



Welcome to the spring edition of the AMA's *Very Influential Physician (VIP) Insider*. Read on for details about these topics:

- Meetings - How long is the typical meeting with a member of Congress?
- Still time to register for the 2022 Candidate Workshop
- Hotline's Senate power rankings
- A look at some 2022 congressional primaries featuring two members of Congress

Meetings - How long is the typical meeting with a member of Congress?

Our partners at the Congressional Management Foundation (CMF) wanted to know how long the typical meeting is between constituents and their members of Congress or staff. They asked legislative directors and legislative assistants the following question.

"On average, how long is a typical meeting with constituents or lobbyists on policy-related matters?"

What they learned: Constituents should expect their meetings to last no longer than 30 minutes. Nearly all staff who responded to our survey (95%) said that meetings last less than 30 minutes, with 81% saying between 16-30 minutes and 14% saying 15 minutes or less. Only 4% said that meetings with constituents typically last more than 30 minutes.

Congressional offices have an average of 28 meetings each day. Therefore, citizen advocates should expect their meetings with their congressional offices to be very short and direct. Citizen advocates can maximize the limited time they will likely have in their meetings with Congress by researching their Members' bios and positions, sticking to a single issue, sending materials in advance, and conducting effective follow up.

Source: Partnership for a More Perfect Union, Copyright Congressional Management Foundation, <http://CongressFoundation.org>. Used with permission.

Still time to register for the 2022 Candidate Workshop

At the [Candidate Workshop](#), political veterans from both sides of the aisle will give you expert advice about politics and the sacrifices needed to mount a competitive campaign. You will learn: how and when to make the decision to run; the importance of a disciplined campaign plan and message; the secrets of effective fundraising; what kinds of media advertising are right for your campaign; how to handle the inevitable crises that emerge for every campaign; and the role your spouse and your family will play.

AMPAC is excited to announce that Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, MD (IA-02) will be providing a keynote session during this year's program. Rep. Miller-Meeks is a past graduate of the AMPAC political education programs and in 2020 she won one of the closest elections in United States History.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Candidate Workshop will be conducted virtually this year. To provide the same high-quality content of the in-person program, the Virtual Candidate

Workshop will be conducted over the course of two consecutive weekends: **March 12-13 and 19-20**. Both weekends are part of the full program and must be attended by participants. Each of the four virtual sessions will start at 11:00am EST and run approximately four hours.

Note: Registration fee is \$250 for AMA Member/\$1000 for non-AMA members. This fee is waived for AMA residents and students; however, space is limited and the AMPAC Board will review and select four participants from the pool of qualified resident and student applicants.

[Registration for the Virtual Candidate Workshop](#) will close on February 28 (or sooner if maximum capacity is reached).

For more information please contact: Politicaleducation@ama-assn.org

Hotline's Senate power rankings

By [Matt Holt](#), [Josh Kraushaar](#) and [Kirk A. Bado](#)

Democrats had a rough 2021, and entering 2022, things still look bleak. A president's party typically loses seats in their first midterm election, and President Biden doesn't look to be an exception to that rule at the moment, with his approval rating mired in the low 40s.

While the House might all but be lost for Democrats, the Senate figures to be a closer call. Yet with the upper chamber split 50-50, Democrats have absolutely zero margin for error.

If there is one silver lining for Democrats, it's that the map is favorable to them. Republicans are defending 20 seats to the Democrats' 14. In terms of open seats, Republicans are trying to hang onto five (two in toss-up states) to Democrats' one (in a safe blue state).

Democratic incumbents have amassed big war chests, and there's still uncertainty about who will emerge from GOP primaries in states like Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Ohio. Finally, Biden carried six of our top seven most competitive states in 2020—and states now rarely vote for senators and presidents of opposite parties.

But will those subtle edges be enough, given that Democrats need most of those close races to go their way to keep the chamber?

Here are *Hotline's* initial rankings of the seats that are most likely to flip this fall.

1. Pennsylvania (R-Open)

Republicans were relieved when 2020 House nominee Sean Parnell, who was endorsed by former President Trump, dropped out of the race after losing custody of his kids. But there's still plenty of uncertainty in the GOP field. Celebrity doctor Mehmet Oz and former Bridgewater Associates CEO David McCormick have already launched scathing attacks against one another, and both face carpetbagging accusations from GOP activists and 2018 lieutenant governor nominee Jeff Bartos, who won three of the four GOP straw polls taken across the commonwealth. Democrats, on the other hand, are excited about both Lt. Gov. John Fetterman and Rep. Conor Lamb. Each offers a different theory of the case—but Republicans would rather face off against Fetterman, an unabashed progressive. Given the fundamentals of the state, and the uncertainty of the GOP primary, Pennsylvania is a bit harder than others for Republicans to hold.

