

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Monday, October 4, 2021 12:42:10 AM

---

Date: 2021-10-04  
First Name: Sunita  
Last Name: Bhikha  
Title: N/A  
Organization: self  
Address: [REDACTED]  
City: Dallas  
State: TX  
Zipcode: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

To honorable Senate members,

As a member of the South Asian Community which is a part of the collective AAPI community in Texas and as a previous constituent of CD32 (now CD24) I, Sunita Bhikha am writing to you with much distress on learning the new redistricting lines being redrawn for our Texas districts based on 2020 census by this legislature.

As a South Asian immigrant child from 1979, I am privileged to have realized my American dream to obtain a top university education, licensure to practice pharmacy in both Texas and California in my 28 years of practice, and to have owned and run a successful, profitable small business which employed an average of 15 employees for 8 years here in Dallas. I have seen my Asian community grow by leaps and bounds over the last 35 years. Being an Asian Texan who has devoted my lifetime to providing valuable services in the pharmacy and in my small business, I, see myself as member of large and valuable Asian community comprising of physicians, nurses, medical personnel, teachers, professors, lawyers and business owners to name a few here in Dallas that is vital to the success of Dallas economy and community but is on the verge of NOT having fair representation in these newly drawn districts.

My dismay is magnified further because these new redistricting lines are clearly done to dilute the Asian voting group in Texas that has seen significant growth over the last 10 years. As part of a minority, I urge you to follow the guidelines under the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Your jobs are to uphold the constitutional framework for a fair and representative government. Your voters should have the voice to elect their representatives. The elected representatives of either party must NOT be able to "choose" their voters. Just as reference, in the recent past CD16 district, Asian representation was 14.6% of voters but in the newly drawn CD16 district, the Asians representation is now only at 6.7%. Please help minority voices have just representation as our founders of our country envisioned. Our elected officials should reflect the values and concerns of the community that they represent.

I, humbly ask you to create a proper district map that doesn't purposely dilute the Asian or any minority group but allows citizens with similar needs and concerns to be grouped together so that they may together choose and elect their representative to amplify their own voices

in legislature.

All eyes of our nation and world are upon Texas during these critical days. You are at a unique juncture in history where you have the power “to do the right thing” for democracy. Please work to realign the districts in a manner that works within the guidelines of The Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit virtual testimony.

Sunita Bhikha R. Ph

