



ELECTION REPORT 2004

Greater Cleveland Partnership/COSE

OVERVIEW - DECISION 2004

November 4, 2004
Final Report

Election Highlights

Total Ohio Voters

- 5.4 million in 2004
(4.4 million in 2000)

President

- Bush headed for 2nd term with Ohio and Florida wins.

Cleveland Schools

- Levy defeated overwhelmingly.

Ohio Supreme Court

- GOP candidates Moyer, Lanzinger and O'Donnell capture all three contested seats.

State Issue 1

- Ohio & 10 other states ban gay marriage and civil unions.

Statehouse

- GOP maintains control of both houses, but majority is narrowed.

While early election results suggested political wrangling and court battles, President George Bush prevailed in the race for the White House. Despite outstanding provisional vote counts, Kerry conceded the election Wednesday afternoon after determining a win was not possible.

In one of the most closely watched elections in our nation's history, the presidency was heavily influenced by Ohio. As expected and in spite of the rain, Ohio voters turned out in record numbers, but the influx of newly registered voters was not the trump card that Democrats were hoping would erase another GOP presidential victory in Ohio and defeat an incumbent president in wartime.

In fact, Bush's victory marks the first time since his father's 1988 victory that a president has won with more than 50 percent of the popular vote.

On Tuesday, an estimated 5.4 million Ohio voters flocked to the polls deciding the presidency, preserving the philosophical majority on the Supreme Court, approving a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, narrowing the Republican majority in Ohio's General Assembly and deciding hundreds of local school levies. Ohio's Congressional delegation remains unchanged.

The battle for the presidency focuses unprecedented national interest in Ohio

Ohio was ground zero for the presidential election with both parties believing that our 20 electoral votes might decide the election. Polls in recent weeks said the contest was too close to predict. Tracking polls on Tuesday evening provided conflicting signals and gave both campaigns reason for cautious optimism.

In the end - absent provisional ballots -- Ohioans voted 51 to 49 percent in favor of George Bush.

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Statehouse

- Lake County Dems Tim Cassell and Lorraine Fende win GOP House seats.
- Joy Padgett (R) wins southern district seat over Terry Anderson.
- Tort reform anticipated for debate in lame duck session beginning next week.

U.S. Senate

- Republicans build control of Senate and Minority Leader Daschle knocked out in upset.
- Voinovich coasts to final term in office as Ohio Senator.
- Specter pulls out ahead in Pennsylvania after long night.

U.S. House

- LaTourette trounces Cafaro 63-37 in 14th District.
- Congressman Regula speculated for Appropriations chairmanship.

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Overview from Pg. 1

Ohio was one of five states to receive a disproportionate amount of attention. It was the focus of massive "Get-Out-The-Vote" efforts by both parties, a saturation of advertising and a cascade of candidate visits, causing an Ohio State University political scientist to quip: "At times, it seems like Bush and Kerry are running for Governor of Ohio."

Upwards of 600,000 Ohioans were added to the voter rolls this year, an increase of eight percent. Cuyahoga County alone accounted for more than 100,000 of the new registrants.

This surge of newly registered voters also resulted in intense public scrutiny on the preparedness of Ohio's local elections boards and provisional ballot procedures, with court skirmishes over whether party-appointed "challengers" should be allowed into the polling stations which Democrats decried as intimidating to new and lower-income voters. While Ohio's top election official Secretary of State Ken Blackwell was reprimanded over his handling of the challengers, just yesterday a federal appeals court decided challengers would be allowed inside polling stations.

While some Kerry supporters hoped that provisional ballots would turn around the Bush win in Ohio, that result was not possible with Bush winning by a margin of 136,000 and with a comparable amount of provisional ballots. A majority of these ballots are from areas of the state that lean Republican.

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Tax breaks to take center stage in second Bush term

President Bush's plans for job growth will rely largely on tax cuts to stimulate the economy, including making permanent the tax cuts passed by Congress in 2001 and 2003. He has expressed an interest in fundamental tax reform.

For business owners, who say high costs are hurting the business climate, fewer topics have generated more discussion than health care this election year. Few issues have distinguished the candidates more starkly. While Kerry's plans would cover more people than Bush's, critics argued that the campaign commitments Kerry made could not be paid for by his proposed tax roll-back.

Bush said he will provide tax breaks to expand coverage, including offering refundable tax credits to those who do not have employer-provided health insurance. He is expected to make a stronger push for Associated Health Plans. COSE opposes current legislative language for AHPs and is working to offer more favorable alternatives.

Bush is likely to continue his efforts to enact substantial tort reform. Substantive reform was unlikely under a Kerry-Edwards presidency. His victory also averts the likelihood of a minimum wage increase supported by Kerry.

The short-term impact of either presidential candidate on economic growth and job-creation was questionable, but the voters' decision will clearly have an impact on the economy for many years. Issues such as Social Security, Medicare and the trade deficit will have long-term ramifications. Additionally, Alan Greenspan is expected to retire as chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank in 2006. Rumored replacements include R. Glenn Hubbard, a former chairman of Bush's Council of Economic Advisers, Harvard economist Martin Feldstein and John Taylor, a Stanford professor and Bush Treasury official.

In Ohio, Republican Supreme Court candidates emerge as victors, same-sex marriage banned, Republican majority in chambers narrowed

The current philosophical majority of the Ohio Supreme Court appears intact after Republican candidates captured all three of the contested seats. Critical business issues - including tort reform and workers' compensation reform - were at stake. Chief Justice Thomas Moyer, Judge Judith Lanzinger and Justice Terrence O'Donnell - supported by the business community - all prevailed.

Ohioans approved by a nearly 2-1 margin State Issue 1, a Constitutional amendment that bans gay marriage and civil unions. Confusion over the second sentence of the amendment, which many argued will impact local governments and private businesses in offering benefits to any unmarried couples, led several state officials, including Gov. Taft, Senators Voinovich and DeWine and Attorney General Jim Petro to oppose the measure. Passage of the amendment means that there will be litigation over the meaning of the second sentence and its application to businesses and governments.

Republicans maintained control of both houses of the Ohio General Assembly, but narrowed it with the loss of several seats to Democrats in the House. Despite the few Democratic inroads on Tuesday, the results do not represent a significant power shift.