2. Nevada—Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D)

Many top Republican strategists believe that Cortez Masto is the most vulnerable Democratic senator on the ballot, given they have a credible Republican front-runner for the seat (former state Attorney General Adam Laxalt) and the demographic trends of Hispanic and working-class voters

moving away from the Democratic Party. Nevada in 2020 was a closely contested battleground state, which Biden carried by only 2 points, and the political environment has turned worse for Democrats since. And unlike other battleground-state senators like Georgia's Raphael Warnock and Arizona's Mark Kelly, Cortez Masto is still largely unknown to many voters, lacking the brand that some of her Senate colleagues bring to the table. Republican polling already shows Cortez Masto trailing Laxalt at this early stage—a rough sign for any incumbent.

3. Georgia—Sen. Raphael Warnock (D)

No Democratic incumbent has raised more money than Warnock, who entered 2022 with \$23 million cash on hand. His likely opponent, former NFL running back Herschel Walker, pulled in \$5.4 million in the fourth quarter of 2021 and has consolidated support from both the Trump and McConnell wings of the party. Initial concerns about Walker's candidacy have subsided among Republicans, who have been impressed with the team Walker has surrounded himself with, and they're encouraged by his campaign's early moves. However, Walker has struggled at times to answer basic questions in friendly settings, and the low-key approach he's taken so far—largely ducking the media—won't be feasible as Election Day draws closer.

4. Arizona—Sen. Mark Kelly (D)

Kelly's biggest assets are his prolific fundraising skills and the lackluster Republican field (so far). The former astronaut's biggest challenge is the rough political environment for Democrats—and the reality that his state is the most GOP-friendly on the battleground map. If Gov. Doug Ducey makes a last-second decision to get into the race—which is looking less likely by the day—this race would vault to the top of the rankings. But without a first-tier candidate and a right-wing GOP electorate pulling the candidates to the ideological fringes, Republicans could easily find themselves badly underperforming against a pragmatic-minded incumbent.

5. Wisconsin—Sen. Ron Johnson (R)

Johnson, the GOP's most vulnerable incumbent, has been in the news lately for all the wrong reasons. Between his opining about out-of-wedlock births, declining to advocate for manufacturing jobs in his state, and making misleading statements about COVID-19 and vaccines, Democrats believe that this will be the year they knock off Johnson, who didn't even declare his intentions to run for reelection until last month. But Johnson has had the fortune of running in years favorable to the GOP, and this year doesn't look like an exception. Plus, the Democratic primary is unsettled, and there are concerns about the top Democratic contenders—Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, Milwaukee Bucks executive Alex Lasry, and state Treasurer Sarah Godlewski. The primary isn't until August, so the uncertainty favors Republicans.

[Hotline's rankings of 6-10](#)

A look at some 2022 congressional primaries featuring two members of Congress

By the National Journal

Nationwide redistricting has resulted in a number of current members of Congress from the same party to be drawn into one district together setting up potential epic clashes in the primaries. The National Journal has highlighted a couple of these closely watched races in these easy-to-understand slides below.

2022 congressional race spotlight: GA-7 Democratic primary

Incumbent: Carolyn Bourdeaux (D)
First elected in 2020
Running for reelection



Election dates

Filing deadline — March 11, 2022
Primary election — May 24, 2022
Primary runoff — June 21, 2022

Candidates*



Carolyn Bourdeaux (D)
Current Representative for Georgia's 7th
Congressional District
Prior Director of the state Senate Budget and
Evaluation Office



Lucy McBath (D)
Current Representative for Georgia's 6th
Congressional District
Former spokeswoman for Everytown for Gun
Safety

*Not an exhaustive list

SOURCE: Ballotpedia, National Journal, FEC
SLIDE LAST UPDATED ON 2/1/22

Campaign finance

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

Bourdeaux	\$2,005,772
McBath	\$1,954,608

Key factors

1. Redistricting

- The GOP gained an advantage by redrawing suburban Atlanta's 6th CD from Biden +11 to Trump +15, pitting incumbents Lucy McBath (D-GA-6) and Carolyn Bourdeaux (D-GA-7) against each other in the heavily Democratic 7th CD.

