



Kansas Election 2006

Kansans assisted the Democrats to win the U.S. House by Nancy Boyda defeating 2nd District incumbent Jim Ryun, by a 51% to 47% margin. Incumbent U.S. House members kept the other four districts in Kansas. Republican Jerry Moran, District 1, easily defeated John Doll by a 79% to 19% margin. Democrat Dennis Moore, District 3, won over Chuck Ahner, 64% to 43%; and Republican Todd Tiahr, District 4, won over his opponent by a margin of 64% to 34%.

Incumbent Governor Kathleen Sebelius and her Republican turned Democrat Lt. Governor candidate, Mark Parkinson easily defeated the Republican opponents of Senator Jim Barnett from Emporia and his running mate, Senator Susan Wagle of Wichita by a margin of 58% to 41%.

Incumbent Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh defeated Democrat Senator David Haley by 64% to 32%.

Incumbent State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins defeated her Democrat general opponent, Larry Wilson by 65% to 35%

The highly contested Attorney General's race was won easily by Republican turned Democrat Paul Morrison over incumbent Phil Kline by 58% to 42%.

Incumbent Insurance Commissioner Sandy Pager also defeated her Democrat opponent, Bonnie Sharp from Kansas City, Kansas, by 64% to 32%.

All four of the Republican candidates won the 4 seats of the State Board of Education that were up in 2006.

The Kansas Senate members are not up for election until 2008.

The Kansas House is made up of 125 members. 41 members did not have a majority party opponent in the general.

Of the 16 open seats in the general due to primary incumbent defeats and retirements, the Republicans retained 12 of the 13 and the Democrats retained 2 of 2 and picked up a seat in the 112th District. Five conservative incumbent Republicans lost their seats to Democrats and one Democrat lost his seat to a Republican.

Prior to the 2006 election there were 42 Democrats and 83 Republicans. After the General Election yesterday, the Democrats picked up 5 seats to keep a solid number to prevent an override of a Governor's veto. The Republicans retain control with 78 members to the Democrats 47.

The margin in several races is fewer than 100 votes and recounts may change some preliminary outcomes.

Incumbent House members who were defeated in the General Election include:

- Lynn Oharah (R) – 4th District
- Mary Pilcher-Cook (R) – 18th District
- Tom Thull (D) – 72nd District
- Bill McCreary (R) – 80th District
- Bonnie Huy (R) – 87th District
- Willa DeCastro (R) – 96th District

With the retirement of Speaker Doug Mays, the next election will take place the first week in December for the Speaker of the House. Three candidates have emerged - Representative Mike O'Neal of Hutchinson, Representative Kenny Wilk of Lansing, and Representative Melvin Neufeld of Ingalls. Representative Clay Aurand of Courtland and Representative Ray Merrick of Stilwell are in the race for Majority Leader. Representative Lee Tafanelli, Ozawkie, is a candidate for Pro Tem. Committee chairs will be chosen later in the month.

Results of the General races are attached. Those in grey are incumbents that won; winners of seats held by incumbents; and blue are winners in open seats.