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2015 New Jersey General Assembly Election

Democrats make gains in NJ General Assembly Races

In a low turnout, off, off year election almost any scenario is possible. Yesterday the record low turnout made it possible for the Democrats to win their largest NJ General Assembly majority in 36 years. The Democrats gained at least three seats and possibly a fourth as the results were tallied on Tuesday evening. When the lower house is sworn in in January, Democrats will control at least 51 of the 80 seats in the Assembly, their biggest majority since 1979.

In a hard fought contest in the 1st Legislative District (LD), Democrats picked up one seat with newcomer Bruce Land (D) defeating incumbent Sam Fiocchi (R). Land joins incumbent Bob Andrzejczak (D) as the representatives from this traditionally swing district.

Over in LD 2, a heated battle resulted in voters returning incumbent legislators Chris Brown (R) and Vincent Mazzeo (D) to Trenton. Challengers in this race trailed the incumbents by at least 500 votes when all the votes were tallied.

Further north, along the Jersey shore in the 11th LD, Democratic challengers Eric Houghtaling (D) and Joann Downey (D) were declared the winners over incumbents Mary Pat Angelini (R) and Caroline Casagrande (R). The actual vote totals were Houghtaling - 13,727; Downey - 13,452; Angelini - 13,287; and Casagrande - 13,063. With margins this small; a recount will probably be conducted.

In the 16th LD, incumbent Republican Jack Ciattarelli (R) has retained his seat in the Assembly while running mate incumbent Donna Simon (R) remains in a neck and neck battle with Democratic challenger Andrew Zwicker (D). The tally has Zwicker with a total of 16,176 votes to Simon's 16,147; a margin of only 29 votes. With such a close race; a recount is inevitable before certifying a winner.

Finally, in LD 38, in the northern part of the state, what was originally tagged to be a hotly contested race; turned out to be an easy victory for incumbent Democrats Tim Eustace (D) and Joseph Lagana (D). They lead the ticket by a margin of over 4,500 votes.

In the other 36 Legislative Districts, seats remained by unchanged, with incumbents or newcomers winning races in areas traditionally held by either the Republican or Democratic parties.

In other results, the City of Elizabeth passed an earned sick leave law. The measure was approved by an overwhelming margin with a vote of 3,037 to 563. Elizabeth becomes the 10th municipality in the state to require paid sick leave.

LD	Party	Assembly		I	Party	Assembly		I
1	D	Bob	Andrzejczak	✓	D	Bruce	Land	
2	D	Vincent	Mazzeo	✓	R	Chris	Brown	✓
3	D	John	Burzichelli	✓		Adam	Taliaferro	✓
4	D	Paul	Moriarty	✓		Gabriela	Mosquera	✓
5	D	Arthur	Barclay			Patricia	Egan Jones	
6	D	Louis	Greenwald	✓		Pamela	Lampitt	✓
7	D	Herb	Conaway	✓		Troy	Singleton	✓
8	R	Maria	Rodriguez-Gregg	✓		Joe	Howarth	
9	R	Brian	Rumpf	✓		DiAnne	Gove	✓
10	R	Dave	Wolfe	✓		Gregory	McGuckin	
11	D	Edward	Houghtaling			Joann	Downey	
	R	Caroline	Casagrande	✓		Mary Pat	Angelini	✓
12	R	Ronald	Dancer	✓		Robert	Clifton	✓
13	R	Amy	Handlin	✓		Declan	O'Scanlon	✓
14	D	Wayne	DeAngelo	✓		Daniel	Benson	✓
15	D	Reed	Gusciora	✓		Elizabeth	Muoio	✓
16	D	Maureen	Vella			Andrew	Zwicker	
	R	Donna	Simon	✓		Jack	Ciattarelli	✓
17	D	Joseph	Egan	✓		Joseph	Danielson	✓
18	D	Patrick	Diegnan, Jr.	✓		Nancy	Pinkin	
19	D	Joseph	Wisniewski	✓		Craig	Coughlin	✓
20	D	Annette	Quijano	✓		Jamel	Holley	✓
21	R	Nancy	Munoz	✓		Jon	Branmick	✓
22	D	Jerry	Green	✓		James	Kennedy	
23	R	Erik	Peterson	✓		John	DiMaio	✓
24	R	F. Parker	Space	✓		Gail	Phoebus	
25	R	Anthony	Bucco	✓		Michael P	Carroll	✓
26	R	BettyLou	DeCroce	✓		Jay	Webber	✓
27	D	Mila	Jasey	✓		John	McKeon	✓
28	D	Cleopatra	Tucker	✓		Ralph	Caputo	✓
29	D	L. Grace	Spencer	✓		Eliana	Pintor-Marin	✓
30	R	Sean	Kean	✓		David	Rible	✓
31	D	Angela	McKnight			Nicholas	Chiaravalloti	
32	D	Vincent	Prieto	✓		Angelica	Jimenez	✓
33	D	Raj	Mukherji	✓		Annette	Chaparro	
34	D	Shelia	Oliver	✓		Thomas	Giblin	✓
35	D	Shavonda	Sumter	✓		Benjie	Wimberly	✓
36	D	Gary	Schaer	✓		Marlene	Caride	✓
37	D	Valarie	Vaineri Huttle	✓		Gordon	Johnson	✓
38	D	Joseph	Lagano	✓		Timothy	Eustace	✓
39	R	Holly	Schepisi	✓		Robert	Auth	✓
40	R	David	Russo	✓		Scott	Rumana	✓