Both the House and Senate will have new leadership come January, with Senator Bill Harris (R-Ashland) expected to lead the Senate and Rep. John Husted (R-Kettering) expected to become Speaker of the House. Immediately, both leaders will be confronted with resolving a state budget deficit of \$4-5 billion, while pressure continues to mount for legislators to consider significant tax reform at both the state and local levels. Revisions to Ohio property tax rollbacks, the local government fund and the Ohio Medicaid program are all on the table for consideration.

All signs point to the General Assembly maintaining its conservative approach to state finance by avoiding tax increases and trimming government programs. This approach, however, may be tempered by the political realities of severe budget

cuts and the sheer size of the state's budget deficit. Don't be surprised if increases in the so-called sin taxes are floated for consideration.

Republicans keep control of U.S. Senate & House; Knock-out minority leader

Republican Senator George V. Voinovich coasted to victory with more than 60 percent of the vote over challenger Ohio Senator Eric Fingerhut.

Nationally, Republicans built on their majority in the U.S. Senate, in which they held a 51-48 majority coming into Tuesday's contests. The Republicans will hold 55 seats, a net gain of 4. We are likely to see the majority's efforts continue to pass tort-reform and other issues that they were unable to pass in the last Congress. However, they still do not have enough of a majority to break Democratic filibusters.

Especially significant was the victory of John Thune over Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, who was largely viewed by the business community and Republicans as a primary roadblock in passing legislation such as tort reform, an energy bill and a variety of other issues that will be pushed again by Majority Leader Bill Frist.

With a Bush win, the Republican majority in the U.S. House will play the offense in working to enact a second-term Bush agenda. Republicans in the House pick up 4 seats. With Bush in the White House, we can expect to see action on several initiatives including tax cuts. Look also for the possibility of northeast Ohio Congressman Regula becoming chairman of the House Appropriations Committee which would potentially bring significant funding to Ohio and the Greater Cleveland region.

GCP to continue advocacy efforts to benefit regional economy

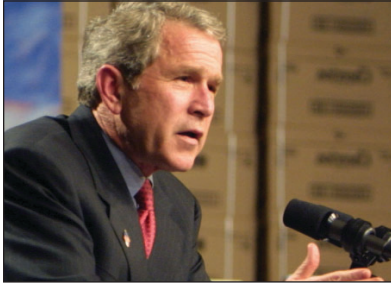
The business community was especially disappointed in the loss of the Cleveland Municipal School District levy, for which we actively raised substantial funding support.

GCP looks forward to analyzing the data as more becomes available on the election results and answering questions such as: What do these new voters mean to Ohio? What do these new voters mean to the local political landscape? And what do the election results mean for key public policy issues facing Ohioans and our local businesses?

GCP and COSE will continue working cooperatively with our incumbent officials and establishing working relationships with those newly-elected to their position. We look forward to capitalizing on the opportunities before us and advocating on behalf of Greater Cleveland.



PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS AND IMPACT ON BUSINESS



As of Noon, 11/4

Candidate	Electoral College	% of Vote	% Ohio Vote
George W. Bush (R)	To be determined	51	51
John Kerry (D)	To be determined	48	49
Ralph Nader (I)	0	1	0

The impact of Bush's re-election on business issues:

George Bush Wins Re-Election.

Quite a few staff changes are expected in the new Bush Administration, both at the Cabinet level and within the West Wing. Several top officials are likely to leave their current posts including Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice, Norm Mineta, Don Evans, Andy Card and Donald Rumsfeld. Some may take on new positions within the Administration, while some are expected to end their service at the White House.

Taxes: Contending that tax cuts will stimulate the economy, lead to more revenue in the long-term and allow small businesses greater tax expense limits, President Bush wants to make permanent the tax cuts passed by Congress in 2001 and 2003. His plan includes lowering income tax rates and phasing out the estate tax until its full repeal in 2010. Bush has also proposed a series of changes to make tax-sheltered retirement more attractive and accessible, including the Employer Retirement Savings Account (ERSA) that would replace -- but function like -- a traditional 401(k) plan, giving employers more flexibility and eliminating the inequity in tax codes between small and large businesses. Bush has also expressed interest in fundamental tax reform, possibly replacing the tax code with a consumption tax.

Health Care: In general, Bush's health care proposals rely on tax breaks to expand insurance coverage, including offering refundable tax credits to those who do not have employer-provided health insurance and allowing individuals with health service accounts a 100% tax deduction on their catastrophic care premiums.

While intended to make healthcare more affordable, AHPs would operate under relaxed regulation at the state level, which would result in distortion in the market. COSE opposes current legislative language for AHPs and is working to offer more favorable alternatives.

Bush is expected to make a stronger push to enact legislation that would approve Associated Health Plans, allowing associations to sell insurance under relaxed regulatory oversight at the state level. Legislation has been passed twice by the U.S. House but has been stalled in the Senate. He also plans to expand Health Savings Accounts, allowing employers and employees to contribute \$1,000 annually to pre-tax accounts that pay medical expenses for anyone with high-deductible, low-premium health insurance.

Bush would give small business owners a tax credit for their contributions to employees' HSAs and refundable tax credits to low-income individuals and families who don't have health insurance through work.

Tort Reform: Bush is likely to continue his efforts to enact substantial tort reform and end frivolous lawsuits through liability reform, including capping awards for non-economic and punitive damages. He supports payments of judgments over time rather than in a single lump sum. He supports a statute of limitations for medical malpractice and proposes to reduce the amount that doctors have to pay if the plaintiff has received other payments to compensate for their losses.

Other Issues: Some expect that President Bush will take on the issue of Social Security in his second term. He supports private investment of Social Security contributions, asserting that it will strengthen the program by pre-funding some benefits instead of having current workers pay benefits of retirees. He is proposing budget cuts for the SBA, preferring tax cuts and less cumbersome regulations to finance and support the growth of small businesses, and he intends to give the SBA a stronger role in reviewing regulations.

LOCAL ISSUE RESULTS

Cleveland Issue 112 - Failed

Issue 112 was an 11.4-mill proposal for the Cleveland Municipal School District. The first new operating levy sought by the district since 1996, Issue 112 would have resulted in a \$68 million tax increase for the schools. In an effort to balance the budget for 2005, the district cut nearly \$100 million and eliminated more than 1,400 positions. The failure of Issue 112 will result in \$24.5 million in additional cuts for 2005 and more in 2006. Look for the district to try another levy in the coming months.

