



2022 Midterm Election Reference Guide



Preface

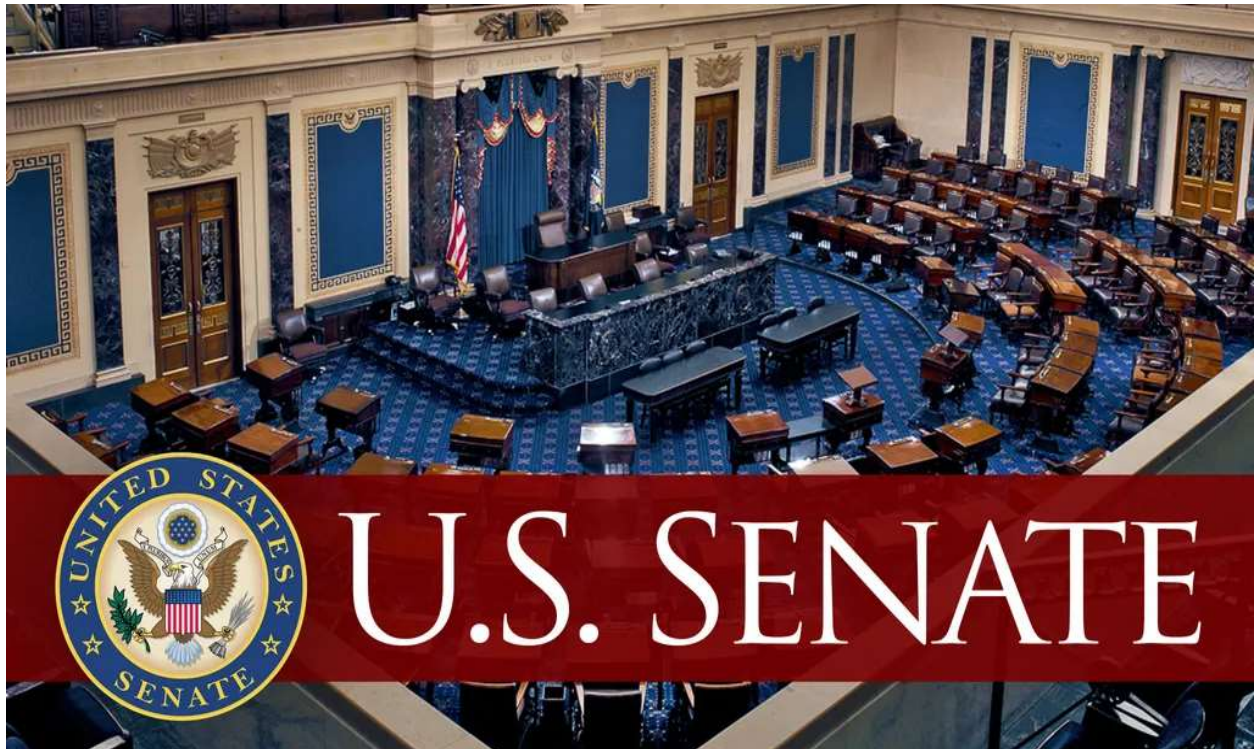
With a little less than a week to go before the 2022 Midterm Elections, CSPEN thought it might be helpful to develop a resource to help you prepare for next Tuesday night's elections.

Contained within this brief document is information on:

- Key Races in the House and Senate that could impact the balance of power in both Chambers;
- Position Statements taken directly from each targeted races candidate's websites so that you can learn more about their politics on key topics such as education, veterans, and the economy;
- The most recent polling data from three sources on the likely outcome of the key races; and
- A brief, initial analysis of the impact specific midterm races are likely to have on the make-up of the House and Senate Education Committees.

CSPEN intends to provide updates on the polling data tomorrow, Monday, November 7th, and the morning of election day, Tuesday November 8th to assist you in tracking shifts in the data heading into the election night returns.

After the elections, CSPEN will provide a follow up document which details the outcome of the races contained within this document, discusses the outcome of the general House and Senate elections, digs deeper into the biographies of newly elected officials, and updates the Education Committee membership lists (keeping in mind that they will likely change significantly at the beginning of the 118th Congress).



Democrats need at least 50 seats to keep US Senate control and Republicans need 51 to take over.

35 Seats are on the ballot this year.

Based upon various polls and race ratings, Republicans are currently favored to win 20 Seats next week, while Democrats are favored to win 12 Seats.

3 Seats are currently rated as “Toss-Ups”, meaning that with less than a week to go control of the U.S. Senate is being characterized as a “Dead Heat” with few, if any, pundits willing to declare winners and losers at this point.

Within the group of 35, there are basically ten races that most pundits believe will determine control of the Senate in the 118th Congress. The three “Toss-Up” races, and a seven others where the margin of victory has closed significantly in recent weeks.

We have also added an eleventh race – Senator Patty Murray’s bid for re-election in Washington. While it is still highly likely that Senator Murray will win and return for her term, the margin of victory between herself and Mrs. Tiffany Smiley has tightened in recent weeks. The gap has closed so much that many polls have moved the race from a solid Democratic hold, the “Likely” Democratic hold.

This race is highly important to the higher education community for reasons that will be explained later.

On the following pages we highlight each of the eleven races, providing information on key issues taken directly from both candidate's campaign websites. This is followed by the latest polling data from three source. And concludes with a look at how the races and potential changes in control of the Chamber or changes in leadership will impact the development of higher education policy moving forward.



Pennsylvania

Mr. John Fetterman (Candidate)

Preparing the Next Generation

I was fortunate to get a solid education that helped set me on a solid path. Far too many families struggle to find good public schools for their kids, and the price of college has become outrageous. And there are too few opportunities for the many young people who don't think college is the right option for them. If we want to prepare the next generation for a highly competitive world, we need to get serious about what education in the 21st century looks like.

In Washington, I'll fight for universal pre-k and childcare, and I'll make sure our public schools have the funding they need so our teachers aren't shouldering so much of a burden. I will also work to increase investments in career and technical programs to prepare young adults for successful and in-demand careers in critical industries. And for students who do opt to attend college, to make sure the cost isn't a barrier I'll support efforts to make community colleges tuition-free and reduce the burden of student loan debt that too many borrowers are experiencing right now.

Keeping Our Promise to Veterans

The women and men of our armed forces are some of the best our country has to offer. After everything our service members do for us, the very least we can do is hold up our end of the bargain when they return home. For too long, politicians in both parties have short-changed our veterans through bad policy decisions, burdensome bureaucratic hurdles around the country, and mission creep around the world. It's disgraceful.

As your senator, I'll fight to expand and improve health care access for service members, improve quality of care provided through the Department of Veterans Affairs (V.A.) by securing increased funding, rigorous oversight and necessary reforms, and increased access to mental health services for PTSD, depression, and reintegration into society. I also believe that we need to improve staffing ratios and grant all V.A. health care staff collective bargaining rights and expand alternative treatments for veterans suffering from addiction issues.

Honoring our veterans means cutting through the noise and getting things done for the people who put their lives on the line for our country. We must do more to support them.

Dr. Mehmet Oz (Candidate)

Improve Education

Dr. Oz believes that a good education is fundamental to a better future. But he believes we need to fundamentally change the way we approach education in this country – by incorporating financial literacy from an early age, focusing on empowering students to make their own career choices, and stopping wealthy universities from raising tuition every year while sitting on millions of dollars in tax-protected endowments. Dr. Oz also believes that the extreme left wants to use our schools to indoctrinate our children with an anti-American ideology –and as Senator he'll fight to block that from happening.

Restore Our Service

Dr. Oz has given back – he founded HealthCorps which provides health education and mentoring to underserved communities. Unlike politicians who talk a big game about helping our communities and restoring the “middle layers” of society – Dr. Oz has spent his life doing his part to serve his country. Dr. Oz also believes that we need to expand the role of religious institutions, non-profits, and community groups in providing support for stronger families and neighborhoods. That's how we combat our underlying emotional sickness that leads to Opioid addiction and isolation.

