

# **Key Precedents**

- Davis v. Bandemer
  (1986): partisan
  gerrymandering cases
  are justiciable; Test:
  "consistent degradation
  of a voter's or a group
  of voters' influence on
  the political process as
  a whole."
- Vieth v. Jubelirer (2004)

Plurality of the Court holds partisan gerrymandering cases are not justiciable; no judicially manageable standards for review; cf. Justice Kennedy (First Amendment theory possible – viewpoint discrimination)

# Wilson v. Kasich (2012)

- Plaintiffs must overcome presumption of constitutionality
- Beyond a reasonable doubt standard of proof
- Apportionment board may exercise political discretion in drawing maps

- Equal population
- Comply with federal and state law
- Contiguous territory
- No county split more than once ("where feasible")
- Minimize splits of municipalities

### **Current Trends**

#### Whitford v. Gill (2016)

- Efficiency gap analysis
- Development of viewpoint discrimination and equal protection theories
- The natural packing problem
- The persistence problem
- Sharp dissent

#### LMV v. Detzner (2015)

- Florida state constitution amendment
- Focus on intent
- Transparency vs. behindthe-scenes political tactics
- Shifting the burden of proof
- Individual districts vs. statewide challenge

### Issues

- Zero wins, fifty losses
- How much political effect is too much?
- Persistence of improper effect through the entire decade?
- Methodological critique: hypothetical election models; simplifying assumptions



## Issues Cont'd

- Viewpoint discrimination vs. absence of an immutable characteristic
- "Political parties do not have a right to proportional representation."
- Late in decennial cycle



