

# 2024 ELECTIONS MEMO

# INTRODUCTION

With the nation drawing closer to Election Day, the Presidential contest understandably continues to be front of mind and receive the lion's share of national press. And while the race between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump could not be more important for the future of our country – from how we build a resilient, opportunity-based economy to the fate of reproductive rights – the hundreds of other races happening at the federal, state, and local levels are critical for securing American freedoms and ushering in a new wave of progress.

The NewDEAL is following races at every level closely, tracking a number of opportunities for Democrats to make significant gains, including:

- Winning open governor seats in New Hampshire (currently under GOP control across state government) and North Carolina (where Republicans have long held legislative power);
- Flipping a state legislative chamber in New Hampshire, picking up key seats in the Arizona state legislature, and making significant gains in the Montana legislature thanks to recent redistricting;
- Watching NewDEAL Leaders in seven races for Congress, including key swing districts that will be key to helping Democrats regain House majority, and two U.S. Senate seats that could help Democrats maintain their majority.

In addition, voters across the nation will be asked to make decisions on key topics like a woman's right to choose, ranked choice voting, and paid sick leave through various ballot measures.

The NewDEAL has compiled this 2024 Elections Memo to provide an overview of the most important things to watch around the country on Election Night. We provide a guide to the key state legislative races, governors' seats, and ballot measures. We also highlight the dozens of re-election campaigns of NewDEAL Leaders we'll be keeping an eye on November 5th.

The NewDEAL will be providing up-to-date coverage on these races on Election Night. To follow our coverage, visit our **2024 Elections Headquarters**.

# **CONGRESSIONAL RACES**

While the Presidential race will come down to key battleground states including **Pennsylvania**, **Michigan**, **Wisconsin**, **Nevada**, **Arizona**, **Georgia**, **and North Carolina**, the battle for control of the U.S. House and Senate will take place in states across the country. NewDEAL Leaders and alumni are running in races for Senate in Arizona and Maryland, and in 7 House races. See below for candidate details and check out the <u>New Democrat Coalition Action Fund</u> for more info on key House races.

















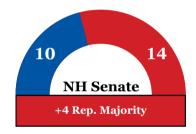


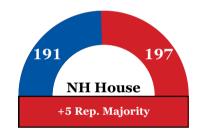
# STATE LEGISLATURES

Currently, the GOP controls 29 state legislatures, while the Democrats control 20 legislatures. Pennsylvania is the only state in the country where legislative control is split with Republicans in control of the State Senate and Democrats holding the majority in the House. Here are states we are keeping an eye on:

## **DEMOCRATS FLIPPING A CHAMBER**

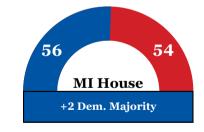
**New Hampshire: Republicans currently hold a trifecta,** and Democrats are aiming to break it. Democrats are primarily focused on the House, where Republicans earned a surprise majority in 2020, and are holding onto a slim majority (197-191-1, with 11 vacancies) in the largest state legislative body in the country.

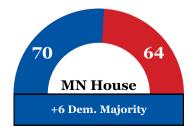




## **DEMOCRATS HOLDING POWER**

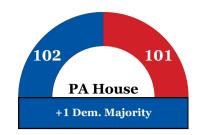
**Michigan House:** Thanks to their massive win in 2022, which **also** granted Democrats a trifecta in the Great Lakes State, Democrats hold a 56-54 advantage in the state House, which Republicans will try to break this cycle. The Senate is not up for election this year.





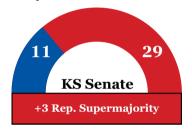
**Minnesota House: Democrats won a trifecta in 2022**, but it's a narrow one. The Senate is not up for re-election this year. Democrats control the state House 70 to 64, and all seats are up this year. The chamber will likely be decided by close contests in about 10 House districts.

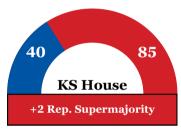
**Pennsylvania House:** Democrats hold the House by one seat and Republicans hold the Senate by six seats. Republicans are modestly favored to hold the Senate, and there are roughly a dozen competitive House districts in play. The House is a toss-up this year.



