



WEBINAR

Election Implications for U.S. Rural Policy

November 19, 2024

**8 a.m. (PT) / 9 a.m. (MT)
10 a.m. (CT) / 11 a.m. (ET)**



Proud Member of the Farm Credit System 

Introductions

Moderator



Tamra Reynolds
Managing Director,
Electric Distribution

Keynote Speakers



Brian Cavey
Senior Vice President,
Government Affairs and
Knowledge Exchange



Lauren Sturgeon Bailey
Vice President,
Government Affairs

Agenda

- Washington Update
- 2024 Election Results
- What to Expect Next Year?
- Q&A

Washington Update

The Lame Duck Session

- Thirty-two days before funding runs out on December 20, 2024
- Projected adjournment is December 19, 2024
- In December departing Members lose office and staff
- The President-Elect will cast a long shadow



In the Lame Duck Session



The “must do” items

Fund the government beyond December 20th
The National Defense Authorization Act



The “should do” items

Pass a Farm Bill reauthorization
Pass disaster relief



The worst case

Pass a Continuing Resolution and go home



Leadership Positions

Committee leadership and ratios

A New Republican Leader



Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)



Senator John Thune (R-SD)

Who Will Lead the House?



OR



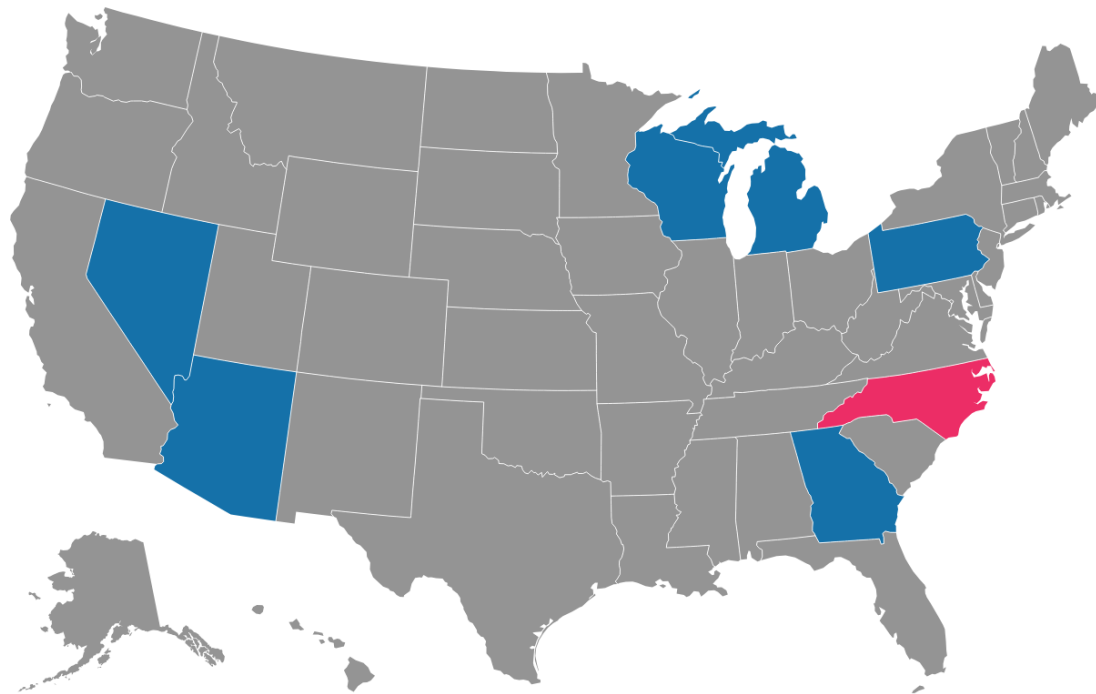
2024 Election Results

Presidential Race Battlegrounds

In the 2020 presidential election, seven states were won by less than three points.

