

Election results show voters rejected Gingrich's 'Contract on Americans'

by Suzanne Rose

An analysis of the results of the Nov. 5 elections shows that, despite Republican claims of victory in the Congressional elections, the GOP actually suffered serious setbacks, and came very close to losing their control over the House of Representatives. Statements by high-ranking Democratic Party officials, in the aftermath of the elections, fully confirm Lyndon LaRouche's charges, that Democratic National Committee Chairman Donald Fowler threw the election, by systematically withholding funds, and other crucial support, from many Democratic candidates, who otherwise would almost certainly have won their elections.

Two days after the elections, at a press luncheon at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., Democratic Party General Chairman Sen. Christopher Dodd (Conn.) reported that the Republicans had outspent the Democrats by \$150 million in the 1996 federal elections. House Democratic Whip David Bonior (Mich.), at a subsequent public forum, reported that, in a number of Congressional races, the Republicans outspent the Democrats by a margin as high as 7 to 1!

Other sources close to the Democratic National Committee have told *EIR* that the Democratic Party headquarters identified between 120 and 150 out of the total of 435 Congressional races as targets for support. In other words, between 285 and 315 Democratic Congressional candidates received little or no support from the Democratic National Committee. In numerous Congressional districts in the South, especially where there were Afro-American candidates nominated by Democratic voters, the DNC refused to put money even into voter registration efforts.

Furthermore, despite Republican Party hysteria over the role played by the AFL-CIO in organizing public opposition to the Contract on Americans, and GOP outcries for new laws prohibiting the labor movement from spending pre-approved union dues on political education, newly released statistics show that business outspent labor in the 1996 election cycle by a seven-to-one ratio. Corporations, through their political action committees, poured \$242 million into the 1996 federal elections; and, by a two-to-one margin they bankrolled Republican candidates and the Republican Party campaign committees.

Nevertheless, as the following up-to-date results show, much harm was done to Republican would-be Robespierres Newt Gingrich (Ga.), who is now regarded by many in his own party as "damaged goods."

Despite the treachery of Fowler and others, the Democratic Party candidates, where they campaigned hard against the Gingrich agenda, succeeded in curbing the momentum of the Conservative Revolution, and reduced the size of the Republican majority in the House of Representatives. The task of defeating the Conservative Revolution will be the job of Lyndon LaRouche and his allies, whose intervention, along with the AFL-CIO and senior citizen organizations, provided key margins of victory in some close races and inflicted some strategically important defeats in others.