Against the Tax Levy 55%
For the Tax Levy 44%

What do the results mean for business?

While we hesitate to endorse any measure that increases the tax burden for businesses and residents, both the GCP and COSE boards endorsed Issue 112, recognizing the urgent need to educate our future workforce in the region. Both organizations also raised significant funding support for the issue and sent more than 2,500 letters to Cleveland's small business owners urging them to vote in favor of it.

A key strategy in GCP's 2004 strategic plan is continuing to invest in and improve the Cleveland's public school system. GCP and COSE will be actively involved in school funding issues in the months ahead as the even larger issue of equitable school funding at the state level looms ahead. The Ohio Supreme Court has ruled that Ohio's school funding system is unconstitutional five times. Only when we find a statewide solution to this problem will we see improvements on a larger scale.

Cuyahoga County Issue 120 - Passed

Issue 120 is a 1.8-mill, 10-year property tax levy for the Cleveland Metropolitan Park District. The issue includes a 1.5-mill replacement and an increase of 0.3 mills, raising \$56 million a year - \$18.7 million more annually than the current tax. Its passage will cost approximately \$57 per year on a \$100,000 home. Levy revenues will help improve the 20,300-acre park district, including completion of the last stretch of the towpath connecting downtown Cleveland and Akron, renovation of the Brecksville Reservation nature center and acquisition of land for a reservation in Parma.

Against the Tax Levy 40%
For the Tax Levy 59%

What do the results mean for business?

Preserving the Cleveland MetroParks is a key factor in attracting high-tech/high-growth industries to our region and retaining current businesses. The MetroParks system is an integral part of our regional quality of life, providing area residents with a source of natural beauty, recreational opportunities and educational programming. According to the Cleveland MetroParks, 70 percent of residents visit the parks more than once every year.

Although GCP and COSE did not consider this issue for endorsement, the park system is valued by our members and businesses, thus Issue 120's passage is viewed as supporting business development. As we have learned from numerous studies and input from our membership, the quality of life in Northeast Ohio is one of the most attractive and unique aspects of our region and is often cited by businesses as a key factor used to evaluate business location and growth.

STATE RESULTS

Ohio Supreme Court

Perhaps no races were more critical to the Northeast Ohio business agenda than the contests for the Supreme Court of Ohio. The victory in all of the three contested races will maintain the philosophical majority supported by the business community. The stakes in these races were high as progress on critical issues such as tort reform, workers' compensation reform and asbestos litigation reform all hinge on the Court. Recently, issues of importance to the business community have been decided by a narrow four-to-three margin.

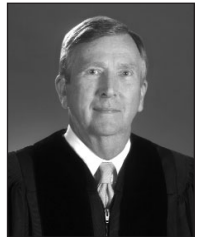
Going into the campaign, none of these candidates were particularly well known.

Chief Justice Thomas Moyer, Justice Terrence O'Donnell, and Judge Judith Lanzinger were strongly supported by the business community throughout the State of Ohio, including GCP, COSE and the Ohio Chamber. The philosophical majority candidates are generally more conservative and adhere to the traditional view that a judge's job is to interpret laws, not rewrite them.

Their opponents, Judge Ellen Connally, Judge Nancy Fuerst and Judge William O'Neill were strongly supported by Ohio's labor unions, the Ohio Democratic Party and personal injury lawyers. Based on their supporters, concerns have been expressed that these candidates would have been more sympathetic to the trial bar and more progressive with respect to judicial activism.

***CHIEF JUSTICE THOMAS MOYER (R) (53%) defeats Judge Ellen Connally (D) (46%)**

Chief Justice Moyer has served as Ohio's chief justice since 1987. Prior to his election, he served eight years as a judge on the Franklin County Court of Appeals, four years as executive assistant to Gov. James Rhodes and eight years in private practice. Moyer's rulings on business issues have generally been favorable, according to the Ohio Chamber.

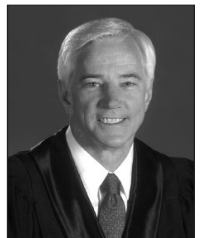


JUDGE JUDITH LANZINGER (R) (57%) victorious over Judge Nancy Fuerst (D) (42%)

The retirement of Justice Francis Sweeney left this seat on the court vacant. Judge Lanzinger from Toledo has served on the Sixth District Court of Appeals, serving eight Northwest Ohio counties, since 2003. Her 26-year legal career includes 19 years as a state court judge. She is an adjunct professor at the University of Toledo College of Law and served on the Ohio Supreme Court's Board of Grievances and Discipline.

***JUSTICE TERRENCE O'DONNELL (R) (60%) prevails over Judge William O'Neill (D) (39%)**

The race between O'Donnell and O'Neill was the most heated of the three competitive Supreme Court races. Justice O'Donnell was appointed by Gov. Taft to the Ohio Supreme Court in 2003. His background includes service on both the Common Pleas Court and the Ohio Court of Appeals.



***JUSTICE PAUL PFEIFER (R) (100%) was unopposed and will return to the Court.**

He was first elected to the Supreme Court in 1992.



State Issue 1 - PASSED

Concerns about Massachusetts' recent court decision allowing civil marriage between same-sex couples prompted State Issue 1, a Constitutional amendment that will prohibit gay marriage in Ohio.

No 38%
Yes 62%

Ohioans approved Issue 1 by nearly a 2-1 margin, amending the State's Constitution to accept only those marriages between one man and one woman as valid, recognized by the state and all local government entities such as municipalities and institutions of higher education. Furthermore, the state and political subdivisions will not recognize a legal status of unmarried individuals, potentially revoking actions already taken by some cities and universities and testing the validity of adoptions, custody orders, wills, powers of attorney and other legal arrangements between both same-sex and unmarried opposite-sex couples.

Confusion existed over the second sentence of the amendment, which many argued will impact local governments and private businesses in offering benefits to any unmarried couples. There will likely be litigation over the meaning of the second sentence and its application to businesses and governments.

What do the results mean for business?

Ohio is one of 11 states with such a proposal, approved in all. Ohio already passed the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) last February, defining marriage as being between one man and one woman. The amendment's passage will overturn locally-approved decisions, such as those in Cleveland Heights and at The Ohio State University, to recognize same-sex couples. Opponents argued that Issue 1 went beyond the right to marry by prohibiting any unmarried couples from banning together to gain health care and social security benefits.