States won by less than three points in the 2020 presidential election, by winning candidate

■ Trump win ■ Biden win



Source: [Federal Election Commission](#)



2024 Presidential Results

226

Kamala Harris

70,992,229 votes (48.0%)

270
TO WIN

312

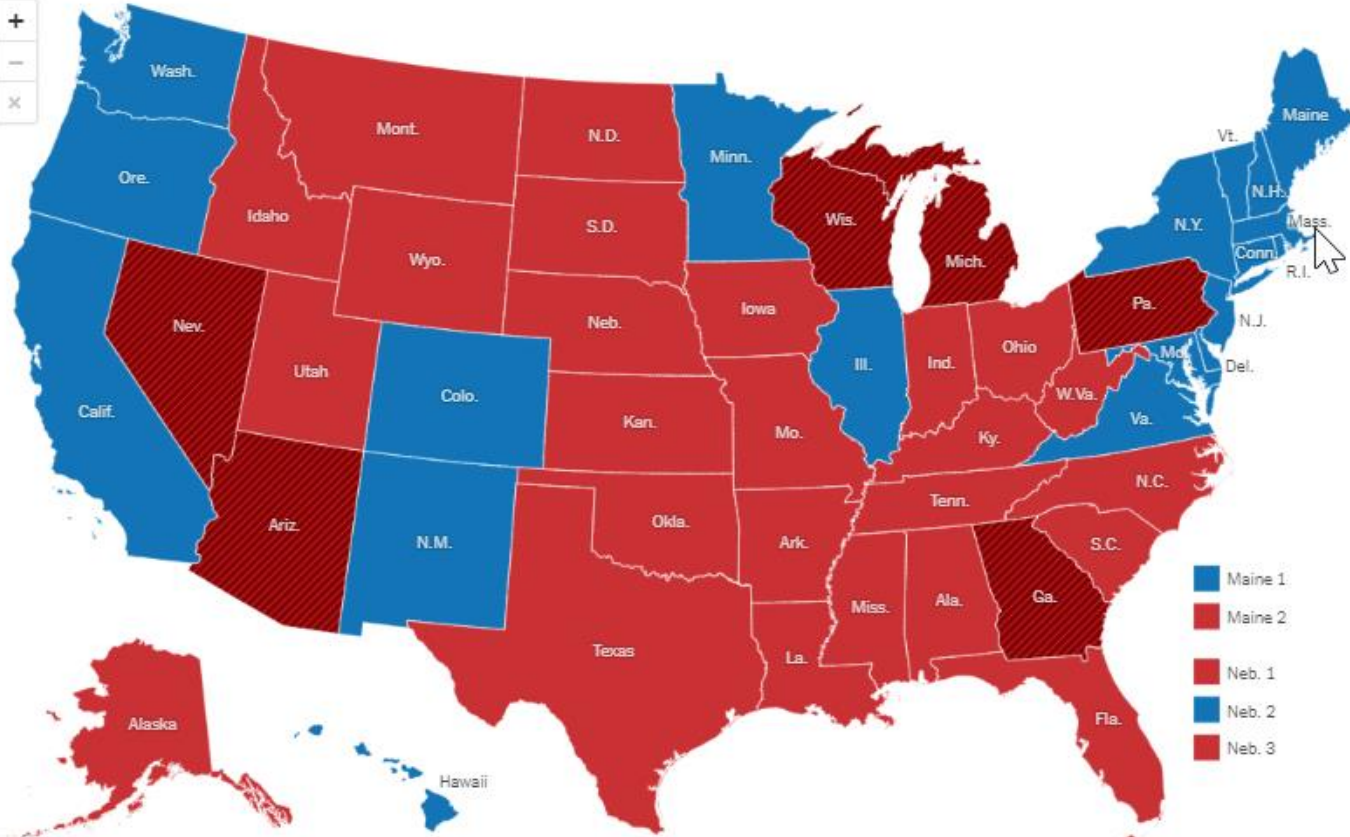
Donald J. Trump

147.7 million votes so far (Estimated 94.3% counted)

74,716,275 votes (50.5%)



