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Wyoming 2020 General Election Results & Analysis

Friends and Colleagues,

Like the rest of the nation, the Wyoming general election was held Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020. While many other states anxiously waited for ballots to be counted, it was no surprise that President Trump prevailed in Wyoming. Fifteen of the 30 state Senate seats and all 60 of the state's House of Representatives seats were up for election. Republicans won across the board and maintained their control of both the Senate and the House, even though there were several surprising outcomes during the primaries earlier this year.

Nationwide we have seen record voter turnout this year, and Wyoming is no different. There was a 7.5% increase in voter turnout from the previous general election with 258,788 ballots cast in 2016 versus 278,314 in 2020. This year was particularly remarkable for female candidates. Cynthia Lummis will make history as the first-ever female U.S. Senator for Wyoming. After spending her entire career serving Wyoming, it is no surprise that she secured her spot to fill the seat for retiring Senator Mike Enzi. Liz Cheney was also successful in securing her third term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Notably, all candidates for both Congressional races were women. Check out our full analysis of the federal election results **here**.

Wyoming had one statewide ballot measure to remove the constitutional limit on the amount of debt a municipality can create for sewer projects and would allow the legislature to prescribe by law the debt limit for municipal sewer projects. In order for the constitutional amendment to pass, the measure must be ratified by a majority of the voters. This measure only received 45% approval due to many voters not voting for or against the measure at all.

Below we provide an overview of the state election results. We stand ready to answer any of your election-related questions and to help navigate the many new opportunities and challenges that will present themselves during the 2021 legislative session in Wyoming. Also, you can access the rest of our state election analyses **here**.
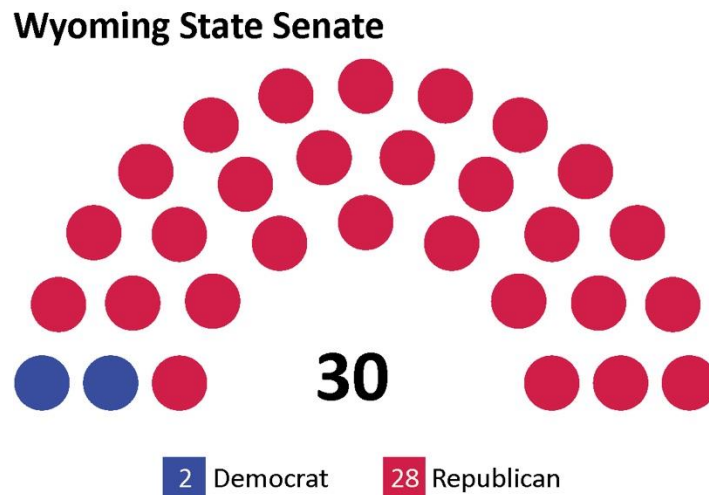
Kind regards,

Neal Tomlinson	**Kristin Lee**	**Kristina Kleist**	**Denise Freeman**
Shareholder	Shareholder	Policy Advisor & Associate	Senior Policy Assistant

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Wyoming State Senate

Heading into the election, Republicans controlled the state Senate by a 27-3 margin. On Tuesday, a total of 15 of the 30 Senate seats were up for election. There were four open seats and six incumbents faced no challengers. Republicans will maintain their majority with a 28-2 margin. The Senate will have six new senators, two of which crossed over from the House, and will maintain a strong level of institutional knowledge with a total of 24 returning senators.

Wyoming State Senate

30

| 2 Democrat | 28 Republican |

There were four competitive state Senate races:

- **SD 06 (Laramie, Goshen):** Republican incumbent Anthony Bouchard defeated Democrat challenger Brittney Wallesch.

- **SD 08 (Laramie):** Republican incumbent Affie Ellis defeated Democratic challenger James Byrd.

- **SD 10 (Albany):** Former Republican Rep. Daniel Furphy defeated Democratic candidate Jackie Grimes in seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Glenn Moniz.

- **SD 12 (Sweetwater):** Democrat incumbent Liisa Anselmi-Dalton was defeated by Republican challenger John Kolb.

There was one flip:

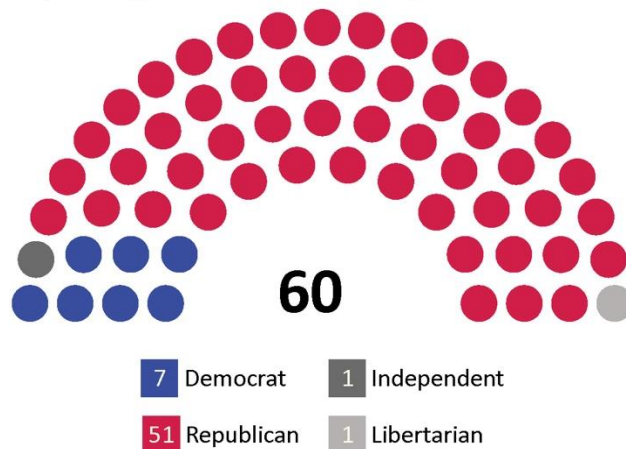- **SD 12 (Sweetwater):** Flipped from Democrat to Republican.

