

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Attachments: Sara Brennan Redistricting Testimony.pdf

Date: 2021-01-28
First Name: Sara
Last Name: Brennan
Title: Chapter Member-- University of Texas at Dallas
Organization: Deeds Not Words, self
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Austin
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

[REDACTED]



Senate Special Redistricting Committee
Attn: The Honorable Joan Huffman, Chair
Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
Re: Written testimony; Redistricting, 87(R)

Dear Senator Huffman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sara Brennan, and I am a junior at UT Dallas. I am also a Changemaker with Deeds Not Words. I was born and raised in Austin, Texas, though my mother was born in Vietnam and my father in Minnesota. Growing up I got to see the world through two cultural lenses and learned that despite Americans having differences, we are bonded by our commitment to treating one another like equals.

As I got older and learned about processes such as gerrymandering, my faith in our government's commitment to this ideal was shaken. As someone who grew up pledging allegiance to the Texas flag every day in school, I now wish that Texas reciprocated that allegiance to its citizens by giving them equal votes and resources.

In order for us all to stay proud Texans, district lines must be drawn in a manner that allows for all citizens to have equal power behind their votes. It must be a priority for our government to be truly representative of its people. Without that, we are in danger of further harming socioeconomically

disadvantaged communities who have been marginalized, and perpetuating the injustices of the past.

Instead of contributing to a power imbalance between people of different backgrounds, I implore you to use your influence to fight for equality through fair districts.

Thank you for taking my concerns seriously and understanding the impact you have on ensuring fair districts.

For any questions contact, Andrea Reyes, Political Director at Deeds Not Words

[REDACTED]

Austin, TX, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Deeds Not Words is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization creating today's Changemakers and tomorrow's leaders by galvanizing the power and building the leadership of young people through organizing, policy-making, art, and voting.