Dem. Rep. Win Flip



2024 Senate Results

47
Democrats

28 seats not up for election

52
Republicans

38 seats not up for election
Flipped 3 seats



By winner

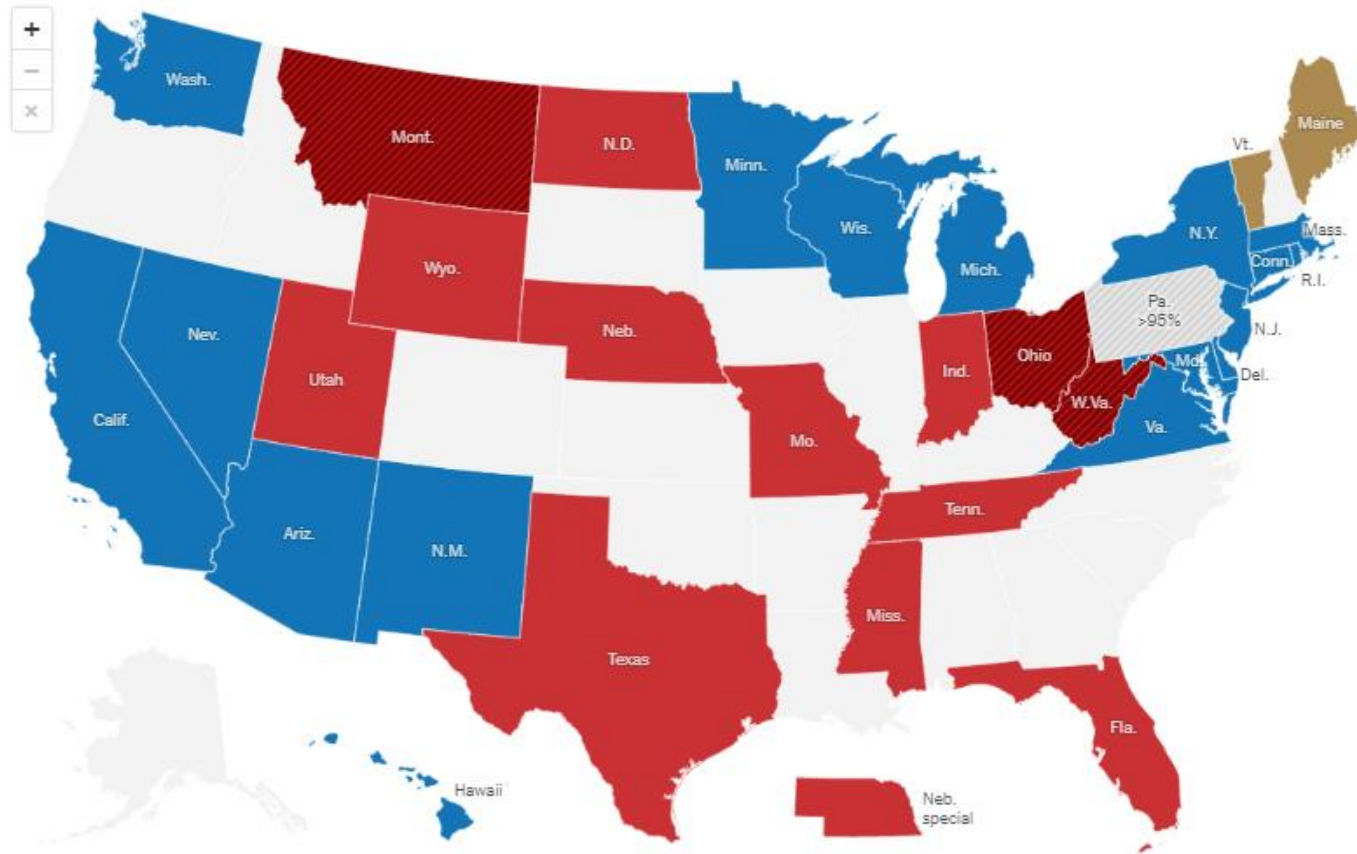


Margin by county

- Dem.
- Rep.
- Other
- Win
- Flip
- Reporting
- No election

Percentages are estimates of how much vote has been counted.

County view shows margin of the leading candidate in the votes counted so far.

