

In Heavily Republican Districts, Several Primary Winners are Sure-Thing Freshmen Congressmen

GOP Primary Winners Coming to Congress

**Roger Marshall, M.D.***KS-1**Obstetrician*

Practicing doctor Roger Marshall defeated incumbent and chairman of the House Tea party Caucus, Rep. Tim Huelskamp, 56 to 44 percent last week. Marshall was endorsed by the Kansas Farm Bureau, giving him an edge in the agricultural district over Huelskamp who was recently ousted from the Agriculture Committee. The race attracted nearly \$3 million in outside spending. There are no Democrats running in the general election.

**Drew Ferguson, D.D.S.***GA-3**Dentist and Former Mayor of West Point, Georgia*

Drew Ferguson defeated State Senator Mike Crane in every county in the district in a pricy primary runoff. In the crowded May GOP primary, Crane and Ferguson were separated by only 100 votes. Money from outside groups, including over \$2.1 million from outside Georgia, flooded the election which was considered a proxy battle between establishment and anti-establishment Republicans. Senator Ted Cruz endorsed and campaigned for Crane. Ferguson faces Democrat Angela Pendley in the general, but Ferguson is heavily favored to win.

**David Kustoff***TN-8**Former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee*

David Kustoff defeated 12 opponents with 27% of the vote in a close primary race for retiring Republican Rep. Stephen Fincher's seat. Kustoff campaigned on his record fighting public corruption as U.S. Attorney. He will face Democrat Rickey Hobson in the general.

Sources: Joe Robertson and Curtis Tate, "Tea Party's Tim Huelskamp Ousted By Challenger Roger Marshall in Kansas Congressional Race," *Kansas City Star*, August 2, 2016; Tamar Hallerman, "Chamber of Commerce-Backed Drew Ferguson Wins 3rd District GOP Runoff," *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, July 26, 2016; Kyle Trygstad, "Looks Who's Coming to Congress: GOP Primary Winners," *National Journal*, August 11, 2016; *Ballotpedia* 2016.