

From: Matt Walter <mwalter=rsdc.gop@gmail19.com>
To: Lt. Governor's Office LtGov@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: This Week in RSLC News: New Leadership in West Virginia Senate, Karl Rove Op-ed on Redistricting, and more

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

RSLC President Matt Walter [declared](#), "Round one of the 2020 redistricting conversation has gone to the Republicans," in an interview with *The Hill* about the consequences of the 2018 midterm elections in regards to the 2020 redistricting process. In the interview, Walter, additionally, remarked that Democrats have increased the national spotlight on the importance of redistricting saying, "The Democrats have caught up and have expanded the conversation surrounding redistricting. You have multiple groups focused on it spending tens of millions of dollars."

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

In an op-ed for *Fox News*, Republican political strategist Karl Rove [lays out](#) why President Obama and Eric Holder's efforts to change redistricting is not a nonpartisan attempt at good government but instead "they're trying to advance the interests of the Democratic Party." Rove added that Holder and Obama's attacks on Republican-drawn Congressional and legislative maps is nothing but "a burst of typical self-righteous sanctimony." In the piece, Rove also exposes the fallacy of "nonpartisan" or "independent" redistricting commissions.

The RSLC released a memo on Monday morning highlighting the victories of female and diverse Republican candidates this midterm cycle. "The Future Majority Project and Right Women, Right Now's proactive and visionary recruitment and investment initiatives have helped the RSLC make significant gains in states with candidates that fit the district while representing the full diversity of our party and our nation," [wrote](#) Future Majority Project Executive Director Neri Martinez. The memo highlighted such trailblazing

statewide candidates such as South Carolina Lieutenant Governor-elect Pamela Evette, Idaho Lieutenant Governor-elect Janice McGeachin, and Florida Lieutenant Governor-elect Jeanette Nuñez.

President Trump [endorsed](#) Georgia Republican Secretary of State candidate Brad Raffensperger in a two-part tweet on Monday afternoon. The President said Raffensperger will be a "fantastic" Secretary of State who will "work closely with" Governor-elect Brian Kemp. Raffensperger, a current state representative and business owner, is in a runoff election for Secretary of State against former Democrat Congressman John Barrow.

On Monday, West Virginia Senate President Mitch Carmichael [named](#) state Senator Tom Takubo as the next Majority Leader for the chamber. Senate President Carmichael said Takubo "is greatly respected by both Republican and Democrat members," and "has a strong understanding of what we need to do to continue moving West Virginia in the right direction." In a statement announcing his new leadership position, Takubo said legislators, "must be relentless in our pursuit to make West Virginia a great place for families and businesses."

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