



State  
2008 **V**ote

# 2008 State Legislative Elections

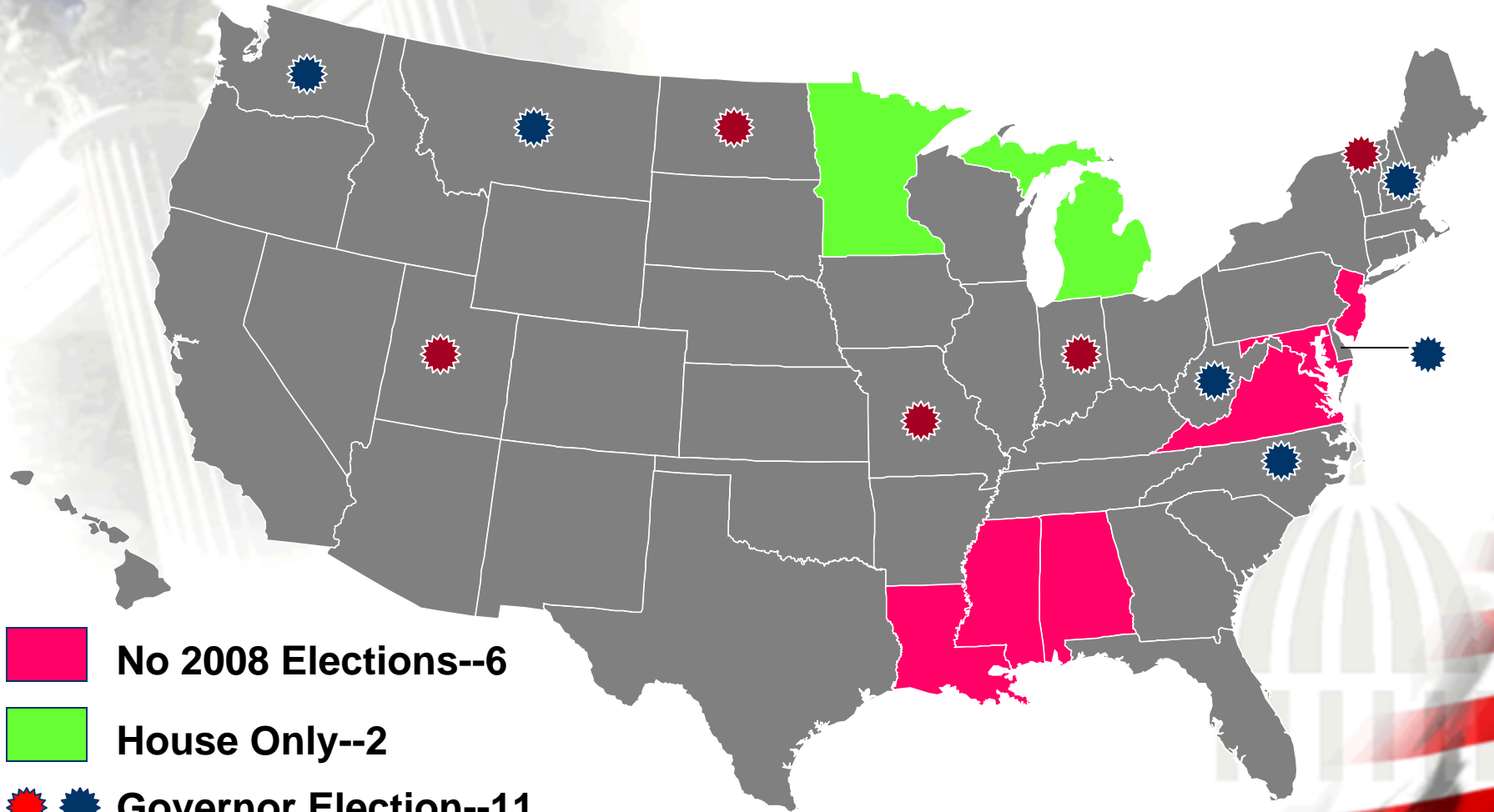
November 7, 2008

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**Tim Storey**

National Conference of State Legislatures

