

# Hotline Congressional and Gubernatorial Updates

Top Down-Ballot Hotline  
Stories of the Month

**July 21, 2016**

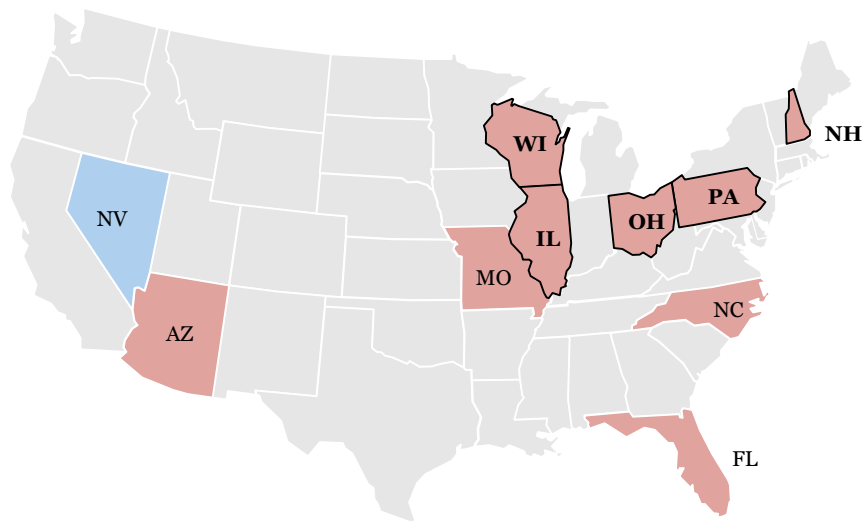
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**Edited by:** Katharine Conlon  
**Director:** Afzal Bari

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# Republicans Currently Hold the Five Senate Seats Most Likely to Flip in 2016

## Hotline's 2016 Senate Rankings

■ Seat Held by Republican ■ Seat Held by Democrat



- 6. Nevada: Open (D)
- 7. Florida: Marco Rubio (R)
- 8. North Carolina: Richard Burr (R)
- 9. Missouri: Roy Blunt (R)
- 10. Arizona: John McCain (R)

*Based on Headlines From  
National Journal's Hotline*

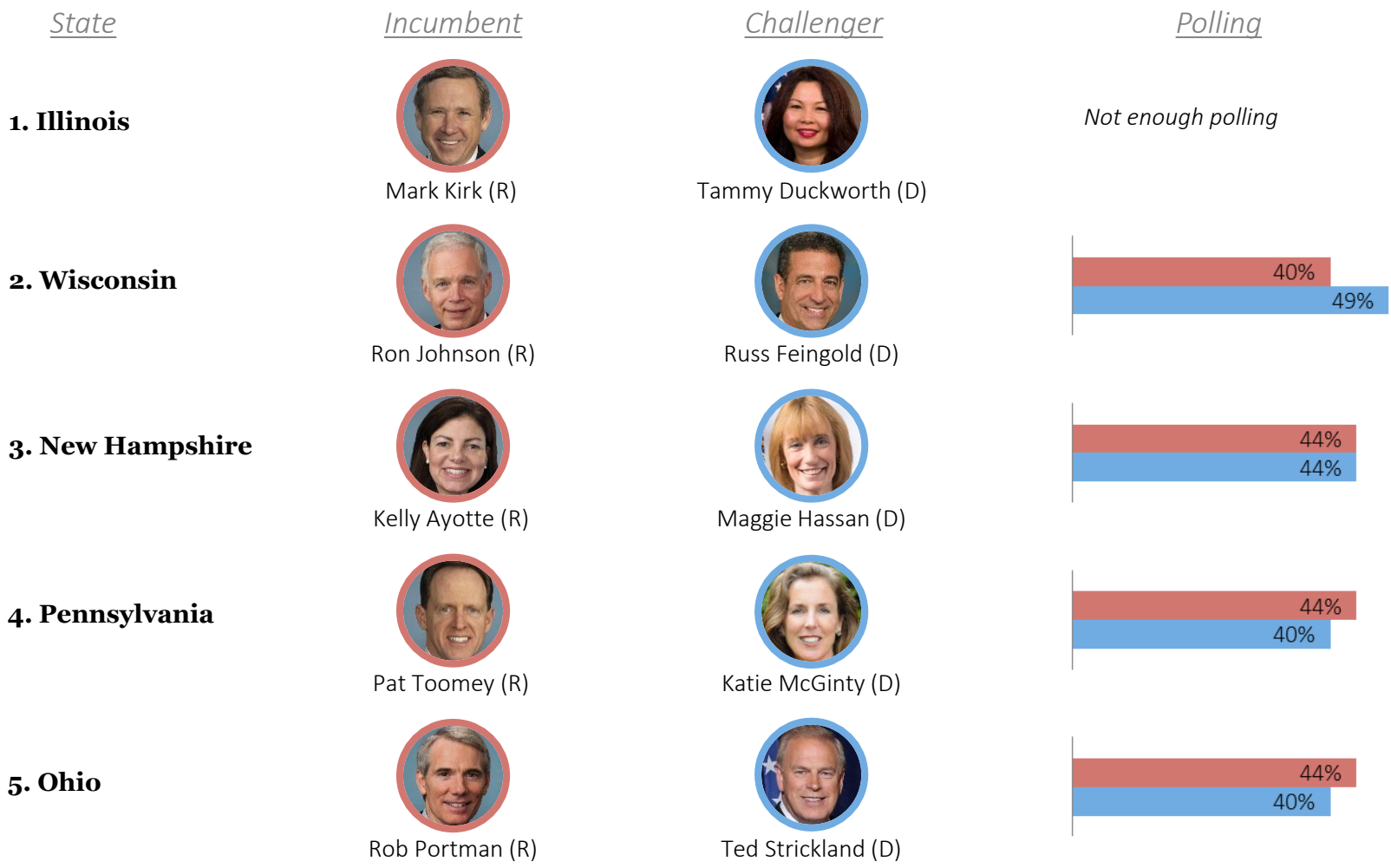
1. **Illinois:** Sen. Mark Kirk (R) is trailing in polls in a blue state, and is lacking in support from outside spending groups. Kirk has publicly disavowed Trump in a TV ad, seeking to distance himself from his party.
2. **Wisconsin:** Former senator Russ Feingold (D) is running an aggressive campaign against Ron Johnson (R), but Johnson has ample support from outside spending groups.
3. **New Hampshire:** New Hampshire voted Democratic by 6 and 9 points in the last two presidential elections, so Kelly Ayotte (R) is likely to need a significant number of voters supporting both her and Hillary Clinton to win, which won't be easy against the state's current governor Maggie Hassan (D).
4. **Pennsylvania:** National Democrats spent \$5 million to get their chosen candidate, 2014 gubernatorial candidate Katie McGinty (D), through a messy nominating fight. Pat Toomey (R) has a lot of money to spend in his effort to brand himself as independent from his party.
5. **Ohio:** Rob Portman (R) sits on slightly safer ground than some colleagues, thanks to an incredible fundraising year and a proactive reelection campaign, but he still faces a former governor with near universal name recognition, Ted Strickland (D).