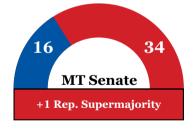
## **DEMOCRATS BREAKING/PREVENTING SUPERMAJORITIES**

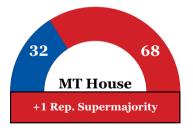
**Kansas:** Democrats need to gain 2 seats in the House and 3 in the Senate to prevent the current supermajority from returning in the next legislative cycle.



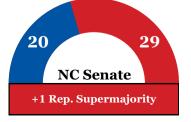


**Montana:** Democrats pose a serious threat this year to Montana's Republican supermajority in both the House and Senate due to redistricting that is less favorable to the GOP. Here's a look at the current breakdown:

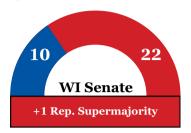


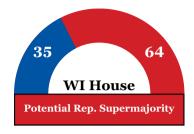


**North Carolina:** Democrats want to stop further GOP gains and potentially flip seats to break the state's current supermajority in both chambers.



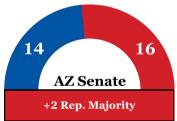
**Wisconsin:** Democrats must defend all of their current seats to prevent a Republican supermajority in the House. The GOP presently holds a supermajority in the Senate.

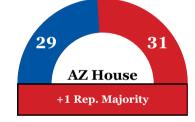




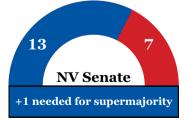
## **DEMOCRATS PICKING UP SEATS/SUPERMAJORITY**

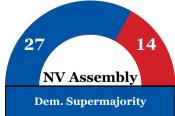
**Arizona:** The state currently has a Democratic governor, but both legislative chambers are controlled by Republicans. Democrats are targeting pickups in five districts around Maricopa County and at least three more in rural and southern Arizona.





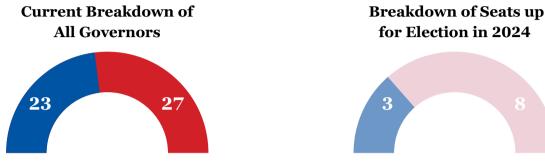
**Nevada:** Nevada Democrats currently hold an exact supermajority in the Assembly and could secure one in the Senate this year by gaining 1 seat.





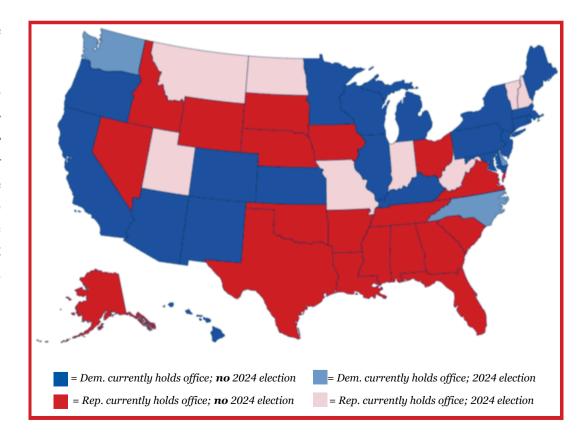
## **GOVERNOR**

Currently, there are 27 Republican governors and 23 Democratic governors. Eleven states have gubernatorial elections this year.



Democrats are competitive in four of the eleven races:

New Hampshire (OPEN): Former GOP Sen. Kelly Ayotte faces off against former Manchester Mayor and NewDEALer Joyce Craig in what Cook Political Report has listed as the only "toss-up" race in the country. Reproductive rights is shaping up to be a key issue in the race, as New Hampshire is the only state in New England without statutory protections for abortion rights in state law or in the state constitution.



**North Carolina (OPEN):** The Democratic nominee, **Attorney General and NewDEALer Josh Stein,** is looking to succeed Roy Cooper, a fellow center-left politician. The race was initially expected to be close, but Stein has held a steady lead in the polls. Republican candidate Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson faces scandal over an <u>investigative report</u> that found disturbing, inflammatory comments he had made online, such as "expressing support for reinstating slavery." *Cook Political Report* rates the race as "Likely Dem."