When Cincinnati voters approved Issue 3, a similar issue now known as Article XII, reports said the city lost millions of dollars in revenue. A number of large organizations publicly stated that they will not select Cincinnati as a convention location. A bipartisan committee also found that human resource professionals in Cincinnati reported that the image of being an "intolerant" city is a key challenge to overcome. Ironically, Cincinnati voters repealed this measure on November 2.

By and large, business groups believe the success of Issue 1 will be detrimental to the economic climate of the region. After much thoughtful discussion, the COSE Board opposed Issue 1, based on arguments that it will limit employers' ability to attract and retain workers in high-growth industries.

A strong and well-funded campaign for Issue 1 included phone calls and advertisements personalized by Secretary of State Ken Blackwell. The amendment was also supported by Attorney General Betty Montgomery and many of Ohio's religious groups.

The coalition against the amendment included Senators Mike DeWine and George Voinovich, Governor Bob Taft, State Attorney General Jim Petro, Ohio AARP, Jerry Springer, Ohio Democratic Party, numerous Ohio mayors, the Columbus Partnership, League of Women Voters, The Ohio State University, Nationwide Insurance, Limited Brands, COSE, the AFL-CIO, the UAW, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *The Columbus Dispatch*, *The Akron Beacon Journal*, *The Dayton Daily News* and *The Toledo Blade* and various religious groups. In spite of the opposition, opponents were unable to raise enough money to defeat this issue.

Ohio House	Pre-Election	Post-Election
Republicans	62	59
Democrats	37	40
Independent	0	0

Ohio Senate	Pre-Election	Post-Election
Republicans	22	22
Democrats	11	11
Independent	0	0

Election Impact on Taxes and Tort Reform

Topping GCP's agenda in 2005 is tax reform. Narrowing of the Republican majority makes the passage of meaningful tax reform more difficult and may lead to a more vigorous debate about whether tax reform means revenue enhancement or tax reduction. Proposals already before the General Assembly call for revenue neutral tax solutions.



GCP is currently reviewing the tax reform proposals on the table at the state level.

GCP will continue its efforts to achieve meaningful tax reform despite the projected state budget shortfall of \$4 to 5 billion which will lessen the legislature's ability to make cuts in tax rates or eliminate anti-competitive business taxes such as corporate franchise, inventory or dealers/intangible taxes. Also at issue is whether the temporary one-cent sales tax increase will be made permanent. Both chambers and the Administration have been preparing for a capital budget that is expected to be much lower than in years past. Further complicating tax reform is the fact that a major portion of the state's budget is devoted to Medicaid and education, both of which are difficult to reform.

In a lame duck session which begins the week of November 8, we anticipate the capital budget and tort reform will be addressed. Tort reform remains a GCP priority. Based on the outcome of the debate in the lame duck session, the need to revisit tort reform in the 126th General Assembly remains to be seen.

Changes in Leadership

While Republican leadership will continue its decade-long control of the Ohio General Assembly, the margins have tightened. Republicans, currently the largest party majority in decades, were expected to lose some ground this election year. The debate has been the extent to which Democrats would pick up seats. The loss of only three seats is considered a win for Republicans.

The Republican majority's agenda has been favorable to business interests but several key issues, such as tax reform and tort reform, remain unresolved. Despite the dominance of the Republican Party, key provisions have been difficult to move through the legislative process. Concerns have been expressed by Ohio's major metropolitan areas that the legislature is focused excessively on conservative issues directed toward rural areas with too little attention given to those impacting urban centers. This dynamic could change with new House and Senate leadership.

OHIO SENATE

In the Ohio Senate where the Republicans currently control 22 of 33 seats, there was only one competitive seat – District 20 in Southern Ohio between Joy Padgett and Terry Anderson - won by Republican incumbent Padgett. The Republican Senate Campaign Committee launched aggressive campaigns in the districts held by Bob Spada and Tim Grendell to avoid upsets. Given the competitive nature of the Presidential race, neither candidate could take a chance of not running such a campaign. In the end, both Republican candidates prevailed.

Like the House, the Senate will have a new leadership team next year, with Sen. Bill Harris as president. Elections will be held in the coming weeks to decide other leadership positions. Sen. Spada is being considered for one of the leadership posts and will likely seek support from Northeast Ohio leaders. Such a role would be helpful to Northeast Ohio in pursuing our legislative agenda in the 126th General Assembly.

** Denotes incumbents*

10th District -- STEVE AUSTRIA

*Steve Austria (R-Beavercreek) 65%
Charles Hart (D-Springfield) 35%

Democrats thought early on they might be able to claim this seat. However Sen. Austria, who is considered to be a strong congressional candidate in the future, won by a comfortable margin.

16th District -- STEVE STIVERS

*Steve Stivers (R-Columbus) 57%
Katherine Thomsen (D-Columbus) 33%
Don Eckhart (NP-Galloway) 8%

Sen. Stivers was appointed early in 2003. While he was expected to face a tough primary challenge, a primary opponent never materialized. However, a the third party candidate, who was socially conservative, added a degree of uncertainty in this Republican district. Stivers has been the sponsor of all the tort reform legislation in the Senate. Stivers, who is an officer in the Ohio Army National Guard, has been called to active duty and is serving in the Middle East.

18th District - TIMOTHY GRENDALL

Timothy Grendell (R-Chester Township) 59%
John Hawkins (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) 40%

Rep. Grendell moves from the Ohio House to the Senate after his victory over lawyer John Hawkins in this Lake/Geauga County Senate seat currently held by Robert Gardner. Grendell's base in Geauga County and the Senate Republican Caucus media campaign virtually assured victory over the under-funded perennial candidate, Hawkins. While controversy seemed to follow the Grendell camp this election, voters overwhelmingly sent the conservative legislator back to Columbus as their state senator. Grendell will take his platform of less government and lower taxes to the upper body of the General Assembly.

20th District -- JOY PADGETT

*Joy Padgett (R-Coshocton) 54%
Terry Anderson (D-Athens) 45%

The 20th District seat has been considered the best opportunity for a Democrat pick-up. The district is marginally Democrat and Sen. Padgett, previously a state representative, was appointed to the position. Anderson, a former Beirut hostage, is well-known in the district and beyond. Both campaigned heavily and were successful fundraisers but Padgett prevailed in this competitive race.

