

BERKELEY COUNTY VOTER GUIDE

2026 Republican Primary • May 12, 2026 • Vote OUT the incumbents who supported HB 2014

WHAT HB 2014 DID TO BERKELEY COUNTY: Signed into law April 30, 2025 — this law **eliminated county zoning authority** over data centers, **stripped building permit and inspection powers**, removed local legal jurisdiction, and **diverted \$7.5 million in annual tax revenue** away from Berkeley County and its schools. Every incumbent listed below voted YES.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide covers Republican primary races where an incumbent who voted YES on HB 2014 has a challenger. The primary is your best opportunity to replace them — because in most of these districts, the Republican nominee wins the general election. Find your district at mapwv.gov/vote by entering your address.

YOUR RACES — MAY 12 REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Berkeley County spans multiple legislative districts. Use mapwv.gov/vote to find your exact districts. All races below are the **Republican primary on May 12, 2026**.

FEDERAL RACES

U.S. SENATE — West Virginia

Statewide

INCUMBENT	Shelley Moore Capito (R) — Incumbent — Running for 3rd term. HB 2014 is state law — ask each challenger if they would support federal data center legislation that strips local control from communities.
CHALLENGER R	Alexander Gaaserud — Parkersburg
CHALLENGER R	Bryan McKinney — Inwood — Berkeley County
CHALLENGER R	Janet McNulty — Martinsburg — Berkeley County
CHALLENGER R	David Purkey — Fairmont
CHALLENGER R	Tom Willis — Martinsburg — Berkeley County / State Senator
■ McKinney, McNulty, and Willis all filed from Berkeley County/Martinsburg. Ask each: 'Will you oppose federal legislation that strips county zoning and tax authority?'	
WIN PROBABILITY	Challenger win probability: ~12% Capito is a 3-term incumbent with massive name recognition and fundraising advantage. Challengers are largely unknown. Incumbents lose WV Senate primaries very rarely.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES		WV District 2
INCUMBENT	Riley Moore (R) — Incumbent — Running for re-election. Berkeley County is in WV-2. Moore did not vote on HB 2014 (federal seat). Ask him: 'Do you support restoring county authority stripped by HB 2014? Will you oppose similar federal data center preemption laws?'	
CHALLENGE R	No Republican challenger filed — — Moore runs unopposed in the primary	
<p>■ ■ This race moves to the November 3 general election. Democratic challengers filed: Ace Parsi, Stephanie Spears Tomana, and Steven Wendelin.</p>		

STATE SENATE RACES — BERKELEY COUNTY DISTRICTS

WV STATE SENATE		District 15 (part of Berkeley County)
INCUMBENT	Darren Thorne (R) — Appointed Incumbent — Appointed Dec 2024 by Gov. Justice; never elected. Voted YES on HB 2014 as a House Delegate before appointment. Covers eastern part of Martinsburg and parts of Berkeley County.	
CHALLENGE R	Ken Reed — Hedgesville — former Delegate, Berkeley County	
CHALLENGE R	Robert Wolford — Points	
<p>■ ■ District 15 covers Hampshire, Morgan, and part of Berkeley County (eastern Martinsburg area). Verify your address at mapwv.gov/vote.</p>		
WIN PROBABILITY	Challenger win probability: ~45% Thorne was appointed, never elected — no incumbent advantage from winning a race. Two challengers split the anti-incumbent vote, which helps Thorne. Ken Reed has prior legislative experience. Split field gives Thorne an edge but this is the most competitive primary in the guide.	

WV STATE SENATE		District 16 (part of Berkeley County)
INCUMBENT	Jason Barrett (R) — Incumbent — Voted in support of HB 2014 in the Senate (passed 32-1). Covers western Martinsburg, Inwood, and portions of Berkeley County.	
CHALLENGE R	Chantele Mack — Martinsburg — Berkeley County	
<p>■ ■ District 16 covers Jefferson County and the western portion of Berkeley County including Martinsburg and Inwood. No Democrat filed — Republican primary winner likely wins in November.</p>		
WIN PROBABILITY	Challenger win probability: ~20% Barrett won his 2022 general election with ~60.5% and won his primary. He has name recognition, established donor base, and party support. Mack is an unknown challenger with no prior election history found. HB 2014 anger could move votes but Barrett has significant structural advantages.	

