

2014 Post-Election Outlook - Nevada

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Post-Election Analysis and the 78th Legislative Session

Republicans far outpaced expectations on election day converting what had been forecasted to be a lackluster election year into one of historic proportions. Nevada Republicans have not held control of both legislative houses and the Governor's mansion since 1929 and have never, in the history of Nevada, held control of the legislature, the Governor's office, and all remaining constitutional offices.

Republicans won all three high-profile Senate contests by double-digit margins leaving Republicans with a 11-10 majority in the Nevada Senate. Not to be outdone, the Assembly Republican Caucus took the majority in the Nevada Assembly, dramatically reversing the previously held Democratic near-super majority. Democrats lost every assembly battleground seat. Most surprising was the loss of former Democratic Assembly Assistant Minority Leader, Assemblyman Jason Frierson, who lost his seat despite a 15 point democratic advantage. With a 25-17 majority, Republicans will control the Nevada Assembly for the first time since 1985. Democrats did not fare any better at the constitutional level losing every office, some by double-digit margins.

Many inside and outside of politics are asking how Republicans turned a swell into a crimson wave? Much of the rationale for understanding the results of the election have been known for months. Democrats were saddled with a president who is highly unpopular and now a lame duck. In addition, Democratic voting blocs have historically lower turnouts in mid-term elections when the White House is not in play. Nevada Democrats failed to field any candidate to oppose Republican Governor Brian Sandoval and the presence of a tax ballot initiative that would have been toxic for business drove traditionally Republican allied voters to the polls. The "why" and "how" of the election will certainly be dissected and will continue to be the product of speculation over the coming months.

To help inform your post-election thinking, below we provide a recap of the election results, outline the emerging leadership of the 78th Nevada Legislature and pertinent deadlines that will affect your ability to navigate the next legislative session.

Senate Election Results at a Glance

78th Legislature: 11 Republicans to 10 Democrats

Republicans hold District 6, To Be Appointed by The Clark County Commission; District 15, Greg Brower; District 18, Scott Hammond; District 19, Pete Goicoechea

District 12 (Republican Hold)

Joe Hardy (R) - 100%

District 14 (Republican Hold)

Don Gustavson (R) defeats Joe Hunt (I) - 70% to 30%

District 16 (Republican Hold)

Ben Kieckhefer (R) defeats Michael Kelley (D) - 65% to 29%

District 17 (Republican Hold)

James Settelmeyer (R) - 100%

District 20 (Republican Hold)

Michael Roberson (R) defeats Teresa Lowry (D) - 60% to 40%

District 8 (Republican Open Seat Win)

Patricia Farley (R) defeats Marilyn Dondero Loop (D) - 58% to 40%

District 9 (Republican Pick-Up)

Becky Harris (R) defeats Justin Jones (D) - 57% to 39%

District 2 (Democrat Hold)

Denis Mo (D) defeats Louis Baker (I) - 76% to 24%

District 10 (Democrat Hold)

Ruben Kihuen (D) defeats Ed Uehling (I) - 65% to 35%

District 13 (Democrat Hold)

Debbie Smith (D) defeats Thomas Koziol (R) - 61% to 39%

District 21 (Democrat Hold)

Mark Manendo (D) defeats Ron McGinnis (R) - 54% - 46%

Democrats Hold District 1, Pat Spearman; District 3, Tick Segerblom; District 4, Kevin Atkinson; District 5, Joyce Woodhouse; District 7, David Parks; District 11, Aaron Ford

