



TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Heather Williams, DLCC President
DATE: December 10, 2025
RE: A Once-in-a-Generation Opportunity in State Legislatures

2025 was one of the strongest election years for Democrats in modern history and an unmistakable proof point for our underlying strategy to win elections up and down the ballot. At the state legislative level, our wins in Virginia, New Jersey, and special elections were not anomalies or forgone conclusions—they were definitive and deliberate, and they were the direct result of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee's (DLCC) national strategy to support strong and well-funded state legislative campaigns from start to finish.

The DLCC's post-election analysis shows 2026 provides a historic opportunity to fundamentally shift the state legislative balance of power by capturing new majorities, supermajorities, and trifectas, while simultaneously *flipping seats in every chamber on the ballot* and breaking GOP supermajorities.

The favorable political environment taking shape for Democrats is on a scale that only comes once in a generation, similar to what Republicans took advantage of in 2010 with Project REDMAP, when they flipped hundreds of seats and fundamentally shifted the country's political trajectory by cementing GOP control in the states.

Election outcomes at the state legislative level have a significant and measurable impact. Along with their direct connection and impact on the day-to-day lives of all Americans, state legislatures control redistricting, decide voting laws, impact the success of governors' agendas, and secure the path to the presidency. **The DLCC's strategy in 2026 isn't only about statehouse gains—it will secure a fundamental shift of power that will impact the future of the Democratic Party at all levels of the ballot.**

Analysis: What We Stand to Gain

The DLCC's work in targeted races in November resulted in an average overperformance of nearly 4.5 percentage points for our candidates. By raising \$50 million in 2026, we can replicate and scale our work and results on the midterm map, which will have more than 6,000 legislative seats on the ballot across 88 legislative chambers.

A favorable environment is not enough on its own—we must seize this moment with a proven plan and a deep commitment to the work. **2026 is when our strategy will meet an opportunity to flip more than 650 state legislative seats and secure multiple new majorities and trifectas across the country, including in battlegrounds like Arizona, Michigan, New Hampshire, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.**

These gains would include:

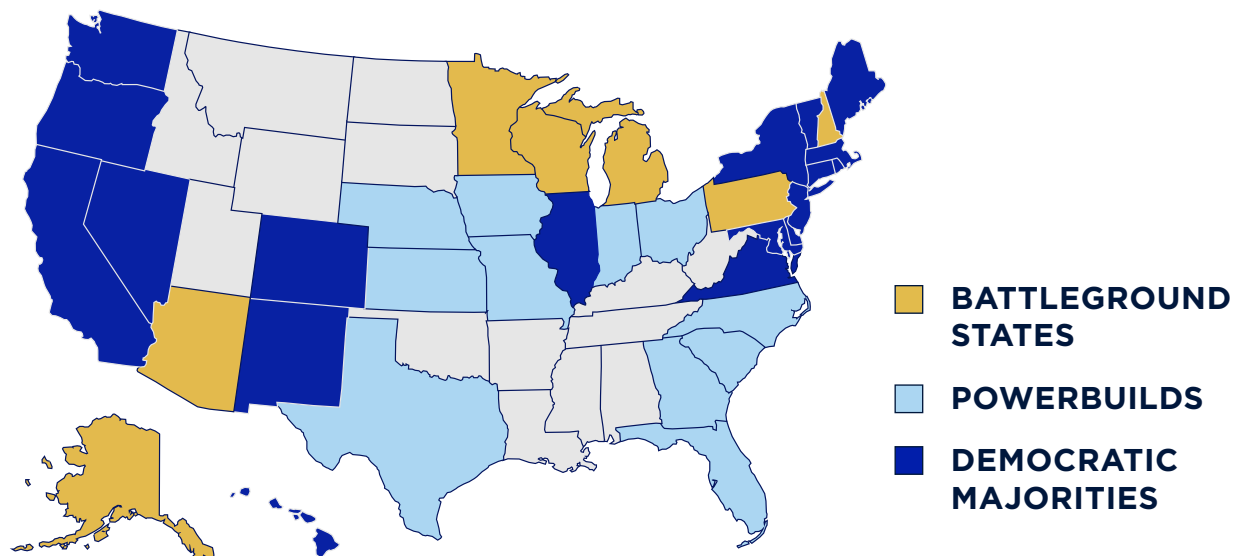
- ▶ **Flipping 8 Republican majorities in Presidential Battlegrounds**
(AZ H, AZ S, MI H, MN H, NH H, NH S, WI A, WI S)
- ▶ **Securing 6 new Democratic trifectas when we win governor's races**
(AZ, MI, MN, NH, NV, WI)
- ▶ **Gaining 10 new Democratic supermajorities**
(CO H, CO S, DE H, NV A, NM H, NY S, OR S, VT H, VT S, WA H)
- ▶ **Breaking 10 GOP supermajorities**
(FL H, FL S, IN H, IA H, KS H, MO H, MO S, NC S, OH H, SC H)