24th District - ROBERT SPADA

*Robert Spada (R-North Royalton) 62%
Robert Matius (D-Westlake) 37%

Moderate Republican Spada won re-election easily. His opponent, Robert Matius, did little to promote his candidacy. Spada, a five-year veteran of the Senate, was aided by a million dollar media buy from the Ohio Senate Republican Caucus. Spada has positioned himself to secure a leadership slot during the next session of the General Assembly, possibly Majority Whip. His tenure and position will be key to the success of many Northeast Ohio initiatives in the General Assembly.

OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Republicans will continue to hold a comfortable majority in the House. The trend of the Republican base shifting out of Northeast Ohio continues, signaling the need to aggressively marshal our energies and resources to remain a persuasive political force.

There were no competitive races for House seats currently held by Democrats in Northeast Ohio, because of term limits. However, there are a handful of new members in these safe Democrat seats including in Lake County with Democrat Lorraine Fende replacing Republican Jamie Callender and Democrat Tim Cassell replacing Republican Ron Young. These were two of the more competitive Northeast Ohio races and considered tough territory for Republicans, along with the seat won by Earl Martin in Lorain County and another lost by incumbent Marilyn Slaby in Summit County.

** Denotes incumbents*

17th District - JAMES TRAKAS

*James Trakas (R-Independence) 53%
David Pomerantz (D-Solon) 46%

Majority Whip Jim Trakas enters his 4th and final term as a member of the Ohio House. This formerly safe Republican seat was redrawn in 2000 into a more competitive seat for Democrats and Republicans. Under the current leadership structure, Trakas is Northeast Ohio's lone representative in House leadership, which has helped him champion economic development initiatives. Trakas will potentially remain House Majority Whip.

25th District -- DANIEL STEWART

Andy Bowers (R-Columbus) 45%
*Daniel Stewart (D-Columbus) 55%

In one of the most hotly-contested legislative races in the state, first-term Rep. Stewart held off a late charge by Republican activist Andy Bowers. News reports carried speculation that Republicans, who saw this as one of their top targets, spent more than \$750,000 on this seat.

41st District -- BRIAN WILLIAMS

*Marilyn Slaby (R-Akron) 49%
Brian Williams (D-Akron) 50%

A vulnerable Republican seat from the outset, Democrat Williams managed a victory in this marginally Democratic district. Rep. Marilyn Slaby, wife of Appellate Court Judge Lynn Slaby, was appointed March 2004 to replace Rep. Bryan Williams – not to be confused with Slaby's Democratic opponent by the same name. Opponent Brian Williams is former superintendent of Akron Public Schools. Voter confusion over the namesakes created some of Slaby's campaign difficulties. The Republican House Campaign Committee invested heavily on TV commercials for her, but Williams outpaced her.

57th District -- EARL MARTIN

*Earl Martin (R-Avon Lake) 47%
Deanna Hill (D-North Ridgeville) 42%
Kenneth Prechtel (I-Carlisle Township) 9%

Rep. Earl Martin fought back a strong challenge from Former North Ridgeville mayor and Congressman Sherrod Brown staff member Deanna Hill in this district that favors Democrats. With a large television buy from the House Republican Caucus, Martin was able to overcome registration disadvantages and the general discontent with the General Assembly prevalent in this working class House seat. With Martin's re-election, Lorain County has sent a small business owner and COSE member back for another two-year term in Columbus.

58th District -- KATHLEEN WALCHER

*Kathleen Walcher (R-Norwalk) 54%
Matthew Barrett (D-Amherst) 46%

The competitive 58th District presented another seat very difficult for Republicans to hold, but Walcher prevailed against an aggressive Barrett campaign.

62nd District - LORRAINE FENDE

Christopher Galloway (R-Concord) 46%
Lorraine Fende (D-Willowick) 53%

Lorraine Fende pulled out a victory in the marginally Democrat-leaning seat occupied by term-limited Republican Jamie Callender for eight years. Fende, the popular five-term Willowick mayor, fought off a serious challenge by GOP veteran Christopher Galloway who was endorsed by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and financially backed by the Ohio House Republican Caucus, which spent thousands of dollars on television ads.

63rd District - TIM CASSELL

B.J. Kresnye (R-Mentor) 49%
Tim Cassell (D-Madison) 50%

Tim Cassell's victory in this Republican seat in western Lake County is a victory for the House Democratic Caucus. Cassell, the 2002 candidate for this seat, is a union member who enjoyed extensive labor support during the campaign. Cassell's victory over the conservative Kresnye, a former Mentor City Councilman, is one of the biggest local surprises of this election year. It is probable that this seat will instantly become one of the biggest targets of the Republican caucus in 2006, as the seat was held for eight years by Republican Ron Young. Cassell will be a supporter of labor and a Democratic caucus loyalist.

91st District -- RON HOOD

Ron Hood (R-Ashville) 52%
Dan Dodd (D-New Lexington) 47%

Former Rep. Hood, who moved to this district from the Canfield area he represented for three terms, was able to overcome Dodd's hometown appeal and bipartisan message. This is the seat vacated by term-limited House Speaker Larry Householder.

98th District - MATT DOLAN

Matt Dolan (R-Novelty) 67%
Dan Dombek (D-Highland Heights) 32%

Dolan was the heavy favorite to replace term-limited Rep. Tim Grendell. Well-known in the Geauga County heart of this district, Dolan outworked his opponent and is expected to be a significant player in the next General Assembly.



Decision 2004

Party	Pre-Election	Post-Election	Change
Republican	51	55	+4
Democrat	48	44	-4
Independent	1	1	0

Under Republican control, Senator Bill Frist is expected to remain Majority Leader. There may be several key changes in other chairmanships. Senator Thad Cochran (R-Mississippi) is likely to become Chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee. Senator DeWine (R-Ohio) is poised to move up in seniority on the Appropriations Committee. Senator Arlen Specter will likely replace Senator Orin Hatch as Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Because he is considered to be more moderate than Hatch, this will have an important impact on tort reform as well as Senate confirmations for Supreme Court justices.

We are likely to see Majority Leader Frist continue his efforts to pass tort reform, an energy bill and a variety of other issues that he was unable to pass in the last Congress. However, because the Republicans still maintain such a slim majority and do not have the necessary 60 votes to break Democrat filibusters, several issues will remain difficult to pass. That said, Association Health Plans are likely to be high on the agenda, and we are likely to see action on them next year.

