

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 8, 2021 3:42:14 PM

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Date: 2021-09-08  
First Name: Gayle  
Last Name: Kanies  
Title: N/A  
Organization: Self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Austin  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Thank-you for the opportunity to provide my input to the Senate Special Committee on Redistricting.

First, I would like to thank the Chairman and the Committee Members for providing an opportunity for voters to provide input to this process so fundamental to sustaining our freedom and democracy. I am representing myself and my name is Gayle Kanies.

I have lived in Austin since 2005. My neighborhood is in Northwest Austin which is experiencing extraordinary growth and associated problems including affordable housing, homelessness and inadequate traffic capabilities. The issues experienced in the rural areas and Harris County of my district are very different from those experienced in my Austin district.

According to the BiggestUSCities website: (<https://www.biggestuscities.com/>) which is based on US Census Bureau, the growth since 2000 has been 45.6% in Austin and 17.3% in Houston. Clearly such a high growth in the city of Austin makes our issues unique from the other counties in District 10 (Austin, Bastrop, Colorado, Fayette, Harris, Lee, Waller, Washington). Dividing the city of Austin into 5 districts means that our issues related to growth are never addressed because our voices are diluted by voters outside of our city. I am frustrated with my inability to have a say in what happens in my community or how I am represented. The congressional district maps appear to be constructed to weaken my voice and of others in Austin.

Consequently, my congressman, Michael McCaul, is not interested in my views or opinions as his constituent. I write to him about 10 times a year and have never received a response to my communication about my issues and concerns.

With all the division in our nation and states we need to have fair representation to bring all the issues to the table so we can begin to find compromises and a path forward. I ask that the committee draw maps that are fair, competitive and provide for representation of All Texas as outlined in the Voting Rights Act.

Thank-you very much for your time and attention,  
Gayle Kanies

[REDACTED]