Source: Kyle Trygstad and Andrea Drusch, "Hotline's 2016 Senate Rankings," National Journal, July 6, 2016.

# Which Senate Seats Are Most Likely to Flip?

Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline

## Hotline's 2016 Senate Rankings



Sources: Kyle Trygstad and Andrea Drusch, "Hotline's 2016 Senate Rankings," National Journal, July 6, 2016; HuffPost Pollster, 2016. Images from National Journal Almanac, Wikipedia, Citizens for Community Values and Politics PA.

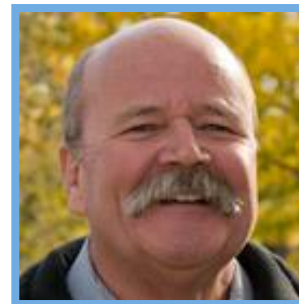
# Pence as VP Pick Shakes Up Indiana Governor Race

## Indiana Governor's Race

*Based on Headlines From  
National Journal's Hotline*



VS.



**Mike Pence**  
*Incumbent*

- Now that Gov. Mike Pence has been selected as Trump's running mate.
- Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb (R) and Reps. Susan Brooks (R) and Todd Rokita (R) are now seeking the nomination.

**John Gregg**  
*Former Speaker of the House,  
Indiana Senate*

- A few of Gregg's campaign themes are: Indiana jobs, funding for state and local roads, education and LGBT rights.
- Gregg was trailing Pence by about 7% in the polls.