This progress can only be realized through well-funded campaigns across the country that drive voter enthusiasm with clear, affirmative messaging and vision. The DLCC will be immediately deploying the resources we raise to support these campaigns early and sufficiently to be successful.

An Expanded Map

To clearly identify the opportunities ahead, the DLCC is expanding our target map with the chambers and benchmarks of power that our analysis evidences will be within reach in the 2026 midterms:

We are adding multiple battleground chambers where majorities are immediately in play and more than a dozen chambers where Democrats have important benchmarks of power within reach, including gaining Democratic supermajorities, breaking GOP supermajorities or flipping multiple seats for both immediate changes in the balance of power and to support long-term power builds.



The DLCC will be leading a wide coalition of leaders and partners across the country to capitalize on this moment. We will continue investing and advising state legislative caucus programs to win competitive races and secure majorities. Year-round, we execute on our strategy to strengthen and support the infrastructure and provide the resources needed for Democratic candidates to connect with voters, communicate their messages effectively, and win.

Investing Early in Changing the Balance of Power

Our first priority right now is to fund and invest early in our battleground states as part of our \$50 million power expansion strategy to win on this map. The DLCC raised and spent millions to defend and expand majorities throughout 2025 in both special and general elections and proved our ability to allocate resources, staff, and other support to drive candidate overperformance. Now, we are investing resources earlier than ever before to execute on this expanded target map for 2026.

The immediate impact of our work in the first phase of this election year will be clear as we focus on putting key candidates and staff in place and build the initial infrastructure and plans to set our programs up for success.

Shortly after the election in November, the DLCC convened our annual Caucus Directors Summit to bring together campaign teams and managers from around the country to share lessons and data, hear from experts, and prepare to apply our learnings in the cycle ahead. For the next few weeks and through the new year, we will fund the deployment of DLCC staff to campaign offices around the country to continue working with leaders and in-state staff to formulate their fundraising and communications plans for the year ahead.

We will also be supporting candidate recruitment in the 650 districts that we can put in play this year. We need strong candidates with profiles that match their districts to win and we will be prioritizing the races where the data shows these victories will matter most for the balance of power. Every state has unique filing requirements and timelines but the DLCC will be there every step of the way to make sure programs have the data and resources they need to put the best possible candidates in the districts we most need to win.

As we prepare for next November, we must also keep our eye on special elections. There are already four majorities on the line this spring due to legislative vacancies and the DLCC is engaging to ensure we hold these critical seats. Majorities in Minnesota, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Virginia will all be decided by these elections in the coming months and we must deliver wins to keep our momentum strong through the midterms.

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Seizing The Moment

State legislatures are at the foundation of our democracy, and state legislators are the party's most authentic and trusted leaders and communicators. They live in their communities, have the closest connections to the day-to-day lives of Americans, and are effective messengers in every corner of their states.

