



**Testimony on HB 1000,**

**By: Miguel Rivera, Senior Advocacy Manager, Voting Rights, Texas Civil Rights Project  
House Redistricting, April 5, 2023**

Chair Darby, Vice Chair Turner and Members of the House Redistricting Committee,

I am here today to testify in opposition of HB 1000, and its effects on the voting power of communities of color across the state.

Just under two years ago, several hundred Texans organized to advocate for fair maps that accurately reflect their communities. Voting rights and civil rights groups sent several letters to this committee petitioning for a more transparent and accessible process that included requests for more notice ahead of public input hearings, a period of time for members of the public to review proposed maps, and opportunities to review any amendments to a proposed map as it made its way through the legislative process.

These same several hundred Texans then testified to this committee on the need for electoral maps that accurately reflect their communities and are responsive to the needs of their communities.

Unfortunately, this map does not accomplish this. The map, as ratified by HB 1000, does not create new opportunity districts for communities of color despite the fact that they fueled 95% of our state's population growth the past decade. In fact, this map reduces the number of state house districts in which Hispanics make up the majority of eligible voters and opportunity districts for Black voters also similarly decreased.

Demographic data shows that our state will continue to grow more diverse throughout the course of this decade. We need fair and representative maps in order to ensure that the most marginalized in our state are given an opportunity to have their concerns heard and addressed. I ask you not to report HB 1000 favorably.