



# Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

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## LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

### U.S. Supreme Court Won't Block Pennsylvania Gerrymandering Decision

On Monday, February 5, 2018 the U.S. Supreme Court rejected a Republican effort to halt a required redrawing of Pennsylvania's 18 congressional districts before the year's midterm elections.

The Supreme Court's order was expected, as the Pennsylvania court had based [its decision](#) solely on the state constitution. On matters of state law, the judgments of state supreme courts are typically final.

The order, which gave no reasons, came from Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr., who acted without referring the case to the full court.

The United States Supreme Court frequently grants stays of election-law decisions from federal courts,

particularly if elections are near. It has stayed the trial court rulings, for instance, in the Wisconsin and North Carolina cases.

But it rarely intervenes in election cases from state courts. A notable exception was *Bush v. Gore*, the 2000 decision that handed the presidency to George W. Bush.

"Granting review of this case," lawyers for Mr. Wolf wrote, "would represent an unprecedented encroachment on the rights of state courts to delineate the boundaries of state law."

### Order from the PA Supreme Court denies the motions filed by Turzai and Scarmati to disqualify Justice Wecht and Justice Donohue

From: Robert Baptiste, Esq. Legal counsel to the PA Conference of Teamsters

"The attached Order from the PA Supreme Court, dated February 5, denies the motions filed by Turzai and Scarmati to disqualify and to have a hearing on the disqualification motions. Justice Donohue did file a disclosure statement." "The General Assembly must have its proposal for the districts to the Governor by February 9; otherwise the PA Supreme Court will perform that task."

"The attempts by the Republican leadership to disqualify Justice Christine Donohue and Justice David Wecht are unsuccessful."

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