Supporting Our Veterans

Dr. Oz trained at the Philadelphia VA hospital and worked with veterans – he has seen first-hand the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform. While he supported leaving Afghanistan, he strongly opposed the way President Biden surrendered to the Taliban and the tragedy that ensued with our soldiers.



Nevada

Senator Catherine Coretez Masto (Incumbent)

Ensuring Nevada Students Can Access A Quality Education

Catherine grew up in Las Vegas and attended public schools. Throughout her time in public service, she has worked to protect students and make sure they can access the same great education she had. When Las Vegas faced a student suicide crisis during the pandemic, Catherine led efforts in the Senate to deliver funding so Nevada schools could safely reopen for in person learning, and she made sure to deliver funding to get students the mental health support they need. Catherine also led efforts in the Senate to deliver funding for more school counselors, increased teacher pay, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for teachers and students, and expanded after-school programs focused on students' emotional well-being.

Catherine has worked to ensure all K-12 students in Nevada have internet access and delivered critical funding through pandemic relief and the bipartisan infrastructure law to ensure they can get online in and out of the classroom. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law included her bipartisan bills to increase safety for student pedestrians, to improve air quality in schools, and to expand broadband in rural classrooms. She is leading bipartisan legislation with Republican Senator John Cornyn of Texas to train more teachers to teach English learners.

Catherine and her sister were the first in their family to graduate from college, and she has worked to make higher education more affordable for students across Nevada. *As Attorney General, she helped secure a major settlement from shady companies deceiving veterans into attending for-profit colleges and shut down their operations.* Catherine knows the student loan system is broken and has fought to protect student borrowers, improve access to student loans, and allow students to refinance their loan debt at lower rates. She has led efforts to make it easier for members of our military to access public service loan forgiveness, and *is pushing to ensure loans are forgiven for students who were victims of fraudulent colleges and universities.* During the pandemic, Catherine's legislation to allow student veterans to access their full housing benefit while attending classes online was signed into law.

Economy

Catherine is focused on lowering costs and making sure Nevada's economy works for everyone, from small business owners to workers and the travel and tourism industry that supports so many jobs across the state. She was the deciding vote to pass about \$3,000 in middle-class tax cuts to Nevada families because she knows Nevadans deserve to keep more of the money they earn.

To lower health care expenses for Nevada families, Catherine has championed legislation to cap the cost of insulin at \$35 a month and allow Medicare to negotiate lower drug prices.

Catherine is leading efforts to hold Big Oil companies accountable for high gas prices, pushing commonsense measures to lower these costs and calling out these massive corporations for raising prices on Nevadans while sitting on 9,000 drilling permits and refusing to increase our oil supply. She is leading legislation to investigate Big Oil for potential price gouging.

As part of her work to lower housing costs, Catherine secured \$500 million to build middle-class housing in Nevada, and she is leading legislation to crack down on discriminatory lending practices based on race, sex, and religion.

When the coronavirus crushed Nevada's economy, Catherine stood up and fought for emergency relief to save Nevada's small businesses, workers, and communities that were hurting. She supported sending \$1,400 stimulus checks to more than 1.6 million Nevadans. She personally fought for and secured millions in relief for communities and businesses that rely on tourism and she provided relief to help over 118,000 Nevada businesses keep their doors open and their employees paid.

In the Senate, Catherine works every day to strengthen Nevada's economy and create more jobs for people in every community of the state. She voted to raise the minimum wage and worked with Democrats and Republicans to strengthen American manufacturing and set up a domestic supply chain of critical minerals, helping us compete with the Chinese government while creating jobs in Nevada.

The bipartisan infrastructure bill Catherine passed is making a big difference for communities across Nevada, helping spur our economic recovery and bringing thousands of new jobs to the state while funding critical road and bridge construction, and combating drought and wildfires.

General Adam Laxalt (Candidate)

Economy

The misguided policies of President Joe Biden and Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto have left Nevada families at or near the bottom in nearly every statistical area. As Senator, Adam will work quickly to restore fiscal sanity by stopping the spending spree that has led to record-breaking inflation. The price of groceries, gas and everyday household goods amount to a massive tax increase on Nevadans that makes life at the lower-income end unworkable—the ends just don't meet anymore.

Adam will stand up to reckless mandates that have done enormous damage to the workforce, especially the most vulnerable workers, and will work to implement policies that boost our supply chains and help employers provide good-paying, steady jobs to hardworking Nevadans.



Georgia

Senator Raphael Warnock (Incumbent)

Education: Rebuilding The Ladder of Opportunity For All Our Kids

Reverend Warnock went to Morehouse College on what he calls a “full faith” scholarship – not knowing how he would pay for school, but believing that grit and determination could help him follow his dreams. With the help of a Pell Grant and low-interest student loans, he became the first person to graduate from college in his immediate family, and he knows from experience that education can be a ladder of upward mobility. But Reverend Warnock also understands that grit and determination alone aren’t enough, and that today, things are harder than ever for kids like him trying to climb upward.

Reverend Warnock believes that your access to a good K-12 education shouldn’t depend on your zip code and that the cost of higher education should never be an obstacle to opportunity. He supports robust Pre-K and nutritional programs that will ensure every child gets a fair start and investing in teachers and schools so that they have the resources they need. Reverend Warnock is fighting for student loan forgiveness, which will allow our students to buy their first home, start a small business, and achieve their American dream — regardless of whether they went to a two-year college, a four-year college, or trade school.

Reverend Warnock also understands that college isn’t for everyone, and is a strong believer in offering more opportunities like vocational training, trade schools, and apprenticeship programs that will get young people ready for a changing economy.

In the Senate, Reverend Warnock has fought for Georgians by

- Introducing the [Clean Commute for Kids Act](#) to help transition much of the nation’s school bus fleet to [zero-emission vehicles](#), which would help protect Georgia children’s health
 - This legislation would support production of Georgia-made [Blue Bird Buses](#), assembled and manufactured in [Fort Valley, GA](#)
- *Prioritizing ways to [address student loans](#), and their disproportionately negative effect on Black and Brown college graduates*
- Securing [nearly \\$260 million](#) in funding for HBCUs in the American Rescue Plan
- Fighting for funding for HBCUs through the [IGNITE HBCU Excellence Act](#)
- Delivering an additional \$95 million to support education for [Georgia children with disabilities](#)

Warnock says after first 100 days new priority is forgiving student loan debt

(April 30, 2021)

At a virtual town hall marking his 100th day in office Friday, Sen. Raphael Warnock looked back on some of his accomplishments and pledged to push for college debt relief and help for rural Georgians.

Chief among his achievements, he said, was his support for the American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion economic relief package including stimulus checks, tax credits and funding for state and local governments.

"The American Rescue Plan has provided shots in people's arms, checks in their pockets, and it has begun the work that is necessary to reopen our economy, our schools, for business," Warnock said. "And so I'm proud of that work. I'm proud of the ways in which we were able to get important legislation inside of the American Rescue Plan, we expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit, we expanded the child tax credit. And the experts tell us that as a result of that, we will cut child poverty in half."

The town hall was pre-recorded and included questions screened by staff. It came a day after Warnock appeared beside President Joe Biden in Duluth at a rally marking Biden's 100th day in office.

Warnock pledged to continue to push Biden toward forgiving a portion of student loan debt.

The first in his family to go to college, Warnock often said on the campaign trail that he would not have found success without Pell grants and other government assistance. Now, many students are struggling with massive loans, he said.

"I'm heartbroken when I see what young people are struggling with right now, in a moment when college debt has surpassed credit card debt in our country," Warnock said. "College debt has surpassed auto loans. In other words, our young people have a mortgage before they get the chance to have a mortgage, which has all kinds of implications not only for their personal economy, but for the Georgia economy and the American economy."

Warnock said he signed a letter this week urging Biden to forgive \$50,000 of student loan debt per borrower. He also said he would prioritize issues that affect rural Georgians, especially expanding broadband and stemming rural hospital closures.

Warnock said expanding Medicaid will help keep rural hospitals open. Whether that happens depends on the state Legislature, but Warnock said he is doing his best to convince them.

