

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, September 25, 2021 11:20:33 AM
Attachments: [Redistricting Testimony on SB4, Senate plan 2101 .pdf](#)

Date: 2021-09-25
First Name: Lynn
Last Name: Bridge
Title: Ms.
Organization: Texas Impact
Address: [REDACTED]
City: Dripping Springs
State: TX
Zipcode: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:
Please see attached file.

[REDACTED]

With the exception of 1976-1980, in which I lived in both Illinois and New Jersey, I have been a life-long Texan. I have witnessed our state's economic, demographic, and political changes from the 1950's onward. I recognize that our state's population is now about 90% urban, centered on Houston/Austin/Dallas-Ft. Worth, yet our legislative body does not reflect that change. In our state, it used to be acceptable to those holding political power to shut out potential voters who were not ethnically White. In my experience, no one I know will admit to such a view now. With ethnically White people being a distinct minority in the state, I am suspicious of cracking and packing in our district maps that assure that so many ethnically White people are elected to the State Senate, and that Senators from rural areas have an outsized vote on the Senate floor.

When I have conversations with people who have lived in small-town and rural Texas all their lives, they usually have no concept of how big cities work, either socially or economically. When I have conversations with people who have only lived in cities, and experience small towns and country as drive-through places, or as vacation spots, I find they have little concept of the economics/social structures of small towns, or of the way nature functions to support itself, and us.

I do not support the current 2101 map or SB4, and I ask that the Senate map be drawn so that all groups have a voice, and so that each district is truly competitive in every election. If only one party in each district knows it has a Senator from that party wrapped up in each election, then true representation and compromise will never happen, and our state will be weaker and stupider for not having listened to all its citizens.