

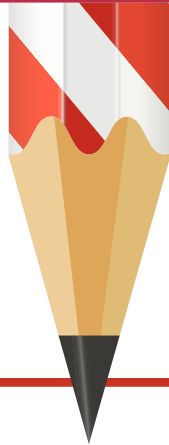
FALL 2024



VOLUME 16 - ISSUE 1

ON THE ROAD

THE OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION OF THE NEW JERSEY GASOLINE C-STORE AUTOMOTIVE ASSOCIATION



2024

VOTER GUIDE

**Who are the Candidates? How Did They Vote?
Find Out Which Candidates Voted
on Your Key Interests!**

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P: 609-743-3418

E: ALiccardi@reitlube.com

Jim Grady

Sales Consultant, assisting customers in Ocean, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland, Cape May & Atlantic Counties

P: 609-743-3417

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Cell: 215.237-9176

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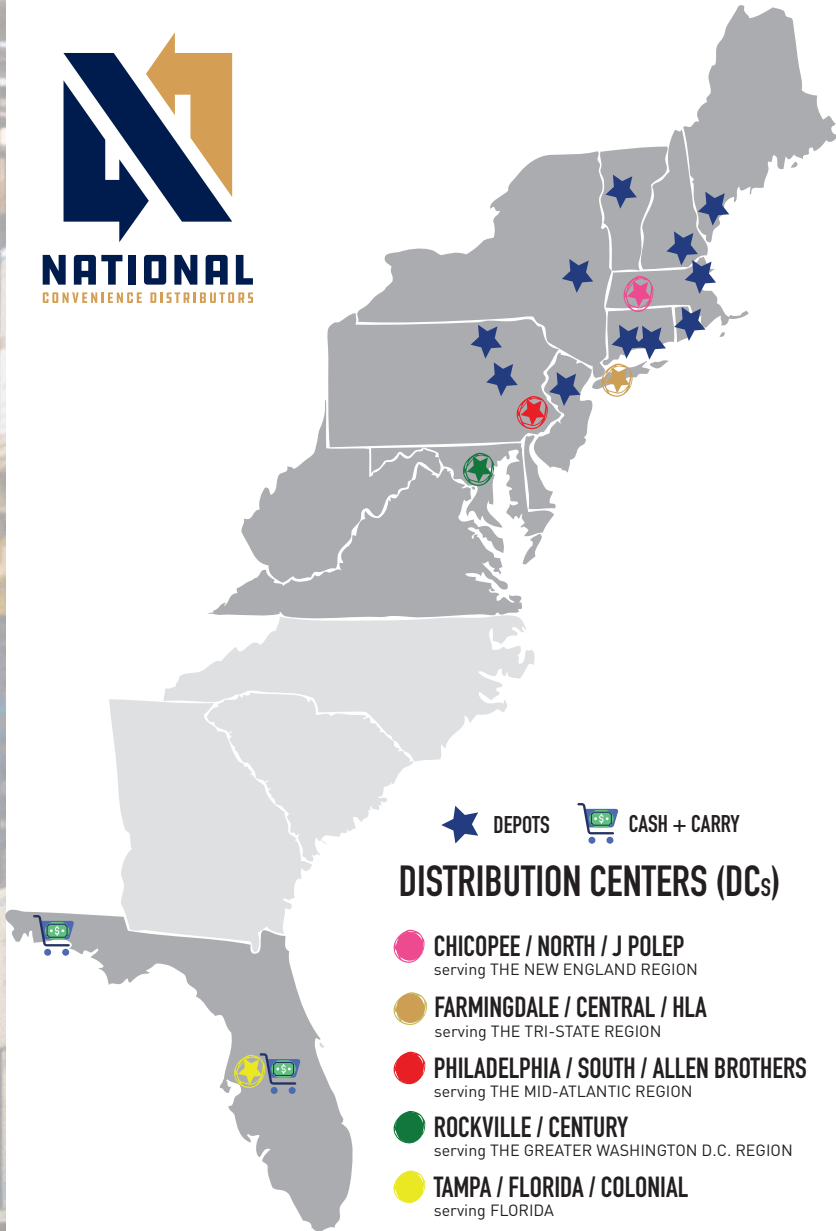
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The NJGCA Voter Guide

DECISION 2024

Introduction by Eric Blomgren

Voting in New Jersey

Election Day this year falls on Tuesday, November 5th. Over the last few years, in NJ and many other states, Election Day has started to look less like the day when the outcome is determined but instead just the deadline for all ballots to be completed. October 15th was the deadline for voters to register or change their address and still vote in this election. The first vote-by-mail ballots have already been dropped in the mail by County clerks. Those who would like to vote by mail and are not the automatic mailing list need to have their application in the hands of their County Clerk by October 29th, and need to have the completed ballot postmarked or dropped off by the end of Election Day. New Jersey also now offers in-person early voting at select locations in every county, available from October 29-November 3. These locations offer the same voting machines you use on Election Day, and you can use any voting site located in your home county. On November 5th, polls are open 6am-8pm.

State of the Nation

For almost 25 years now, the country has seen nearly nonstop close elections. Five of the last six presidential elections have been decided by less than 5% between the candidates, and the polling consistently indicates this will be another close one. By some measures the last two presidential elections were two of the all time closest, with only a 1% shift in the other direction in the three closest states needed to change the outcome in either race. Two years ago America elected a 51-49 Democratic Senate and 222-213 Republican House, and we have seen very little get done since. With all 435 House seats and one-third of the Senate up as well, there is a good chance we will continue to see divided government next year.

