



From the National Director

The price of failing to maintain Democratic majority control of the US Senate is higher than anyone should be willing to pay. If Trent Lott were to return as Majority Leader, and his reactionary Republican cohorts control the Senate committees, the social and political progress of the last fifty years would be in jeopardy. If it were not for Senator Jim Jeffords's leaving the Republican Party, the Democrats would not have their slim, one-vote majority in the Senate. Maintaining this all-important majority requires that all the incumbent Democrats running for reelection win in November. In the last *Election Update*, we gave you an overview of these races, some of which will be uphill fights.

A one-vote edge can be precarious in the current Senate. Increasing that margin means that we must win the open seat contests in which incumbent Republicans are retiring and beat those Republicans who face difficult reelection bids.

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Latest 2002 Campaign Developments

Supreme Court to Decide Crucial Redistricting Case

On March 27, 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in Utah's battle against North Carolina over the 435th House seat. With control of the U.S. House hanging in the balance, the outcome of this case could have major repercussions in the November elections.

The dispute began following the release of 2000 reapportionment data, with Utah falling 857 residents short of gaining a fourth congressional district. Utah believed the Census Bureau cheated the state. After various legal maneuvers, the state brought the matter before the Supreme Court. The crux of the case is the Census Bureau's use of "hot-deck imputation", a method by which census workers determine the size of a household by the size of similar neighboring households if, after numerous tries, they cannot contact the home's residents. Utah holds that this procedure is akin to sampling, a practice the Court found in violation of federal law in 1999. Sandra Day O'Connor, the deciding vote in the sampling case, seems inclined to agree with Utah.

Some may wonder why it matters which state eventually receives the seat. Utah has a tradition of electing Republicans; its current congressional delegation is comprised of two Republicans and one Democrat.

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Timeline

Jan. 10, 2001
Utah files suit against Census Bureau in federal court.

Nov. 1, 2001
Panel rejects Utah's claims

Nov. 26, 2001
U.S. Supreme Court rejects first suit filed by Utah. The state first tried to convince court to force Census Bureau to count overseas Mormon missionaries.

Jan. 2, 2002
Supreme Court agrees to review practice of 'hot-deck imputation.'

March 27, 2002
Supreme Court hears Utah's challenge.

2002 Senate Races

2002 Senate Races: Opportunities for Democrats

With control of the U.S. Senate hanging in the balance, the 2002 elections are critical. The Republicans have several strong contenders running for open seats: a former cabinet secretary in North Carolina, a current member of the U.S. House in South Carolina, and a state Attorney General in Texas. In spite of these strong candidates, the Democrats can prevent the election of these conservative Republicans. Furthermore, they have a chance to unseat several vulnerable Republican incumbents. In the last newsletter, you met some Democratic senators who may face tough reelection battles in 2002. This issue features nine Republicans who must defeat strong Democratic challengers. If an organization has recently polled voters about a race, we have included those results.



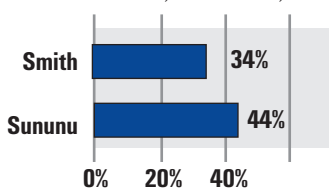
New Hampshire Girds for Internecine GOP Conflict

Senator Bob Smith (R): First elected 1990; U.S. House of Representatives, First District, 1984-1990. **Rep. John Sununu (R):** U.S. House of Representatives, First District, 1996-2002. **Gov. Jeanne Shaheen (D):** New Hampshire State Senate, 1990-1996; New Hampshire Governor, 1996-2002.

New Hampshire will host a GOP primary between Sen. Bob Smith and First District Rep. John Sununu. Already, Smith has embarked on "Bob's Barnstormin' Bus Tour" to tout his accomplishments. He faced criticism from the White House, however, after implying that Sununu, an

Arab American and friend of Bush, is not a true blue American. Several prominent Republicans, including Sens. Kit Bond (MO) and Richard Shelby (AL), have publicly backed Sununu, and many Republicans still hold a grudge against Smith for briefly bolting the party to embark upon a failed 2000 presidential bid.

The predicted bloody primary may bode well for the Democratic nominee, Gov. Jeanne Shaheen. In her three successful terms as New Hampshire Governor, Shaheen has attracted industry and expanded job training. Keep up with this exciting race in future NCEC newsletters.