# State Elections 2008

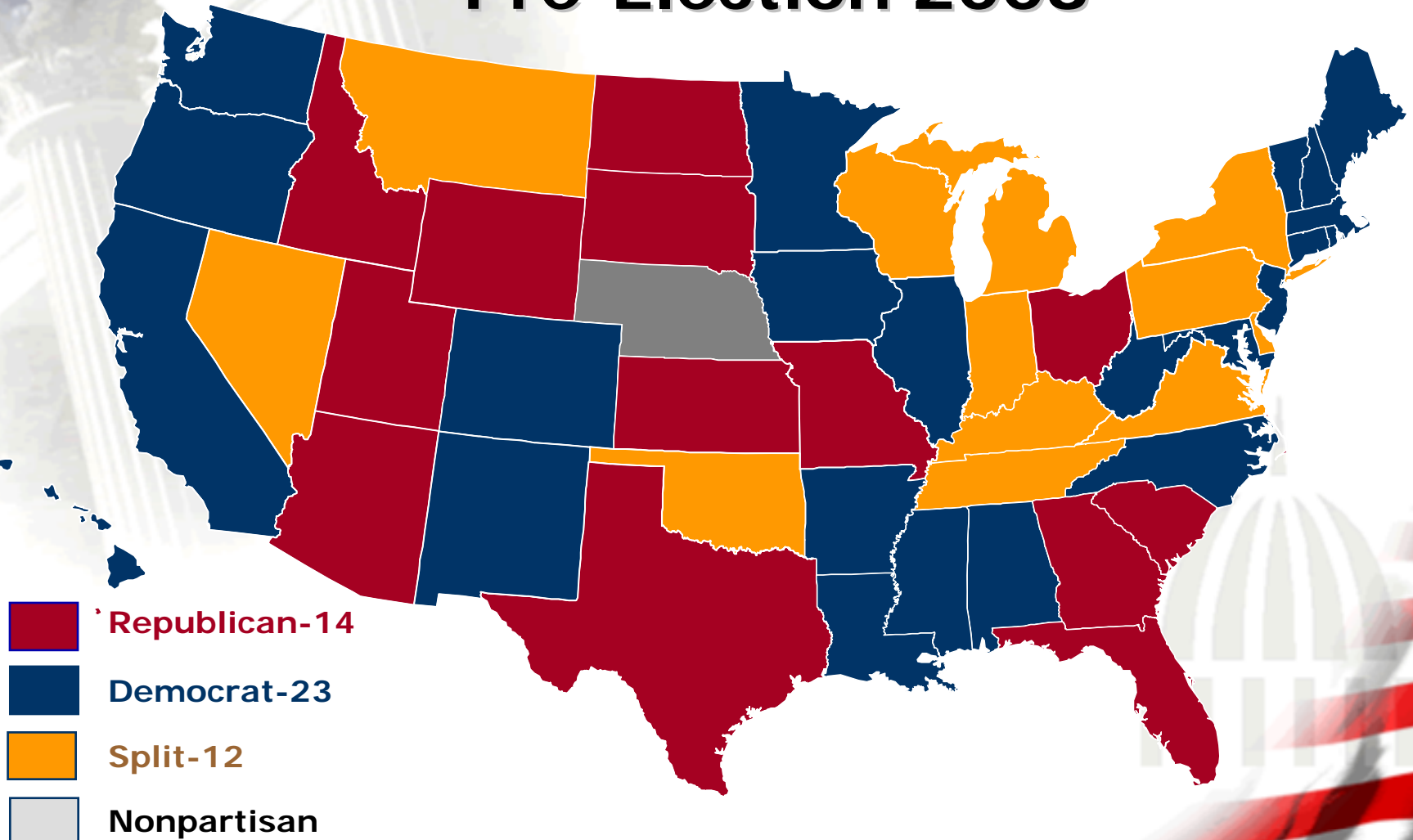


 No 2008 Elections--6

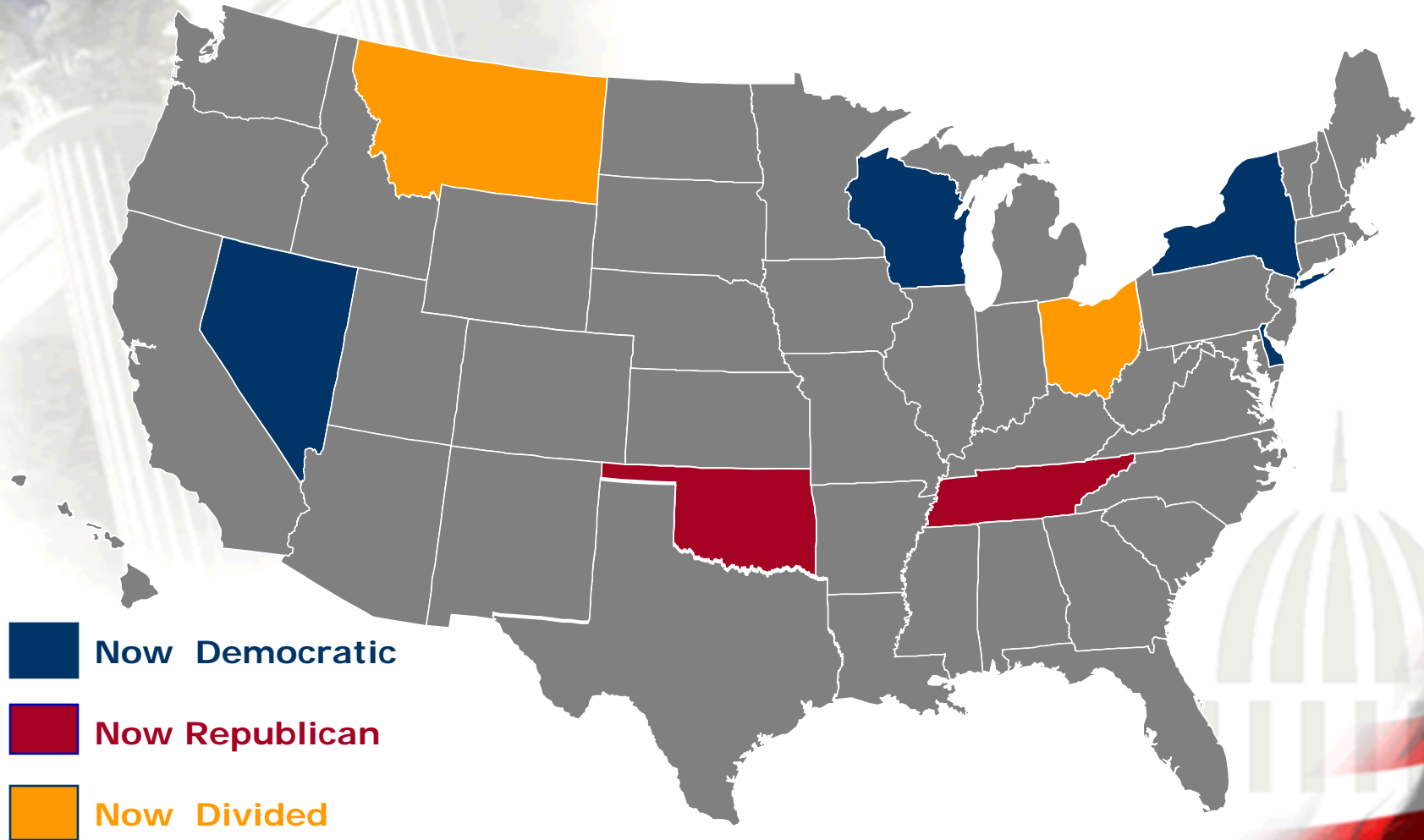
 House Only--2

  Governor Election--11

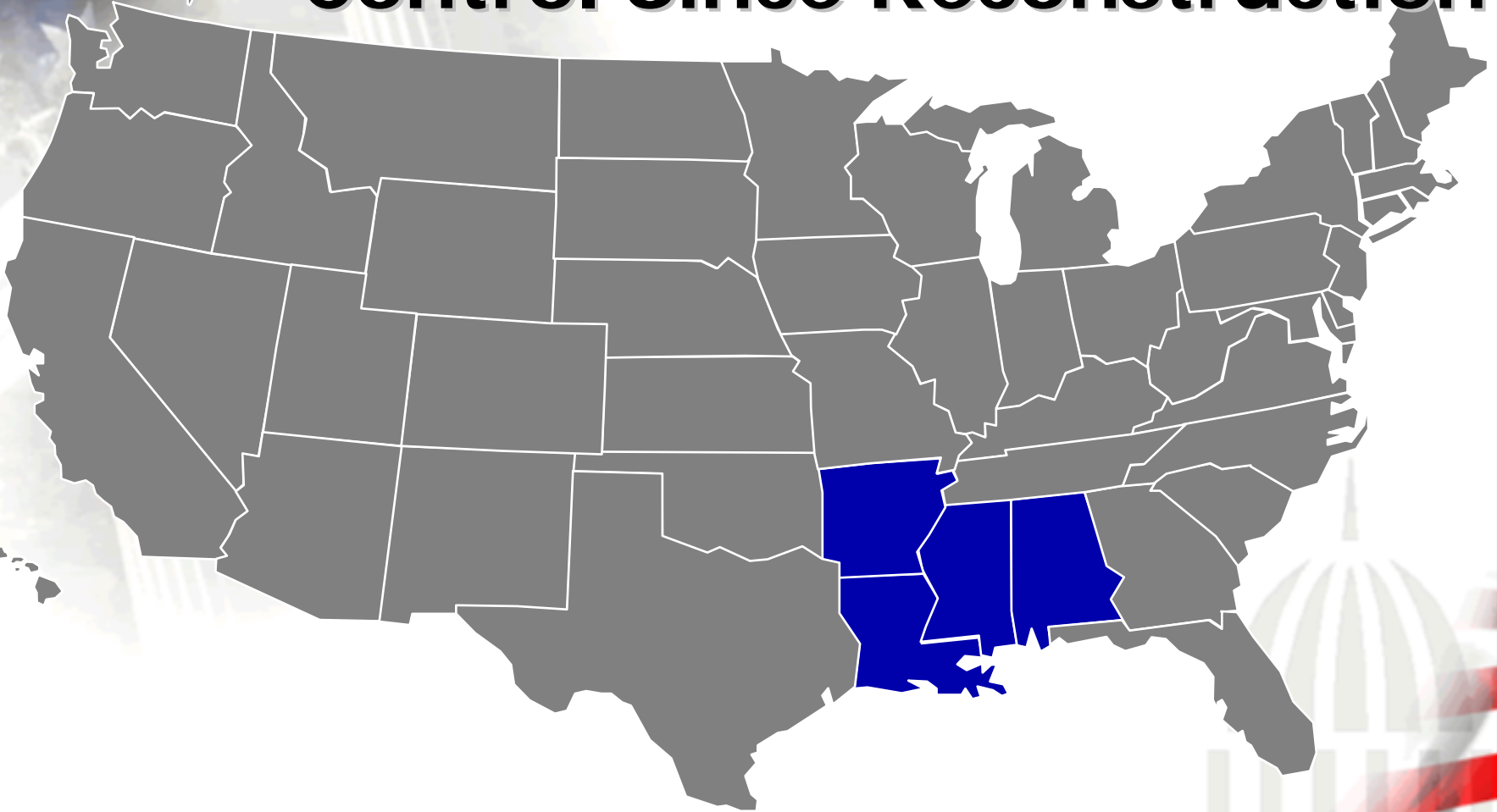
# State Legislative Party Control Pre-Election 2008



