

**Baker, Sarah**

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**From:** Jodie [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 9:43 PM  
**To:** House & Governmental Affairs; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** We need Fair Redistricting Now!

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Please do not click on links or attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the House Governmental Affairs Committee:

I am a native Louisianian, resident, voter, church member, and small business owner in Jefferson Parish. I am writing to demand that you stop wasting our taxpayer dollars, our time, and the lost access to power by black folks in Louisiana by refusing to adopt a congressional redistricting map that includes 2 majority-minority districts. Black folks now make up approximately 1/3 of Louisiana's population, and they deserve the ability to elect a candidate that shares their concerns and understands their needs. This will only happen if you **create two majority-minority congressional districts in Louisiana**. We need you to do that **NOW!**

I went to your dog and pony show in the form of town hall meetings around the state where the majority of people in attendance in New Orleans expressed their support for creating a second majority-minority district. They spent their time and effort with help from the NAACP and others to propose two new possible district maps. And what did you do? You went back to Baton Rouge, ignored what you heard, and enacted a status quo map that violated the Voting Rights Act, which resulted in needless lawsuits to get to a fair outcome. I guess you thought you could get away with that, but you have not. The law is on our side.

Redistricting and congressional representation directly affect the resources communities receive to support everything from healthcare to education and so much in between. These resources affect the quality of life for all.

Redistricting is our once-in-a-decade process of accounting for state-level population changes across the country to draw new district maps from the federal level to the local level, which makes an impact on how funding is distributed for healthcare, schools, and roads.

Unfair and discriminatory mapping weakens community power by denying Black voters the ability to elect a candidate of their choice to fight for the needs of the community.

Redistricting has a direct impact on the allocation of power and resources. When a community can elect a candidate that shares their concerns and understands their needs, that is how real change and real improvements happen.

Louisiana's increasingly diverse population calls for two majority-Black districts, which should be reflected in the maps to give more voice to the people and ensure Black voters can participate equally in elections.

**It's now time to do the right thing, the constitutional thing, and the fair thing - create a second majority-minority congressional district along the lines of at least two maps that were presented to you by the plaintiffs in the Robinson vs.(Ardoin) Landry case so black folks get fair representation in our state.**

Stronger together,

**Jodie [REDACTED]**  
**pronouns: she/her/hers**

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