

#### It undermines judicial independence

Constitutional checks and balances are only possible if judges can carry out their work without fear of retribution from legislators.



### It mis-states the relationship between judges and PA public

The summary of the bill states "It organizes the Judiciary into representative districts and further provides for residency requirements." Judges, unlike legislators, are NOT expected to represent constituents. Their role is to interpret the law.



### It values location over expertise

PA has hundreds of local judicial races. Judges in PA's highest courts should be chosen for their high level of experience and competence, not based on where they live.

# What's Wrong with Judicial Districts? Why Fair Districts PA OPPOSES House Bill 38

## The bill was passed with no public deliberation

This amendment to the PA constitution passed in both chambers without public hearings, without expert testimony, without any hint of due diligence or transparent response to concerns or objections.

## This bill is exactly the opposite of what PA voters asked for

PA voters have demonstrated significant support for an independent citizens redistricting commission. Bills to amend the constitution to accomplish that never got a vote. This bill has no documented public support yet moved quickly through the PA legislature. **PA voters want to know WHY**.

## It opens the door to judicial gerrymandering

Judicial districts would be drawn with the same secretive, partisan process that has yielded some of the nation's most gerrymandered districts. **PA voters want less gerrymandering, not more**.

Only nine states continue to elect appellate judges in partisan elections. Only two states (Illinois & Louisiana) elect Supreme Court judges in partisan **district** elections. Even those do not allow legislators a free hand in regularly redrawing those districts.

> Pennsylvania's judicial district bill would pioneer new lows in partisan gerrymandering