GOP Primary:
American Research Poll,
conducted 26/2/2002



Conservative Hits Snag in Arkansas

Senator Tim Hutchinson (R): First elected 1996, Arkansas House of Representatives, 1984-1992, U.S. House of Representatives, 1992-1996, Third District. **Mark Pryor (D):** Arkansas State House of Representatives, 1990 - 1994, State Attorney General, 1999-2002.

Many election experts have hailed freshman Tim Hutchinson as an endangered species in the Senate. A former Baptist preacher, Hutchinson has portrayed himself as a strict conservative moralist. His 1999 divorce and rapid remarriage to an aide, however, rankled many of his supporters, who may turn to conservative state Rep. Jim Bob Duggan in the GOP primary.

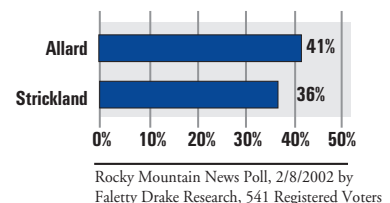
Current Arkansas Attorney General Mark Pryor may benefit from this GOP infighting. As the son of popular former Senator David Pryor, AG Pryor has name recognition throughout the state and holds the values of many Arkansans. He has focused his campaign on the twin themes of improving Social Security and lowering health costs, adopting his father's motto: "Arkansas comes first."



Colorado Freshman May Be in Final Days

Senator Wayne Allard (R): First elected 1996; Colorado state Senate, 1983-1990; U.S. House of Representatives, 1990-1996. **Ex-U.S. Attorney Tom Strickland (D):** 1985-1989 member, and later chair, of the Colorado Transportation System; 1989-1991, Chair of the Metropolitan Transportation System.

Although freshman Sen. Wayne Allard (R) does not have a primary opponent, he will face a strong challenger in Democrat Tom Strickland. Allard defeated Strickland in 1996, 51% to 46%, after a primary fight with current U.S. Interior Secretary Gale Norton. Over the past six years, Allard has built a strong conservative reputation in the U.S. Senate;



Rocky Mountain News Poll, 2/8/2002 by
Falethy Drake Research, 541 Registered Voters

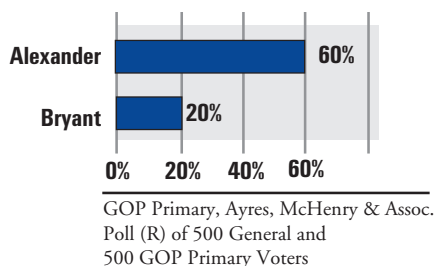
however, his record has not brought him resounding popularity in Colorado. Meanwhile, Strickland is not far behind Allard in recent polls. An admired figure, Strickland holds progressive views on gun control and the environment. In addition, he has proven he can build consensus between groups with disparate beliefs (e.g., Handgun Control and the National Rifle Association). Keep up to date on this exciting race in future editions of this newsletter.



Volunteer State Up-For-Grabs with Retirement of Sen. Thompson

Senator Fred Thompson (R) is retiring. **Representative Ed Bryant (R)**: U.S. Attorney for Western District of Tennessee, 1991-1994; U.S. House of Representatives, Seventh District, 1994-2002. **Lamar Alexander (R)**: Governor of Tennessee, 1979-1987; President of University of Tennessee, 1988-1991; Secretary of Education, 1991-1993; GOP Presidential Candidate, 1996 and 2000. **Representative Bob Clement (D)**: President of Cumberland University, 1983-1987; U.S. House of Representatives, 1988-2002.

Republican Fred Thompson is a respected figure in the U.S. Senate. Prior to his March 8, 2002 retirement announcement, many had suspected that he would not serve another term. Following his decision, experts bandied about names of Thompson's potential successors. Already, two current representatives, Fifth District Democrat Bob Clement and Seventh District Republican



Ed Bryant, and former Republican Gov. Lamar Alexander have announced their candidacies for the seat.

Rep. Bryant represents an area extending from the fringe suburbs of Nashville to Memphis. He has established a conservative record in his four terms in the House, serving as one of the managers in Bill Clinton's impeachment. He has attacked his GOP rival, former Gov. Lamar Alexander, as not being conservative enough. Many may remember Gov. Alexander for his 1996 and 2000 failed presidential bids (and his plaid shirts). But he did garner the respect of Tennesseans as their governor from 1979-1987.

