VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY

Government Affairs Updates

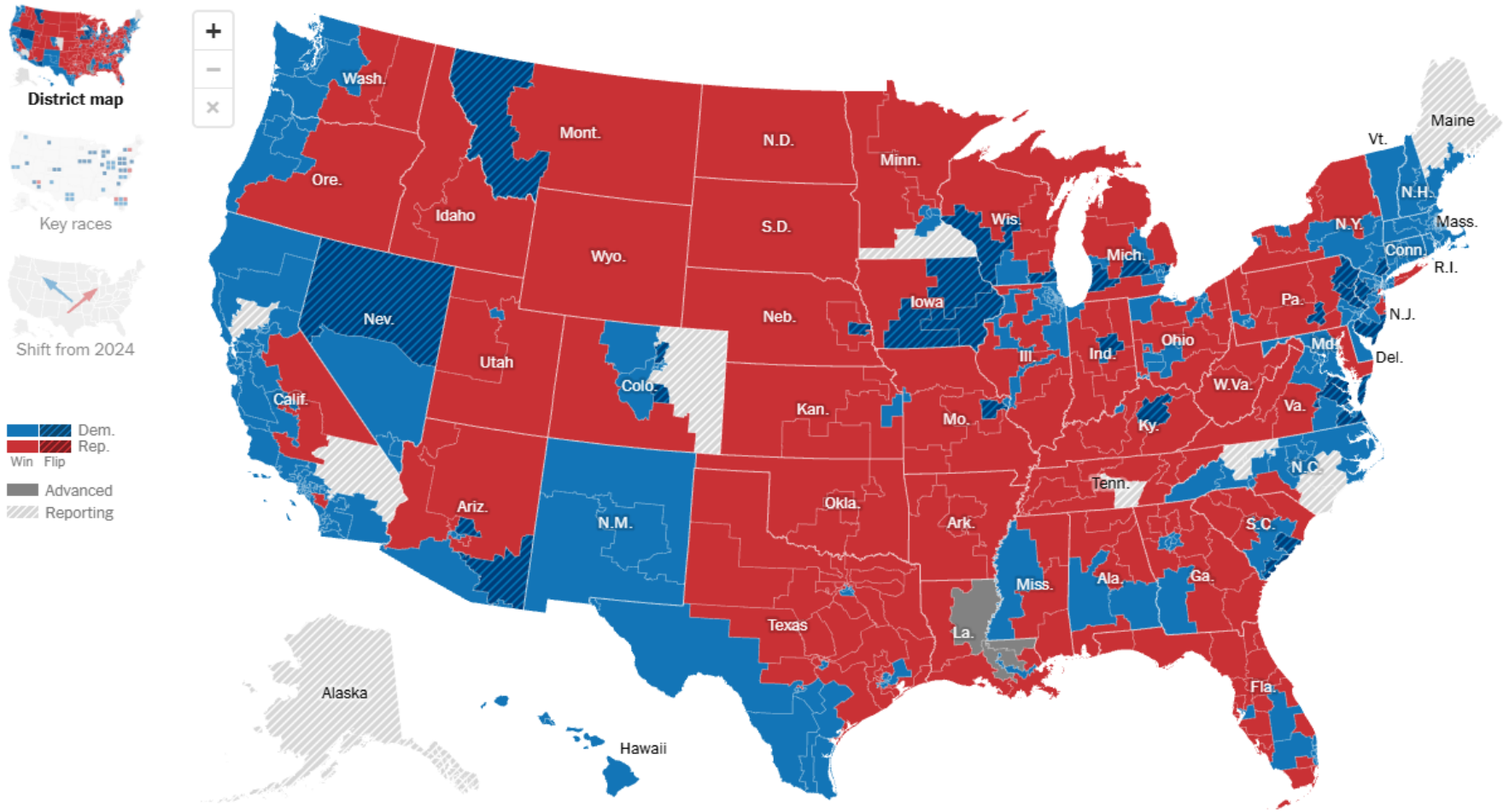
November 19, 2026

2026 General Election

- The general election occurred on Tuesday, November 3.
- Democrats took control of both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate.
- As of November 12, at 9:00 a.m.,
  - 12 House, 1 Senate, and 2 Governor elections have yet to be decided.
  - Democrats have flipped 8 seats in the Senate, over 40 seats in the House, and 5 governorships.
  - It could be a number of days/weeks before all races are decided.

