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To: Lt. Governor's Office LtGov@scstatehouse.gov
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Subject: This Week in RSLC News: Ainsworth Wins Alabama GOP Lt. Governor Nomination, RSSC Chairwoman Kim Wyman Responds to Partisan Attacks, and more

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DID YOU KNOW...

27 states have held their primary elections so far this year. In these states, the RSLC has identified 516 Republican women and over 105 Future Majority Project candidates who are slated to be on the November ballot for state legislative districts. Many of these dynamic candidates are running in districts that will be crucial to holding Republican majorities in states targeted by national Democrat groups.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

State Representative Will Ainsworth won the runoff election for the Republican Lt. Governor nomination in Alabama on Tuesday night after finishing second in the initial round of voting. "It's an exciting time in Alabama," Ainsworth [said](#) during his victory speech. "We have the greatest people in the world. We have the lowest taxes." The lieutenant governor's office had remained vacant in the state since former Lt. Governor Kay Ivey became Governor early last year.

RSLC President Matt Walter was [interviewed](#) by *AR/nte* about how Republicans have been able to dominate at the state legislative level this past decade. Walter credited former RSLC Chairman Ed Gillespie and Tom Reynolds for their creation of the REDMAP 2010 program which helped flip more than 700 state legislative seats during that election cycle. With the increased focus on redistricting from national Democrats to undo these political victories, Walter said, "This is their attempt to rig the system because they haven't run good candidates, they haven't had a good vision, and so they've created this strawman in redistricting."

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal [endorsed](#) state Sen. David Shafer in the Republican runoff for lieutenant

governor on Wednesday. Shafer nearly avoided the runoff election after he finished with 49% in the first round of elections. Having served in the state Senate for 16 years, Deal described Shafer as a "key legislative ally" in his efforts "to cut taxes and keep Georgia the No. 1 place to do business."

Washington Secretary of State & RSSC Chairwoman Kim Wyman [pushed back](#) against partisan attacks from California Secretary of State Alex Padilla ahead of the National Association of Secretaries of State's summer conference. Leading up to the bipartisan conference, which had a heavy focus on election security and integrity, Padilla called for the defeat of Republican Secretaries of State. Wyman said she was "disappointed" by Padilla's statement and remarked, "divisive partisanship undermines our opportunity for productive discussions for finding solutions that balance ballot access and the security of our elections system for all eligible voters." Wyman is the only statewide elected Republican in Washington state.

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