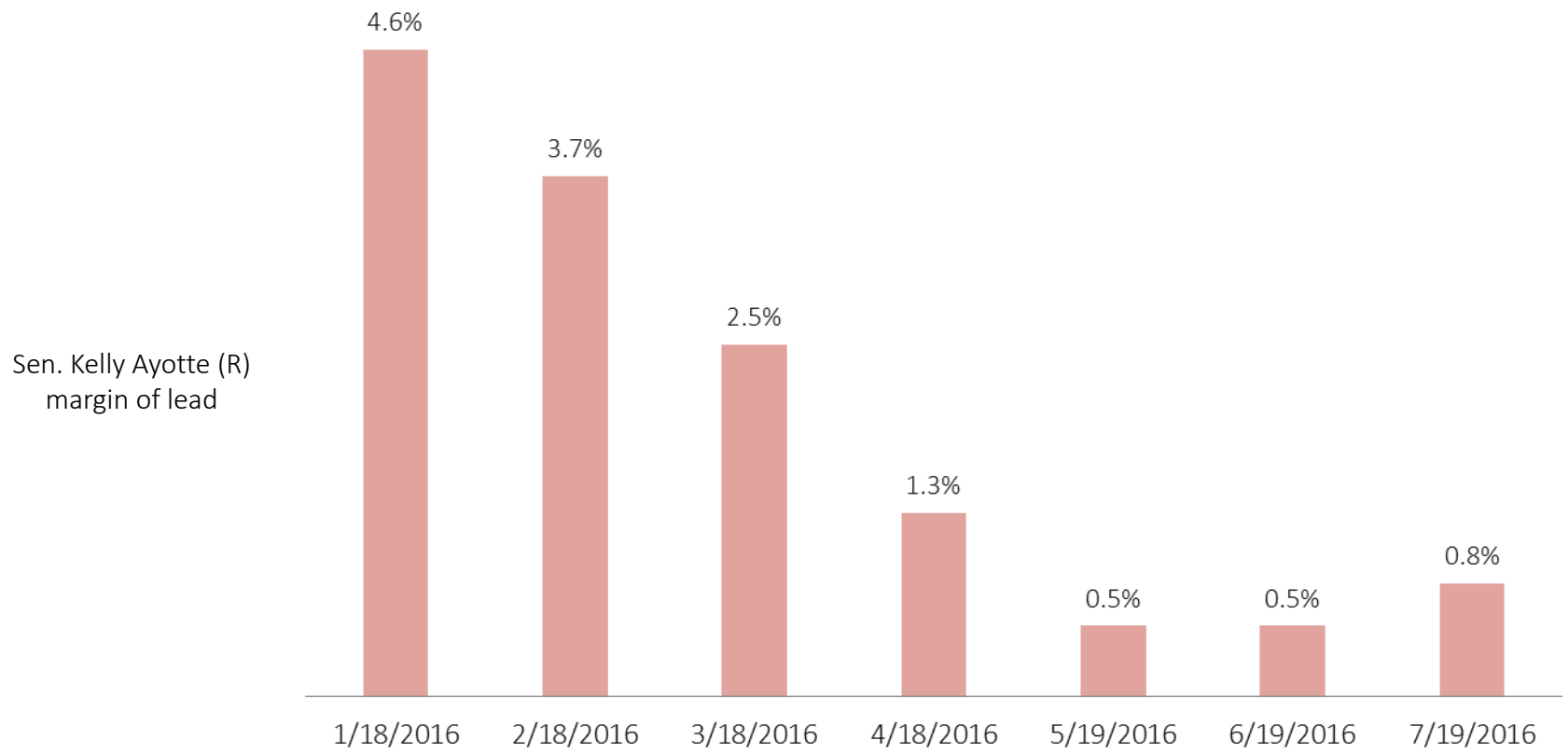
Source: Zach Cohen, "Pence Withdraws From Reelection Campaign to Run as Trump's VP," National Journal, July 15, 2016; Ballotpedia, 2016.

# Ayotte Lead Shrinks Over Time, Race Now a Statistical Tie

## New Hampshire Senate Race Polls

Margin of Lead, HuffPost Pollster Average

Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline



Sources: HuffPost Pollster, 2016.

# Harris Has Financial and Polling Edge Over Sanchez in California Senate Primary

## Updates From the Democratic California Senate Primary

*Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline*

### Money raised in California Senate primary

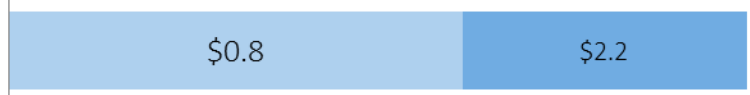
- Money spent (millions of dollars)
- Money in the bank (millions of dollars)



Kamala Harris



Loretta Sanchez



### California Senate primary polling



Sources: HuffPost Pollster, March, 2016; National Journal Hotline Updates; OpenSecrets.

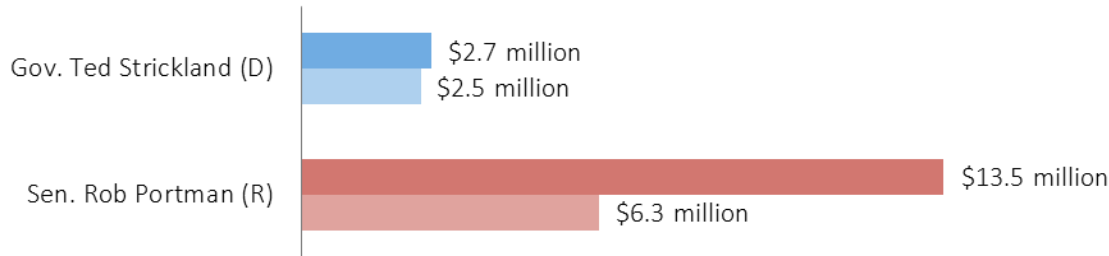
# Ohio Senate Race Intensifies Between Incumbent and Governor

