

CAPITOL NEWS UPDATE

PRIMARY RESULTS



TUDOR DIXON WINS REPUBLICAN GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION

Gubernatorial Candidate Tudor Dixon won the Michigan Republican Party nomination for governor with 40 percent of the vote. Dixon beat out opponents Ryan Kelley, Ralph Rebandt, Kevin Rinke and Garrett Soldano.

Dixon had support from the DeVos family, and a recent endorsement from former president Donald Trump, along with support from key establishment associations and legislative leaders.

Dixon's victory speech was held at her watch party in Grand Rapids, where she said that it was time to get her "beloved state back on track."

"Tonight is not about any of us, it's about the moms and dads across this state who lost everything these last four years. It's about the parents in Grand Rapids whose kids Gretchen Whitmer locked out of their classrooms. And it's about the moms in Flint who have gone to bat for their children, tried to catch them up, and watched them helplessly fall behind while Gretchen Whitmer vetoed reading scholarships for their children. It's about residents Benton Harbor who Gretchen Whitmer ignored for years when they pleaded that their water was too contaminated for their children to drink," Dixon said.

Dixon also said Gov. Whitmer's ties to President Joe Biden's policies, rising inflation, and the "war on energy," were ways Whitmer was working against the best interests of residents in the state.

Dixon is the first woman to win the Republican Party nomination for governor in Michigan and the third woman ever to win a major party gubernatorial primary. This will also be the first gubernatorial race between two women in the state.

News outlets reported that undecided, and some swing voters, including Soldano voters, made the difference for Dixon.

"The battle lines in this race couldn't be any clearer. This is going to be an epic battle between a conservative businesswoman and mother and a far-left 'birthing parent' and career politician," Dixon said.

Before entering politics in 2021, Dixon was a media personality on conservative news networks, and worked in sales for her father's steel manufacturing company.

Her campaign will focus on encouraging the state's largest earners and profitable companies to invest in the state instead of elsewhere and focus on a family-friendly Michigan.

CONGRESSIONAL RACES – GIBBS UPSETS MEIJER

Highlights of Michigan's Congressional primary races include the 3rd District, where Trump administration official John Gibbs defeated first-term incumbent U.S. Rep. Peter Meijer (R-Grand Rapids). Gibbs will run against Democrat Hillary Scholten in the general election. Scholten previously narrowly lost to Meijer.

In other congressional races, in the 11th District, U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens defeated U.S. Rep. Andy Levin in a landslide in one of the most heated Democratic primaries between two incumbents in this largely Oakland County district. It also marks the first time since the early 1960s that a Levin will not hold state or federal office in Michigan.

OTHER CONGRESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS:

2nd District – U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland), who won the primary with more than 60 percent of the votes, is likely to be re-elected in November.

5th District – U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Tipton) also won his primary and will likely win in November.

8th District – Republican Attorney Paul Junge, beat Matthew Seely and Candice Miller. Junge will face U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint) in a competitive race in November for the newly redrawn district.

10th District – Former Macomb County Judge Carl Marlinga won the Democratic primary and now faces a contentious battle with Republican John James who overwhelmingly won his primary.

12th District – U.S. Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Detroit) won the Democratic primary with more than 60 percent of the vote in a newly redrawn district made up of parts or all of Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Livonia, Southfield and Detroit.

13th District – State Rep. Shri Thanedar (D-Detroit) defeated Adam Hollier and Portia Roberson in the Democratic primary.

IN THE STATE RACES, REPUBLICAN INCUMBENTS FACED TOUGH CHALLENGES THIS YEAR INCLUDING COLLEAGUES, TRUMP-BACKED OPPONENTS, AND NEWCOMERS.

A few of the State Senate highlights:

1st Senate District – Sen. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor) defeated Democratic candidate Brenda Sanders and former Rep. Frank Liberati.

6th Senate District – Rep. Mary Cavanagh (D-Redford Township) defeated former state Representative Vicki Barnett in a tight primary.

8th Senate District – Sen. Mallory McMorrow (D-Royal Oak) defeated Sen. Marshall Bullock (D-Detroit).

ADDITIONAL SENATE RESULTS:

11th Senate District – Macomb County Commissioner Veronica Klinefelt defeated Monique Owens from Eastpointe in the Democratic primary for this newly redrawn district that stretches from Seven Mile in Detroit north to 23 Mile in northern Macomb County. Klinefelt will face Sen. Mike MacDonald (R-Macomb Twp.) in the November election.

14th Senate District – Washtenaw County Commissioner Sue Shink won against former Jackson City Councilmember Kelsey Heck Wood in the competitive Democratic primary for the district that combines northern Washtenaw County including part of Ann Arbor and Jackson County. Shink will face Grass Township Trustee Tim Golding in November.

16th Senate District – Rep. Joe Bellino (R-Monroe) narrowly defeated Rep. TC Clements of Temperance in this strongly Republican district consisting of Hillsdale, Lenawee and Monroe counties. Bellino will face Democrat Katybeth Davis in the general election.

