

Speech from Rocío Fierro-Pérez (she/her/ella)
Political Director, Texas Freedom Network
Texas For All Rally Against Redistricting on Day of House Floor Debate
August 20, 2025

My name is Rocío Fierro-Pérez. I am the Political Director at the Texas Freedom Network. I am a proud Mexican, American, immigrant, queer woman from the frontera of El Paso.

We are here because Texas Republicans are trying to steal five congressional seats for Donald Trump. A twice-impeached, indicted criminal who wants to rule, not serve. And they're doing it by silencing our voices with racist, gerrymandered maps. Let's be clear: This isn't just about lines on a map. This is about power — and who gets to keep it.

Texas Republicans are terrified of you. They're terrified of us. And they should be. They know what happens when Texans stand in our power. That's why they're doing everything they can to cheat: abandoning flood survivors, wasting our tax dollars to hunt down lawmakers who dared to walk out, and holding a Black representative hostage just because she refused to be tracked like a criminal.

Greg Abbott would rather hand our state over to Trump than face a future where the people—not him—are in charge.

Let's be very clear: We are not afraid of Greg Abbott. We do not answer to Trump. And we are not here to play by the rules of cowards who cling to power through lies, racism, and oppression.

Their fear is loud. But our resistance is louder. And it's growing.

In their desperation, they've awoken a movement that will not be silenced, stalled, or stolen from. No gerrymandered map, no wannabe king, and no backroom deal will erase the truth: This is our Texas, we will not back down.

And to the communities that are too often talked about but never spoken to — quiero hablarles directamente:

Trump y los legisladores republicanos se niegan a poner a usted —su electorado— por encima de su sed de poder.

Los líderes de este estado han intentado obligarnos a temerle a nuestros vecinos transgénero, a quedarnos en silencio mientras familias y vecinos migrantes son secuestrados, observar cómo destruyen nuestras escuelas públicas, y a entregar el control de nuestros cuerpos al gobierno.

No nos vamos a quedar callados.

Personas de color, inmigrantes, personal LGBT, indígenas, pobres, con discapacidades y mujeres hemos luchado demasiado por el derecho al voto como para permitir que estos legisladores suprezcan y roben nuestras voces.

No importa cuántas luchas nos esperan: no podrán quebrarnos.

They don't get to decide our future.

We do.

We've got nothing to lose but our chains.

When we fight - We win!

When we fight - We win!

Gracias.