



RATLIFF COMPANY

500 WEST 13TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

KEVIN COOPER
HON. THOMAS RATLIFF
RANDY ELLISTON

AUSTIN OFFICE:
TEL (512) 494-9180
WWW.RATCO.NET

March 7, 2018
MEMORANDUM

TO: DPROA, Pete Bailey and Dwight Walker
FROM: Randy Elliston
SUBJECT: Primary elections wrap-up

Gentlemen after most of the dust has settled from the primary election, here's the condensed rundown of what happened. If you would like more information, please let me know.

Bottom line, for all of the bluster and social media traffic, not a whole lot has changed.

STATEWIDE:

The Governor, Lt. Governor, Land Commissioner and Agriculture Commissioner all won re-election with little difficulty. The Attorney General was unopposed.

SENATE:

The Senate stayed pretty much the same. One incumbent (Craig Estes-Wichita Falls) lost to a Tea Party House Member (Pat Fallon-Denton) who was endorsed by Lt. Governor Patrick. There is one Senate seat that is worth watching in November, Republican State Rep. Konnie Burton-Ft. Worth will face Democrat candidate Beverly Powell.

HOUSE:

State Representative Dan Flynn, currently Chairman of the House Pensions Committee defeated challenger Bryan Slaton.

The House pretty much stayed the same but there are likely more changes coming in November. There are 7 R's and 7 D's primaries headed for runoffs. Still more fun to come on some races. There is one Dem. House chairman, Rene Oliveira, and one Rep. freshman, Scott Cospers, headed for runoffs. The rest are for open seats.

Two Rep. incumbents lost to Tea Party backed challengers (Wayne Faircloth-Galveston and Jason Villalba-Dallas). The Villalba seat is widely expected to flip to the Dems in November. Villalba was defeated by Lisa Luby Ryan.

Four Dem. incumbents lost (Dawna Dukes-Austin, Roberto Alonzo-Dallas, Diana Arevalo-San Antonio, Tomas Uresti-San Antonio) their re-election bids. Roberto Alonzo was defeated by local Dallas lawyer Jessica Gonzalez.

BOTTOM LINE:

Expect more gridlock between the very conservative Senate and the more moderate House in the 2019 session.