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[00:00:00] **Speaker 1** I am. I am. Okay. All right. So, professor, scheme just after the governor's state of the state address, where he spoke to what he called fair maps. In the capital, there is a sense from Speaker Robin Vos himself. That he might vote for the governors maps.

[00:00:27] **Speaker 2** It just shows how a wild and crazy government in Wisconsin can be. Gerrymandering is the hot topic in Wisconsin state government because so much is at stake. We're talking legislators, jobs, their chances of getting reelected. The balance of power in Wisconsin state government and majority control. So even as governor, Evers gave his state of the state address parts of campaign 24, where clearly the overarching concern for legislators and the governor alike. As you noted, Frederica, you mentioned fair maps in his address, and he tried to make the argument that gerrymandering leads to distorted policy outcomes. So it's clear that gerrymandering is top of mind for basically everyone here in Wisconsin state government.

[00:01:19] **Speaker 1** What is your reaction to the idea that the Assembly and Speaker Vos would forward the idea of voting for the governor's maps, agreeing that.

[00:01:32] **Speaker 2** It's a surprising development, but it also just shows how completely transformed the politics of redistricting have become. Something like this would have been laughable in previous years. But if you look at the politics of the Wisconsin State Supreme Court, the new Liberal majority, and the subsequent lawsuit over redistricting, that all leads us to this point where the political realities for Republicans are completely different than they used to be, and that is causing Republicans to do some surprising things on the issue of redistricting.

[00:02:05] **Speaker 1** But even the governor's maps would maintain a Republican majority.

[00:02:11] **Speaker 2** It's likely that that would be the case in a neutral political environment in a strong year for Democrats. They would have a shot at the majority. And that's true. And most redistricting proposals that I've seen, because of the way Republicans are geographically distributed, they would tend to win a majority in a neutral political environment. So Democrats would have to hope for a strong political context for their party, the overall political conditions. And they'd also need to vote for strong candidates as well as robust fundraising in order to win the majority.

[00:02:48] **Speaker 1** Why would Roman force agree to the governor's plan?

[00:02:53] **Speaker 2** I think it just reflects the fact that Speaker Vos is is short on options at this point. If we think about the Wisconsin State Supreme Court, they are on path to enacting new district maps for the November 2024 election. I don't think a U.S. Supreme Court challenge is likely to succeed. At least it seems like a long shot. So I think Speaker Vos is looking at the process going through the Wisconsin State Supreme Court, thinking about the probability that the U.S. Supreme Court could weigh in. I think people in the capital are pricing all of that in and making strategic adjustments accordingly.

[00:03:33] **Speaker 1** All right. Anthony Jakobson, thanks very much.

[00:03:35] **Speaker 2** Thank you.

[00:03:38] **Speaker 1** So would you think of that? Are you still reading it?