



STATE NAVIGATE POLL BRIEFING

UTAH HOUSE DISTRICT 44

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Scott Stephenson (Utah Highway Patrolman) vs. Rep. Jordan Teuscher (Incumbent)

Incumbent challenged: Teuscher is Doers-aligned; Stephenson is Talker-aligned · June follow-up survey

AT A GLANCE



PRIMARY DATE

June 23, 2026



BALLOTS DROPPED

June 2, 2026



FIELD DATES

June 11–14, 2026



MARGIN OF ERROR

± 6.4%

n = 238 likely Republican primary voters · Salt Lake County · Weighted by age, race, gender, and education

METHODOLOGY

This survey was fielded from June 11–14, 2026, among 238 likely Republican primary voters in Utah's 44th State House District. Respondents were chosen from a voter file provided by i360. Text messages containing a link to an online survey designed by the State Navigate Polling Team and hosted on the SurveyMonkey platform were sent to respondents by AllianceForge. The survey was weighted by age, race, gender, and education with benchmarks derived from the voter file and previous election results. The margin of error is 6.4% with a 95% confidence interval. The survey was designed by State Navigate and Doers Network and conducted by State Navigate. This survey was not sponsored by any party, candidate, or candidate's committee.

DISTRICT DNA • HD-44 (LV)



SALT LAKE COUNTY

Cities: South Jordan, West Jordan



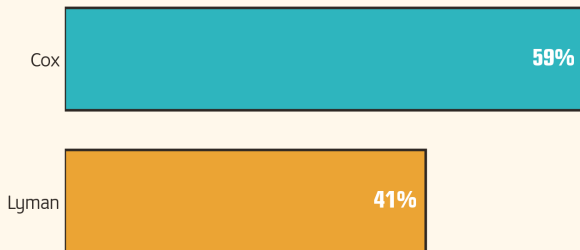
WHERE A FEW VOTES MATTER

~21%

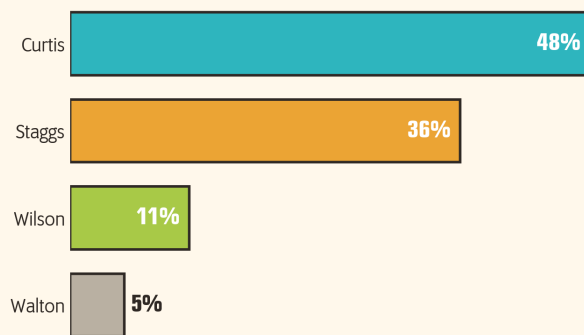
of voters will likely determine who the next State Representative will be.

2024 PRIMARY RESULTS IN HD-44

2024 GOP Gov. Primary in HD-44 (Cox +19)

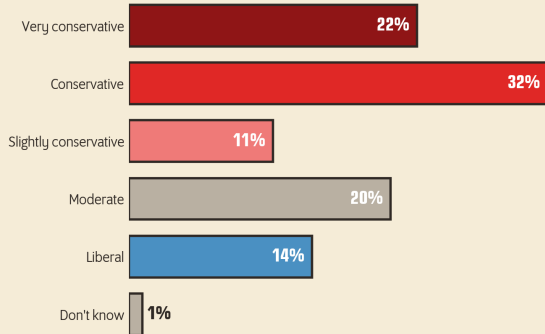


2024 GOP US Senate Primary in HD-44 (Curtis +13)

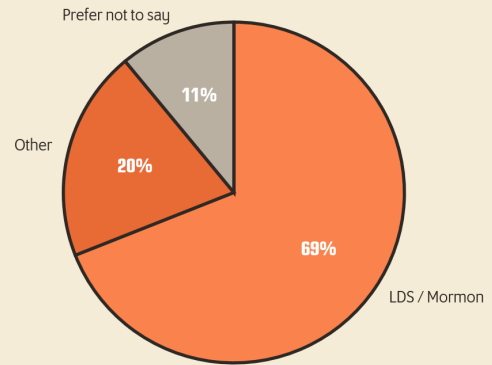


DISTRICT DNA • SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS (LV)

