The liberal playbook in Wisconsin is reminiscent of the old MadLibs books from my youth. Call them HyperboLibs:

Today (NAME OF OUTRAGED PERSON/GROUP) said the Republicans efforts to (AGENDA ITEM OR DESCRIPTION OF LEGISLATION) was a (Choose one; APPALLING BREECH OF TRUST / INSULT TO CITIZENS / BETRAYAL OF THE WISCONSIN TRADITION / TRAVESTY / SHAM / MOCKERY / TRAVESHAMOCKERY).

This week's topic is redistricting. Is it safe to assume 1) you are outraged 2) you are starting a petition drive 3) your fellow liberals will go to court to stop the legislation? "Today, One Wisconsin Now said the Republicans efforts to pass their redistricting plan was a betrayal of the Wisconsin tradition." Am I close? I know the summer months can lead to writer's block, so I'm just trying to give you a head start on this week's feature ...

As long as the Republicans try and shred the state constitution, the people of Wisconsin are going to rebel against the Fitzwalkerstan Empire. Once again, an amazing power grab by the Republicans, rejecting all pretext of sensible, lawful map-drawing. But then again, that's to be expected when your party's goal is the destruction of the middle class so the corporations funding your entire right-wing movement don't have to worry about pesky democracy to get in the way. I appreciate your concern about my potential writer's block, but with the limitless depths of GOP's bottom-feeding corporate sycophancy, there's always new inspiration.

There is absolutely nothing out of the ordinary or unlawful about the proposed maps. No district looks like some sort of Japanese origami gone awry. They are compact, they keep communities of interest together, and they were lawfully drawn. Since January, the far left and Wisconsin Democrats (but I repeat myself) have proven that they will run to the courts or demand a redo.
when they don't like the outcome: the budget repair bill, photo ID, recall petitions, Supreme Court elections, etc. A legal challenge, no matter how frivolous, is likely in this case, too. That's why the Republicans retained legal counsel at the onset, to advise the process to ensure that the districts are fully compliant with every legal requirement. There is nothing illegal or unconstitutional about the process or the product here. Learn to live with these maps, Scot. They're the new districts for the next 10 years.

The maps are a mess of carved-out partisanship, violating long-standing county boundaries as demarcation lines. This thing's garbage. Defend it, you will, but its rancid cheese in the dairy state. It's being rammed through immediately because the Senate is going Democratic in the next month. How in crisis is the country club cabal that drew these maps behind closed doors? They've now reached a constitutional crisis. They've rigged the districts and now they are trying to rig the court. It's a clear violation of the separation of powers. They claimed they could illegally pass the attack on workers' rights, because of separation of powers, and now they're perfectly willing to ignore that when it comes to desperately trying to keep their stranglehold on power. That's a convenient flip flop, ain't it?

County boundaries haven't played a role in legislative districting for decades, Scot. Look, the Democrats were given the exact same redistricting software and hardware and census data as the Republicans. What did they do with it? Where are their maps? The reapportionment plan needs to be passed by the Legislature, like any bill. They have an opportunity to deliver an alternative. Where is it? I'm sure it will be nonpartisan. Are the currently proposed districts contiguous and compact? Yes. Do they ensure broad minority representation? Yes. Are they statistically equal in size? Yes. This isn't the Illinois-styled map that would give the Democratic Party a five-seat pick up in the congressional delegation, or Assembly districts that look like spokes coming out of Chicago. It's a reasonable and legal map that inconveniences legislators from both parties but provides a fair map for Wisconsin voters. What do you have against increasing the Hispanic make-up of the Legislature anyway?

This is the most partisan, most hurried, most expensive redistricting map in Wisconsin's history. Once again, the gang that doled out $2.3 billion in tax breaks for corporations and the rich and hit taxpayers for almost $500K for fake primary races, comes back with another $300K for taxpayer-financed legal fees. Your discussion
about any place other than Wisconsin shows that the GOP map here is indefensible. Nice dodge, though. Hey, speaking of things not Wisconsin -- team One Wisconsin Now is losing our deputy director, Robert Doeckel, who's leaving today to go law school out west. Since I don't have anything left to say about the GOP's election-rigging map scheme, let me close by saying Wisconsin libs will miss you, Robert.

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