

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
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Date: 2021-09-11
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Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

[REDACTED]



My Congressman, Chip Roy, has publicly stated that he does not respect me and has no intention of representing my interests.

Here’s what my Congressman had to say on Twitter, Apple and Facebook on January 8, 2021.



I take that to mean that Congressman Roy is so secure in his seat that **he can disregard the 48% of Texas voters who did not vote for him** in the last election. With this statement, he has told me that he has no intention of representing me. I am irrelevant. If he wins, I lose.

I grew up thinking that American democracy is a marketplace for good ideas, and that it worked when we respected differences and compromised. But that description is not what I see in American politics.

Over the past two decades **ticket splitting** in elections has declined. Not so long ago a great candidate could beat a mediocre one, even when the partisan lean of the state was not in that candidate's favor.

Today, that's almost impossible. **Because the candidate is less important than the partisan make-up of the state and the performance of the presidential candidate.** And to these candidates, their constituents are less important than their donors.

As a result, political analysts say that candidates have become more **mediocre. Our political system is not a marketplace for ideas: It is a pool for mediocrity. And Chip Roy is a poster child for that mediocrity.**

We've always touted the lessons learned from playing fair and square and from competing and losing. We say that's one of the reasons we love football so much in Texas—all the character building lessons of hard work and fair competition between excellent, hardworking competitors.

If the University of Texas had a private meeting with the referees to make up the rules for football before they play Texas A&M, there would be an uproar. It's no different from when Republicans play Democrats on redistricting. You can cheat and win, but after a while

the fans see it and lose interest because it's not competitive. Just so, the voters see this and are beginning to wonder what is the point of voting.

In redistricting, the Texas Legislature has an opportunity to restore some of bit of democracy that we have lost. That means bringing redistricting into the public forum where it belongs and engaging all the stakeholders. Compromise so it's a win-win for constituents and democracy. Be an example to all your constituents as well as to the **loyal opposition** of how democracy should work as you create the maps.

Then top that off with having more hearings after you draw the maps so that we all can embrace those maps.

Thank you.

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