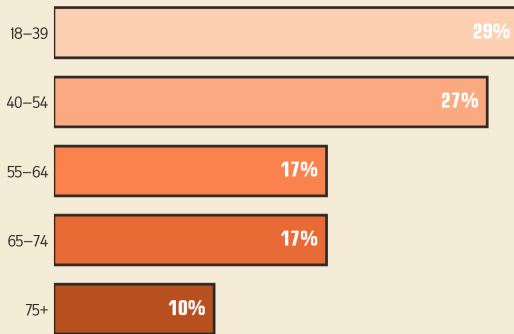
IDEOLOGICAL SELF-IDENTIFICATION



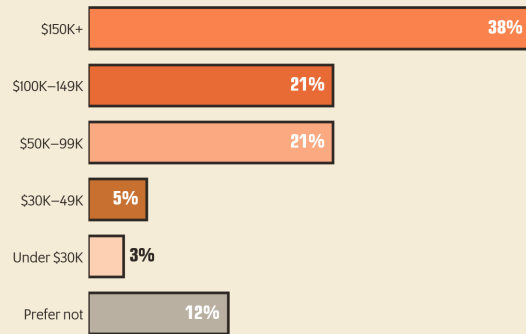
RELIGION



AGE



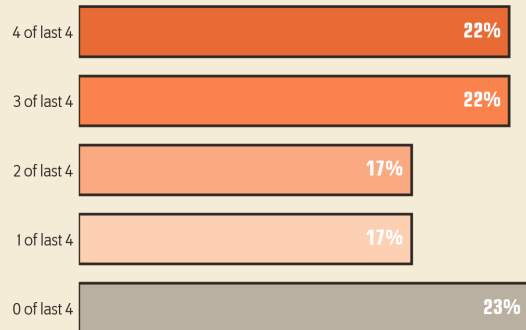
HOUSEHOLD INCOME



EDUCATION



PRIMARY VOTING HISTORY (LAST 4 CYCLES)



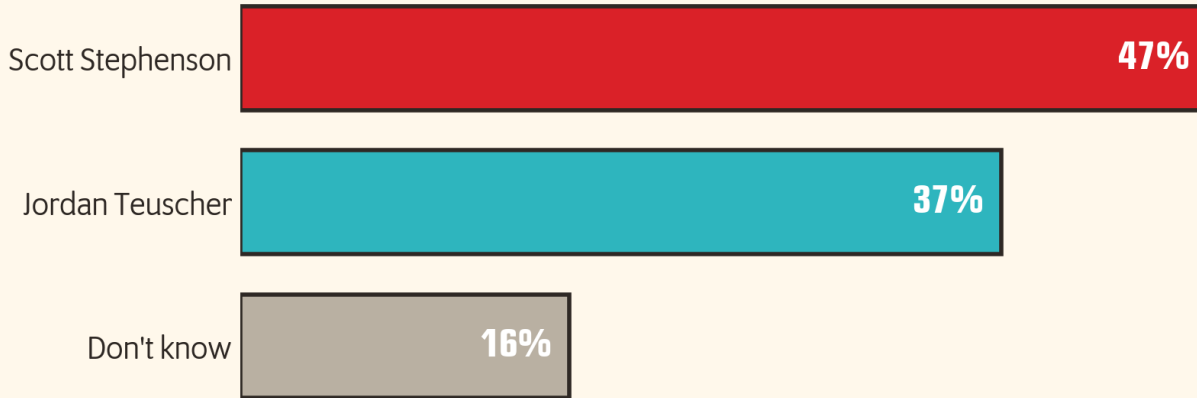
White / Caucasian = 91%. LDS = 71%. n = 238 likely R primary voters, weighted.



