



July 31, 2022

TO: Interested Parties

FR: Christie Roberts, DSCC Executive Director

RE: 100 Days Out, Senate Democrats Have Republicans On Defense

100 days out from the general election, Senate campaigns have become candidate vs. candidate battles, and that dynamic is putting Republicans firmly on the defensive.

Retirements, recruitment failures and vicious primaries – coupled with Trump’s endorsements – have left Republicans with a roster of flawed and deeply damaged candidates, while Democrats are running strong, battle-tested incumbents and challengers who are backed by their own unique coalition of voters.

Across a favorable map Democrats have built formidable, well-resourced campaigns that are out-communicating, out-organizing and out-working the Republicans. Here’s how Democrats have Republicans on defense in the Senate campaigns:

REPUBLICANS PANICKING OVER FLAWED CANDIDATES

The New York Times detailed how “[Republicans are assembling what one top strategist laughingly described as an ‘island of misfit toys,’](#)” and these headlines speak for themselves:

- Washington Post: [Candidate challenges, primary scars have GOP worried about Senate chances.](#)
- Reuters: [Fringe candidates putting Republicans' U.S. Senate hopes at risk.](#)
- POLITICO: [Walker’s fumbles highlight GOP’s rocky Senate roster.](#)
- National Journal: [Trump is sabotaging the GOP’s Senate prospects.](#)
- Axios: [GOP fears Senate debacle.](#)

In race after race, the GOP has suffered [recruitment failures](#), [vicious and expensive](#) primaries, and have been left with candidates who bring disqualifying personal and political baggage to the general election.

The damaging revelations that have emerged about candidates range from [lying about their biographies](#) to [corruption](#) – and the policy positions they have espoused on issues from [Social Security](#) to [abortion](#) are just as bad. These liabilities will continue to be front and center in each campaign.

STRONG DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES & CAMPAIGNS

Our candidates are demonstrating the ability to attract a broad, unique coalition of voters behind them that is independent of partisanship – and many have previously out-performed the top of the ticket or won in challenging election cycles.

The campaigns are firing on all cylinders: [out-raising](#) Republicans and using their resources to communicate with voters and define the conversation in their races.

Democrats have also built a powerful [organizing](#) infrastructure. We are reaching voters at their doors, on the phones and in their communities – and the DSCC is making our largest investment in these programs in history. Our programs reach voters in both English and Spanish, include staff focused specifically on communities of color, and have [voter protection](#) staffers in place working to protect voters’ rights earlier than in previous midterm campaigns.

To mark 100 days out, our programs are holding a Weekend of Action with roughly **6,000 volunteer shifts scheduled** – knocking on doors from small towns like Wolfeboro, NH, Danielsville, GA and Prescott, AZ to big cities like Philadelphia, Milwaukee, and Las Vegas.

SENATE DEMOCRATS LOCALIZE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, WHILE ABORTION LOOMS OVER GOP

The contrast over the issue set in this election is also favorable for Democrats: while Republicans are pledging to [ban abortion nationally](#), [raise taxes](#) and [end programs like Medicare and Social Security](#), Senate Democrats are fighting to lower costs, improve our supply chains, and are focusing on the issues that matter most to working families.

In our advertisements, conversations with voters and on the campaign trail, our campaigns are defining and localizing our accomplishments and priorities. Some examples below:



AZ: [“Arizona Priorities.”](#)



NH: [“Startup.”](#)



NV: [“Spoke Up for Us \(Kasey\).”](#)



GA: [“Bob and Joyce.”](#)

The Republican Supreme Court’s overturning of *Roe v. Wade* has ensured a woman’s right to make her own health care choices will also be [“front and center”](#) in the midterms – and Republican candidates have wasted no time in [staking out dangerous positions](#) on this issue that are out of step with voters.

The bottom line: 100 days out, Democrats have put the GOP firmly on the defensive in Senate races, and the candidate vs. candidate dynamic in these campaigns has become a major liability for Republicans. We know each of our battleground races will be tight, and the DSCC will continue to take nothing for granted.