Just as in New Hampshire, the Democratic nominee may benefit from a bruising GOP primary. The son of a

popular former governor, Rep. Clement has served the Nashville-based Fifth District for eight terms. He has a moderate voting record in the House, but has supported the core Democratic agenda.



Helms Anoints Dole as Successor

Senator Jesse Helms (R) is retiring. **Elizabeth Dole (R)**: Member of the Federal Trade Commission, 1973-1979; Assistant to President Reagan for Public Liaison, 1981-1983; Secretary of Transportation, 1983-1987; Secretary of Labor, 1989-1990; Red Cross President, 1991-1999; GOP Presidential Candidate, 2000. **Erskine Bowles (D)**: Small Business Administration Chair, 1993-1994; White House Deputy Chief of Staff, 1994-1995.

Much excitement has surrounded the race to replace Republican Sen. Jesse Helms. On the GOP side, Liddy Dole is the presumed favorite (though she does have nominal primary opposition). Ex-White House Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles will face several Democratic challengers in the primary; however, many expect him to win and face Mrs. Dole in November.

Much controversy has surrounded this campaign. After Democrats accused Mrs. Dole of violating a promise by attending a fundraiser put on by Enron Chair Ken Lay – candidates had promised to suspend such activities in the wake of 9/11 – the Dole camp retaliated by producing commercials implying that the Democrats were less than patriotic in smearing Mrs. Dole in such a way. Additionally, the lesser-known GOP candidates are angry because Dole seems unwilling to debate them on the issues. The Democrats have not had the same problem, as Bowles debated state Rep. Dan Blue, ex-Durham City Councilwoman Cynthia Brown, and Secretary of State Elaine Marshall on April 9, 2002. Undoubtedly, the question looms whether Mrs. Dole, who has promised to visit all 100 North Carolina counties, is a true North Carolinian, as she has lived in Washington, D.C. for many years. Keep up with this interesting race with upcoming NCEC newsletters.



Graham Schemes to Replace Legendary Thurmond

Senator Strom Thurmond (R) is retiring. **Representative Lindsey Graham, (R)**: South Carolina state House, 1992-1994; U.S. House of Representatives. **Alex Sanders (D)**: 1974 Candidate for

Lieutenant Governor; President of College of Charleston, 1992-2001.

After his record-setting career as U.S. Senator, Sen. Strom Thurmond has decided to give up his seat. He would like Third District Rep. Lindsey Graham to succeed him; however, Democrat Alex Sanders, the former President of the College of Charleston, has proven a worthy opponent.

Rep. Graham has a fairly conservative voting record, but rose to prominence in the failed coup to oust Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House. Graham has bucked the party on several issues, including HMO reform. But he faces a tough opponent in Sanders, who raised more money than Graham in the second half of last year. Sanders is an ex-state legislator, judge, and educator who believes that South Carolina needs leaders who are decent human beings and have sound judgment. Please read future editions of this newsletter to read the latest on this exciting race!



Oregon to Feature Close Race in 2002

Senator Gordon Smith (R): First elected 1996. Oregon state Senate, 1992-1996. **Bill Bradbury (D):** Oregon state House, 1981-1985; Oregon state Senate, 1985-1995; Oregon Secretary of State, 1999-2002.

Although there was some initial disappointment over popular Democratic Gov. John Kitzhaber's refusal to seek the Democratic senate nomination, Oregonians have started to rally around Secretary of State Bill Bradbury. Polls have shown him gaining on Republican incumbent Gordon Smith, who has recently received less than 50% in reelection surveys. Additionally, Smith's freshman status makes him more vulnerable than an incumbent who has had an opportunity to establish an extensive record of achievement.

Oddly, Smith and Bradbury have similar backgrounds. Both were businessmen prior to entering politics and both served as state Senate Majority Leader. Bradbury, however, also spent time in the state House and went on to become Senate President. Furthermore, Bradbury holds values similar to many Oregonians, especially on the environmental front.