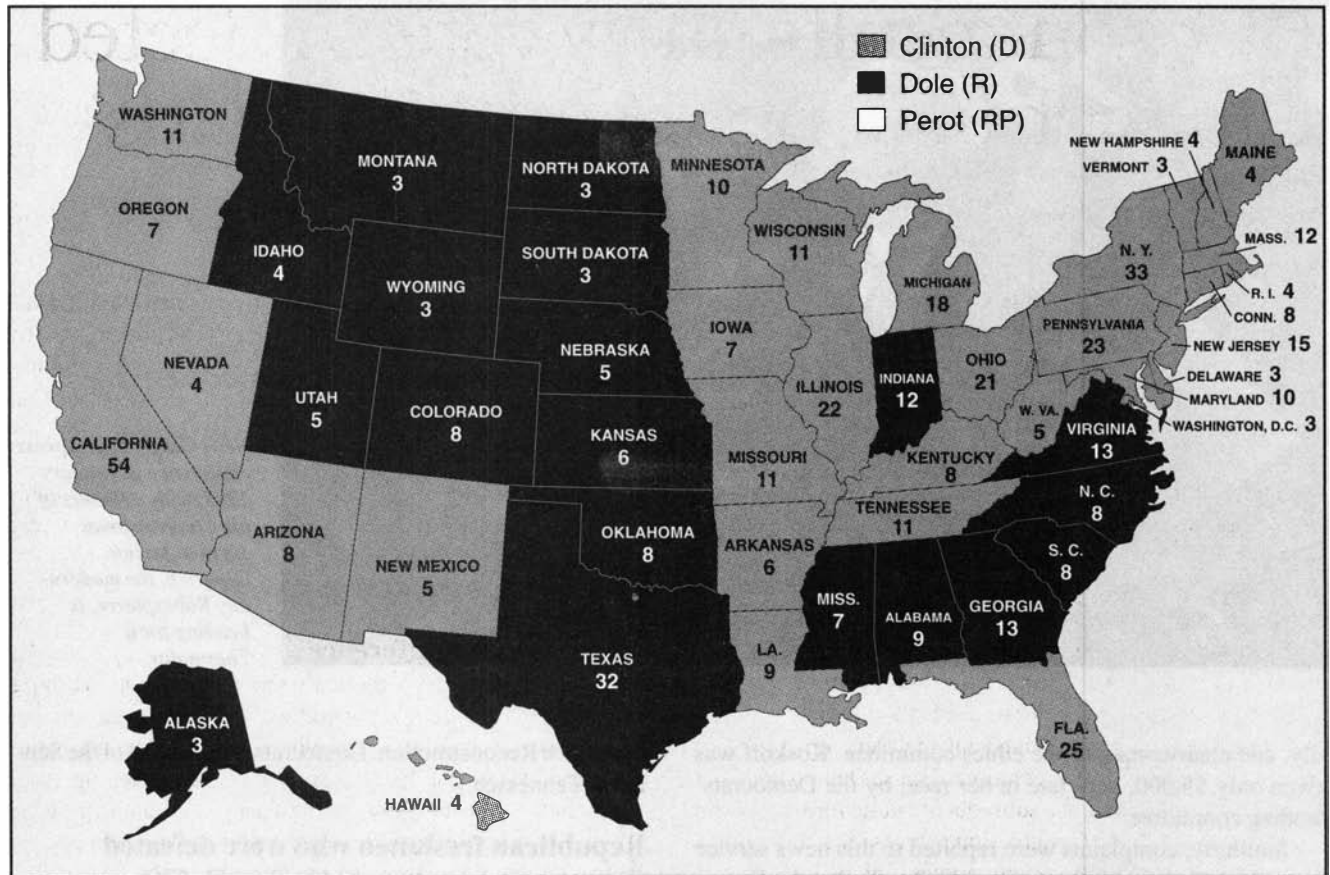
A 10,000-vote difference

A "Campaign for America's Future" forum in Washington, D.C. on Nov. 12, reported that had Democrats only had 10,000 more votes, and they would have retaken the House of Representatives. Altogether, Democrats picked up 10-12 seats in the House. As we go to print, 18 incumbent House Republicans have been defeated, although the official vote count has not been completed in three congressional elections in Washington State, in which Republican freshmen were apparently defeated in tight races; at least one incumbent Republican loser is seeking a recount.

Democrats suffered a net loss of three seats in the Senate, but defeated important Republican Conservative Revolutionaries in four close races: Robert Torricelli's race in New Jersey, in which the incumbent Democrat defeated Gingrich ally Dick Zimmer; John Kerry's victory in Massachusetts against Gov. William Weld, a Bush thug; the victory of Democratic Rep. Tim Johnson against a powerful incumbent, Sen. Larry Pressler, in South Dakota, a state which went into the Republican column in every other respect; and the race of Democratic Louisiana state treasurer Mary Landrieu, who defeated Oliver North pal and Republican state senator Woody Jenkins.

In addition to those contests in which Republican incumbents were defeated, there were 20 races in which Republicans won by very small margins—in many cases, garnering less than 50% of the vote. Among the GOP House members who barely won reelection, were eight freshmen. Reports from around the country indicate that the freshmen who were returned to the House, distanced themselves from Gingrich and his policies. This allowed freshmen in states such as Pennsylvania, which went heavily for Clinton, to squeak back in. In Pennsylvania, Republican Reps. Phil English and Jon Fox won by the narrowest of margins. In fact, Fox campaigned

Election '96: Electoral College results



President Clinton won an electoral college near-landslide victory on Nov. 5, 1996, over Republican challenger Robert Dole, and the Reform Party candidate, Ross Perot. Beyond the numerical size of the President's re-election victory, the map demonstrates an even more important pattern: Dole almost exclusively won the electoral college votes in the Deep South and in the Rocky Mountain spine states. These areas have been dominated in recent years by the ideology of the early 20th century "Nashville Agrarian movement," which promoted the idea of a Confederate revival, antagonism to all forms of government activism, and, in some cases, a longing for the "lost cause" of Southern secession. In contrast, President Clinton established a solid plurality or majority in the industrial belt of the Northeast, the Midwest, and the West Coast; and he took back some of the formerly solid Republican states, like Florida and Arizona, where senior citizens turned out to vote against the Republican nominee, whom they associated with dangerous cuts in vital entitlement programs.

on the allegation that his opponent was more committed to cutbacks in Medicare and Medicaid than he was.

