



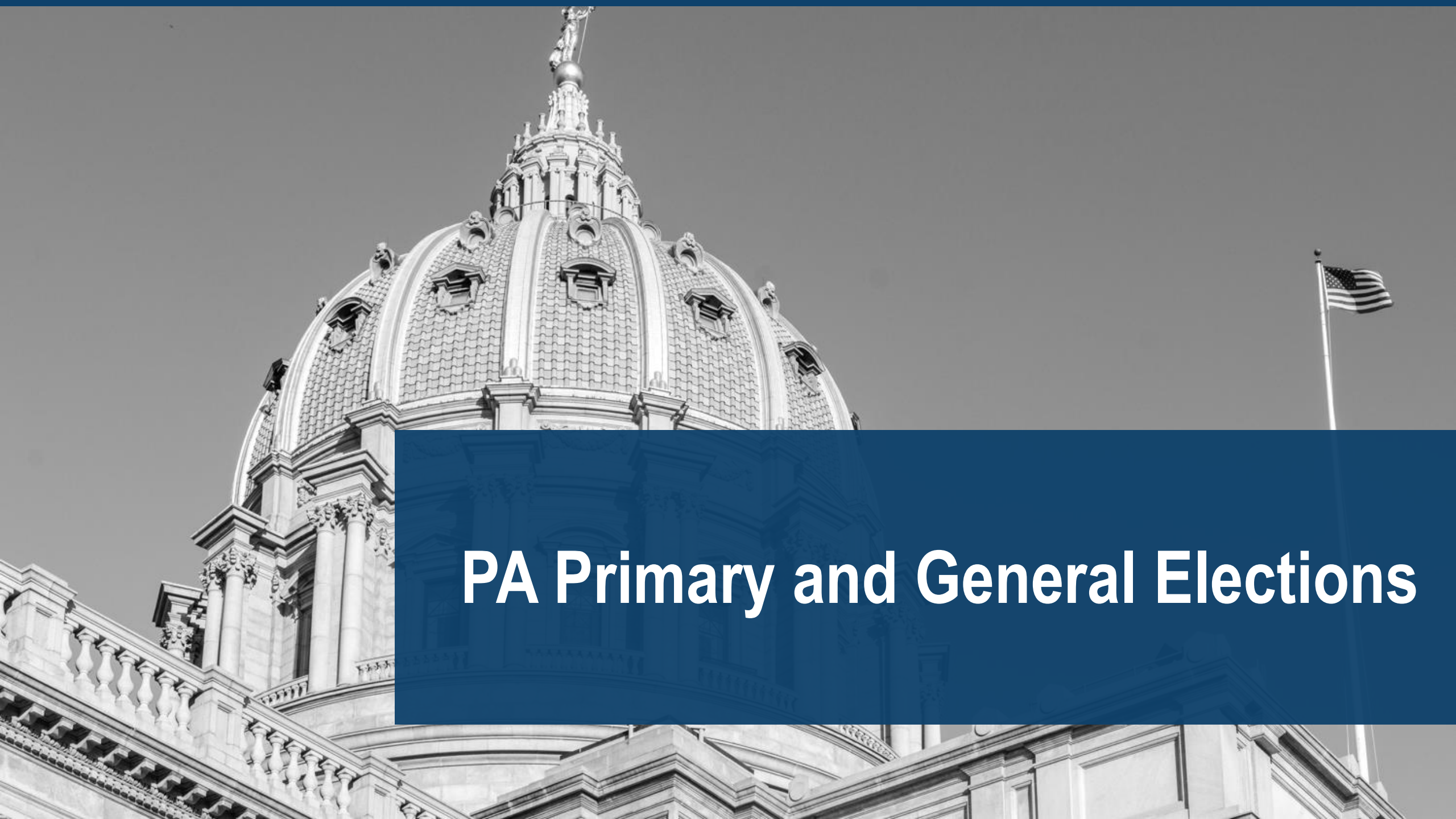
**Buchanan**

# Spring 2024 Election and Legislative Update Webinar

May 30, 2024

# Welcome and Introduction

- Throughout the presentation, please share your questions:
  - Submit a question in the chat.
  - Email your question to [lisa.gabler@bipc.com](mailto:lisa.gabler@bipc.com).



