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**To:** Lt. Governor's Office [LtGov@scstatehouse.gov](mailto:LtGov@scstatehouse.gov)  
**Date:** 2/1/2018 5:20:03 PM  
**Subject:** This Week in RSLC News: CT House Republican Leader Themis Klarides Passes on Gubernatorial Bid, Secretaries of State File Amicus Briefs Regarding Redistricting, and more

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## DID YOU KNOW...

This week, in an effort organized by the Republican Secretaries of State Committee, a group of Republican Secretaries of State filed two separate *Amicus Briefs* with the U.S. Supreme Court regarding redistricting cases out of [Pennsylvania](#) and [North Carolina](#). In each brief, the Secretaries argued the lower court's "eleventh-hour ruling" requiring new maps puts states in an untenable position in implementing these changes ahead of the 2018 elections. "Courts should not throw election administration into chaos at the eleventh-hour to fix a problem that doesn't exist," RSLC President Matt Walter said in a statement released after the *Amicus Brief* was submitted about the North Carolina case.

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## NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Connecticut House Republican Leader Themis Klarides [announced](#) she would not run for governor in 2018 and instead will focus on winning majority control of the Connecticut House. Republicans only need to pick up four seats in the state House to flip control of the chamber after the GOP caucus has grown from 37 members in 2008 to 71 currently. Klarides is the first woman to lead a GOP caucus in the state House and would become the first Republican woman speaker in Connecticut history if they flip the chamber in 2018.

Jeff Colyer was officially sworn in as the 47th Governor of Kansas on Wednesday afternoon. In a ceremony at the Kansas state capitol, Colyer [said](#) he would "set a tone and insist on an environment of openness, honesty, and respect." In his first speech as Governor he also declared, "When others blame and complain, I'll be busy working for you and finding solutions." Colyer is the sixth

Republican Lt. Governor to assume the role of Governor since 2016.

North Carolina Lt. Governor Dan Forest [touted](#) his 2017 fundraising totals in a press release last Friday. According to the *Associated Press*, Forest "raised more than \$3 million during 2017 for the committee and two other political groups." Forest, a member of the RLGA Executive Committee, has repeatedly been mentioned as a possible challenger to Democrat Governor Roy Cooper in 2020.

"We had five elections in one night in January, and the GOP won four of them. The Democrats suggested, and the media enabled, a narrative of a wave when that simply wasn't the case," RSLC President Matt Walter [told](#) *Governing* magazine in a statement this week regarding a variety of upcoming state legislative special elections.

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