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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

BREAKING: Pennsylvania Republican House Members Move to IMPEACH PA Supreme Court Judges Over Gerrymandering

This week, Republicans lost their latest desperate attempt to block Pennsylvania's new, fair maps when the U.S. Supreme Court rejected their efforts. Now, with nowhere left to fight in the courts, they're launching another last-ditch effort to rig the system.

Republicans introduced legislation to IMPEACH Pennsylvania State Supreme Court justices who struck down their gerrymandered map.

Twelve Republican state legislators in Pennsylvania have signed on to resolutions introduced Tuesday that seek to impeach four Democratic justices on the state Supreme Court over rulings in a congressional redistricting case. The four nearly identical resolutions argue the justices acted improperly through rulings that gave lawmakers about three weeks to enact a new district map and then produced a court-drawn map.

The court ruled a 2011 GOP-crafted map, among the most gerrymandered in the nation, violated the state constitution's guarantee of free and equal elections. The replacement it came up with is widely expected to help Democrats as they seek to flip U.S. House seats now held by Republicans.

"If we allow this to stand without taking action, the future courts are going to decide that the court has the ultimate ability to write law and they can turn around and cite this as precedent where we've allowed it to occur with no repercussions on the court," said the prime sponsor, Jefferson County Republican [Rep. Cris Dush](#). The co-sponsors are among the House's more conservative Republicans, and so far no members of the GOP [leadership](#) have signed on.

If the 203-member House votes to impeach, the two-thirds of senators in attendance must agree to convict in order to remove the official. The resolutions seek impeachment of justices [David Wecht](#), [Debra Todd](#), [Christine Donohue](#) and [Kevin Dougherty](#). None returned messages seeking comment left Tuesday at their chambers.

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The president of the state bar association, Sharon R. Lopez, says the judiciary needs to be independent without threat of impeachment by another branch of government. "The Pennsylvania Constitution makes clear that public officials can be impeached for any misbehavior in office," Lopez said recently. "There are no allegations of misbehavior in this case."