## Updates From the 2016 Ohio Senate Race

*Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline*

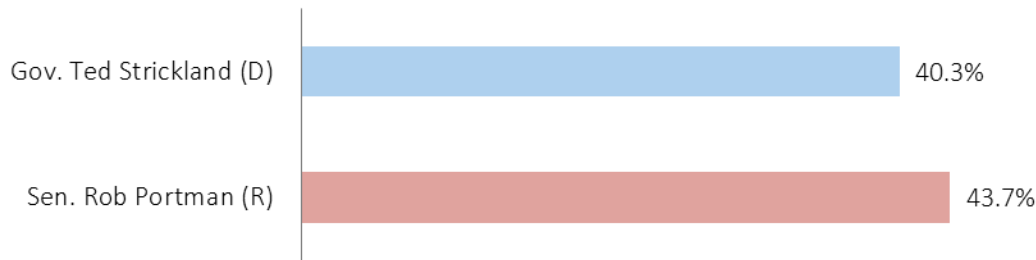
### Money raised in Ohio Senate race

- Money Spent by Strickland
- Strickland's Money in the Bank
- Money Spent by Portman
- Portman's Money in the Bank



### Ohio Senate race polling

- Percent Supporting Strickland
- Percent supporting Portland



**Campaign Updates:**

- Portman has avoided the RNC convention, despite it being in his home state.
- The Ohio Republican party tripled the state's Democrats in the number of new primary voters
- After avoiding the question, Portman has declared that he will support Donald Trump in general election

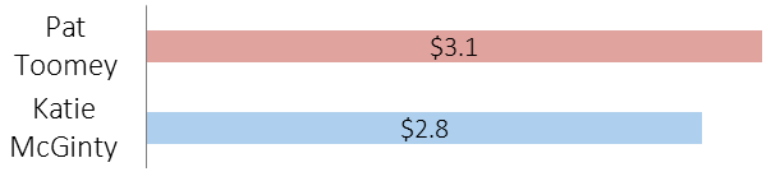
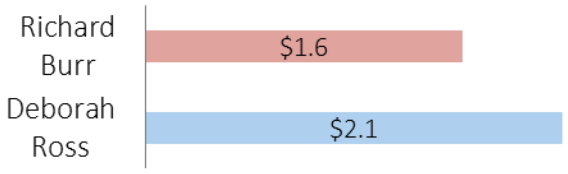
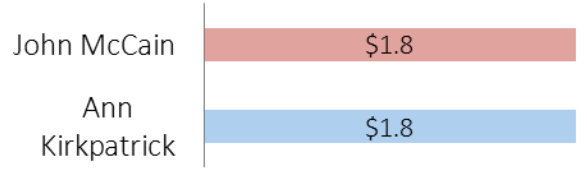
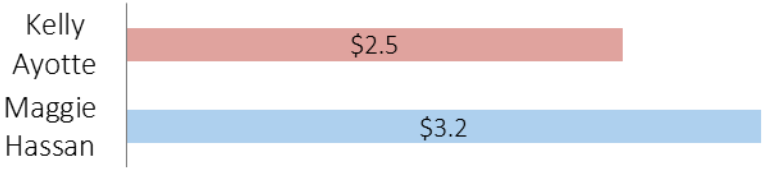
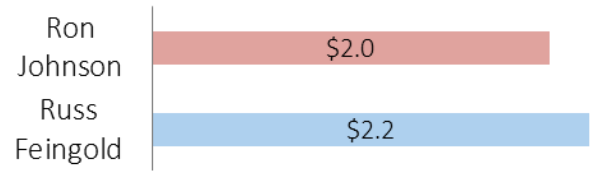
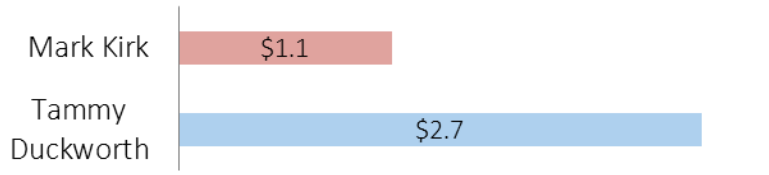
Sources: HuffPost Pollster, March, 2016; National Journal Hotline Updates.

# Dem Senators Catch Up in Q2 Fundraising

## 2016 Second Quarter Fundraising

Millions of Dollars

Based on Headlines From National Journal's Hotline



Sources: Andrea Drusch, "Democrats Pick Up the Fundraising Pace in Senate Races," National Journal, July 15, 2016.