

# TENNESSEE GOVERNMENT *Update*

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

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**Friday, October 31, 2008**

Tennessee's early voting period ended yesterday, Thursday, October 30. About 1.5 million of Tennessee's 3.9 million registered voters (38 percent) cast their ballots (<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081031/NEWS0206/810310503>). Tennessee's voter turnout in the 2004 presidential election topped 2.4 million, with just over one million attributed to early voting.

Meanwhile, state legislative candidates submitted their final campaign finance reports this week. The reporting period covers financial activity from October 1 through October 25. Four state Senate races again attracted the most attention. In Senate District 26, Democratic candidate Randy Camp reported contributions of \$151,397 and spent \$253,549 in the period. Camp's Republican opponent Delores Gresham raised \$137,183 and spent \$196,029. Camp's cash on hand leading up to the November 4 election was \$22,355; Gresham had \$18,864 available.

In Senate District 12, Republican nominee Ken Yager's contributions and expenditures exceeded his Democratic opponent's numbers. Yager raised \$129,917 (\$44,000 of which was his personal contribution) and spent \$235,920. Democratic nominee Becky Ruppe began the reporting period with \$114,509, raised \$48,475, and spent \$122,007, leaving her with \$40,976 cash on hand; Yager had \$70,900 on hand.

Incumbent Independent Senator Mike Williams, who represents Senate District 4, received \$110,392 in campaign contributions and spent \$154,114. Williams' Republican challenger, Mike Faulk, raised \$103,060 and had expenses totaling \$71,820. As of October 25, Williams had cash on hand of \$16,187; Faulk had \$99,026 available.

Incumbent Senator Rosalind Kurita raised over \$55,000 toward her write-in campaign. Kurita's contributions reflect the October 1 fundraiser sponsored by the Republican committee chairs of the Tennessee Senate. The write-in campaign, however, incurred expenses of \$90,440, which left her with \$40,658 remaining for the final ten days until the election. Democratic nominee Tim Barnes' campaign received \$76,094 in campaign contributions and spent \$63,740 during the reporting period. Barnes reported \$50,159 cash on hand.

<b>TENNESSEE STATE SENATE</b>		
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State	Candidate	Information of Interest
TN	Kurita (D) (Incumbent)	Kurita's legal battle not over... <a href="http://www.theleafchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20088102503">http://www.theleafchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20088102503</a>
	Tim Barnes (D)	<a href="#">22</a>

U.S. SENATE

State	Candidate	Information of Interest
AK	Mark Begich (D)	Stevens takes hit following conviction... <a href="http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/alaska/election_2008_alaska_senate">http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/alaska/election_2008_alaska_senate</a>
	Ted Stevens (R) (Incumbent)	
CO	Mark Udall (D)	Schaffer down again... <a href="http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2008/oct/26/unaffiliateds-favor-udall-poll-shows/">http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2008/oct/26/unaffiliateds-favor-udall-poll-shows/</a>
	Bob Schaffer (R)	
GA	Saxby Chambliss (R) (Incumbent)	Senate Race shake-up... <a href="http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1008/15076.html">http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1008/15076.html</a>
	Jim Martin (D)	
KY	Mitch McConnell (R) (Incumbent)	McConnell fights to avoid former Senator Tom Daschle's fate... <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/26/AR2008102602196.html?hpid=topnews">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/26/AR2008102602196.html?hpid=topnews</a>
	Bruce Lunsford (D)	
ME	Susan Collins (R) (Incumbent)	Dems stay strong in Maine despite Collins' resilience... <a href="http://www.cqpolitics.com/wmspage.cfm?docid=news-000002979298">http://www.cqpolitics.com/wmspage.cfm?docid=news-000002979298</a>
	Tom Allen (D)	
MN	Norm Coleman (R) (Incumbent)	Poll numbers remain volatile... <a href="http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/minnesota/election_2008_minnesota_senate">http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/minnesota/election_2008_minnesota_senate</a>
	Al Franken (D)	
MS	Ronnie Musgrove (D)	Wicker's lead jumps... <a href="http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/mississippi/election_2008_mississippi_senate_spec">http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/mississippi/election_2008_mississippi_senate_spec</a>
	Roger Wicker (R) (Incumbent)	
NC	Elizabeth Dole (R) (Incumbent)	Most recent poll data shows Hagan up by six... <a href="http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/north_carolina/election_2008_north_carolina_senate">http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/north_carolina/election_2008_north_carolina_senate</a>
	Kay Hagan (D)	
NH	Jeanne Shaheen (D)	Shaheen maintains lead... <a href="http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/new_hampshire/election_2008_new_hampshire_senate">http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/election_2008/2008_senate_elections/new_hampshire/election_2008_new_hampshire_senate</a>
	John Sununu (R) (Incumbent)	
OR	Jeff Merkley (D)	Merkley overtakes Gordon... <a href="http://www.surveyyusa.com/client/PollReport.aspx?g=0b63ff1a-61f7-4ec0-bd56-38d157768f62">http://www.surveyyusa.com/client/PollReport.aspx?g=0b63ff1a-61f7-4ec0-bd56-38d157768f62</a>
	Gordon Smith (R) (Incumbent)	
VA	Mark Warner (D)	Fifty-six percent of independents favor Warner... <a href="http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/26/AR2008102602198.html?hpid=topnews">http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/26/AR2008102602198.html?hpid=topnews</a>
	Jim Gilmore (R)	

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