

# TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT *Update*

NEWS FOR THE CLIENTS AND FRIENDS OF BASS, BERRY & SIMS PLC

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## **Pre-Election Government Relations Update Monday, August 4, 2008**

The election season is upon us. Tennessee's state primary elections are this Thursday, August 7. The presidential and congressional elections are less than three months thereafter, Tuesday, November 4.

Leslie, Karen and I thought that it might be helpful to provide a synopsis of key races (excluding the presidential race) for the Tennessee General Assembly and the U.S. Congress as the fall progresses. By key races, we mean those that are close and will affect the balance of power in those legislative bodies. We will try to compile weekly polling information, campaign financial information and any other tidbits that we may find. The report will not be detailed but will, we hope, provide an overall view and an enhanced starting point to examine in more depth specific races of interest.

This week's update focuses on the two Tennessee Senate Primary Elections in which the Primary winner will almost certainly win the seat – Raymond Finney and Doug Overbey in the Republican "Smoky Mountains" Senate District south and east of Knoxville and Rosalind Kurita and Tim Barnes in the Clarksville Senate seat northwest of Nashville.

We welcome any comments, and we hope that you find this information helpful.

Race	Candidate	Party	Articles of Interest	Tidbits of Interest	Cash on Hand as of 7/31/08
State Senate District 8 (Blount and Sevier Counties)	Raymond Finney (Incumbent) www.raymondfinney.com/	R	http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/jul/27/disloyalty-dynamic-who-will-get-hurt/  (Who is the most Republican?)	Endorsed by: Tennessee Right to Life; and National Rifle Association.	\$165,344.59
	Doug Overbey (Relinquished House seat to run against Raymond Finney) overbeyforsenate.com/	R		\$114,365.87	
State Senate District 22 (Clarksville)	Tim Barnes myspace.com/timbarnes4senate	D	http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/jul/20/intraparty-attacks-and-interparty-help-growing/  (Who is the most Democratic?)	Several prominent democrats, including former Governor Ned McWherter, Senate Democratic Leader Jim Kyle, former Lieutenant Governor John Wilder, and House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, are supporting Barnes.	\$30,350.62
	Rosalind Kurita (Incumbent) www.rosalindkurita.com/	D		Kurita supported Republican Ron Ramsey in his election as Speaker of the Senate.	\$142,816.55

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