

# GERRYMANDER POETRY



## Redistricting ABC's A Poem for the People

**A** is for **A**merica, the good ol' USA.  
**B** is for her **B**eauty – Outer Banks to 'Frisco Bay.  
**C**'s for **C**onstitution, both Federal and State.  
**D** is for **D**emocracy, free of prejudice and hate.  
**E** is for **E**lections, when voters make a choice.  
**F**'s for **F**aith we'll make a **F**uture where all people have a voice.  
**G**'s for **G**eneral Assembly—they pass the laws that make  
**H**istorians – and all of us! – address what it would take  
to **I**ndependently decide that voting districts must  
be drawn to be nonpartisan in order to be **J**ust.  
We **K**now that gerrymandered lines, creating shapes absurd,  
will guarantee that **L**ess than every voter's voice is heard.  
**M** is for **M**cGrady, and his fellow reps, who see  
**N**onpartisan redistricting is as fair as fair can be!  
**O** is for **O**bstruction, with no progress, only fuss,  
when **P**arty **P**oliticos forget this fact: that *THEY work for US!*  
**Q**'s for **Q**uiet citizens, which we will never be,  
'til fair representation is the law by NCGA decree.  
So **R**edesign those district maps – compact, congruent, contiguous,  
with voter balance and rights in mind, and rules that aren't ambiguous.  
If left alone, **S**elf-serving maps reflect a single thought:  
to limit voter choice to one. Democracy it is NOT!  
Restoring **T**rust in government – when it occurs – will lead  
to **U**nity and compromise – a fundamental need.  
We need our **V**oices to be heard, and all our votes to count.  
**W**ith help from the League of Women Voters, their efforts paramount.  
**E**Xpedience is called for; it's the order of the day.  
Say **Y**es to fair voting maps – and do so right away!  
**Z** is for **Z**eitgeist, which means “the current trend” –  
one that will bring good for all with gerrymandering's end.

## G is for Gerrymander

**G** is for Gerry, Madison's Veep, who mandered his state, his power to keep;  
**E**'s for Enough of these crazy-quilt maps, driving our system too close to collapse,  
**R** is for Redmap, the GOP's sweep of mandered statehouses while Dems were asleep;  
**R**'s for each Rep, snug and smug in our House, safe from our vote, whether hero or louse;  
**Y** is for 200 Years—way too many—we must slay the gerries by Two-Thousand-Twenty!  
**M**'s for McGrady (and John and Blust), bills at the ready: “Reform or Bust!”  
**A** is for Angry, our voters aware that polls safe from ballots just really don't care;  
**N**'s for Nonpartisan hands on the pens: don't let those foxes keep guarding the hens!  
**D** is for Data, so dull (but so naughty), mapmakers must not know who's in which party;  
**E**'s for Elections, democracy's soul; voters, not gerries or polls, must control;  
**R**'s for Reforms that no longer can wait: let's drive Gerry out of our Old North State.

—by J. Bremer