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES — BERKELEY COUNTY DISTRICTS

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 90 — OPEN SEAT
INCUMBENT	No incumbent — open seat — No HB 2014 vote history. Multiple Republican candidates filed.	
CHALLENGE R	Dan Caldwell — Hedgesville	
CHALLENGE R	David Jones — Hedgesville	
CHALLENGE R	Kevin McLaughlin — Berkeley Springs	
CHALLENGE R	George Miller — Berkeley Springs	
<p>■ ■ No incumbent. Ask every candidate: 'Will you vote to restore county zoning authority and return diverted tax revenue stripped by HB 2014?'</p>		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 91 — OPEN SEAT
INCUMBENT	No incumbent — open seat — No HB 2014 vote history.	
CHALLENGE R	Chris Clagett — Hedgesville	
<p>■ ■ No incumbent. One Republican filed. Ask: 'How will you vote on laws like HB 2014?'</p>		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 92
INCUMBENT	Michael Hite (R) — Incumbent — Voted YES on HB 2014 (final vote April 12, 2025).	
CHALLENGE R	No Republican challenger filed — — primary uncontested	
<p>■ ■ No Republican challenger. Hite runs unopposed in the primary. This race must be addressed in the November 3 general election.</p>		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 93
INCUMBENT	Mike Hornby (R) — Incumbent — Voted YES on HB 2014 (final vote April 12, 2025).	
CHALLENGE R	No Republican challenger filed — — primary uncontested	
<p>■ ■ No Republican challenger. Hornby runs unopposed in the primary. Address in November general election.</p>		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 94
INCUMBENT	Larry Kump (R) — SEAT VACANT — Kump voted YES on HB 2014 but passed away March 2026. Seat is currently vacant.	
CHALLENGE R	Larry Kump (R) filed before his death — — seat will be filled by special election or appointment	
<p>■ ■ Kump's filing before his passing complicates this race. Watch for announcement of a special election or Republican committee appointment to fill the seat.</p>		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 95
INCUMBENT	Chuck Horst (R) — Incumbent — Voted YES on HB 2014 (final vote April 12, 2025).	
CHALLENGE R	No Republican challenger filed — — primary uncontested	
■■ No Republican challenger. Must be addressed in the November 3 general election.		

WV HOUSE OF DELEGATES		District 96 — OPEN SEAT
INCUMBENT	No incumbent — open seat — Previous occupant moved to run for other office.	
CHALLENGE R	Katie Rose (R) — Martinsburg — runs unopposed in primary	
■■ Open seat with one Republican candidate. Ask Rose: 'How will you vote on laws like HB 2014?'		

BERKELEY COUNTY COMMISSION		
BERKELEY COUNTY COMMISSION		Norborne District
INCUMBENT	Eddie Gochenour (R) — Commission President — County Commission did not challenge HB 2014 or retain independent legal counsel. Gochenour is Commission President and bears direct accountability for the Commission's inaction.	
CHALLENGE R	Ken Mattson (R) — Inwood — Republican challenger	
■■ This is your county government. Ask both candidates: 'Will you retain independent counsel to review HB 2014? Will you publicly oppose legislation that strips \$7.5M from Berkeley County?'		
WIN PROBABILITY	Challenger win probability: ~35% Gochenour is Commission President with strong name recognition and party backing. Mattson is a local challenger — no prior election history found. Primary incumbents at the county level rarely lose unless there is a strong organizing effort. HB 2014 anger is real motivation but needs turnout.	

BERKELEY COUNTY COMMISSION		Shenandoah District
INCUMBENT	Jim Whitacre (R) — Commission Member — Running unopposed in the Republican primary.	
CHALLENGE R	No Republican challenger filed — — primary uncontested	
■■ Whitacre runs unopposed. Consider attending a public commission meeting to demand action on HB 2014 regardless of the election outcome.		

WHAT TO ASK EVERY CANDIDATE

- "Do you support HB 2014 as signed into law? Why or why not?"
- "Will you sponsor or support legislation to restore county zoning authority over data centers?"
- "Do you support returning the diverted property tax revenue to Berkeley County and its schools?"
- "Will you commit to transparency — publishing any legal opinions on HB 2014 affecting our county?"

KEY DATES

Voter Registration Deadline	April 21, 2026
Early Voting Begins	April 29, 2026
PRIMARY ELECTION DAY	May 12, 2026
General Election	November 3, 2026

Find your district: mapwv.gov/vote • Candidate filing source: Berkeley County Clerk, January 31, 2026 • HB 2014 vote source: WV Legislature roll call, April 12, 2025 • This guide is for informational purposes. Verify your district before voting.