Poison in the well

Pennsylvania congressional map struck down

By Mark Levy, ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down the state’s widely criti-
cized congressional map, guiding a major victory to Demo-
crats who argued the map was unconstitutionally gerrymandered to benefit Republicans and urged the court to make sure the map was
re-drawn.

Democrats cheered the decision to toss out a Republican-drawn map used in three general elections going back to 2010. It was a non-partisan roar as a
majority of the justices declared it a victory for democracy.

The decision comes as a national trend of gerrymandering cases is gaining
steam as redistricting season begins in earnest.

“This is a historic day for the state of Pennsylvania, an historic day for the
nation,” said Supreme Court Justice Debra S. Todd. “We’re not doing this
because we’re anti-GOP; we’re not doing this because we’re anti-establish-
ment. We’re doing it because it was the right thing to do.”

The court’s ruling came in an oral argument to three Pennsylvania senators
including Republican Bill Toomy and Democrat John F. Dougherty.

The defendants — top Republican

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down the state’s widely criti-
cized congressional map, guiding a major victory to Demo-
crats who argued the map was unconstitutionally gerrymandered to benefit Republicans and urged the court to make sure the map was
re-drawn.

Democrats cheered the decision to toss out a Republican-drawn map used in three general elections going back to 2010. It was a non-partisan roar as a
majority of the justices declared it a victory for democracy.

The decision comes as a national trend of gerrymandering cases is gaining
steam as redistricting season begins in earnest.

“This is a historic day for the state of Pennsylvania, an historic day for the
nation,” said Supreme Court Justice Debra S. Todd. “We’re not doing this
because we’re anti-GOP; we’re not doing this because we’re anti-establish-
ment. We’re doing it because it was the right thing to do.”

The court’s ruling came in an oral argument to three Pennsylvania senators
including Republican Bill Toomy and Democrat John F. Dougherty.

The defendants — top Republican