DNC blunders and sabotage

In many cases, the Democratic National Committee adopted a poll-driven strategy which caused Democrats to commit crucial blunders, including fielding candidates who aped the Gingrichites. This was especially true in the South, where the DNC strategy effectively ceded entire sections of the region to the control of Gingrich's confederates, and led to the demoralization of black voters, reducing voter turnout overall.

Exemplary of this defeatist strategy was the failure of the Democratic National Committee to support the candidacy of LaRouche Democrat María Elena Milton, whose race against GOPAC Chairman John Shadegg in the suburbs of Phoenix,

Arizona (the 4th C.D.), set a national example of how to fight the policies of the Conservative Revolution. With the Democratic Party in Arizona officially campaigning *against her*, Milton received 33% of the vote. More importantly, she starkly defined for voters the Nazi-like content of the Gingrich faction's commitment to policies which will increase the death rate, through "managed" health care, Social Security privatization, and cuts in Medicare and Medicaid.

Another example of the Democratic Party leadership's strategic failure was the race in Connecticut's 6th C.D., for the seat held by seven-term Republican, Nancy Johnson. Her opponent, Charlotte Koskoff, was narrowly defeated (by 1,587 votes), after having lost to Johnson by a 2-1 margin in 1994. The difference this year was that Koskoff aggressively attacked Johnson's role in stonewalling the House ethics committee investigation of Gingrich. Johnson is a close Gingrich



Newt Gingrich at a press conference in January 1995, with members of his Congressional Jacobin faction. Gingrich, the modern-day Robespierre, is heading for a Thermidor.

ally, and chairwoman of the ethics committee. Koskoff was given only \$5,000, very late in her race, by the Democrats' funding committee.

Similarly, complaints were reported to this news service from black Democrats throughout the South, that the Democratic National Committee failed to support an aggressive voter registration drive and "get out the vote effort" (high turnout historically favors the Democrats), focusing resources instead on media advertising, and allowing the polls to dictate their targets.

Democratic gains in state races

It was in the state legislative races that Democrats appear to have scored their most decisive gains. The Nov. 7 *New York Times* reported that voters halted the enormous electoral advances made by Republicans since 1990, which Democrats say will have a major impact on the national agenda. Democrats increased the number of chambers under their control to 49, up from 46, winning majorities in state Houses of Representatives in California, Illinois, and Michigan. They now control 21 state legislatures to the Republicans' 17, winning 8 to the Republicans' 3, a net gain of 5. After suffering a net loss of 664 seats since 1992, Democrats scored a net gain of 96 seats. Chambers controlled by Republicans fell to 44 from 50. (The *Times* reported that Republicans held onto their gains in the South, losing only 5 seats. The Democrats' share of seats in Southern legislatures is now at 64%, down from 87% two decades ago. President Clinton won Florida, but Republicans won control of the Florida House of Representatives, placing both chambers under Republican control for the first

time since Reconstruction. Democrats won control of the Senate in Tennessee.)

Republican freshmen who were defeated

(* denotes candidates targetted by the AFL-CIO;

† denotes candidates targetted by the FDR-PAC.)

†*Andrea Seastrand, 22nd C.D., California

†*Michael Flanagan, 5th C.D., Illinois

†*Jim Longeley, 1st C.D., Maine

†*Dick Chrysler, 8th C.D., Michigan

†*Bill Martini, 8th C.D., New Jersey

†*Dan Frisa, 4th C.D., New York

*David Funderburk, 2nd C.D., North Carolina

*Frederick Heineman, 4th C.D., North Carolina

†*Frank Cremeans, 6th C.D., Ohio

†*Jim Bunn, 5th C.D., Oregon

†*Jack Metcalf, 2nd C.D., Washington (final official tabulation still in progress)

†*Linda Smith, 3rd C.D., Washington (final official tabulation in progress)

†*Randy Tate, 9th C.D., Washington (final count in progress)

Other incumbent Republicans who lost

†*Bill Baker, 10th C.D., California

†Robert Dornan, 46th C.D., California

Gary Franks, 5th C.D., Connecticut

†*Peter Blute, 3rd C.D., Massachusetts

†*Peter Torkildsen, 6th C.D., Massachusetts (There will be a recount in December.)

