

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 10:11:18 PM

Date: 2021-09-29

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Ward

Title: Dr

Organization: self

Address: [REDACTED]

City: Austin

State: TX

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

I am an American and Texan in precinct 229 in the Wells Branch neighborhood. I am writing to ask you to reject the legislature proposed Congressional division you have set to pass through the middle of our neighborhood and instead consider the public proposed 2102.

The goal of Congressional districting should be to enable representatives to speak and vote on behalf of their constituents. Maps that create thin tails and isthmus with spliced off bits of suburbs connected to sprawling rural areas clearly do not provide that representation. How can one person represent areas with such disparate needs?

If I draw a circle centered on my home with the edge at my son's middle school (about 7mi), the current legislative proposal includes 5 separate districts. 37 and 10 are relatively compact with some weird wiggling boundaries, but 10 nears Houston, 31 goes up to Meridian and 17 stretches to

Nacogdoches. Meridian is 120 miles North, and Nacogdoches is 281 miles East. But if I walk just 10 miles North, I pass through four legislative proposed districts.

The public proposal provides a much more compact district. It places my neighborhood with Roundrock where I go for orchestra rehearsal, Georgetown where I volunteer with Master Naturalists, Taylor where some of the scouts in our group live, and Belton where we have swim meets. These resonate to me as community. These resonate to me as areas with convergent needs. This seems like someone could reasonably represent it. We are still near boundaries in that proposal, but it is a corner with two other seemingly convergent districts nearby. I would feel similarly and have similar connections throughout both of those as well. On the public proposal there are not tails or narrow isthmus or intricate squiggles. On the public proposal, I don't pass the entire way through a district on our morning walk to school. With the public proposal, I am represented.

Please reject the legislative proposal and consider the public proposal or others that similarly create convergent districts where the people in them share connections.