"What I did in that regard as a United States Senator in Georgia, I used the leverage that you gave me by electing me to the U.S. Senate and giving the Democrats the majority to fight for Georgia, and our ability to expand Medicaid so we got \$2 billion of additional support to expand Medicaid," he said.

Warnock also briefly touched on the state's new voting law, pledging to support the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For the People Act to fight what he characterized as voter suppression.

"Know that in the end, failure is not an option," he said. "We must, and we will, pass voting rights in the Congress, and I'm going to do everything I can to make sure that that happens."

Republicans say Democrat complaints over the election overhaul are overblown, arguing that sections of the bill will expand early voting hours for many counties.

Republican National Committee spokeswoman Savannah Viar blasted Warnock's proposals as too costly.

"Raphael Warnock and Joe Biden's liberal policy proposals amount to an American bankruptcy plan that would cost Georgians trillions of dollars, raise taxes, and kill small businesses—something they are both familiar with after costing the state millions due to their lies about Georgia's election integrity law," she said. "Georgians deserve true leadership, not whatever socialist wish list Warnock and Biden have created."

Biden has said he will pay for his plans with a tax on top earners and corporations and has pledged not to raise taxes on Americans making under \$400,000 per year.

Herschel Walker (Candidate)

Keep the American Dream Alive

As a small-town kid who has achieved the American Dream, Herschel knows the best way to help people succeed is not to give them a handout but to teach them how to fish. Herschel has personally seen how when you work hard and stay in the fight, anything is possible. He will fight to keep that same American Dream alive for you and your kids too.



Wisconsin

Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes (Candidate)

Plan to Boost Wisconsin Manufacturing, Strengthen Unions, and Invest in Communities

Mandela will equip Wisconsin's workforce to take on the jobs of today and prepare workers for the jobs of tomorrow by supporting free technical education and two years of free community college, and prioritizing apprenticeship programs within skilled labor like investing in Wisconsin's School-to-Work initiative.

Manufacturing drives Wisconsin's economy. Manufacturers in Wisconsin account for [nearly 20%](#) of the total output for the state and employ 16% of the state's workforce. Wisconsin hosts multiple globally recognized brands that have given our state a reputation for superior quality and outstanding work ethic. With our proud manufacturing history and top-notch workforce, we have the unique opportunity to transform Wisconsin's economy and take our manufacturing to greater heights.

Our proud history of manufacturing is personal to me. I grew up watching my dad work nights at the General Motors plant in Milwaukee. He followed the path of my granddad, who worked as a steelworker at A.O. Smith after fighting in World War II. These weren't easy jobs, but they were good union jobs with dignity that paid a fair wage and provided a good life for me and my family. I didn't have to worry about our next meal thanks to my dad's hard work.

Jobs like my dad's shouldn't be rare. But unfortunately, these days they are, thanks to politicians who have sold out American manufacturing with outsourcing and bad trade deals. As your Lt. Governor, I've seen the same story too often: the economy is struggling, it's hard to find good workers, unfair Chinese trade practices are disadvantageous to American workers, taxes are too high, and the supply chain isn't working for our state's manufacturers. And our failure to make things at home has left us too vulnerable to global shortages that drive up prices here at home.

We also see communities in rural and urban Wisconsin that have been hit hard by the outsourcing of manufacturing. We've seen a sharp decline in good paying jobs which has sent too many of our young people out of the state in search of opportunity.

Training our workers remains a top issue for Wisconsin. In fact, [60% of manufacturers](#) said it is "very difficult" to find qualified staff to work for them. When businesses can't find the right workers here, they too often move their business to other states, or even overseas.

Meanwhile, multi-millionaire Ron Johnson has failed to support Wisconsin businesses and jobs. He voted for a corporate tax giveaway that benefitted companies shipping jobs overseas, which wreaked havoc on our supply chain. Ron Johnson works against labor unions and actually said he wouldn't try to get Wisconsin's own [Oshkosh Corporation](#), a major corporate donor for Johnson, to keep jobs in Wisconsin. **Johnson even praised outsourcing overseas, saying "it makes no sense" to keep jobs in America and praising foreign countries like China that make products "dirt cheap."**

The factory where my dad worked is a strip mall now, and the factory where my granddad worked is shuttered and sitting empty. We shouldn't accept that as inevitable; we should work to make sure the brightest days of manufacturing in Wisconsin are ahead of us, not behind us. We need to bring good jobs back home to Wisconsin and guarantee good opportunities for everyone.

I believe that Wisconsin is an amazing place for empowered workers to make the products of the future and for young people to make a fulfilled, successful life. That's why I'm releasing my plan to breathe new life into manufacturing in Wisconsin, support communities and create new jobs, strengthen our communities, and improve quality of life so that the next generation can thrive in Wisconsin. As your next U.S. Senator I will:

- ***Prioritize American manufacturing and stop shipping jobs overseas;***
 - Fix supply chain issues by making things at home;
 - Take on unfair trade deals;
 - Use tax reform to keep jobs at home and support small and medium sized manufacturers;
 - Invest in 21st century manufacturing opportunities;
 - Train our workforce to take on the jobs of tomorrow;
 - Grow a stronger middle class by supporting labor unions;
 - Revitalize Wisconsin communities that have been left behind.

Senator Ron Johnson (Incumbent)

Higher Education

The federal government provides billions of dollars every year to students through various student aid programs such as Pell Grants and Perkins Loans. These efforts are an attempt to improve access to higher education, a result that we all want. However, higher education remains out of reach for many Americans. Tuition at colleges has increased more than 2.5 times the rate of inflation. The best evidence shows this may have been an unintended consequence of the government's involvement, with research showing each new dollar in federal student aid causing tuition to rise as much as 65 cents. Student loan debt has ballooned over the past two decades. The federal government has lured students into so much borrowing that there is now \$1.2 trillion in student loan debt outstanding and an average bachelor's degree recipient owing more than \$26,000 in debt to the government. This financial burden hurts individuals and the country in many ways.

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Senator Johnson held a committee [hearing](#) to expose the U.S. Department of Education's effects on higher

education and students. His committee heard witness testimony from both government and outside experts. All agreed that the federal government's role in higher education must be reformed.

Meanwhile, we must ensure that current students are secure in their current arrangements. Senator Johnson was a strong proponent of the effort to extend the Perkins Loan Program in late 2015, ensuring that students already participating in the program could continue. The decades-old program partners with colleges and universities to provide assistance to more than 20,000 low-income students in Wisconsin each year, and an extension provided greater certainty as Congress continues its work toward broader reforms in federal student aid.



Arizona

Senator Mark Kelly (Incumbent)

Creating Jobs

Through the bipartisan infrastructure law and his microchip manufacturing law, Mark is bringing thousands of good-paying jobs to the state of Arizona, many of which don't require a four-year degree. By supporting community colleges and technical schools around the state, he's making sure Arizonans have the tools they need to fill these jobs.

Blake Masters (Candidate)

Empower Parents and Stop Woke Teachers

Our schools are a disaster. Left-wing bureaucrats are programming curriculums with radical political agendas. Rather than teaching children how to think, they're trying to control what they think. How do we expect kids to succeed if they're being indoctrinated with Critical Race Theory, taught to hate our ancestors, and encouraged to question their gender?

Schools are also failing at a much more basic level. Even by high school, too many students can't read or write, and their math skills are horrible.

The good news is that we know what to do. As your Senator I will:

- Support a "back to basics" approach. We need to reintroduce actual academic standards
- Empower Arizona parents and end the scourge of wokeness in schools
- Oppose teachers unions (which should not be allowed to exist)
- Support school choice in all its forms
- Eliminate the Dept. of Education (and so long as it exists, require that federal dollars spent must follow the student — parents, not bureaucrats, should call the shots).
- Promote alternatives to college — there should be many more paths to success than a 4-year college degree
- Get the government out of the student loan business, and hold corrupt colleges liable for the debt their students can't pay back.



North Carolina

The Honorable Cheri Beasley (Candidate)

Strengthening Our Children's Future

Cheri believes that our classrooms should be places of opportunity for all children to realize their abilities, pursue their dreams and gain the skills they need for 21st century jobs. But for too many North Carolina children, their zip code determines the quality of their education and their opportunity to have the best possible future.