**Washington (OPEN):** Democrat Bob Ferguson, the state's attorney general, is currently leading former King County sheriff and GOP Rep. Dave Reichert in the race for governor. The race is rated as "Likely Dem" by *Cook Political Report*.

**Delaware (OPEN):** After winning what had been considered a competitive primary with 47% in a three-way race, **NewDEAL Leader New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer** is widely expected to win election and succeed Governor John Carney who is termed out after serving two terms.

Three NewDEALers are running for governor this year:







# MORE NEWDEALERS RUNNING FOR HIGHER OFFICE



Eugene DePasquale NewDEAL Alum Running for PA Attorney General



**Jon Morgan**NewDEAL Leader
Running for NH Executive
Countil



**Tobias Read**NewDEAL Leader
Running for OR Secretary of
State



Christopher Cabaldon NewDEAL Alum Running for CA State Senate



Lindsey Daugherty NewDEAL Leader Running for CO State Senate



**Josh Boschee** NewDEAL Leader Running for ND State Senate



Colin Parent NewDEAL Leader Running for CA State Assembly



Ryan Fecteau NewDEAL Alum Running for ME State House



Janet Cowell NewDEAL Alum Running for Mayor (Raleigh, NC)



Chris Clark
NewDEAL Alum
Running for County Council
(Mountainview, CA)



Annette Taddeo NewDEAL Alum Running for County Clerk and Comptroller (Miami-Dade County, CA)



Ben Schierer
NewDEAL Leader
Running for County
Commissioner (Otter Tail,
MN)

# **BALLOT INITIATIVES**

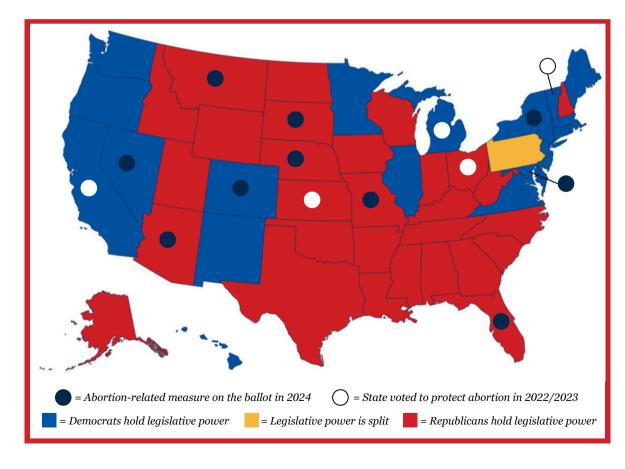
Ballot measures, particularly those related to abortion rights, are a major issue in the 2024 election. Voters across 41 states will decide more than 150 ballot measures in November, according to <u>POLITICO</u>.

## **REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

Ten states have abortion measures on the ballot this year (per <u>Kaiser Family Foundation</u>) that would expand or clarify abortion rights. Two ballot measures occur in Presidential battleground states (AZ & NV), and five (AZ, NV, FL, MD, and MT) occur in states with closely-watched Senate races.

The adjacent map overlays where abortion measures are on the ballot this year with the current partisan control of state legislatures. Legislative control is currently split in Pennsylvania.

Nebraska has two dueling measures on the ballot. One would amend the state constitution to recognize a fundamental right to abortion up to viability and the other would amend the constitution to ban abortion in the second and third trimesters. If both measures pass, the one that gets the most "for" votes would be the one adopted, according to the Secretary of State.



## **ELECTIONS**

Proposals related to how elections are run are appearing on more than a dozen ballots across the country.

#### Ranked Choice Voting and Open Primaries | AK, AZ, CO, ID, MO, MT, NV, OR, SD and DC

Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and Oregon would establish a Ranked Choice Voting system (RCV), while Alaska will vote on whether to repeal their RCV system, and Missouri will vote whether to ban RCV (except in non-partisan local races that are already elected via a ranked choice system). Voters in South Dakota and Montana can vote to move from partisan to open primaries, and Arizonans will vote on competing ballot measures on that question – one requiring ranked choice, non-partisan primaries and the other requiring partisan primaries for all offices, including local elections

#### Banning Non-Citizens from Voting | ID, IA, KY, MO, NC, OK, SC, and WI

Despite federal law prohibiting non-citizens from voting, eight states will vote on constitutional amendments that would explicitly ban noncitizens from voting in federal elections.

