

Inside Washington

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Washington Today

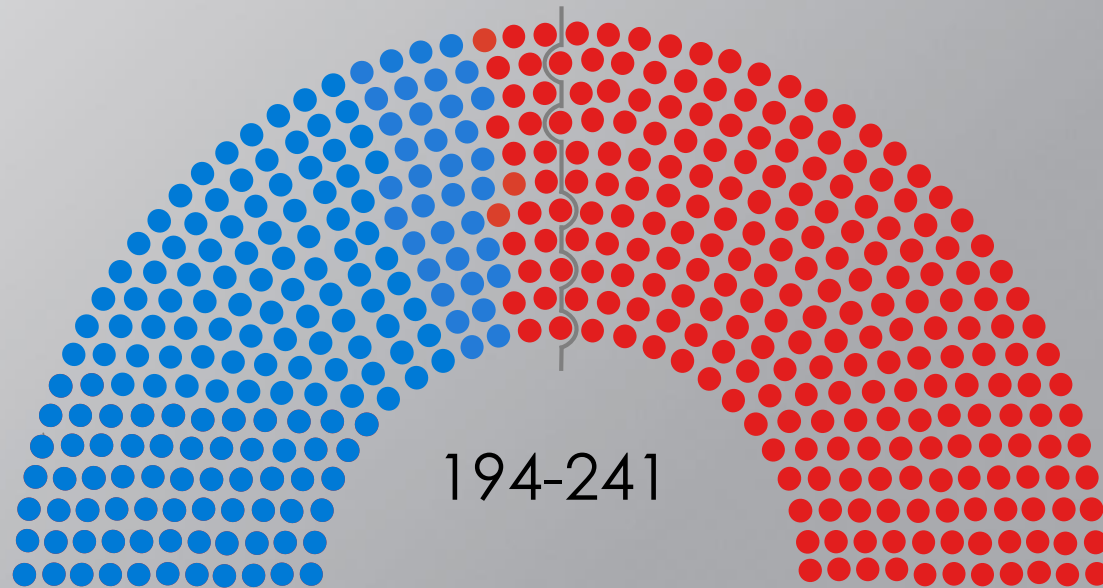
Washington On It's Knees

- A Paralyzed Congress:
 - Still Unsure About How to Work with New Administration
 - Criticism Abounds: Media, At Home
 - From the Inside: Parties, Caucuses, Chambers
- A White House In Turmoil:
 - Still Unsure How to Implement Policy
 - Criticism Abounds: Media War, “The Resistance”
 - From the Inside: Palace Intrigue, “The Witch Hunt”

The GOP House of Representatives

■ Democrats ■ Republicans ■ Independents

Control of the 115th House
(2016-2018)