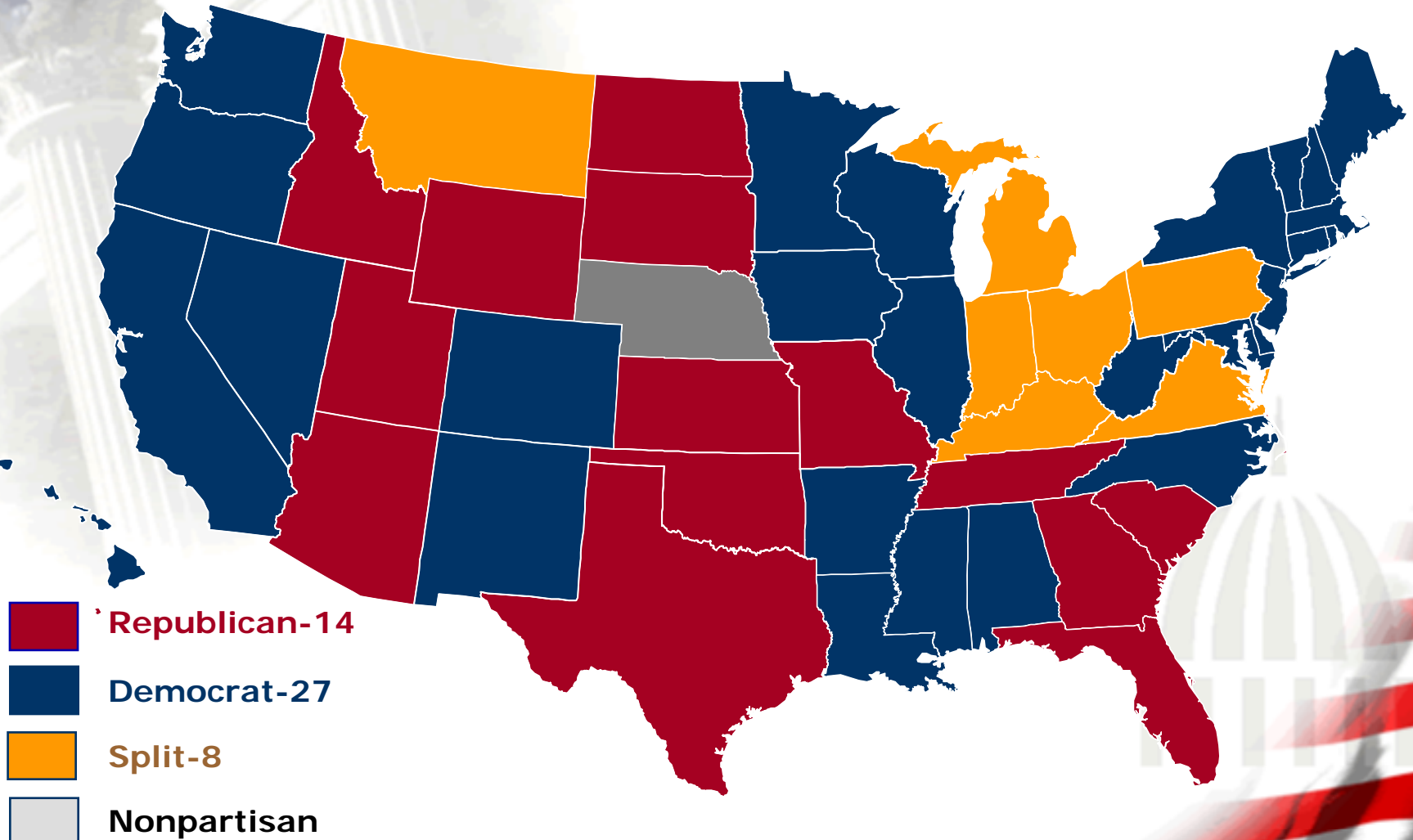
# Altered States 2008



# Un-Altered--Democratic Control Since Reconstruction



# State Legislatures Post-Election 2008





# Party Control Shifts—2008

## Democratic Gains

Delaware House

Nevada Senate

New York Senate

Ohio House