# PA Primary and General Elections

# General Assembly

## Senate

- The 25 odd-numbered Senate districts are on the ballot, including the following Senate Leaders:

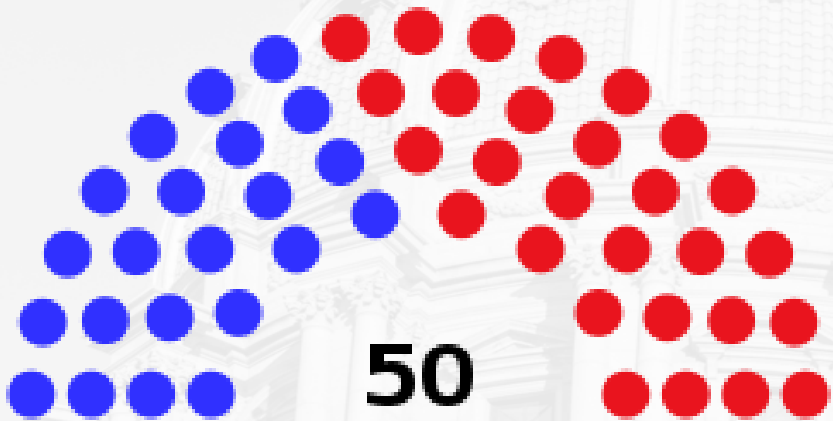
Leadership Position	Senator	General Election Opponent
Senate President Pro Tempore	Kim Ward (R)	None
Senate Majority Leader	Joe Pittman (R)	None
Senate Appropriations Committee Chair	Scott Martin (R)	None
Senate Democratic Leader	Jay Costa (D)	None
Senate Democratic Appropriations Committee Chair	Vincent Hughes (D)	None

## House

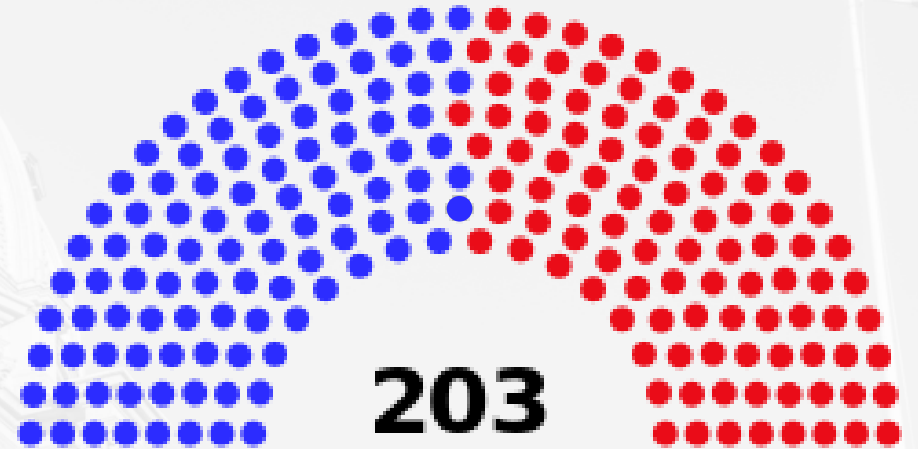
- Currently 102 Democrats and 101 Republicans
- All 203 House seats are on the ballot

# Current General Assembly

*PA Senate*



*PA House of Representatives*





# State House

# State House Hotly Contested Primaries

## 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

- Incumbent Representative Amen Brown (D) emerged victorious against challengers Sadja “Purple” Blackwell (D) and Cass Green (D).

## 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

- Incumbent Representative Abigail Salisbury (D) defeated challenger Ashley Comans (D), who had been endorsed by Allegheny County Executive Sara Innamorato, Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey, and Congresswoman Summer Lee.

## 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

- Challenger Scott Barger (R) bested Incumbent Representative Jim Gregory (R).

District	Democratic General Election Candidate	Republican General Election Candidate
10 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	Rep. Amen Brown (D)	None
34 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	Rep. Abigail Salisbury (D)	None
80 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	None	Scott Barger (R)

# State House Hotly Contested Primaries Cont'd

## 100<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

- House Minority Leader Bryan Cutler (R) survived a primary challenge from David Nissley (R).

## 117<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

- The race between Incumbent Mike Cabell (R) and challenger Jamie Walsh (R) remains too close to call.

## 172<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District

- Challenger Sean Dougherty (D) defeated Incumbent Representative Kevin Boyle (D).
- This fall, Dougherty will face Aizaz Gill (R) who defeated Patrick Gushue (R).

District	Democratic General Election Candidate	Republican General Election Candidate
100 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	None	House Minority Leader Bryan Cutler (R)
117 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District	None	Rep. Mike Cabell (R) or Jamie Walsh (R)
172 <sup>nd</sup> Legislative District	Sean Dougherty (D)	Aizaz Gill (R)





# State Senate

# Notable State Senate Races

## 15<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

- State Rep. Patty Kim (D) bested Alvin Taylor (D).
- Dauphin County Treasurer Nick DeFrancesco (R) beat Ken Stambaugh (R).

## 45<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

- State Rep. Nick Pisciotano (D) defeated Makenzie White (D).
- Jen Dintini (R) beat Kami Stulginskis (R).