Nevada Assembly Results at a Glance

78th Legislature: 25 Republicans to 17 Democrats

District 2 (Republican Hold) John Hambrick (R) defeats A.J. Maimbourg (I) - 79% to 21%
District 4 (Republican Hold) Michele Fiore (R) defeats Jeff Hinton (D) - 62% to 38%
District 13 (Republican Hold) Paul Anderson (R) defeats Christine Lynn Kramar (D) - 62% to 38%
District 22 (Republican Hold) Lynn Stewart (R) defeats Leroy Lalley (I) - 79% to 21%
District 23 (Republican Hold) Melissa Woodbury (R) - 100%
District 25 (Republican Hold) Pat Hickey (R) defeats Niklas Putnam (I) - 75% to 25%
District 26 (Republican Hold) Randy Kirner (R) defeats Lisa Krasner (R) - 50.03% to 49.97%
District 32 (Republican Hold) Ira Hansen (R) defeats John Sharp Sampaga (D) - 72% to 22%
District 33 (Republican Hold) John Ellison (R) - 100%
District 36 (Republican Hold) James Oscarson (R) - 100%
District 37 (Republican Hold) Wesley Duncan (R) defeats Gerald Mackin (D) - 61% to 36%
District 39 (Republican Hold) Jim Wheeler (R) defeats Al Giordano (I) - 77% to 23%
District 19 (Republican Open Seat Win) Chris Edwards (R) defeats James Zygodlo (D) - 65% to 30%
District 38 (Republican Open Seat Win) Robin Titus (R) defeats Tim Fasano (I) - 79% to 12%
District 40 (Republican Open Seat Win) Philip "PK" O'Neill (R) defeats Dave Cook (D) - 62% to 31%
District 5 (Republican Pick-Up) Erv Nelson (R) defeats Jerri Strasser (D) - 57% to 43%
District 9 (Republican Pick-Up) David Gardner (R) defeats Steve Yeager (D) - 52.10% to 47.90%
District 8 (Republican Pick - Up) John Moore (R) defeats Jason Frierson (D) - 50.24% to 49.76%
District 10 (Republican Pick-Up) Shelly Shelton (R) defeats Jesse "Jake" Holder (D) - 50.43% to 49.57%
District 21 (Republican Pick-Up) Derek Armstrong (R) defeats Andy Eisen (D) - 50.22% to 46.47%
District 29 (Republican Pick-Up) Stephen Silberkraus (R) defeats Lesley Cohen (D) - 55% to 45%
District 31 (Republican Pick-Up) Jill Dickman (R) defeats Richard "Skip" Daly (D) - 55% to 45%
District 34 (Republican Pick-Up) Victoria Seaman (R) defeats Meghan Smith (D) - 56% to 44%
District 35 (Republican Pick-Up) Brent Jones (R) defeats James Healey (D) - 53% to 47%
District 41 (Republican Pick-Up) Vicki Dooling (R) defeats Paul Aizley (D) - 56% to 44%
District 3 (Democrat Open Seat Win) Nelson Araujo (D) defeats Jesus Marquez (R) - 56% to 44%

District 28 (Democrat Open Seat Win) Edgar Flores (D) - 100%

District 1 (Democrat Hold) Marilyn Kirkpatrick (D) defeats Roger "Oz" Baum (R) - 60% to 40%

District 6 (Democrat Hold) Harvey Munford (D) - 100%

District 7 (Democrat Hold) Dina Neal (D) defeats Brent Leavitt (R) - 67% to 33%

District 11 (Democrat Hold) Olivia Diaz (D) - 100%

District 12 (Democrat Hold) James Ohrenschall (D) defeats Troy Warren (I) - 60% to 40%

District 14 (Democrat Hold) Maggie Carlton (D) defeats Matthew Yarbrough (R) - 60% to 40%

District 15 (Democrat Hold) Elliot Anderson (D) defeats Benjamin Donlon (D) - 60% to 34%

District 16 (Democrat Hold) Heidi Swank (D) - 100%

District 17 (Democrat Hold) Tyrone Thompson (D) defeats Patrick Mendez (R) - 55% to 39%

District 18 (Democrat Hold) Richard Carrillo (D) defeats Amy Beaulieu (D) - 55% to 45%

District 20 (Democrat Hold) Ellen Spiegel (D) defeats Carol Linton (R) - 54% to 46%

District 24 (Democrat Hold) David Bobzien (D) - 100%

District 27 (Democrat Hold) Teresa Benitez - Thompson (D) defeats Rex Crouch (R) - 54% to 46%

District 30 (Democrat Hold) Michael Sprinkle (D) defeats Lauren A. Scott (R) - 54% to 46%

District 42 (Democrat Hold) Irene Bustamante-Adams (D) defeats Howard Scheff (I) - 64% to 36%

REPUBLICAN

Republican Holds

District 2 – John Hambrick
District 4 – Michele Fiore
District 13 – Paul Anderson
District 22 – Lynn Stewart
District 23 – Melissa Woodbury
District 25 – Pat Hickey
District 26 – Randy Kirner
District 32 – Ira Hansen
District 33 – John Ellison
District 36 – James Oscarson
District 37 – Wesley Duncan
District 39 – Jim Wheeler

Open Seat Wins

District 19 – [Chris Edwards](#)
District 38 – [Robin Titus](#)
District 40 – [Philip “PK” O’Neill](#)

Republican Pick-Ups

District 5 – [Erv Nelson](#)
District 8 – [John Moore](#)*
District 9 – [David Gardner](#)
District 10 – [Shelly Shelton](#)
District 21 – [Derek Armstrong](#)*
District 29 – [Stephen Silberkraus](#)*
District 31 – [Jill Dickman](#)*
District 34 – [Victoria Seaman](#)
District 35 – [Brent Jones](#)*
District 41 – [Vicki Dooling](#)*

DEMOCRATIC

Incumbent Losses

District 8 – Jason Frierson
District 21 – Andy Eisen
District 29 – Lesley Cohen
District 31 – Richard “Skip” Daly
District 35 – James Healey
District 41 – Paul Aizley