2. Geography

- The newly-drawn district is largely comprised of Gwinnett County and encompasses a majority of Rep. Bourdeaux's current district; Bourdeaux has already received several local endorsements.

3. Electorate

- The district is now a majority-minority seat, which could be advantageous for Rep. McBath; internal campaign polling showed McBath with a 22-point lead over Bourdeaux.

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2022 congressional race spotlight: IL-15 Republican primary

Incumbent: None



Election dates

Filing deadline — March 14, 2022
Primary election — June 28, 2022
General election — November 8, 2022

Candidates*



Rodney Davis (R)
Current Representative for Illinois' 13th
Congressional District
Former congressional staffer



Mary Miller (R)
Current Representative for Illinois' 15th
Congressional District
Former farmer, business manager, and
teacher

*Not an exhaustive list

SOURCE: Ballotpedia, National Journal, FEC
SLIDE LAST UPDATED ON 2/1/22

Campaign finance

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

Davis	\$1,234,171
Miller	\$426,769

Key factors

1. Redistricting

- Democrats lumped together GOP leaning districts in the south currently represented by Reps. Mike Bost (R-IL-12) and Mary Miller (R-IL-15); Rep. Miller decided to challenge Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL-13) for his safe Republican seat.

2. Geography

- More than 40% of the new district isn't represented by either candidate; Rep. Miller does not currently live in the newly-drawn district.

3. Endorsements

- Rep. Davis has won the endorsement of 31 of the 35 GOP county chairs in the district and two neighboring Representatives.
- Rep. Miller holds the endorsement of former President Trump and several conservative PACs.

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2022 congressional race spotlight: MI-11 Democratic primary

Incumbent: Haley Stevens (D)
First elected in 2018
Running for reelection



Election dates

Filing deadline — April 19, 2022
Primary election — August 2, 2022
General election — November 8, 2022

Campaign finance

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

Stevens	\$1,986,094
Levin	\$1,118,706

Candidates*



Haley Stevens (D)
Current Representative for Michigan's 11th
Congressional District
Former Chief of Staff of the Presidential Task
Force on the Auto Industry



Andy Levin (D)
Current Representative for Michigan's 9th
Congressional District
Former Michigan Director of Labor and
Economic Growth

*Not an exhaustive list

Key factors

1. Redistricting

- Democratic Reps. Haley Stevens (D-MI-11) and Andy Levin (D-MI-9) were drawn into the new 11th CD; both have announced a bid for re-election

2. Geography

- Rep. Stevens currently represents a larger portion of the new district than Rep. Levin; however, Levin's hometown is also in the district

3. Policy reputations

- Levin is a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus and has a more left-leaning reputation, while Stevens is a member of the more-moderate New Democrat Coalition

SOURCE: Ballotpedia, National Journal, FEC
SLIDE LAST UPDATED ON 2/1/22

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2022 congressional race spotlight: WV-2 Republican primary

Incumbent: Alexander Mooney (R)
First elected in 2014
Running for reelection



Election dates

Filing deadline — January 29, 2022
Primary election — May 10, 2022
General election — November 8, 2022

Campaign finance

TOTAL CASH ON HAND AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

Mooney	\$2,386,031
McKinley	\$1,614,328

Candidates*



Alexander Mooney (R)
Current Representative for West Virginia's 2nd
Congressional District
Former chair of Maryland's Republican Party



David McKinley (R)
Current Representative for West Virginia's 1st
Congressional District
Founder of McKinley and Associates

*Not an exhaustive list

Key factors

1. Redistricting

- With West Virginia losing a GOP seat, the approved map splits apart Rep. Alex Mooney's (R-WV-2) district and puts him on a collision course with Rep. David McKinley (R-WV-1)

2. Geography

- The new district effectively combines both of the representatives' current districts; McKinley represents the northern panhandle of the state while Mooney represents the eastern panhandle

3. Fundraising

- As of the end of the 3rd quarter in 2021, Rep. Mooney was outpacing Rep. McKinley on the fundraising trail by roughly \$2 million

SOURCE: Ballotpedia, National Journal, FEC
SLIDE LAST UPDATED ON 2/1/22

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