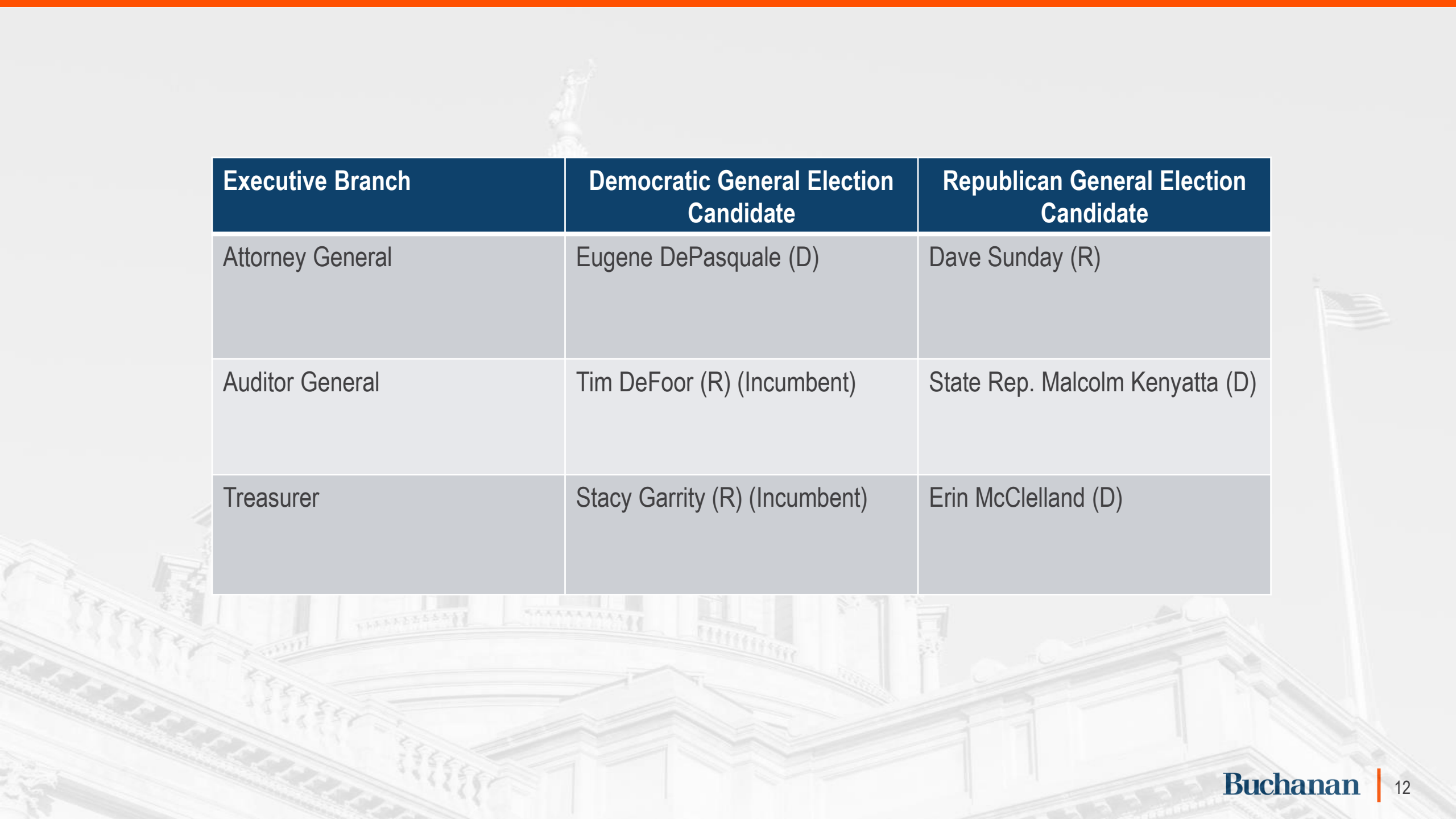
## 49<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District

- Jim Wertz (D) defeated Selena King (D).

District	Democratic General Election Candidate	Republican General Election Candidate
15 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District	State Rep. Patty Kim (D)	Nick DeFrancesco (R)
45 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District	State Rep. Nick Pisciotano (D)	Jen Dintini (R)
49 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District	Jim Wertz (D)	Sen. Dan Laughlin (R)



# State Row Offices



<b>Executive Branch</b>	<b>Democratic General Election Candidate</b>	<b>Republican General Election Candidate</b>
Attorney General	Eugene DePasquale (D)	Dave Sunday (R)
Auditor General	Tim DeFoor (R) (Incumbent)	State Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta (D)
Treasurer	Stacy Garrity (R) (Incumbent)	Erin McClelland (D)



# Current Funding Opportunities



Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP)



Greenways, Trails and Recreation Programs



Public School Facility Improvement Grant Program



Local Share Account



Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Program



Allegheny County's Gaming, Economic Development and Tourism Fund



Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program

**If interested, contact us for details on these funding sources.**



# 2024-25 State Budget Update

# Governor Shapiro's Budget Proposal Highlights

## K-12 Education

- \$1.072 billion increase in Basic Education Funding, with \$872 million proposed as a first-year adequacy investment, and \$200 million to be distributed through the Basic Education Funding Formula.
- \$50 million increase in Special Education funding.
- \$30 million increase in Pre-K Counts.
- Establishment of a statewide cyber tuition rate of \$8,000 per student.
- \$300 million allocation for schools to make repairs to address several kinds of environmental hazards, including asbestos, mold and lead contamination.



