



MELISSA AGARD
STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 13, 2024

Contact: Emily Duernberger, 608-266-9170

**Senator Agard: Statement on Desperate Republicans' Last Ditch Attempt
on Legislative Maps**

MADISON - Today, Senate Republicans put forward a substitute amendment on SB 488 which would implement a new legislative map. This comes 3 weeks after they put forward a map aimed at protecting their incumbent members. Senator Melissa Agard (D-Madison) released the following statement:

"The push for fair maps is about more than just district lines. This is about the process and procedures we go through to ensure a system of government that reflects the will of the people. Today, Republicans threw that process out the window, instead opting for literal parlor tricks to get this last ditch effort to the Senate floor. There was no public hearing or public comment on what is before us today. It is clear that Senate Republicans are afraid or unwilling to listen to the people's voice on the critical issue of legislative maps.

"Simply put, if this is the right map for Wisconsin - then let it go through the gritty legislative process we should expect when taking up something of such consequence. Let us debate and vet the proposal and shine light on our decisions. If we are truly going to fix this, let's fix it forever with protective parameters rather than a one time solution that will kick the can down the road to a future legislature.

"Wisconsin Republicans have a track record of creating the most gerrymandered maps in the nation. During the course of their illegitimate majority, they have rigged the system in their favor at the expense of fair representation for the people of Wisconsin. This last, desperate attempt should be seen for what it is - a politically motivated scheme rather than an honest proposal.

"No one has less credibility on fair maps than Wisconsin Republicans. But make no mistake, Wisconsinites will not be fooled by these cynical actions. Their history over the last 14 years has proven they cannot be trusted, and they cannot be trusted today."

###