Cheri will fight for education funding from cradle to career for all our kids. She supports investing in early childhood education, universal pre-k, and fully funding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Cheri also believes we must invest in our teachers and increase Title I funding to help close gaps between school districts and ensure schools are funded fairly and equitably across every zip code in our state.

To expand pathways beyond high school Cheri supports programs that help students prepare for college, and believes in reforming student loan programs so that our students are not hampered by mountains of debt when they graduate. She also knows that while a four-year degree might be the right choice for some, it is not for everyone. Cheri will work to expand access to community college, apprenticeships, and vocational training programs. She will also fight to increase funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs).

Honoring Our Veterans, Servicemembers and Military Families

Cheri believes that we have a sacred duty to the men and women who serve in our armed forces as well as their families and the communities who support them. North Carolina has a proud military tradition with more than 100,000 active-duty military personnel, approximately 725,000 veterans and 11,000 national guard and reservists who call our state home. Our state is also home to six major military installations including Ft. Bragg in Fayetteville where Cheri and her husband Curt started their family.

Cheri will fight to ensure that the federal government honors its obligations to our service members, veterans and their families. Too many struggle to make ends meet and far too many veterans return home without access to critical services. We must expand investments to increase pay for service members, improve the infrastructure of VA health care facilities, increase resources for military families

and expand the range of services the VA provides. Additionally there is more we can do to help our veterans transition to civilian life, get jobs and increase awareness of and access to VA programs.

Honoring our obligations also means ensuring federal protections for LGBTQ veterans and service members. And there is much more we must do to ensure accountability and adequate protections for service members by reforming the way the military investigates and prosecutes sexual assault.

Representative Ted Budd (Candidate)

Empowering Parents In Education

As a homeschool dad, Ted believes every parent in our country should have as many educational options for their children as possible. Democrats want the government — not parents — in charge of every child's education and no oversight of the taxpayer-funded curriculum. That's led to children being taught radical, anti-American ideologies like Critical Race Theory and the 1619 Project.

To fight back against woke indoctrination, Ted wrote the Preserve American History Act, which would codify President Trump's 1776 Commission to teach the greatness and exceptionalism of the United States in our schools. He is a chief sponsor of the CRT CHOICE Act, which gives parents the power to remove their child from school systems that teach anti-American curriculum.

While Ted believes education decisions are best made at the local level, he supports school choice and opportunity scholarships to give all students a chance to match their skills and interests with an education that best prepares them for the job market — whether that's college or not.



New Hampshire

Senator Maggie Hassan (Incumbent)

Making College More Affordable and Standing Up for Public Education

Senator Hassan serves on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, where she has worked to make education more affordable and accessible. *She has successfully increased Pell Grants and proposed legislation that would [reduce the burdens of student debt](#).* During the pandemic, she worked across party lines to secure aid to help keep [New Hampshire schools](#) open — and led efforts to ensure that schools across the country would [reopen and stay open](#). *She has also taken on [predatory lending that targets students](#)* and joined with Republicans to successfully stop the previous administration's [cuts to rural and low-income schools](#). *She is pushing for bipartisan legislation that [helps more students earn college credits while still in high school](#)* and has pushed to lower costs for early education by [strengthening Head Start](#). She has stood up against efforts to undermine public education — [including taking on Betsy DeVos](#) for pushing policies that would have harmed public schools. And she has [worked](#) with a Republican to increase mental health resources for young Granite Staters and help prevent youth suicide. Senator Hassan will continue to work to ensure that every child has access to quality K-12 public education and has the support that they need to live to their fullest potential.

Getting Results for Granite State Veterans

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, Senator Hassan passed into law critical bipartisan legislation to improve benefits for service members and veterans, strengthen VA services, and [expand veterans' access to health care, including mental health care](#). Senator Hassan worked with Republicans to pass comprehensive legislation, which is now law, to expand VA health care to more veterans exposed to toxic substances during their service, and previously led other successful bipartisan efforts to secure [benefits for Vietnam War veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange](#) during their time in uniform. Senator Hassan has also consistently supported pay raises for US troops and *fought for passage of the ["Forever GI Bill"](#) to expand educational opportunities for veterans. And she successfully pushed the Biden administration to ensure that more service members can use the [Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#) program.*

Additionally, Senator Hassan led the successful bipartisan push to [return the POW/MIA Flag](#) to atop of the White House — a priority that Granite State veterans raised with her. She continues to work with both parties on legislation to help [veterans transition into the civilian workforce](#) and to support rapid search-and-rescue efforts [to help locate at-risk veterans when they go missing](#) or are experiencing a mental health crisis.

General Don Bolduc (Candidate)

American Strength Agenda

Strong Economy

Strong Borders

Strong Domestic Energy Production

Strong World Leadership

Strong Defense of Our Liberties



Ohio

Representative Tim Ryan (Candidate)

Helping Our Students Win the Future

As a dad of three and the husband of a first-grade public school teacher, Tim knows firsthand what it'll take to make sure all our kids can get a great education. That's why he's working to invest in high-quality affordable child care, universal pre-K, and two years of tuition-free community college for anyone who wants, along with bold investments to modernize our school buildings and give our teachers the resources they need. Our kids are entering a competitive and rapidly changing world, and we owe it to them and their parents to make sure they're ready to take on any challenges the world throws at them. Tim is working to invest in programs to help kids build grit and resilience, expand access to healthy food in our schools, and teach entrepreneurship so the next generation can build the businesses of the future.

Tim recognizes that with other countries making huge investments into their workforce, we can't afford not to give our team the skills to compete and win. He's working to bring back and modernize shop class, and reinvest in skills development and registered apprenticeship programs because not having a college degree doesn't mean you shouldn't be able to get a good job and help Ohio dominate the future.

Finally, Tim and Andrea are still paying off student loans, and they understand the pressure that the student debt crisis has put on so many Americans. Which is why in addition to making it easier to go to community college, Tim supports expanding access to tuition-free college in exchange for public service, allowing student-borrowers to refinance their loans, and expanding loan forgiveness so that crushing debt isn't holding Ohioans back from serving their community or pursuing the career that's right for them.

J.D. Vance (Candidate)

COVID-19 AND SCHOOLS

As we saw from the radical Left's culture war waged during COVID-19 and the continued CRT indoctrination in our kids' schools, it's clear that we should never let politics drive public health decisions and deprive our kids of a good education. Luckily, Ohio appears to have moved past this, but there are still those who propose to mask 3-year-olds at preschools and shut down in-person learning. We can't go back.



Florida

Representative Val Demings (Candidate)

Vision

Val Demings rose from humble beginnings to achieve the American Dream. She was the first person in her family to attend college, became a social worker and then a police officer, rising to become Orlando's first female Police Chief, where she drove down violent crime by 40 percent.

Now, Chief Demings is running for U.S. Senate to fight for every Floridian to have that same opportunity to live the American Dream.

Jobs and the Economy

Raised in a two-bedroom, A-frame home in Jacksonville, the youngest of seven children, Val Demings grew up knowing the value of a job and a dollar. Her parents, Elouise, a maid, and James, a janitor, did all they could to support their children and instill in them the meaning of hard work. As a teenager, Val worked flipping burgers to help support her family.

Now, as a Member of Congress, Val Demings works to ensure anyone willing to work hard can find a job that does more than just pay the bills — a job that can help build a better life for your children. That's why she worked with Republicans and Democrats to deliver relief funding for Florida's small businesses during the pandemic, and why she championed a bipartisan infrastructure bill that will create thousands of new, good-paying jobs in Florida.

Senator Marco Rubio (Incumbent)

[Rubio, Bennet Reintroduce Bipartisan Bill to Expand Federal Financial Aid for Non-traditional Students Attending Innovative, High Quality Postsecondary Programs](#)

APR 28 2022

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) reintroduced the *Higher Education Innovation Act*. The bill would ensure students who attend high-quality trade schools, community colleges, and other postsecondary programs have access to federal financial aid.