This race between former President Trump and Vice President Harris is one of the more unusual in US history. Trump is the only President defeated for his reelection bid who nevertheless has been renominated by his party for another term, other than Grover Cleveland (who did win his comeback attempt in 1892). President Biden

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fully expected that he would seek a second term, like every eligible President has since Lyndon Johnson dropped out in 1968. But his consistent unpopularity became too much to overcome and after a disastrous debate performance he was convinced he didn't have a plausible path to victory in November and dropped out. The party establishment quickly consolidated around his running mate, Vice President Kamala Harris. Both candidates are running as if they are the true change agent in the race, with Trump running to bring the country back to the strong economy it saw while he was in office (minus the fourth year) while Harris warns Americans not to 'go back' and instead turn the page—explicitly on Trump and implicitly on Biden. Despite being in the current Administration, Harris seems to be trying to force the election into a referendum not on the last four years but on Donald Trump personally.

The election looks like it will come down to just seven states, all of which are consistently polling at razor thin splits. Not coincidentally, these were the seven closest states in 2020—Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Georgia, Arizona, and Nevada. Pennsylvania has truly earned its nickname as the 'keystone state', both sides' primary strategy involves PA as the tipping point for their victory. For Harris, the most straightforward path to victory is to win Wisconsin and Michigan (where she has been polling the strongest of the seven) and then with Pennsylvania she would have 270 electoral votes, the exact minimum necessary to win. For Trump, the clearest path is to win North Carolina and Georgia (where he did the best of the seven in 2020) and then flip PA, which would give him exactly 270. If Harris loses PA, she could still be elected by winning Nevada and either North Carolina or Georgia. If Harris wins PA then Trump's path is to win two of three—Wisconsin, Michigan, and Arizona. While the

narrowness of the polls suggest something like a 4-3 split that narrowly elects either candidate, history suggests it more likely that in the last few days of the race undecideds will break hard in one direction or the other, and we should not be surprised to see one of these candidates win six or even all seven of these states.

While the presidency looks like a tossup, the battle for control of the Senate is leaning strongly in the Republicans' direction. Democrats have controlled the chamber for four years and have a 51-49 majority. 34 of the chamber's seats are on the ballot this year. Over the last decade, voters have become far less likely to split their tickets—voting for one party for President and another for Congress. This makes the outcome of the presidential race crucial for the outcome of both houses of Congress. In fact, of the 100 current Senators, only 5 of them represent a party different from the one that won their state in 2020. The reason Republicans are favored to flip the Senate is because the three Democratic seats in Trump states are on the ballot this year. Longtime moderate Democrat Joe Manchin is retiring this year in West Virginia, and Republicans will flip that seat easily. While Senators Jon Tester (D-Montana) and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) are more popular than Harris in their states and have served the past 18 years, neither may be able run far enough ahead of her to win (MT voted for Trump by 16%, Ohio for Trump by 8% in 2020). Meanwhile, the swing states of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Nevada are all Democratic seats on the ballot with competitive Senate races. The only places where Democrats could offset losses is to try and knock off incumbent Republican Senators in Florida or Texas, but Trump is favored to carry both states.

In 2022 Republicans took control of the House of Representatives, though by a narrower majority than they had hoped, just four more than

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the 218 needed for a majority. With all 435 seats on the ballot this year, control is completely up for grabs. With so much attention being placed on the presidential race, the battle for the House is flying below the radar, and only about 25 of those seats look to be truly competitive. That means that while either party could win the majority, it is likely their majority will only be a few seats.

With our politics so narrowly divided, its not unreasonable to expect this election produces some form of divided government amongst the Presidency, Senate, and House. But we also shouldn't be surprised if late deciding voters (and that includes voters undecided between the two parties and voters undecided between one party and not voting at all) break decisively for one side over the other, seeing them win most of the swing states and control of both houses of Congress. This happened in the close elections of 2020, 2016, 2004, and 2000.

New Jersey

Here in New Jersey, we have seen more turnover in our congressional delegation than we are used to. No doubt you are aware that Bob Menendez (D), who represented the state in the Senate since 2006, was convicted of corruption a few months ago, creating an open seat. Congressman Andy Kim is the Democratic nominee, which means a vacancy in his 3rd district. Meanwhile, back in June Congressman Donald Payne, Jr. of the 10th district passed away. His seat was filled in a special election on September 19th by LaMonica McIver, who now needs to win again in November for a full term. In August, just a few days before ballots were to be printed, longtime Congressman Bill Pascrell from the 9th district also passed away, producing a scramble for a new democratic nominee. In the 7th district, Congressman Tom Kean, Jr. (R) is fighting for a second term in one of the premiere battleground districts in the country.

Representatives Mikie Sherrill (D-11) and Josh Gottheimer (D-5) are running for reelection to Congress, but are both widely expected to start actively running for Governor not long after the election ends.

As you know, everyone in the state votes for the President and US Senator. Look at the next section to see which of the 12 congressional districts you vote in, and from there you can review information about the candidates, including how they voted on the bills which most impact your business, and how some of the candidates responded to our survey on the issues. The links to the candidates' websites are also included, make sure to do some of your own research to find out how each candidate stands on the issues that matter to you personally.

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WHAT DISTRICT DO I LIVE IN?