# Governor Shapiro's Budget Proposal Highlights

## Higher Education

- Establishment of a new governance system combining Pennsylvania's community colleges and the PA State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) universities, funded at \$975 million, a 15% increase in the \$850 million total funding received by those schools in the FY2023-24 budget.
- 5% increase in institutional support for the Commonwealth's state-related universities (Penn State, Temple, Lincoln, and Pitt); 15% increase to Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology; and no increase for the University of Pennsylvania.
- Increase in financial aid for students attending the schools under the new governance system detailed above, capping tuition and fees per semester at \$1,000 for Pennsylvanians making up to the median income, beginning in FY2025-26.
- Increase in Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) state grants by \$1,000, raising the maximum award from \$5,750 to \$6,750, beginning in FY2025-26 (a \$279M annual investment).
- Imposition of a performance-based funding formula for publicly funded colleges and universities.

# Governor Shapiro's Budget Proposal Highlights

## Economic Development

- On January 30th, Governor Shapiro released his 10-year Economic Development Strategic Plan detailing his economic development proposals and identifying 5 sectors of focus within the Commonwealth:
  - Agriculture, Energy, Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Robotics & Technology.
- The plan's corresponding budgetary amounts are as follows:
  - \$500 million for Pennsylvania Strategic Investments to Enhance Sites (PA SITES), funded through a bond issuance.
  - \$25 million to establish a new Main Street Matters program.
  - \$20 million for PA Innovation.
  - \$3.5 million to create and launch the Pennsylvania Regional Economic Competitiveness Challenge.
  - \$2 million for "Career Connect."

# Governor Shapiro's Budget Proposal Highlights

## Workforce Development

- \$2.4 million increase for Career and Technical Education (CTE), and \$7 million for Dual Enrollment.
- \$2.2 million increase in Industry Partnerships.
- \$2 million to build a one-stop-shop for career pathways.
- \$2 million for business transitions to skills-based hiring practices.
- \$1.2 million for labor law compliance.
- \$500,000 for the Military Occupational Crosswalk.
- Raising the Minimum Wage – the Governor called on the General Assembly to pass legislation raising the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$15 per hour.

# Governor Shapiro's Budget Proposal Highlights

## Adult Use Cannabis

- Governor Shapiro proposed legalizing adult use cannabis effective July 1, 2024, with sales within Pennsylvania beginning January 1, 2025.
- According to tax and revenue projections from the Shapiro administration, if the state implemented a 20% tax on the wholesale price of cannabis products, and cannabis sales begin in January 2025, the state would generate roughly \$14.8 million in the 2024-25 fiscal year, a figure that Shapiro administration officials expect to increase in subsequent years.

## Public Transit Funding

- The budget proposal called for a 1.75% increase in the amount of Sales and Use Tax revenue used to fund public transportation, which according to the Administration would result in an additional \$283 million for mass transit in FY2024-25 and an additional \$1.5 billion over five years.

# Notable Legislative Budget Proposals

## Higher Education

- On April 10<sup>th</sup>, Republican lawmakers announced their alternative to Governor Shapiro's higher education plan, their "Grow PA" Higher Education Reform Plan.
- The plan, which according to proponents will target high-priority fields such as teaching, nursing, and criminal justice, includes a series of scholarships.
- One proposed scholarship, the "Build PA Scholarship Grant Program," would offer \$5,000 to a student in a high-priority field of study attending any Pennsylvania school.
- Another, a new "Merit Scholarship Program," would extend in-state tuition discounts to an out-of-state student with a grade-point-average of at least 2.5, who attends a Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) school.
- For both programs, students would be required to work in Pennsylvania for 15 months for each year the student received the scholarship.
- On April 30<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Education Committee passed six bills (SBs 1150-1155) part of the seven-bill package comprising the "Grow PA" initiative. The final bill, SB 750, remains in the Education Committee.
- On May 1<sup>st</sup>, SBs 1150-1155 were re-referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

# Notable Legislative Budget Proposals

## Personal Income Tax

- On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Pennsylvania Senate passed SB 269, a bill that would reduce the Personal Income Tax (PIT) rate from 3.07% to 2.8% and eliminate the Gross Receipts Tax on energy, effective January 1, 2025.
- The proposed \$3 billion tax cut, which passed the Senate by a vote of 36-14, is championed by Senate Republicans as a counterproposal to Governor Josh Shapiro's budget plan, highlighting the competing visions of how to use the Commonwealth's budgetary surplus.
- Top Democrats opposed the bill, though it garnered support from 8 of 22 Senate Democrats.