"America needs a 21st century education system that embraces options beyond the traditional four-

year college degree track,” **Rubio said.** “Our current accreditation system stifles innovation and leaves too many people with piles of student loan debt. This bill would help make higher education more affordable for students who choose high quality, nontraditional higher education pathways such as trade schools and community colleges.”

“As the needs of America’s economy and students continue to change, the higher education system must evolve too,” **said Bennet.** “Our bipartisan legislation will ensure that students have the opportunity to attend institutions like trade schools and community colleges that have a proven track record of success. This is an important step to grow our skilled workforce and lower costs for students who want to advance their education.”

Specifically, the *Higher Education Innovation Act* would:

- Support postsecondary institutions that promote and support student success outcomes and cost-effectiveness in postsecondary education by providing them the opportunity to participate in federal financial aid and other programs given to traditionally accredited institutions.
- Establish innovation authorizers to approve high-quality, evidence-based higher education providers as part of a five-year pilot program to reward innovative programs with successful student outcomes.
- Allow students, especially nontraditional students, to use federal financial aid to attend innovative authorized-institutions that embrace the new ways people learn and acquire skills that lead to good paying jobs without enormous student loan debt.
- Promote educational programs that lead to a degree, certificate, or industry-recognized credential that meets the requirements for licensing in the relevant field.
- Require higher education providers to meet high student performance outcomes related to student learning and completion of education programs that benefit students and address college affordability.



Colorado

Senator Michael Bennet (Incumbent)

Fighting for a High-Quality Education

As the former superintendent of the Denver Public Schools, Michael understands the importance of a high-quality education to a child's success. Sadly, our schools too often fail at preparing the next generation for the 21st century economy.

Michael believes our country's competitiveness depends on a fundamental transformation of public education that gives schools and districts more flexibility to innovate and make decisions in the best interests of their students, while holding them to high standards for all our children. As a former leader on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), Michael helped overhaul No Child Left Behind, replacing it with a bipartisan law that returns power to states and local communities. Michael also helped secure provisions that reward innovation in schools, support rural school districts, and improve teacher training.

Michael believes no student should graduate from high school without the skills to earn a living wage. Michael is working on legislation to modernize workforce training, increase apprenticeship programs nationwide, and encourage higher education institutions, employers, and workforce intermediaries to collaborate to establish new and better apprenticeships that will lead to higher pay for graduating students.

In his ongoing efforts to modernize higher education, Michael works tirelessly to ensure every student can pursue some form of higher education without incurring crushing debt. Michael has successfully expanded access to dual enrollment, early college programs, and career and technical education to better prepare students for 21st century careers. He also successfully passed bipartisan solutions to simplify the financial aid process and expand year-round Pell Grants so students can finish college with less student loan debt and on their own schedule.

Joe O'Dea (Candidate)

See Article and video on next page.

U.S. Senate candidates face college students concerned about housing costs, immigration policy

Michael Bennet and Joe O'Dea visit MSU Denver's The Solution Studio, a new voter-education forum.

Two candidates in one of the country's most closely watched races for the U.S. Senate faced a panel of Metropolitan State University of Denver students this month to answer questions on how they plan to address soaring housing costs, immigration reform and the multitude of global challenges facing the U.S. Incumbent U.S. Sen. Michael Bennet, a Democrat, and his challenger, Republican Joe O'Dea, appeared separately in [The Solution Studio](#), a candidate forum presented by MSU Denver's [Institute for Public Service](#) in collaboration with New Voices Strategies and the Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy and Research Organization.

Two focus groups consisting of working-adult MSU Denver students met in August to discuss economic and quality-of-life challenges they're facing. A panel of four students used information gleaned from those focus groups to inform their questions to candidates, including what they would do to curb soaring housing costs that make homeownership unattainable for many Coloradans.

Immigration, including border security and a recent federal court ruling that foreshadows the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, was also top of mind for students on the panel, one of whom is a DACA student herself.

Here's how the candidates responded to questions about these and other issues, including the U.S. role in turbulent global affairs, such as Russia's war in Ukraine.

Candidate O'Dea's Interview

<https://youtu.be/-cx9c6JRSH8>

Senator Michael Bennet's Interview

<https://youtu.be/aHv4p1P80R4>



Washington

Senator Patty Murray (Incumbent)

Quality Education No Matter Your Zip Code

Patty believes every student should be able to get a great public education no matter where they live in Washington state. That's why she consistently leads the fight in Congress to fund our public schools. During the pandemic, Patty led the charge to reopen schools and get our kids back in the classroom safely and as quickly as possible. Patty made sure the American Rescue Plan included resources to help expand afterschool and summer school programs to help our kids' learning get back on track and is squarely focused on making sure our students have what they need to learn and catch up. Patty always puts our kids first and when no one was able to agree on how to fix the broken No Child Left Behind law, she was able to work with Republicans to rewrite that law and end its unfunded mandates and burdensome federal testing requirements.

Patty also believes college and quality technical and career training should be within reach for every American. Patty has passed major bipartisan investments in workforce training and technical training before—and she's committed to making sure Washington state workers have the skills they need for the manufacturing, clean energy, and infrastructure jobs that are being created in our communities. Patty and her siblings all graduated college—but only with the help of federal assistance. As a former preschool teacher and community college instructor, Patty is passionate about passing her plans to offer every family free pre-K, lower the cost of college, and fix our student loan system in the long term.

Standing Up for Our Veterans

Patty is the daughter of a WWII veteran and purple heart recipient. When her dad got sick with Multiple Sclerosis, the VA helped provide the care he needed—Patty wants to make sure every veteran gets the care they deserve and that's why, when she was first elected, she specifically asked to serve on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. Patty wrote and passed the bipartisan VOW to Hire Our Heroes Act to help boost veteran employment, wrote and passed legislation to expand the caregivers program to veterans of all eras, and restarted the federal HUD-VASH program to help get homeless veterans housed. Patty has been a forceful voice for oversight of the VA and has repeatedly fought back successfully against proposed closures of VA facilities in Washington state. Recently, Patty helped pass the PACT Act to get health care to veterans exposed to toxic substances in the line of duty and in that same bill secured funding to open a new VA clinic in the Tri-Cities.

Mrs. Tiffany Smiley (Candidate)

Education Recovery & Reform

How to Give Hope to Washington's Children and their Parents

In so many ways, our schools do not meet the needs of our children and grandchildren. Despite the best efforts of so many of our teachers during the pandemic, distance and remote learning has shown all of us the holes in our education system. Many of our schools are focused on teaching divisive topics instead of the basics. And the careers of the future don't match an education system that is stuck in the past.

Education recovery means getting back to the basics: reading, writing and math. Education reform means making sure parents have a say and a choice in their children's education. This agenda will ensure that hope is on the horizon for Washington's students and parents because our system must work to meet unique needs, talents and challenges of all individuals so they can have a bright future.

The Agenda

We can achieve EDUCATION RECOVERY AND REFORM by:

- Expanding school choice to ensure low income families who are not part of the rich and elite have equal access to a quality education
- Promoting curriculum transparency to empower parents and banning the teaching of divisive ideology like Critical Race Theory from our elementary schools
- Creating and expanding K-12 STEM education programs to ensure skills development for the future
- *Banning the federal government from forgiving student loans in a way that is unfair to those who have already paid off their debts and makes electricians and plumbers pay for the loans of lawyers and doctors*
- *Ending the stigma and discrimination against students of all ages who choose not to go to college by expanding trade apprenticeships, on-the-job training and skill certification*
- Providing teachers (whose average salary in Washington State is \$79,000) a pay raise and paying for it in part by reducing bureaucracy at the U.S. Department of Education (where the average salary is \$126,000)

Economic Recovery & Reform

How to Give Hope to Washington's Workers, Job Creators and Middle-Class Families

From skyrocketing inflation to an oncoming recession, our economy is going in the wrong direction. Economic recovery means putting more in the pocketbooks of middle-class workers and families. Economic reform means enacting commonsense ideas that will take advantage of Washington's strengths in the global competition for jobs and investment.

From aerospace to information technology, Washington is a leader of America's 21st century economy. But growing up on a farm, Tiffany knows Washington's economy is more than multi-national corporations. This agenda will ensure that hope is on the horizon for Washington's workers, job creators and middle-class families, acknowledging our diverse and productive workforce.

