

Koy Kunkel_SC

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 12:53 PM
To: Senate Redistricting
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input

Date: 2021-07-26

First Name: Holly

Last Name: Bell

Title: Ms.

Organization: self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Austin

State: Texas

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: ALL

Message:

I am a resident of central Austin, in Travis County. I am a lifelong liberal Democrat as are most of my neighbors. Although Austin is perceived (rightly, I think) as a liberal city, for as long as I can remember I have been represented at the national level by very conservative representatives. This is because I am in a very gerrymandered district. If you look at a map of District 21 (see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas%27s_21st_congressional_district#/media/File:Texas_US_Congressional_District_21_\(since_2013\).tif](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas%27s_21st_congressional_district#/media/File:Texas_US_Congressional_District_21_(since_2013).tif)), it includes a large blocky area of the Hill Country west of Austin, with a weird, noncontiguous "tail" that goes through downtown Austin south through Kyle, San Marcos and into San Antonio, pulling the more liberal areas of Austin into the considerably more conservative and larger rural west. My political influence in my district is such that my representative doesn't even pretend to agree with the points I make in my many emails to him. I feel disenfranchised in what is supposed to be the greatest democracy on earth.

Partisan gerrymandering makes a mockery of democracy. It makes us cynical and apathetic. I hope you will remember people like me as you consider the redistricting process.

[REDACTED]