

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Friday, March 24, 2023 11:17:42 AM

Date: 2023-03-24

First Name: Lily

Last Name: Trieu

Title: N/A

Organization: Self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Sugar Land

State: Texas

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

My name is Lily Trieu and I am representing myself as well as my family, against SB375. Senator Huffman has already made it clear that she plans to pass the same maps as those passed in the 87th special session - to host disingenuous hearings only to disregard public input is denying Texans a chance for a fair and open process. I've testified numerous times on the current maps being considered and each time, I've emphasized the importance of the Voting Rights Act and ensuring that fair maps are drawn for all communities. This body knows well that these maps will set the foundation for the next decade - determining whether communities receive a chance at equal and fair representation. 95% of Texas' population growth came from communities of color. It is for this reason that I am opposed to the current maps and how they blatantly split diverse communities of color and dilute our voices. Today, I want to focus on how these maps impact Fort Bend County, where I grew up and where my parents and sister still live. Senator Huffman should be most familiar but for those who aren't acquainted with Fort Bend County, there are many things that we take pride in. According to the 2020 census, our total population grew by over 40% - that's amongst the top 5 fastest growing counties in Texas. We take pride in our diversity - often touting that we've been named "Most Ethnically Diverse County in America". It's estimated that over 100 different languages are spoken in my home county. As a result, we have a vibrant community with churches, temples, and mosques all thriving amongst some of our state's most amazing ethnic restaurants, grocery stores, and community centers. My community, Asian Americans

and Pacific Islanders, in Fort Bend County grew by over 82%. The AAPI communities now make 23.6% of the county's population. We are the fastest growing racial group across Texas, and have historically been unfairly divided into multiple legislative districts and in this current map, you'll find that the AAPI community has continued to be cracked and packed - our voices and ability to elect candidates who represent our needs denied. We face the same challenges that many other communities of color in Fort Bend do - we are dealing with failing infrastructure such as the electric grid and roads, insufficient investments in our local school district, and lack of access to language resources. Communities of color in northwest Houston and Fort Bend County are aggressively split between CD-08, 22, and 38. You'll also find the growing, diverse communities in southwest Houston and Fort Bend County are packed into CD-07 and 09, with the remainder cracked into CD-22. The past few years have been incredibly difficult for the AAPI community - facing a dramatic increase in violent and racially motivated hate. My community has been living in fear - my own parents are worried when they leave home to do everyday things like grocery shop or fill their gas tanks. When the U.S. House of Representatives took up a resolution to condemn hate, bigotry, and violence against the AAPI community, the entire Republican delegation from Texas voted against it - including the ones who represented me, my parents, and my sister. The diverse community of Fort Bend County has been a source of comfort and strength for us. This is why representation and not dividing our community matters - splitting our community to dilute our votes is directly denying our opportunity to receive this representation. Senator Huffman has long represented our district - and over the last 8 years, I've testified on numerous proposed bills and how they do not represent me or my family's interest. Every single time, Senator Huffman has voted against our interests. Despite the rapid AAPI growth and diversification in our district, Senator Huffman has not made any concerted efforts to engage with Black, Hispanic, or AAPI voters in our precinct or those surrounding it. It is with great disappointment to see that she continues to discriminate against our community by not allowing for fair and open redistricting processes.