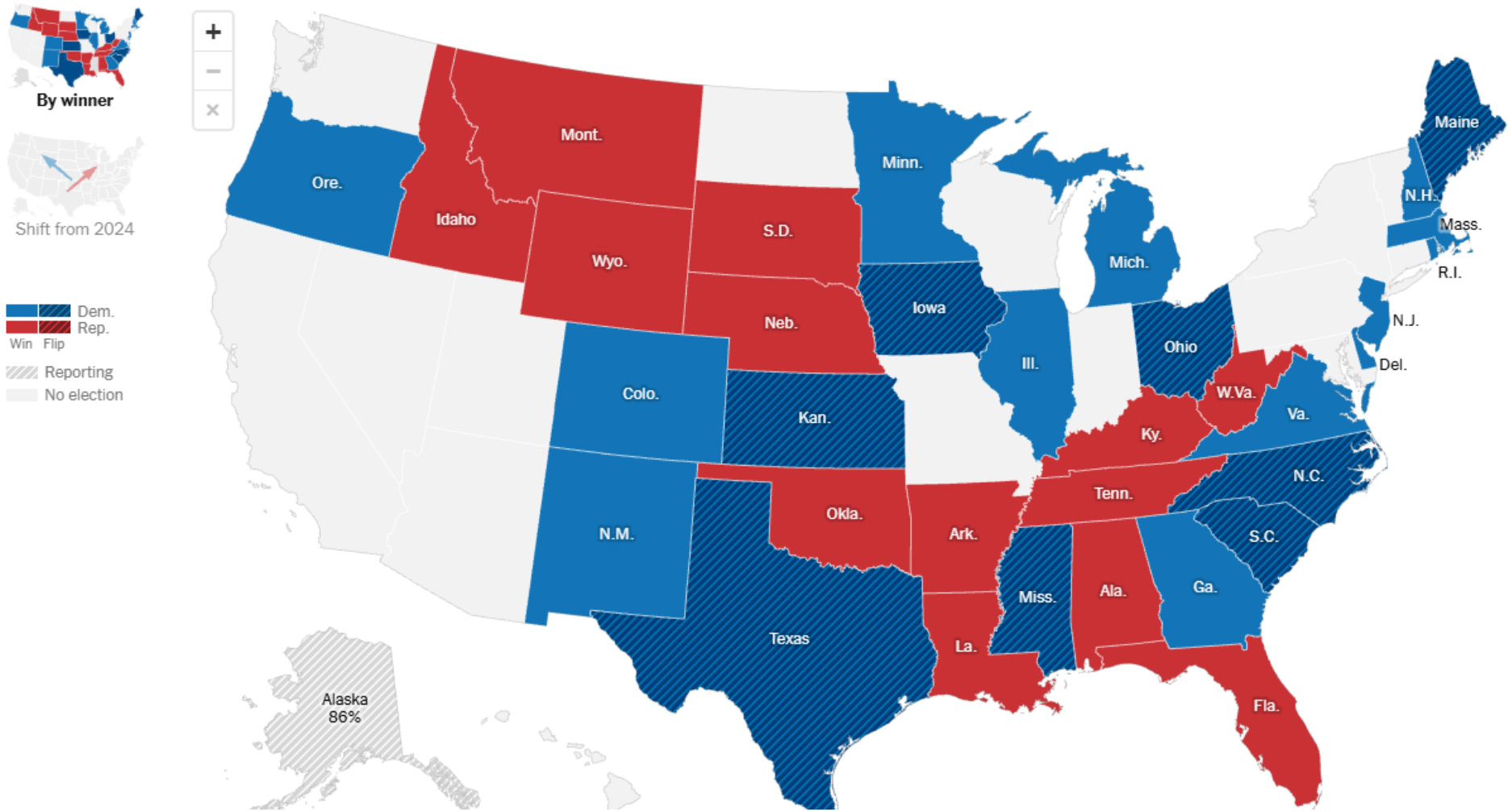
U.S. House of Representative Races

- **119th:** 214 Democrats to 218 Republicans
- **120th:** 255 Democrats to 168 Republican – 12 races left to call