THE SNAPSHOT

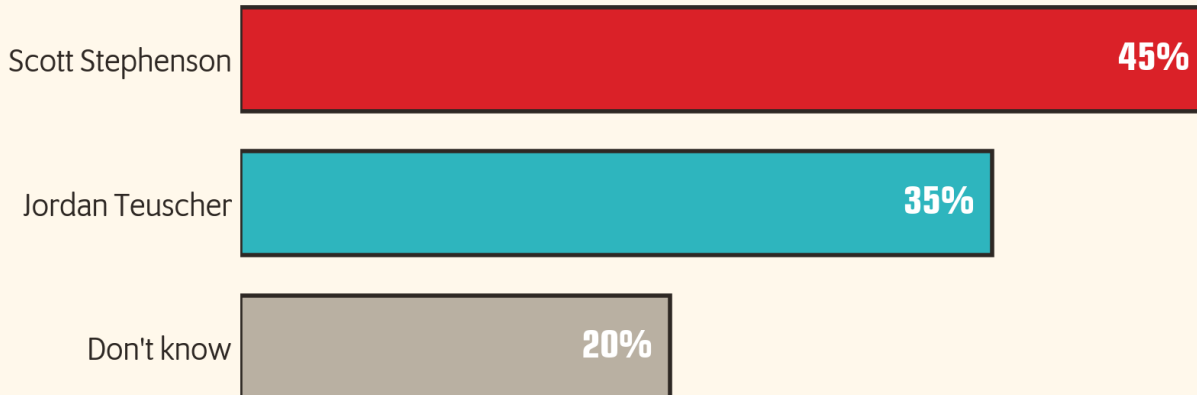
THE HORSERACE · WITH LEANERS

The Horserace (with leaners)



NO LEANER PUSH

No Leaner Push



40% OF THE BALLOT IS ALREADY IN

Of weighted likely voters who had already cast their ballot:

