



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

William Hamilton, President & Eastern PA Legislative Coordinator – Joseph Molinero, Sec.-Treasurer & Western PA Legislative Coordinator – Tim O'Neill, Consultant – Dan Grace, Trustee & Legislative Advisor – Robert Baptiste, Esq. Legal Advisor

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

Governor Tom Wolf Rejects Partisan Gerrymandered Map

February 13, 2018

Analyses, Non-Partisan Experts Say GOP Submission is Partisan, Gerrymandered

Harrisburg, PA – Governor Tom Wolf today told the Pennsylvania Supreme Court that he will not accept the proposed map Republican legislative leaders submitted because it, too, is a partisan gerrymander that does not comply with the court's order or Pennsylvania's Constitution.

"Partisan gerrymandering weakens citizen power, promotes gridlock and stifles meaningful reform," Governor Wolf said. "As non-partisan analysts have already said, their map maintains a similar partisan advantage by employing many of the same unconstitutional tactics present in their 2011 map.

"The analysis by my team shows that, like the 2011 map, the map submitted to my office by Republican leaders is still a gerrymander. Their map clearly seeks to benefit one political party, which is the essence of why the court found the current map to be unconstitutional."

Read a statement from Professor Moon Duchin on her analysis [here](#). (or see page two of the hard copy alert)

The analysis by Governor Wolf's team confirms the universal analysis of various non-partisan experts that say the Republican leaders' submission is another partisan gerrymander.

- Princeton University professor Sam Wang [said](#) bluntly that "a prettier map can still conceal ill intent" and "it appears that Republicans are not dealing in good faith with the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's order."
- A *Washington Post* data expert [concluded](#), "Pennsylvania Republicans have drawn a new congressional map that is just as gerrymandered as the old one."
- *The New York Times* [found](#) the submitted map would extract the same partisan advantage for Republicans as the current one.
- Brian Amos, a redistricting expert at the University of Florida, [said](#), "...There was still a strong Republican bias, which is why the congressional and State Senate plans were struck down for being gerrymanders."

Summary of Conclusions of Joint Submission Plan

Professor M. Duchin - February 13, 2018

I was asked to use best practices from mathematics and statistics to assess whether the proposed Joint Submission Plan is or is not an extreme outlier along partisan lines. I concluded that the proposed Joint Submission Plan is indeed an extreme outlier, exhibiting a decidedly partisan skew that cannot be explained by Pennsylvania's political geography or the application of traditional districting principles.

I examined the proposed Joint Submission Plan using a mathematical method that took into account only the factors set forth in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court order: respect for political boundaries, compactness, and population parity. My goal was to assess the partisan performance of the proposed Joint Submission Plan in the context of the universe of Pennsylvania plans that could have been created within the Court's constraints. My approach fully controls for "political geography" – that is, how voters are distributed across the state, by holding that constant when a comparison is made.

We ran algorithms to generate many millions of alternative districting plans that scored better than the proposed Joint Submission Plan on the Supreme Court's factors (respect for political boundaries, compactness, and population parity), but were substantially less weighted toward Republican candidates than the proposed Joint Submission Plan.

I concluded that the proposed Joint Submission Plan's bias in favor of Republicans is extremely unlikely to have come about by chance.

There is no more than a 0.1% chance that a plan drafted to comply with the Court's factors would have been as favorable to Republicans as is the proposed Joint Submission Plan.

When measured by tracking its partisan bias, the proposed Joint Submission Plan failed emphatically. Only the 2011 plan that is currently in effect started from a more severe partisan skew and stood out more in this test.

The proposed Joint Submission Plan is extremely, and unnecessarily, partisan.

These Legislative Action Alerts will be posted on the PA Conference of Teamsters web site at www.pacfteamsters.com Go to the home page and click on the black box titled Legislative Action Alert Bulletins. Please share our web site address and these alerts with your officers, agents and stewards.

