2020 ELECTION RESULTS: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR TRIBAL HEALTH POLICY

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Agenda

I. Presidential Election
II. Senate Elections
III. House Elections
IV. What Comes Next?
The Power of the Native Vote

- In Arizona, Tribal precincts resulted in a 96% vote for Joe Biden.
- Native voters in Wisconsin provided Joe Biden a net gain of 22,500 votes over President Trump, wider than the margin of victory in the state overall.
- Only 9 Counties in Montana went for Joe Biden, 3 were counties with over 50% AI/AN population.
- Only 6 Counties in South Dakota went for Joe Biden, 5 were counties with over 50% AI/AN population.
Presidential Election

President-Elect: Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
• Former Vice President under President Barack Obama (2009-2017)
• Former U.S. Senator from Delaware (1973-2009)

Vice President-Elect: Kamala D. Harris
• Current junior U.S. Senator from California (2017-present)
• Former Attorney General of California (2011-2017)
Biden-Harris Campaign Platform for Tribal Health Policy

• Increase and ensure stable funding for the Indian Health Service.
  • Supports mandatory funding and advance appropriations

• Ensure access to health coverage
  • Build up on the Affordable Care Act to strengthen the Indian Health Care Improvement Act

• Strengthen self-governance
  • Expand Tribal self-governance (i.e. HHS)

• Lead a decisive public health response to COVID-19
  • Provide IHS, Tribal health authorities, and urban Indian organizations guaranteed access to the Strategic National Stockpile and provide Tribes access to federal grants that help public health facilities surge capacity and response timelines.
2020 Senate Elections

- Democrats flipped two seats: Arizona and Colorado
- Republicans flipped one seat: Alabama
- As it stands now, Republicans hold 50 Senate seats and Democrats hold 48.
- Both Senate seats for the state of Georgia will go to runoff on January 5th.
  - If Democrats win both Senate seats, the chamber will be split and the Vice President who serves as President of the Senate would be the tiebreaker vote. Starting January 20, this will be Kamala Harris.
  - If Republicans win at least one of the Senate seats, they will retain majority control of the chamber of the 117th Congress.
Key Senate Races

- Arizona – Mark Kelly (D)
  - Defeated incumbent Republican Martha McSally who was appointed to fill the remainder of the term for the late Senator John McCain.
  - Platform includes defending the Affordable Care Act, increasing accountability and transparency for the VA, and restoring funding to Medicare.

- Colorado – John Hickenlooper (D)
  - Former Democratic Governor John Hickenlooper defeated incumbent Republican Cory Gardner.
  - As governor, Mr. Hickenlooper led the charge to expand Medicaid in the state.
  - Campaign platform includes funding the expansion of community health centers, expanding telemedicine, and addressing racial disparities in health care.

- Minnesota – Tina Smith (D)
  - Serves on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the Senate HELP Committee
  - Introduced the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act (S. 4562) to expand availability of public health data to Tribes and Tribal organizations.
Key Senate Races

• New Mexico – Ben Ray Lujan (D)
  • Elected to the fill seat vacated by Mark Udall.
  • Formerly the US House Representative for the 3rd District of New Mexico and the Assistant House Democratic Leader.
  • Active member of the Congressional Native American Caucus.

• Oregon – Jeff Merkley (D)

• Kansas – Roger Marshall (R)
  • Elected to fill the seat of Senator Pat Roberts, who is retiring.
  • Previously represented Kansas’s 1st Congressional District.
  • He is an obstetrician.

• Montana – Steve Daines (R)
  • Serves on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the Senate Committee on Appropriations.
  • Cosponsored the Tribal Health Data Improvement Act and has supported expanding IHS’s telehealth services during the coronavirus pandemic.

• Nebraska – Ben Sasse (R)
  • Called on HHS to provide greater flexibility on delivery of care for Rural Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals.
Key Senate Races

- **Wyoming – Cynthia Lummis (R)**
  - Previously served as the U.S. House Representative for Wyoming’s at-large Congressional district.
  - Served on the House Committee on Natural Resources and House Committee on Appropriations.