Wisconsin Assembly

## Republican Gains

Montana Senate

Oklahoma Senate

Tennessee House

Tennessee Senate

## Tied

Alaska Senate

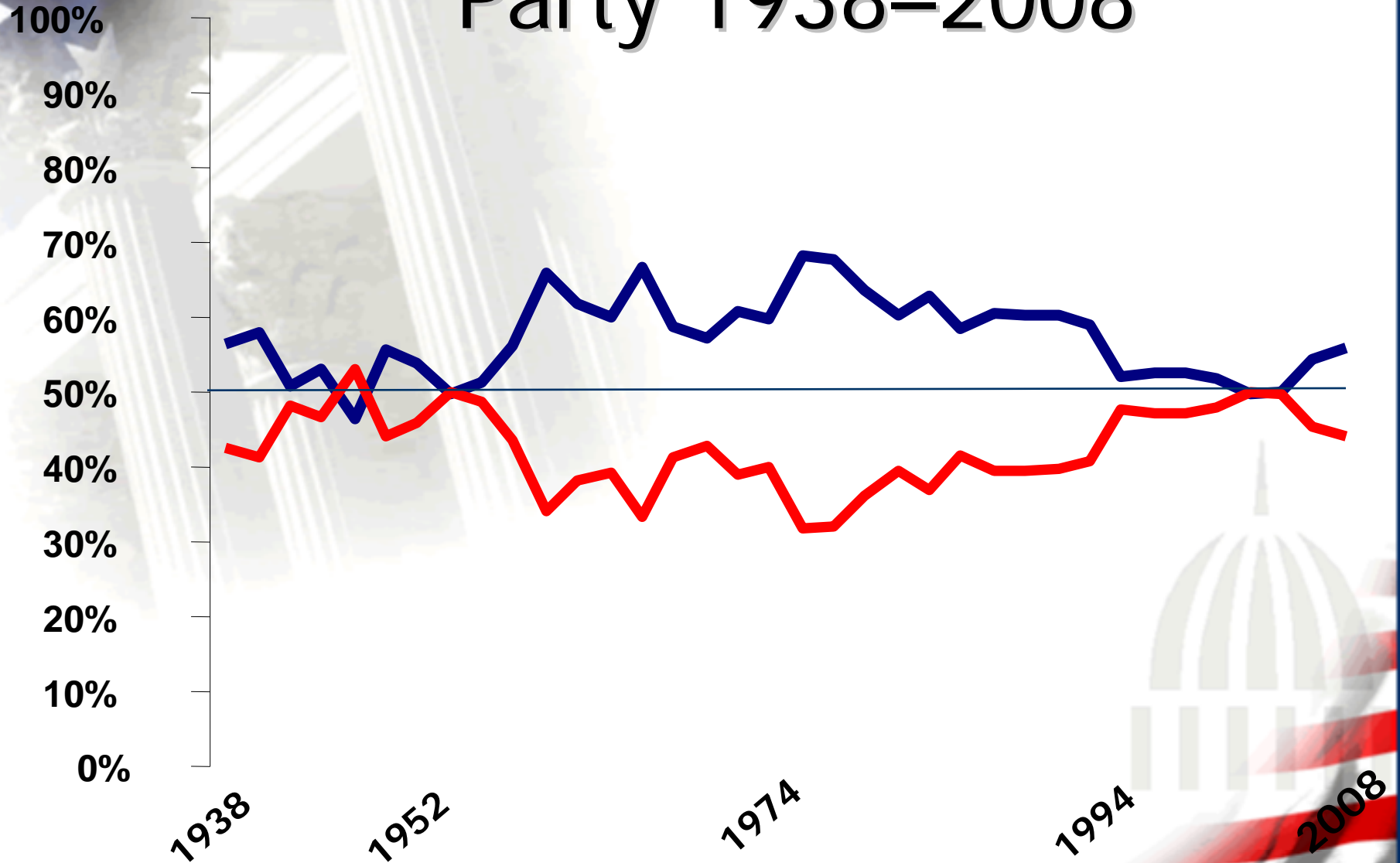
## Undecided

Montana House-likely 50-50


Texas House 76 R- 74 D



# Legislative Seats Held by Party 1938–2008





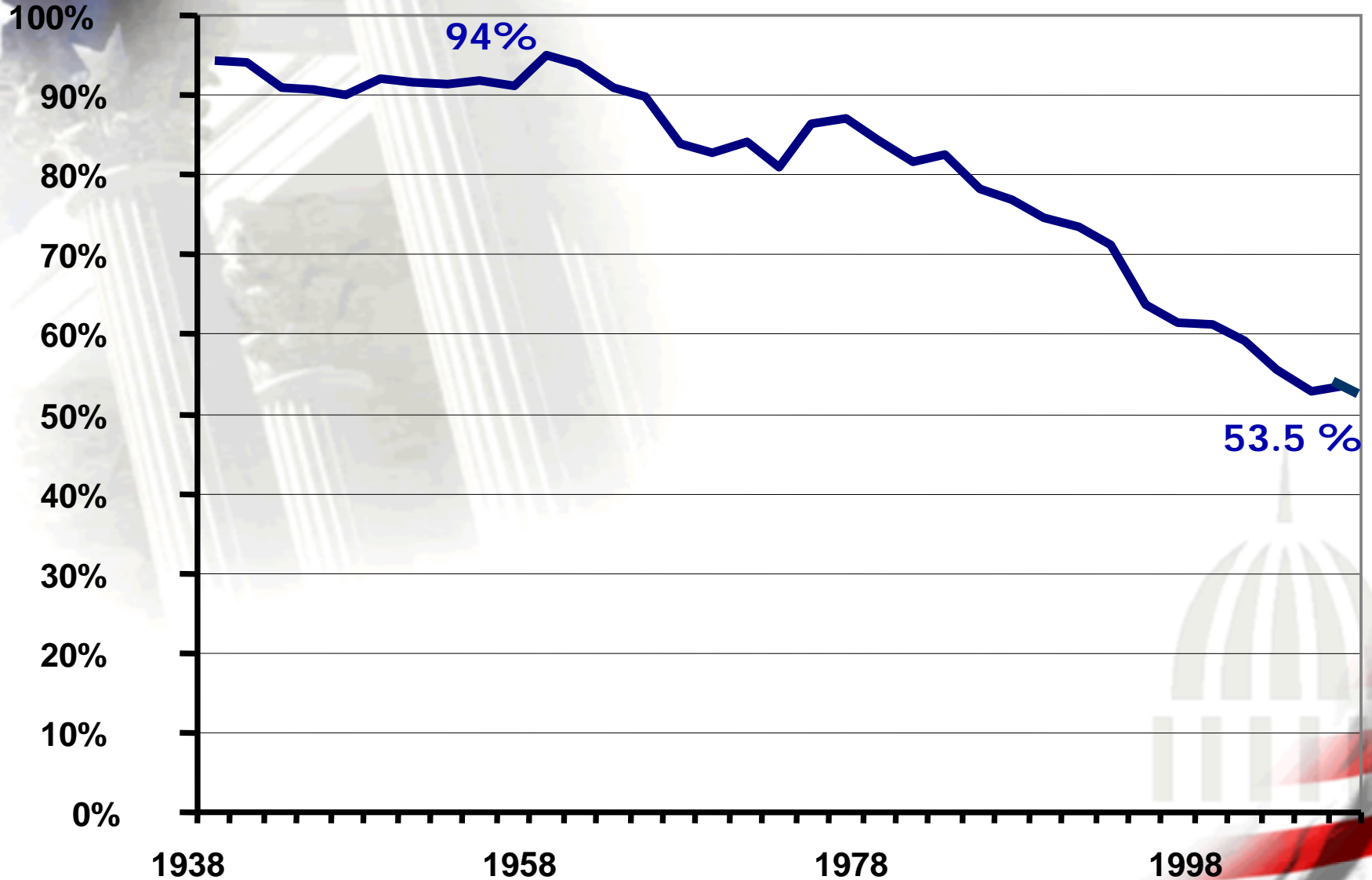