ATLANTIC COUNTY: 2nd District: Entire County

BERGEN COUNTY: 5th District: Allendale, Bergenfield, Bogota, Closter, Cresskill, Demarest, Dumont, Emerson, Englewood, Englewood Cliffs, Fair Lawn, Fort Lee, Glen Rock, Hackensack, Harrington Park, Haworth, Hillsdale, Ho-Ho-Kus, Leonia, Mahwah, Maywood (part), Midland Park, Montvale, Northvale, Norwood, Old Tappan, Oradell, Palisades Park, Ramsey, Ridgefield Park, Ridgewood, River Edge, River Vale, Rockleigh, Saddle River, Teaneck, Tenafly, Upper Saddle River, Waldwick, Washington Twp., Westwood, Woodcliff Lake, Wyckoff. **9th District:** Carlstadt, Cliffside Park, East Rutherford, Edgewater, Elmwood Park, Fairview, Franklin Lakes, Garfield, Hasbrouck Heights, Little Ferry, Lodi, Lyndhurst, Maywood (part), Moonachie, New Milford, North Arlington, Oakland, Ridgefield, Rochelle Park, Rutherford, Saddle Brook, South Hackensack, Teterboro, Wallington, and Wood-Ridge.

BURLINGTON COUNTY: 1st District: Maple Shade and Palmyra. **3rd District:** Entire County except Maple Shade and Palmyra.

CAMDEN COUNTY: 1st District: Entire County.

CAPE MAY COUNTY: 2nd District: Entire County.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY: 2nd District: Entire County.

ESSEX COUNTY: 8th District: Newark (part). **10th District:** Caldwell, East Orange, Essex Fells, Irvington, Montclair (part), Newark (part), Orange, Verona, and West Orange. **11th District:** Belleville, Bloomfield, Cedar Grove, Fairfield, Glen Ridge, Livingston, Maplewood, Millburn, Montclair (part), North Caldwell, Nutley, Roseland, South Orange, and West Caldwell.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY: 1st District: Deptford, East Greenwich (part), Glassboro, Mantua, Monroe, National Park, Paulsboro, Pitman, Washington Twp., Wenonah, West Deptford, Westville, Woodbury, and Woodbury Heights. **2nd District:** Elk, Franklin, Greenwich, Harrison, Logan, Newfield, South Harrison, Swedesboro, Woolwich.

HUDSON COUNTY: 8th District: Bayonne, East Newark, Guttenberg, Harrison, Hoboken, Jersey City (part), Kearny (part), North Bergen, Union City, Weehawken, and West New York. **9th District:** Kearny (part) and Secaucus. **10th District:** Jersey City (part).

HUNTERDON COUNTY: 7th District: Entire County.

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MERCER COUNTY: 3rd District: East Windsor, Hamilton, Hightstown, Lawrence, and Robbinsville. **12th District:** Ewing, Hopewell Boro., Hopewell Twp., Pennington, Princeton, Trenton, and West Windsor.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY: 6th District: Carteret, Edison, Highland Park, Metuchen, New Brunswick, Old Bridge (part), Perth Amboy, Piscataway, Sayreville, South Amboy, South Plainfield, and Woodbridge. **12th District:** Cranbury, Dunellen, East Brunswick, Helmetta, Jamesburg, Middlesex Boro., Milltown, Monroe, North Brunswick, Old Bridge (part), Plainsboro, South Brunswick, South River, and Spotswood.

MONMOUTH COUNTY: 3rd District: Allentown, Englishtown, Freehold Boro., Freehold Twp. (part), Holmdel, Manalapan, Marlboro, Millstone, Roosevelt, and Upper Freehold. **4th District:** Avon-by-the-Sea, Belmar, Brielle, Colts Neck, Eatontown, Farmingdale, Freehold Twp. (part), Howell, Lake Como, Manasquan, Middletown (part), Ocean Twp., Sea Girt, Shrewsbury Boro., Shrewsbury Twp., Spring Lake Boro., Spring Lake Heights, Tinton Falls, and Wall Twp. **6th District:** Aberdeen, Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Atlantic Highlands, Bradley Beach, Deal, Fair Haven, Hazlet, Highlands, Interlaken, Keansburg, Keyport, Little Silver, Loch Arbour, Long Branch, Matawan, Middletown (part), Monmouth Beach, Neptune City, Neptune Twp., Oceanport, Red Bank, Rumson, Sea Bright, Union Beach, and West Long Branch.

MORRIS COUNTY: 7th District: Chester Boro., Chester, Twp., Long Hill, Mendham Boro., Mendham Twp. (part), Mine Hill, Mount Arlington, Mount Olive, Netcong, Roxbury, Washington Twp., and Wharton. **11th District:** Boonton, Boonton Twp., Butler, Chatham Boro., Chatham Twp., Denville, Dover, East Hanover, Florham Park, Hanover, Harding, Jefferson, Kinnelon, Lincoln Park, Madison, Mendham Twp. (part), Montville, Morris Plains, Morris Twp., Morristown, Mountain Lakes, Parsippany-Troy Hills, Pequannock, Randolph, Riverdale, Rockaway Boro., Rockaway Twp., and Victory Gardens.