†*Martin Hoke, 10th C.D., Ohio

Republican open seats won by Democrats

Ron Kind (D) versus James Harsdorf (R), open seat of Steve Gunderson, 3rd C.D., Wisconsin

Jay Johnson (D) versus David Prosser (R), open seat of Toby Roth, 8th C.D., Wisconsin

Leonard Boswell (D) versus Mike Mahaffey (R), open seat of Jim Lightfoot, 3rd C.D., Iowa

Republicans who won with 50% or less

J.D. Hayworth, 6th C.D., Arizona, freshman, 47%

Robert Aderholt, 4th C.D., Alabama (Democratic open seat), 50%

Frank Riggs, 1st C.D., California, 49%

James Rogan, 27th C.D., California (Republican open seat), 50%

Nancy Johnson, 6th C.D., Connecticut, 50%

Helen Chenoweth, 1st C.D., Idaho, freshman, 50%

John Shimkus, 20th C.D., Illinois (Democratic open seat), 50%

John Hostettler, 8th C.D., Indiana, freshman, 50%

Vince Snowbarger, 3rd C.D., Kansas (Republican open seat), 50%

Todd Tiahrt, 4th C.D., Kansas, freshman, 50%

Anne Northrup, 3rd C.D., Kentucky, 50%

Kenny Hulshof, 9th C.D., Missouri, 49%

John Ensign, 1st C.D., Nevada, freshman, 50%

John Sununu, 1st C.D., New Hampshire (open seat), 50%

Mike Pappas, 12th C.D., New Jersey (Republican open seat), 50%

Sue Kelly, 19th C.D., New York, freshman, 46%

Robert Ney, 18th C.D., Ohio, freshman, 50%

Jon Fox, 13th C.D., Pennsylvania, freshman, 50% (recount under way)

Republicans who campaigned against Gingrich

Constance Morella, 8th C.D., Maryland

Dan Frisa, 4th C.D., New York; he lost despite attempts to distance himself from Gingrich. His opponent branded him as a loyal Gingrich follower.

Phil English, 21st C.D., Pennsylvania

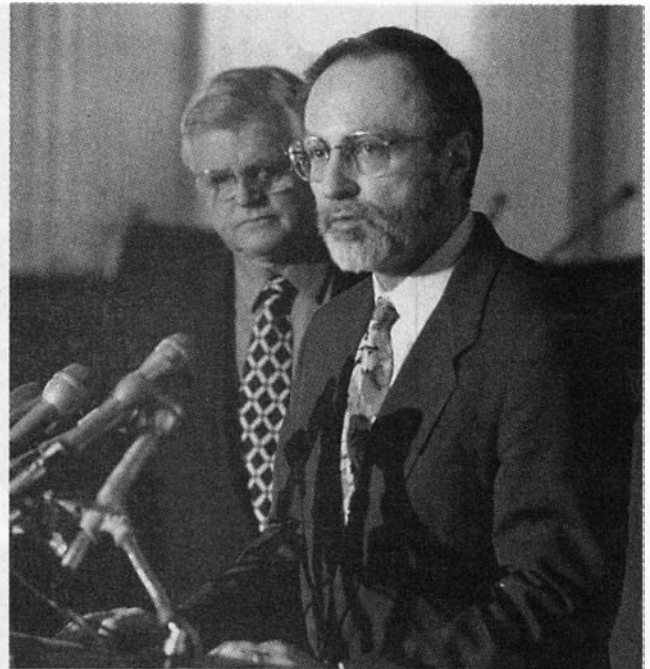
Jon Fox, 13th C.D., Pennsylvania

Ed Whitfield, 1st C.D., Kentucky.

Zack Wamp, 3rd C.D., Tennessee, who reportedly "dodged the Gingrich taint" by fighting for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Democratic gains in state legislatures

The Democratic Party also turned around Republican advances in state legislative races. In both 1992 and 1994, Re-



House Democratic Whip David Bonior (Mich.), at a press conference in February 1995. Bonior now reports that, in a number of Congressional races, the Republicans outspent the Democrats by 7 to 1.

publicans had scored significant advances in state house and senate races. As the result of Gingrich's Contract on Americans, the Democrats won a net gain of 96 state legislative seats in 1996, and took control over both houses in eight states that had been previously held by the Republicans.

As in the federal elections, the Democratic Party gains were biggest in areas where there was a mobilization of traditional Democratic Party constituencies—organized labor, senior citizens, and the civil rights movement. In the case of Pennsylvania, where the LaRouche movement has been running a campaign to impeach Gov. Tom Ridge (R), for his Nazi-like cuts in state medical programs for the elderly and the poor, candidates that lined up with the LaRouche Democrats scored big victories in their state assembly races, while at least one Democratic candidate who refused to take on Gov. Ridge, was soundly defeated.