Key Races:

**Denotes incumbent*

Alaska -- *LISA MURKOWSKI - R (49%) edges out Tony Knowles - D (45%)

In a controversial race among seven candidates, incumbent Senator Lisa Murkowski (R) faced issues of nepotism throughout the campaign. Appointed by her father who resigned the seat to successfully run for governor, she replaced him in 2002. The Democrats recruited the very popular former Governor Tony Knowles. This race was considered key to the Democrats in their efforts to regain control of the Senate.

Colorado - KEN SALAZAR - D (50%) beats Pete Coors - R (48%)

Republican Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell's retirement left Republicans vulnerable in what was a very close race. Ken Salazar, the Democratic Attorney General in Colorado, ran against brewery magnate Pete Coors who fumbled through the campaign, including calling for a reduced drinking age and being unable to name the Canadian Prime Minister. Up until election eve, polls showed an extremely close race, with Coors slightly ahead. However, Salazar pulled ahead in the final days of the campaign. Salazar has held several government positions and is generally considered to be a moderate Democrat.

Florida - MEL MARTINEZ - R (49%) beats Betty Castor - D (48%)

Senator Bob Graham (D) is retiring after serving three terms in the US Senate, leaving in his wake one of the most competitive races in the nation. Former Florida education commissioner Betty Castor (D) battled former HUD secretary Mel Martinez (R). This race was certainly impacted by the Presidential race, voter turnout and represents a pick-up for the Republicans.

Georgia - *JOHNNY ISAKSON - R (59%) over Denise Majette - D (39%)

Retiring Senator Zell Miller (D) grabbed national headlines with his powerful speech at the Republican National Convention, leaving his senate seat open. Atlanta Congressman Johnny Isakson was the favorite over Democrat Denise Majette. A former real-estate agent, Isakson served in the Georgia Statehouse before winning a special election in 1999 to replace U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich. The Republicans were counting on this pick-up to help them maintain their majority in the Senate.

Illinois - BARACK OBAMA - D (70%) defeats Alan Keyes - R (27%)

This seat became an easy pick-up for the Democrats after Republican nominee Jack Ryan dropped out of the race due to a sex scandal. The GOP scrambled to recruit a candidate and found a replacement in Maryland resident Alan Keyes. The charismatic Barack Obama, who wowed the nation with his DNC speech, was virtually assured a victory on November 2. Obama is viewed nationally as a rising star in Democrat politics. He is a civil rights lawyer who became the first African-American editor of the *Harvard Law Review*.

Louisiana - DAVID VITTER - R (51%) overcomes Democrats in 3-way race

Partisans on both sides of the aisle are saddened by the retirement of Senator John Breaux. Finishing his third term, Breaux served as a voice of reason, above Senate partisan rhetoric. Of the three frontrunners, Breaux threw his influential backing behind Congressman Chris John, a Democrat whose district includes much of Cajun country. Democratic State Treasurer John Kennedy also ran. Congressman David Vitter, a Republican with a very conservative voting record pulled out the victory. With Vitter garnering 50 percent of the vote, a Louisiana run-off in December will not be necessary.

North Carolina - RICHARD BURR - R (52%) over Erskine Bowles - D (47%)

John Edwards' original decision to run for president left this seat open in North Carolina. Former Clinton chief of staff Erskine Bowles, who lost two years ago to Senator Elizabeth Dole, ran a strong campaign against Republican Congressman Richard Burr. This race tightened in recent weeks and was considered a "must win" in the Democrats' attempt to regain control of the Senate.

Ohio - *GEORGE VOINOVICH - R (64%) over Eric Fingerhut - D (36%)

U.S. Senator George Voinovich was re-elected for what will likely be his last term in elected office. Senator Voinovich has been a champion for the Northeast Ohio business community for many years. Senator Voinovich has worked with COSE on Association Health Plans and will be instrumental in efforts to impact the national debate on health care over the next few years. While AHP legislation is a Republican priority, Senator Voinovich has taken a more thoughtful, cautious approach and has worked closely with COSE to determine if other solutions may be more workable. He has been a leading voice for the Euclid Corridor Transportation Project and other vital infrastructure improvements on behalf of our region to help create the economic stimulus needed to revitalize downtown. Senator Voinovich has also been helpful in our efforts to maintain and build upon the tremendous asset we have in the NASA Glenn Research Center. He has been a leading advocate for legal reform and has vowed to continue to do all he can to get tort reform legislation passed through the senate. Although Senator Voinovich is known to be a fiscal conservative and willing to buck his own party on tax issues and government spending. He has also been aggressive in assuring that Ohio gets its fair share of funding.



Oklahoma - TOM COBURN - R (53%) defeats Brad Carson - D (41%)

Republican Senator Don Nickles is retiring after serving four terms. As the leading Republican opposed to Associated Health Plans, his departure set the stage for an interesting race between Congressman Brad Carson and former Congressman Tom Coburn. Coburn is a physician and ran as an “outsider” despite his three terms in Congress.

Pennsylvania - *ARLEN SPECTER - R (53%) wins close race over Joe Hoeffel - D (42%)

Specter will serve a 5th term after surviving a tough primary challenge and defeating Democratic Congressman Joe Hoeffel in a squeaker. Specter will likely be the new Judiciary Committee Chairman.

South Carolina - JIM DEMINT - R (54%) beats Inez Tenenbaum - D (44%)

Senator Fritz Hollings (D) -- best known for being the longest serving “junior” senator in history having to wait until Senator Strom Thurmond retired at the age of 100 -- is retiring after serving his sixth term in the U.S. Senate. Three-term conservative Congressman Jim DeMint ran against Inez Tenenbaum, who has twice been elected state superintendent of education. Republicans saw this race as one of their best chances to pick up a seat.

South Dakota – JOHN THUNE-R (51%) upsets *Tom Daschle-D (49%)

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle faced the toughest race of his career and couldn't hold off former GOP Congressman John Thune, who left Congress to run for Senate in 2002 – a race he lost to now Senator Tim Johnson by about 500 votes. Party leaders rarely find themselves in this close of a race. Thune has broad name recognition, having won the statewide election for South Dakota's lone House seat in 1996, and won re-election twice since. He also had the support of President Bush, who carried South Dakota by a wide margin in the 2000 election and has personally campaigned for Thune. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and conservative Republicans across the nation campaigned for Thune because they felt Daschle was a primary roadblock in a narrowly-divided Senate. He has been blamed by Republicans for holding up legislation such as tort reform, thus preventing them from securing the 60 votes needed for passage.



