

# Delegates versus Voters

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Chapter 9 Final Theme

Chapter 10 Theme A

# Alternative Voting Systems

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- ☐ Hand back paragraphs on which system is best.
  - ☐ Discuss and debate.
  - ☐ Award winner their “prize.”
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# Alternative Voting Systems

Candidate	Plurality 4 Votes	Run-off 5 Votes	Approval 1 Vote	Cumulative 4 Votes
Party A Libt.	Taylor	Goly	Raeven	Hannah
Party B Dem.	Sidney	Kaylee	Sidney	Kaylee
Party C Rep.	Brady	Joe 😊	Rachel	Sam
Party D Ind.	Ryan	Ruan	Ryan	Ryan

o add note Others: 3 Votes Proportional, 3 Votes Transferrable

# Nominating a President

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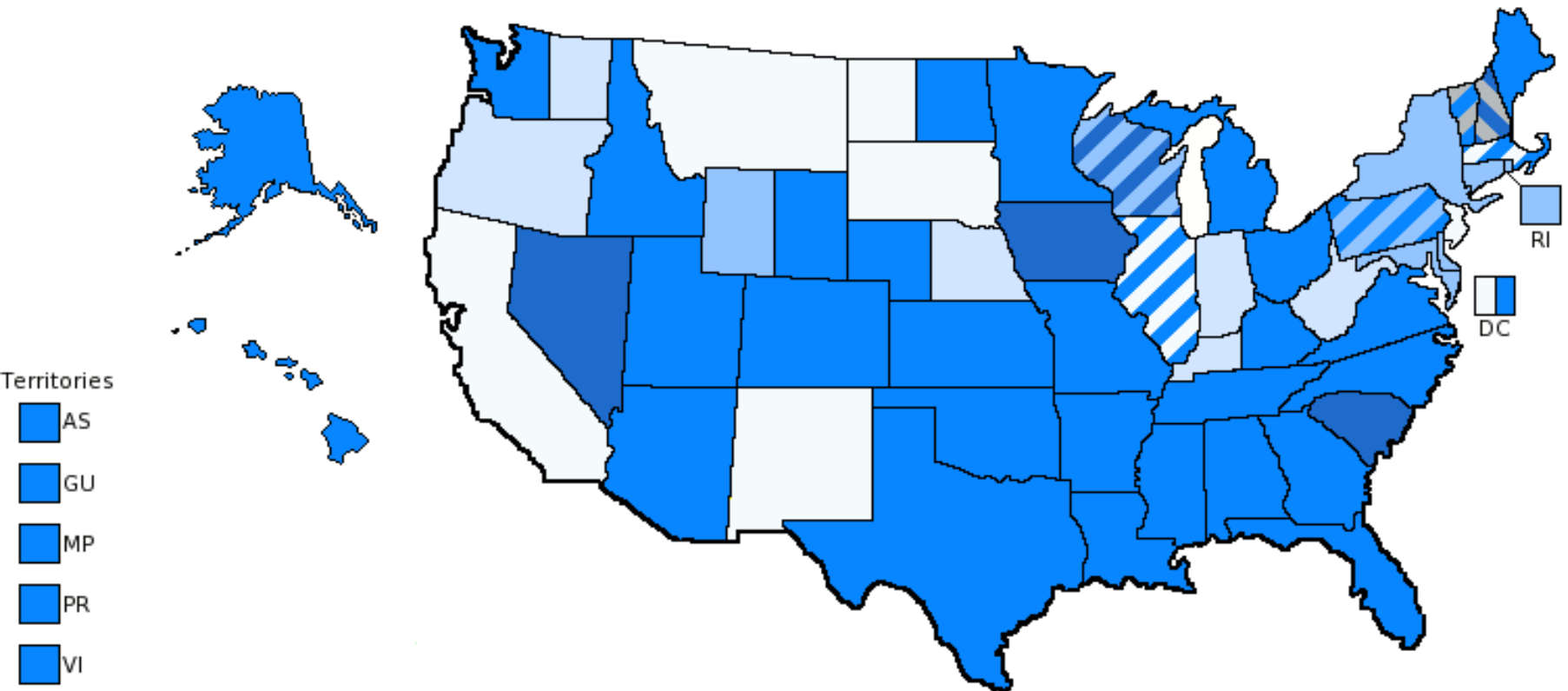
- ❑ By tradition, party "out of power"-the one not holding the presidency-holds its convention first. (RNC 7/18 in Cleveland, DNC 7/25 in Philadelphia)
  - ❑ Two contrary forces: Party's desire to win motivates it to seek an appealing candidate, but its desire to keep dissidents in party forces a compromise with more extreme views
  - ❑ Are the delegates representative of the voters?
    - **No! More liberal Dems., More conservative Reps.**
    - **Why this disparity? Political elites, Minorities overrepresented, growing number of independents**
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# Who votes in primaries?