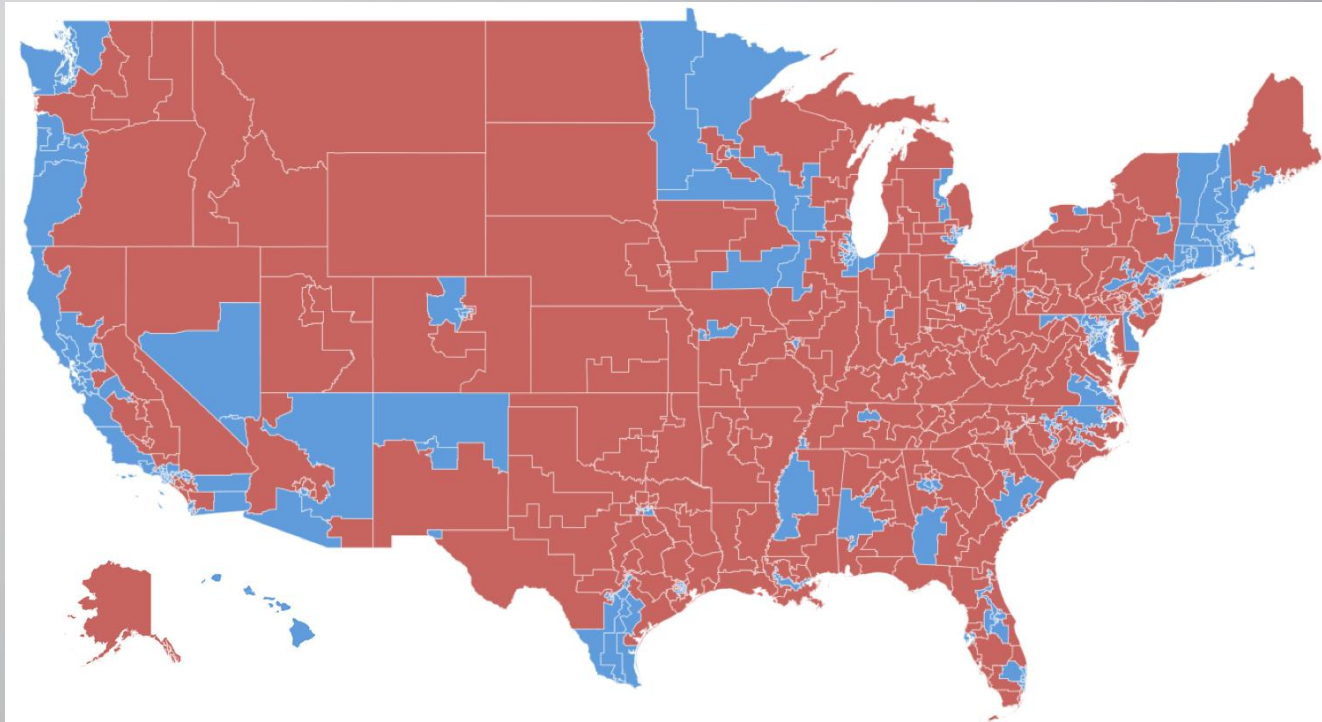


Republican
House Majority

The House GOP Map