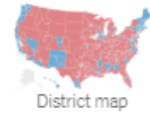


2024 House Results

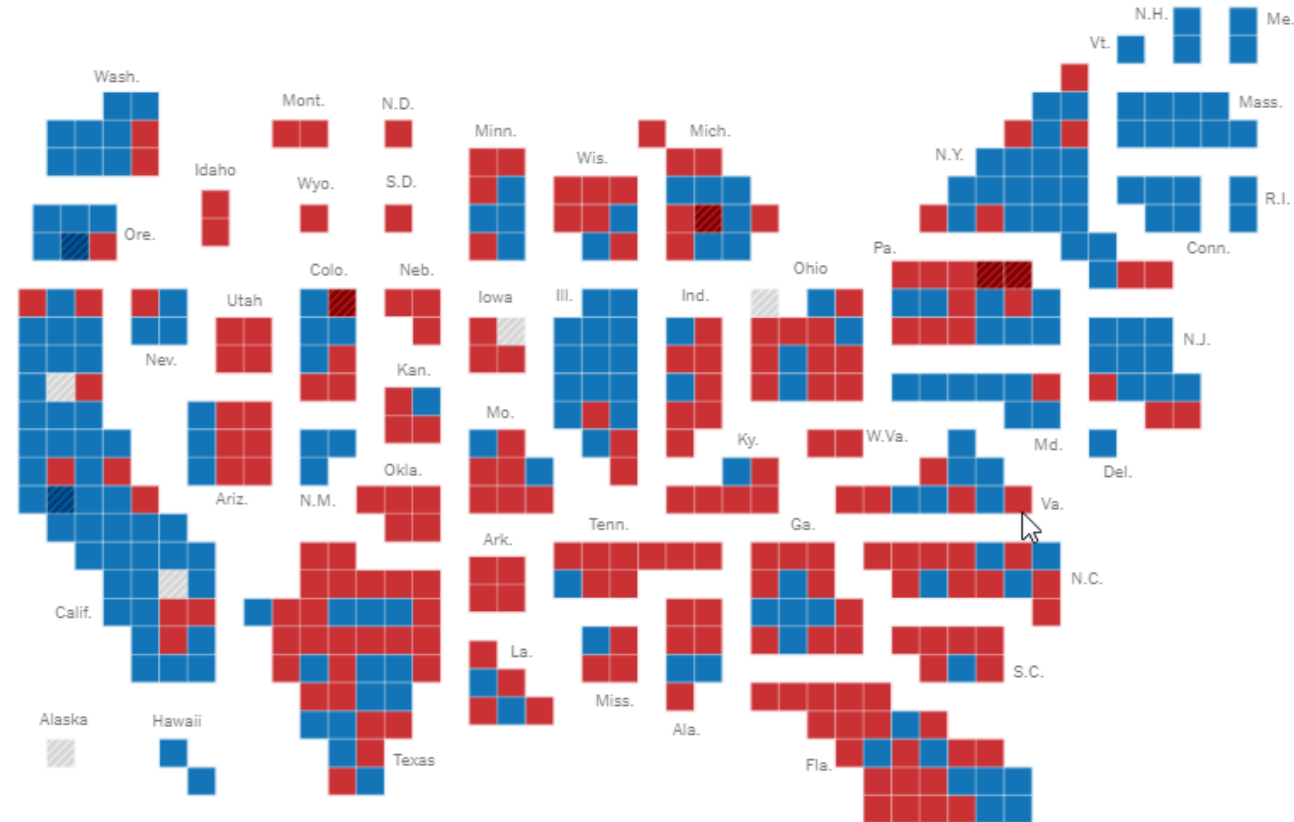
212
Democrats

218
Republicans

218
FOR CONTROL



Dem. Win
Rep. Flip
Reporting
Flips are not shown for states with new district boundaries.