#### Redistricting and Partisanship | FL and OH

An Ohio constitutional amendment would shift redistricting responsibilities from the state legislature to an independent, nonpartisan committee. Florida voters will weigh in on whether school board elections should be partisan going forward.

## **ECONOMY**

#### Minimum Wage | AK, CA, MA, and MO

In AK and MO, ballot measures would gradually raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour and require paid sick leave. In CA, a measure would increase minimum wage from \$16 to \$18 per hour. MA will vote on proposals related to the minimum wage for tipped workers.

#### Paid Sick Leave | NE

In NE, there is a measure requiring paid sick leave.

# **NEWDEALERS RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION**

Alaska

Representative Maxine Dibert Senator Scott Kawasaki

Arkansas

Representative Nicole Clowney

Arizona

Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego Mesa City Councilmember Francisco Heredia

California

Senator Josh Becker San Diego City Councilmember Raul Campillo San Francisco City Treasurer Jose Cisneros San José Mayor Matt Mahan Assemblymember Blanca Rubio Elk Grove Mayor Bobbie Singh-Allen

Colorado

Senator Jeff Bridges Senator Chris Hansen Representative Meghan Lukens

Connecticut

Senator Christine Cohen Senator Bob Duff Representative Kate Farrar Senator James Maroney Representative Cristin McCarthy Vahey

**Delaware** 

Representative Krista Griffith

Florida

Representative Fentrice Driskell Representative Christine Hunschofsky

Georgia

Senator Jason Esteves Representative Scott Holcomb Representative Tanya Miller Representative Phil Olaleye Senator Elena Parent

**Iowa** 

Representative Megan Srinivas

Idaho

Representative Ilana Rubel

Illinois

Representative Bob Morgan

Indiana

Representative Blake Johnson Representative Robin Shackleford

Kentucky

Representative Nima Kulkarni

Massachusetts

Senator Barry Finegold Representative Tram Nguyen Senator Pavel Payano Representative Andy Vargas

Maine

Representative Kristen Cloutier

Michigan

Oakland County Executive Dave Coulter Representative Ranjeev Puri

Minnesota

Representative Zach Stephenson

Montana

Representative Emma Kerr-Carpenter

**North Carolina** 

Senator Sydney Batch Senator Jay Chaudhuri Representative Brandon Lofton

North Dakota

Representative Jayme Davis

Nebraska

**Douglas County Commissioner Chris Rodgers** 

**New Hampshire** 

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka Representative Matt Wilhelm

**New Jersev** 

Middlesex County Commissioner Shanti Narra

Nevada

Assemblymember Sandra Jauregui Las Vegas City Councilmember Brian Knudsen Assemblymember Daniele Monroe-Moreno Clark County Commissioner Michael Naft

**New York** 

Assemblymember Alex Bores Assemblymember Nily Rozic Lieutenant Governor Denny Heck Representative Kristine Reeves

#### Ohio

#### Representative Dontavius Jarrells

#### Wyoming

### Grand Teton County Commissioner Natalia Macker

#### Oklahoma

Representative Arturo Alonso-Sandoval

#### Oregon

Beaverton Mayor Lacey Beaty Representative Ben Bowman Representative Daniel Nguyen

#### Pennsylvania

Representative Jordan Harris Representative Joanna McClinton Franklin County Commissioner John O'Grady

#### **Rhode Island**

Representative Leonela Felix

#### **South Carolina**

Richland County Councilmember Jesica Mackey

#### **South Dakota**

Representative Erin Healy

#### **Tennessee**

Representative Caleb Hemmer

#### **Texas**

Representative Rafael Anchia Representative Salman Bhojani Senator Cesar Blanco Representative John Bucy

#### Washington