OCEAN COUNTY: 2nd District: Barnegat Light, Barnegat Twp. (part), Beach Haven, Eagleswood, Harvey Cedars, Lacey Twp (part), Little Egg Harbor, Long Beach Twp., Ocean Twp., Ship Bottom, Stafford, Surf City, and Tuckerton. **4th District:** Barnegat (part), Bay Head, Beachwood, Brick, Island Heights, Jackson, Lakehurst, Lakewood, Lavallette, Manchester, Mantoloking, Ocean Gate, Pine Beach, Plumsted, Point Pleasant Beach, Point Pleasant Boro., Seaside Heights, Seaside Park, South Toms River, and Toms River.

PASSAIC COUNTY: 5th District: Bloomingdale, Ringwood, Wanaque, and West Milford. **9th District:** Clifton, Haledon, Hawthorne, North Haledon, Passaic, Paterson, Pompton Lakes, Prospect Park, and Wayne (part). **11th District:** Little Falls, Totowa, Wayne (part), and Woodland Park.

SALEM COUNTY: 2nd District: Entire County.

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SOMERSET COUNTY: 7th District: Bedminster, Bernards, Bernardsville, Branchburg, Bridgewater, Far Hills, Green Brook, Hillsborough (part), Peapack & Gladstone, Raritan, Somerville, Warren Twp., and Watchung. **12th District:** Bound Brook, Franklin Twp., Hillsborough (part), Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, North Plainfield, Rock Hill, and South Bound Brook.

SUSSEX COUNTY: 5th District: Andover Twp., Branchville, Frankford, Franklin, Hamburg, Hampton, Hardyston, Lafayette, Montague, Newton, Sandyston, Sussex, Vernon, and Wantage. **7th District:** Andover Boro., Byram, Fredon, Green, Hopatcong, Ogdensburg, Sparta, Stanhope, Stillwater, and Walpack.

UNION COUNTY: 7th District: Berkeley Heights, Clark, Fanwood, Linden (part), Mountainside, New Providence, Rahway, Scotch Plains, Springfield, Summit, Westfield, and Winfield. **8th District:** Elizabeth. **10th District:** Cranford, Garwood, Hillside, Kenilworth, Linden (part), Roselle, Roselle Park, and Union Twp. **12th District:** Plainfield.

WARREN COUNTY: 7th District: Entire County.



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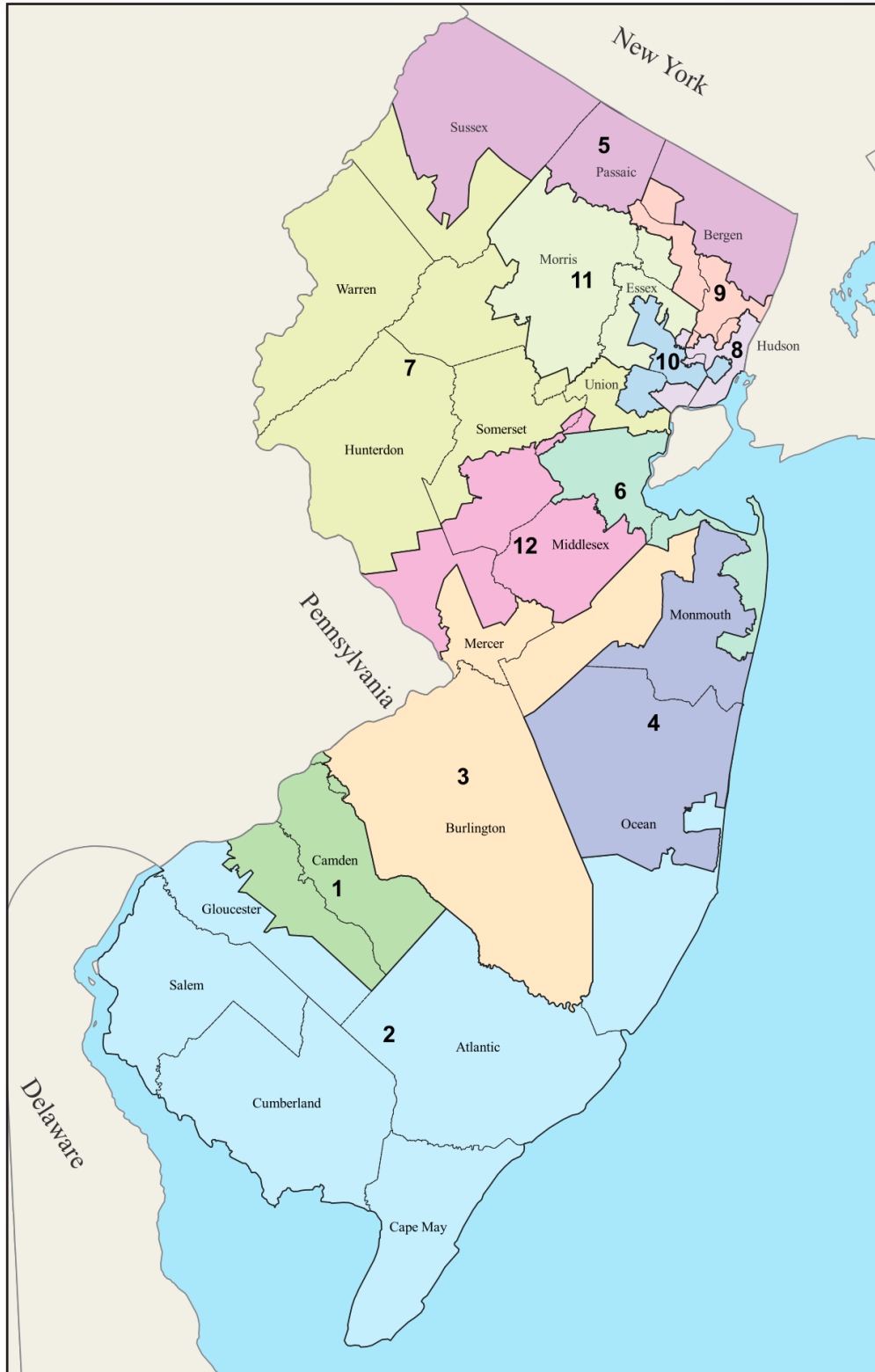
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WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES?