2024 House Results

212
Democrats

218
Republicans

218
FOR CONTROL



Proportional map



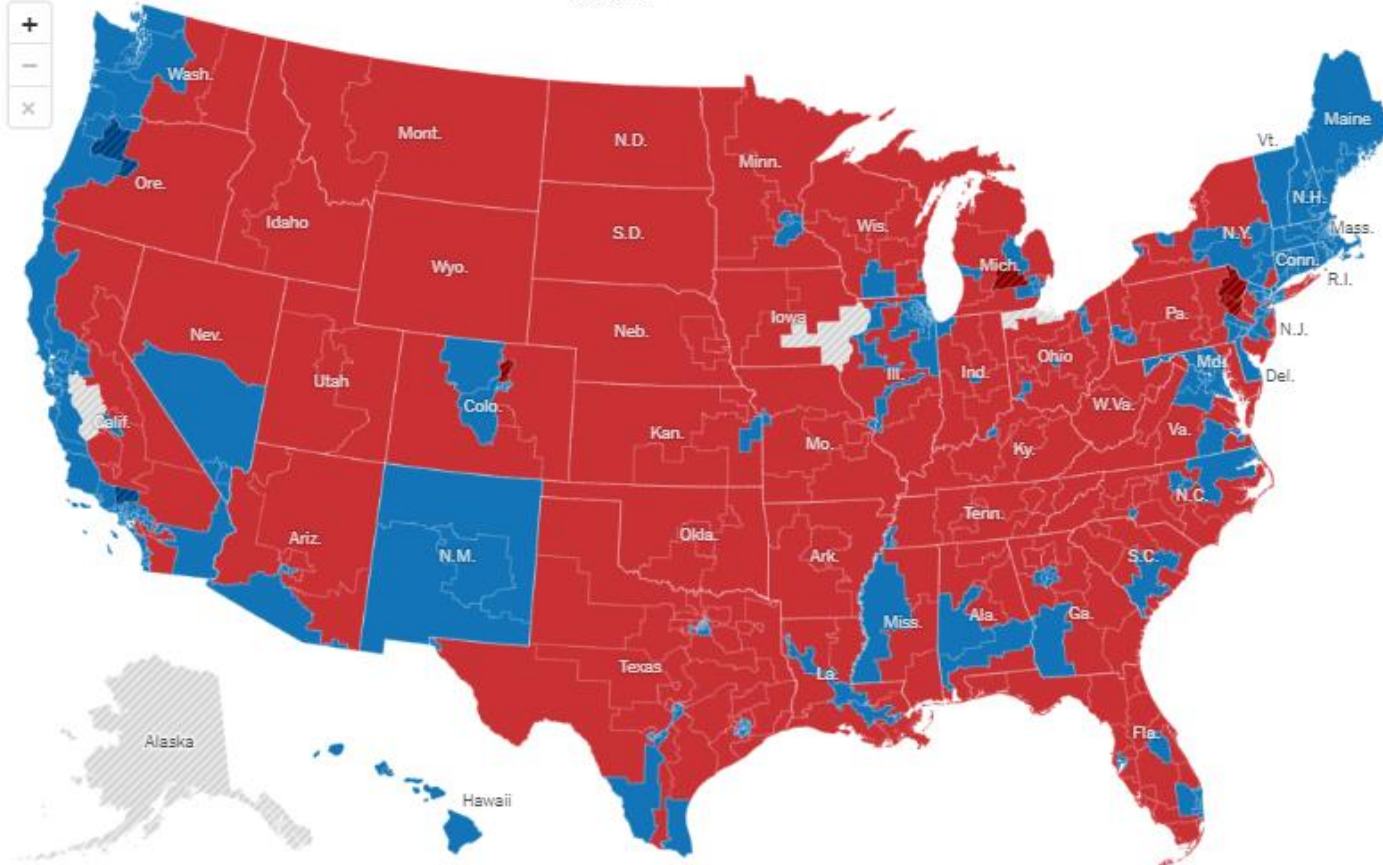
District map

Dem.
Rep.

Win Flip

Reporting

Flips are not shown for states with new district boundaries.