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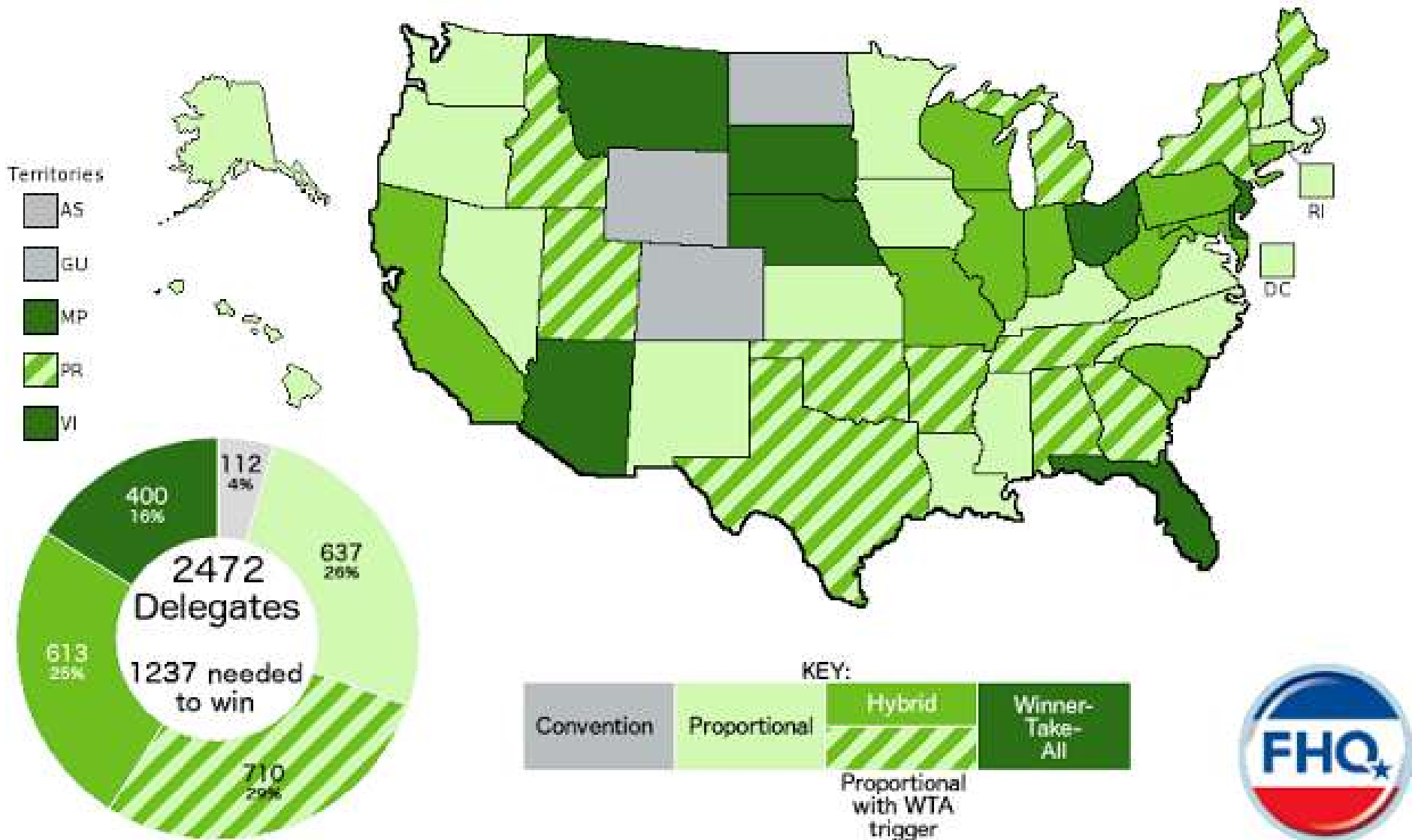
- ❑ **Primaries now more numerous and more decisive**
    - **Stevenson (1952) & Humphrey (1968) won nomination without entering any primaries**
    - **2012: 40 primaries & 20 caucuses (some sts. with both)**
  - ❑ **Little ideological difference between primary voters and rank-and-file party voters**
  - ❑ **Caucus: meeting of party followers at which delegates are picked**
    - **Only most dedicated partisans attend**
    - **Often choose most ideological candidate: Jackson, Robertson in 1988; Obama, Huckabee in 2008**
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# Presidential Primaries and Caucuses by Month (2016)

