

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Monday, October 4, 2021 1:13:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [DA Social Action - Redistricting Call to Action - Oct 4 2021.docx](#)

---

Date: 2021-10-04  
First Name: Shannon  
Last Name: Phillips  
Title: N/A  
Organization: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Dallas Alumnae Chapter  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Duncanville  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:  
Draw fair, nondiscriminatory maps that include Texans of Color!

[REDACTED]

The Honorable Joan Huffman, Chair  
Senate Special Committee on Redistricting  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capitol Station  
Austin, TX 78711

The Honorable Todd Hunter, Chair  
House Redistricting Committee  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capitol Station  
Austin, TX 78711

October 4, 2021

Dear Chair Huffman & Chair Hunter,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony on behalf of myself and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, regarding SB 6 and HB 1 relating to redistricting in Texas.

My name is Shannon Phillips and I live in Dallas County, Duncanville, Texas, House District 30 and Senate District 23. I am also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and serve on the Dallas Alumnae Chapter Social Action committee.

Census data definitively shows people of color fueled 95% of Texas population growth over the past decade, stated the Texas Tribune article that can be found [here](#). As an African American woman and registered voter, I fundamentally believe that communities of interest should continue to reside in the same district to ensure African American and other minority voices are not diluted. Texans, particularly Black Texans, have already suffered at the hands of previous gerrymandering and the consistent attack on our voting rights along with a list of other items negatively impacting the Black community like over-policing, food deserts, inequitable education system, lack of affordable housing options, predatory lending practices, discriminatory criminal justice practices and lack of healthcare resources.

As Texans, we request that the Texas Legislature works to decrease barriers for inclusion in the process including:

- Providing meaningful procedural access to the process,
- Increasing committee hearings notification to provide significant time to prepare to deliver testimony,
- Providing increased access to Red Apple (redistricting mapping software) and longer time for proposed map review.

Remember, you **MUST** follow the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the US Constitution and Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 while creating these maps. You took an oath and now is the time to uphold the oath. Not only should these requests apply to the redistricting process but also apply to the redistricting related legislation. Drafting legislation with these requests will ensure that the voices of Texans of color will be heard.

The desire and will of Texans, especially Texans of color, is that the Legislature will lead a fair and just process that will create nondiscriminatory and inclusive maps that

appropriately represent the changing demographics of Texas. We want to see the diversity in our population reflected in our maps. Yes, I stated, "our maps!" Attempting to draw Texans of color, a consistent voting population, out of the map does not benefit all Texans!

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone at 214-663-1399 or kotelp32@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

*Shannon H. Phillips*

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.  
**Dallas Alumnae Chapter**

***Redistricting Testimony as Relates to SB4, SB6, HB1***