

# Government Affairs Update



**NOVEMBER 11, 2020  
Election Update**

*By: Bridget Dougherty & Dan Day*

Given the unprecedented number of mail-in ballots this year, a number of Illinois races are still undecided. Election authorities have until Tuesday, November 17, 2020 to finalize their tallies. Here's what we know so far.

**President:** Joe Biden won Illinois with 55.8 % of the vote and is projected to be the President-Elect.

**United States Senate:** Incumbent Senator Richard Durbin won reelection to a six-year term over four opponents by 53%.

**United States House of Representatives:** Results are final in all but one US House district. Excluding that district, all incumbents retained their seats, with new members Marie Newman (D) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District and Mary Miller (R) in the 15<sup>th</sup> District maintaining their party's seats.

- In US House District 14, incumbent Democrat Lauren Underwood is holding off a challenge by Republican Jim Oberweis of Oberweis Dairies from Sugar Grove and currently a member of the Illinois Senate, by about 2,000 votes.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment:** The proposal on the ballot to amend the Illinois Constitution to implement a graduated tax failed. This is the first major political setback for Governor JB Pritzker.

**Illinois Senate:** In the open seat to replace Senator Oberweis, Karina Villa, Democrat of Batavia, appears to have defeated Republican Jeanette Ward by about 1,600 votes. This race would flip the seat from republican to Democratic for a pick-up of one Democratic seat in the Illinois Senate.

One caveat: In a surprisingly close race, Democratic Senator Robert Martwick of the 10<sup>th</sup> District in the northwest side of Chicago and the northwest suburbs is holding off a Republican challenger by less than 2,000 votes. This race has not yet been called but Martwick is expected to prevail.

Expected result: Democrats gain one seat in the Illinois Senate.

**Illinois House of Representatives:** It appears that the House Democrats have lost two seats as of this writing.

- In the 45<sup>th</sup> District, incumbent Democrat Diane Pappas of Bloomingdale was defeated by her Republican challenger Seth Lewis.
- In the 51<sup>st</sup> District, incumbent Democrat Mary Edly-Allen of Libertyville was defeated by her Republican challenger Chris Bos.
- In the 111<sup>th</sup> District, incumbent Democrat Monica Bristow of Alton was defeated by her Republican challenger Amy Elik.

- In the 116<sup>th</sup> District, in the far southwest corner of the state, incumbent Democrat Nathan Reitz was defeated by his Republican challenger David Freiss.

That accounts for four losses. However, Republicans lost two seats:

- In the 41<sup>st</sup> District, incumbent Republican Grant Wehrli of Naperville was defeated by the Democratic challenger Janet Yang Rohr.
- In the 66<sup>th</sup> District, incumbent Republican Allen Skillicorn of Crystal Lake was defeated by the Democratic challenger, Suzanne Ness.

One Illinois House race remains to be called. In the 68<sup>th</sup> District, Republican incumbent John Cabello of Loves Park is holding off, for now, Democratic challenger Dave Vella with a lead of less than 400 votes.

**Veto Session Update:**

The Veto Session scheduled for November 17 – 19 and December 1 – 3, 2020 is **officially** cancelled. The General Assembly is expected to return to Springfield in January 2021. More to follow on this.