SCOTT STEPHENSON

52%

JORDAN TEUSCHER

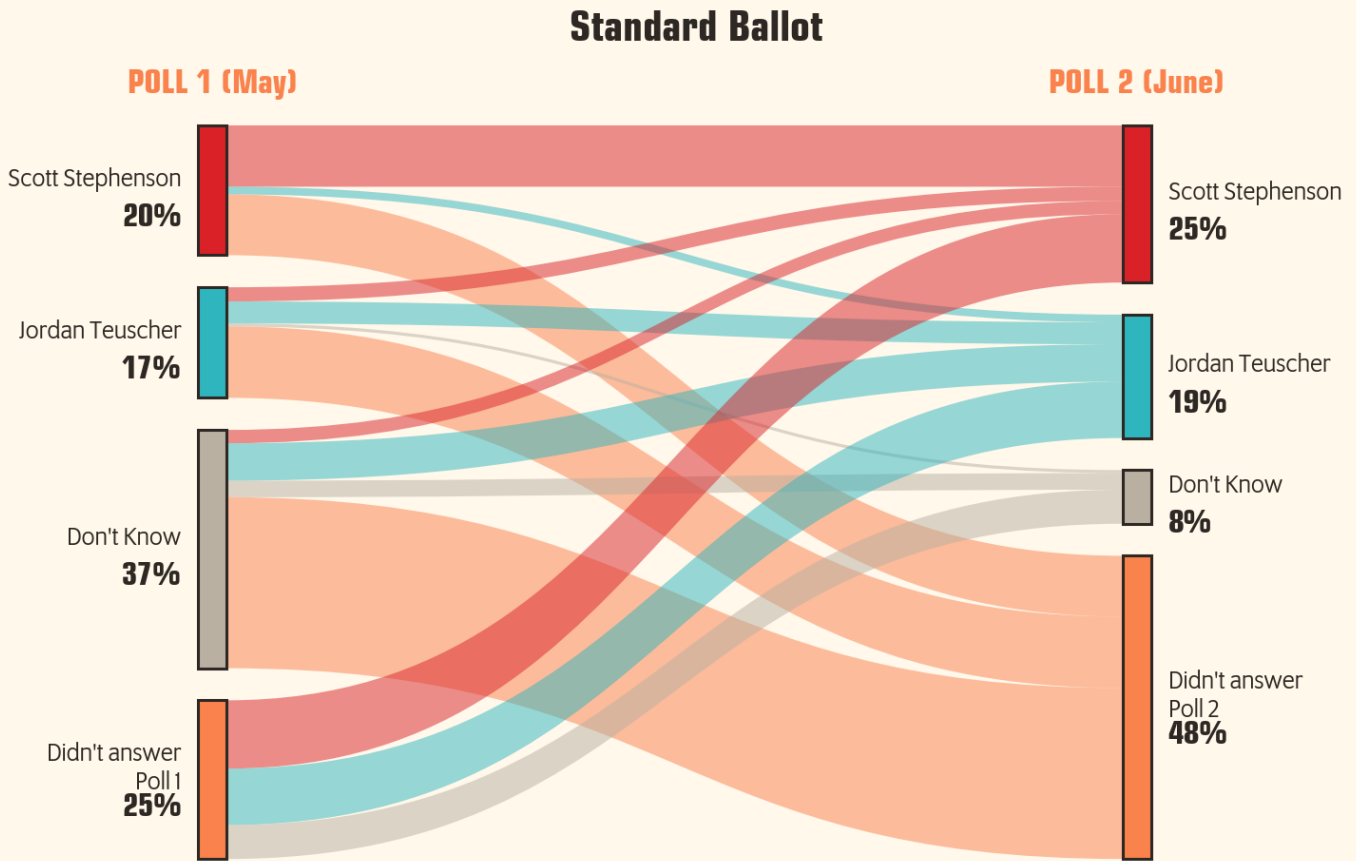
47%

DON'T REMEMBER

1%

PANEL MOVEMENT

This diagram traces how individual HD-44 respondents moved across waves. Sizes and percentages are weighted (June wave weight for panelists, May wave weight for May-only respondents). Ribbon thickness equals weighted respondent count. Voters who appear in only one wave are shown as “Didn’t answer Poll 1 / Poll 2.”



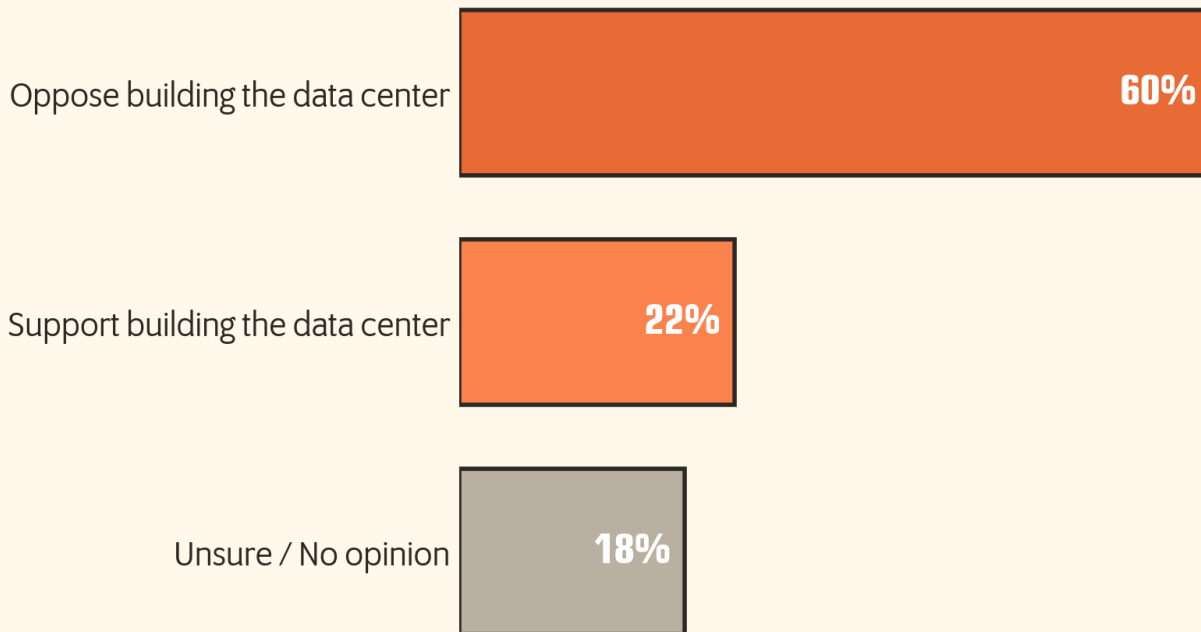
Scott Stephenson extended his lead across the panel. He absorbed the largest share of the May Don't Know pool; Teuscher's gains came more slowly, leaving Stephenson ahead among still-to-vote LV.

ON THE ISSUES

THE “STRATOS” DATA CENTER · BOX ELDER COUNTY

Utah officials recently approved the proposed “Stratos” data center project in Box Elder County, a large-scale artificial intelligence and cloud computing development backed by investor Kevin O’Leary. Supporters say the project could bring jobs, tax revenue, and technological investment to Utah, while critics have raised concerns about energy use, water consumption, environmental impacts, and the speed of the approval process. Do you support or oppose this project?