Democratic Holds

District 1 – Marilyn Kirkpatrick
District 6 – Harvey Munford
District 7 – Dina Neal
District 11 – Olivia Diaz
District 12 – James Ohrenscha
District 14 – Maggie Carlton
District 15 – Elliot Anderson
District 16 – Heidi Swank
District 17 – Tyrone Thompson
District 18 – Richard Carrillo
District 20 – Ellen Spiegel
District 24 – David Bobzien
District 27 – Teresa Benitez-Thompson
District 30 – Michael Sprinkle
District 42 – Irene Bustamante-Adams

Open Seat Wins

District 3 – [Nelson Araujo](#)
District 28 – [Edgar Flores](#)

* Defeated Democratic Incumbent

Session Outlook

The 78th session of the Nevada Legislature will convene on Tuesday, February 2, 2015, for the first legislative session of Governor Brian Sandoval's second term. In the Senate, Senator Michael Roberson has been elected majority leader and Senator Ben Kieckhefer has been elected assistant majority leader. On the Democratic side, Senator Aaron Ford has been elected minority leader. In the Assembly, Assemblyman Ira Hansen has been elected Speaker designate and Assemblyman Paul Anderson will serve as Assembly majority leader. On the Democratic side, Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick has been elected minority leader.

In terms of legislating, the dramatic shift of political power will signal an entirely different 78th legislative session than previously envisioned. Previously submitted committee bills are now questionably relevant given the wholesale change of leadership in all committees. Moreover, all interim committee work was led by Democrats, leaving the validity and value of their recommendations unknown.

Time still marches on and the legislative session quickly approaches. It is important to be mindful of critical deadlines as the session unfolds:

- December 10, 2014: Deadline by which newly elected Assembly and Senate members may request a Bill Draft Request ("BDR"). After this deadline members will have only one (1) more BDR available to request.
- February 2, 2015: Commencement of the 78th Legislative Session, Nevada Legislature.
- February 2, 2015 - February 9, 2015: Between these dates Incumbent and Newly elected Assembly members will have one (1) BDR request remaining to use. Between those same dates Incumbent and Newly elected Senators will have two (2) BDR requests remaining to use.
- February 2, 2015 – February 16, 2015: Standing Session Committees deadlines to request BDRs. Joint Rule 14 (2013) allocates 50 per house.
- March 16, 2015: Deadline for Legislator bill introductions.
- March 23, 2015: Deadline for Committee bill introductions.
- April 10, 2015: Committee Passage, First House.
- April 21, 2015: First House Passage.
- May 1, 2015: Economic Forum report due.
- May 15, 2015: Committee Passage, Second House.
- May 22, 2015: Second House Passage.
- June 1, 2015: Sine Die.

New Nevada Legislator Information

District	Name (Party)	About
Senate 8	Patricia Farley (R)	Patricia Farley is the President and owner of Southwest Specialties, Inc., a construction firm with offices in Las Vegas and Reno. Patricia has two daughters and resides in Las Vegas.
Senate 9	Becky Harris (R)	Becky holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from UNLV. She attended law school at J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University. Becky is a military spouse, has two children, and is an avid fan of swimming and has been involved with the Boulder City Henderson Heatwave Swim Team.
Assembly 3	Nelson Araujo (D)	Nelson was born in Las Vegas and raised on 28th Street. Nelson is the first in his family to graduate high school and obtain his Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies and Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Nelson is a proud son, brother and uncle.
Assembly 5	Erv Nelson (R)	Erv is a graduate of Clark High School, earned a degree in Political Science from Brigham Young University, and graduated from J. Reuben Clark Law School. Nelson is now a partner at Durham, Jones & Pinegar where he specializes in real estate and business law. Erv and his wife Lisa have been married for 35 years and have been blessed with 7 children and 8 grandchildren.
Assembly 8	John Moore (R)	John Moore served in the US Army as an Airborne Ranger. Following military service, John worked in the private sector as a real estate agent for 16 years. He reenlisted in the Army after September 11, 2001. John works with one of the largest hotel and casino companies in the world and is currently completing a degree in Aviation.
Assembly 9	David Gardner (R)	David has lived in Las Vegas for almost 22 years. After graduating from Durango High School in 2000, David served a two-year mission for his church in Milan, Italy. David graduated from UNLV and Boyd School of Law. He and his wife Melissa have two boys and a girl (with another boy on the way).
Assembly 10	Shelly Shelton (R)	Shelly Shelton has resided in Nevada since 1997 and is part owner of Sonitx. She graduated Spencer School of Business in 1985. Shelly and her husband Tony were married in 1997 and have three children and two grandchildren. Shelley homeschools her daughter Fayth and is active in the homeschool community.
Assembly 19	Chris Edwards (R)	Chris is the eighth of ten children. He graduated from Notre Dame with a Bachelor's Degree in Government and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the George Washington University. He was commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy in 1987 serving 27 years of Active Duty and Reserve Duty. Chris worked as an Alternate Dispute Resolution Program Manager for the Secretary of the Air Force for five years in the Pentagon, where he gained experience in public administration.
Assembly 21	Derek Armstrong (R)	Derek was born in Las Vegas and joined the Marine Corps in March of 2000. He earned his Bachelor's degree at UNLV, graduating with a degree in Economics in the Spring of 2007.