The Republicans won back control over three state legislatures, meaning that the Democrats advanced by a net of five states. There are now 21 states where the Democrats hold a majority in both the state houses and senates. The Republicans control both houses in 17 states. Among the breakthroughs by the Democrats at the state level were Illinois, California, and Michigan, where both houses are now Democratic majorities.

Below is the state-by-state situation, following the Nov. 5 vote. R=Republican; D=Democrat; IR=Independent Republican; and DFL=Democratic Farm Labor.



William Weld (left) and Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) at hearings in Washington, D.C. in 1986. Weld's defeat in his 1996 bid to win Kerry's Senate seat was thanks, in large part, to the intervention of the LaRouche forces, on the issue of Weld's coverup for the drug traffickers.

Alabama, Gov. Fob James, Jr. (R), Senate D, House D
 Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles (D), Senate R, House R
 Arizona, Gov. Fife Symington (R), Senate R, House R
 Arkansas, Gov. Mike Huckabee (R), Senate D, House D
 California, Gov. Pete Wilson (R), Senate D, House D
 Colorado, Gov. Roy Romer (D), Senate R, House R
 Connecticut, Gov. John G. Rowland (R), Senate D, House D
 Delaware, Gov. Thomas R. Carper (D), Senate D, House R
 Florida, Gov. Lawton Chiles (D), Senate R, House R
 Georgia, Gov. Zell Miller (D), Senate D, House D
 Hawaii, Gov. Benjamin Cayetano (D), Senate D, House D
 Idaho, Gov. Phil Batt (R), Senate R, House R
 Illinois, Gov. Jim Edgar (R), Senate R, House D
 Indiana, Gov. Frank O'Bannon (D), Senate D, House tie
 Iowa, Gov. Terry E. Branstad (R), Senate R, House R
 Kansas, Gov. Bill Graves (R), Senate R, House R
 Kentucky, Gov. Paul Patton (D), Senate D, House D
 Louisiana, Gov. Mike Foster (R), Senate D, House D
 Maine, Gov. Angus King (I), Senate D, House D
 Maryland, Gov. Parris N. Glendening (D), Senate D, House D
 Massachusetts, Gov. William F. Weld (R), Senate D, House D
 Michigan, Gov. John Engler (R), Senate R, House D
 Minnesota, Gov. Arne H. Carlson (IR), Senate DFL, House DFL
 Mississippi, Gov. Kirk Fordice (R), Senate D, House D
 Missouri, Gov. Mel Carnahan (D), Senate D, House D
 Montana, Gov. Marc Racicot (R), Senate R, House R
 Nebraska, Gov. E. Benjamin Nelson (D), non-partisan unicameral

Nevada, Gov. Bob Miller (D), Senate R, House D
 New Hampshire, Gov. Jeanne Shaheen (D), Senate R, House R
 New Jersey, Gov. Christine Whitman (R), Senate R, House R
 New Mexico, Gov. Gary Johnson (R), Senate D, House D
 New York, Gov. George E. Pataki (R), Senate R, House D
 North Carolina, Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. (D), Senate D, House R
 North Dakota, Gov. Edward T. Schafer (R), Senate R, House R
 Ohio, Gov. George V. Voinovich (R), Senate R, House R
 Oklahoma, Gov. Frank Keating (R), Senate D, House D
 Oregon, Gov. John Kitzhaber (D), Senate R, House tie
 Pennsylvania, Gov. Tom Ridge (R), Senate R, House R
 Rhode Island, Gov. Lincoln Almond (R), Senate D, House D
 South Carolina, Gov. David Beasley (R), Senate D, House R
 South Dakota, Gov. William J. Janklow (R), Senate R, House R
 Tennessee, Gov. Don Sundquist (R), Senate D, House D
 Texas, Gov. George W. Bush (R), Senate D, House D
 Utah, Gov. Michael O. Leavitt (R), Senate R, House R
 Vermont, Gov. Howard Dean (D), Senate D, House D
 Virginia, Gov. George F. Allen (R), Senate tie, House D
 Washington, Gov. Gary Locke (D), Senate R, House R
 West Virginia, Gov. Cecil Underwood (R), Senate D, House D
 Wisconsin, Gov. Tommy G. Thompson (R), Senate D, House R
 Wyoming, Gov. Jim Geringer (R), Senate R, House R