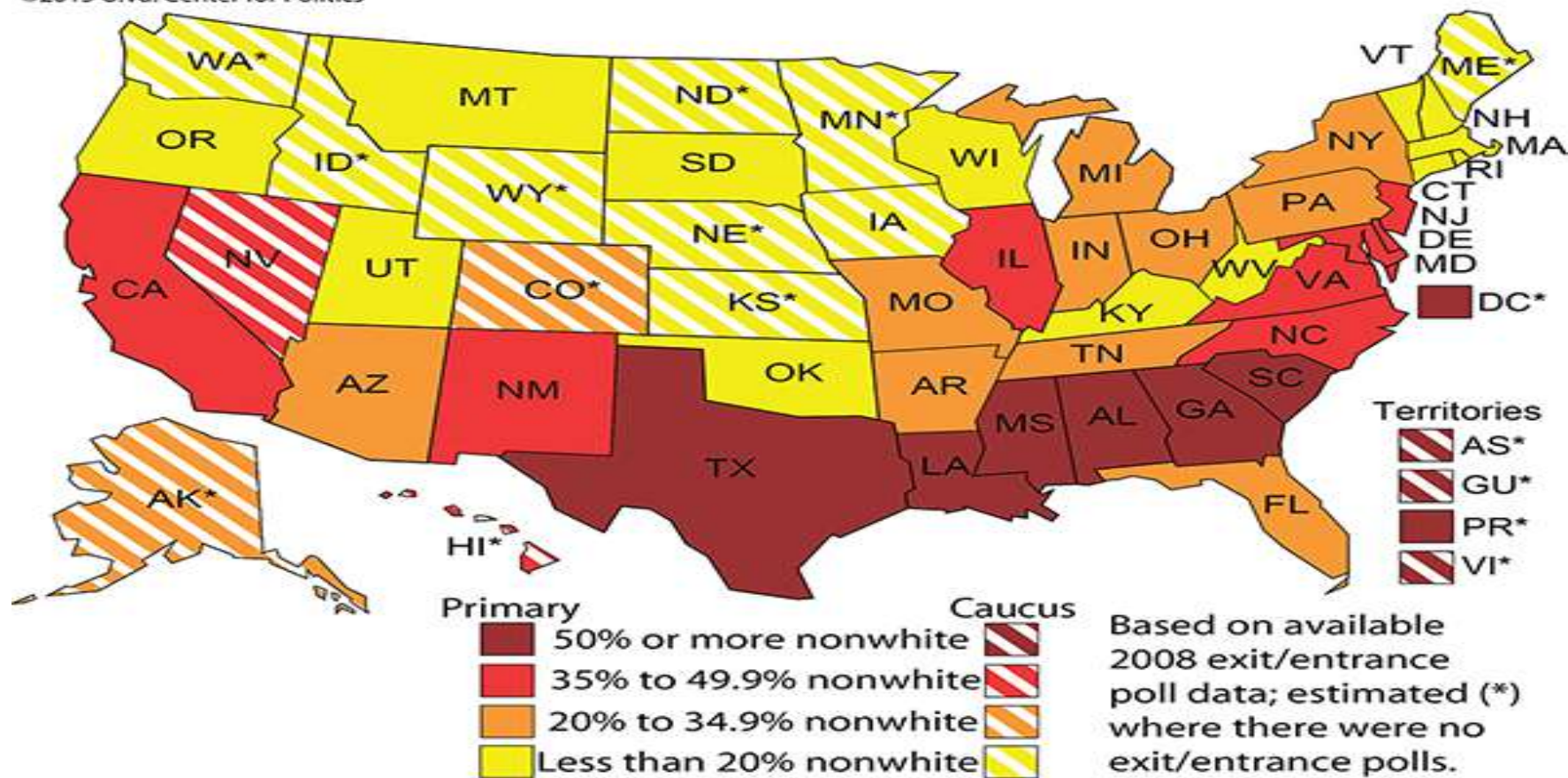


Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	No Date
	States with active legislation before state legislature to move presidential primary. The colors denote both the current position and the proposed change.			Carve-out states or states with options but statute-based guidance on primary/caucuses dates. The colors denote the undetermined contest date but also the options laid forth in state law or the likely date of the primary/caucuses.		

