

PARSS Legislative Update November 14, 2022

Election Aftermath, Control of House Still in Doubt

As expected, Attorney General Josh Shapiro handily won the gubernatorial election setting up a tradition-breaking three term run for Democrats leading state government. Legislative races were not as easily decided with the balance of power hanging by a handful of votes in the state House.

The Associated Press has reported that all but two races have been decided, with Democrats holding a one seat margin at 101-100. Majority control, which has been in Republican hands for the last twelve years, is 102 seats. The undecided seats are in the Philly suburbs. In Bucks County's 142 Legislative District Democrat Mark Moffa leads Republican Joseph Hogan by two votes. Next door in Montgomery County's 151st district, incumbent Republican Todd Stephens holds a fourteen-vote lead over Melissa Cerrato.

On the other end of the election spectrum, the races for the state Senate were calm. Democrats gained one seat, but the GOP still holds a 28-22 majority.

At the federal level, the U.S. Senate results determined that Democrats will maintain control with 50 seats. A Georgia run-off occurs on December 6th. The Keystone State will send John Fetterman to Washington and Democrats were very successful in holding onto their seats in the U.S. House. Determination about control of that chamber is still pending.

Although there were many critical nail-biters in state and federal races, about 30% of the seats in the state House and four of the twenty-five state Senate races were

uncontested. The power of incumbency is significant with only a handful of challengers winning over incumbents.

You can go to the Department of State's website to see all the current vote counts for all offices contest on Tuesday by <u>clicking here</u>.

The General Assembly has only a few remaining session days until the 2021-22 session is adjourned sine die. The Senate will be in for one day, and the House for two days this week. Then the new session will begin in January when the legislative process starts over.