NCEC Goal is to Provide Maximum Support for all Progressive House and Senate Candidates

Democrats Must Defend 14 Senate Seats. Seven are competitive.	Republicans Must Defend 20 Seats. Nine Opportunities for Democratic Pickup.
Democratic Tossup (3) Carnahan-MO Johnson-SD Wellstone-MN	Republican Tossup (2) Hutchinson-AR Smith-NH
Leans Democratic (4) Baucus-MT Cleland-GA Harkin-IA Landrieu-LA	Leans Republican (7) Allard-CO Collins-ME Gramm-TX - open seat Helms-NC - open seat Smith-OR Thompson-TN - open seat Thurmond-SC - open seat
Safe or Likely Democratic (7) Biden-DE Durbin-IL Kerry-MA Levin-MI Reed-RI Rockefeller-WV Torricelli-NJ	Safe or Likely Republican (11) Cochran-MS Craig-ID Domenici-NM Enzi-WY Hagel-NE Inhofe-OK McConnell-KY Roberts-KS Sessions-AL Stevens-AK Warner-VA



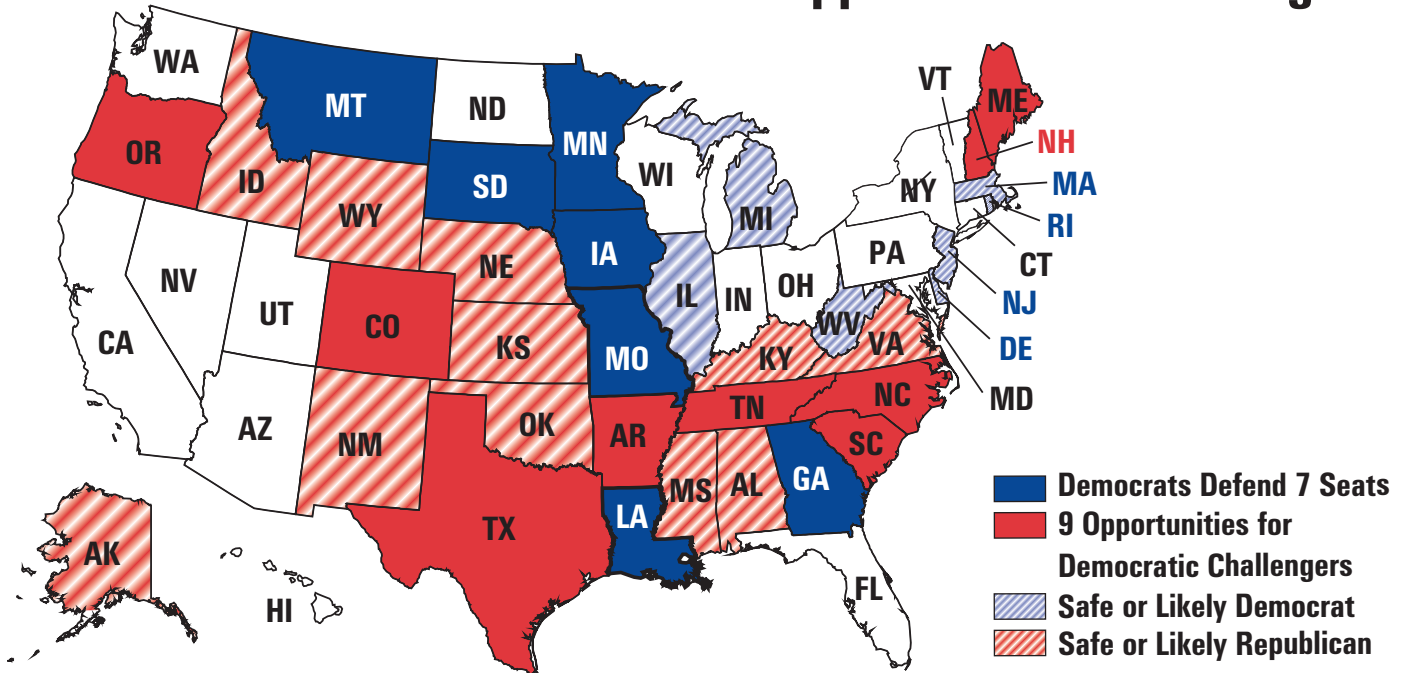
After Exciting Primary, Kirk Vows to Defeat Gramm's Self-Appointed Successor

Senator Phil Gramm (R) is retiring. **John Cornyn (R):** Texas Supreme Court, 1990-1997; Texas Attorney General, 1999-2002. **Ron Kirk (D):** Texas Secretary of State, 1994, Mayor of Dallas, 1995- 2001.

