



# Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

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## LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

**THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN PA DOESN'T GIVE**

**TWO 🍌S ABOUT YOUR VOICE IN ELECTIONS**

**ALL PENNSYLVANIANS MUST VOTE NO ON PA H.B. 38 JOINT RESOLUTION WHEN IT APPEARS ON THE BALLOT POSSIBLY THIS MAY**

According to an article from TribLIVE®, a proposal moving through the GOP-led Pennsylvania legislature could soon make the state an extreme outlier in the country by allowing lawmakers to exert more control over the state Supreme Court and other appellate courts. The measure, which could be before voters as soon as May, calls for abolishing statewide elections for appellate court judges and replacing them with races in partisan districts determined by lawmakers and redrawn every 10 years.

A 50-state review by Spotlight PA and Votebeat, as well as interviews with judicial and academic experts, found only two other states — Illinois and Louisiana — employ such a system, which has increased partisan campaign fights and given special interests and dark money groups more of a foothold to affect the outcome of races. Experts said the change in Pennsylvania could risk the public's confidence in judges because they wouldn't answer to a statewide constituency, but

rather smaller, localized districts that are more politically homogeneous. That, in turn, could affect how they rule, eroding the judiciary's independence and making it appear more political. Critics — including a wide array of legal organizations and good-government groups — call the measure a ploy for Republicans to gain more control over the Supreme Court

New England Law professor Jordan Singer said having partisan elections in small geographic districts invites more campaign "mischief" than in a statewide race, because special interests are able to target their audience more narrowly, and there are fewer media markets to consider. "It really opens the door for special interests and dark money to say, 'Look, we can get a lot of bang for our buck by pouring money into this small region of the state, getting our candidate elected, and then that candidate will hopefully advance our interests,'" he said.

**MANY IN THE PA REPUBLICAN PARTY FALSELY CLAIMED THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WAS STOLEN BUT THE REAL THIEVES ARE THE PA REPUBLICAN PARTY WHO BLATANTLY, IN THE OPEN, ARE ATTEMPTING TO SILENCE YOUR VOTE IN FUTURE ELECTIONS**

Read complete article at: [Pa. could become national outlier in how it elects appellate judges, worrying some experts | TribLIVE.com.](https://www.triblive.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/02/08/pa-could-become-national-outlier-in-how-it-elects-appellate-judges-worrying-some-experts/7000000002)