National U.S. Senate Competitive Races

State	Republican	Democrat
AK	LISA MURKOWSKI*	Tony Knowles
CA	Bill Jones	BARBARA BOXER*
CO	Pete Coors	KEN SALAZAR
FL	MEL MARTINEZ	Betty Castor
GA	JOHNNY ISAKSON*	Denise Majette
KY	JIM BUNNING*	Dan Mongiardo
LA	DAVID VITTER	Chris John John Kennedy
MO	KIT BOND*	Nancy Farmer
NC	RICHARD BURR	Erksine Bowles
OK	TOM COBURN	Brad Carson
PA	ARLEN SPECTER*	Joe Hoeffel
SC	JIM DeMINT	Inez Tenenbaum
SD	JOHN THUNE	Tom Daschle*
WA	George Nethercutt	PATTY MURRAY*
WI	Tim Michaels	RUSS FEINGOLD*

“Sure Bet” Races

State	Republican	Democrat
AL	RICHARD SHELBY*	Wayne Sowell
AZ	JOHN MCCAIN*	Stuart Starky
AR	Jim Holt	BLANCHE LINCOLN*
CT	Jack Orchulli	CHRIS DODD*
HI	Cam Cavasso	DANIEL INOUYE*
ID	MIKE CRAPO*	Unopposed
IN	Marvin Scott	EVAN BAYH*
IL	Alan Keyes	BARACK OBAMA
IA	CHARLES GRASSLEY*	Art Small
KS	SAM BROWNBACK*	Lee Jones
MD	E.J. Pipkin	BARBARA MIKULSKI*
NV	Rick Ziser	HARRY REID*
NH	JUDD GREGG*	Doris Haddock
NY	Howard Mills	CHARLES SCHUMER*
ND	Mike Liffrig	BYRON DORGAN*
OH	GEORGE VOINOVICH*	Eric Fingerhut
OR	Al King	RON WYDEN*
UT	ROBERT BENNETT*	Paul Van Dam
VT	Jack McMullen	PATRICK LEAHY*

UNITES STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESULTS

Party Affiliation	Pre-Election 2004	Post-Election 2004	Gain/Loss
Republican	229	233	+4
Democrat	205	201	-4
Independent	1 (organizes with Democrats)	1	0

Even the most optimistic Democrats believed that assuming control of the House would be a most difficult task in 2004, resulting in part from the Texas legislature's aggressive redistricting that put only a handful of Democrat seats in play. Of the 435 races, at most 35 seats were considered to be competitive.

The Republican Majority in the House is expected to play the offense in working to enact a second term Bush agenda. In the Bush White House, we can anticipate action on several initiatives including tax cuts, AHP's and tort reform that will likely be stalled in a nearly evenly-divided Senate.

Changes in House Leadership are not expected but there will be several key committee changes in the next term. Among the most important changes facing Ohio is the possibility of Congressman Regula becoming Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, which should be decided in the next few weeks.

As Chairman, Congressman Regula would be the key decision-maker on all federal discretionary spending, bringing important funding back to Ohio each year – which could include funding for a variety of Northeast Ohio infrastructure projects such as lakefront and Flats redevelopment, NASA Glenn Research Center, JumpStart, local hospitals, education, workforce development and others.



Ohio Delegation

The Ohio Delegation remains unchanged with the re-election of every incumbent. Along with our two Republican Senators, Ohio will have 12 Republican congressional representatives and six Democrats.

** Denotes incumbent*

District 9: MARCY KAPTUR (D)

Larry Kaczala (R) 32%
 Marcy Kaptur* (D) 68%

Ottawa and Erie counties and parts of Lucas and Lorain counties.

While Congresswoman Kaptur is generally not considered to be a Northeast Ohio representative, she does represent part of Lorain County. She has been very helpful to the GCP in her support for funding NASA Glenn. A member of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, NASA Glenn's Plumbrook facility is located in her district near Sandusky.

District 10: DENNIS J. KUCINICH (D)

Ed Herman (R) 34%
Dennis Kucinich* (D) 60%
Barbara Ferris (I) 6%

Cleveland's west and south suburbs including Brooklyn, Lakewood, Rocky River, Fairview Park, North Olmstead, Bay Village, Berea, Middleburg Heights, part of Strongsville, Parma, Independence, Brooklyn Heights and Cuyaboga Heights.

With NASA Glenn being located in his district, Congressman Kucinich has been supportive of GCP's efforts to bring the new NASA Shared Services Center to Brook Park.

District 11: STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES (D)

Stephanie Tubbs Jones* (D) 100%
Unopposed

Cleveland and its east side neighborhoods including Bratenahl, Euclid, Richmond Heights, East Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, University Heights, Shaker Heights, Beachwood, Pepper Pike, Woodmere, Orange, Maple Heights, Bedford, Bedford Heights North Randall, Highland Heights and Warrensville Heights.

Congresswoman Tubbs-Jones has been extremely supportive of many GCP and business community priorities, especially those matters involving NASA Glenn and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). While NASA Glenn is not located in her district, she has played a key role in securing support for our efforts through the Congressional Black Caucus. She has also been helpful in securing funding for projects in the downtown Cleveland area, such as the lakefront redevelopment. Her position on the House Ways and Means Committee is noteworthy and reflects her rising status within the Democratic Party.

District 13: SHERROD BROWN (D)

Robert Lucas (R) 33%
Sherrod Brown* (D) 67%

Northern Lorain and Medina counties and the western side of Summit County.

Both GCP and COSE have enjoyed a productive working partnership with Congressman Brown and his staff. While we haven't always agreed with his positions on health insurance, he has been helpful in opposing Association Health Plans, one of COSE's highest legislative priorities. Congressman Brown has also been very supportive of our efforts to protect DFAS jobs, currently under review in the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process.

District 14: STEVEN LaTOURETTE (R)

Steve LaTourette* (R) 63%
Capri Cafaro (D) 37%

Geauga, Ashtabula and Lake counties, in addition to the eastern Cuyaboga County suburbs and parts of Summit, Portage and Trumbull counties.