The DLCC represents over 3,000 state legislators and thousands of candidates across all 50 states and we build and support strong campaign programs to win. This includes our battlegrounds where the immediate stakes have never been higher as well as our long-term work to revive and strengthen programs in states where Democrats must build for the future.

We have a critical inflection point in 2026 and state legislatures have the power to shape the future of this country. The DLCC is armed with a proven strategy to take advantage of an expanded map and to make substantial, lasting inroads in Republican territory. 2026 is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for progress and state legislatures are the single greatest investment we can make in our future.

The DLCC's Once-In-A-Generation Map, In Detail

Our 2026 Target Map identifies the most impactful benchmarks of power. From flipping and defending majorities to breaking and establishing supermajorities, a closer look at this map shows that opportunity is everywhere.

Flipping just 19 seats on this map could establish four new Democratic trifectas in presidential battlegrounds. We can also cut the number of GOP supermajorities nearly in half while at the same time doubling the number of Democratic supermajorities.

Across the map, we will be moving 42 chambers along the path to greater Democratic power. [See the breakdown of all of the DLCC's targeted chambers on the next page.](#)

**To learn more, visit DLCC.org or contact the DLCC's Development Team
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	MOST RECENT STATE HOUSE RESULTS	MOST RECENT STATE SENATE RESULTS	2026 TARGET
ARIZONA	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +4 seats	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +3 seats	Flip both chambers path to a trifecta
ALASKA	COALITION GOVERNANCE	COALITION GOVERNANCE	Strengthen coalitions in both chambers
COLORADO	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	Gain supermajorities in both chambers
DELAWARE	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	DEM SUPERMAJORITY	Gain supermajority in the House
FLORIDA	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +8 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	Break supermajority
GEORGIA	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +11 seats	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +6 seats	Flip seats in both chambers
INDIANA	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +4 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY	Break House supermajority
IOWA	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	GOP MAJORITY	Break GOP supermajority in the House, stop Senate supermajority in the Senate
KANSAS	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +5 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY	Break House supermajority
MAINE	DEM MAJORITY	DEM MAJORITY	Flip seats in both chambers
MICHIGAN	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +4 seats	DEM MAJORITY Single-seat majority	Flip the House, protect the Senate, path to a Trifecta
MINNESOTA	TIED CHAMBER Dems need +1 seat	DEM MAJORITY Single-seat majority	Flip the House, protect the Senate, path to a trifecta
MISSOURI	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +3 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +2 seats	Break both supermajorities
NEBRASKA UNICAMERAL	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +1 seat		Flip seats
NEVADA	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +2 seats	DEM MAJORITY	Gain Assembly supermajority
NEW HAMPSHIRE	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +24 seats	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +5 seats	Flip both chambers, path to a trifecta
NEW MEXICO	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +3 seats	DEM MAJORITY	Build House supermajority
NEW YORK	DEM SUPERMAJORITY	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	Build Senate supermajority
NORTH CAROLINA	GOP MAJORITY GOP needs to flip +1 seat	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +1 seat	Stop House supermajority, break Senate supermajority
OHIO	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +6 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY	Break House supermajority
OREGON	DEM MAJORITY	DEM MAJORITY Dems need +2 seats	Gain Senate supermajority
PENNSYLVANIA	DEM MAJORITY Single-seat majority	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +3 seats	Defend House, flip seats in Senate
SOUTH CAROLINA	GOP SUPERMAJORITY Dems need +5 seats	GOP SUPERMAJORITY	Break House supermajority
TEXAS	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +14 seats	GOP MAJORITY	Flip seats in House
VERMONT	DEM MAJORITY Dems need to flip +6 seats	DEM MAJORITY Dems need to flip +3 seats	Build Dem supermajorities in both chambers, path to a trifecta
WASHINGTON	DEM MAJORITY Dems need to flip +7 seats	DEM MAJORITY	Build House supermajority
WISCONSIN	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +5 seats	GOP MAJORITY Dems need +2 seats	Flip both chambers, path to a trifecta