# State Budget Timeline

- The House and Senate return to session on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The remaining House session dates are as follows: June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.
- The remaining Senate session dates are as follows: June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.
- The end of the 2023-24 fiscal year is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

# Hot-Button Topics

- Likelihood of an on-time budget
- Likelihood of code bills accompanying the budget (fiscal, tax, education)
  - Note: the Governor signed the 2023-24 General Appropriations Act on August 3, 2023, but the Fiscal Code was not enacted until December 13, 2023.
- Non-preferred appropriations
- Lifeline/PASS Scholarships
- Minimum Wage
- Net Operating Loss (NOL) Carryforward





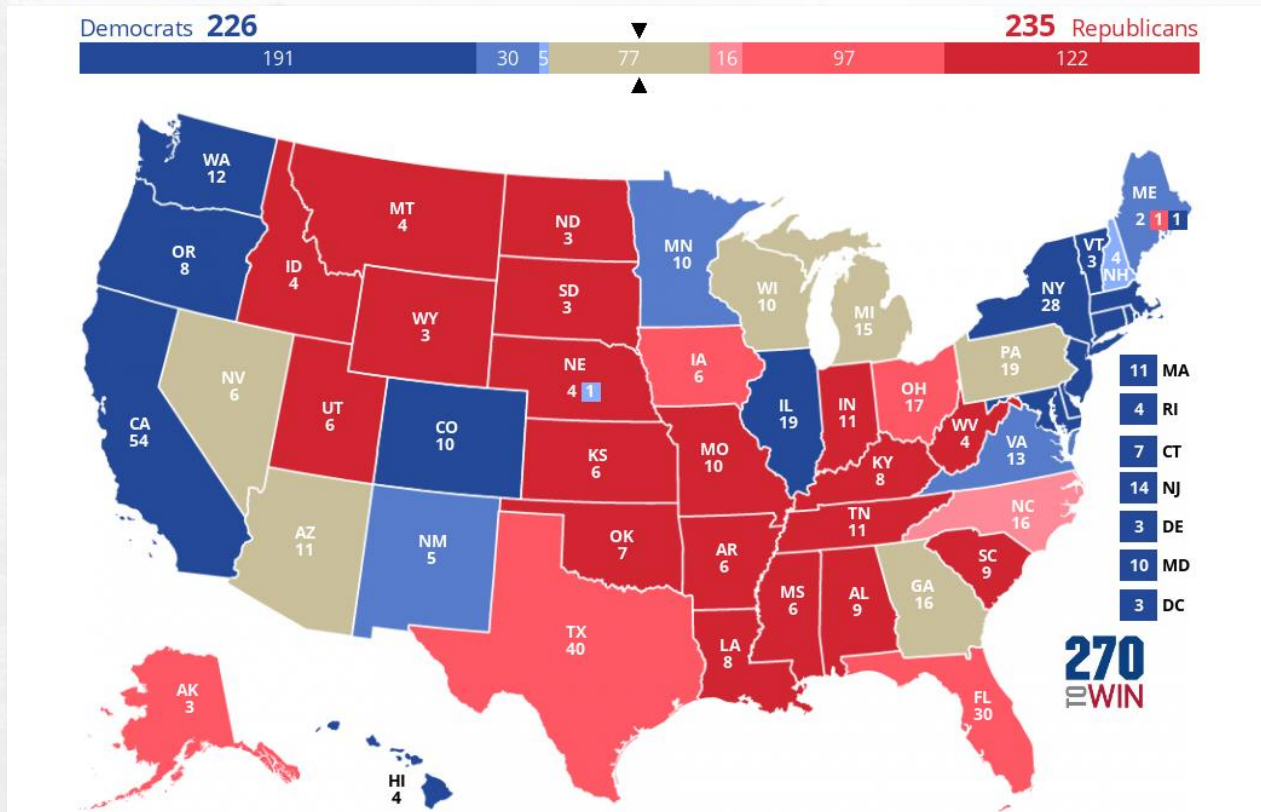
**Buchanan**

## Federal Government Relations: Elections Update

Michael Strazzella, Government Relations Co-Chair & Federal Government Relations Practice Group Leader  
May 30, 2024

# Presidential Elections: Battleground States

- Heading into November's Presidential Election, 226 electoral votes are considered likely to go for President Biden and 235 electoral votes are likely to go for former President Trump
- 77 electoral votes from **six battleground states** are up for grabs for Biden or Trump to get to 270 electoral votes: **Trump leading in most battleground state polls**