President & Vice President of the United States

2020 National Result:	306 D—232 R (51% D—47% R)
2020 New Jersey Result:	57% D—41% R
2016 National:	227 D—304 R (48% D—46% R)
2016 New Jersey:	55% D—41% R



Kamala Harris/Tim Walz (D)
<https://kamalaharris.com/>

Kamala D. Harris was born in 1964 and raised mostly in Northern California, the daughter of immigrants from India and Jamaica. She worked as a prosecutor and was elected the District Attorney of San Francisco in 2003, then was elected California Attorney General in 2010 and California Senator in 2016. She ran for President in 2020 but dropped out before the first votes were cast. Joe Biden selected her as his running mate, and she has served as his Vice President since 2021.

Timothy J. Walz was born in 1964 and raised in rural Nebraska. He worked as a teacher and served in the National Guard. He was elected to the House of Representatives representing southern Minnesota in 2006, and served there until being elected Governor of Minnesota in 2018, and was reelected in 2022.



Donald Trump/JD Vance (R)
<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

Donald J. Trump was born in 1946 and raised in Queens, New York. In 1971 he became president of his father's real estate business, which he expanded over the ensuing decades to include a variety of different businesses. He was elected President of the United States in 2016, the only person ever to become president without having either served in the military or been elected to another political office before. If elected he would be only the second person elected to non-consecutive terms as President (the last being Grover Cleveland in 1892).

James D. Vance was born in 1984 and raised in Ohio. He served in the US Marines and graduated Yale Law School, later working as a venture capitalist and wrote the bestselling book *Hillbilly Elegy*. In 2022 he was elected to the US Senate from Ohio.

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WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES? New Jersey Senate & House of Representatives

** Names in italics are incumbants running for reelection.*

US Senate

2020 Senate Result: 57% D—41% R

2018 Senate Result: 54% D—43% R



Andy Kim (D)

<https://www.andykim.com/>

Rep. Kim has been in the House of Representatives since 2019 and is the first Democratic member of Congress of Korean descent. His district has included parts of Burlington, Ocean, Mercer, and Monmouth counties. In 2018 he narrowly defeated a Republican incumbent, and has been reelected twice. After the indictment of Sen. Menendez, he was one of the first to run for the seat, and won a vigorous campaign against Tammy Murphy, the First Lady, who had the backing of most of the party establishment. His previous career was focused on national security policy and he served on the National Security Council during the Obama Administration.



Curtis Bashaw (R)

<https://curtisbashawforsenate.com/>

Curtis Bashaw has spent his life in the private sector in the real estate and hospitality world, most famously as the owner and operator of the Congress Hall hotel in Cape May. He was an advocate for reopening the economy during the covid pandemic. Gov. Murphy has promised that whoever wins the race will join the Senate a few weeks before inauguration day, filling the vacancy created by the Menendez resignation.

DECISION 2024

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US House of Representatives

Congressional District 1



Rep. Donald Norcross (D)

<https://www.donaldnorcrossforcongress.com>

2022 House Result: 62% D—35% R
2020 House Result: 62% D—38% R
2020 Presidential Result: 61% D—37% R



Teddy Liddell (R)

<https://teddyliddellforcongress.com/>

Rep. Norcross was first elected to Congress in 2014. He previously served five years in the state Senate and briefly in the Assembly before that. For most of his career he has worked in organized labor where he was President of the Southern NJ AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, and is a trained electrician. Mr. Liddell is a West Point graduate who now manages his own solo law practice.

Congressional District 2



Rep. Jeff Van Drew (R)

<https://www.vandrewforcongress.com/>

2022 House Result: 40% D—59% R
2020 House Result: 46% D—52% R
2020 Presidential Result: 47% D—52% R



Joe Salerno (D)

<https://joesalemoforcongress.com/>

Rep. Van Drew has represented New Jersey's 2nd congressional district since 2019. He previously served in the state Legislature for 16 years, where his voting record made him one of the most centrist members. While he served in the Legislature as a Democrat and was elected in 2018 as a Democrat, he attracted national attention when he changed parties and became a Republican in December 2019. He was a practicing dentist in Cape May for more than 35 years before his election to Congress. Mr. Salerno is an entrepreneur who has founded companies in businesses ranging from a machine shop to software development companies.

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Congressional District 3



Herb Conaway (D)

<https://www.herbforcongress.com/>

2022 House Result: 55% D—44% R
2020 House Result: 53% D—46% R
2020 Presidential Result: 56% D—42% R



Rajesh Mohan (R)

<https://mohanforuscongress.com/>

Assemblyman Herb Conaway has served in the General Assembly representing Burlington County since 1998. He has been Chairman of the Assembly Health Committee for over 15 years, where he has been a strong supporter of restrictions on the sale of all forms of tobacco and nicotine products. He is medical doctor, has a law degree, and is military veteran. Dr. Mohan is a cardiologist with an MBA and is President of a prominent medical practice.