Assembly 28	Edgar Flores (D)	Derek then attended law school at UNLV, graduated in the Spring of 2010 and opened the law firm of Arlint & Armstrong. Edgar is a native Nevadan and earned his Bachelor's Degree in English from UNLV, and afterwards his Juris Doctorate degree from the William S. Boyd School of Law. For the past ten years, Edgar has worked with numerous youth programs helping students from underprivileged communities prepare for college.
Assembly 29	Stephen Silberkraus (R)	Stephen earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and his graduate degree from Pepperdine University. He moved to Las Vegas more than a decade ago and is a multimedia professional and published author. His most recent publication is "The Space Shuttle Endeavour" by Arcadia Publishing.
Assembly 31	Jill Dickman (R)	Jill was born in upper Michigan to parents who emigrated to the US from Russia after the Bolshevik Revolution. She and her husband, Tom, moved to Reno in 1989, bought a home in Sparks in 1994, and started their manufacturing business in Sparks in 1999.
Assembly 34	Victoria Seaman (R)	Victoria created and managed Day Spa's and designed and manufactured a high-end Esthetician product line. She sold them in 2004 and 2009 respectively. She earned her degree in Political Science and is working on a degree in Marriage Family Therapy. Victoria also works as a State Licensed Realtor and joined the Red Rock Search and Rescue team in November 2013. Victoria and her husband have one daughter and three dogs.
Assembly 35	Brent Jones (R)	Brent graduated from California State University, Northridge with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and from Pepperdine University School of Law. He practiced traditional law for a few years then relocated to Las Vegas to build and grow his business, Affinity Lifestyles.com. Brent has two sons and a daughter, who was born in January 2014.
Assembly 38	Robin Titus (R)	Robin's family has been in Nevada since the early 1870's. She graduated from Smith Valley High School, continued her education at the University of Nevada, Reno as both an undergraduate and as a medical student. She has served as a family practice doctor, Lyon County Health Officer, and on the State Board of Medical Examiners.
Assembly 40	Philip "PK" O'Neill (R)	"PK" attended Miami Dade Community College and worked for the City of Miami Police Department. He later moved to Northern Nevada where he graduated from Sierra Nevada College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. "PK" has over 30 years of experience working in Nevada as a law enforcement official, agency administrator, and criminal investigator. "PK" and his wife Nancy have four grown children and one grandchild.
Assembly 41	Vicki Dooling (R)	Vicki attended LA Pierce College Woodland Hills, California, and is the founder, owner, and operator of a Garment Design Manufacturing Company. She is the Sales and Marketing Director for a NYSE listed company. Vicki and her husband Richard have two children.

Committee Chair Assignments

Assembly Committee	Assembly Committee Chairs	Senate Committee	Senate Committee Chairs
Commerce & Labor	Chair: Assemblyman Randy Kirner (R)	Commerce, Labor & Energy	Chair: Senator James Settelmeyer (R)
Education	Chair: Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury (R)	Education	Chair: Senator Becky Harris (R)
Government Affairs	Chair: Assemblyman John Hambrick (R)	Government Affairs	Chair: Senator Pete Goicoechea (R)
Health & Human Services	Chair: Assemblyman James Oscarson (R)	Health & Human Services	Chair: Senator Joe Hardy (R)
Judiciary	Chair: Assemblyman Wesley Duncan (R)	Judiciary	Chair: Senator Greg Brower (R)
Legislative Operations & Elections	Chair: Assemblyman Lynn Stewart (R)	Legislative Operations & Elections	Chair: Senator Patricia Farley (R)
Natural Resources, Agriculture & Mining	Chair: Assemblyman John Ellison (R)	Natural Resources	Chair: Senator Don Gustavson (R)
Taxation	Chair: Assemblywoman Michelle Fiore (R)	Revenue & Economic Development	Chair: Senator Michael Roberson (R)
Transportation	Chair: Assemblyman Jim Wheeler (R)	Transportation	Chair: Senator Scott Hammond (R)
Ways & Means	Chair: Assemblyman Paul Anderson (R)	Finance	Chair: Senator Ben Kieckhefer (R)