# Seat Changes by Region 2006–2008

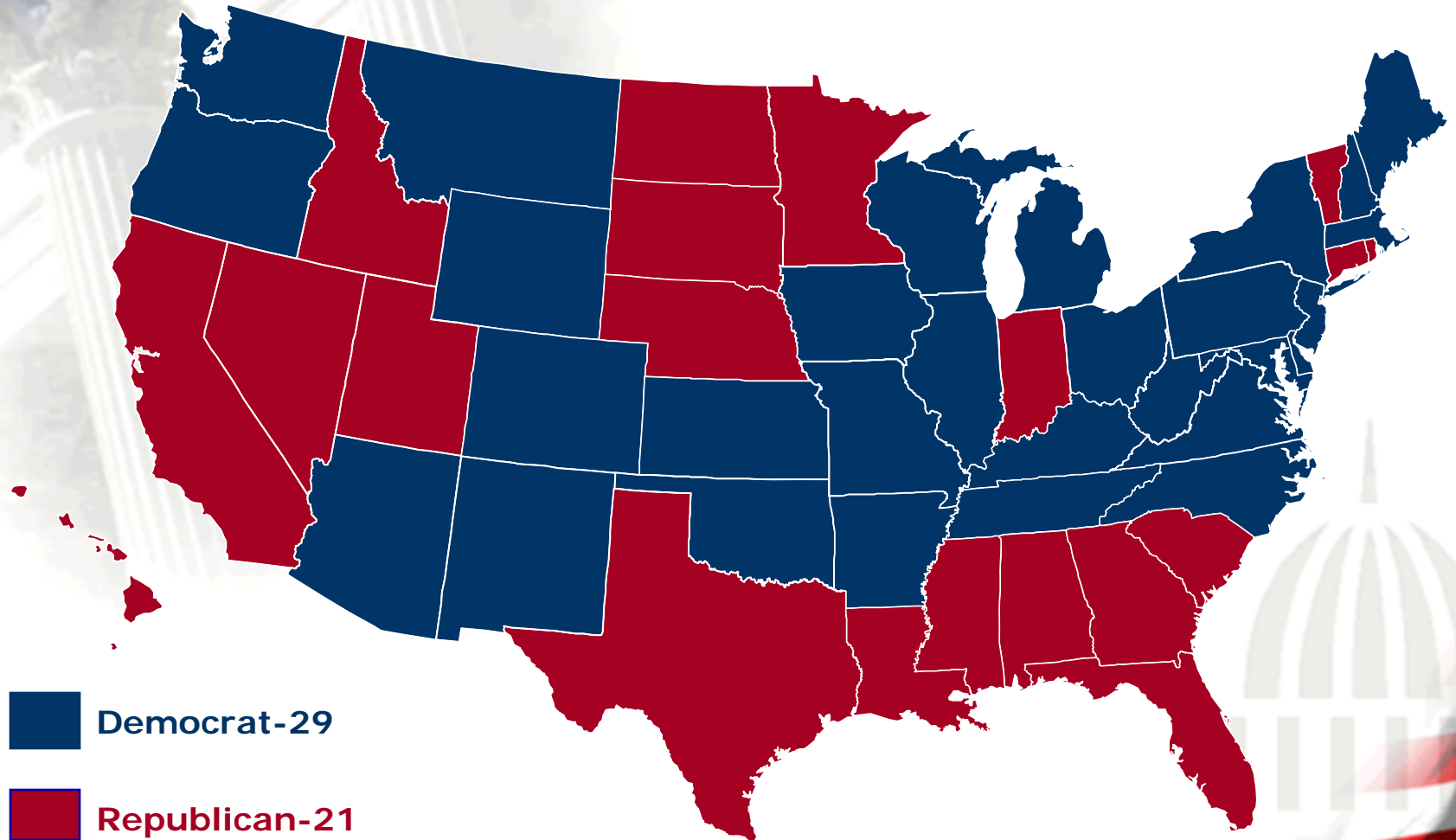
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- East **+ 38 Democrat**
  - Midwest **+ 41 Democrat**
  - South **+ 6 Republican**
  - West **+ 25 Democrat**
- 