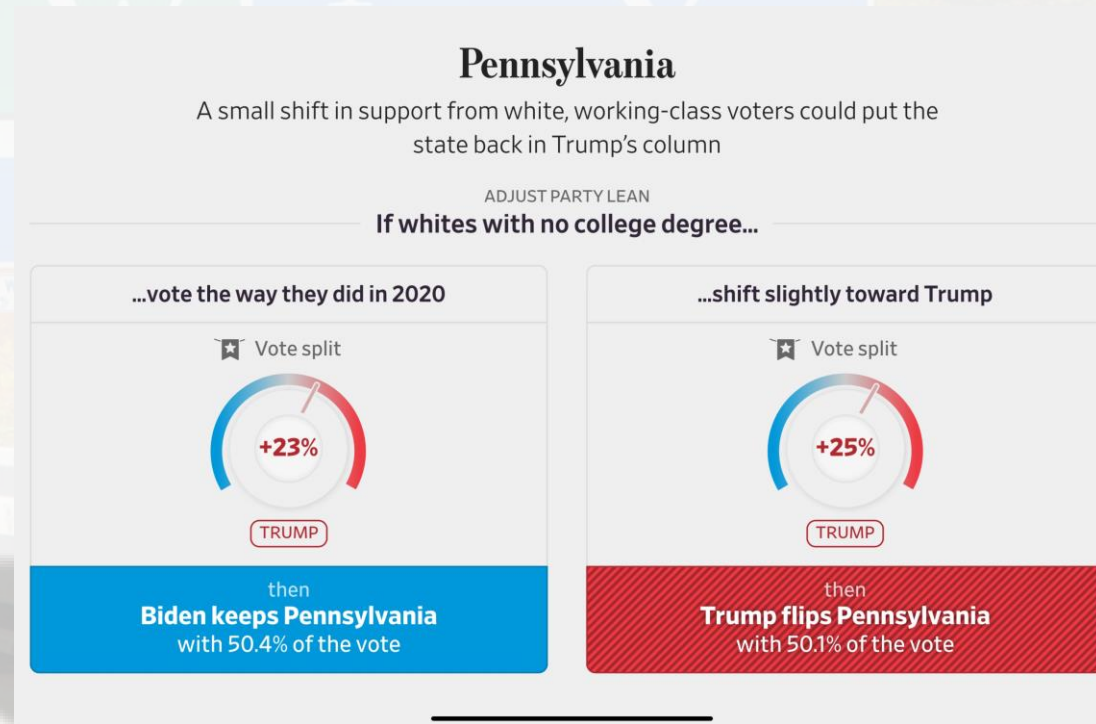


State (Electoral Votes)	2020 Election	Latest Polls*		
		CP	MC/B	NYT/S
Pennsylvania (19)	Biden +1.2%	Trump +3%	Trump +2%	Trump +3%
Georgia (16)	Biden +0.2%	Trump +3%	Trump +3%	Trump +10%
Michigan (15)	Biden +2.8%	Trump +2%	Biden +1%	Trump +7%
Arizona (11)	Biden +0.3%	Trump +1%	Trump +5%	Trump +7%
Wisconsin (10)	Biden +0.7%	TIE	Trump +1%	Biden +2%
Nevada (6)	Biden +2.4%	Trump +9%	TIE	Trump +12%

\*CP: [Cook Political Report \(5/6-5/13\)](#); MC/B: [Morning Consult/Bloomberg \(5/8-5/12\)](#); NYT/S: [New York Times/Siena \(4/28-5/9\)](#)