17th Senate District – Newcomer Johnathon Lindsey won in an upset over Sen. Kim LaSata (R-Bainbridge Twp.) Lindsey took over 60 percent of the vote, marking the first time since the 1980s that an incumbent Republican Senator has lost a primary election. Lindsey was endorsed by former President Donald Trump and is likely to win the November election in the strongly Republican district against Democratic candidate Scott Starr of Coldwater.

18th Senate District – House Appropriations Committee Chair Thomas Albert easily won this Senate primary race with 70 percent of the vote. He will likely win over Democratic candidate Kai W. Degraaf in November.

20th Senate District – Sen. Aric Nesbitt easily won the primary over challenger Rev. Austin Kreutz in the newly drawn district including southern Kent County through much of Allegan, Van Buren and Berrien Counties. Nesbit will face Democrat Kim Jorgensen Gane from St. Joseph in November.

22nd Senate District – Sen. Lana Theis (R-Brighton) defeated Trump-endorsed candidate Mike Detmer of Howell with 58 percent of the vote. Theis will likely win a second term in the conservative district made up of parts of Livingston, Ingham, Shiawassee, Genesee and Oakland counties.

26th Senate District – Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lum) won over Sherry Marden of Davison with 75 percent of the vote. He will face Charles Stadler of Vassar in November.

31st Senate District – Sen. Roger Victory of Georgetown Twp. defeated challenger Brian VanDussen with 66 percent of the vote and will face Kim Nagy of Jenison in the general election.

35th Senate District – Rep. Annette Glenn (R-Midland) won with 41 percent of the vote against three opponents. Glenn will face Kristen McDonald Rivet in November in a race that is expected to be one of the key races in the fight for control of the Senate. As drawn the district contains parts of Bay, Midland and Saginaw counties, combining the three cities of Bay City, Midland and Saginaw into one regional district.

37th Senate District – In a competitive primary, first-term Rep. John Damoose (R-Harbor Springs) defeated three challengers including former Rep. Triston Cole of Mancelona. Damoose will face Democratic candidate Barbara Conley of Northport in November.

38th Senate District – Sen. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) easily won his 3-way primary in the Upper Peninsula taking 77 percent of the vote. He will face John Braamse of Marquette in November.

In the state House, several Republican incumbents who faced primary challenges from Trump-backed opponents won, but three incumbents were defeated including:

59th House District – Rep. Terence Mekoski, who won a May special election, was defeated by his predecessor Sen. Doug Wozniak (R-Shelby Twp.).

64th House District – Incumbent Rep. Gary Eisen (R-St. Clair) was defeated by his colleague incumbent Rep. Andrew Beeler (R-Port Huron).

97th House District – Incumbent Rep. Rodney Wakeman (R-Frankenmuth) lost his primary race to newcomer Matthew Bierlein, who is likely to win in November.

12th House District – In the Democrat primary for the 12th House District, first-term incumbent Rep. Richard Steeland (D-Roseville) was defeated by newcomer Kimberly Edwards of Eastpointe.

ADDITIONAL HOUSE PRIMARY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

34th House District – Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Onsted) narrowly defeated retired firefighter Ryan Rank by seven votes.

35th House District – Rep. Andrew Fink (R-Hillsdale) won over Steve Meckley 8,215 votes to 6,194 votes.

42nd House District – Rep. Matt Hall (R-Comstock Twp.) easily won in this newly drawn district that includes several townships in Kalamazoo and Allegan Counties. Hall will run against Democratic candidate Justin Mendoza in November.

43rd House District – Rachele Smit wins the Republican Primary in Allegan County.

46th House District – Kathy Schmaltz wins in Jackson setting up a contentious race with Maurice Imhoff

54th House District – Donni Steele won the Republican primary in Bloomfield Hills.

67th House District – Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) won by defeating seven primary opponents with just 25 percent of the vote.

78th House District – Gina Johnsen wins the contentious Republican primary covering portions of Kent/Barry/Ionia/Eaton Counties

80th House District – Phil Skaggs wins the 80th District Democrat Primary setting up a heated race with Republican Jeff Johnson

84th House District – Mike Milanowski wins defeating Rober Regan to set up a heated race with incumbent Rep. Carol Glanville in Walker and Grand Rapids.

88th House District – Incumbent Rep. Greg VanWoerkom (R-Norton Shores) won a victory over Trump-backed candidate Mick Bricker of Spring Lake with more than 62 percent of the vote.

95th House District – Republican Bill G. Schuette won his primary in Midland.

102nd House District – Sen. Curt Vanderwall (R-Ludington) easily won the primary with 61 percent of the votes.

104th House District – Republican John Roth defeated Katie Kniss in the district that includes much of Grand Traverse County, parts of Benzie County and the northeastern part of Manistee County. He will face Democrat Cathy Albro in November.

106th House District – Cam Cavitt won the Republican primary covering Cheboygan.