



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Tennessee Primary Election Race Results



On Thursday, August 4, the Tennessee State & Federal Primary and State & County General Election took place. State level election results carried little shock, though local election results became a different story in the midst of low voter turnout. 37 new county mayors were elected across the state. And as we near the November 8th State & Federal General Election, there are a few primary race results of note.

Battle for House District 24 Republican Nomination

District 24, containing Cleveland and Bradley County, became a race to watch as four GOP candidates fought to succeed Representative Mark Hall (R-Cleveland). Kevin Raper achieved 39% of the vote, awarding him the win over closest rival Troy Weather's, who obtained 34%. Raper will be elected to the house seat in November, as there is no democrat running in the general election. He is a lifelong educator who currently serves as County Commissioner for the 7th District of Bradley County.

Kevin Raper
Republican nominee
TN House District 24



Johnson Prevails in Senate Race

State Senate Republican leader Jack Johnson of Franklin defeated Gary Humble in the race to retain his seat. Johnson had the advantage in fundraising and endorsements by a slew of local and statewide elected officials. Furthermore, outside groups poured in mailers supporting Johnson in the primary. Johnson has been a tremendous asset to business around the state over the years, and his challenger wholly ran on an anti business platform.

Dekalb County Funeral Director Wins Primary



Michael Hale
Republican nominee
TN House District 40

Michael Hale, a Smithville funeral director, defeated incumbent Teri Lynn Weaver in the race for District 40. Representative Weaver, a gospel singer, lost the primary race by 19 points. Hale ran as an "America first, Christian, conservative republican" with further emphasis on his experience as a small business owner. Hale will face Democratic nominee, Tom Cook, in the general election. Cook ran unopposed in the democratic primary.

Richey Gains District 20 Seat

Representative Bob Ramsey (R-Maryville) will give up his District 20 seat. Bryan Richey, an insurance agency owner, defeated Ramsey in the GOP primaries for District 20. Ramsey has represented District 20 since 2009, following his retirement as a dentist. "Bob did a great job representing Blount County for a long period of time" said Richey of the win, "but I think people were looking for a change." Richey will not face any democratic opposition in the upcoming general election.



Bryan Richey
Republican nominee
TN House District 20

Open House Seat Race Results

The numerous list of retirements and vacancies accumulated throughout the legislative session. Following the primaries, we have a better idea of who could fill those seats.

Knoxville Republican Elaine Davis will face off against Democratic nominee Gregory Kaplan in the general election race for District 18. Incumbent Eddie Mannis (R-Knoxville) decided not to run again after just one term in the House. Mannis endorsed Janet Testerman for his replacement. Despite Testerman's financial advantage, Davis gained the nomination.



Elaine Davis
Republican Nominee
TN House District 18

Results continued...

Community organizer Justin Jones has won the Democratic primary for District 52. With no Republican running, Jones is set to succeed Incumbent Mike Stewart (D-Nashville) after gaining 53% of the vote. His opponent, Metro Council member Delishia Porterfield, obtained 46% of the vote.



Local Elections of Note

The Shelby County race for District Attorney has drawn much attention after Democrat Steve Mulroy defeated incumbent Amy Weirich. Weirich held the position of top prosecutor for 11 years, and Mulroy will be the the first democrat in years to win the seat. Mulroy prioritized tackling violent crime and fixing the county's bail system. He also campaigned on the promise to reduce the transfer of youth to adult court from juvenile court.

Further, Hamilton County has elected its first female District Attorney. Republican Coty Wamp defeated Democrat John Allen Brooks by 18 points. Wamp currently serves as counsel to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. Her brother, Westin Wamp, has just been elected Hamilton County Mayor. Both are children of former member of Congress Zachary Wamp.

Have questions or want more information?



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