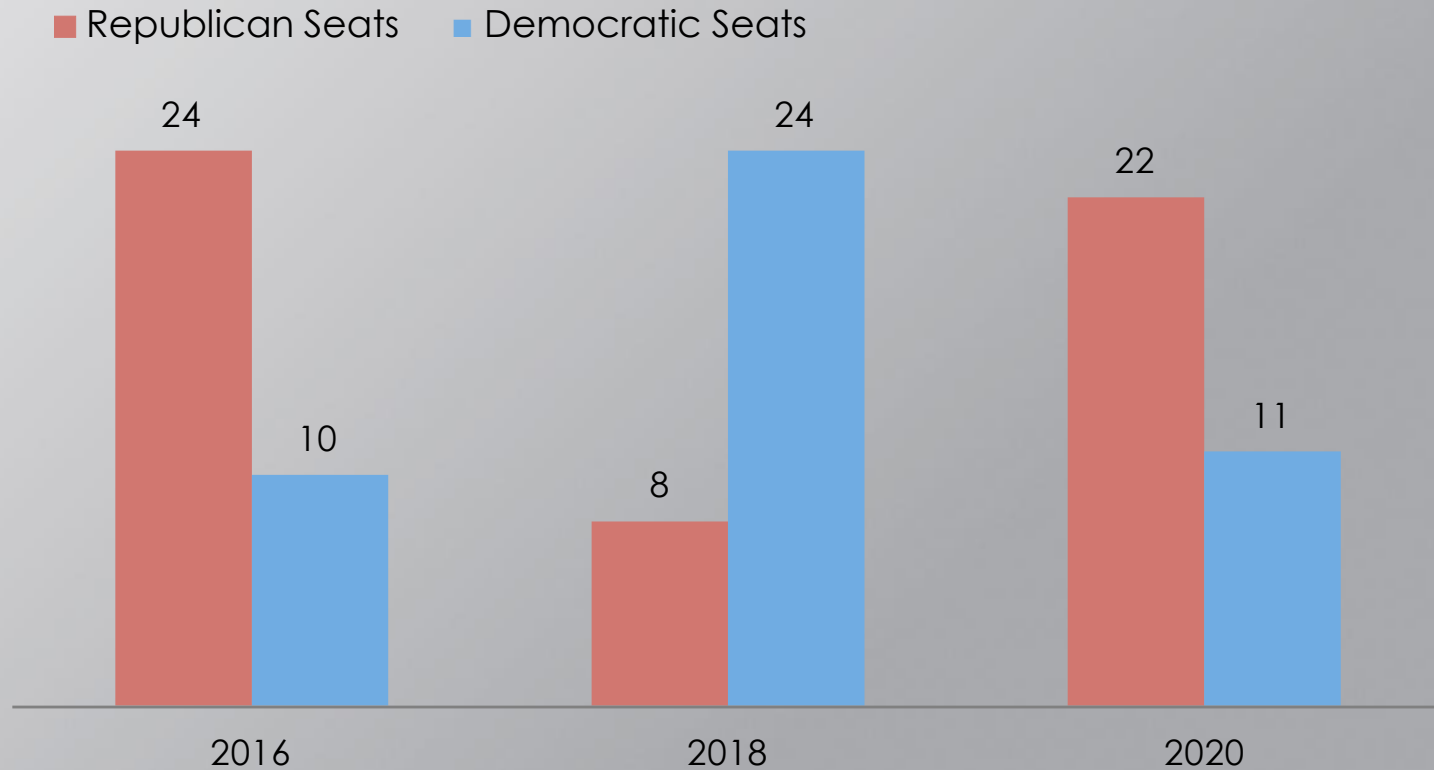
House seats gained and held, 2016 House elections

