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Nevada Government Affairs 2018 Election Update

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The 2018 Mid-term General Election was not a typical Nevada mid-term. Over 62% of registered voters cast their ballots which doubled the turnout in 2014. Some polls remained open nearly three hours after they were scheduled to close. Both federal senate seats and three out four congressional seats are represented by Democrats. The Nevada State Legislature had a similar Democratic domination with a Democratic governing tri-fecta, and a supermajority in at least one house. The Nevada State Senate fell one-seat short of a supermajority by 24 votes. Nevada currently requires a two-thirds vote to pass any new taxes, so the new supermajority could likely impose any new tax if they receive one republican vote in the State Senate.

Nevada Federal Update

U.S. Senate: Jacky Rosen (D)

Nevada Congresswoman Jacky Rosen unseated the incumbent Republican Dean Heller 50.42% to 45.38%. Senator Heller represented Nevada as United States Senator for the past 6 years, and for 4 years prior to that as a U.S. Congressional representative for Nevada's 2nd Congressional District.

Nevada 1st Congressional District: Dina Titus (D)

Congresswoman Titus won reelection with 66.16% of the vote in a safe Democratic district.

Nevada 2nd Congressional District: Mark Amodei (R)

Congressman Amodei won reelection with 58.23% of the vote in a safe Republican district.

Nevada 3rd Congressional District: Susie Lee (D)

Susie Lee ran Against Danny Tarkanian in the vacant seat left by Congresswoman Rosen's bid for Senate. Congressional District 3 is historically a swing district.

Nevada 4th Congressional District: Steven Horsford (D)

Congressman Horsford reclaimed the seat from Congressman Crescent Hardy with 51.97% of the vote, Hardy previously unseated Congressman Horsford in the 2014 Mid-term General Election. Congressional District 4 is historically a swing district, with a significant Democratic registration advantage.

Nevada Statewide Races

Governor: Steve Sisolak (D) – 49.40%

Lt. Governor: Kate Marshall (D) – 50.36%

Secretary of State: Incumbent Barbara Cegavske (R) – 48.9%

Attorney General: Aaron Ford (D) – 48.9%
 Treasurer: Zach Conine (D) – 47.61%
 Controller: Catherine Byrne (D) – 50.6%

Nevada Supreme Court

State Supreme Court Justice: Elisa Cadish – 45.3%
 State Supreme Court Justice: Lidia Stiglich – 46.61%
 State Supreme Court Justice: Abbi Silver (unopposed) – 71.47%

Nevada State House

29 (D) 13 (R)
 Republicans lost two seats in the State Assembly giving the Assembly Democrats a super-majority in the Assembly.

Nevada State Senate

13 (D) to 8 (R)
 Republicans lost two seats in the State Senate leaving the Senate Democrats one seat short of a supermajority.

Clark County Commission

The Clark County Commission has two new members. Former State Senators Tick Segerblom and Justin Jones. Jones is also a former Holland & Hart Partner. Jim Gibson, former Henderson mayor, also won his bid for reelection after he was appointed to replace Commissioner Mary Beth Scow who resigned in June of 2017. The Commission is typically made up of all Democrats, and with a budget larger than the state's, is arguably the most powerful governingbody in the state.

Nevada Ballot Questions

The most closely watched ballot question was Question 3. Question 3 proposed to amend the State Constitution to move away from the current monopoly model run by NV Energy and open Nevada's energy market to competition. Question 3 drove millions of dollars in spending advocating and opposing the measure. NV Energy spent approximately \$63 million and was victorious in defeating Question 3 by 67 %.

Question 1 – "Marcy's law" – Created a victim's bill of rights in the Nevada State Constitution–Passed by 61 %

Question 2 – “Pink Tax” exemption, ends the sales tax on feminine hygiene products such as tampons and sanitary napkins.- Passed by 56%

Question 3 – Amend the Nevada Constitution to require the Legislature to open the retail electricity market to competition by July 1, 2023. – Defeated by 67%

Question 4 – Amend the Nevada Constitution to exempt durable medical equipment such as wheelchairs and oxygen tanks from the sales tax. – Passed by 67%

Question 5 – Implements “automatic” voter registration through the DMV. – Passed by 60%

Question 6 – Amend the Nevada Constitution to require electricity providers that sell to retail customers to meet a Renewable Portfolio Standard, the amount of energy required to come from renewable sources. This RPS would go into effect in 2022 and increase to 50% by 2030. – Passed by 59%

Questions?

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