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PUBLIC POLICY CONSULTANTS • BUSINESS ADVISORS



NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 ELECTION REPORT

With the 2016 election finally behind us, let's take a look at some of the decisions Indiana voters made last night.

**U.S. President**

Indiana was the first state in the country to be called for Donald Trump. The biggest surprise was the margin of victory, which was close to 20%. Before election day, most polls showed Donald Trump with a 10-11-point advantage over Hillary Clinton. While the results from some states aren't yet official, the Trump/Pence ticket eclipsed the 270 electoral college votes needed and are headed to the White House.

The larger than expected margin of victory for Donald Trump played a significant role in all the other races down ballot, where Democrats started with a tremendous disadvantage.

**U.S. Senate**

No other race in Indiana saw the twist and turns quite like what we saw in an effort from both parties to replace retiring Senator Dan Coats (R-Indianapolis). After the May primary, Congressman Todd Young (R – CD 9) was set for a rematch against former Congressman Baron Hill (D – Indianapolis), who Congressman Young defeated in 2010. The race looked like an easy Republican victory, until late July when Congressman Hill pulled out of the race and former Governor and Senator Evan Bayh (D – Indianapolis) entered the race. The Senate Democrats were looking at ways to regain control of the body, and Indiana was a needed pick up. After Senator Bayh entered the race, he enjoyed an early 20+ point lead in most polls. However, Congressman Young was able to chip away at the lead overtime, with the assistance of close to \$40 million coming from groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Americans For Prosperity. Two weeks out from the election, the race status changed to a dead heat. Many polls even suggested Congressman Young had a slight advantage. With momentum on his side, and the down ballot effect, Congressman Young defeated Senator Bayh by a comfortable 10 point margin.

**U.S. House of Representatives**

Before the 2016 election, the Indiana Congressional delegation was represented by 7 Republicans and 2 Democrats. That number will stay after Tuesday night's results.

Here is the breakdown:

**District 1** – Democrat Incumbent Pete Visclosky

**District 2** – Republican Incumbent Jackie Walorski

**District 3** – Republican Jim Banks (Republican Incumbent Marlin Stutzman ran for Dan Coats’ open Senate seat and lost in the Republican primary)

**District 4** – Republican Incumbent Todd Rokita

**District 5** – Republican Incumbent Susan Brooks

**District 6** – Republican Incumbent Luke Messer

**District 7** – Democrat Incumbent Andre Carson

**District 8** – Republican Incumbent Larry Buschon

**District 9** – Republican Trey Hollingsworth (Republican Incumbent Todd Young ran for the open US Senate seat)

### **Indiana Governor**

Before Donald Trump chose Governor Mike Pence (R-Columbus) as his running mate, this race looked to be the most exciting statewide for 2016. Governor Pence was set for a rematch with his 2012 opponent, Former Speaker of the Indiana House, John Gregg (D-Sandborn). After Pence was selected to join the Trump ticket, Republican’s caucused and selected current Lieutenant Governor, Eric Holcomb (R-Indianapolis) to be their party’s nominee. Throughout most of this “shortened” election, Speaker Gregg held the lead in every poll. However, the down ballot effect was too much to overcome, and Lt. Governor Holcomb defeated Speaker Gregg 52% - 45%.

### **Other Statewide Offices**

Republican Curtis Hill easily defeated Democrat Lorenzo Arrendondo for Attorney General. Republican challenger Jennifer McCormick pulled off an upset by beating current Superintendent of Public Instruction, Glenda Ritz.

### **Indiana Senate**

After the 2014 election, Republicans held a quorum proof super majority of 40-10. Their majority grew to a 41-9 advantage after winning Senate District 8, which includes most of LaPorte County.

### **Retiring Incumbents**

Eight incumbent senators decided against running for re-elections in 2016 including:

**Senate District 3** -- Earline Rogers-D

**Senate District 8** -- Jim Arnold-D

**Senate District 10** -- John Broden-D

**Senate District 12** -- Carlin Yoder-R

**Senate District 30** -- Scott Schneider-R

**Senate District 32** -- Patricia Miller-R

**Senate District 36** -- Brent Waltz-R

**Senate District 44** -- Brent Steele-R

## **Indiana House**

Just like the Indiana Senate, the question for the Indiana House was not who would control, but control by how much? Before Tuesday's elections, the House Republican Caucus held a 71-29 super majority. House Republicans lost just one seat for a 70-30 advantage.

### **Retiring Incumbents**

Ten incumbent representatives decided against running for re-election in 2016 including:

**House District 2** – Donna Harris-D

**House District 7** – David Niezgodski-D (Running for Senate District 10)

**House District 17** – Timothy Harman

**House District 20** – Tom Dermody-R

**House District 26** – Randolph Truitt-R

**House District 47** – John Price-R

**House District 65** – Eric Koch-R (Running for Senate District 44)

**House District 70** – Rhonda Rhoads-R

**House District 77** – Gail Riecken-D

**House District 87** – Christina Hale-D (Running for Lieutenant Governor)

After Tuesday's election, we welcome new members (some are already familiar faces) to the Indiana General Assembly (9 Senators / 12 Representatives). Below is a list of all new members.

### **New Indiana Senate Members**

**Senate District 3** – Eddie Melton (D-Gary)

**Senate District 8** – Mike Bohacek (R-LaPorte)

**Senate District 10** – David Niezgodski (D-South Bend, former State Representative HD 7)

**Senate District 12** – Blake Doriot (R-Goshen)

**Senate District 24** – John Crane (R-Martinsville, defeated Incumbent Pete Miller in the primary)

**Senate District 30** – John Ruckelshaus (R-Indianapolis)

**Senate District 32** – Aaron Freeman (R-Brookville)

**Senate District 36** – Jack Sandlin (R-Indianapolis)

**Senate District 44** – Eric Koch (R-Bedford, former State Representative HD 65)

## **New Indiana House Members**

**House District 2** – Earl Harris Jr. (D-East Chicago)

**House District 7** – Joe Taylor (D-South Bend)

**House District 12** – Mara Candelaria Reardon (D-Munster)

**House District 17** – Jack Jordan (R-Plymouth)

**House District 20** – Jim Pressel (R-LaPorte)

**House District 26** – Sally Siegrist (R-Lafayette)

**House District 47** – John Young (R-Franklin)

**House District 65** – Christopher May (R-Bedford)

**House District 70** – Karen Engleman (R-Georgetown)

**House District 77** – Ryan Hatfield (D-Evansville)

**House District 85** – David Heine (R-New Haven)

**House District 87** – Carey Hamilton (D-Indianapolis)