- Democrat Seats
- Republican Seats



The Senate: GOP Playing Defense

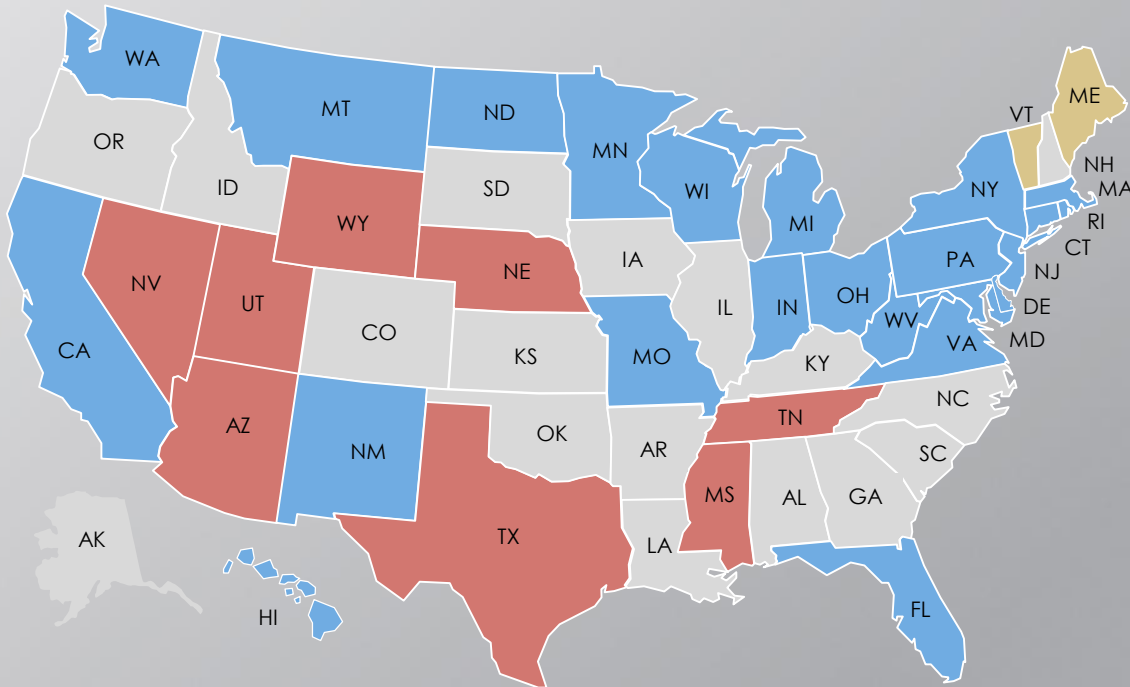
Senate Seats in Play, by Election Year



The Senate: Battle for 2018

States with Senate elections, 2018

■ Democrat Incumbent ■ Independent Incumbent ■ Republican Incumbent



NECA's Take:

- Democrats could remain in the minority for a long time as they will be defending 24 seats in 2018
- FL, PA, OH, VA, WI likely 2018's closest races
- As turnout in midterm elections historically has favored Republicans, even traditionally safe Democratic states will be more competitive

The Trump Administration

The First 100+ Days: A Review of NECA Priorities

Regulations

Status: In progress

What Went Right:

- Trump signed an executive action in January ordering federal agencies to “identify at least two existing regulations to be repealed” for every new one they propose.
- Trump has rescinded some, but not all, Obama-era rules.

What Went Wrong:

- Rollout of deregulatory plan has been bungled at times due to lack of agency coordination.

Nominate A Supreme Court Justice

Status: Complete

What Went Right:

- Trump nominated Judge Neil Gorsuch, a conservative widely viewed as qualified for the job, to fill the late Antonin Scalia's seat in January. Trump had named him as a possible nominee during his campaign.
- The rollout of the appointment went smoothly. Gorsuch was sworn in as the Supreme Court's newest associate justice in April.

What Went Wrong:

- Senate Republicans had to resort to changing the chamber's rules, invoking the so-called "nuclear option," to push Gorsuch through.

NECA Priorities: 115th Congress

- Infrastructure Investment
- Comprehensive Tax Reform
- Pensions: Allow Composite Plans
- Fully Repeal the “Cadillac” Tax
- National Energy Policy
- Contracting Reform
- Labor: Davis-Bacon, PLAs, Training

Infrastructure

Status: Under Development

- Pledged to introduce infrastructure package that would leverage “public-private partnerships, and private investments through tax incentives, to spur \$1 trillion in infrastructure investment over ten years” within the first 100 days of his presidency.

What Went Right:

- Trump has signaled that he still plans to pursue an infrastructure bill, likely after health care and tax reform.

What Went Wrong:

- So far, the White House has introduced very few details on the proposal.

Pipelines

Status: In progress

- Move projects like the Keystone pipeline forward
- Trump greenlights pipeline projects via E.O.

What Went Right:

- Trump issued executive actions advancing Keystone & Dakota Access pipeline projects in January.
- In March, Trump further OK'd construction on the Keystone project.
- These projects were controversial among environmental and other liberal groups, who had pressured President Obama to stop them.
- Buy American: U.S. Iron and Steel must be used

Tax Reform

Status: White House unveiled Tax Reform plan April 26

What Went Right:

- Calls for an overhaul of the tax code to reduce the number of tax brackets from seven to three, cut the corporate tax rate dramatically and eliminate the estate tax, among other points.

What Went Wrong:

- The plan Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House economic adviser Gary Cohn described to reporters is a page-long outline, not legislation. It is unclear when it will be fleshed out and debated by Congress.

Energy Production

Status: Legislation Moving Forward

- Trump moving to gut Obama environmental rules via Executive Order
- Congress Taking Action on Energy Infrastructure

What Went Right:

- Trump issued an executive action in March targeting Obama-era environmental regulations, directing EPA to review and consider rescinding the *Clean Power Plan*, which regulates power plant carbon emissions.
- House passed 10 NECA-supported energy bills on June 12

Contracting Reform

Status: Legislation Moving Forward

What Went Right:

