

## Redistricting Power Grab: What HB4 Means for Black Texans: An Attack on Representation, Resources, and Rights

House Bill 4 is a direct threat to Black political power in Texas.

By weakening or eliminating key Black-led congressional districts—**Districts 9, 18, 30, and 33**—this proposed map dismantles decades of hard-fought representation. It splits historic Black neighborhoods, shrinks voting-age Black populations, and dilutes the ability of Black communities to elect candidates of their choice. Texas has the **largest** number of Black residents of **any state** in the U.S., and the Black population continues to grow especially in suburban and rural areas. However, this proposed plan would eliminate opportunity seats by 50%--potentially decreasing Texas' Black Congressional delegation to just two (2) members.

### **Texas has 38 U.S. Congressional seats.**

- Under the **proposed redistricting map (HB4)**:
  - **White Texans**, who make up roughly **40% of the population**, would control **approximately 75–80% of the congressional districts**.
  - Meanwhile, **Black, Latino, and Asian communities**, who make up the **majority of Texas' population**, would be underrepresented.

### **What This Means:**

- Despite people of color accounting for **nearly 60% of Texas' population**, the proposed map **reduces or weakens districts** where communities of color (especially Black voters) can elect candidates of their choice.
- This kind of imbalance is at the heart of **Voting Rights Act concerns** and raises serious questions about fair representation.

Under HB4, **District 30 loses Dallas Love Field Airport, parts of downtown Dallas, and key medical and cultural districts—cutting off access to major sources of federal investment, jobs, and infrastructure funding**. Similarly, **District 18 in Houston would lose Hobby Airport**, a vital economic engine that supports working-class communities and generates substantial federal and transportation funding.

These changes are not accidental—they're strategic efforts to **weaken the power of Black voters by redrawing them out of the economic centers they help sustain**. Districts 9, 18, 30, and 33 have long been anchors for Black civic leadership and federal advocacy. This map fractures them in ways that will hurt access to housing, healthcare, transportation, and economic opportunity.

This is not just a redistricting bill—it is a rollback of civil rights with far-reaching financial consequences. **Texans deserve fair maps that protect representation and economic equity—not political gerrymandering that punishes our communities**. Its impact will be felt for generations.



*"What the people want is very simple—they want an America as good as its promise."*  
— Barbara Jordan

**Thank you for your courage, commitment, and continued advocacy.**

Your voice matters—and your advocacy is making a difference. But the work doesn't end here. We must continue to show up, speak out, and hold our leaders accountable. This advocacy toolkit gives you resources and ideas to keep going strong—because the fight for fair representation and justice in Texas is far from over.

As a constituent, it's your **right** to share your thoughts, concerns, and expectations with your state representative. Not sure where to start? Here are some ideas to help you speak up with confidence.



## SAMPLE CALL SCRIPTS



### Version 1: Detailed & Historic

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [Your City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents.

I'm calling today as a concerned constituent regarding the proposed congressional redistricting maps.

I strongly oppose these maps because they would weaken or eliminate representation in four key Black-led districts—Districts 9, 18, 30, and 33. These districts are not just lines on a map. They represent decades of progress, struggle, and hard-won political voice for Black communities in Texas.

The new maps appear to be drawn to divide communities of color, reduce their voting power, and shift influence away from the people most impacted by state policies. This is unacceptable and undemocratic.

I urge you to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4 and any map that dilutes minority voting power.
- Demand a transparent, inclusive process that reflects the people of Texas—not partisan agendas.
- Stand up for fair maps that keep historic Black neighborhoods like Acres Homes, Fifth Ward, South Oak Cliff, Stop Six, and Como whole.

We deserve maps that protect the right of every Texan to be fairly represented. I'm counting on you to do the right thing.

**Thank you for your time—and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

## Version 2: Urgent & Personal

Hi, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents. I'm calling because I'm scared and angry about the redistricting maps being pushed right now.

These maps target our communities—especially Black voters—by breaking up our districts and weakening our voice in government. Districts like 9, 18, 30, and 33 have been powerful tools for our communities to fight for healthcare, education, and justice.