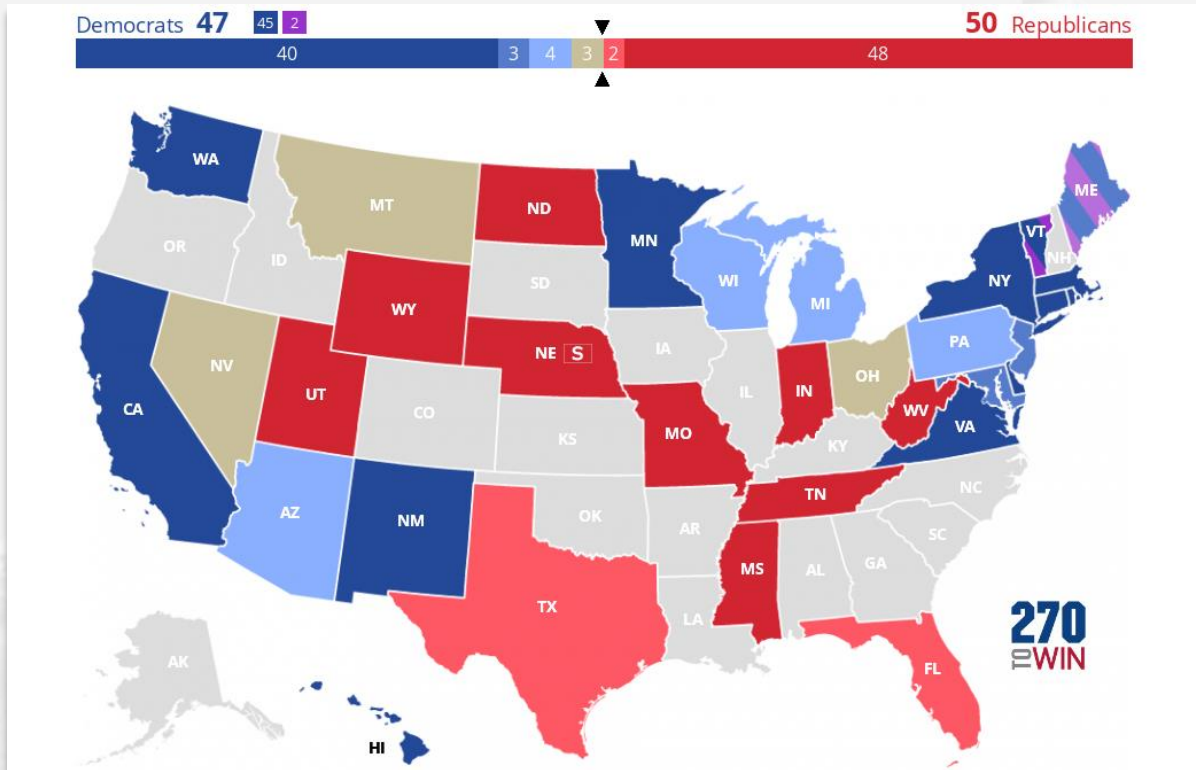
# Battleground State: Pennsylvania

- In three-way race with Robert Kennedy Jr., Trump would beat Biden 3-4% (according to *NY Times/Siena & Morning Consult/Bloomberg* recent polls) in Pennsylvania
- White, working-class voters make a large portion of Trump supporters – providing 57% of all the votes he received nationally in 2020 – particularly in the swing states of the industrial north: Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Wisconsin
- According to *Wall Street Journal*, **only a 1-point increase in Republican support among white, working class would flip Pennsylvania from President Biden to Trump**



# November Elections: Control of Senate

- The Senate is currently comprised of 51 Democrats (including 3 Independents who caucus with Democrats) and 49 Republicans
- Democrats have to defend 23 seats; Republicans only have to defend 11 seats in November
- ***Of the 34 seats up for election, 9 of the 11 competitive (or most likely to flip) are Democratic seats***



## Senate seats most likely to flip

Senate Seat (Current Party)	Current Senator	Rating (Cook Political)
West Virginia (Democrat)	Sen. Joe Manchin (retiring)	<b>Solid Republican</b>
Montana (Democrat)	Sen. Jon Tester	Toss-up
Ohio (Democrat)	Sen. Sherrod Brown	Toss-up
Nevada (Democrat)	Sen. Jacky Rosen	Toss-up
Pennsylvania (Democrat)	Sen. Bob Casey	Lean Democrat
Arizona (Independent-Dem)	Sen. Kyrsten Sinema	Lean Democrat
Wisconsin (Democrat)	Sen. Tammy Baldwin	Lean Democrat
Michigan (Democrat)	Sen. Debbie Stabenow (retiring)	Lean Democrat
Texas (Republican)	Sen. Ted Cruz	Likely Republican
Florida (Republican)	Sen. Rick Scott	Likely Republican
Maryland (Democrat)	Sen. Ben Cardin (retiring)	Likely Democrat

# Control of Senate: Pennsylvania Senate Race

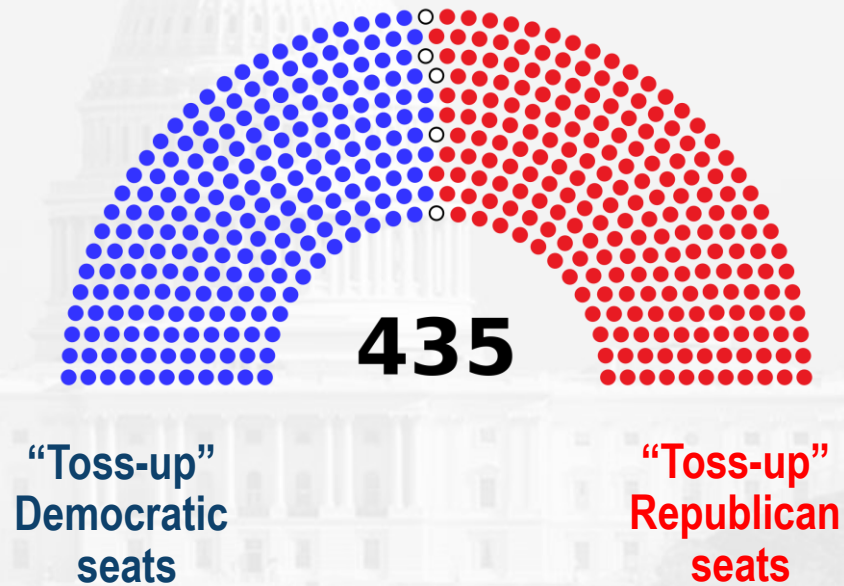
- Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) has a 5.4% (based on average of 21 polls) lead over Republican candidate David McCormick
- Hoping to win his fourth term since winning election in 2006, Casey has touted his support for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the American Recovery Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the CHIPS and Science Act – bringing local funding for roads, bridges, education and health care
- Endorsed by former President Trump, McCormick is campaigning on issues relating to inflation, fentanyl deaths, and border security – and accusing Casey of rubber-stamping harmful immigration, economic, energy and national security policies of Biden
- Democrats have attacked McCormick’s opposition to abortion rights and his personal wealth as a former hedge fund CEO (who spent \$14 million of his own money only to lose to Dr. Mehmet Oz in 2022 Republican primary)
- Casey and McCormick will debate three times – in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg – before the Nov. 5 election