Should Utah Build the “Stratos” Data Center?



HD-44 voters oppose the Stratos data center by 38 points (60% oppose vs. 22% support) — the strongest opposition we measured in any district this cycle. Roughly a fifth are unsure, but the data-center backlash is a clear cross-cutting issue here.

REPUBLICAN TYPOLOGIES & IDEOLOGY

WHEN DECIDING WHO TO VOTE FOR, DO YOU PREFER A CANDIDATE WHO...

Preferred Candidate Type

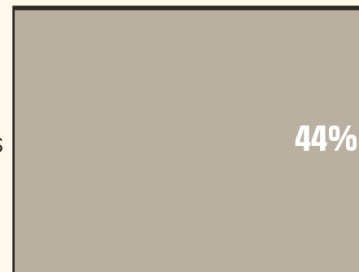
Passes the best legislation they can through compromise

56%



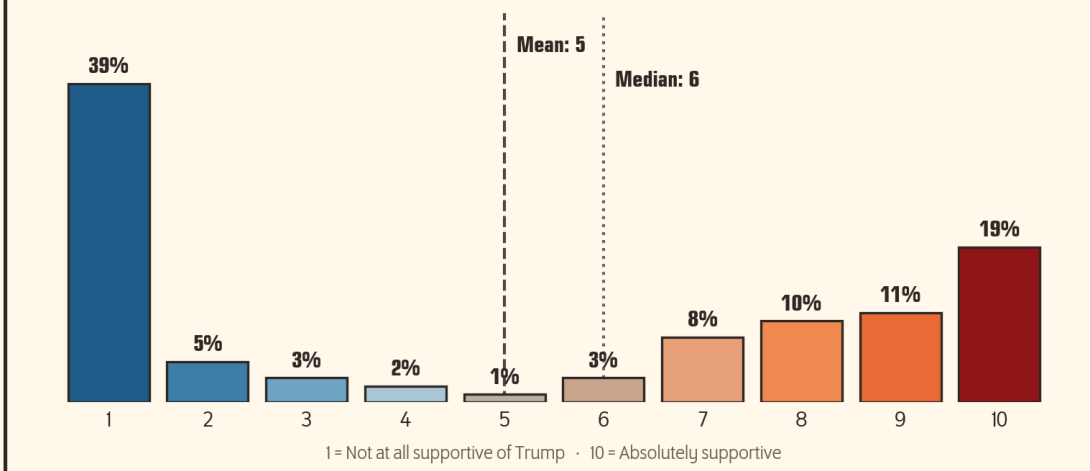
Stands on principle and doesn't compromise on conservative values

44%



TRUMP SUPPORT

Trump Support — Self-Rated 1–10 Scale



HD-44 leans pragmatic 56%–44% on candidate type — wider than most districts we've polled, consistent with Stephenson's pragmatic lane driving the lead. The Trump scale is bimodal: 39% pick 1 and 19% pick 10 (mean 5, median 6).



TEAM NOTES & ANALYSIS

This section presents the pollster's (State Navigate's) analysis and interpretation of the results.

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE · ON THE TOPLINE

Stephenson has extended his April lead into a 10-point June advantage.

Stephenson takes 47% to Teuscher's 37%, with 16% still undecided in our weighted RV sample. That's up from a closer race in April, and it comes from Stephenson pulling roughly half of the April Don't Know pile while Teuscher's panelist share grew at a slower pace. The lead holds across cuts: among voters who say they've already cast a ballot or are definitely/probably voting, Stephenson leads 48–39 (a 9-point edge).

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE · ON THE EARLY VOTE

40% of the ballot is already in, and Stephenson narrowly leads it 52–47.

Among the 40% of LV who'd already cast their ballot, Stephenson edges Teuscher 52–47 (with 1% don't remember). The early-vote split is tighter than the overall topline — Stephenson's full 10-point lead is being padded by stronger performance among still-to-vote LV. With more than a third of the ballot already returned and Stephenson narrowly leading both that bucket and the still-to-vote universe, the final stretch will turn on who turns out their soft supporters.

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE · ON THE COMPROMISE VS. PRINCIPLES SPLIT

Stephenson dominates compromisers 60–26; Teuscher carries principle voters 51–30.