# Democratic Share of Seats in the South 1938 - 2008



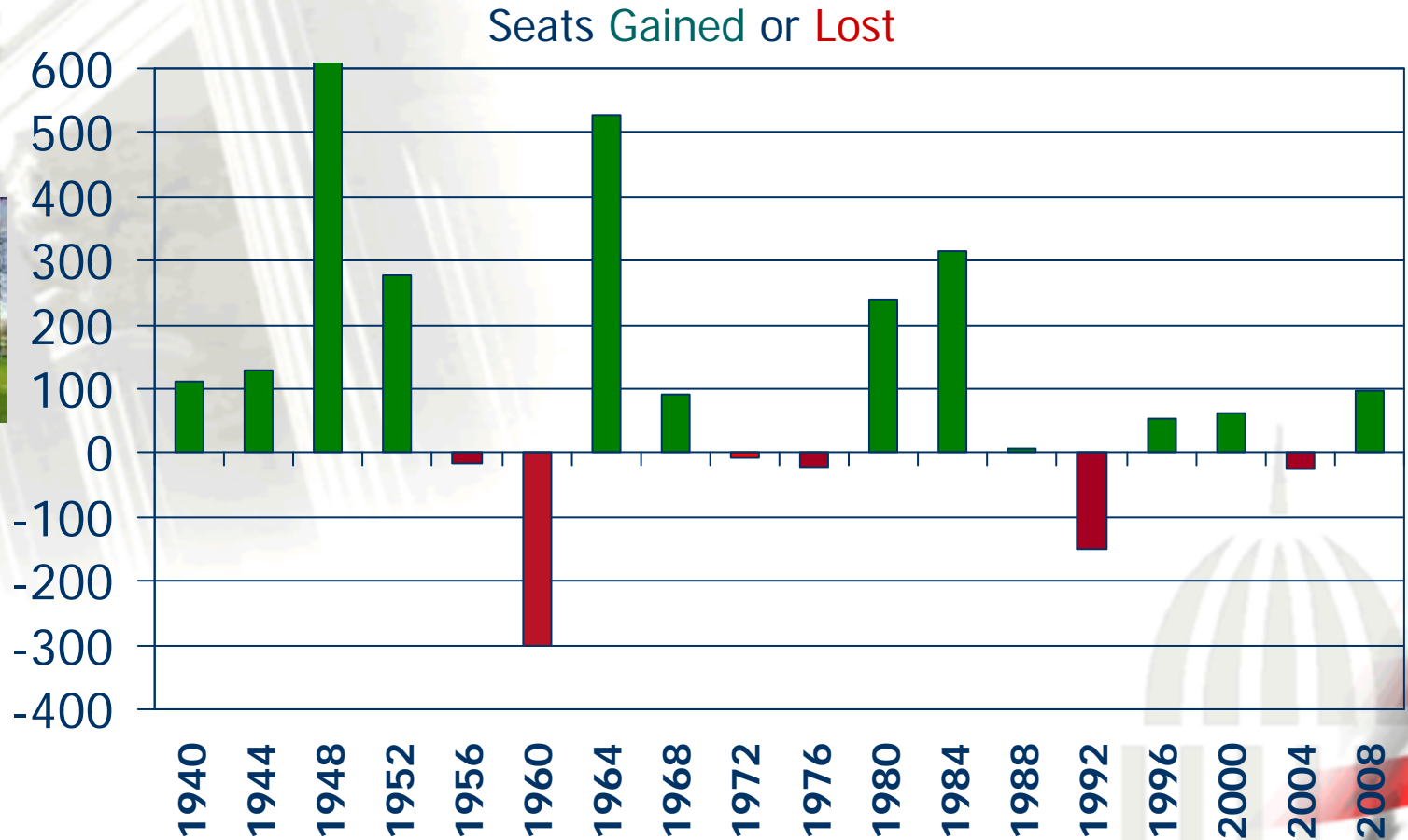
# Governor's Party Post-Election 2008





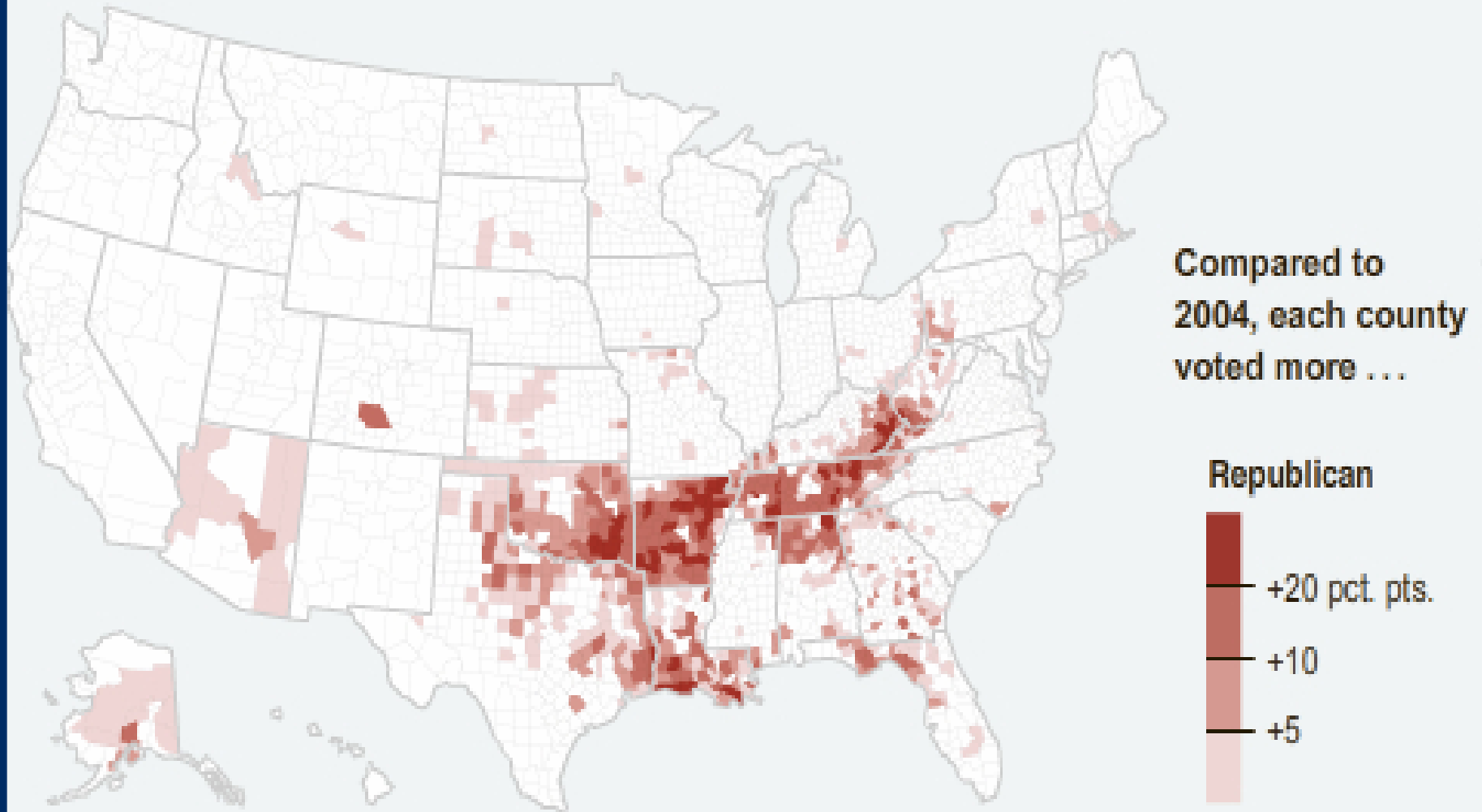