- **South Dakota – Mike Rounds (R)**
  - Serves on the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs and Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.
  - Cosponsored the Health Care Access for Urban Native Veterans Act.

- **Oklahoma - Jim Inhofe (R)**
  - Member of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, Senate Rural Health Caucus and the Senate Diabetes Caucus.
  - Supported the CONNECT Act of 2019.

- **Maine – Susan Collins (R)**
  - Serves on the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the Senate HELP Committee, and the Special Committee on Aging.
  - Founder and co-chair of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s Disease and founding member of the Senate Diabetes Caucus.
Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

- Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND) is expected to remain as Chair.
  - Possibility of Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) to take over the gavel.
- With the departure of Sen. Tom Udall, Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI) is expected to serve as top Democrat of the committee.
- Notable departures:
  - Tom Udall (D-NM)
  - Martha McSally (R-AZ)
Senate HELP Committee

- Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) is retiring.
- Possible replacements include:
  - Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)
  - Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC)
- Ranking Member: Sen. Patty Murray
Other Key Committees

- **Senate Budget Committee**
  - Chairman Mike Enzi (R-WY) retiring.
  - Possible Replacements: Lindsey Graham (R-SC) or Ron Johnson (R-WI)

- **Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee**
  - Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) is term limited as Chair, expected to remain as leadership for Subcommittee on Interior and Environment Appropriations

- **Senate Energy and Public Works Committee**
  - Chairmanship may remain with Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) or go to Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)
State of the House

- Democrats maintain Majority of the House with 218 seats
- The margin of majority shrunk with Republicans gaining 9 seats.
- Key Flips
  - Republican Stephanie Bice defeated Democrat Freshman Kendra Horn in OK-5. Now, all five Oklahoma House seats are held by Republicans
  - Republican Yvette Herrell (Cherokee) defeated Democrat Freshman Xochitl Torres-Small in a close race that is a traditionally Republican district.
Native Representation in Congress

• The four incumbent Native Members have retained their seats: Deb Haaland (D-NM), Sharice Davids (D-KS), Tom Cole (R-OK), and Markwayne Mullin (R-OK).

• Two more Natives were elected to the House: Kaiali'i Kahele, a Native Hawaiian, was elected to Hawaii’s 2nd Congressional District; and Yvette Herrell (Cherokee Nation) was elected to New Mexico’s 2nd Congressional District.
Key House Committees

• House Appropriations Chair Nita Lowey (D-NY) has retired.

• Possible Replacements:
  • Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)
  • Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
  • Debbie Wasserman-Schultz (D-FL)

• Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
  • Chair: Betty McCollum (D-MN)
  • Ranking Member: David Joyce (R-OH)

• Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services
  • Chair: Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
  • Ranking Member: Tom Cole (R-OK)
Key House Committees

- **House Energy and Commerce Committee**
  - Chair: Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
  - Ranking Member Greg Walden (R-OR) has retired from the House.
  - Possible replacements are Michael Burgess (R-TX) or Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA).

- **Subcommittee on Health**
  - Chair: Anna Eshoo (D-CA)
  - Ranking Member: Michael Burgess (R-TX)

- **House Natural Resources Committee**
  - Chair: Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)
  - Ranking Member: ???

- **Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States**
  - Chair: Ruben Gallego (D-AZ)
  - Ranking Member: Paul Cook (R-CA) – retiring
What Comes Next?

• House Democrats held leadership elections today.
  • Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (CA)
  • Majority Leader: Steny Hoyer (MD)
  • Majority Whip: Jim Clyburn (SC)
  • Caucus Chairmans: Hakeem Jeffries (NY)
• Committee assignments will be expected to be announced in the coming days.
• Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Mnuchin continue to negotiate a new coronavirus relief package.
Lame Duck and Transition

• NIHB is pushing for progress on Tribal legislation now that Congress is in a “lame duck” session.
  • Long-term reauthorization of SDPI
  • IHS Appropriations for FY 2021
  • Native Veterans (i.e. VA TAC, PRC reimbursement fix, etc.)
  • Tribal Health Data Legislation
  • Stimulus package???

• NIHB planning for a Presidential Transition Summit in mid-December to kick start engagement with the new administration.
  • For questions regarding the event, please contact Shervin Aazami.
QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

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