# Republican Delegate Allocation Rules by State (2016)







Primary and caucus totals	Less than 20.0% nonwhite	20.0-34.9% nonwhite	35.0-49.9% nonwhite	50.0% or more nonwhite
Primaries	12	10	8	8
Caucuses	10	2	2	3
Total	22	12	10	11
Delegates	1031	1461	1333	697
% of delegates	23%	32%	29%	15%



# Who are the new delegates?

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- ☐ **Today's delegates are issue-oriented activists**
  - ☐ **Advantages of new system**
    - **Increased chance for activists within party**
    - **Decreased probability of their bolting from the party**
  - ☐ **Disadvantage**
    - **May nominate presidential candidates unacceptable to voters, esp. moderates**
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# Parties versus Voters

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- ❑ Democrats: have won more congressional elections than presidential contests
    - Candidates are out of step with average voters on social and taxation issues
    - Delegates out of step with average voter... is there's a connection?
  - ❑ Rank-and-file Democrats and Republicans differ on many political issues but differences are usually small
  - ❑ Delegates of the parties though widely differ on political issues—See Chart!
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# Primary voters are more consistent...

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## Primary Electorates Disproportionately Composed of Ideologically Consistent Voters

2014 (self-reported)

■ Consist lib ■ Mostly lib ■ Mixed ■ Mostly cons ■ Consist cons

### Among Republicans...



### Among Democrats...



# **The Candidate's Dilemma**

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- ❑ Candidates need to correspond with views of average citizens--But candidates must often play to the ideological extremes to win delegate support**
  - ❑ How do we get candidates that appeal to both? Can we?**
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# Introduction to Elections

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- ❑ What are the 2 phases of all types of elections?
  - ❑ What are the steps in getting nominated?
  - ❑ How are US elections different from those in Europe?
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# Primaries vs. General Elections

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- ❑ Explain the difference in the type of elections.
  - ❑ Why might you need to prepare differently for these?
  - ❑ What factors are important to party members in primaries?
    - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OB5MgtSUTlc>
  - ❑ Explain the differences in **closed, open, blanket, & runoff primaries**.
  - ❑ NC's Presidential primary is a binding presidential preference type. What does that mean? What are the alternatives?
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# The Iowa Caucuses

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- ❑ Why does the text refer to the Democratic caucus as “a cross between musical chairs and fraternity pledge week?”
  - ❑ How can primaries and caucuses come back to haunt a Presidential candidate? Explain “flip-flopping!”
    - <http://www.livingroomcandidate.org/commercials/2004>
  - ❑ How does the balancing act of winning the nomination cause “clothespin voting?”
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# **Presidential vs. Congressional Elections**

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- ❑ Presidential more competitive**
  - ❑ Lower voter turnout in midterm elections**
  - ❑ Congressional members more able to serve constituency**
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# Presidential vs. Congressional Elections

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- Congressional candidates can campaign against “Washington”
    - Blame President and hold him accountable
    - Presidents rarely can duck responsibility because they are seen as the “Leader of the Free World”
    - Congressional members are more affected by party’s economic policies
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# Presidential vs. Congressional Elections

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- ❑ Power of Coattails declining
    - How will Obama's popularity affect next year's elections?
    - How did his popularity affect Republicans running for Congress in 2014?
    - How did this affect Democrats running for Congress in 2014?
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# Running for President

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## ☐ Decisions

- Getting mentioned
    - ☐ Who is being mentioned?
  - Setting aside time to run
  - Raising money
  - Organizing a staff
  - Defining a Strategy & Themes
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# Running for President

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## ☐ Strategy:

1. What tone?
  2. What theme?
  3. What should the timing be?
    - ☐ Front-loading?
    - ☐ Optimistically cautious?
  4. Whom to target?
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# Running for Congress