The Agenda

We can achieve ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND REFORM by:

- Preventing the IRS from harassing middle-class families and small businesses with the 87,000 agents they plan to hire to investigate American taxpayers
- Reducing wasteful spending that has caused inflation and ensuring that government never pays able-bodied workers more to stay at home than go to work
- Permanently extending the 2017 tax cuts for the middle class and paying for it by permanently extending the cap on state and local (SALT) deductions, preventing the rich in high-tax states like California from lowering their tax bills
- Pursuing free and fair trade agreements like USMCA that support nearly a million Washington jobs and protect Washington workers, manufacturers and farmers from unfair trade practices
- Enacting commonsense paid family leave policy that helps fund parental leave and child care expenses
- I will support bipartisan legislation that gives parents the option to advance child tax credit payments that would help families after the birth or adoption of a new child, to finance time off of work, and offset the cost of infant care.

Key Senate Races Polling Data

(November 3, 2022)

Pennsylvania

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
John Fetterman	Toss Up	Leaning Democratic	Toss Up
Mehmet Oz			

Nevada

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Catherine Coretez Masto	Toss UP		Toss Up
Adam Laxalt		Leaning Republican	

Georgia

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Raphael Warnock	Toss Up		Toss Up
Herschel Walker		Leaning Republican	

Wisconsin

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Mandela Barnes			
Ron Johnson	Toss Up	Republican	Tilt Republican

Arizona

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Mark Kelly	Toss Up	Leaning Democratic	Tilt Democratic
Blake Masters			

North Carolina

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Cheri Beasley			
Ted Budd	Lean Republican	Republican	Tilt Republican

New Hampshire

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Maggie Hassan	Lean Democratic	Democratic	Tilt Democratic
Don Buldoc			

Ohio

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Tim Ryan			
J.D. Vance	Lean Republican	Republican	Lean Republican

Florida

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Val Demings			
Marco Rubio	Likely Republican	Republican	Likely Republican

Colorado

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Michael Bennet	Lean Democratic	Democratic	Likely Democratic
Joe O'Dea			

Washington

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Patty Murray	Likely Democratic	Democratic	Likely Democratic
Tiffany Smiley			

Midterm Elections Impact on Senate HELP Committee

Overview

Regardless of which party has control of the Senate the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) is going to undergo significant change.

If the Democrats retain control, all eyes will be on current HELP Committee Chairwoman Patty Murray and a very important decision that she will need to make.

You see, Senator Murray is currently the Chairwoman of the Full Senate HELP Committee and is also second in seniority on both the coveted Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

On the Appropriations Committee, Senator Murray is currently the Chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee. But the current Chairman of the Full Committee is retiring, which leaves the Full Committee Chair open and Senator Murray is in line to accept this position. BUT, in order to do so she would have to give up her position as the head of the HELP Committee. What will she do?

While no one is certain, it would be hard for Senator Murray to pass up the Appropriations chair, but she might.

If she moves over to head the Appropriations Committee, she will likely remain on the HELP Committee by relinquish the Chair. Next in seniority to succeed her as HELP Committee Chair on the Democratic side of the Committee is Senator Bernie Sander (VT) – and Independent who caucuses with the Democrats - or Senator Robert Casey (PA).

If she passes on the Appropriations Committee Chair, she could again serve as Chair of the HELP Committee. If the Democrats lose control the same decisions and jockeying for the leadership position as Ranking Member will still apply.

If the Republicans take control of the Senate, with the retirement of Senator Richard Burr, the next in seniority on that side of the isle to assume the leadership role is Senator Rand Paul (KY). Senator Paul has expressed considerable interest in taking over the reigns of the HELP Committee either as Chair or Ranking Member.

The Republicans have two vacancies to fill with the retirements of Senator Burr and Tuberville. Will these be filled by new Senators? Will some lower seniority Senators depart on both sides for other Committees – probably. So it will take time to see what all the changes will be until next year, but the midterm will definitely give us things to discuss.

Current
Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee

Democratic Majority Members	Republican Minority Members
Senator Patty Murray (WA), Chair	Senator Richard Burr (NC), Ranking Member
Senator Bernie Sanders (VT)	Senator Rand Paul (KY)
Senator Robert Casey (PA)	Senator Susan Collins (ME)
Senator Tammy Baldwin (WI)	Senator Bill Cassidy (LA)
Senator Christopher Murphy (CT)	Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK)
Senator Tim Kaine (VA)	Senator Mike Braun (IN)
Senator Maggie Hassan (NH)	Senator Roger Marshall (KS)
Senator Tina Smith (MN)	Senator Tim Scott (SC)
Senator Jacky Rosen (NV)	Senator Mitt Romney (UT)
Senator Ben Lujan (NM)	Senator Tommy Tuberville (AL)
Senator John Hickenlooper (CO)	Senator Jerry Moran (KS)



To control the US House of Representatives, a party must hold at least 218 seats out of 435 when all seats are filled.

Based on various polls and race ratings, Republicans are currently favored to win 212 Seats this November, while Democrats are favored to win 205 Seats.

This leaves a total of 18 Seats that are listed as “Toss Up” races – and are therefore the most tracked and reported races by the media.

Within the group of 18, there are two “Toss-Up” races involving current members of the House Committee on Education & Labor – Rep. Susan Wild (D-PA) and Rep. Frank Mrvan (D-ID) and four other potentially contested races – barring any additional surprises.

On the following pages we highlight each of the six races, providing information on key issues taken directly from both candidate’s campaign websites. This is followed by the latest polling data from three source. And concludes with a look at how the races and potential changes in control of the Chamber or changes in leadership will impact the development of higher education policy moving forward.



Pennsylvania

Representative Susan Wild (Incumbent)

Jobs, Economic Prosperity and Labor Rights

It's often said that World War II was won right here in the Lehigh Valley — thanks to the fearless work of Pennsylvania's men and women who produced the steel that transported and protected Allied troops around the world.

Amidst a global pandemic that has impacted all of our local businesses and workers, I am reminded of that same grit, determination, and hard work that helped bring us through crises before. Now is the time to protect our workers, support our small business community, and strengthen our economy to ensure we recover from this crisis together.

I'm 100% dedicated to stabilizing our economy by lowering costs and bringing high-paying jobs to our district. Here's my plan:

- Lowering costs and fighting inflation.

Since day one, my top priority in Congress has been cutting costs for hard working Pennsylvanians. That's why I successfully fought to make health insurance for the whole family more affordable, and why I was proud to support capping the price of insulin at \$35 a month. We also have to bring back manufacturing jobs and secure our supply chains so that we aren't dependent on foreign nations for our everyday needs. In Congress, I have introduced legislation that will make sure our supply chains are strong, stable, and secure while strengthening the U.S. economy, lowering inflation, and protecting our national security. My bipartisan bill, the Supply Chain Security and Resilience Act, would create a comprehensive federal government approach to analyzing and responding to supply chain vulnerabilities before they become a crisis.

- Defend, strengthen, and support unions.

When Pennsylvania workers are strong, America is strong. It is critical that workers are guaranteed the right to fight for higher wages, safer working conditions, better benefits, and to collectively organize without fear of intimidation or retribution. The constant attacks on our hard-working labor force and middle class must end, and that's why I am working to make it easier for public-sector and private workers to exercise their right to organize. We should be protecting unions, not dismantling them.

Through my work on the Education and Labor Committee, I was proud to support the Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO) Act and to support it again when it came to a vote on the floor of the House.

- *Invest in training, certification, and apprenticeship programs.*

Our economy is rapidly evolving and we need to equip Pennsylvanians — especially those who choose to pursue vocation and trade jobs — with the tools they need to keep pace and succeed in increasingly specialized professions. PA-07 is home to two of the finest community colleges in the country, and I have used my position on the Education and Labor Committee to advocate for increased access to technical schools and apprenticeship programs so everyone can choose whichever path best prepares them for a successful future.

- Build better infrastructure.