# Coattails -- Fate of White House Winner in Legislatures in Presidential Election Year



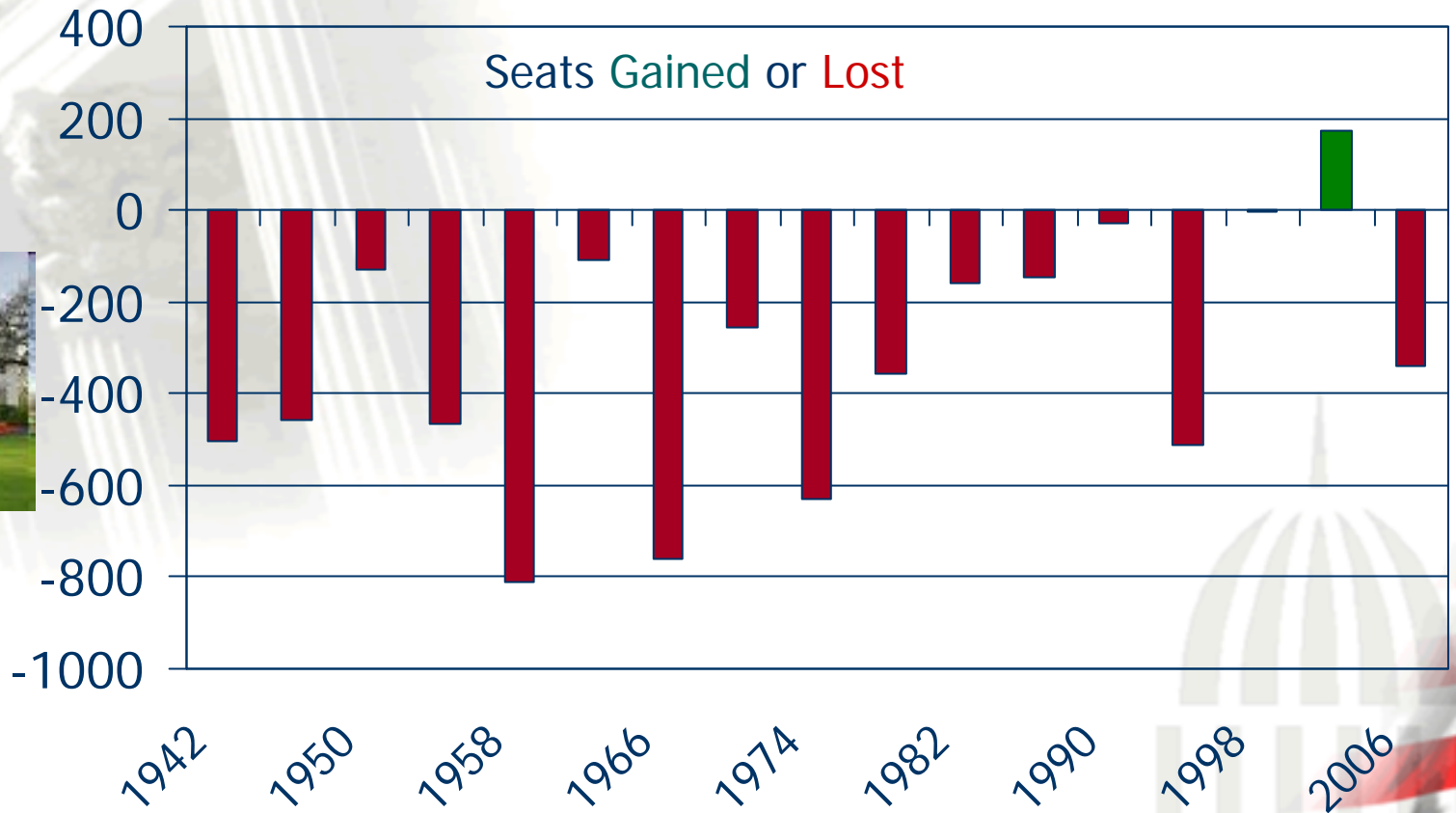
# Reverse Coattails...

This year, only 22 percent of the nation's counties voted more Republican ...



