

**From:** [applications.administrator@capitol.local](mailto:applications.administrator@capitol.local)  
**To:** [Senate Redistricting](#)  
**Subject:** INETMAIL: Redistricting Public Input  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2023 9:22:42 AM

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Date: 2023-03-24  
First Name: Sally Clark  
Last Name: Farris  
Title: JD, Assistant  
Organization: Self, member League of Women Voters  
[REDACTED]  
City: San Antonio  
State: Texas  
[REDACTED]

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Senate

Message:

My name is Sally Clark Farris, representing myself, a retired local government lawyer in San Antonio. A native of Corpus Christi, born there in 1942 to a family that pioneered waterfront marine, sport fishing, and excursion boat businesses, beginning in the 1930's. My family retains a small real property interest in [REDACTED]. My concern is Senate District 20. Was there a wrong done? The committee touched upon the issue in oral testimony, January 17, 2023, reassuring Ms. Rogers that Nueces County now has 2 state senators. That reassurance rang hollow. What was not explained or discussed is that our community PLED, we urged during the special session and at the regional hearing, to be included with COASTAL interests leading South to the Mexican border. Yet, the redistricting outcome married most of our population to interests SOUTH and INLAND to the Mexican border, Not COASTAL to the Mexican Border. Can you imagine the "Sparkling City by the Sea" being represented by inland interests? In that coupling we were CRACKED, a large part of our population in the City of Corpus Christi was given over to the overpowering influence of the Port of Corpus Christi and refinery row, thereby silencing non-industrial voices. Less than 30,000 souls are reported to live on North Padre Island with "new" Senator #2, La Mantia. The remainder of our regional coastal population, reported at over 500,000, are now shackled to an inland senate district. The Port of Corpus Christi was once respected for its contributing to balanced growth for the greater good, a mix of maritime, fishing, eco-tourism, and industrial enterprises. The Port is now a refining, petrochemical and pipeline community of powerful common interests that form an expanding juggernaut, to which all other communities of interest are inferior. That juggernaut is consuming The Sparking City's water, air, and land so that encroachment is gaining us national attention as a poster child at risk. Communities of color are most likely to be sacrificed. What about the economy? From an economic standpoint, the new configuration of Senate District 20 does not serve a dynamic sector of our economy that depends on tourism, recreational, and hospitality enterprises. Voices in that sector are now silenced. They are overwhelmed despite the fact that the hospitality industry employs a whopping 13.7% of the local workforce while petrochemical and other manufacturing employ merely 4.2%. Political as well as economic realities are being disregarded. Here's the political proof: In January, 2023, 2 environmentalists were elected to and seated on the Corpus Christi City Council. Their platforms were integrity for the environmental health and safety of the people of Corpus Christi, needs to control and reduce pollutants and toxins in the air and water. We do hope the promise of 2 senators will defy the system to meet our needs, but we are skeptical because the cracking scheme does not work that way. Fair map principles were violated. The

village of Ingleside on the Bay is being inundated by ship wakes, literally being washed away by industrial marine traffic. Proposals for multiple desalination plants persist in spite of scientific study to the contrary by Texas A&M experts. Petrochemical and Port ambitions are limitless, reflected in an expansive legislative agenda in the last regular session, a move so controversial that it stirred written protests from a coalition of regional mayors. Corpus Christi, the "Sparkling City by the Sea," a gem on the Texas coast, is being consumed by and sacrificed to industrial interests that are apparently responsible for "cracking" our community. It is wrong.

