

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 28, 2021 12:15:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [210928-State Senate Redistricting Ltr -09 28 2021 FINAL.pdf](#)

---

Date: 2021-09-28  
First Name: Todd  
Last Name: Stephens  
Title: Intergovernmental Relations Manager  
Organization: The Woodlands Township  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: The Woodlands  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:  
Please see attached a letter from The Woodlands Township regarding Texas Senate redistricting.

Thank you for your consideration.

[REDACTED]



September 28, 2021

The Honorable Joan Huffman  
Senate Special Committee on Redistricting  
Sam Houston Building 455  
Austin, TX 78701

Dear Chair Huffman and Committee:

Thank you for your work in the difficult job of legislative redistricting. I write today as chairman of The Woodlands Township to share our concerns regarding recent redistricting proposals that would split The Woodlands into multiple Texas Senate districts.

The Woodlands Township is the local government service provider for the 114,000 residents and over 2,200 businesses that call The Woodlands home. The Township is unique in that it is the only community in Montgomery County that also has a portion in Harris County. Fortunately, Township residents currently enjoy strong representation by Senate District 4 regardless of which county they reside. The current arrangement provides the Township residents an opportunity to speak with a unified voice and helps maintain a sense of community unity.

Under certain legislative redistricting proposals, the Township could be split into multiple senate districts. Even more, these plans would not only separate the community along county geography but would splinter portions of the community from areas within the same county. In addition, the Township the would be separated from peer neighboring communities that have worked closely together with our current state elected officials to foster a unified voice on issues important to our area. Splitting a community into multiple senate districts lessens the community's voice and potentially serves to separate a community's interests from those of its neighbors.

While The Woodlands is not currently a municipality, unlike other unincorporated communities in Texas, The Woodlands has defined boundaries with an overarching, unified, voter-approved government through The Woodlands Township.

On August 16, 2021, The Woodlands Township Board of Directors called for the issue of incorporation to be placed on the November 2, 2021 ballot. For two decades The Woodlands has plotted a course to allow the voters to determine the local governance structure of its community. Nearly 15 years ago the voters approved the transition to the current Township structure and in just over a month the voters will decide if they want The Woodlands to transition to a city. A city that would be represented by multiple state senate districts under current legislative proposals.

The Honorable Joan Huffman  
September 28, 2021  
Page 2

It is a priority to The Woodlands Township that all portions of our community remain in Senate District 4 and with our neighboring communities in Montgomery County. We stand ready to assist the redistricting process however we may be helpful, but we respectfully request that our community stay as one The Woodlands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gordy Bunch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gordy Bunch  
Chairman  
The Woodlands Township