

From: applications.administrator@capitol.local
To: [Senate Redistricting](#)
Subject: INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input
Date: Saturday, October 2, 2021 5:27:12 PM
Attachments: [Redistricting issue.docx](#)

Date: 2021-10-02

First Name: Ashok

Last Name: Dandekar

Title: N/A

Organization: IBE Consultants, LLC

Address: [REDACTED]

City: PLANO

State: TX

Zipcode: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

Hello, my name is Ashok Dandekar and I am a resident in Precinct 089 in Plano TX. I am part of the South Asian community that contributes to the economic, social, and civic success of this area.

I work in the healthcare sector.

We have created community meeting centers including multiple temples; Shree Raghunath temple, Shirdi Sai temple, Shree Laxmi Ganapathi temple and Chinmaya Mission temple. and Sri Sai temples. We also have event halls at Bawarchi for community gatherings. Several grocery stores such as India Bazar, Patel Brothers, and Subzi Mandi operate in the area. Also, we enjoy our traditional foods at restaurants such as Aroma, Maharaja, Madurai Thattu Kadai and 7 Spice.

Our community has had a substantial impact on Texas. We bring in talent and jobs to North Texas. We have a significant presence in Precinct 089 and yet we are not able to elect candidates that represent our voices. Some of the issues we are particularly concerned about are education, power grid, abortion rights, Covid management, flood mitigation, etc.

For far too long, AAPI communities (South Asians), which are the fastest growing minority population across Texas, have been unfairly divided into multiple legislative districts and thus, have been prevented from having the ability to elect a candidate of their choice. All I ask is that we are given equal representation through fair legislative districting. We ask that you honor the Voting Rights Act which prohibits you from drawing lines that dilute our voices. Your maps are deliberately breaking up our community.

District lines were drawn 10 years ago. Our community has grown exponentially since then. Gerrymandering often favors one party over another. Minority communities are often split to dilute their voices.

It is critical that we participate in the process to allow our collective voices to be documented. We all want our voices to be heard in determining the future of our families and communities.

Thanks,

Ashok Dandekar

[REDACTED]