Voters in HD-44 prefer a candidate who passes the best legislation through compromise (56%) over one who stands on principle (44%) — a 12-point gap that's wider than most districts we've polled. Stephenson leads compromisers 60–26 (a 34-point margin), while Teuscher leads principle voters 51–30 (a 21-point margin). The bigger pool plus the bigger margin among compromisers is exactly what's driving Stephenson's overall 10-point lead.



TEAM NOTES & ANALYSIS

MARY RADCLIFFE · ON THE AGE DIVIDE

Stephenson leads under-55 voters by 17; the over-55 race is essentially tied.

Age is a significant dividing line in HD-44. Stephenson leads by 17 percentage points among voters under the age of 55, expected to be a larger share of the electorate (56%) in this district than we typically see in Republican primaries. Among voters 55 and older, less than one percentage point divides the two candidates. Since our May poll, Stephenson's lead with voters under 55 has grown from 12 to 17 points, while Teuscher lost the 3-point lead he had among older voters in that survey.

MARY RADCLIFFE · ON THE DATA CENTER

Stephenson voters oppose Stratos 71–11; Teuscher voters narrowly support it 40–38.

We see similar dynamics around the data center here as we do in SD-21. Among Stephenson voters, the data center is underwater by 60 percentage points (71 oppose to 11 support); Teuscher voters narrowly support it, 40–38. This cuts across age: younger voters who oppose the data center chose Stephenson by 31 points, while those under 55 who support the data center break for Teuscher by 37 points. Among voters 55 and older, opponents chose Stephenson by 34 points; supporters broke heavily for Teuscher (+48 points). Several of these groups have a relatively small N.

ABOUT

ABOUT STATE NAVIGATE

State Navigate is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to becoming a compass for state legislatures everywhere. Our bipartisan polling team consists of alumni of FiveThirtyEight, political scientists, and polling experts. Last year, State Navigate was the most accurate pollster in the country for the 2025 election cycle. To learn more about our poll sponsorship opportunities, [click here!](#) Public polling on state governance, especially state legislatures, is rare, so we try to make our polling as affordable as possible for sponsors to help fill this gap.

OUR POLLING TEAM

CHAZ NUTTYCOMBE

FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chaz was the Director of CNalysis.com, the only website dedicated to state legislative election forecasting. He has successfully forecasted thousands of state legislative elections since 2017 during his senior year in high school. Chaz leads the polling team and works with them on survey design, field work, weighting, and written analysis.

MICHAEL FOLEY

ELECTIONS COORDINATOR

Michael is an expert in GIS technology and has experience in coding and scraping technology. He is a graduate of Fordham University and the University of Chicago Law School. In our polling, Michael conducts fieldwork, setting up surveys and texts, and exports/designs crosstabs.

MARY RADCLIFFE

DATA MANAGER

Mary Radcliffe is a mathematician and data analyst from Pittsburgh. She earned a PhD in Mathematics from the University of California, San Diego in 2012. Mary has previously worked as a Teaching Professor at Carnegie Mellon University and Researcher at FiveThirtyEight. In our polling, Mary helps with survey design, keeps our polling operations ethical, creates topline, and writes analyses of results.

G. ELLIOTT MORRIS

POLLING COMMITTEE MEMBER

Elliott Morris is a data-driven journalist and author living in Washington, DC. He's the author of STRENGTH IN NUMBERS: How Polls Work and Why We Need Them. Elliott was most recently the Editorial Director of Data Analytics at ABC News, where he developed polling aggregation and election-forecasting models and managed the research and data visualization teams for ABC's data-journalism website FiveThirtyEight/538. In our polling, Elliott helps with survey design and writing weighting scripts.

NICHOLAS GOEDERT

POLLING COMMITTEE MEMBER

Nicholas / "Nick" is an assistant professor of Political Science at Virginia Tech with expertise focused on legislative elections and American politics. He is the author of GROUND WAR: Courts, Commissions, and the Fight over Partisan Gerrymanders (Oxford, 2022). He served as an expert witness in the Wisconsin redistricting case Whitford v. Gill. He holds a Ph.D. in Politics from Princeton and a J.D. from Georgetown Law. In our polling, Nick helps with survey design and gives academic feedback.



PEACE OUT. THAT'S ALL.

Your compass for state legislatures