

## Koy Kunkel\_SC

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**From:** applications.administrator@capitol.local  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:11 AM  
**To:** Senate Redistricting  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Attachments:** Zach Greenberg Deeds Redistricting Testimony\_docx.pdf

Date: 2021-01-28  
First Name: Zach  
Last Name: Greenberg  
Title: Chapter Member-- University of Texas at Dallas  
Organization: Deeds Not Words, Deeds Action Fund, self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Austin  
State: TX  
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

[REDACTED]



**Senate Special Redistricting Committee**  
**Attn: The Honorable Joan Huffman, Chair**  
**Capitol Station**  
**Austin, Texas 78711**  
**Re: Written testimony; Redistricting, 87(R)**

Dear Senator Huffman and Members of the Committee,

Hello, my name is Zach Greenberg. I'm a senior at the University of Texas at Dallas, a member of our campuses chapter of Deeds Not Words and a concerned constituent of the DFW community.

With Texas poised to potentially gain three seats in congress, it is imperative to our democracy that Texans voices are heard and that their congress stand for the wellbeing of the communities they claim to represent. Texas has historically been amongst the most gerrymandered of states, which largely impacts communities of color. It only takes thirty seconds looking at a district map to see this. It concerns me that many representatives can gain a seat in congress without true majority support of their communities.

Redistricting is a civil rights issue. Texas has been found in violation of the 1965 Voting Rights Act every decade since its enactment, and the current

gerrymandered districts stem from a 2003 redrawing by Tom DeLay after Republicans took control of the House, Senate, and Governor's office.<sup>1</sup>

Just last April, the Supreme Court ruled that partisan gerrymandering should be left to the state, but even Chief Justice Roberts wrote that excessive partisanship in the drawing of districts leads to results that "reasonably seem unjust". Though Robert's did not find it necessary to enact any change over this blatant bipartisanship, the Supreme Court ruling has given Texas the power to decide it's own fate.

The Lone Star State is in the business of disenfranchising voters to this day, but in the next 60 days, we have a chance to change course. I will continue to fiercely advocate against gerrymandering, and I hope our Texas legislature and members of this committee will, too.

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<sup>1</sup> For any questions contact, Andrea Reyes, Political Director at Deeds Not Words | Deeds Action Fund

Austin, TX,