, with a total of 9.6% AAPI population, and there are NO known AAPI elected officials – locally or otherwise. \* in Collin County, there are three (3) Congressional Districts (3, 4 and 32) comprising of 31 cities, with a total of 16% AAPI population, and only three (3) locally elected officials

– Plano City Councilwomen Lily Bao and Maria Tu, and Texas State Representative Angie Button. Our community is so divided and broken up that it is next to impossible to obtain representation, in Congress, or other offices. I thank the Committee for listening to me today, and ask that you consider the representative needs of the AAPI community described above. The Committee should not dilute minority voting power, violate the law or fair redistricting principles. Asian American communities of interest in North Texas should be respected and kept whole, and not be divided at any legislative district level. Sincerely, Francine Ly APAPA NTC Chair Google#: 972/863-2935 Email: apapa ntc@gmail.com www.apapa.org