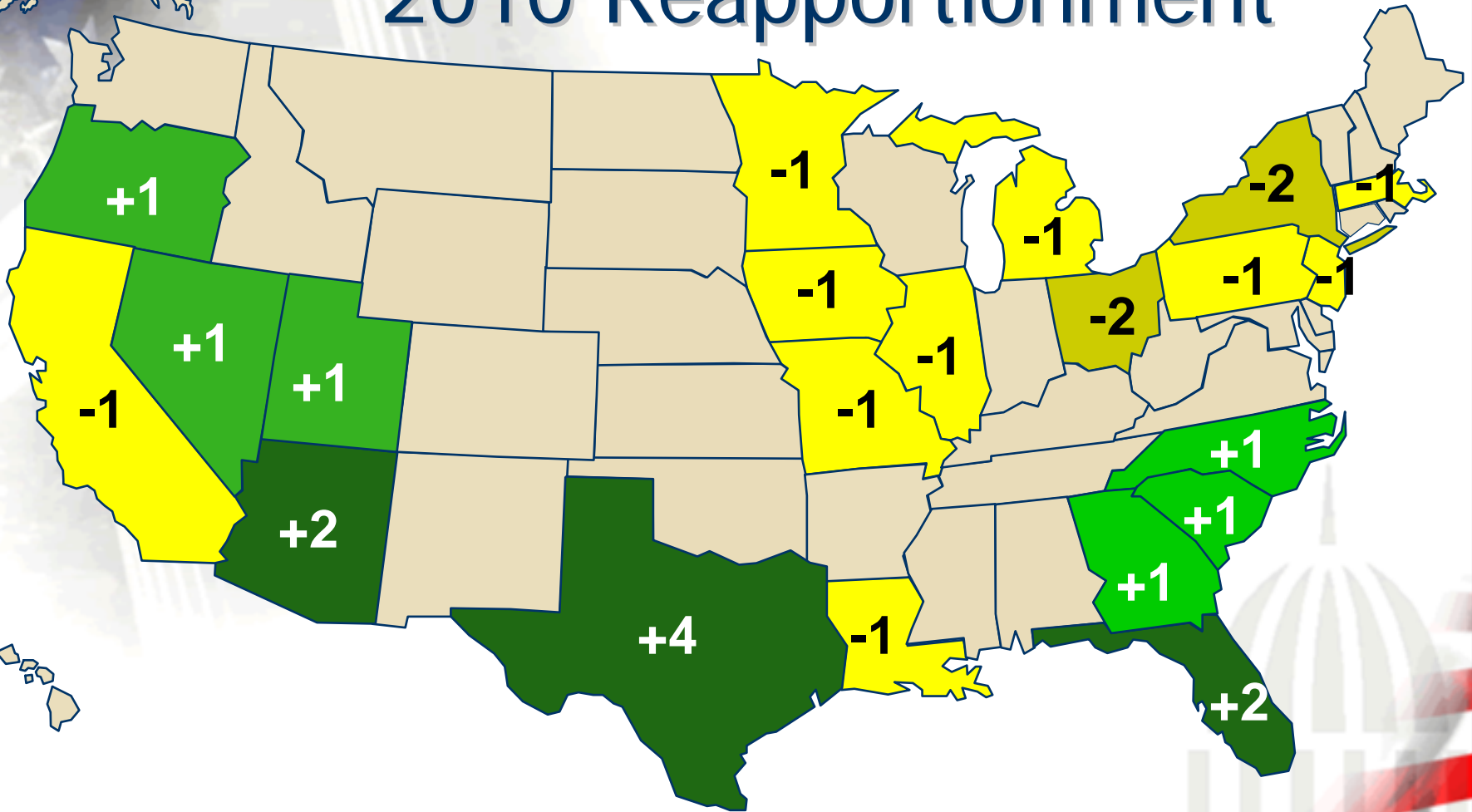


# Fate of President's Party in Legislatures in Mid-Term Elections

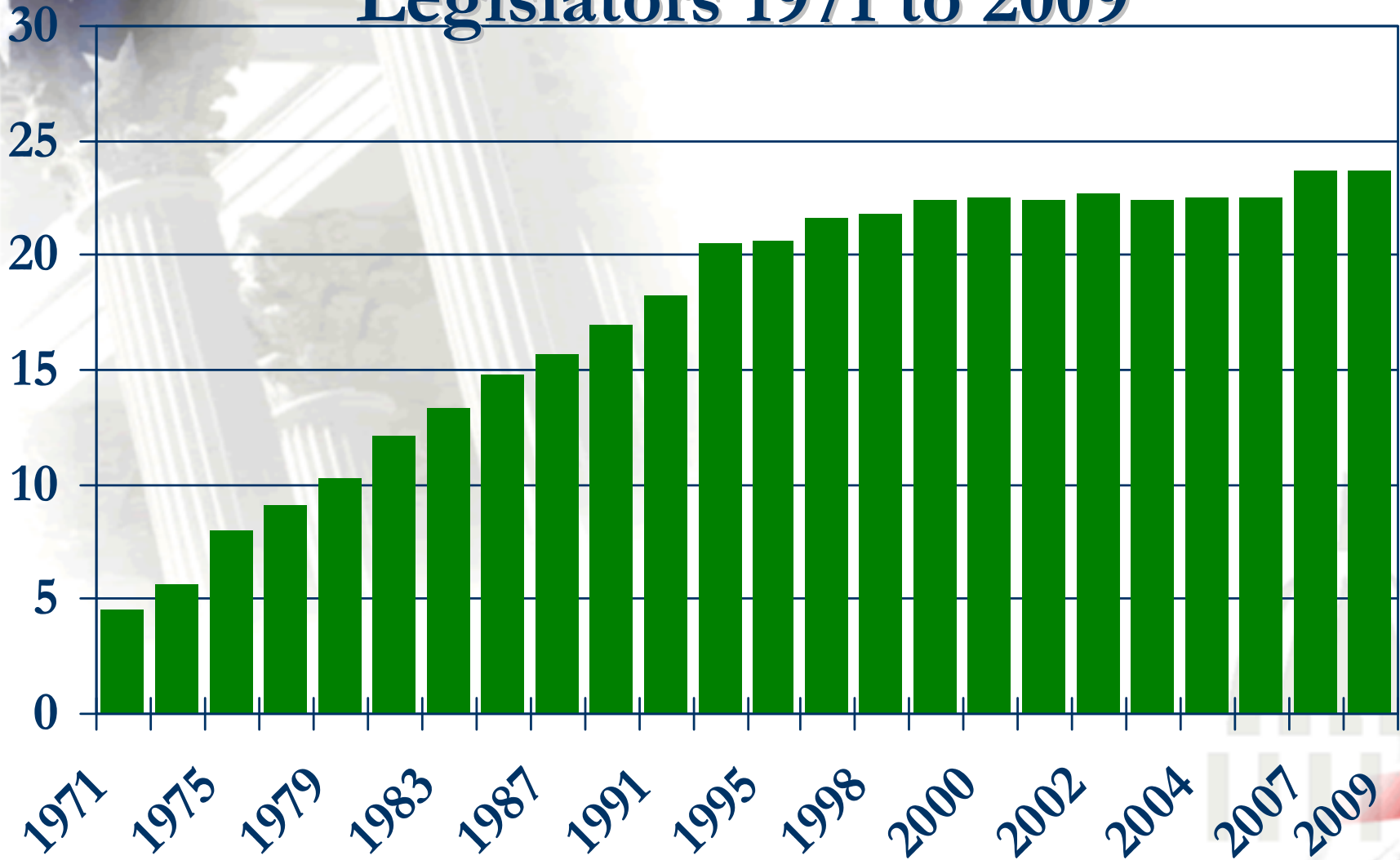




# Projected Gains/Losses After 2010 Reapportionment



# Percentage of Women Legislators 1971 to 2009



# Leadership Changes

- Nearly One-Third of Leaders will be New to the Job in January--Surprise Losses:
  - Delaware Speaker Terry Spence (R)
  - Utah Speaker Greg Curtis (R)
  - Iowa Senate President Pro Tem Jeff Danielson (D)
  - Rhode Island Senate President Joseph Montalbano (D).
- Bipartisan Coalition Leadership in Alaska Senate and Louisiana House
- Colorado first state ever to be led by two African-American presiding officers
  - Senate President Peter Groff
  - House Speaker Terrance Carroll



# Final Observations

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- Democrats made gains although they were limited due to success in 2006.
- Republicans can claim some victories-- they gained some key chambers and losses could have been worse.
- Turnover will be about average and maybe less than 20%.
- Now the hard work begins.

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**Thank You !**



**Tim Storey**

**National Conference of State Legislatures**

