

## [WORLD NEWS★★★] REPUBLICAN WAVE FLOODS STATES

(P1) Republicans **hold a record** number of **seats** in state **legislature** as a result of 2014 election

(P2) To say it was a good night for **Republicans** on the state level would be an **understatement**. Republicans now control 23 state governments **outright** and are **on track to** hold more state seats than they have since the late 1920s, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

(P3) After Tuesday, the **GOP** **has the upper hand** in 69 of the 99 country's legislative **chambers**. In Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and West Virginia at least one chamber **flipped from** Democratic to Republican majorities. Results have yet to **come down** in Colorado, where Gov. John Hickenlooper was barely able to **stave off** a Republican challenge to his reelection. In many states Republicans are not simply the majority, they've secured a **veto-proof supermajority**, including in Florida and Missouri.

(P4) "Voters **overwhelmingly** voted for a new, open, innovative future for their families by electing state level Republicans in record numbers across the nation, including in traditionally **blue states**," said Matt Walter, the president of the Republican State Leadership Committee in a statement. Walters said Republicans were successful largely thanks to their **recruitment** of a **diverse** set of candidates, including the youngest lawmaker in the U.S.

(P5) The **payoffs** for the GOP victories the state-level could be **substantial**. In states where the Republicans have single-party control they have shown willingness to advance aggressive party **agendas**: think North Carolina during the 2013 session. Come 2020, when state lawmakers will again be **tasked with redrawing electoral maps**, party control will be crucial.

(P6) Democrats haven't lost hope. "Republicans had a great night," director of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee (DLCC) Michael Sargeant says. "But our operations were able to make sure we limited the damage in some places. "

(P7) Democrats raised a reported \$17 million and made about 2 million voter contacts this cycle. Sargeant says that work resulted in Democrats holding on to majorities in key states including the Maine House, the Iowa Senate, and the Kentucky House, which he says will ensure Republican agendas don't **sail through** in those states.

"Those victories along with some others were critical to make sure they're still balances," Sargeant says.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you found the passage difficult to read or had problems understanding specific words or idiomatic expressions, please discuss them with your tutor. The following discussion questions should be answered in your own words and with your own arguments.

1. Briefly summarize the content of the article in your own words.
  2. What were the reasons why GOP was able to have the upper hand in this election (P3)?
  3. Why is the author concerned with “redrawing the electoral map” (P5: ask your tutor if you don’t know what this means)?
  4. Why do democrats say “they haven’t lost hope” (P6-7)?
  5. Have you been following US politics? Share what you know and think with your Cambly tutor!
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## WHO / WHAT / WHERE ARE THEY?

### **GOP**

(Politics) The Republican Party, commonly referred to as the GOP (abbreviation for Grand Old Party), is one of the two major contemporary political parties in the United States, the other being the Democratic Party. Founded by anti-slavery activists in 1854, the GOP dominated politics nationally and in most of the North for most of the period from 1860 to 1932. There have been 18 Republican presidents, the first being Abraham Lincoln, who served from 1861 until his assassination in 1865, and the most recent being George W. Bush, who served two full four-year terms 2001 to 2009. The most recent Republican presidential nominee was former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney.

## VOCABULARY

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Hold a record       | (expression) 기록을 보유하다.  |
| Seats               | (n) (의회·위원회 등의) 의석[자리]  |
| Legislature         | (n) 입법 기관(의 사람들), 입법부   |
| Understatement      | (n) 절제된 표현  |
| Outright            | (adj) 완전한, 전면적인   |
| On track to         | (expression) ~의 길로 가고있는 (혹은 완성하고 있는) 중이다  |
| Have the upper hand | (expression) 이기다, 우세하다  |
| Chamber             | (n) (단원제가 아닌 의회의) -원(院); Many parliaments or other legislatures consist of deliberative assembly in two legislative chambers (or houses): an elected lower house, and an upper house or Senate which may be appointed or elected by a different mechanism from the lower house. This style of two houses is called bicameral. Legislatures with only one house are known as unicameral. |
| Flip from           | (v) 뒤집다, 동전이 뒤집어지듯 바뀌다  |
| Come down           | (expression) (보통 북쪽에서 남쪽으로 또는 큰 지역에서 작은 지역으로) 내려 오다   |
| Stave off           | (expression) 비키다, 피하다, 간신히 모면하다   |
| Veto-proof          | (expression) (대통령의) 거부권에 대항하는, 거부권에 대항하기에 충분한 표를 가진   |
| Supermajority       | (n) (법안 채택 등에서의) 압도적 다수   |
| Overwhelmingly      | (adv) 압도적으로   |
| Blue states         | (expression) 민주당 지지 주(州).   |
| Recruitment         | (n) 신병 모집; 신규 모집, 채용, 보충  |
| Diverse             | (adj) 다양한   |
| Payoff              | (n) 성과의 결과, 보수  |
| Substantial         | (adj) (양·가치·중요성이) 상당한   |
| Agendas             | (n) 의제 (목록)   |
| Tasked with         | (expression) 임무를 부여받다   |
| Redraw              | (v) (국경·지역 경계·계획 등을) 변경하다   |
| Electoral maps      | (expression) 선거구를 그린 지도   |
| Sail through        | (expression) (시험·테스트 등을) 순조롭게 통과하다  |