- Construction, Design & Engineering Procurement Coalition to Reform Federal Contracting Rules:
 - Clarify Agency Responsibilities Regarding Change Orders
 - Establish Six Year Statute of Repose
 - Ensure Bonding on Federal P3 Projects
 - Ban Use of Reverse Auctions
- House Small Business Committee Approved Change Order Legislation June 15

Workforce Issues

Pension Reform

Status: Under discussion

What Went Right:

- Composite Plans proposed under *Solutions, Not Bailouts* industry proposal
- Hybrid model that combines elements of traditional DB and DC plans
- Provides more flexibility for employers, more choices for workers, and greater protection for taxpayers
- Voluntary and determined locally

What Went Wrong:

- Deal nearly done in Dec. '16; Congress punted

Health Care

Status: Failed on the first try, second attempt passed House. Up to the Senate

What Went Right:

- Republicans been working on a revised plan that has begun circulating among House members and earned the support of the House Freedom Caucus.
- Senate must act by September 30, 2017.

What Went Wrong:

- The House bill is considered to be large poison pill.
- Senate Republicans have a slimmer majority and are now rewriting much of the bill.

Davis-Bacon & PLAs

Status: Under discussion

What Went Right:

- Davis-Bacon and PLAs have yet to be restricted in any way by either the Administration or the Congress.
- DB will not be rolled back due to strong GOP support.

What Went Wrong:

- Usual suspects – urged by the non-union - have introduced bills to rollback both:
 - Sen Jeff Flake (R-AZ)
 - Rep. Steve King (R-IA)
 - Would limit application of DB on Federal projects and highway projects
 - PLAs at risk of change via Congress or E.O.

Apprenticeship Training

Status: Under discussion

What Went Right:

- President and DOL Secretary Acosta repeatedly called for the need to expand apprenticeships.
 - Apprenticeships represent only 0.3 percent of the workforce in the United States.
- Both have also said that the Building Trades is the model for our nation:

'if you look into the Building Trades, there's almost a billion [dollars] that's spent every year, and that's all private sector money. The Building Trades have put together labor management organizations that jointly invest in these apprenticeship programs because they know both on the labor side and the management side that a skilled workforce is critical to the Building Trades. And that's how it's worked for a number of years.'

- US Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta

Apprenticeship Training

Overview:

- Gives more flexibility to third parties — including businesses, trade associations and labor unions — to design training programs
- Establishes DOL task force to recommend ways to promote apprenticeships and directs DOL to evaluate the effectiveness of its various job-training programs

Next Steps:

- Must be vigilant during the regulatory development process
- Push Congress to support Administration plan and to avoid \$\$ handouts to non-union
- NECA to meet with Sec. Acosta June 29

NECA Resources

- Legislative Action Center
- Legislative Scorecard
- Congressional Meeting Toolkit
- NECA Advocacy App
- NECAPAC Report
- Legislative Conference & PLC Summit

Scorecards By Legislator

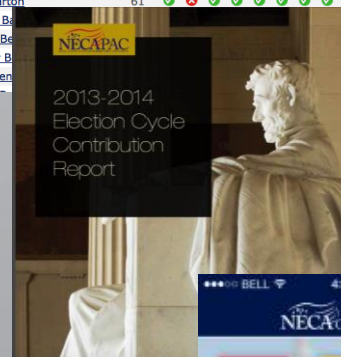
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Scorecards By Chamber


US Senate US House

113th Congress (2013-2014)


Name	Score	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10	#11	#12	#13	#14
Robert Aderholt	75	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Justin Amash	31	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Mark Amodei	73	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Rob Andrews	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michele Bachmann	57	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Spencer Bachus III	Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN-006)	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Ron Barber	78	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lou Barletta	96	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Andy Barr	66	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
John Barrow	94	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Joe Barton	61	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Karen B...		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Joyce B...		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Xavier B...		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dan Ben...		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



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Final Thoughts

- Elections and Policy Decisions have Consequences for the Industry
- Broad Agenda
- Substantial Presence
- The Industry Needs to Participate in the Process
- NECA Makes it Easy

Questions?