



RYAN GUILLEN

★
TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 30, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
ALEX.GAUDIO@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV

GUILLEN WEIGHS IN ON REDISTRICTING

Redistricting Fight Goes To Supreme Court

AUSTIN - Following the beginning of oral arguments in front of the Supreme Court, Representative Ryan Guillen (D - Rural South Texas) reiterates his strong opposition to gerrymandering practices, and his desire that South Texans be represented fairly in the Texas legislature and Congress.

"Each and every Texas citizen has the right to be represented fairly and without discrimination," Guillen said. "We must work together to make sure South Texans receive the fair representation they are entitled to."

In 2011, state lawmakers were tasked with redrawing district lines after the 2010 US census showed a boom in population within the state, especially among Hispanic individuals. Those district maps were eventually ruled to be discriminatory against Hispanic voters and voters of color and were not implemented. They were redrawn by the Court, but the new maps have been challenged as well.

The next step in the years-long legal battle is oral arguments before the US Supreme Court which began on Tuesday, April 24th. The outcome may require yet another redistricting process to take place. Additionally, the Court could rule that the redistricting process will require federal oversight going forward, if it is decided that the discrimination practices were indeed intentional.

The state legislature will most likely next take up redistricting in 2021 following the 2020 Census. Until then, the maps that are being challenged are the ones in use.

"Voting is among the most important duties we have as American citizens and as Texans," added Guillen. "Therefore it is imperative that our system of voting is fair and equal to all."

Serving ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, Ryan Guillen is known for his hard work, fierce independence, and relentless efforts for South Texas families. Recently, Capitol Inside called him a "House Bill Machine," and a "one-person assembly line for legislation." Since elected, few other legislators have passed more bills than Guillen. Sign up for updates at ryanguillen.com, facebook.com/representative.guillen, and twitter.com/ryanguillen

###