SD 02	Republican incumbent Brian Boner ran unopposed.
SD 04	Republican incumbent Tara Nethercott ran unopposed.
SD 06	Republican incumbent Anthony Bouchard defeated Democratic challenger Britney Wallesch, 65%-35%.
SD 08	Republican incumbent Affie Ellis defeated Democratic challenger James Byrd, 61%-38%.
SD 10	Former Republican Rep. Daniel Furphy defeated Democratic candidate Jackie Grimes in seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Glenn Moniz, 56%-44%.
SD 12	Republican challenger John Kolb defeated Democratic incumbent Liisa Anselmi-Dalton, 56%-44%.
SD 14	Republican incumbent Fred Baldwin ran unopposed.
SD 16	Republican incumbent Dan Dockstader ran unopposed.
SD 18	Republican candidate Tim French ran unopposed in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Henry Coe.
SD 20	Republican candidate Ed Cooper defeated Democratic candidate Theresa Livingston in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Wyatt Agar, 85%-15%.
SD 22	Republican incumbent Dave Kinskey ran unopposed.
SD 24	Republican challenger Troy McKeown defeated Republican incumbent Michael Von Flatern in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
SD 26	Former Republican Rep. Tim Salazar ran unopposed in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Eli Bebout.
SD 28	Republican incumbent Jim Anderson ran unopposed.
SD 30	Republican incumbent Charles Scott defeated Libertarian challenger Wendy Degroot, 77%-22%.

Wyoming State House of Representatives

Heading into the election, Republicans controlled the Wyoming House with a 50-9-1, (Republican, Democrat, Independent) majority. All 60 House districts were up for election, with 10 total open seats. While Republicans maintained their majority, there were some surprises and well-known representatives will not be returning. As we all know, in Wyoming the primaries are just as important and some surprises were delivered then. We lost five incumbents to challengers in the primary: Rep. Lindholm (R) defeated by Chip Neiman (R), Dan Kirkbride (R) defeated by Jeremy Haroldson (R), Tom Crank (R) defeated by Scott Heiner (R), Richard Tass (R) defeated by Barry Crago (R), and Bill Pownall (R) defeated by Bill Fortner (R).

Twenty-eight incumbents had no challengers and will be returning and 14 incumbents defeated their challengers for a total of 42 returning representatives. There will be eighteen 18 new representatives.

Wyoming State House of Representatives

60

7 Democrat		1 Independent
51 Republican		1 Libertarian

There were six competitive House races:

- **HD 8 (Laramie):** Republican incumbent Bob Nicholas defeated Democratic challenger Marcie Kindred.

- **HD 11 (Laramie):** Republican incumbent Jared Olsen defeated Democratic challenger Amy Spieker.

- **HD 14 (Albany):** Democratic candidate Trey Sherwood narrowly defeated Republican candidate Matthew Burkhart in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Dan Furphy who ran successfully for Senate.

- **HD 33 (Fremont):** Democratic incumbent Andi Clifford narrowly defeated Republican candidate Valaira Whiteman and Independent candidate Clinton Wagon.

- **HD 44 (Laramie):** Republican candidate John Romero-Martinez narrowly defeated Democratic incumbent Sara Burlingame by 45 votes.

- **HD 55 (Fremont):** Republican candidate Ember Oakley narrowly defeated Libertarian candidate Bethany Baldes in the seat left vacant by David Miller by 32 votes and less than 1%.

There were four flips:

- **HD 14 (Albany):** Flipped from Republican to Democrat.

- **HD 39 (Sweetwater):** Flipped from Democrat to Libertarian when the longest-serving Democrat, Stank Blake, was defeated by Libertarian Marshall Burt.

- **HD 44 (Laramie):** Flipped from Democrat to Republican.

- **HD 60 (Sweetwater):** Flipped from Democrat to Republican.

HD 1	Republican challenger Chip Neiman defeated Republican incumbent Tyler Lindholm in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
HD 2	Republican incumbent Hans Hunt ran unopposed.
HD 3	Republican incumbent Eric Barlow ran unopposed.
HD 4	Republican candidate Jeremy Haroldson defeated Republican incumbent Dan Kirkbride in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
HD 5	Republican incumbent Shelly Duncan ran unopposed.
HD 6	Republican incumbent Aaron Clausen ran unopposed.
HD 7	Republican incumbent Sue Wilson ran unopposed.
HD 8	Republican incumbent Bob Nicholas defeated Democratic challenger Marcie Kindred, 53%-47%.
HD 9	Republican incumbent Landon Brown ran unopposed.
HD 10	Republican incumbent John Eklund ran unopposed.
HD 11	Republican incumbent Jared Olsen defeated Democratic challenger Amy Spieker, 55%-45%.
HD 12	Republican incumbent Clarence Styvar defeated Democratic challenger Lee Filer, 61%-38%.
HD 13	Democratic incumbent Cathy Connolly ran unopposed.
HD 14	Democratic candidate Trey Sherwood narrowly defeated Republican candidate Matthew Burkhart in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Dan Furphy who ran for Senate and won, 51%-49%.
HD 15	Republican incumbent Donald Burkhart defeated Democratic challenger Jacquelin Wells, 64%-36%.