Congressional District 4



Rep. Chris Smith (R)

<https://smith4nj.com/>

2022 House Result: 31% D—67% R
2020 House Result: 38% D—60% R
2020 Presidential Result: 38% D—61% R



Matt Jenkins (D)

<https://mattjenkinsforcongress.com/>

Rep. Smith was first elected to the House in 1980 at the age of 27. He has focused his work on promoting human rights abroad and opposition to abortion, and his voting record generally stands out as one of the most centrist in a severely divided Congress. He is also the dean of New Jersey's congressional delegation. Matt Jenkins has spent years working in biomedical research before opening a custom furniture shop and growing his company into a General Contracting business building residential homes for families across the tri-state area.

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Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D)
<https://josh4congress.com/>

Congressional District 5

2022 House Result: 55% D—44% R
2020 House Result: 53% D—46% R
2020 Presidential Result: 56% D—43% R



Mary Jo Guinchard (R)
<https://www.maryjoforcongress.com/>

Rep. Gottheimer was first elected to Congress in 2016. He previously worked in the Clinton Administration as a speech writer, followed by stints at Ford and Microsoft. Upon entering Congress, he helped form and currently co-leads the “Problem Solvers Caucus”, a group of moderate Representatives from both parties. Mrs. Guinchard is professional singer and actress who previously served as a small town mayor in New York.

Congressional District 6



Frank Pallone (D)
<https://www.pallonefornewjersey.com/>

2022 House Result: 57% D—41% R
2020 House Result: 61% D—39% R
2020 Presidential Result: 59% D—40% R



Scott Fegler (R)
<https://www.fegler2024.com/>

Rep. Pallone was first elected to Congress in 1988. He is the Ranking Member of the House Energy & Commerce Committee, one of the most powerful in the House and the one which handles many of the issues that most directly affect NJGCA members. Mr. Fegler has worked for the last two decades across the food industry.

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Tom Kean, Jr. (R)
<https://tomkean.com/>

Congressional District 7

2022 House Result: 48% D—51% R
2020 House Result: 51% D—49% R
2020 Presidential Result: 51% D—47% R



Sue Altman (D)
<https://www.suealtman.com/>

Rep. Kean was elected to the House in 2022 after serving in the state Legislature since 2001, including as Senate Republican Leader from 2008 through 2021. During his time in the Legislature he generally scored amongst the highest in NJGCA's candidate scorecards. He is the son of former Governor Tom Kean. Ms. Altman previously worked as the leader of the NJ Working Families Alliance, a non-profit group which pushed efforts like the \$15 minimum wage, mandatory paid sick leave, and increased corporate and income taxes.



Rob Menendez (D)
<https://www.robmenendez.com/>

Congressional District 8

2022 House Result: 73% D—24% R
2020 House Result: 74% D—25% R
2020 Presidential Result: 72% D—27% R



Anthony Valdes (R)
<https://anthonyvaldes.com/>

Rep. Menendez is the son of now-former Senator Bob Menendez. He was elected to the House in 2022. Menendez's professional experience includes working as an attorney, and he has served as a board member on the Hudson School Board of Trustees and as a commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Mr. Valdes is a community organizer in Hudson County who works as a building inspector for the State.

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Congressional District 9



Nellie Pou (D)

<https://www.nelliepoufornewjersey.com/>

2022 House Result: 55% D—44% R
2020 House Result: 66% D—32% R
2020 Presidential Result: 59% D—40% R



Billy Prempeh (R)

<https://www.billyprempheh.com/>

Sen. Nellie Pou has served in the state Legislature since 1997, first as an Assemblywoman and then as a state Senator since 2011. She has served the last several years as Chair of the Sen. Commerce Committee. She was only nominated to run in late August following the death of Congressman Bill Pascrell, beating out several strong competitors for the nomination. Mr. Prempeh is the son of immigrants from Ghana and is an Air Force veteran, he ran in 2022 and pulled off a much closer result than expected.

Congressional District 10



LaMonica McIver (D)

<https://www.lamonicaforcongress.com/>

2022 House Result: 78% D—20% R
2020 House Result: 83% D—14% R
2020 Presidential Result: 81% D—19% R



Carmen Bucco (R)

<https://carmenbucco.com/>

Rep. LaMonica McIver was just elected to Congress in a special election on September 19th. The special election was to replace Rep. Donald Payne, Jr. who passed away earlier this year. She was elected to the Newark City Council in 2018 and served as Council President before joining Congress. Mr. Bucco is a small business owner and founder of a local nonprofit.

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Congressional District 11



Mikie Sherrill (D)

<https://www.mikiesherrill.com/>

2022 House Result: 59% D—40% R
2020 House Result: 53% D—47% R
2020 Presidential Result: 58% D—41% R



Joe Belnome (R)

<https://www.joebelnome.com/>

Rep. Sherrill was first elected to Congress in 2018. She served as a pilot in the US Navy for nine years, after which she became a federal prosecutor. Mr. Belnome was a union bricklayer and now works as a building inspector in his hometown of Belleville.