When we invest our tax dollars in infrastructure, it's an investment in our people, too — promoting economic growth while creating new construction and manufacturing jobs for Pennsylvanians. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, I fought to pass into law, is now delivering: it's estimated to add two million good jobs to our economy each year over the next decade and takes action to boost our climate resilience, and ensures that our businesses have the tools they need to Make It In America.

- Support small businesses.

Small businesses are the backbone of our community and I'm proud to stand with small business owners across the Greater Lehigh Valley. In Congress, I have fought to get our businesses the support that they need. From the American Rescue Plan, which provided critical economic relief to millions of small businesses across the country, to increased funding for the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, I will always work to ensure our businesses have what they need to grow and succeed.

Lisa Scheller (Candidate)

Jobs and the Economy

As a job creator, Lisa understands what it takes to grow the economy. Lisa will help manufacturers and industries critical to Pennsylvania's economic success hire new workers and expand production in the U.S.. She will fight to keep the regulatory burden low and the government out of the day-to-day operations of our businesses.

Veterans

Lisa has pledged to donate her entire Congressional salary to charities that support veterans because, as the daughter of a Veteran, Lisa knows firsthand who to thank for our freedom and the unique challenges facing veterans. In Congress, Lisa will support policies that allow for more job and career training opportunities for veterans and implement long-overdue reforms to our broken VA so veterans and their families get the care they need and deserve.



Indiana

Representative Frank Mrvan (Incumbent)

Growing the Northwest Indiana Economy

Frank is running for Congress to create good-paying jobs and infrastructure. Frank was proud to vote for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which makes much needed investments in our ports, airports, waterways, roads, bridges, and railways, and we are fortunate to possess all of these in Northwest Indiana. This law also makes notable investments in our broadband technology, jobs and a Northwest Indiana economy that works for everyone.

Most recently, Frank included funding for ten specific projects for Northwest Indiana in the appropriations legislation, that benefit the Gary Chicago Airport with first responder vehicles, our ports, waterways, shoreline erosion, technology upgrades for the Gary police department, and *academic institutions of higher learning to prepare our students for the 21st century workforce*. Frank is also proud to support the more than \$1 billion expansion and extension of the South Shore Passenger Rail Line that is now under construction and you are seeing the private sector investments already beginning.

Supporting Public Education

Frank is proud to have secured the endorsement of the American Federation of Teachers Indiana and the National Education Association. Frank has always taken every opportunity to express his appreciation to teachers and demonstrate to communities how indispensable they are to creating the next generation of thinkers and problem solvers.

As a Member of Congress, Frank has continued to be an active supporter of teachers and students, and he will continue to work to ensure that public funds are dedicated to support public education.

Additionally, one of his signature initiatives as North Township Trustee was the establishment of the No More Secrets program. In establishing this program, he collaborated with teachers, school districts, and Indiana legislators to create this program to protect children from predators. Specifically, this program facilitates conversations about body safety, Internet safety, and phone responsibility, and it currently educates, enables, and empowers all students in every k-12 school in Indiana. He would not have been able to establish this program without the incredible persistence and support of Indiana teachers, who

shared his value of ensuring that resources are available for all students to be able to focus on learning, growing, and developing the skills needed to solve problems and be contributing members of our communities.

Jennifer-Ruth Green (Candidate)

Limited Government Regulations

Government involvement in the private lives of American citizens or private business must not violate the freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, or in the Bill of Rights. We have witnessed government overreach into our personal liberties, homes, businesses, places of worship, and healthcare. While common-sense laws are necessary for the smooth operation of a constitutional republic, when policy or legislation infringes on the American citizen's person, property, or religious practices, the government has overreached.

Private, American businesses should be free to operate with limited government involvement. Increased regulations on industry have pushed consumer prices higher while suppressing jobs and production. Common-sense environmental considerations must be made, but not at the expense of a free market, strong businesses, or strong families.

We must be careful not to create an environment where society depends on big government for survival. This minimizes the value of hard work and the satisfaction of earning an honest living while beholding the American people to the whims of legislators. Government should operate dependent on the people. "Government of the people, by the people, for the people..."²

Greater Employment Opportunities

Protecting American-based jobs should be at the forefront of the economic policy discussion. A strong job market supports a strong family. A strong family supports a strong economy. An "America First" economic agenda is essential to support the working-class laborer who relies on agriculture, manufacturing, construction, technology, and transportation to support their family.

Equal employment and training opportunities must be available to all American citizens regardless of financial status, race, creed, color, ethnicity, or any other factors.

Laborers' interests should be considered to run an ethically upright organization that supports the American worker. Employers will do well to know the status of their employees and to consider their concerns and well-being with an open mind. Labor unions can provide great value both to the employer and the employee to assist both sides with providing a suitable working environment and fair compensation. Workers should have the freedom to choose whether or not they want union representation. Equally, a business should have the freedom to choose to utilize the free-market services of vendors whether unionized or not without consequence.



Alaska

Representative Mary Sattler Peltola (Incumbent)

Schools

The investments we make in education today will determine the future of our state. It's on us to make our schools the best they can be.

That means making sure Alaska teachers get the pay they deserve so they can do the best possible job.

That means funding programs to preserve the languages in our communities—particularly Alaska Native communities whose languages are at risk of extinction.

That means pushing for programs that ensure Alaska students leave school ready to enter the workforce.

That means getting as much funding as we can to our universities to retain and educate Alaska young adults..

Infrastructure Jobs

We need to build and maintain high-quality infrastructure just to get to work and live our lives.

That means funding our roads, bridges, airports, ferries, highways, energy grids, broadband infrastructure, and more.

That means connecting more of our rural communities to the rest of our state.

That means fighting for projects that create good paying, stable jobs for our working families

Mr. Nick Begich (Candidate)

Focusing Education on the Student

In spite of years of effort and substantial funding, Alaska's schools consistently rank among the worst in the country. As a result, young Alaskans are deprived of the skills needed to succeed in years that follow. Parents must have the opportunity to place their children in the educational environment that best meets their needs and gives those children the best chance at success. To do this, we must encourage healthy competition among schools inclusive of public, private, and homeschool options and ensure that funding follows the student (e.g. vouchers). Further, any federal education funding should come in the form of block grants to the states, allowing a greater level of local control over how such funds are deployed in the classroom.

Supporting Our Veterans

The men and women who have served our country have my utmost respect. We must ensure that our men and women who serve and have served for our country have greater access to healthcare and that the promises made to our veterans during their service are kept after that service is complete. Further, we must continue to reform the Veterans Administration to ensure that it is operating efficiently and effectively for the veterans it serves.



Iowa

Ms. Christina Bohannon (Candidate)

Christina Believes in a High-Quality Education for All

I owe my life to public education and to my public school teachers. I grew up in a trailer, and neither of my parents graduated high school. When my dad got sick and his health insurance was cancelled, my family lost everything. *It was public education that lifted me out of poverty and gave me opportunities I never could have imagined. It's thanks to teachers and public education that I got a fair shot, becoming the first in my family to graduate from college.*

In Iowa, public education used to be a priority and a source of pride. In recent years, however, our public schools consistently suffer from a lack of funding, *the cost of higher education continues to rise, and job training programs are not accessible to all who need them. We must reinvest in public education at every level: pre-K and K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, and skills training and apprenticeships. Guaranteeing every Iowan life-changing access to a high-quality education will be a top priority in Congress.*

Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks (Incumbent)

About Mariannette

My father was a Master Sergeant in the United States Air Force who was forced to take up extra work, sometimes two or three jobs, to support our family. My mother, who did not have a high school education, also worked multiple jobs.

I originally dreamed of becoming a teacher because I loved school and wanted to share my passion for learning with others. However, in 10th grade, my younger brother and I were severely burned in a kitchen fire. While at the hospital, I was treated by a physical therapist who went out of her way to make sure I got better. This woman's kindness and selflessness inspired me to become a doctor so I could help others.

