

Republican Perspective

Winds of Autumn by Ed Manning

"We are a nation that has a government - not the other way around. And this makes us special among the nations of the earth." Ronald Reagan 1/20/1981

Suffice it to say that the mid-term elections proved very beneficial to the GOP. While gaining control of the Senate and expanding its majority in the House, the voters also gave Republicans the most control of state governments since the 1920's. GOP governorships have grown from 21 to 31 (32 if Alaska prevails) since President Obama took office. While we live under progressiveness in California, a conservative movement is taking place throughout much of the country.

California voters thwarted the Democrats from obtaining supermajority status in both houses of the Legislature. Republican Catherine Baker's win with 52% of the vote for the 16th Assembly District was extremely important. Without supermajority, the Democrats will need Republican support to raise taxes, excuse me I meant to say "investments". This seems to be the politically correct jargon used by Democratic pundits. Taxes are so yesterday, now it's investments, fees, penalties, etc.

The Democrats won all of the top positions in California. After this term our Governor will join one of our Senators as an octogenarian. The Browns (Pat and Jerry) will have governed California for twenty-eight years. Let's not forget about Willie. Not sure what the Democrats have against younger pols. Expect more nanny regulations that will encroach upon our personal liberties and drive businesses to the brink. Also expect no change to Union political influence.

Some might lead you to believe that the mid-term Republican successes were due to the amount of money spent by the likes of the evil Koch brothers. For those that do not follow politics closely, the Koch brothers are Public Enemy No. 1 for Democrats. Current Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has used his bully pulpit over 125 times to rail against the brothers and called them un-American. Forget that their companies provide nearly 60,000 Americans decent paying jobs that enable a middle class standard of living. The Kochs are disdained because they have the audacity to disagree with the Left's redistribution and radical environmental policies.

As in any federal election, a good deal of money is spent. According to OpenSecrets.org, Americans for Prosperity spent \$5,041,476 on the 2014 mid-terms. Americans for Prosperity is the Political Action Committee (PAC) formed by the Koch brothers. Harry Reid's Senate Majority PAC spent \$47,485,359. The Left's favorite environmental billionaire, San Francisco's Tom Steyer donated \$73,976,034. Steyer is a former hedge fund manager that made much of his fortune investing in energy industries including fossil fuel. It seems there was more money to be made investing in fracking than in wind mills.

In somewhat of a surprising twist, blue state Oregon voted overwhelmingly to reject allowing illegal aliens to obtain drivers licenses “without requiring proof of legal presence in the United States.” Cynthia Kendoll, president of Oregonians for Immigration Reform stated they are “sick and tired of big business, special interest groups and unions controlling our government.” The national director of The Remembrance Project, Maria Espinoza also spoke out against the ballot measure. She offered “Americans are neither allowed nor do they expect being able to provide unverifiable documentation when applying for licenses, jobs, voter registrations, loans or any of the many activities requiring proper identification. Why should illegal aliens be afforded this ill-begotten privilege?” The Remembrance Project was started to remember and honor those Americans that have been killed by illegal aliens.