An influential member of the House Transportation Committee, Congressman LaTourette has been immensely helpful to the Northeast Ohio business community in efforts to secure federal funding for several transportation and infrastructure projects. His work to identify funding for the lakefront redevelopment project is of particular importance. His efforts recently resulted in substantial funding for NorTech's critical JumpStart program to identify funding that will allow Northeast Ohio to assist and attract entrepreneurs.

District 16: RALPH REGULA (R)

Ralph Regula* (R) 67%
Jeff Seemann (D) 33%

Wayne and Stark counties, and parts of Medina and Ashland counties.

Congressman Regula has assisted GCP and several of Northeast Ohio's companies and organizations through his work on the House Appropriations Committee. There exists a possibility that Regula will become chairman of this powerful committee, which would be considered a major win for Northeast Ohio and helpful with our priority projects.

District 17: TIM RYAN (D)

Frank Cusimano (R) 23%

Tim Ryan* (D) 77%

Portage and Trumbull counties, parts of Akeron and the Mahoning Valley.

Congressman Ryan, at 31 years old, is one of the younger members of Congress. He serves on the Armed Services, Education and Workforce and the Veterans Affairs committees. As a first term congressman, Ryan has helped with issues such as NASA Glenn Research Center. As he gains seniority, Ryan will become an increasingly more important member of the Northeast Ohio delegation.

Other Ohio Congressional Races

District 1: STEVE CHABOT (R) will serve his 6th term.

Parts of Hamilton and Butler counties.

District 2: ROB PORTMAN (R) will serve his 7th term.

Warren, Clermont, Brown, Adams, Pike and parts of Hamilton and Scioto Counties.

Congressman Portman is generally considered the “point man” for President Bush in Congress. He is closely aligned with President Bush and his aides and it has been rumored that he may be considered for the Chief of Staff position in a second term. Congressman Portman is also considering a future run for U.S. Senate. He has increased his presence in Northeast Ohio. Congressman Portman has been a great friend to the region’s business community, working aggressively on issues including NASA and taxes. He is poised to become a more powerful voice as he gains seniority in the House.

District 3: MIKE TURNER (R) will serve his 2nd term.

Highland, Clinton and parts of Warren and Montgomery Counties.

District 4: MICHAEL OXLEY (R) will serve his 12th term.

Hancock, Allen, Auglaize, Shelby, Logan, Champaign, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Richland and Wyandot counties.

Congressman Oxley is Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee. He plays a leading role in legislation and regulations concerning securities, insurance, banking and housing and has oversight of the Federal Reserve, the Treasury and the SEC. Ohio – the northeast region in particular - is home to many of the top financial institutions in the nation, and we stand to benefit greatly from his work and his leadership roles.

District 5: PAUL GILLMOR (R) will serve his 9th term.

Williams, Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert, Putnam, Henry, Fulton, Wood Sandusky, Seneca, Crawford, Huron, and parts of Ashland, Wyandot, Lucas and Mercer counties.

Congressman Gillmor has been a consistent supporter of issues important to the business community, and he has been particularly helpful in efforts to support NASA Glenn.

District 6: TED STRICKLAND (D) will serve his 5th term.

Lawrence, Gallia, Meigs, Washington, Noble, Monroe, Jefferson, Columbiana counties, and parts of Mahoning, Belmont, Athens, and Scioto counties.

Congressman Strickland consistently reaches out to Northeast Ohio’s business community and has stood in support of our opposition to Associated Health Plans. He is considering a run for governor and is expected to spend even more time in our region in the coming years.

District 7: DAVE HOBSON (R) will serve his 8th term.

Clark, Greene, Fayette, Pickaway, Fairfield, Perry and part of Ross counties.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee and more specifically, the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee, Congressman Hobson has been integral in our success to secure funding for NASA Glenn Research Center. In addition, through his additional role as chairman of the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, he is helping with some of our infrastructure priorities, including the redevelopment of the Flats.



Join the COSE/Greater Cleveland Partnership PAC and Make a Difference

The COSE/Greater Cleveland Partnership PAC is a volunteer, non-partisan organization of members of the Greater Cleveland Partnership and COSE who make contributions that support political campaigns. The PAC is a legally registered entity in the State of Ohio and is prohibited from making contributions to the campaigns of federal offices.

The PAC is just one of the many advocacy tools available to help the organization facilitate economic growth and jobs created in Greater Cleveland for business both big and small. Being a member of the PAC allows you to help promote our business agenda in the legislative process and will provide you access to PAC events.

How much you contribute is entirely up to you. There is no minimum amount; however, individual contributions are limited to \$5,000 in any one year.

Send your contribution to Deanne Dixon at Greater Cleveland Partnership. For more information, call her at 216-592-2342 or email her at ddixon@gcpartnership.com.

Other Ohio Congressional races continued from Pg. 19

District 8: JOHN BOEHNER (R) will serve his 8th term.

Darke, Miami, Preble, and parts of Butler and Mercer counties.

Congressman Boehner serves as Chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee and plays a critical role in issues such as labor standards, education and work incentive programs.

Congressman Boehner is interested in securing a position in House Leadership and is quickly gaining seniority in the U.S. House of Representatives.

District 12: PAT TIBERI (R) will serve his 3rd term.

Delaware and parts of Franklin and Licking counties.

Congressman Tiberi serves on two committees vitally important to our region - the Education & Workforce Committee and the Financial Services Committee. Congressman Tiberi is also frequently mentioned as a potential candidate for the Appropriations Committee helping to strengthening Ohio's congressional influence

District 15: DEBORAH PRYCE (R) will serve her 7th term.

Union, Madison and parts of Franklin counties.

District 18: BOB NEY (R) will serve his 5th term.

Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Morgan, Muskingham, Tuscarawas and Vinton counties and portions of Athens, Belmont, Licking, and Ross counties.

Greater Cleveland Partnership/COSE

Joseph Roman, President & CEO

216-621-3300

jroman@gcpartnership.com

Advocacy Staff

Carol Caruso, V.P. of Government Relations

216-592-2471

ccaruso@gcpartnership.com

Claire Walker, Sr. Manager, Government Advocacy

216-592-2417

cwalker@gcpartnership.com

Chris Hess, Dir. of Government Advocacy

216-592-2347

chess@gcpartnership.com

Deanne Dixon, Admin. Asst., Government Advocacy

216-592-2342

ddixon@gcpartnership.com