

Friday, November 5, 2010

The latest edition of the ACR newsletter is available below.

Congress returns from recess on Monday, November 15. As the lame duck session begins, we will bring you coverage of important developments on a number of issues pending before Congress. For earlier coverage of those issues, visit our newsletter archives.

Consider This...

Oh what an (election) night...

As of today at 9:20AM EST, here is what we know:

- Republicans have taken back the House. At least 60 seats flipped from Democrats to Republicans. Democrats retained control of the Senate but with a much slimmer margin (once all the races are called, the margin could be – 53- 47).
- Senate Majority Leader Reid (D-NV) held onto his seat and did so handily.
- The Tea Party had some high profile wins and some high profile losses. Marco Rubio in Florida and Rand Paul in Kentucky both won Senate seats while Sharron Angle in Nevada and Christine O'Donnell in Delaware both lost.
- On Monday, there were 26 states with Democratic governors. Today that number is down to 16 with three races still outstanding in Minnesota Vermont and Connecticut. Democrats now have a small lead in all of those races.

And here is what we don't know:

- The Alaska Senate race is still too close to call because the race, which includes the write-in candidate Lisa Murkowski, could take weeks to decide. Both leading candidates are counted as Republicans so that's how we get to a 53-47 split in the Senate once this race is called.
- There are 9 House races that are still undecided.
- Who will lead the Democrats in the House? Nancy Pelosi? Steny Hoyer? Or someone else?
- Up to a dozen Republican seats may be added to the House Ways and Means Committee and up to three seats may be added to the Senate Finance Committee. Who will get those coveted seats?

For more on all of the above, follow this [link](http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2010/results/main.results/) (<http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2010/results/main.results/>) .

Special Event

The 2010 Elections: What Do They Mean for Foundations and Nonprofits?

Next week, the Bradley Center for Philanthropy & Civic Renewal will host a discussion on the impact of the 2010 midterm elections on foundations and the nonprofit sector. Sandra Swirski, executive director of ACR, will join other panelists: Gary Bass, Founder and Executive Director of the OMB Watch; Patricia Read, Senior Vice President of the Independent Sector; Dean Zerbe, National Managing Director of the alliantgroup.

November 9, 2010

12:00 - 2:00 PM

Hudson Institute

1015 15th Street NW, 6th floor

Washington, DC

If you are interested, contact the Bradley Center:

http://www.hudson.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=HUDSON_UPCOMING_EVENTS&id=807

If you are unable to attend, you can watch live (<http://www.ustream.tv/channel/hudson-institute>) or review the transcripts at a later date.

Making Headlines

Here are recent headlines you may find interesting:

Federal

Election discussion in the non-profit sector:

- 11/2 Election Will Bring Changes to Congressional Oversight of Nonprofits, Chronicle of Philanthropy
<http://philanthropy.com/article/Election-Will-Bring-Changes-to/125216/>
While Senator Charles E. Grassley (R-IA), the leading nonprofit watchdog on the Finance Committee, is expected to move to a new leadership role, charities could nonetheless face heightened scrutiny in some areas.
- 11/1 Nonprofit Experts Forecast What Election Day Results Will Mean for Charities, Chronicle of Philanthropy
<http://philanthropy.com/article/Nonprofit-Experts-Forecast/125226/>
The Chronicle solicits predictions from notables in the philanthropic community about the

impact of the midterm elections on the nonprofit sector.

11/1 Debt Panel Pauses Until After Elections, New York Times

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/02/us/politics/02fiscal.html?_r=1

The Times reports that the bipartisan debt-reduction commission created by President Obama will begin meeting privately soon after Tuesday's elections. The options the commission may consider to deal with the debt crisis vary, but include taxes, tax expenditures (such as the charitable deduction), annual spending for domestic and military programs, and the entitlement benefit programs.

10/27 The Bush Tax Cuts and the Economy, BNA

Report: [http://op.bna.com/dt.nsf/id/egrr-8apued/\\$File/crs.bush.tax.cuts.10.27.pdf](http://op.bna.com/dt.nsf/id/egrr-8apued/$File/crs.bush.tax.cuts.10.27.pdf)

The Congressional Research Service released a report quantifying the cost of extending the Bush tax cuts.

Opinion

10/31 Immortality for Foundations Can Pose Big Challenges in Shifting Times, Chronicle of Philanthropy

<http://philanthropy.com/article/Donors-Shouldn-t-Seek/125142/>

Ray Madoff, co-author of the Philanthropy Roundtable's recent legal analysis

(http://www.philanthropyroundtable.org/files/Public_Private%20Monograph_high%20res_Final.pdf), tackles the debate of sun-setting versus perpetuity for foundations. She draws on a variety of examples that both support and oppose existing in perpetuity.

Giving Pledge - International

11/1 In India, New Wealth Brings a Rise in Giving, Washington Post

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/31/AR2010103104467.html>

The Post reports on a new class of wealthy Indians who are working to build trust in charitable institutions, a hurdle for charitable giving in a country where philanthropy is on the rise. Bill Gates and Warren Buffett have previously identified India as a target for their Giving Pledge.

11/1 India is Top Priority for Gates Foundation, Economic Times

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/opinion/interviews/India-is-top-priority-for-Gates-Foundation-/articleshow/6849395.cms>

The Economic Times interviews Jeff Raikes, president and CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He highlights India as a top priority for Gates initiatives. He also discusses the importance the Gates Foundation places on government partnerships.

Studies/Reports

10/28 Watchdog: Education Foundations Not Doing Enough, Associated Press

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2013275580_apuseducationphilanthropy.html

AP notes the release of the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy's (NCRP) report on education funding. This is the first in a four-part series stemming from a benchmark in NCRP's 2009 Criteria for Philanthropy at Its Best.

Other

Hybrid social enterprises are drawing attention for challenges some are facing. These dual-mission companies which were developed to provide capital financing for nonprofits, are now themselves

faltering.

- 10/26 Hybrid Model for Nonprofits Hits Snags, New York Times
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/26/business/26hybrid.html?pagewanted=2&_r=1&sq=foundation&st=cse&scp=3&src=busln
- 10/25 Some US Charities Need Profits to Survive -Experts, Reuters
<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N20227269.htm>

10/31 Williamsburg's GuideStar pushes quiet revolution, Virginia-Pilot

<http://hamptonroads.com/2010/10/williamsburgs-guidestar-pushes-quiet-revolution>

The Virginia-Pilot profiles Virginia-based Guidestar, which just celebrated 16 years of enhancing transparency for donors.

10/31 Nonprofits Rush to Solicit Donations via Text, but the System Is Flawed, New York Times

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/01/business/01text.html?pagewanted=1&_r=2&src=busln

The Times reports that interest in mobile giving spiked among nonprofits after the American Red Cross successfully raised millions of dollars within hours of the earthquake in Haiti. However, experts and other nonprofits caution charities against signing up for the service.

Alliance for Charitable Reform is a project of The Philanthropy Roundtable.

1150 17th Street NW • Washington, DC 20036 • 202.822.8333 office • mail@acreform.com • www.acreform.com