

*ABC's World News Tonight with David Muir*

08/05/25

6:41:53 p.m.

1 minute and 2 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Absent Texas Democrats Facing Arrest; Gov. Abbott Authorizes Arrests of Missing Lawmakers]

JONATHAN KARL: Though Democrats have also skewed congressional district maps to favor their party in states they control, redistricting usually only happens after a new, once-a-decade census. Now, the Democratic governors of California and New York are threatening to change their congressional districts to retaliate against Texas.

GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM (D-CA): And we're going to fight fire with fire.

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL (D-NY): But they're leaving us no choice. We must do the same.

KARL: Texas Democrats will have to come home eventually. In the meantime, this could be costly. Each one of them faces a \$500 a fine for every day that they're out of the state. Meanwhile, this just in from the governor of Texas, he has ordered the Texas Rangers to initiate an investigation into whether any of those Democrats either accepted or solicited funds to pay for their travels outside of the state, something he says would be a violation of Texas bribery laws. David?

DAVID MUIR: Jon Karl, with the breaking headline. And, Jon, as you point out, this is usually tied to the census, which is why so many people are watching this across the country.