- ❑ Why do **incumbents** win so often?
- ❑ 4 issues in deciding representation in HOR:
  - Est. the total size of HOR (Congress) (1911)
  - Reapportionment (Congress) (Since 1929)
  - Determining size of districts in state (State legis.)
  - Determine shape & location of districts (St. legis.)
- ❑ **Gerrymandering** and **mal-apportionment**
  - Define each term
  - How has the US Supreme Court become the referee?
  - Discuss cases

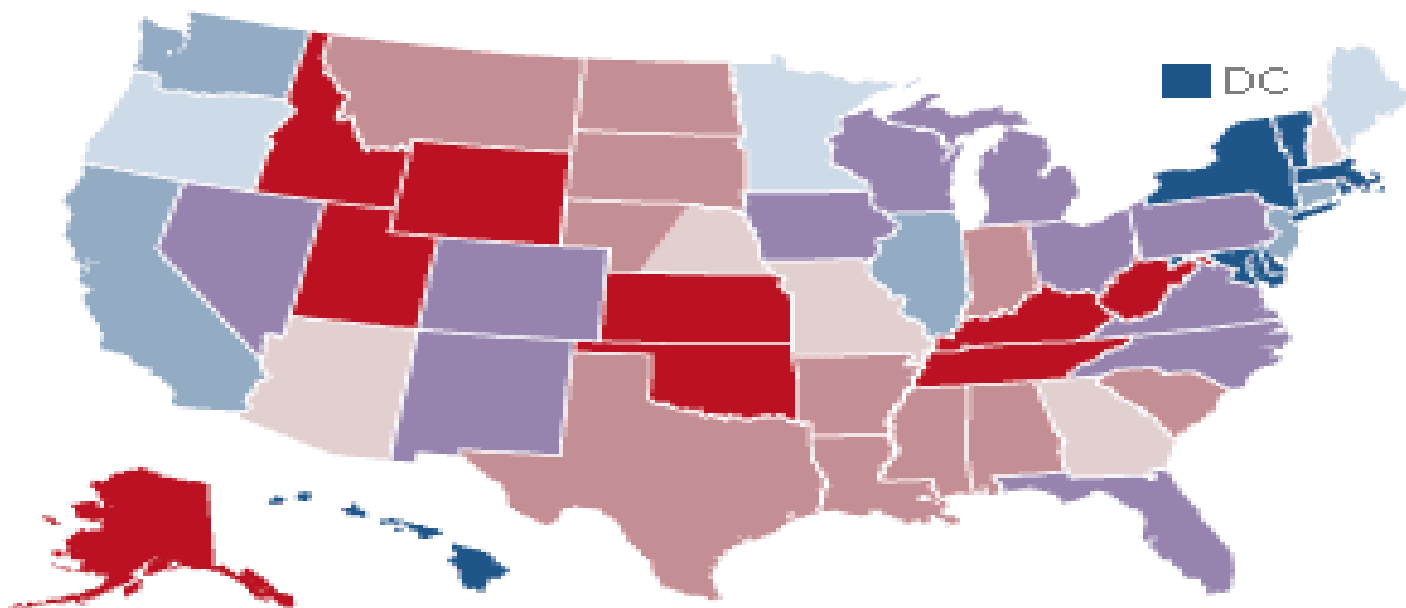
# Types of Issues

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- ❑ What is the difference between a **position issue** and **valence issue**?
  - ❑ How can position issues lead to party realignment?
  - ❑ How did valence issues help shape the 2008, 2012 & 2014 elections?
  - ❑ Why have valence issues become more important today? Give examples.
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# In a close election, what drives who wins?



Source:  
MSNBC

Solid Dem (67)  
Likely Dem (98)  
Lean Dem (31)

Toss-up  
(147)

Lean GOP (42)  
Likely GOP (100)  
Solid GOP (53)

# The media & elections

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- How has the media shaped the last few elections?
    - Candidates must be “telegenic” and well-spoken
    - Sound bytes have replaced long speeches
    - The use of social media has exploded
    - The cost of elections had risen greatly
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# Assignment

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- ❑ Complete chapter 10 reading, pp. 249-66. Due tomorrow.
  - ❑ Outline each of the following:
    - Sources of money
    - Campaign finance rules
    - SCOTUS interpretations of finance rules
    - What factors don't and which do decide elections
    - The effects elections have on policy
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