



# Laborers' International Union of North America

## Midwest Regional Office

John F. Penn, LIUNA Vice President and Midwest Regional Manager

### Illinois Legislative Update

### Special Primary Election Wrap-Up

March 16, 2016

While the national news rightly focused on the Presidential Primaries, an equally energetic (and expensive) battle raged between unions allied with Democrats in the state legislature and Gov. Bruce Rauner (R) over state spending priorities and Rauner's anti-worker agenda. As a result, Tuesday's Primary Election represented a proxy battle between the two groups.

Bruce Rauner and his wealthiest of friends gave millions to "independent expenditure" PACs to run ads and send mail supporting Rauner-backed candidates and attacking those whom the Governor opposed. Despite breaking all spending records, Rauner and co. lost the two most closely watched races of the night and all but one of the others where Labor, the Democrats, or both, fully engaged.

Most notably, Labor-backed Julianna Stratton (D-Chicago) trounced Democrat defector Rep. Ken Dunkin (D-Chicago) by a two-to-one margin. And Sen. Sam McCann (R-Jacksonville), who defied Rauner by backing union members on a crucial vote for state employees, defeated Bryce Benton (R-Springfield) by nearly 2,000 votes.

<b>President – Democrat</b>	<b>Clinton</b>	<b>1,002,832 (50.5%)</b>	<b>Sanders</b>	<b>968,227 (48.7%)</b>
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Hillary Clinton won the Democrat Primary with 50.5% of the vote (with 98.7% of precincts reporting) over Bernie Sanders, a 34,000-vote victory. Democrat Primary turnout was close to that of 2008 when Clinton ran against Illinois' favorite son Barack Obama and more than 2 million Democrats turned out.

Clinton won 24 counties, most of which were border counties, the biggest being Cook Co. (Chicago) where she received 53.6% of the vote and ran up a 90,000 vote lead. Her next largest margins of victory were in St. Clair County (+5,500 votes), and suburban Lake County (+5,400). She won the downstate blue collar counties of Peoria and Macon by 1,000 votes. All other counties won by Clinton were by either smaller margins and had very few Democrats.

Sanders' chipped away at Clinton's big lead coming out of Cook Co. by winning all but one of the suburban Chicago counties (netting a 24,000 vote advantage) and racking up sizable victories, not surprisingly, in college counties: Champaign (65.9%, +10,000 votes), McLean (62.4%, +5,300), DeKalb (66.5%, +4,200) and Jackson (61.9%, +2,800). In total, Sanders won 78 of the state's 102 counties.

<b>President – Republican</b>	<b>Trump</b>	<b>548,528 (38.8%)</b>	<b>Kasich</b>	<b>278,244 (19.7%)</b>
	<b>Cruz</b>	<b>428,363 (30.3%)</b>	<b>Rubio</b>	<b>122,206 (8.7%)</b>

Turnout in the Republican Primary increased by more than 50% over 2008 and 2012 levels: 1.4 million voters requested Republican ballots this year compared to 933,000 in 2012 and 898,000 in 2008.

Donald Trump won 79 of the state's 102 counties and the results in most of them reflected the order of finish overall in the state. The three exceptions were the suburban Chicago counties of DuPage, Lake and Kane – where Republicans tend to be more moderate on social issues. John Kasich finished second in those counties.

Ted Cruz won 22 counties and one county is currently tied between the two. Cruz's victories came in the most conservative Republican counties in the middle of the state (and four counties in northern Illinois). His margins of victory over Trump were largest in central Illinois' McLean (+4,400), Tazewell (+3,600), Peoria (+2,700) and Woodford (+2,300) counties.

#### U.S. Senate

Republican Senator Mark Kirk easily fought off a little-known and unfunded challenger from his political right. Kirk defeated



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James Marter (R-Oswego) 70.7% to 29.3% despite Marter only spending \$43,000 through February.

On the Democrat side, **Cong. Tammy Duckworth (D-Schaumburg)** cruised to a 40-point victory over her closest opponent, securing 64% of the vote in a three-way race. The Duckworth/Kirk race will be one of the top races in the country as Kirk is considered to be the most vulnerable incumbent in the Senate.

The following is a snapshot of numerous contested primary races. Candidates in **bold** were supported by LiUNA and candidates with asterisks (\*\*) were supported by Bruce Rauner.

### *U.S. Congress – 2<sup>nd</sup> District - Democrat*

<b>Cong. Robin Kelly</b>	<b>73.9%</b>
Marcus Lewis	16.2%
Charles Rayburn	6.1%
Dorian Myrickes	3.8%

### *U.S. Congress – 13<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

<b>Cong. Rodney Davis</b>	<b>77%</b>
Ethan Vandersand	23%

### *U.S. Congress – 15<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

<b>Cong. John Shimkus</b>	<b>60.4%</b>
Kyle McCarter	39.6%

### *Illinois Senate – 50<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

<b>Sen. Sam McCann</b>	<b>52.4%</b>
Bryce Benton	47.6% **

### *Illinois Senate – 55<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

Sen. Dale Righter	68.4%
Mike Parsons	31.6%

### *Illinois Senate – 58<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Luechtefeld seat)*

Paul Schimpf	67.1% **
Sharee Langenstein	32.9%

### *Illinois House – 5<sup>th</sup> District – Democrat*

Rep. Ken Dunkin	32.3% **
<b>Julianna Stratton</b>	<b>67.7%</b>

### *Illinois House – 7<sup>th</sup> District – Democrat*

<b>Rep. Chris Welch</b>	<b>65.6%</b>
Chris Harris	34.4% **

### *Illinois House – 22<sup>nd</sup> District – Democrat*

<b>Spkr. Michael Madigan</b>	<b>64.6%</b>
Jason Gonzalez	27.6% **
Grasiela Rodriguez	5.8%
Joe Barboza	2%



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### *Illinois House – 26<sup>th</sup> House – Democrat*

**Rep. Christian Mitchell** 56.1%  
Jay Travis 43.9%

### *Illinois House – 72<sup>nd</sup> District – Democrat (OPEN - Verschoore seat)*

**Mike Halpin** 38.6%  
Jeff Jacobs 31.9%  
Katelyn Hotle 20.7%  
Glen Evans 8.8%

### *Illinois House – 72<sup>nd</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Verschoore seat)*

Brandi McGuire 58.6% \*\*  
Jordan Thoms 41.4%

### *Illinois House – 74<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Moffitt seat)*

Daniel Swanson 49.1%  
Michael DeSutter 34.5% \*\*  
Wayne Saline 16.4%

### *Illinois House – 76<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Mautino seat)*

Jerry Long 62.3%  
Jacob Bramel 37.7%

### *Illinois House – 95<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Rosenthal seat)*

Rep. Avery Bourne 60.2% \*\*  
Dennis Scobbie 29.2%  
Christopher Hicks 10.6%

### *Illinois House – 96<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (Scherer seat)*

Cindy Deadrick Wolfer 60.1%  
Gary Pierce 39.9%

### *Illinois House – 99<sup>th</sup> District – Republican (OPEN - Poe seat)*

Rep. Sara Wojcicki Jimenez 64.7% \*\*  
Kent Gray 35.3%

### *Illinois House – 102<sup>nd</sup> District – Republican (OPEN – Brown seat)*

Brad Halbrook 43.6% \*\*  
**Jim Acklin** 38%  
Randy Peterson 18.4%

### *Illinois House – 109<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

Rep. David Reis 75.3%  
John Curtis 24.7%

### *Illinois House – 110<sup>th</sup> District – Republican*

Rep. Reggie Phillips 59.6% \*\*  
Johnathan Kaye 40.4%