Congressional District 12



Bonnie Watson Coleman (D)

<https://www.bonnieforcongress.com/>

2022 House Result: 63% D—36% R
2020 House Result: 66% D—33% R
2020 Presidential Result: 67% D—32% R



Darius Mayfield (R)

<https://www.dariusmayfieldforamerica.com/>

Rep. Watson Coleman was first elected to Congress in 2014. She served in the NJ General Assembly for 17 years before that. Mr. Mayfield started his business journey in the auto industry at age 17, became the youngest sales manager of a Top 25 US auto group, and became the first black general manager in the third fastest growing auto group in the US for 2019.



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HOW THEY VOTED

1. Repeal EPA Vehicle Standard

H.J.Res. 136 repeals the Environmental Protection Agency's rule to dramatically increase the emissions standards on new light and medium duty vehicles. The explicit reasoning for an increase of this size is to make it impossible for a meaningful number of gasoline or diesel powered vehicles to be produced or sold by the manufacturers. NJGCA strongly believes that motorists should have the freedom to choose what types of vehicles they want to drive, and not be mandated into battery-powered electric vehicles, whether directly or indirectly. The resolution passed 215-191 in September 2024 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

2. Prevent EPA Vehicle Standard

H.R. 4468, the "Choice in Automobile Retail Sales (CARS) Act" would have prevented the EPA from enacting its then proposed emissions standard rule which seeks to effectively severely reduce the availability of new gasoline or diesel powered light and medium duty vehicles. It passed 221-197 in December 2023 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

3. Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act

H.R. 1435 would prevent any state in the US from banning new vehicles powered by an internal combustion engine. 17 states including New Jersey have adopted the California Advanced Clean Cars II rule, which seeks to prohibit the sale of new gasoline powered vehicles by 2035. The bill passed the House 222-190 in September 2023 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

4. REINS Act

H.R. 277, the "Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny (REINS) Act", is a regulatory reform bill that would improve Congressional oversight and increase the quality of agency rulemakings. Any new major rule

(an economic impact of \$100 million+) proposed by the Executive Branch would need to be approved by Congress to become effective. It passed the House 221-210 in June 2023 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

5. Prohibit a Fracking Ban

H.R. 1121, the "Protecting American Energy Production Act" would prevent the current or future President from declaring a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, to drill for oil or natural gas. This method has allowed a dramatic increase in the amount of oil drilled in the US over the last decade, lowering prices and decreasing our reliance on foreign sources. It passed the House 229-188 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

6. "Lower Energy Costs Act"

H.R. 1 is comprehensive legislation to increase US energy production from a variety of sources, including oil and gas production. It would also streamline the permitting process for energy infrastructure, ultimately making fuel and electricity cheaper and more reliable. It passed the House 225-204 in March 2023 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

7. Delay Corporate Transparency Act (CTA)

H.R. 5119 would delay the filing deadline of the CTA, a law passed by Congress which requires business entities with fewer than 20 employees or less than \$5 million in revenue to register their owners with the federal government. The idea is to crack down on illegal activity funneled through LLCs, though in practice it would hit small business owners with serious fines if they forget to register or fill out the paperwork wrong, as well as putting them at risk of having their sensitive info stolen if the federal database gets hacked in the future. The law itself may be unconstitutional based on one judicial ruling so far. This bill would allow business owners an

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CD	Party	Name	1. Repeal EPA Rule	2. Prevent EPA Rule	3. Vehicle Choice Act	4. REINS Act	5. Stop Fracking Ban	6. Lower Energy Costs	7. Delay CTA	8a. Repeal Joint Employer Rule	8b. Veto Override	9. Repeal Nat Gas Tax	10. Health Ins. Choice Bill	11. Fiscal Responsibility Act
Sen	D	Andy Kim	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	NV	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
1	D	Donald Norcross	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	NV	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
2	R	Jeff Van Drew	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
4	R	Chris Smith	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	D	Josh Gottheimer	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
6	D	Frank Pallone	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
7	R	Tom Kean	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
8	D	Rob Menendez	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
11	D	Mikie Sherrill	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
12	D	Bonnie Watson Coleman	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

additional year to comply (current deadline is January 1, 2025). It passed the House 420-1 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

8. Repeal Joint Employer Rule

H.J.Res. 98 would repeal the National Labor Relations Board rule that risks undermining the independence of franchisees, potentially forcing them to pay and manage their workers on terms set between the franchisor and a union representing the workers, cutting the franchisee out. Non-franchise businesses are also at risk of potentially being liable for labor law violations committed by a separate company they have contracted with. It passed the House 206-177 in January 2024, passed the Senate 50-48 in April 2024, and was vetoed by President Biden in May 2024. The House voted to override the veto in May 2024. The vote was 214-191, short of the two-thirds needed. Both House votes are included, a **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

9. Repeal Natural Gas Tax

H.R. 1023 would repeal a tax on natural gas producers created by the EPA after the "Inflation Reduction Act". The cost of such a tax is passed on through higher natural gas prices. About half of the electricity generated in New Jersey comes from natural gas, as

does much of the home and business heating and cooking, thereby increasing our already too-high utility costs. It passed the House 209-204 in March 2024, but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

10. Health Insurance Choice Arrangement Act

H.R. 3799 would allow small employers to band together to create health plans that could collectively bargain for lower premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs for their employees, or to make tax-free contributions to special accounts that workers could use to purchase the health plans of their choosing. The bill passed the House 220-209 in June 2023 but was not taken up in the Senate. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

11. Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023

H.R. 3746 is legislation that prevented the federal government from defaulting on its debt payments, which would have caused significant negative impacts to the US economy. It also slowed federal spending and included provisions to reform the permitting process to get needed projects moving. It passed the House 314-117 in May 2023, passed the Senate 63-36 in June and was signed into law by the President soon after. A **YES** vote supported NJGCA's position.