I was the fourth of eight children and since my parents did not have the means to pay for college, I left home at 16 and enrolled in community college. I later enlisted in the United States Army at 18, where I served for 24 years as a private, nurse, and doctor (ophthalmologist or eye diseases/surgery). I went into private practice in Ottumwa in 1997 and have remained there with my husband, Curt. We have two

grown children, Jonathon and Taylor. In 2010, Governor Terry Branstad appointed me as the Director of the Iowa Department of Public Health where I served for three years.

In 2018, the voters of Senate District 41 elected me to fight for them in the Iowa State Senate.



California

Lieutenant Commander Jay Chen (Candidate)

Education

As a community college trustee and former school board member, Jay is committed to expanding educational opportunities for all. In Congress Jay will work to ensure that local public schools receive the resources and funding they need to reduce class sizes, invest in STEM programs, and hire exceptional teachers. He knows we can do better by investing in neighborhood schools to guarantee all children have equal access to a quality education. Jay will also support the expansion of early childhood education. A child's future prospects should not depend upon the zip code that they grow up in.

Jay is committed to creating safe and supportive school environments for students and educators. He will work across the aisle to invest in education so our schools can safely remain open. Jay will work hard to ensure all students have a safe, healthy school environment.

Jay believes the path to higher education should be more equitable and attainable for any person seeking a college education. Jay supports efforts to make college more affordable and accessible to everyone, no matter their background or income level.

Veteran Services

As a Lieutenant Commander in the US Naval Reserves, Jay understands the importance of supporting our veterans, those currently serving, and their families.

The men and women who have fought for our country deserve the best healthcare and support services. That's why in Congress Jay will work to streamline the VA, make it easier for younger veterans to enter the system, ensure quicker access to treatment, and make sure that all veterans can access the health care they deserve.

One homeless veteran is one too many. We must support and fund programs that ensure housing for the men and women who have given so much to serve and protect our country. Jay supports expanding mental health and suicide prevention services for all those who sacrifice for our country.

Representative Michelle Steel (Incumbent)

Creating Jobs & Growing Our Economy

I have a proven track record of promoting free market principles and advocating for a more business friendly climate that grows the economy and creates good paying jobs. As your U.S. Representative, I'm fighting out-of-touch socialist policies that are driving up inflation, making life more unaffordable, hurting small businesses, and pushing companies out of California.

Caring for Our Veterans

Our nation's veterans have sacrificed for our country and deserve the best possible care. One of my top priorities is to ensure veterans have access to quality and timely medical care, housing, employment, and education opportunities. When I was County Supervisor, I'm proud to have held an annual Orange County Hiring Fair to connect thousands of Orange County residents with hundreds of employers and also offer classes to prepare for interviews and prospective employment opportunities.



Minnesota

Mr. Jeff Ettinger (Candidate)

Strengthening Our Schools

I am the proud product of public schools, and all four of our kids graduated from Austin High School. I believe deeply in the mission of our public schools. I think education is the key to equality of opportunity, which is why my wife LeeAnn and I have sponsored four-year college scholarships for 30 Austin graduates. We need to do more to recruit teachers to rural areas, update technology in classrooms so that students are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow, and make investments in transportation so that all kids have a ride to school.

Lowering the Cost of Living

Everyone in our district and across the country has seen their lives get more expensive in the last year. I spent my career working to bring affordable goods to American consumers at the lowest possible prices. Right now, far too many members of Congress don't understand the global economy, supply chains, and the things that are driving the rising costs across our district, this country, and the world. I'll put my economic expertise to use on day one, working tirelessly to find ways to lower costs for people all across Southern Minnesota.

Representative Brad Finstad (Incumbent)

About Brad

Congressman Brad Finstad was elected to Congress in a special election on August 9, 2022, and was sworn in three days later with his family by his side as he took the Oath of Office to proudly represent Minnesota's First District.

Brad is a fourth-generation farmer and resident of the New Ulm area. He and his wife, Jackie, met on the school bus in second grade and they are now the proud parents of seven children. *A graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Agriculture Education and an emphasis in Rural Leadership Development, Brad and Jackie now operate an agriculture business in New Ulm while working alongside extended family to run their generational family farm.*

Brad is proud to have served as State Director for USDA Rural Development in Minnesota where he worked to support infrastructure improvements, business development, homeownership, community services such as schools, public safety, health care, and high-speed internet access in rural areas. He

previously served three terms in the Minnesota Legislature. In 2017, he was appointed Minnesota's State Director of USDA Rural Development and held executive positions with the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association and the Center for Rural Policy and Development.

Key House Races Polling Data

(November 1, 2022)

Pennsylvania

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Susan Wild	Toss Up		Toss Up
Lisa Scheller		Lean Republican	

Indiana

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Frank Mrvan	Toss Up	Likely Democratic	Lean Democratic
Green			

Alaska

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Mary Sattler Peltola	Lean Democratic		Tilt Democratic
Nick Begich		Lean Republican	

Iowa

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Christina Bohannon			
Mariannette Miller-Meeks	Lean Republican	Republican	Lean Republican

California

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Jay Chen			
Michelle Steel	Lean Republican	Likely Republican	Lean Republican

Minnesota

Candidates	Cook Political Report	FiveThirtyEight	CNN Elections
Jeff Ettinger			
Brad Finstad	Likely Republican	Republican	Likely Republican

Midterm Elections Impact on House Education & Labor Committee

Overview

Unlike the Senate Education Committee in which major shake-up is guaranteed to take place at the leadership levels, the only real leadership question in the House is who will control the gavel based upon whichever party controls the Chamber.

Neither current party leader – Bobby Scott or Virginia Foxx are expected to step down from their leadership positions. There will likely be some turnover based upon the elections, per the key races we are tracking and there could always be surprises.

Also, it is important to keep in mind that with such a large committee there are a significant number of Members who leave the Committee at the start of a new Congress. The vacancies are then filled with newly elected officials who either seek-out a position on the Committee due to their interests or backgrounds OR are placed on the Committee due help fill the balance for each Committee.

Again, a great deal of this movement won't take place till the beginning of the 118th Congress, but we will at least know who is in control, how many vacancies arise by election results, and begin to look at the newly elected Members for likely additions to the Committee.

Current House Education & Labor Committee

Democratic Majority Members	Republican Minority Members
Rep. Robert “Bobby” Scott (VA), Chair	Rep. Virginia Foxx (NC), Ranking Member
Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ)	Rep. Joe Wilson (SC)
Rep. Joe Courtney (CT)	Rep. Glenn Thompson (PA)
Rep. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (NMI)	Rep. Tim Walberg (MI)
Rep. Frederica Wilson (FL)	Rep. Glenn Grothman (WI)
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (OR)	Rep. Elise Stefanik (NY)
Rep. Mark Takano (CA)	Rep. Rick Allen (GA)
Rep. Alma Adams (NC)	Rep. Jim Banks (IN)
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (CA)	Rep. James Comer (KY)
Rep. Donald Norcross (NJ)	Rep. Russ Fulcher (ID)
Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA)	Rep. Fred Keller (PA)
Rep. Susan Wild (PA)	Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA)
Rep. Lucy McBath (GA)	Rep. Burgess Owens (UT)
Rep. Jahana Hayes (CT)	Rep. Bob Good (VA)
Rep. Andy Levin (MI)	Rep. Lisa McClain (MI)
Rep. Ilhan Omar (MN)	Rep. Diana Harshbarger (TN)
Rep. Haley Stevens (MI)	Rep. Mary Miller (IL)
Rep. Teresa Leger Fernandez (NM)	Rep. Victoria Spartz (IN)
Rep. Mondaire Jones (NY)	Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (WI)
Rep. Kathy Manning (NC)	Rep. Madison Cawthorn (NC)
Rep. Frank Mrvan (IN)	Rep. Michelle Steel (CA)
Rep. Jamaal Bowman (NY)	Rep. Chris Jacobs (NY)
Rep. Shelia Cherfilus-McCormick (FL)	Rep. Brad Finstad (MN)
Rep. Mark Pocan (WI)	Rep. Joe Sempolinski (NY)
Rep. Joaquin Castro (TX)	
Rep. Mikie Sherrill (NJ)	
Rep. Adriano Espaillat (NY)	
Rep. Kewisi Mfume (MD)	
Rep. Mary Sattler Peltola (AK)	