Now, they're trying to erase them.

This isn't just political—it's personal. My neighborhood deserves to be heard, not divided. I'm asking you to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Stop the attack on Black representation.
- Reject any map that silences communities of color.
- Push for maps that keep us together—not split us apart.

We're watching. We're voting. And we need our leaders to stand for fair representation.

**Thank you for listening and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

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## Version 3: Legal & Policy-Focused

Hello, this is [Your Name] from [City or ZIP Code], and I am one of your constituents.

I'm calling to express serious concern about the proposed congressional redistricting map.

The current proposal appears to violate the spirit—if not the letter—of the Voting Rights Act by diluting Black and Latino voting power in key districts, including 9, 18, 30, and 33. These are districts where voters of color have consistently elected representatives of their choice.

Undermining that is both unconstitutional and unjust.

I urge your office to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Ensure compliance with the Voting Rights Act.
- Demand an open and equitable redistricting process.
- Reject any plan that weakens the representation of historically marginalized communities.

Texans deserve maps that reflect our diversity—not suppress it.

**Please do everything in your power to protect voting rights and fair representation. Thanks for your time and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

#### **Version 4: People-First & Community-Focused**

Hi, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents. I'm calling to share my concern about the proposed redistricting map currently under consideration.

This map doesn't put Texans first—it puts political interests over people. It splits communities, dilutes voices, and makes it harder for working families, communities of color, and rural voters to be heard.

We need maps that keep neighborhoods together and ensure every Texan has a fair shot at being represented—not maps that protect incumbents or political parties.

I urge you to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Reject this map and demand a more transparent process.
- Fight for maps that reflect our communities—not divide them.
- Stand up for a fair redistricting process that serves the people, not politics.

**I'm asking you to do the right thing—for all of us. Thank you for listening and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

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#### **Version 5: Constitutional & Voting Rights Framing**

Good day. My name is [Your Name], and I live in [City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents. I'm calling to urge you to oppose the proposed redistricting map.

Redistricting should be about equal representation and protecting every citizen's right to vote—not partisan advantage. This current map raises serious concerns about equity, transparency, and potential violations of the Voting Rights Act.

A fair democracy depends on fair maps. This proposal undermines public trust and risks legal challenges that could cost the state time and resources.

I urge your office to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Call for an inclusive redistricting process.
- Reject maps that silence or divide communities.
- Support nonpartisan solutions that reflect Texas's diversity and growth.

**Please ensure this process upholds the law—and protects the voices of all Texans and make sure my concerns are recorded.**

### **Version 6: Firm & Civic-Minded**

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents. I'm calling today to voice my strong opposition to the proposed redistricting map.

This map does not reflect the real Texas. It's drawn to benefit political interests—not to ensure fair and equal representation for the people. When communities are split, silenced, or pushed to the margins, it's not just bad politics—it's bad democracy.

Texans deserve maps that are transparent, community-centered, and rooted in fairness—not power grabs behind closed doors.

I urge you to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Stand up against this map and demand equity in the redistricting process.
- Protect the voices of everyday Texans, especially those most often left out.
- Remember: fair maps are the foundation of a fair government.

**Please do what's right—for our democracy, and for all Texans. Thank you for taking my call and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

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### **Version 7: People-First Democracy Focus**

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I live in [City or ZIP Code]. I am one of your constituents. I'm calling today because I believe in a democracy that puts people first—not political power plays.

The proposed congressional redistricting map under House Bill 4 is exactly what's wrong with our system. It's designed to let politicians choose their voters instead of voters choosing their representatives. That's backward—and it's unacceptable.

Communities like mine—Black, Brown, working-class, and often overlooked—deserve a fair say in who represents us. Weakening or erasing our districts erodes trust and silences real voices. I'm asking you to:

- Vote NO on House Bill 4.
- Support a redistricting process that centers the people—not politics.
- Ensure every Texan has the power to elect leaders who reflect their values and needs.

**We need fair maps, honest leadership, and a democracy where everyone counts.**  
**Thank you for taking my call, and please make sure my concerns are recorded.**

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