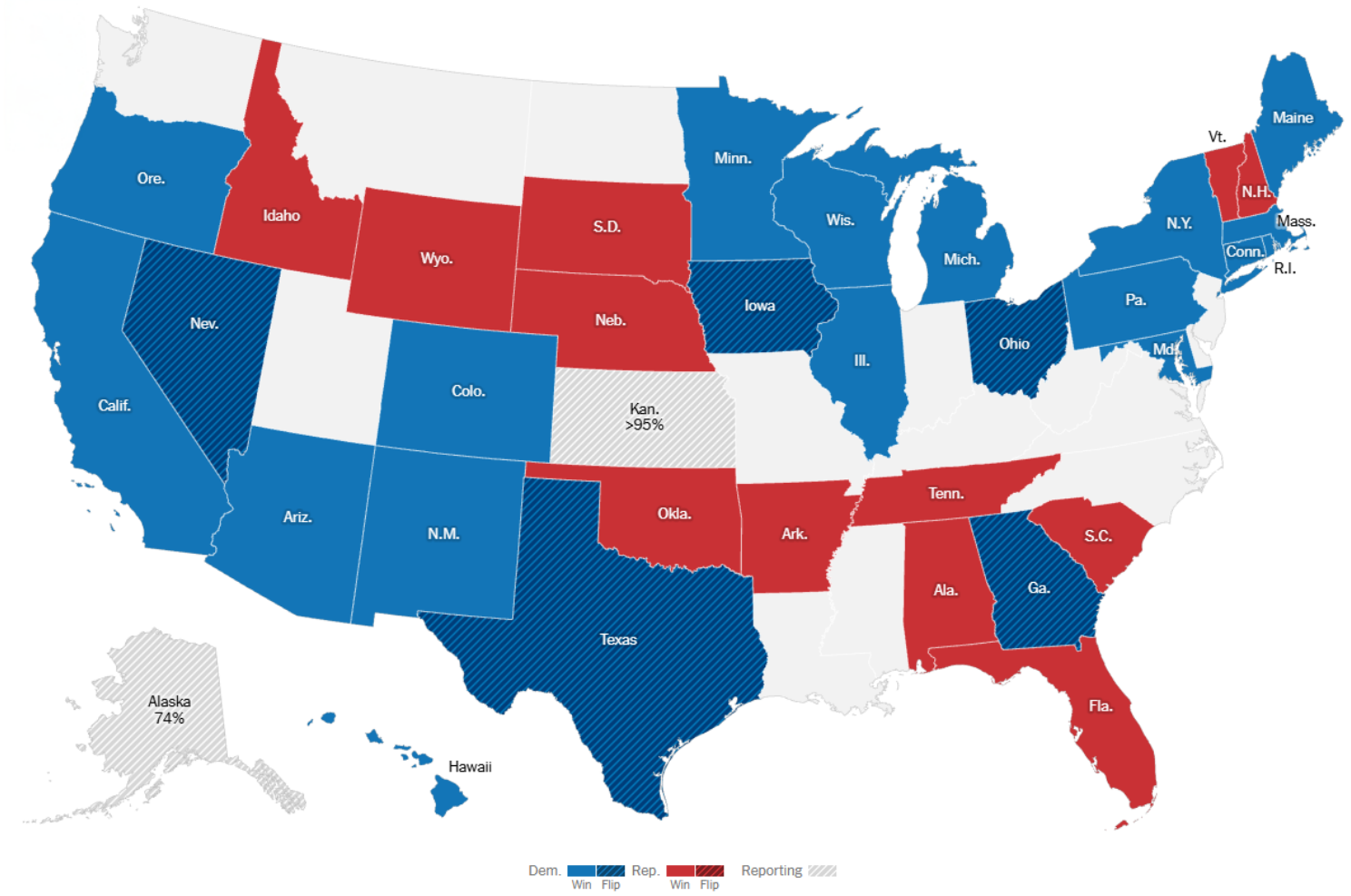
U.S. Senate Races

- **119th:** 47 Democrats to 53 Republicans
- **120th:** 55 Democrats to 44 Republicans – Alaska left to call



U.S. Governor Races

- **119th:** 24 Democrats to 26 Republicans
- **120th:** 29 Democrats to 20 Republicans – 2 race left to call



Virginia Races

119th: 6 Democrats to 5 Republicans

120th: 8 Democrats to 3 Republican

Senate: Democrat Mark Warner * defeated Republican Bert Mizusawa

CD 1: Democrat Shannon Taylor defeated Republican Rob Wittman*

CD 2: Democrat Former Congresswoman Elanie Luria defeated Republican Jen Kiggans*

CD 3: Democrat Bobby Scott* defeated Republican Edwin Rivera, Jr.

CD 4: Democrat Jennifer McClellan* defeated Republican Robert Murray

CD 5: Republican Congressman John McGuire* defeated Democrat Former Congressman Tom Perriello

CD 6: Republican Ben Cline* defeated Democrat Beth Macy

CD 7: Democrat Eugene Vindman* defeated Republican Douglas Ollivant

CD 8: Democrat Congressman Don Beyers* defeated Republican Tony Sabio

CD 9: Republican Morgan Griffith* defeated Democrat Joy Powers

CD 10: Democrat Suhas Subramanyam* defeated Republican Dave Beckwith

CD 11: Democrat James Walkinshaw* defeated Republican Arthur Purves

* Denotes the incumbent

VPRA

Some Items Left for Congress to do in 2026?

- **Surface Transportation Reauthorization:** The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) current continuing resolution (CR) funding expires December 11. Another CR could be likely.
- **Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Budget:** The current CR expires December 11, 2026. Another CR or a shut down could be likely.