Changes at the State Level

- Republicans will control 27 legislatures, Democrats 17
- Michigan House is now GOP controlled
- Minnesota House is now tied
- Democrats broke the supermajority in the NC House by 1 seat
- Democrats won 3 and Republicans won 8 Governor races
(None flipped and none was closer than 9 points)
- Republicans control 27 and Democrats control 23

Agriculture Ballot Initiatives All Failed

Denver Ordinance 308 (Fur Ban) 58-42

Denver Ordinance 309 (Slaughter Ban) 65-35

Sonoma County Measure J

“Banning Factory Farms” 85-15

What to Expect Next Year?

House Agriculture Committee Leaders are Unchanged



Chair GT Thompson (R-PA)



Ranking Member David Scott (D-GA)

House Ag Committee Casualties

- Democrats lost the most
 - Spanberger (VA) and Slotkin (MI) left for other races
 - Caraveo (CO) was beaten
- Republican losses were smaller
 - Molinaro (NY) and Chavez-DeRemer (OR) lost
 - Duarte (CA) race is not called
- Committee size and ratio should not change much

Big Changes at the Senate Agriculture Committee



Chair John Boozman (R-AR)



Ranking Member Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)

Senate Ag Committee Casualties

- Democrats lost two so far
 - Stabenow (MI) retired
 - Brown (OH) was beaten
- Republicans had one leave
 - Braun (IN) was elected governor
- Ratio may change – replacing 1 of the 2 Democrats, adding 3 or more Republicans
- Thune likely will remain on the committee
- Will others leave the committee?

