

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Thursday, September 30, 2021 9:07:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [Redistricting Resolution.pdf](#)

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Date: 2021-09-30  
First Name: Mark  
Last Name: Keough  
Title: County Judge  
Organization: Montgomery County, Texas  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Conroe  
State: Texas  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Madam Chairwoman and distinguished members of the Senate Special Committee on Redistricting,

My name is Mark Keough and I am the County Judge of Montgomery County, Texas.

Under consideration today is SB 6, which addresses the composition of districts for the U.S. House of Representatives within Texas. I write today to oppose SB 6 as it relates to Congressional District 8 and Congressional District 2. Montgomery County Commissioners Court unanimously adopted a resolution opposing the current proposal as well and I urge the members of this committee to reconsider the composition of CD8 and CD2.

Current maps drawn by this committee would split Montgomery County up into two Congressional Districts and seriously divide our county and communities of interest within Montgomery County. Under current district lines Montgomery County is wholly contained within CD 8 and makes up the majority of CD 8's population. As is proposed, the splitting of Montgomery County into two CD's dilutes our majority share within our Congressional District and combines us with communities that are not aligned with the same values and interest as are the Citizens of Montgomery County.

Considering the ideal population of a congressional district which is 766,987 persons, Montgomery County population growth over the last ten years warrants Montgomery County staying wholly contained within one congressional district and maintaining our majority share of the district as we currently have today. Montgomery County currently has a population of 620, 443 persons and we are more rural to urban than urban itself.

Its imperative that the citizens of Montgomery County not be disenfranchised by diluting our conservative votes with that of Harris County voters and I humbly ask the members to consider restoring Montgomery County to one congressional district as the majority share and align the remainder of the district with the rural neighboring contiguous counties of San Jacinto and Walker.

I appreciate this committees work and dedication to the citizens of Texas and thank you for your time and consideration of my request on behalf of the Commissioners Court of Montgomery County and the six hundred plus thousand we represent.

[REDACTED]

**RESOLUTION RELATING TO REDISTRICTING BY THE  
TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021, at a duly posted and called Regular Meeting of the Commissioners Court of Montgomery County, Texas, there came for consideration and approval a resolution, relating to redistricting various districts by the Texas Legislature.

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Constitution in Article III lays out the framework by which redistricting occurs in Texas by the Legislature following publication of the decennial census; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Demographer has reported the ideal population of each Texas House, Texas Senate, U.S. Congressional, and State Board of Education Districts based off the 2020 decennial census for the State of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the ideal population of each Senate District is 940,778 persons, each House District 194,303 persons, each U.S. Congressional District 766,987 persons and each State Board of Education District being 1,943,034 persons; and

**WHEREAS**, Montgomery County's population grew by 36.1 percent to 620,443 persons between 2010 and 2020 adding 164,697 new people during that time period; and

**WHEREAS**, Ensuring communities are equally represented in accordance with the one-person, one-vote requirement and ensuring districts populations are within the ideal range and without excessive deviations from all other districts is an enormous task of the Texas Legislature; and

**WHEREAS**, the current proposed Texas Senate districts under consideration by the Texas Legislature appear to break-up Montgomery County into three separate Texas Senate Districts and combining our constituents with other contiguous counties that are more urbanized and have a different set of values and ideology that ultimately dilutes the conservative composition that makes Montgomery County great; and

**WHEREAS**, as of the date of this Resolution the proposed Texas House Districts and U.S. Congressional Districts have not been released to the public or shared with Montgomery County officials; and

**WHEREAS**, Montgomery County Commissioners Court seeks to ensure our county and communities are not broken up into multiple districts with populations from surrounding counties that dilutes the conservative representation that Montgomery County Citizens have voted for continually for more than three decades; and

Motion was made by Commissioner Noack and seconded by Commissioner Riley to hereby approve a resolution relating to redistricting by the Texas Legislature.

Said Motion being put to a vote, it carried by a vote of aye votes to nay votes as follows:

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Judge Mark J. Keough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Robert C. Walker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Charlie Riley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. James Noack	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. James Metts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Commissioners' Court of Montgomery County, Texas request the Texas Legislature to reconsider the proposed Texas Senate Districts to take into account the proposed ideal size of said districts and maintain our representation in the Texas Senate at two for the entirety of the County. Removing the proposed districts, which split up neighborhoods, cities, and communities within Montgomery County into separate districts diluting our conservative representation among other counties.

**Section 2.** The Commissioners' Court of Montgomery County, Texas request the Texas Legislature to consider the county line rule according to Article III, of the Texas Constitution when deciding the number of wholly contained House Districts in Montgomery County. Said districts based off ideal population and the population of Montgomery County should not exceed two wholly contained districts and one district with a majority Montgomery County population and a fraction of its population from a contiguous county. When considering a contiguous county, the Court points out that Montgomery County is more rural to urban than urban by itself and respectfully request that our rural population not be aligned with a more urbanized population in contiguous counties.

**Section 3.** The Commissioners' Court of Montgomery County, Texas request the Texas Legislature to consider the ideal population of Congressional Districts and continue to keep Montgomery County wholly contained within one Congressional District, with a fraction of the population needed to complete the district from a contiguous county that more aligns with the rural to urban majority of Montgomery County.

**Section 4.** The Commissioners' Court of Montgomery County, Texas assert that at no time do we support splitting up our communities, neighborhoods, or cities populations with other districts which erodes the current conservative representation that our Citizens have continually voted for over the course of the last three decades.

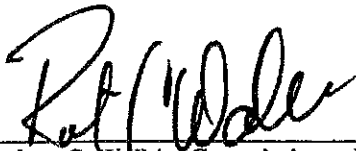
**Section 5.** A copy of this Resolution shall be provided to every member of the Texas House and Senate Redistricting Committees, Montgomery Counties Legislative Delegation, the Speaker of the Texas House and The Lieutenant Governor of Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS**



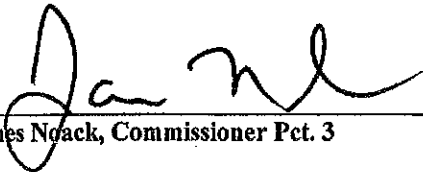
Mark J. Keough, County Judge



Robert C. Walker, Commissioner Pct. 1



Charlie Riley, Commissioner Pct. 2

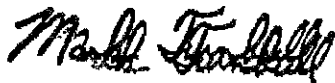


James Noack, Commissioner Pct. 3



James Mitts, Commissioner Pct. 4

Attest:



Mark Turnbull, County Clerk