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NJGCA Candidate Survey Questions

1. H.R. 906, the “Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair Act or the REPAIR Act”, would guarantee that consumers and auto repair shops are able to access a vehicle’s data related to diagnostics, repair, service, wear, and calibration or recalibration of parts and systems of the vehicle, thereby preventing big car manufacturers from locking out small businesses and forcing consumers to get their repair work done only at dealerships. **Would you support the REPAIR Act?**

2. Credit card interchange fees have become one of the largest expenses a business incurs. Visa and MasterCard have created a virtual monopoly and are able to charge retailers whatever rate they wish, knowing no business in this modern age can survive without accepting their cards. Small businesses in the US pay credit card fees that are seven times higher than the rates charged in Europe. The Credit Card Competition Act (H.R. 3881) is bipartisan legislation to lower the cost of credit card fees by injecting competition into the market by providing choice in how transactions are routed. It would not set any caps on fees, just allow for more competition. **Would you support this legislation?**

3. Would you support federal legislation to ensure that all motorists will continue to have the option to purchase gasoline powered motor vehicles?

4. Most NJGCA members, like most small businesses, are organized as “pass-through entities” for the purposes of taxation; meaning the business is taxed when the owner pays their

income tax. **Would you oppose legislation which would increase the federal tax on income less than \$400,000 per year per individual/\$500,000 for married couple filing jointly?**

5. OSHA has proposed broad new regulations that will significantly impact small businesses in New Jersey. Businesses like repair shops will have to maintain records of their indoor temperatures and closely track the minutes their technicians are working to force them to take breaks every 2 hours, adding up to 30-45 minutes a day of extra paid breaks on hot days, a cost which will have to be passed on in the form of higher repair bills. NJ’s unique full-serve gas mandate will be threatened on summer days when the only attendant is forced to go on a break and customers will not be legally able to buy gas for that 15-minute window every 2 hours. **Do you support this proposal?**

6. New Jersey’s minimum wage is currently \$15.13 for most employers, and will continue to be increased annually based on inflation. **Would you oppose a bill that would set a higher federal minimum wage than New Jersey’s rate?**

7. The FDA has proposed a ban on the sale of menthol cigarettes. Historically, prohibitions have led to black markets, hurting honest retailers while not improving the public health. A few months ago, the FDA backed off their proposal, though they may bring it back. **Do you support this ban?**

8. For years the estate tax, or death tax as it is commonly known, has been a burden on small business owners who want to pass their business and their life’s work onto their family.

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Under the 2017 tax reform law, the exemption level was set at \$13.6 million for individuals, protecting a huge portion of small businesses. **Would you oppose legislation that would lower this threshold?**

9. Since 2015, Congress has been raiding the nation’s Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) and selling off its contents for no reason other than to fund federal spending. The recent supply crisis has shown how critical the SPR is for our nation’s energy security, and with the SPR at the lowest level in 40 years, we must focus on refilling it rather than selling it off for cash. **Would you oppose future sales of SPR oil being conducted just to generate revenue?**

10. A lack of infrastructure has been pointed out as one of the primary reasons more motorists have not adopted zero emission vehicles. There already exists a nationwide infrastructure of businesses that motorists are accustomed to refueling at: gas stations. **Would you support providing grants or other funding to motor fuel retailers which install hydrogen refueling stations or EV battery fast chargers?**

11. Tariffs have become more popular among some politicians. Of particular concern to independent auto repairers are tariffs on automotive parts and tires, which will increase the cost of repairing and maintaining all motor vehicles, a cost which small businesses will be forced to pass on to consumers. **Do you support tariffs on these items?**

12. **Would you oppose an increase in the federal cigarette tax?**

13. Over the last decade domestic oil drilling has dramatically expanded, keeping gas prices far lower than would have been without this drilling. Hydraulic fracturing or “fracking” has been the key to this expansion of

supply. Some believe that the technique should be banned by the federal government, a move that would significantly increase the price of oil, gasoline, diesel, heating oil, and natural gas. **Would you oppose a federal ban on fracking?**

14. The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act created the Section 199A deduction for pass-through businesses of 20%, which has been an important boost to small businesses like our members. This deduction is scheduled to expire next year. **Would you support making this deduction permanent?**

Question	Tom Kean CD 7 (R)	Matt Jenkins CD 4 (D)	Billy Premph CD 9 (R)	Scott Fegler CD 6 (R)	Anthony Valdes CD 8 (R)	Carmen Bucco CD 10 (R)	Joe Belnome CD 11 (R)
1. Right to Repair		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2. Credit Card Fees		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3. Protect Gas Vehicles	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
4. Oppose tax increase	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5. Support heat rule	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
6. Oppose Minimum Wage	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
7. Support Menthol Ban	No	No	No		No	No	No
8. Oppose Death Tax Expansion	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
9. Oppose SPR sales	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
10. Support Grants for chargers	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
11. Support auto parts tariffs		No	No	No	No	No	No
12. Oppose Cig Tax	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
13. Oppose fracking ban	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
14. Support 199A deduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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