- **The Annual Defense Policy Bill, or the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA):** This bill faces an impasse over the Iran War.
- **Reauthorization of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)**
- **Reauthorization of Farm bill programs**
- **Republican Priorities,** such as
  - Reconciliation 3.0 with a focus on taxes
  - Permitting Reform - BAAJA
  - Voter Reform
  - Nominations

Some Things to Expect?

- In 2027, new leadership and committee membership.
- Investigations into the administration for accountability.
- Affordability will dominate the conversations.
- Government shutdowns?
- Will the administration be a part of the conversation or a veto?
- War Power Resolution – executive power vs. legislative powers.
- Debt ceiling increase.
- Who will be president in 2028?

VPRA

VPRA's Federal Focus

- Relationship Building:
  - Meeting with the newly elected officials, including D.C.'s new House Delegate Robert White.
  - Staff turn over likely.
  - Ensuring that offices are aware of any upcoming impacts to their constituents and rail travel, particularly the
    - Leeland Road Closure;
    - Newington Road Closure; and
    - Long Bridge Project Road Closure.
- Monitoring permitting reform, the FY 27 and FY 28 Budget, and Surface Transportation Reauthorization.
- Advocating for Multi-year funding.
- And more!

VPRA

State Government Affairs Update

2027 General Assembly

- "Short" 45-day session beginning on January 13, 2026.
- VPRA will not be leading any bills or legislation.
- Focus:
  - Monitoring introduced legislation for an impact on VPRA.
  - Informing legislators about VPRA's projects and their upcoming construction impacts.
- 2027 Virginia House of Delegate Races.

THANK YOU

Questions?