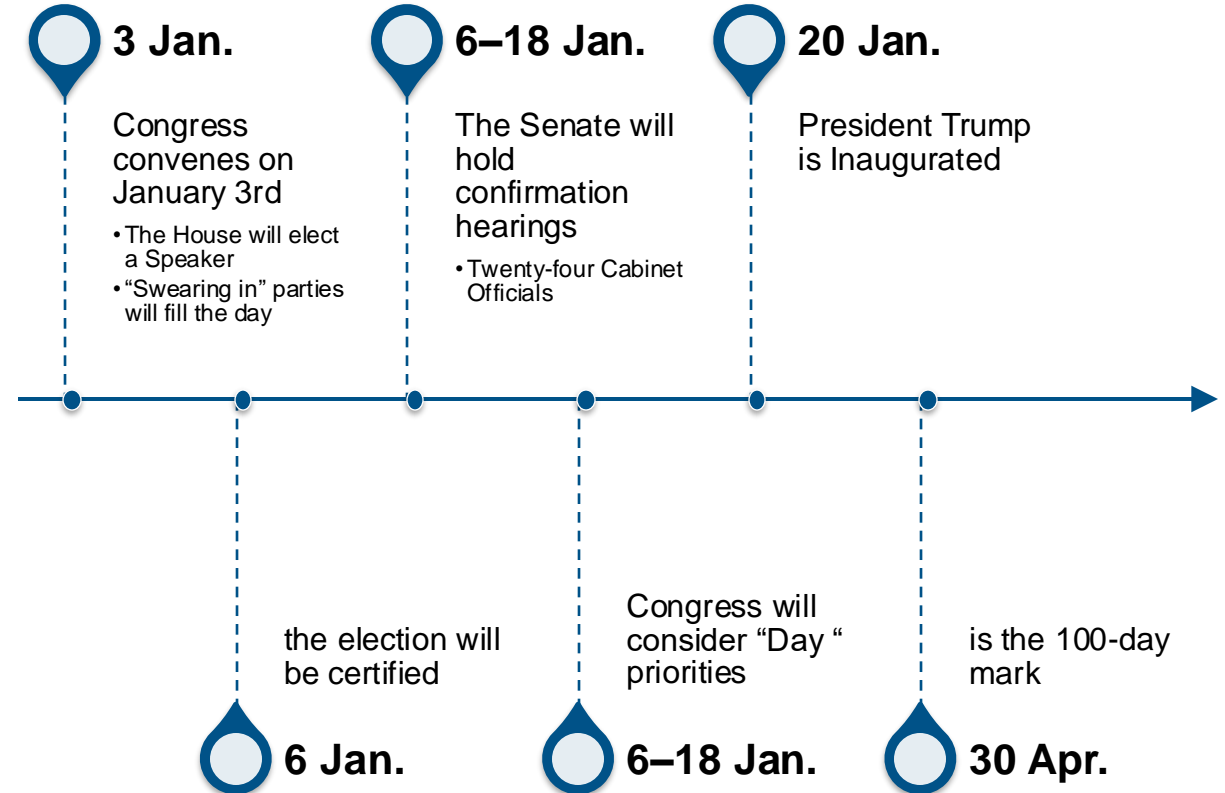
Other Senate Committees of Note

- Senate Finance lost four Democrats so far and Republicans had no losses
 - Casey (PA) is going to a recount
- Ratio will likely change – replacing 1 or 2 Democrats, adding 2 or more Republicans
- Thune likely will remain on the committee
- Senate Appropriations lost 1 Democrat and 2 independents
 - Tester (MT) lost and Sinema (AZ) and Manchin (WV) retired
- Senator Rubio will resign once confirmed as Secretary of State

Other House Committees of Note

- Few House Appropriators lost
 - Garcia (R-CA), Carl (R-AL), Cartwright (D-PA)
- House Ways and Means will have at least 4 new members
 - Democrats Blumenauer (OR) and Kildee (MI) retired
 - Republican Steel (CA) is down 0.01% and Ferguson (GA) retired

To start the 119th Congress



Meanwhile, Who Will Lead USDA (part 1)



Kip Tom



Charles Herbster



Sarah Frey

Meanwhile, Who Will Lead USDA (part 2)



Some Nominees May be Tough to Confirm



Matt Gaetz – AG

Pete Hegseth – DOD



Tulsi Gabbard – Intel

RFK Jr. - HHS



What is a Recess Appointment?

- Constitutional provision to allow appointments when Congress is out of session
 - Was a big issue when Congress was in session about half the year
- More recently used when confirmation was proving slow for nominees
 - Often used with split control of government
- Can be made when the Senate is in recess for 10 days
- Appointments last for the remainder of the Congress
- This is the first time the practice is proposed for most or all appointees
 - The Senate would have to be complicit in this practice

What will the President Address First?

- Confirming his Team
- Tariffs
- The Budget/Appropriations/Debt Ceiling
- Extending tax law
- Border Security
- Regulatory Reform
- Promoting Energy Development



The 100 Day House Agenda

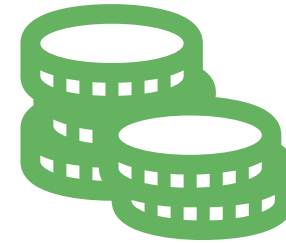


They will use all tools at their disposal:

The Congressional Review Act to revisit Biden Administration Regulations

Budget Reconciliation to move legislation with a revenue impact avoiding the filibuster

Oversight to address spending



Priorities impacting Rural America will include:

Reauthorizing the 2017 Tax Bill

Encourage domestic energy production

Addressing the border and immigration

Redirecting unspent Climate Change program funds

What is Budget Reconciliation?

- Process was adopted in 1974, first used in 1980
 - Twenty-three laws have been passed and four vetoed
- Principal focus was deficit reduction
 - Must address spending or revenue
 - Extraneous provisions are now subject to the Byrd Rule
- The process has two steps
 - The budget resolution includes reconciliation instructions (targets) to the committee(s)
 - The committee products are combined into an omnibus reconciliation bill
 - Debate is limited to 20 hours and ***only 50 votes needed in the Senate***
- More recently used to pass difficult-to-pass bills
 - Affordable Care Act
 - Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
 - American Rescue Plan Act

Other Congressional Business



A Farm Bill

Crypto

Debt Ceiling

Budget/2026 Appropriations

National Security/Foreign Policy

Immigration/Labor Policy

Rural Impacts of Policy Efforts

- Tariffs
- The Budget/Appropriations/Debt Ceiling
- Extending tax law
- Border Security
- Regulatory Reform
- Promoting Energy Development
- Political Appointee Impacts

Questions?