After three terms in the Senate, conservative Republican Phil Gramm decided to retire, which prompted several high-profile Democrats to enter the 2002 Senate race. Because so many qualified candidates ran in the Democratic primary, no one candidate emerged as the

Senate Races continued on page 5

Senate 2002: Opportunities and Dangers



clear victor; therefore, ex-Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, an African American, faced 1996 Senate candidate Victor Morales in a 4/9 run-off election. Although the race seemed a dead heat, Kirk pulled out a 60%-40% victory over Morales. He promises "to take it [Texas] back for the people".

Kirk will face Republican state Attorney General John Cornyn in November. Cornyn has a distinguished background, serving as a District Court Judge, a Supreme Court Justice, and state Attorney General. What heartens Democrats, however, is that he has not run away with the race. NCEC will watch this race closely and apprise you of the latest developments.



Two Strong Female Candidates Vie for Senate Seat

Senator Susan Collins (R):

First elected,

1996; Republican gubernatorial candidate, 1994. **Chellie Pingree (D)**: Maine state Senate, 1992-2000.

Senator Collins is another Republican freshman facing a

competitive race from an experienced challenger. Although she bucks the party on many issues, especially on the environmental front, Collins routinely votes against progressive ideals. What may hurt her is that she has no real base. Collins is not an uncompromising conservative, however, she is not progressive enough for Democrats to support her. Her problems could pave the way for a true progressive to become senator from Maine.

Chellie Pingree has extensive legislative experience, serving in the state Senate for eight years. As a senator, she authored the state's innovative prescription drug program, known as Maine Rx. Furthermore, she rose to become the Senate Majority Leader. With her background, Pingree could pose a formidable challenge to Collins.

Every day progressive Democrats are grateful for the National Committee for an Effective Congress. NCEC makes the difference between victory and defeat in close elections.

Every decade we are especially thankful to have NCEC on our side. NCEC's data bank of electoral and demographic data and their extraordinary expertise keep Republicans from grabbing districts through gerrymandering that they can't win in elections.

Representative Martin Frost
Democratic Caucus Chairman

NCEC's goal is to provide every progressive House and Senate candidate the full spectrum of NCEC's state-of-the-art campaign technology at no cost to them. In every election, we have been able to innovate in ways that increase the precision of our precinct-by-precinct electoral and demographic targeting. The demands for 2002 technical assistance from candi-

dates exceed our expectations. We must not fail to give them the maximum advantage.

There will be close Congressional races in which NCEC financing, campaign services and professional consulting will make the difference between victory and defeat.

Supporting NCEC puts you at the vanguard in this watershed 2002 campaign. Welcome.

If the delegation will be entirely comprised of Republicans. North Carolina's Legislature, however, drew a map that could prove very beneficial to the Democrats retaking the U.S. House. If North Carolina loses, it will have to redraw its districts, perhaps denying the Democrats their chance to end eight years of GOP domination of the House. Keep informed with NCEC for the latest developments in this case.



NCEC
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NOW ONLINE: more information on 2002 Senate Races

Redistricting Scorecard: NCEC Shoots Down GOP Gerrymandering Plot

Since NCEC's March Election Update, Florida redistricting has dealt a blow to Democrats. The GOP dominated legislature aided and abetted by Governor Jeb Bush passed a plan that may result in a 2-seat Republican gain. Nationally the two parties are virtually even and certainly

nowhere near the 10 to 12 seat gains the GOP and many political pundits were predicting a year ago. This has much to do with the courts and NCEC outmaneuvering the GOP in Georgia, North Carolina, Texas and other high-stakes states.

State	Reapportionment Gain/Loss	Democratic Gain/Loss	Republican Gain/Loss	Toss-up
Arizona	+2	+1		1
California	+1	+1		
Colorado	+1			1
Connecticut	-1			1
Florida	+2		+2	
Georgia	+2	+3	-2	1
Illinois	-1			1
Indiana	-1		-1	
Maryland		+1	-1	
Michigan	-1	-3	+2	
Mississippi	-1			1
Nevada	+1			1
New York	-2	redistricting not yet completed		
North Carolina	+1	+1		
Ohio	-1	-1		
Oklahoma	-1		-1	
Pennsylvania	-2	-3	+1	
Tennessee		+1	-1	
Texas	+2		+2	
Wisconsin	-1	-1		
TOTAL		0	+1	+7