HD 16	Democratic incumbent Mike Yin ran unopposed.
HD 17	Democratic candidate Chad Banks ran unopposed in the seat left vacant by Democratic incumbent JoAnn Dayton-Selman.
HD 18	Republican candidate Scott Heiner defeated Republican incumbent Tom Crank in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
HD 19	Republican incumbent Danny Eyre ran unopposed.
HD 20	Republican incumbent Alert Sommers ran unopposed.
HD 21	Republican incumbent Evan Simpson ran unopposed.
HD 22	Independent incumbent Jim Rosco defeated Republican candidate Bill Winney, 53%-47%.
HD 23	Democratic incumbent Andy Schwartz ran unopposed.
HD 24	Republican incumbent Sandy Newsome ran unopposed.
HD 25	Republican incumbent Dan Laursen ran unopposed.
HD 26	Republican incumbent Jamie Flitner ran unopposed.
HD 27	Republican incumbent Mike Greear ran unopposed.
HD 28	Republican incumbent John Winter defeated Democratic challenger Levi Shinkle, 82%-18%.
HD 29	Republican incumbent Mark Kinner ran unopposed.
HD 30	Republican incumbent Mark Jennings ran unopposed.
HD 31	Republican candidate John Bear ran unopposed in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Scott Clem.
HD 32	Republican incumbent Timothy Hallinan defeated Democratic challenger Lynne Huskinson, 86%-14%.
HD 33	Democratic incumbent Andi Clifford narrowly defeated Republican candidate Valaira Whiteman and Independent candidate Clinton Wagon, 45%-42%-12%.
HD 34	Republican candidate Pepper Ottman ran unopposed in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Tim Salazar who ran successfully for the Senate.
HD 35	Republican incumbent Joe MacGuire ran unopposed.

HD 36	Republican incumbent Art Washut Jennings ran unopposed.
HD 37	Republican incumbent Steve Harshman ran unopposed.
HD 38	Republican incumbent Tom Walters defeated Libertarian challenger Shawn Johnson, 75%-25%.
HD 39	Libertarian candidate Marshall Burt defeated Democratic incumbent Stan Blake, 54%-45%.
HD 40	Republican candidate Barry Crago defeated Republican incumbent Richard Tass in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
HD 41	Republican incumbent Bill Henderson defeated Democratic challenger Rebecca Fields, 60%-39%.
HD 42	Republican incumbent Jim Blackburn ran unopposed.
HD 43	Republican incumbent Dan Zwonitzer ran unopposed.
HD 44	Republican candidate John Romero-Martinez narrowly defeated Democratic incumbent Sara Burlingame, 50%-49%.
HD 45	Democratic candidate Karlee Provenza defeated Republican candidate Roxie Hensley in the seat left vacant by Democratic incumbent Charles Pelkey, 52%-48%.
HD 46	Republican candidate Ocean Andrew defeated Democratic candidate Tim Chesnut in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Bill Haley, 59%-40%.
HD 47	Republican incumbent Jerry Paxton defeated Libertarian challenger Lela Konecny, 78%-21%.
HD 48	Republican incumbent Clark Stith ran unopposed.
HD 49	Republican candidate Robert Wharff ran unopposed for the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent Garry Piiparinen.
HD 50	Republican candidate Rachel Rodriguez-Williams defeated Independent candidate Cindy Johnson Bennett in the seat left vacant by Republican incumbent David Northrup who ran unsuccessfully for the Senate, 78%-22%.
HD 51	Republican incumbent Cyrus Western ran unopposed.
HD 52	Republican candidate Bill Fortner defeated Republican incumbent Bill Pownall in the primary. He was unopposed in the general.
HD 53	Republican incumbent Roy Edwards ran unopposed. He passed away before the election on 11.02.20
HD 54	Republican incumbent Lloyd Larsen defeated Democratic challenger Kevin Wilson, 58%-42%.
HD 55	Republican candidate Ember Oakley narrowly defeated Libertarian candidate Bethany Baldes in the seat left vacant by David Miller, 50.22%-49.44%.

HD 56	Republican incumbent Jerry Obermueller ran unopposed.
HD 57	Republican incumbent Chuck Gray defeated Democratic challenger Jane Ifland, 69%-31%.
HD 58	Republican incumbent Patrick Sweeney defeated Libertarian challenger Joseph Porambo, 80%-19%.
HD 59	Republican candidate Kevin O 'Hearn narrowly defeated Democratic candidate Mike Gilmore in the seat left vacant by Bunky Louks, 70%-29%.
HD 60	Republican candidate Mark Baker defeated Democratic candidate Lindsey Travis in the seat left vacant by John Freeman, 69%-31%.

Statewide Ballot Measures

There was one (1) statewide ballot measure on the 2020 general election ballot.

Title	Description	Outcome
Constitutional Amendment A	This amendment will remove the constitutionally specified limit on the amount of debt a municipality can create for sewer projects and would allow the legislature to prescribe by law the debt limit for municipal sewer projects.	**Failed, did not receive majority of total registered voters** For: 126,786 Against: 120,743