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To: Lt. Governor's Office LtGov@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: This Week in RSLC News: Republicans Flip State Senate Seat in Massachusetts, SGLF Announces TV Ads in Kansas, and more

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DID YOU KNOW...

Republicans won a state Senate special election in Massachusetts Tuesday night. Dean Tran, a local Republican councilman, [defeated](#) three other opponents in the race for the Worcester and Middlesex Senate district which makes this the fourth state legislative seat to flip from Democrat to Republican control in 2017. "Dean Tran's victory tonight again shows that Republican candidates can be successful in traditionally blue states when they run on common-sense, fiscally-sound legislative solutions," RSLC President Matt Walter said in a statement after Tran's victory. According to *Massachusetts Playbook*, this [district](#) had been held by a Democrat since the 1970s.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

South Carolina state Representative Phyllis Henderson [spoke](#) on a panel for *Politico's* 5th annual Women Rule Summit about how both parties can get more women elected to state and federal offices. Henderson, an RLCC Executive Committee member, talked about some of her initial struggles running for office as a woman in South Carolina. She also highlighted her involvement and engagement with the RLCC as a way for her to help more women get elected to state-level offices.

The State Government Leadership Foundation, a strategic policy partner of the RSLC, [began](#) running television and digital ads in Kansas highlighting Lt. Governor Jeff Colyer's life-changing medical work. Lt. Governor Colyer is slated to become Kansas' next Governor following the Senate confirmation of current Governor Sam Brownback to an ambassadorship. "The people of Kansas and the nation are fortunate to have

such an excellent leader continuing to forge a path to a bright future for Kansas families and communities," SGLF Executive Director Matt Walter [said](#) in a statement alongside the ad announcement.

Pennsylvania Republican state Representative Harry Lewis, Jr., [featured](#) in the RSLC's "14 in '14: Races to Watch" list, announced he will not seek re-election in 2018. "The best part of this experience has undoubtedly been the times I have been able to get the answers someone needs or otherwise improve his or her life," Lewis said in a [statement](#) regarding his time in the legislature. Lewis served two terms in the Pennsylvania state House and represented a district that voted for both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama by over 20%.

Insider NJ [awarded](#) its "Legislative Ad of the Year" award to the RSLC for its ad "[Dice](#)" attacking Democrat Colin Bell over his support from North Jersey special interests. "The Republican State Leadership Committee's casino-themed attack ad against state Senator Colin Bell made the incumbent look like a tool not only of South Jersey – but of North Jersey," *Insider NJ* said of the attack ad. Republican Chris Brown, flipping a previously held Democratic seat, defeated Colin Bell in the race for New Jersey's 2nd state Senate district with 54% of the vote.

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