# November Elections: Control of House

- Republicans currently have a one-seat majority (217-213; five vacancies); will expand to 2-seat majority once Vince Fong is sworn-in to finish the term of former Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)
- 19 Republicans have announced their retirement (in addition to two who have already resigned and one who lost in primary) – **all in Solid Republican districts**; 23 Democrats have announced retirements – **including three from North Carolina whose districts are now Solid Republican because of redistricting**
- **According to Cook Political Report, 11 Democratic seats are considered “Toss-ups” and 11 Republican seats are considered “Toss-Ups” (w/3 current Democratic seats lean/likely to flip; and 3 current Republican seats lean/likely to flip)**

District	Current Member
Colorado 8	Rep. Yadira Caraveo
Maine 2	Rep. Jared Golden
Michigan 7	Rep. Elissa Slotkin (running for Senate)
Michigan 8	Rep. Dan Kildee (retiring)
North Carolina 1	Rep. Donald Davis
New Mexico 2	Rep. Gabe Vasquez
Ohio 9	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
Ohio 13	Rep. Emilia Sykes
Pennsylvania 7	Rep. Susan Wild
Pennsylvania 8	Rep. Matt Cartwright
Washington 3	Rep. Marie Perez



District	Current Member
Arizona 1	Rep. David Schweikert
Arizona 6	Rep. Juan Ciscomani
California 13	Rep. John Duarte
California 22	Rep. David Valadao
California 27	Rep. Mike Garcia
California 41	Rep. Ken Calvert
New Jersey 7	Rep. Thomas Kean
New York 4	Rep. Anthony D’Esposito
New York 17	Rep. Michael Lawler
New York 19	Rep. Marcus Molinaro
Oregon 5	Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer

# Pennsylvania House Races

- Nine Democrats and eight Republicans
- **Races to watch: seats of Reps. Susan Wild (D-PA07); Matt Cartwright (D-PA08); Scott Perry (R-PA10); and Chris Deluzio (D-PA17)**

District	Republican Candidate	Democratic Candidate	Cook Political Rating
PA01	Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick	Ashley Ehasz	Likely Republican
PA02	Aaron Bashir	Rep. Brendan Boyle	Solid Democrat
PA03	None	Rep. Dwight Evans	Solid Democrat
PA04	David Winkler	Rep. Madeleine Dean	Solid Democrat
PA05	Alfe Goodwin	Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon	Solid Democrat
PA06	Neil Young	Rep. Chrissy Houlahan	Solid Democrat
PA07	Ryan Mackenzie	Rep. Susan Wild	TOSS-UP
PA08	Rob Bresnahan Jr.	Rep. Matt Cartwright	TOSS-UP
PA09	Rep. Dan Meuser	Amanda Waldman	Solid Republican

District	Republican Candidate	Democratic Candidate	Cook Political Rating
PA10	Rep. Scott Perry	Janelle Stelson	Lean Republican
PA11	Rep. Lloyd Smucker	Jim Atkinson	Solid Republican
PA12	James Hayes	Rep. Summer Lee	Solid Democrat
PA13	Rep. John Joyce	Beth Farnham	Solid Republican
PA14	Rep. Guy Reschenthaler	Chris Dziados	Solid Republican
PA15	Rep. Glenn Thompson	Zach Womer	Solid Republican
PA16	Rep. Mike Kelly	Preston Nouri	Solid Republican
PA17	Rob Mercuri	Rep. Chris Deluzio	Lean Democrat



**Questions?**



# BUCHANAN GOVERNMENT RELATIONS



**Leslie Gromis Baker**  
*Senior Principal, Chair &  
Managing Director of State GR*



**Michael Strazzella**  
*Senior Principal, Chair  
Government Relations Section*



**Randy Vulakovich**  
*Senior Principal, Chair  
Pennsylvania Government Relations*



**Charles Kolling, Jr.**  
*Senior Principal*



**Leigh Whitaker**  
*Principal*



**Hugh Allen**  
*Principal*



**Erin Molchany**  
*Senior Advisor*



**Pam Snyder**  
*Senior Advisor*



**Carrie Lewis DelRosso**  
*Senior Advisor*



**Lisa Hughes Gabler**  
*Senior Advisor*



**Elizabeth Rosentel**  
*Senior Advisor*



**Jarah Doosé**  
*Advisor*



**Andrew Salerno**  
*Advisor*