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Subject: This Week in RSLC News: Two Special Election Wins in Georgia, California Recall Proceeding, and more

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DID YOU KNOW...

Combined the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee (DLCC) and Eric Holder's National Democratic Redistricting Committee (NDRC) intend to spend \$65 million against Republican state legislative candidates this year. *Mic* [reported](#) that the NDRC's spending will bring "previously unseen resources to Democratic campaigns at the state level." Forward Majority, another Democratic super PAC focused on flipping state legislative chambers, has previously [stated](#) they plan to raise \$100 million over the next two election cycles to win back Democratic control of state legislatures.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

The Virginia House of Delegates [unanimously](#) elected Republican Delegate Kirk Cox to serve as the next Speaker of the House of Delegates. Cox had been designated as the successor to former Speaker Bill Howell after Howell announced he would not seek re-election last year. In his first remarks as Speaker, Cox acknowledged the legacy Howell had left and pledged to work across the aisle to find bipartisan legislative solutions during the upcoming session.

State legislative Republicans started 2018 off with two special elections victories in Georgia Tuesday night. In a four-way race, former Republican state representative Brian Strickland [received](#) over 61% of the votes cast in the election to fill the remaining term of Georgia's 17th state Senate district. An election was also held to fill Strickland's vacancy in the state House and Republican Geoffrey Cauble narrowly cleared 50% to avoid a runoff in that election to represent the 111th House district, a seat Hillary Clinton won in 2016. In fact,

both candidates outperformed the presidential results in their districts from the 2016 presidential election.

California's Democratic Governor Jerry Brown [announced](#) a recall election against Democrat state Senator Josh Newman will be held on June 5th. Republican activists submitted over 63,592 signatures to force the recall which primarily focused on Newman's vote to substantially raise the gas tax in the state. Democrats currently hold supermajorities in both chambers in the state allowing them to pass tax increases in the legislature without any Republican votes. Defeating Newman would end the Democrats supermajority in the state Senate.

Former Republican California Assemblywoman Young Kim was endorsed by retiring California Congressman Ed Royce after she announced she would run for his Congressional seat. In 2014, Kim [appeared](#) on the RSLC's 2014 class of Majority Makers during her successful run for the state Assembly which made her the first Republican Korean-American legislator to serve in the California state legislature. In a statement announcing his endorsement, Royce said Young Kim "knows our district, its people, and its needs. She is a tireless and dedicated public servant."

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