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**Blocking the Power of the People: Political Gerrymandering in the Supreme Court**

MILWAUKEE, WI - Representative David Crowley (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement regarding the Supreme Court decisions in the North Carolina and Maryland partisan gerrymandering cases:

“I am incredibly disappointed in the Supreme Court’s decision to remove itself from political gerrymandering cases. The 5-4 decision permits partisan legislators to continue to draw unfair maps and manipulate the very foundation of our democracy. This ruling was partisan and yet another indicator of political self-interest in an attempt to subvert the democratic process and rig elections.

“These maps are unconstitutional. Partisan actors draw politically gerrymandered maps in order to manufacture legislative districts for the sole purpose of benefiting their own political party. This ruling has harmful consequences for not only North Carolina and Maryland, but for every state across our nation. Political gerrymandering clearly undermines the will of the people and the Court refused to provide any solutions.

“It cannot be understated: this is political discrimination. For years, African American and other minority communities have consistently been underrepresented in our political system. This ruling ensures the politically powerful will remain in power by uprooting the very core of American democracy and silencing thousands of American voices within gerrymandered districts.

“While the Court’s ruling is frustrating, it remains our duty as elected officials to fight for fair, non-partisan maps and hold our own legislature accountable. Regardless of the Court’s decision, my fellow Democrats and I will continue to fight for the rights of Wisconsinites to choose their representatives.”

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