

TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT *Update*

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

September 26, 2008

In the continuing Rosalind Kurita/Tim Barnes saga in the Clarksville state Senate district, both candidates have called in the big guns. Kurita is being honored at a fundraiser sponsored by the Republican committee chairs of the Tennessee state Senate. Her cause has also been taken up by the nationally-known, conservative-cause lawyer from Terre Haute, Indiana, who has filed a Federal Court lawsuit against Barnes, the Tennessee Attorney General, the Tennessee Secretary of State, the Tennessee Coordinator of Elections and each member of the Democratic State Primary Board. Meanwhile, Barnes is being honored at fundraiser sponsored by the Democratic Caucus of the Tennessee State Senate.

In another race that affects the State Senate's partisan balance, district 12 candidates Becky Ruppe (D) and Ken Yager (R) are contending to be the more conservative (<http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2008/sep/22/both-sides-tout-conservatism/>).

A couple of significant shifts have occurred in the U.S. Senate races, too. Colorado's Republican candidate Bob Schaffer has climbed to within two percentage points of Democratic candidate Mark Udall. Schaffer consistently trailed Udall by at least six percentage points since mid-July.

Meanwhile, New Hampshire's U.S. Senate Race continues to change. Democrat challenger Jeanne Shaheen's lead over Republican incumbent John Sununu has fluctuated greatly since January. Sununu came within striking distance several times but could not quite pull ahead. The most recent Rasmussen Report, however, indicates Shaheen trails Sununu by seven percentage points.

TENNESSEE STATE SENATE

District	Candidate	Articles of Interest/ Polling Information
22	Kurita (Incumbent)	GOP State Senators host fundraiser for Kurita... http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080925/NEWS0206/809250364/1009/NEWS02
	Tim Barnes (D)	

U.S. SENATE

State	Candidate	Articles of Interest/ Polling Information
AK	Mark Begich (D)	Stevens' trial begins... http://www.adn.com/ted-stevens/story/536603.html
	Ted Stevens (R) (Incumbent)	
CO	Mark Udall (D)	Schaffer trailing Udall by two... http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_senate_elections/colorado/election_2008_colorado_senate
	Bob Schaffer (R)	
LA	Mary Landrieu (D) (Incumbent)	Prominent Republicans endorse Landrieu... http://www.bayoubuzz.com/News/Louisiana/Politics/Louisiana_Politics_New_Commercial_Shows_Problems_For_Kennedy_In_US_Senate_Race_7570.asp
	John Kennedy (R)	
ME	Tom Allen (D)	Collins' lead still in double digits... http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_senate_elections/maine/election_2008_maine_senate
	Susan Collins (R) (Incumbent)	
MN	Norm Coleman (R) (Incumbent)	Coleman regains slight lead... http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_senate_elections/minnesota/election_2008_minnesota_senate
	Al Franken (D)	
NC	Elizabeth Dole (R) (Incumbent)	Dole added to Rasmussen's list of vulnerable Republicans... http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_senate_elections/north_carolina/election_2008_north_carolina_senate
	Kay Hagan (D)	
NH	Jeanne Shaheen (D)	Sununu takes lead... http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_20082/2008_senate_elections/new_hampshire/election_2008_new_hampshire_senate
	John Sununu (R) (Incumbent)	
NM	Tom Udall (D)	Pearce receives NRA endorsement... http://peopleforpearce.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=243&Itemid=2
	Steve Pearce (R)	
OR	Jeff Merkley (D)	Internal poll shows Merkley leading forty-three to forty-one over Smith... http://www.jeffmerkley.com/2008/09/new_poll_shows_1.php
	Gordon Smith (R) (Incumbent)	
VA	Mark Warner (D)	Fifty-eight percent of undecided's for president back Warner... http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2008/09/24/1438492.aspx
	Jim Gilmore (R)	

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