

TWO REASONS WHY THE 2018 GOVERNOR'S RACE IS SO IMPORTANT

1. Right-to-Work

Is self-explanatory

2. Gerrymandering

No. 2 is addressed in an article posed online by the Patriot News © entitled: Pa. has crazy voting districts: Here are some ways to fix that

PENNLIVE © Article by: BY WALLACE McKELVEY

The article in part explains that congressional districts are drawn by state lawmakers, which means they typically reflect the will of the legislative majority (currently Republican). **The maps are then subject to a governor's veto. That will be a factor in the coming 2018 gubernatorial election, since the winner could wield a great deal of influence over Pennsylvania's political climate for years to come.**

A five-member commission draws the lines for state House and Senate seats. The majority and minority leaders of both chambers appoint one member each. Those four members then select a fifth member to serve as chairman. If they can't reach an agreement, the Supreme Court steps in to appoint one. In practice, the process invests a great deal of power in the court, which itself has a partisan tilt. The court

recently switched from a Republican majority to a Democratic one.

During the most recent round of mapmaking, Pennsylvania's process resulted in some creatively drawn districts. One example is the 7th Congressional district, which has been described as cartoon character Goofy kicking Donald Duck.

The article goes on to explain that any change would require amending the state constitution. In order to do that, the Legislature must pass a reform bill in two consecutive sessions (2017-18, the current session, and 2019-20) before it goes to a voter referendum in 2020.

"If we don't do something now, it's another whole decade before we can fix this and we can't afford that," Carol Kuniholm, Fair District's executive director.

To view and read entire article go to:

http://www.pennlive.com/news/2017/09/redistricting_how_do_other_sta.html#incart_2box_politics

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